

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN**  
**Third Session - Sixteenth Legislature**  
**2nd Day**

**Friday, February 13, 1970**

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

**WELCOME TO STUDENTS**

**Mr. Speaker:** — I am happy to welcome the following groups of school children sitting in the galleries of the Legislature: From Willowbunch school represented by the Member from Notukeu-Willowbunch, Mr. Hooker, under the direction of Mr. O'Reilly, the vice-principal, situated in the west gallery.

50 students from the Lang school in the constituency of Milestone, represented by the Hon. The Minister of Welfare, Mr. MacDonald, under the direction of their principal, Mr. Folkerts in the east gallery.

There are 27 students from the International Bible College at Moose Jaw, represented by the Member from Moose Jaw South, Mr. Davies, under the direction of their principal, Mr. E. C. Pennington, in the east gallery.

I am sure all Members of the Legislature will wish to join with me in extending to them a very warm and very sincere welcome and that their visit to our Legislature will be enjoyable and informative and that they will have a safe trip home.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

**Mr. Speaker:** — I am pleased and proud to take the opportunity of also introducing to the Legislature three gentlemen situated in the centre of the Speaker's gallery — His Grace Bishop Valerian D. Trifa, Bishop of the Romanian Orthodox for North and South America. His headquarters are in Jackson, Michigan, and he is presently visiting in the city of Regina. Together, with him, is the Bishop's Vicar, the Reverend Martinian Ivanovici, the parish priest of the parish of St. George in the city of Regina, and the Reverend Father Brendan J. O'Keefe, priest of the Canadian Orthodox Missionary Centre and Eastern Orthodox Chaplain at Regina Campus. I am sure that all Members will wish to join with me in extending to these important and reverend gentlemen our very best wishes and a warm welcome from all the people of our Province of Saskatchewan and its Legislature.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Hon. W. R. Thatcher** (Premier): — I would certainly like to associate the Members on this side of the House with your welcome to His Grace. Canadians of Romanian descent have made major contributions to our province over the years, in agriculture, in business and in various other fields. Generally speaking they have been very good citizens of Canada and of our province. I only wish a few more would decide to locate here. May I express the hope,

Your Grace, that your visit here will be fruitful and enjoyable.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Mr. W. S. Lloyd** (Leader of the Opposition): — Mr. Speaker, let me also associate those of us on this side of the Legislature with your words of welcome and those of the Premier to our distinguished visitors. As the Premier has said, our Romanian community is one which has in a very considerable and worthy way maintained its distinction as a community, while at the same time becoming very much a part of the whole province. We are happy to welcome a visit to them and a visit to us.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

## QUESTIONS

### Federal-Provincial Conference

**Mr. Lloyd:** — Before the Orders of the Day I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. McFarlane) and I do this because of the meeting, the Federal-Provincial Conference meeting, which will be held on Monday and Tuesday of next week. Will the Minister of Agriculture assure this House and assure the people of Saskatchewan that at that conference he will urge the Federal Government to inject, by way of supplementary payments on grains, sizeable sums of money into the Saskatchewan farm economy this spring.

**Hon. D. T. McFarlane** (Minister of Agriculture): — I would like at the outset, Mr. Speaker, to indicate that the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Lloyd) was invited to go down along with the Saskatchewan delegation to listen in on the brief that was being presented. And if the Leader of the Opposition had displayed as much interest in the agricultural situation in the province, as he now pretends to display, he could have been down there along with the Members of the Government and make his voice heard at that time. I want to assure all the people in Saskatchewan that the course that the Premier and myself will be taking will certainly be in the interest of agriculture in the province, not only today but in the years ahead.

**Mr. Lloyd:** — A supplementary question since the Minister has clearly evaded the question. His answer by the way explains one of the reasons why I can't go. Obviously we are not to be allowed to know what happened in the conference and so I would not be able to comment on it. But may I ask the Minister then if he is not prepared to tell the people of Saskatchewan now what he is going to ask and present on their behalf. Will he be prepared after the Conference to tell the people whether or not they have asked for a sizeable injection of cash by way of supplementary payment on grains?

**Mr. Thatcher:** — Mr. Speaker, perhaps I should answer that question. The Saskatchewan brief is completed. The Prime Minister did ask us to treat it in confidence until the actual meeting takes place.

