

EVENING SITTING

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Mr. Solomon: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With leave I'd like to introduce some guests, please.

Leave granted.

Mr. Solomon: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to introduce to you, and through you to all members of the Legislative Assembly, 28 Cubs in the Speaker's gallery. They are from the 80th Walsh Acres Monday Night Cub Pack in the constituency of Regina North West, Mr. Speaker. They are accompanied by Michael Ryan, Al Molander, Jude Horinek, and Tim Desrochers. I'd like to welcome each of you to the Assembly this evening and I hope that you enjoy the visit this evening. I look forward to meeting with you about 7:30 for some pictures and refreshments and to answer any questions you may have. Enjoy the evening.

Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

SPECIAL ORDER

ADJOURNED DEBATES

ADDRESS IN REPLY

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the address in reply which was moved by Mr. Wolfe.

Hon. Mr. Meiklejohn: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Prior to our break at 5 o'clock, Mr. Speaker, I was discussing the throne speech and the positive outlook that this government has with regard to the province of Saskatchewan for the coming year; also, the positive blueprint that has been set out with regard to programs that we really feel will be important in leading this province into the 1990s and beyond.

I'd also indicated that I was very happy, Mr. Speaker, to be representing the constituency of Saskatoon Mayfair. The northern part of Saskatoon is a very beautiful area and the part that I am proud to be living in. And we have many, many positive features of that particular constituency, and some of which I will be touching on much more later.

I had indicated some of the positive approaches that this government has taken, Mr. Speaker, with regard to education, and health care, and the concern that we have with regard to the citizens of this province. We know that during the last few years that times have been relatively tough in so far as the economy is concerned. But this government has made a very good attempt, I believe, at ensuring that we protect our citizens whether it's with regards to health care; whether it's with regard to providing very, very good programs for our young people in education. And we're doing the best that we can, we feel, and we look forward to very positive things with regard to 1989.

The next area that I want to deal with, Mr. Speaker, is with

regard to family support and children, because this is another area that many people in Saskatchewan are very concerned about. And this government, I feel, has made a very honest attempt at providing programs that will lead to more support and more protection for our families. The protection of individuals and families is certainly a priority with this government in much the same way that health and education are.

One of the areas that we are going to be providing more programming for, and we've been providing, I think, some very good programs, is with regard to foster-parents. Now today we know that, for one reason or another, we have a growing need for foster-parents, and I think, Mr. Speaker, that it's important that we ensure that we have the best possible foster-parents available.

In this regard, then, I am very pleased that the government, and through the Department of Social Services, is going to be providing more programming for foster-parents so that they in fact can be better trained and can in fact do a better job with regard to services for young children which need that type of service.

The idea of restructuring programs and providing more training for foster-parents and at the same time recognizing the fact that with this training should go a higher level of compensation for them . . . As they learn more skills and get more training, I think it's imperative that this area also be looked at. And I know from people that are involved with foster-parenting that I've talked with, they are very, very pleased with this initiative taken by the minister responsible for Social Services.

Another area that's a growing problem today, and one that I've been very pleased to be involved with the solution of, is the idea of care for those children of teens who still want to carry on and complete their high school programs. And I'm speaking specifically about the student infant care centre that was opened up this last fall at Mount Royal Collegiate in Saskatoon.

In the city of Saskatoon today, we have in the neighbourhood of 250 teen parents. Now many of these young people are interested in staying in school and finishing off their high school training, and at the same time they have made the decision to keep their child.

Now the program that was started on September 1 in Mount Royal Collegiate is for 10 parents at this particular time who have small children, babies or infants. These 10 spaces then are giving 10 young people, 10 teenagers, an opportunity to stay in school and finish off their high school. This is something that I think is a reflection of our times, it's something that we're recognizing that this is a modern-day problem and that we have to do something about it.

