

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN
Fourth Session — Seventeenth Legislature
16th Day

Monday, February 25, 1974

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

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION

MR. SPEAKER: — Before I call Orders of the Day, I should like to inform the Assembly that the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly has received from the Assistant Chief Electoral Officer a certificate of the following Election and Return of Ted Malone, Esquire, as Member for the constituency of Regina Lakeview.

HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

INTRODUCTION OF PAGES

MR. SPEAKER: — I beg to inform the Assembly that Arla Abells and Debbie Mitchell will be Pages during the present Session. Two of our previous Pages are here and these are our two new girls.

HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

ANNOUNCEMENT

CURLING — KINDERSLEY RINK

HON. A. TAYLOR: (Kerrobert-Kindersley): — Mr. Speaker, I should like to draw to the attention of the Members that the Larry McGrath rink of Kindersley won the provincial men's final and now go to London, Ontario to represent the province in the Canadian Brier. I am sure that the Members join me in wishing them best wishes in their upcoming engagement.

HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

QUESTIONS

PLANT AT BISHOPRIC

MR. A.W. ENGEL: (Notukeu-Willow Bunch): — Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day I should like to direct a question to the Minister in charge of Sask. Minerals (Mr. Snyder). I should like to ask him, is there any truth in the rumor that the plant at Bishopric, which was recently opened has been closed? If so, why has this plant been shut down?

HON. G. SNYDER: (Minister of Labour): — In reply to the Hon. Member's question I think it would be improper to say that the plant has been closed but production has been suspended at the Bishopric plant because of a shortage of box cars.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Ohhhhh!

MR. SNYDER: — The difficulty arises from the fact that there is a limited storage capacity at Bishopric and my information is that the operation will be suspended beginning today probably until Saturday, hopefully not beyond that.

ANNOUNCEMENT

SASKATCHEWAN WINTER GAMES

HON. E. KRAMER: (The Battlefords): — Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure for me to distribute the program for Saskatchewan Winter Games 1974 calendar of events to be held at North Battleford, up there in the better part of Saskatchewan, starting next Monday and going through from the 4th to the 9th. This is indeed an honor for northwestern Saskatchewan and The Battlefords, and Cut Knife, at Turtleford and Redberry and Biggar and Wilkie, to be part of the area that will be hosting these first Saskatchewan Winter Games. There is a full slate of events as you will see on your program when it is put on your desk, and there is also the button which I am wearing, which I hope you will proudly wear. I hope that all of you will make an effort to attend part, or all of these, or, at least, have some of your family present. This is, once again, putting Saskatchewan on the map. It is doing what many of us have said should be done for many years, making our winters more attractive, making our winters more enjoyable so that young people will have a reason to stay in Saskatchewan all year round, rather than making it just a summer place.

MR. LANE: — Call an election.

MR. KRAMER: — That's not on the games list. I don't seem to notice it here, but I see there are some things like speed skating and fencing and a few others like gymnastics for the Member for Lumsden — especially on thin ice. I won't go into that further.

Well, Mr. Speaker, once again I want to say and I should like the Clerk to distribute the invitations and the program so that you can keep informed and possibly make some effort to come to The Battlefords in northwestern Saskatchewan during next week. It is a first for Saskatchewan again and I certainly want to tender a very cordial invitation to everyone, not only in the House but outside the House who might possibly be able to come.

I should like, also, while I am on my feet to draw your attention to this year's official highway map which is on your desk. We have tried to give a little more information on this year's map, indicating some of the geographic features such as the Great Sand Hills, Wood Mountain, the Big Muddy Valley and the various other geographic features in southern as well as northern Saskatchewan. For too long I believe, Mr. Speaker, we have been presenting Saskatchewan as a flat place with some lines drawn across it, very little interest to anyone who looked at the map. We hope by next year to have some topography built into it which would indicate terrain as well as simply identifying with letters or titles on a map. We are hoping to make Saskatchewan appear more interesting to those tourists and those others and even Saskatchewanians who pick up a Saskatchewan map and say, oh, I've never been there, I never knew there was such a thing as the Big Muddy Valley. There are many people who still don't

know of this or the Great Sand Hills which is a geographic feature which is worthy of tourist attention. So I hope, Mr. Speaker, that we can make Saskatchewan more interesting than we have on this year's map. You will also notice that for the first time, all of Saskatchewan is on the face of the map and I think that too is an indication that we are interested in what is happening in northern Saskatchewan rather than sticking it on the back of a map as it has been in the past.

QUESTIONS

OIL EXPLORATION

MR. D. G. STEUART: (Leader of the Opposition): — Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day, I should like to direct a question to the Premier. In view of the very serious situation that the oil industry finds itself in in this province, with exploration literally ground to a halt, with the situation in Estevan and places like Swift Current and to a lesser extent in Weyburn, but especially in Estevan, where medium and small Saskatchewan companies are laying people off, are leaving the province or making plans to leave the province, can the Premier tell this House and the public when he is prepared to sit down with the oil industry and to clear up the uncertainty that now exists in that industry, to publicly lay before the industry and the public of this province a program that will, in fact, get the oil industry to come back into this province, start looking for oil, and put an end to the uncertainty that now exists? If he would check with his Minister about the situation in Estevan he would find that there is a literal depression in oil industry in that city and district. I think it is long past due the time when the Premier should have made a very clear cut statement. The worst thing that is happening to the industry is the uncertainty that exists; they don't know where they are going from day to day. I wonder if he would tell us that and would he also tell us, have the plans been set yet for the next meeting between the provinces and the Federal Government, the, first ministers, in regard to the national oil situation as it will exist after the freeze is lifted on March 1st?

HON. A.E. BLAKENEY: (Premier): — Mr. Speaker, with respect to the questions addressed by the Leader of the Opposition, to the latter question the answer is No, arrangements have not been finalized for a federal-provincial conference.

With respect to the first question concerning discussions between the Government and the oil industry concerning future policy, I wish to advise the Leader of the Opposition that those discussions are taking place. The Minister of Mineral Resources (Mr. Cowley) has had a number of discussions with the industry and doubtless further discussions will be held, out of which I have no doubt that policy changes of a modest nature will be forthcoming such as will remove from the minds of the industry any doubts which the Leader of the Opposition seems to believe are there.

MR. STEUART: — Mr. Speaker, obviously what the Premier is saying then is that he is not going to take any part in these discussions, is not taking any part in these discussions, and is showing us, I think, a very serious lack of interest in an extremely critical situation that now exists in the oil industry. I am talking

about the small people who have been centred in this province, who have made their living in this province and are now being pushed out. Would he allow a supplementary question and tell us what is happening to Saskoil and when he is telling us that would he give us the qualifications of the Manager beyond being, I believe, a close relative of the former Minister of Mineral Resources. What did this man do? What are his qualifications? What is happening with Saskoil, if anything?

MR. BLAKENEY: — Mr. Speaker, with respect to the qualifications of the Manager, I should think that is a matter for a written question. I know them in part, I don't know them entirely.

MR. STEUART: — I know . . .

MR. BLAKENEY: — Well, Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition is apparently of the view that he knows the answer and if he does there is really no point in my belaboring the House with the answer. So I suggest to the Leader of the Opposition that he follow the appropriate procedure in a question of the type asking the qualifications of a particular employee, and put a question on the Order Paper.

With respect to the other question asked by the Leader of the Opposition as to whether I was taking part in the discussions I should advise again that in my judgement the way to conduct a government is to appoint good ministers and to repose confidence in them and have them carry on the affairs of the government. I know that wasn't the style of the previous government, I know that there was in general, a view that all matters should be dealt with by the Premier. I say to this House that this is not the way that I believe a government ought to be conducted. I have every confidence in the Minister of Mineral Resources to conduct appropriate discussions with the oil industry and I have every confidence they will yield fruitful results.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

REGULATIONS — NURSE PRACTITIONERS' BURSARIES

MR. J. G. RICHARDS: (Saskatoon University): — Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of Public Health (Mr. Smishek) with respect to regulations which were in the Saskatchewan Gazette on February 1st pertaining to nurse practitioners' bursaries. It is not perhaps the most earthshaking of questions but nonetheless I think it is of some note. (1) What does the Minister intend to do about the blatantly sexist references in the Gazette which constantly refer to 'she' when discussing nurse practitioners when I understand the first applicant has been a male. (2) More seriously perhaps is the question of Section (9) which seems to violate the provisions of The Labour Standards Act in terms of allowing maternity leave and seems to be grossly inhumanitarian in talking about a forfeiture of a \$2,000 bond for anybody who is ill for more than three weeks. These are contained, Mr. Speaker, in the Saskatchewan Gazette regulations in February 1st, 1974, pages 77 to 78. I corresponded with the Minister via my assistant and we have yet to have a response. I trust that the Minister will be changing these blatant sexist and inhumanitarian regulations.

HON. W.E. SMISHEK: (Minister of Health): — Mr. Speaker, we don't propose to give the 'he' a maternity leave of absence, but the regulations are being reviewed. I am grateful for the Hon. Member bringing this to our attention. As he perhaps knows sometimes these things are done by the officials and they are not perhaps properly checked with other statutes. We are reviewing them and I hope that we shall be making the necessary amendments.

MR. RICHARDS: — Mr. Speaker, just a supplementary question, would the Minister advise definitely that this will not be in violation of the maternity leave provision and that the male candidate who has applied for a bursary will be eligible despite the references of 'she' throughout the regulations.

MR. SPEAKER: — The Minister said regulations are being reviewed and the Minister can't answer for future policy. Let's get down to the questions. I realize we have had three questions but it is a long time since we last sat, so with the indulgence of the House I will permit one or two more.

FEEDLOT OPERATORS

MR. J.C. McISAAC: (Wilkie): — Mr. Speaker, I thank you very kindly. I should like to direct a question to the Government opposite, Mr. Speaker, and in particular to the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Messer). I am sure as the House well knows, and the Minister of Agriculture particularly, if there is one sector of prairie agriculture that is taking a real beating financially in recent months, it has been the feedlot operator in the province, be he a small or a large operator. And there are many more smaller operators than big, large ones. But what has the Minister been doing in this regard? Now, what prompts the question is, I heard a press release recently that the Minister came up with the very lame duck and irresponsible answer that the solution to the feedlot operators' dilemma was very simple, simply don't buy any feeder cattle. Mr. Speaker, I can't even believe that remark, I hope the Minister was misquoted but I just don't believe he could make such a silly comment. Surely he must have some better answer to the millions of dollars being lost monthly by cattle feeders in this province. Before the 1971 election he had lots of answers, lots of promises. What are his answers and what is his solution to the financial loss being taken by the feedlot operator in Saskatchewan?

HON. J.R. MESSER: (Minister of Agriculture): — Mr. Speaker, in regard to the reference that the Member made to a press release that was purported to have emanated from myself in regard to boycotting the purchase of feeder cattle in the Province of Saskatchewan — that was in response to a position that was reported to have been or about to be taken by the Canadian Cattlemen's Association — my response to that was that I could certainly sympathize with their dilemma, it was not to say that I endorsed the boycotting of feeder cattle in the Province of Saskatchewan but I can certainly sympathize with the fact, Mr. Speaker, that the cattle feed lot industry, the cattle industry in the Province of Saskatchewan was confronting great losses for every animal that was sold or brought to market

at this point in time.

In regard to the more general question that the Member asked in regard to what my position is. The Department of Agriculture or the position of the Government of Saskatchewan as to what we should like to do to stabilize the livestock industry of Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker, is that we ask the Federal Government to introduce consistent federal policies that co-operate with the provincial policies in regard to giving stability to agricultural production.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. MESSER: — We have for a number of years, Mr. Speaker, spoken about a national feed grain policy for Canada which would resolve this great disparity and loss of money that the feeder cattle industry in the Province of Saskatchewan is now confronted with. We have, Mr. Speaker, for a number of months now been attempting to negotiate with the Federal Government for a joint Federal-Provincial Stabilization Program for all primary products in the Dominion of Canada. So, Mr. Speaker, this Government and this Department of Agriculture has attempted to recommend to the Federal Government national policies which it takes to resolve these problems which the Provincial Government will contribute directly to by assuming their responsibilities in carrying out stability for agriculture in the prairie provinces.