I can assure the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Lloyd) that we have a vigorous brief. We shall be giving our views on the agricultural crisis in no uncertain manner.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Mr. Lloyd:** — Mr. Speaker, a further supplementary then, can the Premier give us the assurance that he is going to ask for this sizeable injection of cash, or will he give us the assurance that we will know after the Conference whether he has asked for that?

**Mr. Thatcher:** — I will give you the assurance that after the Conference you will know.

**Mr. J. Messer (Kelsey):** — Mr. Speaker, I would also like to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. McFarlane). I wonder what proposals the Minister will be making in the forthcoming Federal-Provincial Conference in regard to the recent findings of the Barber Commission, which pointed out that farmers have been for a considerable time subjected to unrealistic and non-competitive prices of farm machinery.

**Mr. Thatcher:** — Mr. Speaker, as leader of the delegation, I am going to answer that question. You will know after the Conference is over. I can assure you that this side has already moved a Resolution and placed it on the order paper pertaining to the Barber Commission. I think our interest in this Commission is every bit as great as the Opposition's. The only difference is that we would like to do something about it instead of talking about it.

**Mr. Messer:** — Mr. Speaker, the question was directed to the Minister of Agriculture. However, it was not answered by the Premier. What are the proposals that the Government is going to be making at the Federal-Provincial Conference in regard to . . .

**Mr. Thatcher:** — Come on Tuesday and you will know.

**Mr. E. I. Wood (Swift Current):** — Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day I would like to ask the Hon. Premier if the Minister of Agriculture is going to be a part of your delegation?

**Mr. Thatcher:** — Yes, the delegation will include myself, the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. McFarlane) and the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Guy).

### **Slow Movement of Grain**

**Mr. G. R. Bowerman (Shellbrook):** — Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day I would as well like to address a question to the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, and that is: in view of the extreme limited movement of grain from Prairie points which has resulted in some estimated 90 or 100 million bushels of space available at the

terminal elevators, and in view of the January announcement that there are approximately 4,000 less railway cars in grain movement this year than last, what action has the Hon. Minister taken up to this point to bring about some immediate solution to this problem?

**Mr. McFarlane:** — I would just like to inform the Hon. Member that the Minister of Agriculture has been in constant contact with the Canadian Wheat Board, with the Federal Minister in charge of the Canadian Wheat Board, indicating the concern of not only the Government of Saskatchewan but also the people of the province to see to it that an immediate movement of grain take place in the province, for four reasons: one was so that immediate cash would be in the hands of the farmers thus benefiting the economy of the farmers and of the province; secondly, that we wouldn't get into the type of situation we have had at the end of crop years in the years past where some unforeseen circumstances could prevent the delivering of grain. I refer to the last crop year when strikes held up the delivery of grain for some two and one-half months, which kept the farmers from delivering grain and which affected sales overseas; thirdly, I want grain in the terminals both at the West Coast and at the Lakehead as soon as possible so that no country which is a customer of Canada will be prevented from negotiating sales and rapid delivery of grain that it is interested in. Two weeks ago for two weeks in a row, I may inform the Hon. Member that because of the strike or potential strike at the West Coast Japan has placed no orders for Canadian wheat. She sought to get them some place else, so we are interested in that. And fourthly, that, because of the greater interest in barley sales this year compared to a year ago, because of the tremendous interest in rapeseed sales, and because of what may be further sales for wheat in this crop year, the thing to do is to get that grain moving now, get it in position and then we won't have a block in transportation facilities. On top of that we have asked for the complete cooperation of the railroads, the cooperation of labor, the cooperation of the grain firms and the cooperation of the Canadian Wheat Board in all these aspects.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Hon. D. G. Steuart** (Provincial Treasurer): — Does that clear it up for you?

**Mr. Bowerman:** — No, it didn't. Mr. Speaker, may I address a supplementary question to the Hon. Minister? May I ask then what direct response has he had to the fact that there are less cars moving in the grain distribution system and how much response has he had?

**Mr. McFarlane:** — The response that we have had is that the Wheat Board tell us, when we asked for the appointment of a Transport Coordinator to make sure that the railways were supplying cars, that they have got in touch with the railway companies, both the CNR and the CPR, and they have been assured that sufficient cars and locomotives to run these cars will be available. They tell us too that, although they didn't appoint the Transport Coordinator as we requested, they appointed an assistant coordinator for the western movement as well as an assistant

coordinator for the movement to the Lakehead. They have assured us — and I am still apprehensive about this — however they have assured us that they have it programmed now so that they will get these facilities filled by the time navigation opens again.