And I have visited that program on several occasions, and I have been very proud to have been involved in the setting up and getting going of this program. We've had a very dedicated committee of teachers and others who have been trying to get this program off the ground for some time, and I was very pleased to be at the official opening of it last fall.

Now we know that this is something that we have to continue to address, but these young people at least now have the opportunity, even though the number is small, to stay in high school and finish off and then carry on. Some of them, I know, have plans to go on to technical school when they finish high school and some on into the university.

Another area that I'm very pleased with that has taken place over the last few months is to do with our SARCAN development. The Saskatchewan Association for Rehab Centres in the province of Saskatchewan is involved with providing services for many, many people, men and women, who are in one way or another less fortunate than others.

Through SARCAN, through the whole idea of working with the Department of the Environment, and the collection of aluminum cans, this has provided an opportunity for employment for many, many young men and women all over the province. I know that a workshop that I had a lot of involvement with, Mallard Industries in the town of Wadena, is involved with the SARCAN program, where they collect the aluminum cans from around the area and then they are turned over to a central agency where they are disposed of. And I know that this has meant a tremendous deal to some of the young people who are involved with Mallard Industries. It's meant meaningful employment for some of those people who, in many other cases, were not able to have a job.

I think also the young person from the town of Assiniboia that I encountered when I was working in that area and speaking to his parents, and about how proud they were of this particular program, and that their son, who was involved with the program in Moose Jaw, is very, very pleased to have a job. But he is not just looking at the job that he has now; he's an individual who is looking ahead to doing something better.

And the whole program of SARCAN, Mr. Speaker, has provided new hope, new opportunities for some of these young people who are in many ways destined to be on social assistance for the rest of their lives. Mr. Speaker, to me this is a very progressive step taken by this government and a very real concern about helping some of those people who need protection.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Meiklejohn: — At the same time, we know that this particular program not only provides employment but it also deals with an issue that is of great concern, I think, to many throughout the province today, and that's with some of our environmental problems. So it's a two-headed sword: we've got, then, employment for those who otherwise may not have had jobs but also is going a long ways in helping to clean up our environment.

I'm also particularly pleased, Mr. Speaker, with changes that are going to be made to the Saskatchewan Human Rights Code. We know that within our society we have many individuals who are considered as being mentally disabled. This government has now taken that step to

ensure that these people are no longer going to be discriminated against and amendments will be made this year to the Saskatchewan Human Rights Code which will do away with this type of discrimination.

Another area that I feel very, very pleased about, a move that this government has taken over the last year, is with regard to the accessibility standards Act. I know that the members opposite like to make a big thing about how they are protectors of all, and you know that the accessibility standard was something that disabled and handicapped people within this province were trying to get moved forward for many, many years when they were in power, but nothing was done. It was this government, Mr. Speaker, then, that brought in the accessibility standards Act, but also went further than that and also brought in the regulations which would be put into place to implement the Act. And that was a very, very big step forward as far as helping out those who are physically disabled in this particular province.

Another area which shows the concern and the care that this government has for people in this province is to do with welfare reform. The New Careers Corporation, Mr. Speaker, has given an opportunity for many, many people to work and develop new skills. Now those on the other side of the House might like to snicker, because they haven't really done very much in this particular area. They've been very, very much clinging to the same old ways, that if they could keep people on welfare for all of their life, it didn't really matter, Mr. Speaker.

But this government doesn't view things that way. This government wants to move ahead and give people every opportunity that they can possibly have. I know that through the Meewasin Valley Authority in Saskatoon that the New Careers Corporation has provided many opportunities for young men and women who have never had a job before in their lives to go out and get a type of training, learn particular skills that they can move ahead and go out and get permanent jobs, which they are very, very happy about, Mr. Speaker. But the members opposite, not too happy about that particular situation.

Now they don't believe, they don't believe that we should be doing things like this. They think that these people should be staying on welfare. Well you know, Mr. Speaker, I've heard the members opposite on more than one occasion hold up the country of Sweden as being the ideal country. The country of Sweden, that's what they all like to look to.