MR. McISAAC: — Just a supplementary, Mr. Speaker. In short, if I read the Minister correctly he is saying he has no provincial policy; he is not concerned about the plight of the feedlot operator in this province. He is using the same old NDP howl, cry to Ottawa, they should solve it. He has got no answer, Mr. Speaker, and that is the point I want to make.

MR. MESSER: — Mr. Speaker, in answer to that supplementary question if the Hon. Member would listen to what his Federal cohorts are saying, he would know that the Federal Government is now attempting to have national policies. Whether they will bring them about in time is yet to be seen. But for us, on a regional basis or provincial basis to try to plug the inadequacies of the Federal Government every time they make mistakes, it is not going to solve the problems for agriculture in Saskatchewan or in Canada, Mr. Speaker.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PEE WEE HOCKEY EASTERN PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

MR. P. P. MOSTOWAY. (Hanley): — Mr. Speaker, I should like to bring to the attention of this House a series of events of no mean consequence. I refer to this last weekend at Allan, where four Pee Wee hockey teams battled it out for the eastern provincial championship in the Class B series for communities of five thousand and under.

Four teams participated, Allan, Langenburg, Melfort and Moosomin. The final game saw Langenburg pitted against Allan. After Allan gave up to Langenburg a liberal number of goals in the first period, the Allan boys, coached by Mr. Don Deibert,

decided on a new hockey approach, the NDP approach, a New Deal for Players. Whereupon they played with such vigor, dedication and courage that they lost by only one goal to Langenburg, a worthy eastern representative.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

GOVAN HIGH SCHOOL CURLING CHAMPIONS

HON. G. MacMURCHY (Minister of Education): — Mr. Speaker, I am sure that all the Members of the House would want to join with me in congratulating the Govan High School curling team who won the Saskatchewan High School championship . . .

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. MacMURCHY: — . . . in Moose Jaw this past weekend. Members of the rink are Gordon Larson, Kim Puffer, Robert Martin, Don Dabrowski and their spare is Gordon's brother, Glen Larson. The coach, a well known community curler Russ Haugen.

The commentary, and it is not surprising when you consider that Govan is in the heart of Last Mountain, these curlers won the hearts of the audience that attended the finals with their quietness and their good manners. I am sure that we wish them well in the Dominion finals in Ottawa March 10th to the 15th.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

CONDOLENCES

HON. A.E. BLAKENEY: (Premier): — Mr. Speaker, since we have last found ourselves in this House, two former Members of the Legislature have passed away and I should like to ask the House to recognize their contribution to this House and their respective communities.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Steuart):

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

CHARLES ARTHUR AYRE, who died on February 1, 1974, was a Member of this Legislature for Turtleford from 1929 to 1938. He was born in England on November 24, 1890 and was educated at Hymers College and Kingswood School in England. He came to Canada in 1910. He was a notary public and a justice of the peace in Saskatchewan. From 1939 to 1944 he worked first in the office of the Executive Council and later in the Legislative Library. He was a member of the village council for Turtleford from 1916-1926 and also served on the Public School Board for Turtleford. He was a member of the Masonic Order and the Orange Lodge.

WILLIAM JOHN BEREZOWSKY, who died on January 17, 1974, was a Member of this Legislature for Cumberland from 1952-1967 and for Prince Albert East-Cumberland from 1967-1971. He was born in the Ukraine on January 6, 1904 and in 1908 his family travelled to western Canada. He received his early schooling at Strathcona School in Winnipeg, and King George Collegiate in Prince Albert. He attended Normal School in Prince Albert, obtaining his third class certificate in teaching in 1924 and then attended the Normal School in Saskatoon, obtaining his second class teaching papers in 1926. He worked for, the railroad and from 1923-1947 he taught school in Honeymoon, Kalyna and Dana. After working on the family farm, he became a prospector in the La Ronge and Churchill regions. He enlisted in the armed forces in 1942. From 1948-52 he was superintendent of staff training for the Department of Natural Resources in Prince Albert. He took a leading part in his community and was Secretary-Treasurer of Rural Municipality No. 490 from 1927-1943, President and Secretary of the Meath Park Board of Trade, a trustee of the Prince Albert Larger School Unit No. 56, and a member of the Canadian Legion. In addition, he was a delegate to the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool and for some years was also a partner in the Farmers' Supply Company in Meath Park.

Mr. Speaker, I did not know Mr. Ayre. I fancy that having regard to the fact that he did not serve in this House after 1938, there will be few who will have known him personally. It is clear from the biographical details that he had a period of about nine years in the House, which is more than average. Thereafter he served the Legislature and the Government in various capacities with the Executive Council and the Legislative Library.

With respect to William John Berezowsky, Bill Berezowsky. I have known Bill since he entered this House in 1952. For those who know Bill Berezowsky it is something of a task to decide just what one says about Bill Berezowsky. He was well respected indeed, greatly loved. Above all, he was a man of unquenchable spirit. He believed, and he believed passionately, in the causes which he espoused, particularly in the cause of the down-trodden whatever form they may take. Those who were, in his judgment, insensitive to the needs of the less fortunate were Bill Berezowsky's targets and smote them, and he smote them royally, hip and thigh. He was a loyal party man but he didn't hesitate to criticize his party or his colleagues, in private or in public, when he felt they were wrong. Supremely he was his own man. He had a love of the Ukraine, its traditions and its people. Many will remember his words in this House when we honored the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of Taras Shevchenko, the great Ukrainian poet and patriot. I remember, well, Bill speaking on that occasion.

Bill lived life to the full. It was a warming experience just to know Bill, to be infected with his enthusiasm. There have not been and there will not be many men like Bill Berezowsky.

In recording its deep sense of loss and bereavement I ask this Assembly to express their most sincere sympathies with members of the bereaved families.

MR. D.G. STEUART: (Leader of the Opposition): — Mr. Speaker, Charles Ayre came to this country from England before the First World War and like so many of his generation, immediately became part of the very fabric of our society. He took a very active part in community life in the Turtleford area. He served on local governments, served on the School Board and was very active in his lodge work, not just in his own area, but in all of northern Saskatchewan. He served in this House for two terms and worked for the Government of Saskatchewan for some time after that. I think that like many men of his generation he set a wonderful example and left a record that both he and his friends and his family can well be proud of. I join with the Premier and other Members of this House in passing on our condolences to members of his family.

Bill Berezowsky, as the Premier said was a great individualist. I first became aware of Bill when I got involved in politics in Prince Albert — and you couldn't be involved in politics in the Prince Albert area without being aware of Bill Berezowsky on one side or the other. I think the first public meeting that I ever had Bill was there to ask questions and put me on the spot. And that rivalry, sometimes friendly and sometimes not so friendly, continued from about the early 1950s until shortly after he retired from this Legislative Assembly.

I grew to like and respect Bill Berezowsky. I think that my friendship was reciprocated. We would battle in the House, and we had some dandies in this Legislative Assembly from both sides of the House, and then we would usually meet in the hall after. We would wait for five or ten minutes sometimes to cool down a little and then we would meet outside and since we both came from Prince Albert we decided that maybe we had a few more things in common than we thought we had when we were debating in the House; that really we had one very serious job and that was to instruct the backward Members of the Legislative Assembly from other parts of the province on the great future, the joys and the beauties of Prince Albert and northern Saskatchewan.

I recall some great things about Bill in this House. I remember the time that Allan Guy was speaking. He was then in the Opposition, we were the Government. They had made up their mind that they would refuse to even acknowledge Mr. Guy at any moment when he was speaking. So we were watching very closely. They were all doing very well pretending they weren't listening to Allan but Bill was having the most trouble because he was squirming. He wanted to get into the fray, as the Premier said, to come back at Allan, hip and thigh as he was wont to do. He was reading a book and there was only one problem, he had the book upside down and he stared at it for about 20 minutes and finally he couldn't stand it and he slammed it down and he left the Chamber. It was probably a very difficult time for Bill to sit in this House, hear someone speaking whom he so violently disagreed with as he did with the Member for Athabasca on every occasion and could not really get up and enter into the debate.

People all over Prince Albert and the northern part of this province of all political philosophies who knew Bill, respected him. You knew where you stood with him. You knew that he had a passionate belief in this province, in this nation, in the uniqueness of his own nationality, and especially in the great future of northern Saskatchewan. He was convinced, over the years, that governments, both the government that he supported and the

government that he opposed, did not pay enough attention to northern Saskatchewan. He never let an opportunity go by to publicly say so. I am sorry that Bill Berezowsky has passed on. He left a great mark in my community, in our community. He left a great mark in this province and he certainly left a great mark as an MLA in this Legislative Assembly.

MR. M. FESCHUK: (Prince Albert East): — Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak to the memory of William John Berezowsky.

Mr. Berezowsky was known to young and old as Bill Berezowsky, and was a prominent figure in local and provincial politics. He was a Member of this Legislature, as was pointed out earlier, for the Cumberland constituency from 1952 to 1967 and for Prince Albert-Cumberland from 1967 to 1971.

Mr. Speaker, I hope you and this House will bear with me as I will try to relate to you very briefly some of the hardships that faced Bill Berezowsky as a young man. However because of his experience and his convictions I knew him to be a person who had a keen interest in improving our community, our province and our country.

I shall always remember him very warmly, as a neighbor, a highly respected gentleman, a gallant man and above all an intimate friend.

Bill was the oldest son of Ivan and Julia Berezowsky and was born at Kobylowloky, district of Terebowala in the Tarnopol area of the western Ukraine. He was born on January 6, 1904 and came to Canada to the city of Winnipeg with his mother in April 1908. Bill received his primary education in Winnipeg first learning the English language in kindergarten and later attending the King Edward School and Strathcona School until 1914.

In 1914 the Berezowsky family homesteaded in the Honeymoon District a short distance northeast of Prince Albert. The poverty and the conditions of the day deprived Bill of the opportunity of school attendance for the next four years. However, in 1918 at the age of 14, Bill completed his Grade 8 at the King George School at Prince Albert and began his high school education at Prince Albert Collegiate. Again poverty of the day forced Bill temporarily to leave school and earn some school expense money to further his education. At the age of 16 he was employed on the railway in the interior of British Columbia and was a section foreman.

His desire to further his education made him give up his job as a section foreman and to return to Prince Albert to complete his high school education. He attended Normal School in Prince Albert obtaining his third class certificate in teaching in 1924. After teaching in the Honeymoon district and working on the family farm for a year, Bill then attended the Normal School in Saskatoon, obtaining his second class certificate in teaching in 1926. His studies at home gave Bill some knowledge of accounting, bookkeeping and among other things, geology. In 1927 Bill accepted an offer to become the Secretary-Treasurer of the Rural Municipality of Russia, at present the RM of Garden River No. 490.

In 1929 Bill went back to teaching, however, due to the pressures of the community he again accepted office in the same RM

and in 1933, some years later, he resigned and became a prospector in the La Ronge and Churchill River regions. He entered into a general merchant business with his brother and while his brother operated the store, Bill carried on prospecting activities in partnership with a friend, Steve Salage and also as an employee of Anglo-Barrington Mines Limited.

In 1941, Bill Berezowsky enlisted in the RCAF and a year later was honorably discharged and returned to take a leading part in his community. Over the years he had been the Secretary-Treasurer of the rural municipality, President of the Meath Park Board of Trade, member of the Canadian Legion, trustee of the school unit, a delegate of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, a farmer, a justice of the peace and a true servant of the Saskatchewan community. In 1948 to 1952 Bill was superintendent of staff training for the Department of Natural Resources in Prince Albert. Bill Berezowsky was basically a social democrat. His family had been active in politics in the western Ukraine, his uncle was a senator in the Austro-Hungarian and later the Polish Governments, for what was known to be a radical or popular party.