### CONDOLENCES

**Hon. W. R. Thatcher** (Premier): — Mr. Speaker, I move seconded by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Lloyd):

That this Assembly records with sorrow and regret the passing during the last year of three former Members of this Assembly and expresses its grateful appreciation of the contributions each made to his community, to his constituency and to this Province.

John Wesley Corman, who dies on April 29, 1969, was a Member of this Legislature for Moose Jaw City from 1944 to 1956. He was born in Stoney Creek, Ontario. He graduated from the University of Toronto in 1912 with a degree in Political Science. He studied law and was called to the bar in 1915. He was elected to Moose Jaw City Council as an Alderman in 1938 and elected Mayor in 1940. In 1944, he was appointed Attorney General, and Minister in charge of the Local Government Board, the Provincial Mediation Board and Administrator of Estates of the Mentally Incompetent Office.

Tom Johnston, who died on September 11, 1969, was a Member of this Legislature for Touchwood from 1938 to 1956. He was Speaker of the Legislature from 1944 to 1956. He was born in Birmingham, England in 1881 and received his education there. He came to Canada in 1901. He homesteaded near Cymric, Saskatchewan in 1903. In 1929-30, he was a member of a Provincial Royal Commission on Immigration and Settlement. In 1950 he represented the Saskatchewan Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association at the General Conference in New Zealand.

William Pedersen, who died on January 31, 1970, was a Member of this Legislature for Milestone from 1934 to 1944. He was born in Rorbeck, Iowa, United States of America in 1883. He came to Canada in 1907. He received his education at Clay Township School, Commercial College at Des Moines, Iowa and also the Agricultural College, Ames, Iowa. He was a farmer and breeder of Aberdeen Angus cattle. He was the Secretary of the Caledonia School District; Councillor for the Rural Municipality of Caledonia, 1916 to 1925; Reeve, 1925 to 1934; President of the Grain Growers Local, Milestone for three years; President of the Milestone Agricultural Society for three years and President of the Saskatchewan Aberdeen Angus Association. He was a Mason and a Member of the Scottish Rite.

Before moving a motion with respect to these three Members, Mr. Speaker, may I depart from the usual routine to express another condolence motion.

Mr. Speaker, as we join today in memory of former Members of this Legislature, I would ask the House to join with me in paying tribute to a man we all knew and respected.

That man was E. N. (Ted) Davis.

Mr. Davis was a close personal friend of mine and of many others in the Legislature. Many times I was grateful for his candid views and his advice on many matters. He was highly respected across Saskatchewan and Canada as a journalist. His ability to get at the facts of a story was renowned. Ted often gave the impression to those who did not know him of being gruff and thick-skinned. This was a front he had developed to perfection. Underneath that hard, outward appearance was a man with a deep personal interest in his fellow man and those around him. Ted Davis was known as the Dean of the Legislative Press Gallery, having been a member from 1928 until he died last September 21. I am sure most senior Members here can recall seeing Ted sitting in the gallery with his eyes half-closed as though he was many miles away. However when the newspaper arrived on the street, it became apparent that Ted had been with us all the time and, perhaps, just a bit ahead of many of us.

I would ask all Members to join with me in paying tribute to one of the better newspapermen that Saskatchewan has ever had — Ted Davis.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to now move the motion with regard to the deceased Members.

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

**Mr. Speaker:** — I think that I owe the House an apology. When I recognized the Premier before the Orders of the Day I believed, mistakenly so, that he was rising to make a statement before the Orders of the Day. In view of the subject that he rose to discuss I hesitated to interrupt him. The Member from Moose Jaw South (Mr. Davies) was trying to rise at the time and I intended to see him next. I will reconcile the conflict by seeing the Member from Moose Jaw South before I put the motion. I don't know for what purpose he intended to rise but, if he intended to ask a question, I will entertain it now and that I think will end the question period for today.

**Mr. W. G. Davies** (Moose Jaw South): — I wonder, Mr. Speaker, if I could suggest that we might revert for brief questions following the condolences. This might be best now that they have been introduced.

**Mr. Speaker:** — I just didn't catch this.

**Mr. Davies:** — I am just suggesting that it might be well for us to revert to Questions following the Condolences that have been introduced by the Premier.