Well let's take a look at what happens in Sweden with regard to how they look at people who are unemployed. Another NDP notion is that Sweden has created a full employment economy. Yes, the country has succeeded in lowering its official jobless rate, but only by being tough on the unemployed. When offered any job or training by the monopoly state labour office, no Swede can refuse to accept without losing all unemployment benefits. The system is one of workfare, not welfare.

But you know, Mr. Speaker, whenever we attempt anything like the New Careers Corporation, where we give opportunities for people to go out and get training, get particular skills, and get a job, they don't think that's a

good idea at all, Mr. Speaker. Well they like to have double standards, Mr. Speaker, and that of course is another example.

They also talk a lot about the idea of single parents and the fact we have a growing number of them today. That's a concern. All of us have that concern. But let me point out that one-third of the people that are involved with the New Careers Corporation are single parents. So this, Mr. Speaker, is meeting a real need out there as far as helping people to get off the welfare rolls and get into meaningful employment.

Another area that is a first, not only in this province, not only in this country, but in North America, is the Saskatchewan Pension Plan. Today, Mr. Speaker, we have no fewer than 47,000 members, 80 per cent of whom are women — a program that has been very, very widely accepted. It's very, very popular; it's growing every day.

And we have more and more provinces and states in the United States that are looking at our program as far as the pension plan is concerned, and looking at it with the idea of adopting it in their own home jurisdiction. So a very positive step. So for the members of the opposition to say that this is the government that doesn't care, Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that that is just a lot of boloney.

We've heard, in the last few days, members on the other side of the house talking about the growing interest rates. I think it was the end of last week that we heard the member from Riversdale talking about the high interest rates and wondering when the Premier was going to do something about it.

Well you know, Mr. Speaker, I've got a fair bit of respect for the Leader of the Opposition, but when he starts talking about interest rates and what the government should be doing, I think that that's where his credibility goes down substantially. People realize that here in this province, to own a home today and to carry a mortgage . . . And I'm sure that members on the other side of the house are in this particular situation. I certainly know that many members in my constituency are very, very pleased with our program, that for the first \$50,000 they know full well that they are not going to be paying more than nine and three-quarters per cent interest on that mortgage. Now that, Mr. Speaker, is protection.

(1915)

Where were the opposition back in 1981 when interest rates were up in the 18 to 20 to 22 per cent range? And I know about those times, Mr. Speaker, because I know that in 1981 I had a mortgage that was seventeen and a quarter per cent. And I know that when this government was elected and brought in their mortgage interest reduction program, that I was very, very pleased. And I know that many other people, that were living in that same area, and in the city of Saskatoon, were very pleased with the mortgage interest reduction protection program that was provided. We're still providing that program today, Mr. Speaker.

So let's not hear about the opposition talking about interest and what this government should be doing.

We've already got a track record with regard to what we do to help our citizens with regard to interest and high interest rates and protection.

Another very positive program of this government, Mr. Speaker, is to do with the home program. In the city of Saskatoon alone, applications received to date number over 53,500. The money spent on this program amounts to over \$41 million — \$41 million, Mr. Speaker — jobs created, nearly 4,300 jobs in the city of Saskatoon. Loans, with regard to the lower interest rate loans, 13,754 loans to a total of \$83 million in Saskatoon, Mr. Speaker. Now that to me is pretty powerful stuff when you consider the jobs that have been created, the goods that have been purchased. There's no doubt about it, that this program has been very, very well received, not only in the city of Saskatoon but also throughout the whole province.

There are other programs that we can look at when we talk about protection and certainly one of those is to do with seniors. Well, Mr. Speaker, I'm particularly concerned about programs that this government has for seniors because for one thing . . . And we hear the member from Quill Lakes chirping in his seat. And I know every once in a while he drops into the nursing home in Watson where my mother has been for the last six years, and he wanders around, and he talks to some of the folks there but in most cases, I'm sure, he's probably trying to talk about the high rates they're paying for drugs and all the terrible things this government's doing. Well, Mr. Speaker, I know full well that those people don't believe that member from Quill Lakes when he starts spreading this kind of gossip.