Bill Berezowsky actively supported political parties that he considered to be progressive and prior to 1935 Bill believed the Liberal Party to be such a political party. However, about 1935 Bill associated himself with the social democratic CCF movement. Having been active over the years in politics he was invited and accepted the honor of being a candidate for the CCF in 1952 for the Cumberland constituency. He served his constituency well for four consecutive terms. I had known Bill for as far back as I can remember, however, it wasn't until he became a Member of this Legislative Assembly that our association became closer. I worked with Bill as one of his constituency executive members from 1953 until he retired. I came to know and appreciate his sincerity, his energy and the purposeful determination of his convictions at all times. Bill Berezowsky came to northern Saskatchewan at the age of 10, Mr. Speaker. He could well be called a native son of the North, he loved the North and he loved its people.

With an inherited background of radicalism Bill became recognized as a spokesman and a fighter for the rights and the privileges of the citizens of this province. Bill recognized the needs of his constituency and will be remembered by people from all political faiths for his dedication and his love for his people.

William John Berezowsky is remembered as a teacher, a Justice of the Peace and administrator and a Member of the Legislative Assembly, more often known as Bill, but always known as a fighter for his constituency. His difficulty in completing his own education made him a firm believer in education at public cost and so he worked hard to change The School Grants Act. Lack of roads brought men like Bill together and in 1954 after the series of hard fought battles in caucus they achieved the market grid road system, a program that now 20 years later is the pride of rural Saskatchewan. The records will show, Mr. Speaker, that it was Bill Berezowsky who urged a publicly owned pulp mill in Prince Albert in the late 1950s. It was Bill who urged the government to transform the fish marketing service, the government trading stores into producer-consumer northern co-operatives, against the advice of the people in administration of that day. The National Inland Fish Marketing Service is a memorial to his hard work and his dedication. You

will remember, Mr. Speaker, when Bill prevailed upon the government to build the Hanson Lake Road to Creighton and you will remember that it was Bill who led the fight for the human rights of our native people.

These are only a few of the many achievements of this former MLA who represented Prince Albert East-Cumberland constituency and I could go on to mention his work, his interest and his efforts in conservation, in resource development, demanding roads to isolated communities such as were built at Cumberland House, Pelican Narrows, the removal of school taxes from real property, and a better and a more comprehensive health program. His genuine concern for the working people in our society, the working poor, the disabled, the Indian and Métis. These people certainly have to mark him as one of the great humanitarians of this province.

Throughout the North, Bill's work is seen all around us, even to planning the town site and naming the community of Uranium City. We see the schools, the hospitals, co-operatives that Bill so diligently worked for.

Bill experienced some difficulties and very much sadness when his wife Olga became ill and later in 1968 he lost his good wife. He lost his wife who had encouraged him throughout all the years and in 1969 he discovered that his own health was threatened and that he would require surgery.

He came to my place one day and asked me to join him fishing on that afternoon. Mr. Speaker, I will always remember that particular afternoon, when he related to me many of the things that I have mentioned. He talked about the various strides of progress that were made by the CCF Government from 1944 to 1964. He expressed his concerns; he expressed his fears about the actions taken by the then government of the day. It was during this day that he asked me to consider to seek the candidacy in the next coming election. He talked about the potential of the North and the necessity of a northern department and local government in the North.

Mr. Speaker, I was happy to see this Legislature bring in some of the policies that Bill talked to me about on that particular day. I was happy to know that Bill was aware before his passing that a Department of Northern Saskatchewan was established and a northern highway program was under way and that the Government was moving in a general direction that Bill could support. Bill was encouraged by the actions of this Legislature and although he was not in the best of health, he received the Federal nomination for the New Democratic Party in the Prince Albert Federal constituency. It was during the latter part of the federal campaign that it became obvious that his health was failing. However, he carried on with determination and unbelievable energy. When the election was over and Bill realized his first political defeat, he had no personal bias and considered Mr. Diefenbaker his friend. In 1973, Mr. Speaker, Bill recovered his health and remarried, his concern for provincial politics did not diminish; he found a challenge in every progressive piece of legislation. On more than one occasion he indicated to me that he would seek the nomination in Prince Albert West and challenge his long time friend Dave Steuart, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Speaker, it was a tragedy when later in 1973 Bill was a

victim of a car accident, the car accident that indirectly I believe led to his passing on January 17, 1974. William John Berezowsky is survived by his second wife Maria, four sons, one brother and two sisters. I believe it is fair to say, Mr. Speaker, that Prince Albert East as well as Saskatchewan has lost a friend and a gallant man. On behalf of myself, my family and my constituents, Mr. Speaker, I should like to join with others in extending condolences to his family and his friends.

MR. F. MEAKES: (Touchwood): — I rise too to pay tribute to Bill Berezowsky. I had known Bill slightly, but it was only when I came to this Legislature in 1956 that I found and got to know Bill as I did. In the very short time we had become very personal and fast friends. I found him a man of kind nature and a heart as big as a barrel and he fought with that heart. I think that is probably the reason that I personally loved him so well.

I too, like the previous speaker, remember going on a fishing trip with Bill Berezowsky in that beloved North that he loved so well. I remember the very pleasant morning we got up at 4:00 o'clock in the morning, the sun was just breaking. We took a boat, we motored or chugged down the lake, watching the wild life, neither one of us basically interested in fishing nearly as much as the wildlife that we saw that morning.

I share many treasured memories. It was he and I who moved a resolution in this House in 1958 asking the Government to consider giving the native Indian people the vote. He was a person who always fought for the rights of minorities. His eloquence that day exceeded his usual direct fluent way when he rose to speak to this House. Indeed the Indian people have lost a friend in the death of Bill Berezowsky.

As the Leader of the Opposition and the Premier have said, Bill was a fighter. He never failed to fight for the things he believed in. All of us Members will remember how he attacked the enemy, but after the battle was over there was no hate and there was no spite.

After Bill was involved in a car accident and was in the hospital in Regina, I visited him twice, the first time a few days after the accident. One side of him was pretty well paralyzed, he was moving his fingers. The second time I visited him he was showing me how he could swing his legs; his whole side was okay again. I remember the fighting spirit in which he said, "They are sending me to the Wascana Hospital, for treatment. It won't be very long before I am out and fighting again", and he told us of his plans, which the previous speaker mentioned. It has been a great privilege for me to have known Bill Berezowsky and to have him as my friend. I want to add my sympathies with the others who have spoken here today. Saskatchewan has lost a great citizen.

The other gentleman, Mr. Ayre, I never knew of course, it was long before my time in the House. I want to express to that family the thanks of another generation for those early old-timers who came and did what they believed was right in making Saskatchewan the good place that it is to live in.

MR. A. THIBAUT: (Kinistino): — Members of the Assembly, I should like to join with you to pay tribute to Mr. William Berezowsky. He was my seatmate for

several sessions and was a senior Member when I came to this Legislature. He also served in the neighboring constituency and Bill was one who took time to help the rookies who came to the Legislature. Believe you me, you all know how much that is appreciated.

I learned to appreciate Bill for what he was, he had a very deep concern for the aged, the sick and the underprivileged. If it was a happy occasion, Bill was there, and if it was a sad occasion, Bill was there also. Bill fought hard for the underprivileged and sometimes found himself voting against his own party in the Legislature in order to get his point across. I am sure that Bill was never ashamed of the stand that he took and as a result, he won the respect of all the Members of the House.

Bill tried to change things that needed changing and he accepted things that he couldn't change. He put every effort into doing what was expected of him as a Member of the Legislature. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all of the people in my constituency who knew Bill so well, I want to pay tribute to Mr. William Berezowsky and to express my sincere sympathy to his wife and family.

MR. A. R. GUY: (Athabasca) — I should also like to say a few words in tribute to the memory of Bill Berezowsky. I first knew Bill after coming to the Legislature in 1960, where he had been for many years before that. We had considerable in common, although as was mentioned, we did have some real good debates here on the floor of the House, but he did represent a constituency that bordered on mine and had the same economic and social problems and background within that constituency. I don't think there was any question that Bill was a staunch supporter of northern Saskatchewan and the people who live there, particularly the Indian and Métis people. Bill had spent considerable time in northern Saskatchewan as a prospector, he knew the area very well, he knew the people. I can tell this House, as it has been said before, that the people of northern Saskatchewan had a great deal of respect for Bill Berezowsky. He spoke out regardless of whether he always agreed with his own party or whether he didn't. He spoke out for the rights of northerners and what he believed to be right, whether it was being done by his particular party at that particular time or not.

We had many disagreements as I say, here on the floor of the House, but we also had many discussions outside the House, because I think we were both concerned with the future and the problems of northern Saskatchewan and the northern people. We sat down on many occasions and I appreciated his frankness, I appreciated his understanding. I am sure that from the talks that we did have on problems of the North that I came away from those talks a somewhat wiser man.

I should like to suggest that there has never been a more sincere and dedicated representative of the people of his constituency and of the province, as was shown by Bill Berezowsky, both in and outside of this Legislature. With his passing the North has certainly lost a true friend. I should like to be associated with others in expressing a very sincere sympathy to the bereaved members of his family.

MR. M. FEDUNIAK: (Turtleford): — Mr. Speaker, Members of the Assembly I am pleased to have the opportunity to say a few words in tribute to the late Mr. Charles Arthur Ayre. Unfortunately I did not have the privilege of knowing Mr. Ayre personally, although I am aware of the outstanding contribution he had made both in public and community affairs. Mr. Ayre who died on February 1, 1974, was a Member of this Legislature for Turtleford from 1929 to 1938. He was born in England on November 24, 1890 and was educated at Hymers College and Kingswood School in England. He came to Canada in 1910, he was a notary public and justice of the peace in Saskatchewan. From 1939 to 1944 he worked first in the office of the Executive Council and later in the Legislative Library. He was a member of the village council for Turtleford from 1916 to 1926 and also served on the public school board for Turtleford. He was a member of the Masonic Order and the Orange Lodge.

I should like to extend my sincere sympathies to the members of his family.

MR. H. H. P. BAKER: (Regina Wascana): — Mr. Speaker, I should like to say a few words on behalf of Bill Berezowsky, a very fine MLA in this House for a good number of years. I want to make a few brief remarks but I should like to echo the sentiments expressed here today in the Legislature.

Yes, Bill was a man of course who did much for his constituency and for the North. Perhaps not everything he said in this Legislature was appreciated by all but his contributions to his constituency and to this Legislature were many. Bill was a very warm-hearted man. Perhaps we would say, a man with a heart of gold, or a heart bigger than himself. He was a tough debater but was sincere in what he said. He had those convincing, sterling qualities of a diplomat. While being a farmer and a teacher he was always concerned about those who were less fortunate. He did think of the needs of others. It takes people to build a better world, people with leadership qualities, seasoned minds and of good report. Bill fitted well into these categories.

To the bereaved family I express my deepest sympathy and I am very happy to have had the sincere friendship of a man like Bill Berezowsky. He really was a good man and a good MLA.

MR. B. C. WHELAN: (Regina North West): — Mr. Speaker, I should like to join the other Members in expressing condolences to the bereaved families of the Members who have passed away and in particular to the family of Bill Berezowsky.

Bill was a close personal friend. As has been said over and over again he was always direct, he was loyal, he was honest. As a Member of this House he was one of the best. His constituents knew it, Members of the House knew it and his caucus knew it. Bill Berezowsky was a man of courage. He possessed the courage to represent his constituency vigorously whenever he felt the need. He was a person of depth. His home was full of books and he read extensively. But above all else he knew people and he liked them and they liked him.

With Bill his constituents came first whatever the odds. Over and over again Hansard will tell the story of Bill Berezowsky, an honest representative who fought for his people with knowledge, with enthusiasm and with courage.

HON. G. R. BOWERMAN: (Minister of Northern Saskatchewan): — Mr. Speaker, I want to add my words to the memory of the late Bill Berezowsky. There is no question about the fact that Bill Berezowsky was known and understood not only in his own constituency in the northern part of this province but throughout Saskatchewan as the people's man. Bill was understood by those who knew him and by many of those who heard reports of him to be a counsellor, an advocate of the people, an advisor and consultant to his many constituents and to his many friends. He served as a public servant both in and out of the government employ and I say a public servant in the greatest respect. Bill loved this province and its people. He demonstrated that affection by the long life of dedication and the active service which he gave to the province. Bill has been missed in his home constituency. He has been missed by many people who knew him throughout the North. Inquiries continually come to me regarding Bill's activity from those who knew him as a northerner. He has been missed by many people across the forest fringe of this province, the Parkland constituencies, which he related to so well and was a spokesman for on many occasions.