**Mr. W. S. Lloyd** (Leader of the Opposition): — Mr. Speaker, several of my colleagues will wish to add their thoughts and reflections on the Resolution before us. Let me associate all of us with the motions and the sentiments which have been expressed by the Premier. With respect to Mr. Davis

who was mentioned, I am sure that most of us can remember contacts with Ted Davis and can remember his many years in the Press Gallery and generally speaking in the political forums of the country. I can recall a number of very warm meetings with Ted Davis. Sometimes that warm meeting could be defined in various ways, but regardless of which way it was it never interfered with the pleasantness of meeting him and talking with him on the next immediate occasion. We share the regret at his passing and we pass on our condolences to Mrs. Davis and members of the family.

I was not informed of the death of Mr. Pedersen and unfortunately did not have the opportunity of knowing him. However, I did know of him. We know from the recital today that he was one more of those pioneers of Saskatchewan who gave service at so many different levels of good activity during their lifetime. He was a Member of this Legislature for a number of years and again we share in the expression of regret and condolence to members of the family.

I did of course know both Jack Corman and Tom Johnston. It was my pleasure to sit in the Legislature with them, to be associated with them in the counsels of my party and to sit in the Cabinet for a number of years with Jack Corman.

Let me speak first of Mr. Corman, our late Attorney General. I think some of the legislation which he sponsored in this House is in itself very descriptive of the kind of man he was. It was he who introduced into this Legislature the Saskatchewan Bill of Rights and our Province as a result became the first jurisdiction in Canada to pass such a Bill. It has been followed of course since that time by the Federal Government and by several other Provinces as well. Within months after he became Attorney General he was introducing into this Legislature protection for farm people and he added greatly to the farm security legislation in this province. During his period the Mediation Board became a very vigorous and effective spokesman on the part of people who had problems which were bigger indeed than they.

Those of us who sat with him benefited very greatly from his wisdom — and one must call Jack Corman a wise man — from his sound legal advice and from an almost intuitive political sagacity. He was a wise man and he was a kindly man. His real human sympathy, coupled with dedication, turned him to public service and in those positions of public service as Mayor of the city, Member of this Legislature, Cabinet Minister. His personal feelings were turned into very useful public acts.

Tom Johnston was another one of these very distinctive citizens to sit in this Legislature. I suppose, Mr. Speaker, it would have to be agreed that Tom Johnston and Jack Corman were two of the very unique people who have from time to time occupied these seats.

Tom Johnston was a pioneer in many ways. Obviously he was a pioneer farmer. He was also a pioneer in so far as organizations were concerned and a pioneer in so far as political activity was concerned. His influence was very early felt in farm organizations and in political organizations in the Province of Saskatchewan.

He first ran for a seat in this Legislature in the election

of 1934 in the constituency of Lumsden. He was unsuccessful. The very next year he was back in the ring as a Federal candidate in Prince Albert, at that time running against the Right Hon. MacKenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada. Again he was unsuccessful. In 1938 he was elected in the constituency of Touchwood and he continued to represent that constituency until he retired voluntarily from it.

Two months ago, Mr. Speaker, there was a ceremony in Regina to honor this very distinct and unique person. I thought that I might read to the Legislature one of the quotations which I used in speaking at that time. It was a comment by the American writer, Tom Payne. Thomas Payne wrote:

I love the man who can gather strength from distress and grow by reflection. 'Tis the business of little minds to shrink but he whose heart is firm and whose conscience approves his conduct will pursue his principles on to death.

This can be said so truly of Tom Johnston that he did gather strength from distress. He reflected much and he grew as a result of that reflection. His mind did not shrink. His heart remained firm and certainly he pursued his principles on to death.

Let me most sincerely associate myself with the Resolutions which are now before us.

**Mr. F. Meakes** (Touchwood): — Mr. Speaker, I rise to say a few words in memory of Tom Johnston. I do it with deep emotional feelings. I was one who knew Tom, as he was known to everyone in Touchwood, very well. I was a member of his executive for many years and I was president of his political organization for seven or eight years.

To work with him as I did was to respect him and to admire him. He was a common man with nothing put on. With him a spade was a spade. You always knew where he stood on any given issue. He was a man fearless to fight for those things that he believed in and yet he was always tolerant of other people's views. Many times I heard him expound his philosophy of, "I may think you are all wrong but I will fight to my last breath to see that you have the opportunity to express your views." I knew him as a man who had deep human feelings for other people especially anyone who was facing the tribulations of life. Indeed it was his love of human beings that brought him into public life. He soon found out, when he came to Canada, the necessity of working with and working for other people. This brought him into the early cooperative movement and the old United Farmers of Canada. Many of the old-timers of Touchwood still talk about Tom in those early days, walking through the area organizing for the old United Farmers of Canada. He was a firm believer that the only hope that the farmers had was for them to stick together, and he expounded this to the very last.