The heritage program, for one thing, Mr. Speaker, is a program that this government brought in where today seniors are obtaining \$500 per person or up to \$700 for families — not something that they got when that party was in power, Mr. Speaker. Another thing with regard to the allowances that are given to seniors, with regard to their income supplement, today — today, Mr. Speaker — singles receive \$80 per month extra in supplement, \$135 for couples. Do you know what it was in 1981, Mr. Speaker? This is the party that are the protectors of all. In 1981 do you know what the supplement was? Twenty-five dollars per month, Mr. Speaker — \$25, and they did such great things. And under our government today, Mr. Speaker, \$80 for singles, \$135 for couples.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Meiklejohn: — Other areas, Mr. Speaker, that this government has moved into with regard to seniors. We now have many seniors' day care and activity centres throughout the province, and I know that in the city of Saskatoon they're very popular and very, very well received. And seniors who have relatives, seniors who may be there themselves, or people who have relatives in those centres, are very, very thankful for the programs that this government is providing for seniors.

We've also had many examples of enriched housing in the city of Saskatoon. Bethany Manor — which is in my riding — very, very pleased with the programs of this government. Luther Heights, which opened not too long ago, Mr. Speaker, and McLure Place, which is going to be

opening, I understand, within another few weeks, these are all programs that are very, very well accepted by the seniors in the city of Saskatoon.

Another area today, Mr. Speaker, that I know that there is a growing concern about, is with regard to environment. Whether we're talking about the increasing concern about the ozone layer or the greenhouse effect, we know that many people are concerned about some of the changes that we see taking place today. And this is something that this government is addressing.

I am very pleased with the science and technology sector in Saskatoon, the work that's being done by the Saskatchewan Research Council. They're very involved with regard to studies dealing with the greenhouse effect. Chemical-free farming is also gaining an awful lot of attention. Agricultural biotechnology is leading to breakthrough in the development of bioherbicides, bioinsecticides and biofertilizers, Mr. Speaker.

Another area that advanced technology must be very involved with in the years ahead is to do with the issue of hazardous wastes. So environment is an issue, it's an issue that we're addressing; and science and technology, Mr. Speaker, is going to play a very important role in dealing with some of these critical problems today.

Mr. Speaker, I want to move on to another area that has been very much highlighted in the city of Saskatoon in the last few weeks, and that's to do with tourism. We know that tourism today is going to provide many, many jobs in this province. It's going to provide a lot of revenues. And over the last while, particularly with the Labatt Brier, which was held in Saskatoon, we saw what really can happen in a city that has a large number of volunteers, where everybody gets out, gets behind a project. It was just a tremendous success, Mr. Speaker.

We had people in the city of Saskatoon attending the Labatt Brier from all across this country, and some from the United States. And the comments were all very, very positive about the very smooth way in which it was run, the tremendous support, and the tremendous reception that they had from the people in Saskatoon.

Saskatchewan Place, which is in my constituency, is becoming very, very popular with events that we've seen over the last year. And it's only been in operation, Mr. Speaker, a little bit over a year. I want to commend at this time people like Cliff Wright and Mayor Henry Dayday and other members of the city council for having a vision for what this particular centre could be, not only for the city of Saskatoon, Mr. Speaker, but also for residents in the province of Saskatchewan.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Meiklejohn: — I don't think, Mr. Speaker, that in all cases the residents of Saskatoon realize the tremendous amount of response and participation that there was by this government. Do they realize that, of the total cost of \$25 million for Saskatchewan Place, that this government, Mr. Speaker, contributed in the neighbourhood of \$16 million? And without this support, this is a project that never would have been able to go

ahead.