I want to extend my sincere sympathies to Mrs. Berezowsky, the family and his many friends.

MR. J. C. McISAAC: (Wilkie): — Mr. Speaker, I rise to associate myself with many of the remarks that already have been made with respect to the passing of Bill Berezowsky. It has been said and it is very true, Bill was a unique and a colorful kind of fellow, he was certainly the kind of Member that I think helped make this House, some of the spirit, some of the flavor, some of the things that are hard to define. Bill certainly was the kind of man who contributed to that. He was the kind of man certainly I considered a real privilege to have known, a real pleasure to have known Bill, He, as I believe the Member for Melfort-Kinistino mentioned always took time to help the rookie Members. I can recall the first year as Minister in Crown Corporations, including the bus company. Things were going along well, regular routine kind of questions, and all of a sudden Bill jumped up and took a real blast at why the bus somewhere way up North wasn't driving into some place. It was only open six weeks in the summer but he made some great speeches on it and there was no real good answer except that the bus hadn't gone there and wasn't very likely to ever go there. I kind of wondered and just couldn't figure what point Bill was really making but when we were finished with the study of the STC in Committee, I left the Room 267 and Bill was the first person to follow me out. He made it quite plain that he was not really expecting the bus to go in there but he certainly did want to draw attention to the fact that there should be more and better bus service to the North. By no means was he personally criticizing myself or the General Manager and so on. This, I think typifies the kind of approach that Bill had with respect to the rookie Members or rookie Ministers as the case may be and I never forgot it.

He played the game hard when he was here in the Legislature, on the playing field here in the Chamber. Someone else said he was the very first to fraternize with anyone he liked whether on the government side, his own side or opposition, just as soon as he got outside or down in the dining room or any other area where Members do have occasion to fraternize. He was certainly an honest, forthright, friendly and effervescent man and I certainly

wish to convey my sympathy to his family, Mr. Speaker, and to join with other Members here in expressing our condolences to them for the loss of a tremendous man, a tremendous Member. It isn't difficult to see when you think of him and remember conversations and listening to his speeches, why he was such a popular Member and why he was always elected provincially. You can certainly understand that from knowing the man. As I say, I join with other Members in expressing condolences and sympathy to Bill's family at this time.

MR. J. K. COMER: (Nipawin): — Mr. Speaker, I should like to join with other Members who here today have given their condolences on the passing of Bill Berezowsky. I didn't know Bill for as long a period as many of the Members here present but in the short few years that I knew him I considered him a friend. Bill was always an honest man, a direct man. As has been mentioned, his major concern was always getting the best for his people, the ordinary people across the northern part of this province.

I remember a story that Bill loved to tell about how he was successful before he even got into politics in getting a school for Meath Park. He told the story how in late 1944 or 1945 they had a small meeting in Meath Park and Lachy Macintosh was there, the Minister of the Crown. Lachy explained to the group that there was only so much money the Government could give to the building of a school. It was a poor area, a new area, they couldn't possibly raise the remainder of the money to build a school. Most men probably would have been dismayed and given up but not Bill. He turned to Lachy and said, "Why can't you give us the money", and Lachy said, "Well, that's the law." So Bill said to him, "Who makes those laws?" and Lachy said, "The Government." Bill said to him, "And who's the Government?" Lachy said, "We are." So Bill said, "Change those laws." And you know they changed those laws and Bill got the school.

That was really, I think, the very essence of Bill's whole philosophy in politics. Law wasn't an end, he wouldn't have been a very good lawyer, law wasn't sacrosanct at all. Law was a tool and if the tool didn't fit Bill wanted you to change the tool. It was a practical philosophy. It was a good philosophy. He kept contact with his people. He knew his people. A fellow once told me a story of how he was coming down the Hanson Lake Road, driving down and as he was coming down in the middle of the winter, a fellow came out on snowshoes. It was Bill Berezowsky. He had been back seeing some trapper, a constituent of his who he had got word had a certain problem. Whether it was trappers, businessmen or school teachers, municipal secretaries, prospectors, Bill knew their problems. Bill had been in those occupations and for that reason Bill was loved by the people in his constituency and in northern Saskatchewan.

I should like to join with those who have gone before me today in extending my regrets to the family of Bill Berezowsky. We have lost a great man.

HON. E. KRAMER: (The Battlefords): — Mr. Speaker, I should like to add a few brief words to the condolences to my friend, the late Bill Berezowsky.

Bill was elected in 1952 and was a freshman the same year in this House as myself. Our association over those years and even before that as I had known Bill since the middle '40s, at

Meath Park when I was working in the woods at Candle Lake about 1947-48, and we had struck up a very close acquaintance at that time. During one of his first early nominating conventions I referred to him, and many people still do, as Battling Bill Berezowsky. That name during that particular speech I think stuck with many of his constituents and I don't think that any words describe him better. He wasn't a battler in the sense of blood and broken bones, he was a battler with words and persuasion and example. I think that everything that has been said on both sides of this House are so true, so intimately true of the man, Bill Berezowsky.

There is a passage in the good book that says, "By their fruits shall ye know them." Certainly when you go back over Saskatchewan's history in the last 20 years or more, even before, as someone just said, that he was a Member, those fruits of Bill's efforts show. Many things that are now institutions in Saskatchewan and in northern Saskatchewan were first talked about by our friend, my friend, Bill Berezowsky. Things like the prospectors' assistance plan, trying to get northern people interested and knowledgeable in prospecting. The first time I ever heard that plan spoken about was by William Berezowsky. I think the first time we ever raised the question of improving farm homes, modernization, water and sewers; certainly Bill was in the forefront of that fight.

I remember in the late '50s when we brought in the grid road scheme, once again, maybe not the first one to suggest that but certainly some of my former colleagues in the House at that time that are not here and certainly some that are still here, remember that. Certainly the Member for Touchwood (Mr. Meakes) remembers Bill's battle for those things that have made Saskatchewan a better place. I could mention others. Certainly the present National Fresh Water Fisheries Marketing Corporation grew out of the small beginnings of another one of the dreams of Bill Berezowsky and others. The fruit, Mr. Speaker, of the ideas of people like Bill.

Bill is gone but as long as people raise their voices in northern Saskatchewan for those things that are needed in northern Saskatchewan, he will live.

The fruits of his having been here are many, not to say the least are four sons, Ihor, Boris, Emil, James. Ihor, better known as Bill, taught school and was a valued field officer for the Department of Natural Resources for a number of years. Boris and Emil are successful pharmacists, Emil in Saskatchewan and Boris in Vancouver. James, the last I heard, James was studying law. Certainly the Berezowsky family is again leaving its mark wherever they go. A granddaughter is now making her mark, skating in the Olympics. Bill was a true son of his early Ukrainian ancestors who made their mark in fighting for the rights of the people of the Ukraine in their day. Certainly the name of Berezowsky will go down in Saskatchewan history. It has been good for Saskatchewan, good for Canada, to have had a man like William Berezowsky.

MR. C.P. MacDONALD: (Milestone): — Mr. Speaker, I haven't very much to add to what other Members have said, but I certainly want to join with all Members of the House in expressing condolences to the family of Bill Berezowsky. There are only three or four words that describe Bill to me. First of all is colorful, how many times have we

seen Bill come into this House with a big pile of a written speech and the first heckle from this side of the House or the Opposition side of the House and away went the written speech. An hour and fifteen minutes later Bill sat down having given us a good roasting and the House enjoyed every minute of his time. We have had many colorful people in this Legislative Assembly but I know of none who was more colorful than Bill Berezowsky.

The second thing that I will always remember Bill for was his honesty. If there was anything that gave this side of the House greater pleasure it was to see Bill turn on his own people. Bill never hesitated to criticize his own Ministers, his government or his own party if he felt they were deficient in any area, or if they weren't paying attention to the things that he considered a priority. Bill was honest in his approach to politics. He was honest in his approach to life and certainly his contribution to northern Saskatchewan is very, very much appreciated by everybody there.

The third word is love. There aren't very many people in this House on either side of the House, whom we can say that all of us love. Most of us turn around and we have either good words to say about some of us and bad words. With Bill Berezowsky there were very few of us who didn't really love him because he had that certain degree that naturally drew affection to him because when he left the doors of the House, as has been indicated, he was the first to slap you on the back, tell you you did a good job, tell you that you made a great speech whether or not it was to criticize the positions that he took or not. Bill naturally drew affection to him.

The fourth thing that I often think about Bill Berezowsky is that he was a friend to everybody. If you ever needed any help or assistance you could always go to Bill regardless of what side of the House you belonged to. You honestly felt that here was one of the Members of the Legislative Assembly who was above party politics, above the individual partisanship that is so normal in debates that proceed in the House. I think that all of us will long remember Bill Berezowsky and for those Members who did not have an opportunity of knowing him, believe me they certainly missed a very unusual, unique and colorful individual.

MR. K.R. MacLEOD: (Regina Albert Park): — Mr. Speaker, I should like to add my feelings and sympathy along with those of Members of this Legislature to the family of Charles Arthur Ayre. Mr. Ayre was one of those people who came from the Old Country and made a great contribution to Saskatchewan and to his community. I had never known him personally but evidence of the trust and confidence which the people reposed in him is the fact that not only was he elected to municipal government and to the local school board; he was elected and re-elected to this Assembly. It is a commentary on political mortality that no one in this House served back 35 years ago when Mr. Ayre last served in this Legislature. It is worth noting that he passed away just recently having lived to the ripe old age of 84. He was in this Legislature at a time when General Franco was mopping up in Spain and Hitler was chewing up the Austrian landscape and making demands at Munich and negotiating with Neville Chamberlain. That is the current period of history in which Mr. Ayre served.

I am convinced that if he had passed away earlier many people who knew him better would have had much to say about him,

so obviously a good citizen. I did work with Mr. Jim Ayre, his son, and Mr. Jim Ayre is now in the administration branch of the University of Saskatchewan here in Regina, and of course he and his family live in Regina.

I should like to join with other Members of this Legislature in expressing my sympathy to the family at the passing of Charles Arthur Ayre.

With respect to Mr. Bill Berezowsky, of course, I as a new Member of the House since 1971 did not have the opportunity of serving with him in this Legislature, but I cannot help but reflect that the comments today are as nice a thing as I have ever heard and it can be no greater tribute to any individual that when you pass and leave this earth people should speak thus of you. Obviously he was a great gentleman and one who made a great contribution to this Legislature.

MR. BLAKENEY: — Mr. Speaker, I move seconded by Mr. Grant (Regina Whitmore Park):

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.

SECOND READINGS

HON. W. E. SMISHEK (Minister of Public Health) moved second reading of Bill No. 15 — **An Act for the provision of certain Dental Services in Saskatchewan.**

He said: — Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to move second reading of The Dental Care Act 1974. With the introduction of this Act our Government takes another pioneering step in the health field. In 1947 a CCF Government gave birth to North America's first comprehensive universal hospital care plan. In 1962, under the leadership of Tommy Douglas and Woodrow Lloyd, we pioneered North America's first comprehensive universal medical care. In 1974, through the legislative authority of The Dental Care Act, we propose to launch a province-wide dental care program for our children. Another first for Canada, another first for North America.

Dental disease is one of the most common and pervasive forms of ill health among our children and among our adult population. If anything dental disease seems to be getting worse. In 1961 a Canadian Dental Association survey reported that at age 14 the existing backlog of untreated dental decay was on the average 3.4 teeth per child. In 1971 a survey of six school units in Saskatchewan revealed that on the average each child had four defective permanent teeth at age 11.

The seriousness of the incidence of dental disease was recognized 10 years ago. At that time the Hall Commission on Health Services recommended to the Department of National Health and Welfare, that we set up a program to provide dental services to children in conjunction with the provinces. The Hall Commission recommended that the program employ dental nurses and auxiliaries

to assist in providing this service.