Just a few months before his death I visited him at home in Strasbourg, and he gave me another one of those little lectures on the necessity of people working together. He was a very versatile man and by the time he was 18 he was operating his own tailor shop in Birmingham, England. The call of Canada soon made him leave his native country and brought him to this province. Homesteading near Govan, he soon became a good farmer,



and for those days farmed a large spread.

I had the privilege of knowing Mrs. Johnston and the family. Through those difficult years of the 1920s and '30s, Mrs. Johnston and Tom raised a family to be proud of. He had a great influence on my life and in my thinking on social affairs and my feelings with other human beings. I know that he influenced hundreds of other people with whom he came in contact.

In 1956, when he retired and I first ran, I soon found out as I traveled through the constituency, regardless of politics, Tom was held in the highest respect. People of all beliefs talked of him with affection. This was one of his greatest attributes, I think. He could argue with someone but always left that person with a feeling that he could return later and continue the discussions.

In Tom Johnston we lost a friend, a good citizen and a great pioneer. He was the kind of man that we might well endeavor to copy. Mr. Speaker, I will always carry him in my memory as long as I live.

**Hon. D. V. Heald** (Attorney General): — Mr. Speaker, I would like to associate myself with the remarks of those who have spoken before me in connection with this Motion; and I would first of all like to say a few words about the late John W. Corman, QC, who was Attorney General of this Province from July of 1944 until July of 1956. This is a period of almost exactly 12 years.

Mr. Speaker, I consider myself indeed fortunate for one thing, for the thoughtfulness of my predecessors in the office of Attorney General, I think I could stand to be corrected, but I think that I am the only Minister in the Government who has the photograph of each and every one of my predecessors in my office, commencing with 1905. Before my incumbency there were nine Attorney Generals in the Province of Saskatchewan. The longest time in office was the late Chief Justice Turgeon who was Attorney General for a period of about 14 years, and then in terms of length of service as Attorney General of this Province comes Jack Corman. He served in this position for a period of 10 years.

Mr. Speaker, many of the people who are presently in my Department started in the department during the term of office of Jack Corman. I can say without any hesitation whatsoever that the members of my staff in my Department, who had the privilege of serving in that department under Jack Corman, remember him with the greatest fondness and affection, because, as the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Lloyd) said, he was a very wise man. He was a man of good judgment and he was also a very kindly man with a very effective sense of humor, a very quick sense of humor. There have been many anecdotes, indeed, related to me about the very active sense of humor that Jack Corman had. As I say he is remembered with the greatest affection by the people who still work in my Department.

I didn't know him well, but I did know him to some extent. I had several occasions to meet him when I was practicing law and he was Attorney General. I can remember that I was always well received. The case that I had to put before him, or the position that I had to put before him on behalf of a client, was

always given a good hearing. He didn't always agree with me, but I always had the feeling — and I think that my clients always had the feeling — that we had received a full and fair hearing by Mr. Corman.

I would certainly extend my condolences to the members of his family.

Mr. Pedersen, I didn't know well. However, I do know a number of the members of his family well. It has been said that he was one of the real pioneers in the Province of Saskatchewan. I remember when I used to come to the Legislature as a student, I used to remember Mr. Pedersen sitting in his place in the Legislature. I remember him because he sat as a seatmate of my Member at that time, Mr. G. H. Danielson. As I say, he was one of the really truly fine pioneers of this province.

Mr. Johnston, I didn't know very well, but again what I said about Mr. Pedersen certainly would have application to him. I remember him presiding in the Legislature as Speaker, and I always considered him to be one of the really fine Members of the Legislature and one of the fine pioneers of the province.

Mr. E. N. Ted Davis was a good friend of mine. I knew him for many years before I came to the Legislature. I knew him when I practised downtown. From time to time we were in the same coffee row, I guess you would say, on Scarth Street or on Hamilton Street. I knew Ted Davis as a gifted and dedicated member of the press of this province. And so I would like to associate myself with the remarks that have been made as far as Mr. Davis is concerned.