Now I know that there are a lot of negative effects and I'm going to get to Joytec in a minute here, for some of the members from the other side of the House, because I think that there's much more, Mr. Speaker, that the people in this province and the citizens of Saskatoon have to know about the actions of the members opposite as to how Joytec and a small business in the city of Saskatoon was treated.

Saskatchewan Place is a facility that is going to . . . It is contributing many, many, many dollars to the coffers of the city of Saskatoon and to the province of Saskatchewan and it's going to continue to do so.

We're very fortunate in the month of May, not too many weeks from now, that Saskatoon is going to be hosting the Memorial Cup play-offs, and this, as well, is going to bring many, many tourists into our city and into our province. I want to at this time as well acknowledge the many, many volunteers — 1,500 volunteers, Mr. Speaker — who were involved with the very successful Brier that was held just a week ago.

Later in August, in the city of Saskatoon, we're very pleased that the Jeux Canada Games are going to be held. And this as well will provide not only a lot of excitement, but also many millions of tourist dollars into our city and into the province of Saskatchewan. And there's no doubt whether ventures such as this, that volunteers are going to play a very, very vital role again.

Another area that contributes to tourism in this province and in the city of Saskatoon, is the Wanuskewin heritage park, Mr. Speaker. This is going to be a very valuable addition to the tourist attractions in and around Saskatoon. The province is very supportive of this project and has contributed a million dollars to date.

Meewasin Valley Authority is another area that contributes, I believe, to the tourism and the attraction with regard to the city of Saskatoon. It provides a lot of benefits, not only to the city, but also to many of the people who reside around the city of Saskatoon. And I'm very proud, Mr. Speaker, to be a member of that board. We've got a dedicated staff of many men and women who are committed to improving the quality of life in our city, and I think that's very, very impressive. I've heard many, many positive comments about the beauty of our Meewasin valley and how it contributes to the splendour of the city of Saskatoon. And I might add also, Mr. Speaker, that the New Careers Corporation has been very involved with many projects in the Meewasin valley.

Turning now, Mr. Speaker, to the economy, I'd like to make a few comments there, and we're going to also get to Joytec, Mr. Speaker. And I'm sure that the members opposite are going to enjoy what I have to say, particularly the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Speaker, whose riding this particular business has been located in.

There's no doubt that today that everyone would like to see a much better economy. We'd like to see more money for this program or that program, but considering that our major revenue generators like agriculture, potash, oil,

and uranium have been really suffering in the last few months, I think it's understanding, it's understandable why we're in the difficulty that we are today. And, you know, to listen to members opposite, you'd wonder if they could just get their heads out of the sand long enough to know what's happened to the economy in this province in the last few years, they'd understand a little bit more about why we're in some of the difficulty that we are.

Do people really understand the tremendous drop in revenues that we've seen? Certainly the NDP don't. But unfortunately, unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, there's no corresponding drop in expenditures. It just doesn't work that way. We find that our expenditures with regard to health programs or educational programs continue to go up. It has nothing to do, then, with the way revenues are going down.

And you know, Mr. Speaker, during the good times back in the '70s and up to 1982, the NDP spent money like drunken sailors. Potash mines — they went out and bought potash mines, uranium mines. They put millions of dollars into the land bank.

But you know, an interesting part about how the NDP operated in those years, Mr. Speaker. Not only were the revenues strong — they were very, very strong — but you know, at the same time, Mr. Speaker, we saw substantial increases in taxes. I don't remember one year, Mr. Speaker, back in the '70s when that crew was in power, when revenues were going up and taxes were going down. Taxes were going up at the same time.

What were they doing with the money? They try to say that they left the province in such great shape in 1982. Well, Mr. Speaker, if we really take a look at that, we can say that was not the case at all.

You know, I shudder, and I know many people in my constituency shudder as well, to ever think what would happen if we had an NDP government in this province during tough economic times, tough economic times.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Meiklejohn: — No, there's no way that they can operate in tough economic times.