Mr. Speaker, the sad fact is that since those recommendations were put forward a decade ago, the Provincial Liberal and Federal Governments have done nothing to bring about such a program. This should not surprise us. I know of no new or innovative health program to have ever been introduced by any Liberal Government. Liberals do not place a high priority on health services. Liberal governments have a remarkable ability for discussing problems, problems like the energy crisis, problems like agricultural stabilization and problems like dental disease. They can discuss them for hours and days, weeks and months, and, yes, for years. For all we know any particular Liberal government may be capable of discussing a problem forever without doing anything about it. That is why the people of Saskatchewan elected a New Democratic Party Government. They have had enough of talk, they wanted action. That is what this Government is giving the people of Saskatchewan, action in the promises it made in the 1971 election campaign.

We made a commitment to the people of Saskatchewan to establish a public dental care service initially for those under the age of 12. This Bill before you today is another important step in taking action on that important commitment. Because of such an important program, because of the need for this program is so great, I trust that even the Liberals opposite are going to see fit to give this Bill their support.

Today there are simply not enough dentists available in Saskatchewan to provide the services needed. There are approximately 208 practising dentists in Saskatchewan. This means that the dentist to population ratio is 1 to 4,500. That ratio is the third worst in Canada. The shortage of dentists in Saskatchewan is compounded by the geographic distribution of the profession. About one half of the dentists practise in Regina and Saskatoon. They serve only 30 per cent of the total provincial population. The result of this is that Saskatchewan children, on the average, receive only a fraction of the time they need for adequate dental service.

Add to these problems the economic barrier that still exists for some of our citizens and the degree of apathy among our population about dental care, and you have some idea of the dimension of the problem. According to the Canadian Dental Association report of 1968, 70 per cent of people 18 years of age and under in Saskatchewan received approximately one half hour of dental care annually. Compare this with the data from the Oxbow project which reveals that each child accepted in the program required an initial three hours of treatment, and you can see something of the inadequacies of our present dental care service.

Remember, too, that those figures are averages. I am told that only 40 per cent of our children receive dental care on a regular basis. In other words, 60 per cent of Saskatchewan children receive little or no dental care at all. To provide the necessary dental treatment services for children ages 3 to 12 in Saskatchewan, it is estimated that we would require at least a 50 per cent increase in the number of practising dentists in this province.

As I said before, the problem of poor dental health isn't new. A shortage of dentists isn't new either. Our dentist population has remained virtually static over the last 30 years.

However, since coming to office our Government has taken a significant step in increasing the supply of dentists. We are making it possible for the Dental College to raise its enrolment in first year from the approximate 10 students to 20 students. We have done this by approving over \$2 million for new facilities for teaching purposes. A new capacity to train dentists will be a boon to all of Saskatchewan in the years to come.

The breadth of the problem and the lack of adequate personnel to deliver sufficient dental services, led us to the conclusion that we had to devise a plan which would make better use of highly skilled, but scarce manpower resources we now have. Dental education is very expensive. We estimate that it costs the people of Saskatchewan over \$14,000 per year for each dental student. After graduation dentists continue to be costly. According to the last survey issued by the Canadian Dental Association in 1968, Saskatchewan dentists' gross average earnings were over \$46,000 per year. Since that time they have increased their fees by 20 per cent.

On top of that I am told that the dentist productivity has been increased by technical advances and through increased use of auxiliary personnel. This means simply, that dentists can take care of more people today. In spite of this there are still not enough dentists to take care of the dental needs of our people. It seemed to us that the best method of dealing with the dental health problems of our children was to set up a comprehensive program, financed by public funds, using auxiliary personnel to augment the services of dentists.

The first dental nurses in the program are to graduate in July of 1974. That class now numbers 35 students and upon graduation will be the core personnel, along with the dentists and the dental assistants, operating our dental children's program. A further 58 student nurses are presently taking their first-year courses. This group will graduate in 1975.

We have, therefore, a total of 93 dental nurses in training at the moment. We believe that the auxiliary dental personnel support, or supported by the services of dentists, is the most efficient and rational solution to the dental problems.

This, indeed, is confirmed by the results of the Oxbow pilot research project. The project was started by our dental health division with financial assistance from the Federal Government. It is now in the fifth year of its operation and is now wholly financed by the province. Services are offered to all children from the ages of three to -12 years of age. The interesting part is that over 95 per cent of the children in that area are participating. Once enrolled in the program the children are eligible for continued care for the duration of the project. The project has demonstrated that the use of auxiliary dental personnel can cut costs and extend services.

It was also shown that there are marked improvements in the dental health under the regular preventive and treatment program directed to children. Some 3,500 children have been in the program over the five years that it has been in operation. The average cost per child has been \$35 per year. Under the 1972 Saskatchewan College of Dental Surgeons Fee Schedule equivalent service would cost \$69.98, almost double that of the Oxbow cost. Not only that, but the average cost per child after the initial period was over, drops to just under \$29.

The question of cost is a key one for many people. The simple fact is that many of our people cannot afford the price of dental care even if there were enough dentists to go around.

I want to read to you a few excerpts from some letters that I have received in regard to the high cost of dental care in this province. Mr. Speaker, one lady from a small Saskatchewan town writes this, and I quote:

The Canadian Dental Association is always advertising to see your dentist, but with the prices they charge, the average person just cannot afford it.

A lady made this observation:

Today I had the greatest fortune of having a wisdom tooth pulled for an even greater fortune of \$50.

A gentleman from rural Saskatchewan wrote:

Yesterday my wife had the misfortune of having her impacted teeth removed. Personally I felt badly for her because this is quite a painful operation. This feeling was soon overcome by shock, as I was informed that the bill came to \$70 for the removal of two teeth.

Another letter complained of being charged \$104 for work done on two front teeth, the patient being a 15 year old boy. The father said in his letter:

I feel that we have been grossly overcharged.

Mr. Speaker, these letters are not unusual cases. They illustrate the very real problem many people have in coping with the cost of dental care. This is why we have to act now, to provide adequate dental care for our children. Someone might ask the question: has the quality of work been sacrificed to achieve the lower cost reported in the Oxbow project? Mr. Speaker, the answer to that question is an emphatic, no.

Two dentists, Dr. Carl Bolen of Regina and Dr. Wayne Brattley of Assiniboia regularly assess the quality of the restorative work done by the dental nurses in the Oxbow project. Their reports show that the work that is being done is excellent. That is another reason why I can recommend the Act that is before us today, with such confidence. If my confidence in this proposed program needed any extra reassurance, Mr. Speaker, I received a further boost when the advisory committee under the able chairmanship of Dr. Paynter, indicated its essential agreement with the proposal put forward by our Department.

Then just a few days ago, we welcomed a delegation from the Province of Quebec, led by Claude Forget, Minister of Social Affairs. Mr. Forget and his colleagues came to visit our Saskatchewan Dental Nurses Training Program at the Wascana Institute of Applied Arts and Science. Mr. Forget was accompanied by a number of his technical people. Mr. Forget said that the reports of the early delegation have been so good that he had to come and see the program for himself. He said the program is even better in reality than it is on paper. He was impressed with the program and with the training our dental nurses are receiving. According to a third page story in the February 19 edition of the Regina Leader-Post Mr. Forget said he was impressed with the

confidence these young girls show in performing a wide range of duties. His reaction to our dental program and the training of our Saskatchewan dental nurses reflect the comments other visitors have made.

Mr. Speaker, I want to emphasize that there has been no essential disagreement with the basic concept of using dental nurses to provide the Core staff for this program. The advisory committee agreed with this concept, the dental profession in my conversation with them agreed with the concept.

I want to say, Mr. Speaker, a word of appreciation to the Regina parents. In order to have an adequate dental nurses' training program, we require clinic experience for our dental nurses. Sixty five per cent of Regina parents who were asked have agreed that their children may participate in the clinical part of the training program. I want to thank the citizens of Regina for their support. Without this co-operation our program would not be possible. Thank you on behalf of the parents of Saskatchewan whose children will benefit because of the co-operation of the parents of Regina. The dental care plan for children is due to commence this year in September. The Saskatchewan Dental Care Act, 1974, is designed to give clear cut authority to the Government to enable it to carry out its promise to provide a dental care plan for children.

Mr. Speaker, I want now to outline for the House some of the salient points of this program. First of all, parents will have complete freedom of choice as to whether they enrol their children in the program or not. There is no compulsion. It is curious to me that some dentists appear to believe that families who do not enrol their children in the plan should still have their private dental bills paid for by the Government. I don't fully understand why government should pay bills for families who choose not to participate in their preventive dental care program. We believe that the Oxbow project has clearly demonstrated the acceptability of such a program to the public.

Let me say a word about the program, how it will be staffed and how it will operate. Children enrolled in the plan will be assured of professional attention. Dental teams will consist of qualified dentists, Saskatchewan dental nurses and certified dental assistants. The province will be divided into five administrative areas for purposes of the plan. These areas will exclude for the time being, the Swift Current Health Region, that area under the jurisdiction of the Department of Northern Saskatchewan and the area covered by the Oxbow project. Public dental programs of one kind or another are already in existence in each of the areas and these will likely be continued in 1974.

Each of the administrative areas will be under the direction of an administrator who will look after the travel schedule of the dental teams, the operating functions of the regions, the ordering of supplies and other day to day business of the plan. This will leave the dental teams free to concentrate on their task of looking after the dental health of the children. I am pleased to tell you that four of the five administrators have already been hired and a fifth is in the process of being hired. Twenty-five dentists will be directly involved in the organization and delivery of the dental service for children under the various dental programs. This figure does not include the five dentists at the Wascana Institute where our dental nurses are being trained. Fifteen of the 25 dental positions are new positions, 15

certified dental assistants will be hired as chair-side aides to the additional dentists. We shall also have 50 dental nurse teams, each consisting of a dental nurse and two certified dental assistants. So we shall have 50 dental nurses and 100 certified dental assistants. This is in the first year in the introduction of the program.

Advertising has already taken place for dentists and extra dental nurses who will be needed to staff the plan. The response has been most encouraging. Mr. Speaker, the House will be interested in knowing that we have had 233 enquiries from dentists from all over the world. This reflects the high level of interest that there is in our plan. But perhaps more important than the enquiries is the number of applicants we have received until today. We have 101 applications on file from dentists. So we do not anticipate any difficulty recruiting the additional 15 dentists that we shall need. I should add that all dentists on the Saskatchewan register have been invited to participate and assist us in the plan. I have been gratified by their response, Mr. Speaker.

We shall be graduating 35 Saskatchewan dental nurses from our training course this coming July. They will come on staff with the plan on the first of August in preparation for the start of the program to go into effect in September. Children born in the calendar year 1968 will be invited to participate in the plan in the first year. It is estimated that there will be approximately 15,000 6-year olds enrolled in the first year of the plan. Invitations will be mailed out in May. Each child enrolled in the program will be examined by one of our Saskatchewan Dental Plan dentists. The dentist will have each child's teeth x-rayed, will diagnose and prescribe treatment, and will direct who will administer the treatment. For example, if a child requires only basic instruction in cleaning his teeth, this would be done by the dental nurse or the dental assistant. If the child requires a minor filling, this might be directed to the dental nurse. If more complex procedures are required, they might be done by the dentist. Or it is possible that if the service required could not be handled by one of the dental team staff, but was covered by the plan, the child might be referred to a dentist in private practice, with the cost covered by the plan.

The dental plan dentist will decide when the child is to return to him for another examination. In the initial stages of the plan this will be at least annually, but may be more often if the dentist feels this is necessary.

I want to emphasize the voluntary nature of this plan. Parents may withdraw their child from the plan at any time they wish to do so. I should point out, however, that in such a case, the dental plan would no longer be responsible for the cost of the dental care for that child. Basically our dental plan will operate with the schools. This will make the service most convenient for parents and the children. There will be one or more clinic in every school unit. City areas will also be served through clinics based on the school system. Initially we anticipate that there will be 214 clinic sites, 25 per cent are now completed, 90 per cent will be completed by May and 100 per cent by June. So far construction or renovations have been approved for 192 of the clinic sites. I am confident that the facilities will be ready to begin their program by next fall.