**Mr. W. G. Davies** (Moose Jaw South): — Mr. Speaker, without being too repetitive this afternoon I would like to join with the others that have spoken here in respect and regret today for the passing of former Members of the Legislature and also Ted Davis whom I knew for very many years.

I associate myself particularly in these sentiments with regard to the memory of former Moose Jaw MLA and Cabinet Minister, Jack Corman, as he was "Jack" to everyone that he knew. It has been noted that he served Moose Jaw with great ability and dedication as an alderman, mayor and as a Member of this Assembly for a period of some 18 years. His service, of course, was given in many other ways as well.

Jack Corman was first elected to city council in Moose Jaw in 1938. He became Mayor of the Friendly City in 1940. He was re-elected twice after that by acclamation. He was very popular both in Moose Jaw and the district as well. His friendly, witty and whimsical image, I think, Mr. Speaker, was indeed the reflection of the city area and its people.

I wasn't a Member of the House when Mr. Corman was here, but I well remember the kind of style that he used in debates. He was very well regarded, I think, by friend and political foe alike.

There was an item in The Leader Post on May 28, 1942 that said, and I am quoting:

A stranger stopping in Moose Jaw on a business trip that

included visits to the City Hall was heard to say that the personality of the city and of its mayor go hand in hand.

Mr. Speaker, Jack Corman's achievements as a MLA and as a Minister of the Crown have already been briefly related. They will be well remembered. One certainly was very useful for Moose Jaw and that was the legislation expediting the settlement of Moose Jaw with its bond holders, because as you know there was a time when Moose Jaw's financial circumstances were very bad indeed. Of course the great pioneer step that he was associated with, The Bill of Rights, the first in Canada, was one that will be long remembered.

Jack's ancestors it may not be known were United Empire Loyalists. The Saskatchewan barristers that knew him speak of his keen and brilliant mind in law school. He was articled in Moose Jaw with the firm of Dunn and Spotton and came into the Bar in 1915. He became a King's Counsel in 1935.

When he was Mayor of Moose Jaw, Jack Corman was asked to give a Friday night broadcast over radio station CHAB. This radio program continued when he became Attorney General after his resounding election in 1944. His talent for combining down-to-earth humor with the discussion of daily events in politics made this perhaps the most popular and talked-about broadcast in the province. His "Corman's Column" in the Commonwealth was another very readable and topical item. But while I think that he had a very devastating style on the air and in the newspaper, he was never malicious and he injected wit and life into many a dull subject. He did bring down, of course, some criticism on himself but he was always universally liked and respected. Oddly his own political campaign rarely saw him campaigning for himself. In 1941 as a matter of fact he was elected for a third term as Mayor by a huge majority without making one campaign speech.

I said that Moose Jaw benefited from the ministrations of Jack Corman and I have made particular reference to the changes in the law that helped Moose Jaw pull herself up by the boot straps and emerge from a very, very perilous period of financial difficulties.

It has been said that Jack Corman was very kind. He was also a very human man and he had an ear for people. If anyone asked him for legal advice that person could be sure that he wouldn't wind up in expensive litigation, if there was a simpler or more sensible way to settle the problem. He saw the law as something to serve the people and to ensure their rights and their personal security. I first saw him in action in 1941 when he acted as the chairman of an Arbitration Board of which I was a member. It was a very difficult case. It involved the dismissal of a lady unionist. Jack, because of his way with people, got a unanimous report. The lady returned to work and she has since gone on to distinguish herself in a local Moose Jaw company.

Of the many MLAs to represent their constituency and to leave this House, and later in the nature of things die, I think Jack Corman will rank among the best, the most able and the most deserving.

Mr. Speaker, his family, his community and this House and

the Province may be justly proud of the contributions he rendered throughout his life.

**Hon. C. P. MacDonald** (Minister of Welfare): — Mr. Speaker, I wish to join and associate myself with the remarks of the other Members of the House to the families of the deceased Members. I want to say a special word about a very close friend of mine, Mr. Bill Pedersen, the former MLA for the constituency of Milestone which I now represent.

It was my privilege to know Mr. Pedersen for probably 10 or 12 years and to call him a friend. In my own political life no single individual has influenced me as much as Mr. Pedersen. He was the kind of man that is remembered very distinctly in his community for several outstanding contributions.