Let's take a look at what was happening over in our neighbouring province of Manitoba during those same years. Those same years, Mr. Speaker, their deficit was about three times the deficit here in Saskatchewan by the Conservative government. So they've got a pretty good track record as far as an NDP Party, Mr. Speaker.

Well there's a vast difference as far as philosophy is concerned. There's a vast difference between the philosophy of our two parties. You know, the NDP's answer to everything is to simply nationalize everything. They don't believe in building. They just simply believe in buying and taking over, like they did with other things.

Now here's an interesting thing, Mr. Speaker. They're very opposed, they're very opposed to small business. Now we've heard examples of that, certainly, today.

Because it's finally come to light; they've finally come to realize the impact that they've had with some of their negative actions on small business.

And they want to hear about Joytec. Well, Mr. Speaker, I can certainly talk about Joytec. And I see them sitting back in their seats there now and some of them kind of sinking down in them, because they're a little bit ashamed of their actions; just a little bit ashamed, Mr. Speaker.

You know, here was a company that was started in this province in 1983, started in 1983. And I think that there was a lot of potential there with regard to this particular company. You know, Mr. Speaker, in the time that this business has been operating in the province of Saskatchewan, and the city of Saskatoon, they have employed anywhere from nine to 35 employees, nine to 35 employees.

We've got a company here that started out with the idea of providing a lot of good things in the city of Saskatoon, providing a lot of jobs in the city of Saskatoon, but, you know, members opposite could never accept the fact that with science and technology, or with advanced technology, that a lot of things don't just happen overnight. They don't realize, and if they'd only stop to think about it, that some of these companies need anywhere from 10 to 15 years, Mr. Speaker, before they get an idea to the commercial stage and to the production stage.

(1930)

Now here was a company that has spent in the neighbourhood of \$8 million in the last six years; \$8 million, Mr. Speaker. They took advantage of the venture capital program to get started in this province, they took advantage. They raised \$3.75 million through that venture capital program, and that was a program, Mr. Speaker, that was set up to get small business such as Joytec going. The province paid 30 per cent; 30 per cent of that was paid to the shareholders as far as a tax credit was concerned, Mr. Speaker. Thirty per cent, \$1.125 million, and I hope that if the members opposite will just get those figures down — I can go over them again — because they like to play around with figures.

The venture capital program netted them \$3.75 million. The province paid 30 per cent; that was 1.125. I know some of these numbers are large, but if you'll just try and concentrate over there, you should be able to get them down. They paid that amount in tax credit — not to Joytec, Mr. Speaker, but to the shareholders. Now that's the money that they got to get them started.

During the next period of time . . . (inaudible interjection) . . . And we hear the member for Rosemont chirping from his seat over there. If he'd just hold on, we'll get it all to him; I know that he's a little slower than some of them. Seventy-six thousand, five hundred and eighty-eight dollars, Mr. Speaker, was given to them from the Department of Science and Technology for research and development. And the last payment in that was back in the summer of 1986, and I know that they tried to make out that the Department of Science and Technology was

giving them all kinds of money after I became minister, Mr. Speaker, but that certainly was not the case at all. They also received \$60,000 in bridging capital, which they paid back, Mr. Speaker.

Now the employment I have already indicated, but for the members of the opposition I'll say it again, that the number of employees have ranged from what they have now of nine up to 30 to 35 employees. I have indicated that approximately \$8 million was spent since 1983 — now not all of that in the city of Saskatoon. The company of Technigen took over Joytec in 1986 and since that time has spent over \$5 million on this project — over \$3 million in the province of Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker — and that money has gone to taxes to the city of Saskatoon, because Joytec owns their building; it has gone to salaries . . .

An Hon. Member: — It's a scam.