We will also have two mobile clinics for use in schools, where space is not readily available or where there is special need. Our current estimate for the cost of the children's dental plan for 1974-75 fiscal year is \$1.8 million in operating costs and \$1.7 million in capital and implementation costs. Of the latter figure close to \$1.5 million will be for the dental equipment necessary for the plan. Needless to say, close to half of the first-year cost of the plan will be nonrecurring start-up costs.

Mr. Speaker, while I am on the subject of the cost, I want to make mention of a brief submitted by the College of Dental Surgeons on Saskatchewan in January to the Government. The College said that one of its primary reasons for requesting a meeting with the Government was to discuss the fluoridation of communal water supplies. In their brief they said, I quote:

Fluoridation of public water supplies is a proven safe public health measure. It will reduce the incidence of tooth decay by 65 per cent. It is extremely economical and a study undertaken by the Saskatchewan Advisory Committee on dental care for children estimate an annual saving of \$800,00 per year to government if all communal water supplies were fluoridated.

The brief had a good deal more to say on the subject of fluoridation. But what I have quoted will perhaps make the point. There is no doubt in the minds of our dentists that we could save 40 per cent of the cost of dental programs through universal fluoridation of the province's communal water supply. My stand on fluoridation is well known in this House. I have considerable sympathy with the dental profession in this matter. Perhaps other Members of this Assembly will keep this point in mind when we discuss preventive dental health care and the cost of our dental plan.

Mr. Speaker, the dental profession has urged that coverage under the plan be extended to wider age group. This is not feasible at the moment, due to the scarcity of trained manpower. We will have to phase in the program. Starting with six-year olds this year, in 1975 we will extend coverage to five, six and seven year-olds. In 1976 we will cover ages four to eight inclusive, in 1977, ages three to ten inclusive and in 1978, ages three to twelve inclusive. Experience gained as the program progresses may require some variation in this formula but this is our present plan. I hope that if there is sufficient supply of personnel and that the enrolment at the schools is as good as it has been and the retention rate is high, perhaps we may be able to expedite the program and put it into operation at a quicker rate.

At any rate, after the fifth year of the plan we shall be able to consider expending the program to cover all children. Eventually, I should like to see our dental plan cover the total population of Saskatchewan.

Considerable interest has been shown in our approach in dental care from all across Canada, Mr. Speaker. I have already referred to the most recent visit by a Quebec Minister and his officials. Delegations from Newfoundland, from Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario and from various dental organizations came to Saskatchewan to tour our facilities and to meet with our officials. The provinces of British Columbia and Alberta and

Manitoba are kept posted on this program through regular meetings of Western health ministers and officials. It is interesting to note that the Province of Manitoba has also had a study which has I think been almost completed. I think they intend to follow basically our pattern. I notice the Minister of Health in British Columbia has established a public committee as well, to study the dental needs in their province. I saw him a couple of weeks ago in Ottawa; he has made a request to come to Saskatchewan to take a look at our proposal.

These delegations want to know what we are doing and how we are going about it. I have every reason to believe that other Provinces will follow our lead. I believe that there will be a national children's dental care program within five years, Mr. Speaker. This will be the first province-wide dental care scheme in North America.

Mr. Speaker, I want to quote again to you the words of Mr. Nick Hills of Southam News Services, under the heading. "Dental Care another Saskatchewan First." Mr. Hills wrote, let me quote:

The Saskatchewan NDP Government is returning to its pioneering role in the field of state medicine with a province-wide dental care program, that by the end of the decade will provide treatment for more than 140,000 children.

Our children dental program is a major step in the field of public health. We shall be encouraged I am sure by those who are sincerely interested in promoting good dental health. We might even be criticized by some vested interests who fear that the new program may undermine their own position. Mr. Speaker, the die is cast and we will proceed with this program with the same kind of confidence and good faith with which we launched hospitalization and medicare. This is an historical occasion for the people of Saskatchewan. I ask the support of this House for the Dental Care Bill 1974, Bill No. 15. I move second reading.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. D.F. MacDONALD: (Moose Jaw North): — Mr. Speaker, at other times in other debates I have expressed some concern for the type of dental care program that is being proposed.

The Minister in speaking to second reading today did not set my fears aside, fears that I have expressed before and I will repeat again today. I think it is fair to say that many of the feelings of us in this House and all over the province about the desirability of a dental care program are based on the Oxbow project, a successful project at Oxbow. I would remind the Minister that it was initiated by the former Liberal Government and sponsored by the Federal Liberal Government. This project at Oxbow has been very successful and it has been successful for a number of reasons. First of all there is a dentist directly involved and is assisted by both qualified and experienced dental nurses and the Oxbow project has had the complete co-operation and participation of the parents in that area. This Oxbow project has the support of the dental profession and I think the people of Saskatchewan. But let us not make any mistake about it, the new dental care program being proposed by the Minister of Health is not the same as the Oxbow project and does not deserve the

same support.

We on this side of the House support the need for a dental care program. We realize the importance of dental care to children, we recognize the need. We support the use of dental nurses; we have expressed this at previous times. I would say to the Minister that with the use of dental nurses, we have sufficient dental manpower in this province at present. He says we do not have ample manpower in this province and without the use of dental nurses, I think he is probably right. But with the use of dental nurses we do have the manpower right now. I should like very shortly to outline my concerns. I have had reassurance from the Minister to date about these concerns.

First of all as I have said before, I think that the program must incorporate dentists, qualified dentists, in the examination making, the diagnosis, and planning the treatment for all children

I think that the second main point is that the actual giving of treatment must be supervised by a dentist, and I don't mean this in the same way that the Minister does. I mean by supervision that a dentist must be present, not necessarily looking over the shoulder of a dental nurse but he must be available in cases of emergency. We are in this Bill giving dental nurses the right to extract teeth, fill teeth, give treatment to diseased gums and so on, and in cases of emergency the dental nurses are not trained, qualified dentists and they must have the availability, the direct availability, of a dentist. As I say this does not mean that he has to stand over their shoulder but he must be available immediately.

A third concern that I have is that a dental program should involve the dentists who are presently in private practice in rural Saskatchewan. It is very important for us to maintain dentists who are already in rural Saskatchewan. A dental program not utilizing these dentists may help to reduce the number of dentists that are already in rural Saskatchewan because the program will erode part of their practice.

One of the other concerns I have is that the program should provide for freedom of choice for the parent or for the patient. The dental profession has made proposals to the Minister of Health which were turned down. They said that if a patient or a parent wanted the child to have care by a private dentist he should be able to receive that care. The dentists have said, "All right, the Government can find out the cost, it can be broken down on a fee-for-service basis and that this should be offer to the private dentists." The Government will know the cost of the Government program and they should be able to offer this exact same fee to the dentists, or they could offer it to the dentists the same way as the chiropractor is being offered the fee if he plans to work outside of the chiropractic plan. In other words if the fee was \$3 and the charge was \$6, the parent would only have to put up \$3 and the Government would put up \$3 The Blakeney Government has turned down this proposal, therefore any parent who does not want his child enrolled in this plan will have no coverage whatsoever. This certainly cannot be described in any form as being a universal dental care program.

I think another factor is that the Minister indicated that 65 per cent, I think he said, of the parents in Regina have agree to go along with this plan. I would ask about the other 35 cent who will not be covered at all. I would also suggest one other thing that a good many people in Regina and all over the

province do not realize that their children will not be getting care by a dentist directly. Most people that I talked to still think that this is a dental care program just like the medical care program. When that was introduced that you got a doctor. When the hospital plan was introduced, you got a hospital. Now you have a dental program and you get a dental nurse, you do not get a dentist. I would think that a great many of the 65 per cent are rather confused as to the service that they will obtain. I think the public has to be made aware that this is not a dental care program, with care given by dentists. It is a dental care program with dental nurses giving the basic dental care.

The Minister indicated that the previous Liberal Government had no high priorities on medical care. But I would suggest that the Liberal Party has the priority for giving high quality care and that this is not a priority of the NDP Government. The NDP priority is having the appearance of giving care and giving a quantity of care but quality seems to be far down the list.

The Minister in his speech today again showed his animosity towards the dental profession as he has shown to most every profession in Saskatchewan. The Minister chooses to read four letters, real or imaginary, it really doesn't make any difference, but reading those letters in this House were in poor taste and a deliberate attempt to belittle the profession. Four cases attempting to show that the dental profession is gouging the public, overcharging, simply giving out facts of how much is charged and nothing about what work was done whatever, is a deliberate attempt to belittle the profession. Then he turns around and shows how great the dental nurses are. The dentists are little, small people who overcharge but that these dental, nurses, the greatest thing that happened on the earth, is a deliberate attempt to belittle the profession as we have seen over and over again.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I should like to take time to review some of the things that the Minister has said and I would ask leave to adjourn the debate.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

Debate adjourned.

HON. E.I. TCHORZEWSKI (Minister of Consumer Affairs) moved second reading of Bill No. 20 — **An Act to amend The Direct Sellers Act.**

He said: — Mr. Speaker, I am not going to say very much on this particular amendment but the shortness of the speech does not indicate the significance of the amendment, I assure you. My comments at this time are going to deal with the amendment to The Direct Sellers Act which was introduced in the fall session.

As Members are aware this Act seeks to govern the sale of goods or services which take place in the home of the purchaser, and the amendment before the House is intended to clarify the application of the Act in certain situations where the seller is exempt from the licensing requirements of the Act. The Direct Sellers Act requires that direct sellers take out bonds for the protection of the consumer and it also provides for a four-day rescission clause, meaning that if a direct seller sells an item to a consumer in his home that consumer can rescind that contract within four days. At the present time a seller may be exempt

from the licensing requirements of the Act where he has a recognized retail store and less than 50 per cent of the goods and services sold by him are sold by the direct sales method. In such cases the Act is unclear as to whether or not the buyer is entitled to the rescission rights under the provisions of the Act. The present amendment will clarify the application of the Act by stating that in these cases the buyer is entitled to the right to cancel the purchase within the terms of The Direct Sellers Act.

Now, Mr. Speaker, all persons using the direct sales technique except those already specifically exempted will be brought under the scope of The Direct Sellers Act and in this manner the amendment to The Direct Sellers Act will enhance the protection of the consumer who is involved with the purchase of goods or services via the direct sales route. Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I move second reading of this Bill.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. K. R. MacLEOD: (Regina Albert Park): — Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Minister seems to have said two separate and opposite things. To begin with he has suggested that this simple little amendment is intended to clarify the Act and then later in his remarks he indicates that this is intended to change the Act to bring all persons who use the direct sales technique under the scope of the Act. This is hardly a clarification, Mr. Speaker, because as I understand a clarification it is to make clear what was not previously clear. It is something else again to include a group of people who had not previously been included in the Act. The reference to those persons in Clause (h), subsection 2 of Section 4 are in fact those businessmen who have regular, recognized business establishments in the Province of Saskatchewan, those ordinary merchants who have a regular establishment of business, who pay ordinary licence fees, who are not Johnnys-come-lately or for that matter people who are the regular, legitimate businessmen in Saskatchewan and they are now to be brought under the scope of the Act.

Frankly, this is a substantially different Act than that which was brought before. It now seeks to include a huge group of people who had never before been included in the Act or any previous Act. This is to our view a further attack upon the business community. The attack is upon our merchants in Saskatchewan who have a regular place of business who might accidentally or even for the convenience of a client or a customer go out to the house and say, "Here is the refrigerator that you wanted to talk about, here is where it will fit in your home, if you want to buy it I will sell it to you". The more co-operative this businessman might be to his customer, the more he is subject to The Direct Sellers Act, the more likely it is that he will find that his customer has additional rights to those already tremendous rights which now exist. Just to give you a simple little list of the people to whom this would apply. Of course it would apply to Simpsons and Eatons, the ordinary businessman at the corner, every co-op store in Saskatchewan, and all the rest of them. This is the group of businessmen who are now being brought under the scope of this Act. We think the Government has been a bit hasty at bringing it in, however, we do not propose to adjourn this. I, personally, intend to oppose this without further study and better reasons.