First, he is remembered as a pioneer. He came to the Province of Saskatchewan in 1907. He was of Danish background and came from the United States. He and a brother settled in Milestone and raised their family in that community since that time. I think that Mr. Pedersen will always be remembered in the constituency of Milestone and perhaps in the entire southern part of the province for the fact that he was a man who had a deep and abiding interest in his community. In fact his whole life might be referred to as a life of service. First of all he was remembered for the thing that we are recalling today, an MLA or a Member of the Legislature. He was also secretary of his local school district for some 25 years. He was a member of the Rural Municipality of Caledonia for many years. He was the reeve of the council. He was the president of The Agricultural Society. He was the president of The Saskatchewan Aberdeen Angus Association. Mr. Pedersen in every avenue of life that he had an interest in, whether it was church, lodge, council, school or province, excelled and dedicated himself to his utmost.

Mr. Pedersen will also be remembered in the southern part of the province for his interest in the sale and the leadership he provided in selling Victory Bonds during the Second World War. They still talk about his record and his ability to go into a farmer's yard or to a neighbor's home and convince them of the importance of contributing to the Victory Bond drive.

One of the things that I like to remember about Mr. Pedersen most of all, is the fact that he was an excellent MLA. He was the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Milestone during the depression years and people still tell the story that Mr. Pedersen never drove down any road in the constituency of Milestone without stopping at every farm house. It didn't make any difference where he was going. It almost took him a day to arrive. He seemed to be able to sit down and discuss their problems with people of all political faiths. Whenever they asked him to do something he had a reputation of never failing to carry it out or do his best to aid in the solution of their problems.

It is also interesting that he was a cattle breeder and that his son and grandson are now carrying on in the Aberdeen Angus breeding at Cropwell. His farm is one of the outstanding farms in Southern Saskatchewan. Many, many people in Saskatchewan and visitors from outside Saskatchewan have stopped at Cropwell and enjoyed the hospitality of the Pedersen family.

They also enjoyed visiting the farm and the agricultural enterprise set up by Mr. Pedersen.

Once again I want to say that I join with other Members of this House in expressing our condolences to Mr. Pedersen's family and to all the families of the Members who have died during the past year.

**Mr. G. T. Snyder** (Moose Jaw North): — Mr. Speaker, I would also like to say a few brief words in recognition of the long and faithful service of the person whom Moose Jaw people knew affectionately as their Alderman, their Mayor and in the most prominent years of his political career as their MLA and their Attorney General.

I think that Members will be aware that, when the CCF formed the Government of Saskatchewan in 1944, Jack Corman filled a key position. His legal background and his former political experience made him an extremely valuable asset to the Government of that day. Those Members who were fortunate to be associated with him in government regarded him as a scholar, as a very able and very dedicated public servant, but most of all Jack Corman was a person who believed in the dignity of the individual and the right of all people to live with honor and self-respect.

He was one of those who regarded "humanity first" as a meaningful concept and meant it to be applied to the Saskatchewan environment in many ways. I was in England last spring at the time of Mr. Corman's funeral, and I deeply regretted that I was unable to attend and pay my last respect to him. I had visited with him only a few weeks prior to his death. I think that Members are aware also that he had not been in good health for some time, but in spite of this he remained very cheerful and was a fountain of wisdom in spite of his advancing years. I know that all Members will wish to join in a sincere expression of sympathy in the passing of one of Saskatchewan's most distinguished public servants.

**Hon. W. R. Thatcher** (Premier): — Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Lloyd):

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

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Speaker:** — I think that it is appropriate at this time to read two communications which I have received and which I delayed reading until this juncture in the proceedings. I have one from the Embassy of the United States of America, dated Ottawa, April 23, 1969:

Dear Mr. Speaker:

The President has asked me to reply to your very thoughtful letter of April 1, 1969, forwarding a Resolution *nemine contradicente* marking the passing of former President Eisenhower. Please convey to your colleagues

the President's appreciation. It is reassuring to know that our Canadian friends share our feeling of loss and mourn with us the death of this great American President.

Signed by Harold F. Linder  
United States Ambassador

And another communication from Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, dated April 23:

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Please convey to the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan my sincere appreciation for the Resolution passed in honor of my husband.

I thank you for this wonderful tribute which will be placed with the official papers in the Presidential Library in Abilene, Kansas.

With my gratitude and very best wishes,

Mamie Daud Eisenhower.