Now, I might well have been persuaded by the Hon. Minister to support this Bill No. 20 had the Minister given us one single example of the need for it. But the Minister did not give any examples and I should like to suggest to the Ministers when they are presenting Bills for this House and for the approval of the House and for the support of the Opposition to give us a little bit better than they have in the past. If they tell us that there is a need to change a Bill, a Bill which has been in force now for some time, it would help me a great deal in examining the need for the Bill if they, give us one single example of why this Bill is needed. If the Hon. Minister could give us one reason why the co-op store downtown has to be brought under the scope of this Bill I would be pleased to consider it. In the absence of that kind of explanation I have no choice but to consider that he is broadening the Bill far beyond the original intention of The Direct Sellers Act and I, therefore oppose the Bill.

MR. J.G. LANE: (Lumsden): — Mr. Speaker, the Members opposite question the Hon. Member for Moose Jaw North (Mr. MacDonald) when he adjourned debate on the last Bill saying that he had had two months to prepare for it. Well one of the reasons that he had to adjourn debate because what is in the Bill and what the Minister says are two different things. This particular example is precisely that. This is a good example of what the Minister says and what is in the Bill are two different things. This is not a minor amendment, this is a substantive amendment to this Bill. The Bill was originally designed to control the practice of direct selling in the Province of Saskatchewan and certain stated criteria were set out in the Bill. Now what's happened is that the Bill is now going to apply to every businessman in the Province of Saskatchewan and that is precisely what the Bill does.

I give the Members opposite some examples. If some co-op store in a small town makes deliveries and happens to take an extra order when they are there, they are now under The Direct Sellers Act and the people have a four-day rescission. I don't think that was the intention of the Members opposite. Any other person who makes a delivery and is really giving a service, a small Saskatchewan businessman who is providing a service to the local community, is now covered by this Act and I don't think that was the intention of the Members opposite. If it is I think that we are entitled to know. The problems that have arisen and the reason the Minister brings in such legislation, we weren't given any of these examples. There is no indication from the statements made by the Minister that there is an abuse by Saskatchewan businessmen. No indication whatsoever. He should, when he makes a substantive change to legislation like this, have letters and complaints that have come to his attention. We had no examples of any such abuses.

I don't think, as I have said before, that the Members opposite realize the implications of this piece of legislation. We now have The Direct Sellers Act applying to every type of business in the Province of Saskatchewan, including Saskatchewan businessmen who have fixed places of operation, fixed stores, fixed capital here in the Province of Saskatchewan. Again I don't think it was the intention. I think that your potential for abuse in this particular Act is far beyond anything that you have considered and it is certainly far beyond anything that the Minister has given this House. For that very reason we oppose this Bill.

February 25, 1974

MR. C.P. MacDONALD: (Milestone): — Mr. Speaker, the suggestions that the two Members have brought up about the implications of this Bill that we should well have been given opportunity for the business community of Saskatchewan to express their approval or disapproval and see if we couldn't get it has my agreement. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to adjourn the debate.

Debate adjourned.

MR. TCHORZEWSKI (Minister of Consumer Affairs) moved second reading of Bill No. 21 — An Act to amend The Motor Dealers Act, 1966.

He said: — Mr. Speaker, I hope the Members opposite have had sufficient time to consider this one because this amendment is much more minor than the one prior to this one.

It was also introduced; Mr. Speaker, in December of 1973 and this being February of 1974 I would have suspected that it would have been sufficient time to consider all the ramifications involved.

Now Mr. Speaker, this Bill is intended to reduce the amount of time that is required to issue licenses under The Motor Dealers Act, 1966, and thereby reducing the license cost to the dealer while at the same time allowing for more thorough enforcement of the Act. The existing one-year license term results in excessive administrative work in issuing the licenses each year. At the present time all dealers' and salesmen's licenses expire December 31st of every year. They must submit new applications for licenses each year and these must be checked and processed and licenses issued. This is a time consuming process with no resulting gain in consumer protection. During the period of 1972 alone, during that licensing year, 1,876 salesmen's licenses and 636 dealers' licenses were issued. The amendment will extend the term of the license from one year to five years. This is necessary in order to reduce the amount of time spent in issuing licenses and allow more time for ensuring that the provisions of the Act are adhered to. This will ultimately result in more effective consumer protection. This amendment will reduce the time spent by motor dealers in applying for licenses and will also reduce the license cost to the dealer. The license fee at present for dealers ranges from \$10 per year to \$40 per year with no fee payable by salesmen. Under the amended situation the fee structure would remain the same but would be payable every five years instead of every year. This amendment is a minor one to Section 14 of The Motor Dealers Act, but its benefits to motor dealers while retaining the necessary protection for the consumer are significant.

The special Legislative Committee on Small Businesses identified the great duplication and the large number of forms that must be filled out by business people in Saskatchewan as one of the concerns that they have.

This amendment is of benefit to motor dealers by reducing the amount of paper work done by them as well by seducing the cost of licenses to dealers and salesmen. At the same time the amendment will allow for a continuous review and supervision of licenses to ensure that all holders of such licenses comply with the legislation.

With those words, Mr. Speaker, I move second reading of this Bill.

MR. LANE: — Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister would consider a question. Is it the Government's intention to still have an annual license fee or just a five year license where you pay the fee every five years? Do you have an annual license fee in spite of the fact that it only comes up for renewal at the end of five years?

Mr. TCHORZEWSKI: — No, under the amendment the renewal every five years on the date of expiry and the fee will also only be paid once every five years, not on annual basis.

MR. K. R. MacLEOD: — (Regina Albert Park): — Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Minister for his clarity of explanation. We have studied this for the past few months, very carefully, in great depth, and we are pleased to say that we support the bill. We particularly want to congratulate the government for its efforts to reduce the administration costs in that department. We want to have this day recognized as a red letter day in government, because for the first time since June of 1971, an effort has been made to streamline and reduce costs of government.

So it is with a great deal of pleasure and I see this come forward and we will support the Bill

MR. TCHORZEWSKI: — Mr. Speaker, I don't want to say very much except that I want to welcome the support of the members opposite. I suppose that happens very rarely but we agree that it is very good legislation that I think is going to be of some considerable assistance to our motor dealers, who are one example of the business community which is, in fact, barraged with many necessary forms and applications that must be filled out and we are convinced that this will be of some assistance, even though it may be of some small assistance in reducing that burden.

Motion agreed to and Bill read a second time.

MR. TCHORZEWSKI (Minister of consumer Affairs) moved second reading of Bill No. 22 — **An Act to amend The Sale of Training Courses Act, 1972.**

He said: — Mr. Speaker, I am going to take a little more time on this one and at the conclusion of my remarks I will be moving second reading of this Bill.

This Bill is intended to clarify the definition of training courses by specifying that certain types of courses of study or instruction will be included in the definition.

Since 1971 our Government has responded to the growing need for consumer legislation in the positive way. This need is in part due to the complexity of the market place and the growing numbers of consumers' goods that are promoted to the consumer by high pressure advertising by some persons — and I stress some persons — at times who were not always concerned about the

interest of the consumer.

In speaking more directly to the legislation, Mr. Speaker, I want to report that The Sale of Training Courses Act passed in 1972 has proven to be effective legislation generally.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. TCHORZEWSKI: — It has provided consumer protection that was needed for some time. The scope of regulation was extended by that Act to include all training courses. And prior to its existence regulation was limited to courses offered by trade schools. This Act provides for the licensing and the bonding of persons providing or selling courses. It provides for suspension or cancellation of licenses in certain circumstances, such as when there has been misrepresentation or dishonesty or the school or the salesman has demonstrated a lack of competency.

I have indicated that The Sale of Training Courses Act has generally been effective. Unfortunately the legislation is not clear in its definition of training courses, and therefore, has led to some problems. The Act regulates the activities of those persons providing training courses to the public other than courses specifically excluded.

In the existing broad definition of training courses there is some uncertainty as to whether or not certain schemes are required to be licensed. This is creating licensing difficulties and delays.

The amendment will result in the specified types of schemes being required to be licensed and bonded and with the seller license the consumer receives a good measure of protection, including the fact that he is entitled to the rescission rights under the Act. Because of the requirements of a bond the consumer will have some protection in the event the course is not delivered by the seller. There have been recent incidents in which consumers enrolling in a course and having paid advance fees found that there was no course to be had and that their money was gone. There have been incidents such as a dance school in Saskatchewan which entered into contracts with over 20 known victims in amounts ranging from \$25 to \$1,700. High pressure sales methods played a significant role in this. That dance school closed without notice to anyone, owing thousands of dollars worth of lessons to its customers.

Another example is one where a dance studio left the province leaving 52 students with uncompleted lesson contracts to a total value of somewhere between \$10,000 and \$15,000.

At the present time consumers are not protected against this kind of an operation. This amendment will clarify the definition of training courses to include dance instructions, health improvement courses or activities, self protection courses or activities and charm schools. Legitimate and sincere training courses will benefit by this amendment and consumers will be protected. Consumers will be protected from such operators such as I have mentioned and legitimate businesses in the training school field will be protected from the bad publicity that shift operators taint them with.

Mr. Speaker, I view this as an important strengthening of a significant piece of consumer legislation. — I would commend it to

the approval of all Members of the House. With these few words it gives me great pleasure to move second reading of this Act.

MR. K.R. MacLEOD: (Regina Albert Park): — Mr. Speaker, I want to compliment the Minister on giving us precise examples of the reasons why he feels this particular amendment should be brought before the House.

I know that Members of the House are unlikely to have had any direct knowledge of the matters involved. I have watched the footwork of the Members here and it would certainly be a waste of time to have any dancing courses sold to them. I am sure, equally, that self defense, once you have been in this House, is superfluous and a charm school would be wasted on the Members, they already having exuded a good deal of charm or they wouldn't be in the House in the first place.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say to the Minister that I am surprised that he needed to clarify the definition because the original definition would seem to have covered it. I would recommend to the Government that they consider in future in this type of thing., listing as an appendix all those schools, or those types of things, which are in fact included in the definition without of course limiting the generality of the definition which is in the Act. With those few words, Mr. Speaker, I wish to say that I intend to support the amendment.

MR. J.G. LANE: (Lumsden): — I just have one comment, Mr. Speaker, on the matter of the martial arts as they are called in the self-defense schools. I would hope that the Minister in conjunction with the Minister of Public Health or whatever operating authority you are going to use as there has been a very high incidence of personal injuries, either from the lack of physical ability of the trainees or the lack of expertise of the instructors in some of these schools. That problem which is now coming to the fore should be watched by the Minister or the Minister of Public Health in this matter. I think it is a growing concern and I think it should be watched.

Motion agreed to and Bill read a second time.

HON. A. TAYLOR (Minister of Social Services) moved second reading of Bill No. 23 — **An Act to amend The Housing and Special-care Homes Act.**

He said: — Mr. Speaker, the Bill before us at this time is a Bill to amend The Housing and Special-care Homes Act. The amendments to this Act are for the most part housekeeping amendments. We should like to clarify the provisions as stated in Section 12 (d). The intent of this particular amendment is to enable the Government to make grants available to individuals or organizations providing services to the aged, blind or infirm person. At the present time we are fairly well restricted to making grants to the institution and we should like to be able to make grants directly to individuals. This would be in the case, for example, of providing a patient in a special-care home with assistance.

The provisions for regulations governing special-care homes have also been consolidated. However, one particular clause, 48 (a), is new. This enables the Minister to make regulations defining the various types of care available to guests in

special-care homes. An example of this definition for types of care would be Level 1 or type 1 care which would mean that the Person is essentially independent but may need some guidance or supervision in the activities of daily living. It also allows the Minister to prescribe a maximum number of guests who may be accommodated in each level of care. This allows for the orderly distribution of beds at the various levels of care throughout the province.

I might say, Mr. Speaker, that this practice has in fact been continued and used by various administrations in the last number of years and we felt it best to include it in the legislation.

Obviously persons require different types of care, while some may require only supervisory care; others may need intensive personal or basic nursing care. Section 48 (a) gives the Minister the authority to enact regulations establishing the criteria on which levels or types of care are based. I might also say, Mr. Speaker, that this too has been the practice in the past. In fact, I think it was the previous administration which established the levels of care as being Level 1 in care up to 20 minutes per day where personal care was needed, Level II up to 45 minutes of personal care and Level III up to two hours. This again regularizes it by bringing it within the scope of the legislation.

In the near future I shall be introducing legislation which will complement the services offered by the instituting program in Saskatchewan and which will hopefully allow the 95 per cent of senior citizens not presently in special-care homes the opportunity of continuing to live in their community and own home as long as possible. This legislation is for the institutional type of care.

I, therefore, move second reading of this Bill.

MR. E.G. MALONE: (Regina Lakeview): — Mr. Speaker in rising to speak to this Bill as proposed by the Minister, I might say at the outset that I agree that the Bill is more or less of a housekeeping nature and I intend to support it.

However I cannot help but think at this time, Mr. Minister, that if the Government spent less time in putting on more controls on nursing homes and more time in improving existing nursing home facilities and providing for more beds, the people of Saskatchewan would be far better off.

I should like to say, Mr. Speaker, that since being elected to this Legislature in December of last year I have had numerous inquiries and complaints by people who have been unable to get into nursing homes and there are many, many unfortunate situations because of overcrowding. I hope that the Minister will give this his attention in the near future. I would think, Mr. Speaker, with the record revenues that this province has been receiving for the past year that there should be some money available for the assistance of our older people.

I would ask the Government as well, if they are not prepared, to spend more money in this regard that they reconsider their position and allow licenses to private enterprise for them to expand the nursing homes.

As I say, Mr. Speaker, I agree that the Bill presents amendments that are basically of a housekeeping nature and I will support them.

MR. K. R. MacLEOD: (Regina Albert Park): — Mr. Speaker, I have only one or two remarks to address to this Bill and I draw the attention of the Minister to the fact that there are three special-care homes in the constituency which I represent in this Legislature. The complaints that I receive are that people in these homes tend to be juggled about. In one case a gentleman who had lived in one of those homes for a long period of time, I think some 10 or 11 years in the same room, and had come to regard it as his home, now finds that without any by-your-leave or anything else he is being shuffled away from his present location, out of the building, and into an entirely different building. I am very disappointed that this type of thing should happen because when these people go to special homes that is their home. They don't like the movement about, they like to feel secure, and they are not hotel guests. They are living in a home that is their home. I draw this to the attention of the Minister and I hope that there is something he can do about it.

MR. TAYLOR: — Mr. Speaker, I am happy to hear that the Members opposite will be supporting this Bill. A number of questions were raised. The first related to the number of beds. I am very happy to inform the Members opposite that in the past year over 500 additional beds have been opened in the Province of Saskatchewan.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. TAYLOR: — I am also happy to inform the Members opposite that over 500 more have been approved in the coming construction year.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. TAYLOR: — This in spite of the fact, Mr. Speaker, that Saskatchewan now has seven beds per thousand population, probably the highest in North America and possibly as high as any place in the world.

The Members opposite mentioned the cost and the assistance that is needed for the senior citizens of this' province. The previous government's record shows that they gave about \$3 million in their last year in office and we have given \$22 million this year.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear! '

MR. TAYLOR: — The Members opposite provided nothing for community services. We have provided \$280,000 this year.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. TAYLOR: — Mr. Speaker, in special-care homes alone the Members opposite provided about \$60,000 their last year in office, we shall be paying \$3 million this year.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. TAYLOR: — Now, Mr. Speaker, the one concern that bothered me the most was the question of commercial homes. I want to say that this Government is committed to the policy of keeping homes under community control.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. TAYLOR: — We do not believe that profit ought to be made out of sickness in our hospitals and we certainly do not believe it should be made out of sickness in nursing homes. Mr. Speaker, we have encouraged groups to purchase the present commercial facilities and we intend to continue encouraging such groups to buy up the private homes now in existence.

Members opposite should also know that the Minister of Co-ops and responsible for the Housing Corporation has just announced a \$2.3 million senior citizens' housing complex in Regina. Mr. Speaker, this Bill will enable us to carry out our work in a better way. I therefore move second reading.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

Motion agreed to and Bill read a second time.

MR. TAYLOR (Minister of Social Services) moved second reading of Bill No. 27 — **An Act to amend The Corrections Act, 1967.**

He said: — Since The Corrections Act was last amended in 1967 there have been many changes in the field of corrections throughout Canada and indeed throughout the world. There has been in our own province an extensive review of correctional services referred to as the Saskatchewan Correction Study, 1971, a study conducted by the federal and provincial governments. As a result of recommendations from that study and because of recent amendments to the Criminal Code and the Prison and Reformatory Act, certain amendments to The Saskatchewan Corrections Act are required. Some are minor housekeeping amendments rising out of the appointments of new officials and the designation of a new division. I hope the Members have found the explanatory notes adequate.

Since the completion of the correction study a number of recommendations of that study have already been implemented. Among these are: the formation of a Corrections Division, headed by a director of Corrections; the appointment of a chief probation officer; the appointment of a director of community corrections; the appointment of 17 additional probation officers resulting in almost 100 per cent increase in staff. I might say, Mr. Speaker, I have been enthusiastic about the way in which our magistrates have responded to the appointments of these persons by using them fully. There has also been the addition of three community training residences making a total of five currently in operation. The development of a work for wages concept at Camp Whitegull is a northern pulp cutting correctional camp.

Although the Correction Study indicated certain advantages of locating certain responsibility for correctional services within the Department of the Attorney General, the Government has

recently concluded that responsibility for correction should remain at the present time within the Department of Social Services. The rationale for this decision is that within Saskatchewan most crime is not of the highly sophisticated, professionally organized type, rather it relates to social and economic conditions, the solution of which lies within the mandate of the Department of Social Services. Consequently the rehabilitation of the offender will for the most part be of a social nature.

Correctional Services offer several programs by which such rehabilitation can be accomplished. These programs are established on the philosophy that social rehabilitation can best be achieved through the offender's exposure to society rather than his isolation from it. The emphasis will be on rehabilitation geared toward social re-entry rather than traditional institutional rehabilitation. I ask the Members to remember that inmates sentenced to one of the provincial correctional facilities are sentenced to no more than a two year term, that is two years, less a day. It is our belief that the best protection that we can give to society in the long run is the protection, not of shutting a man up, but the protection of rehabilitation. Because the fact of the matter is that he will be released within two years. The only question we have to decide is what the man will be like on his release. Any programs which can improve his rehabilitation prospects are surely to be accepted.

The specific changes within the proposed Corrections Act reflect a greater focus on non-institutional correctional services. They are designed to provide our Saskatchewan courts with an increased range of sentencing alternatives. This is an attempt to design programs to fit the needs of individuals. For example, the proposed Act now outlines three types of correctional facilities, rather than simply correctional institutions referred to in the present Act. While correctional centres will continue to operate, the proposed Act provides for the differential use of controls through correctional camps and community training residences. While correctional camps have long been in existence ; in the past they were seen as overflow accommodation rather than serving a specific rehabilitative function. However, it is now evident that correctional camps may serve as a limited rehabilitative mechanism. They can separate the offender from the actual institution and allow him to obtain a working skill, positive employment, wages and living experience. Community training residences, as the name implies, are residences within the community in which convicted persons may reside under supervision and participate in community activities such as employment, academic or vocational training or any other appropriate rehabilitational programs.

The work training program outlined in Section 4 of the present Act has been redefined as the community training program in this Bill. The change is designed to reflect a shift in emphasis towards training individuals to live within the community in an acceptable fashion rather than just simply training individuals to perform work. Naturally the learning and practice of sound work skills remains an important aspect of the community training program.

Community training residences are an indication of the shift of emphasis away from large cold institutions to more personalized and socially oriented centres. Experience of the past merely indicates that the larger centres were not doing the job. The prime purpose of the community training residence, as with all

other correctional programs, is to ensure the security of society through the rehabilitation of the offender. Instead of merely being released after a period of incarceration, an offender may, through the community training residence program, gain a gradual exposure to society, employment and responsibility. It assists the offender to become integrated again into the community and to become established. Our officers assist them in finding work, in finding employment and creating their own job opportunities. They are encouraged to develop supportive friendships that will carry them through after their term is fully expired. In many, many cases it enables the offender to support his own family instead of that family having to be supported by the Department of Social Services through the Saskatchewan Assistance Plan.

An amendment designed to end discrimination by sex, is one which provides that men as well as women may be granted the privilege of participating in the community training program for the purpose of carrying on housekeeping tasks and attending to his or her family needs.

Major changes within the probation section bring our probation services more in line with those outlined in the Criminal Code of Canada. One of the major changes is the provision for courts to utilize probation for violation of provincial offences where a minimum fine is prescribed. For example, this would provide the court with the opportunity of utilizing a probation order where it felt that a fine would have no positive impact on a person convicted under The Vehicles Act or The Liquor Act. In such a situation one of the conditions of probation might well be that the offender submit himself to alcoholism treatment or to a defensive driving course.

Recognizing that offences under provincial statutes are deemed to be less serious than offences under the Criminal Code, the maximum length of a probation order for violation of a provincial statute has been reduced to six months from two years, which is also in keeping with the maximum sentence. It seemed only reasonable that if a sentence could only be given for six months the same should be true of the probation order.

Section 9 has also been amended so that if a probation order is violated the report will be made to the prosecutor rather than to the judge. The prosecutor will decide on the course of action to follow as he would in any other case.

Another change designed to provide an additional sentencing alternative to the court is the provision for direct placement of an offender in a community training residence via a probation order. This means that many individuals who normally would be incarcerated because of lack of adequate control measures within the community could be placed directly into a community training residence where adequate supervision, guidance and control can assist him in utilizing community resources in a positive manner.

In addition, the fact that he would remain closely associated with his family and friends, eliminates the potential readjustment problems which are usually encountered upon release by incarcerated persons. Having a steady job, money in the bank, perhaps continuing to support his dependents, are important factors from both the psychological and the practical point of view.

Hopefully, this alternative will also help to reduce the

apparent overuse of jail facilities.

Another change in the probation section removes the prohibition against making some type of payment to a volunteer probation officer. We recognize the very valuable service provided by volunteers and we would like to have the flexibility to reimburse them, at least for out-of-pocket expenses, where it is deemed appropriate.

A change in the proposed Act now requires that a copy of the probation order be read to and given to the convicted person and that the penalties for failing to comply with it be explained to him. This will assist in clarifying, for the offender, the exact nature of the probation order and will eliminate the possibility of individuals being unaware of the expectations placed upon them by such an order. It will also eliminate subsequent penalties for failure to live up to the required expectations.

In summary, the amendments to The Saskatchewan Corrections Act are designed to provide a greater range of correctional services. These services will ultimately provide greater protection to society through the integration or re-integration of the offender into the community rather than relying exclusively on the short-term protection provided by incarceration. We all are convinced I believe by now that punishment alone is no answer to crime. Punishment may be necessary from time to time but by itself it is not the solution.

Community corrections is a vital key to the future rehabilitation of any offender. Thus, the setting in which the contact between the offender and community occurs, is to as large a degree as possible of a non-institutional nature. Recognizing that crime is a community problem and that its solution must ultimately be found within the community, the proposed Act provides for a much greater community involvement in the total corrections process. The development of a correctional advisory board, at both the local and provincial level, will greatly assist in achieving that vital link which must be maintained with the community.

Mr. Speaker, I would move second reading of this Bill.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — Hear, hear!

MR. E. C. MALONE: (Regina Lakeview): — Mr. Speaker, I should like to express my appreciation to the Minister and the Government for their apparent intention to continue the progressive policies of the Liberal Government in prison reform.

I think that the reforms that were instituted under the former Liberal Government were the first in Canada and are now being regarded all across the country as being the criteria to be looked to and I do believe that this Act as presented, or the amendments as presented by the Minister, will continue this.

I do welcome as well any program through rehabilitation or otherwise which would end or bring down the high rate of recidivism that we have in this province. I have, unfortunately, some doubts as to the practical effect of the Act, Mr. Speaker, in particular, we already have overloaded court facilities in this province particularly in Regina and Saskatoon at the

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magistrates' level. It is conceivable that this Act would overload them even more and make it almost unworkable.

Mr. Speaker, I will have a number of other things that I should like to say about this Act at a later date and I ask leave to adjourn the debate.

Debate adjourned.

The Assembly adjourned at 5:18 o'clock p.m.