**Mr. W. G. Davies** (Moose Jaw South): — Mr. Speaker, do I have leave of the House to revert to questions now?

**Mr. Speaker:** — That is a question which I have to put to the House. It has been asked that we revert to questions. Is leave granted? No. You have to have unanimous consent of the House.

**Mr. F. A. Dewhurst** (Wadena): — I would like to rise on that point. We do not have items on the Order Paper specifically stating questions as all these come before the Orders of the Day. I realize that you, Sir, have attempted, and rightly so, in the last few years to try and get one topic covered before we reach Orders of the Day. But whether questions are completed there are no headings for oral questions, and I would like to know just why we have to have unanimous consent or why we have to revert because we are still on Order of the Day. We have not passed Orders of the Day. I think that the Hon. Member from Moose Jaw South (Mr. Davies) is within the rules that we have been following, without asking the leave to revert because there is no specific order which calls for questions.

**Mr. Speaker:** — Again I wish to explain to the House how this occurred. I felt, when the Premier rose, inasmuch as we were having a question and answer period, in connection with the Conference which is going to take place in Ottawa this coming week, that possibly he was going to make a statement in regard to that, as we hadn't finished that particular piece of business. However, he entered into a motion in connection with the Members who have passed away and I didn't like to interrupt him at that time, considering the nature of the subject. Had it been a motion of any other kind I would have done so. I concluded that because we went ahead with it we did enter the Orders of the Day. I further draw your attention to the fact that we have absolutely no procedure in this House for an oral question period. There is no proper procedure in this House. It is my contention

that, as was suggested by the Member from Moose Jaw (Mr. Davies), he was the person I would have seen next, had the Premier been making a statement or something of some other nature; and it was his suggestion that we might by leave revert. We have been on the Orders of the Day because we have been discussing them for the last hour and that's the situation which we are in now. If the Members wish to revert to questions then in my view it will have to be done by leave of the House.

**Mr. Dewhurst:** — May I ask a question? Mr. Speaker, on the topic we have been on under Orders of the Day, I thought all we had taken was before Orders of the Day.

**Mr. Speaker:** — You are on Orders of the Day because I called Orders of the Day. Before the Orders of the Day people get up and ask questions as it has been customary to do in this House.

**Mr. Dewhurst:** — There are no items on this Order Paper under Orders of the Day so what have we been doing?

**Mr. Speaker:** — You've been discussing the departed Members of this Legislature, quite obviously.

**Mr. Lloyd:** — Do we have leave to revert to questions?

**Mr. Speaker:** — The Leader of the Opposition has asked leave to revert to questions. Agreed.

## QUESTIONS

### Federal-Provincial Conference

**Mr. Davies:** — Mr. Speaker, I had thought to address this question to the Minister of Labour (Mr. Coderre) but I don't think he is now in his seat. Since I understand from the remarks of the Premier that the Labour Minister will not be a member of the delegation to Ottawa, which I think is regrettable, I will place the question as a general question to the Government. My question is: Mr. Speaker, in view of the imminence of the Federal-Provincial Conference and the fact that DBS reports well over 16,000 unemployed in Saskatchewan, would the Government inform the House on any specific proposals it has to place before Mr. Trudeau for immediate Federal Government action to ease the present provincial jobless crisis?

**Mr. Thatcher:** — Mr. Speaker, I hope that once and for all today I can indicate that we have no intention giving publicity to our brief at this time. I will tell the Member for Moose Jaw South we have some proposals and he will learn about them Monday or Tuesday if he reads the newspapers, no doubt.

**Mr. A. E. Blakeney** (Regina Centre): — I would like to ask a question, Mr. Speaker. Would the Premier advise whether there are any construction projects the Saskatchewan Government now has that can be

commenced now to alleviate the worst levels of unemployment that are currently with us?

**Mr. Thatcher:** — We will make an announcement in due course, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Blakeney:** — Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I may ask a question of the Provincial Treasurer (Mr. Steuart). Unlike the Premier who is going to a conference the Provincial Treasurer has just come back from one and is accordingly able to tell us what happened. I wonder if he can advise the House whether at that Conference of Finance Ministers he raised objections, and I would hope strong objections, to the current Federal Government policies, fiscal policies, which are allegedly to control inflation but which in fact are causing widespread unemployment and distress?

**Hon. D. G. Steuart** (Provincial Treasurer): — Tremendous objections.

The Assembly adjourned at 3:45 o'clock p.m.