Hon. Mr. Meiklejohn: — And I suggest that if the member from Saskatoon Sutherland would like to talk about it being a scam, we've heard him making these accusations before, but he's just trying to be misleading. All of this money then, Mr. Speaker, has gone into taxes, salaries, goods and services.

Now it's understandable, Mr. Speaker, it's understandable by all parties that this company, by the mere fact that they're going to be moving out of the province of Saskatchewan, are liable for the tax credits that the shareholders received from the venture capital program. They realize that, and that money will be paid back to this province. So that . . . (inaudible interjection) . . . We hear the member from Sutherland chirping away there. I don't think, Mr. Speaker, that the member from Sutherland ever even took the time to go out and visit Joytec to see what they were doing out there. I mean, all he does is talk. He has never been out there to see what they were doing.

So, Mr. Speaker, considering the amount of money that has been spent on Joytec in this province for jobs, for taxes, for goods and services, I don't think that it has been a bad investment whatever.

I'm very, very sore . . . sorry that some — I'm sore too — that some of those members opposite have really been out there with the all-out attempt to destroy this company and to chase it out of the province. And, Mr. Speaker, I suggest to you that now they have been successful in doing that, and here is a company that is just now starting to get going and any of those benefits that we could have had here in the province of Saskatchewan are now going out to the province of British Columbia, Mr. Speaker. And I think shame on some of those members over there who have been responsible for this vendetta on driving that company out of business.

I think it's particularly interesting, Mr. Speaker, when the Leader of the Opposition says that he is so much in favour of small business that he allowed this to happen in his own constituency, and never, ever had the decency to go out to Joytec and see what was happening. Never, ever did that; never did that.

Well, Mr. Speaker, we've seen now how the NDP feels about small business so we don't really put much credit in statements that they make that they are in favour of small business.

Let's look at another area that they're opposed to. They're opposed to public participation. Or are they? Are they, Mr. Speaker? That's a question a lot of people in Saskatchewan are asking right now, because we know from all of the documents that have surfaced here in the last couple of weeks that they had their own plan to carry out public participation, or privatization, or, as the member from Moose Jaw would like to call it, piratization. They were going to do some of that themselves.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Meiklejohn: — He finally woke up over there, Mr. Speaker. Well you know, we've got a double standard. I mean, it was all right for them back in 1981 to '82 to start looking at public participation, but for this government to be moving ahead and doing it, well no, Mr. Speaker, that's all wrong.

Well another thing that they're opposed to, another thing that they're opposed to and we've heard the member from Saskatoon University talk about this, they're opposed to uranium mining. But then again, are they? Because we've heard the Leader of the Opposition say that, well no, they're not really opposed. Maybe some of them are, but he doesn't really know where he stands.

Another area they're opposed to — free trade. But then again, are they? Well, Mr. Speaker, does anyone really know? Because it seems to me that it depends which member you talk to on any given day, because they're all over the map on this, Mr. Speaker.

Well, you know, I think that if we really take a look at where the NDP in Saskatchewan stand, or the NDP in Canada for that matter . . . I'd like to refer to an article that was in the *Toronto Globe and Mail* back in October, and it's entitled, "Along the red brick road to nowhere land," Mr. Speaker. That's where this bunch would have Saskatchewan go. And let me just say a little bit about that, because of whether they're opposed to some of these things or whether they're not.

The model of a modern socialist government, Mr. Speaker, in France or Australia or Spain, is of a government that espouses free markets, pushes privatization and deregulation, and can be persuaded to cut corporate taxes to create jobs. Other socialists including those in power in Norway, Sweden, France, Spain, Australia, and New Zealand take a different view. All are self-confident members of free-trade pacts, Mr. Speaker.

Well now does that sound like our NDP in Saskatchewan? I mean, talk about being out of step. Talking about the red brick road to nowhere land, Mr. Speaker, well we know where our NDP are. We know exactly where they are.

Well let's go on from there, Mr. Speaker, let's go on from

there, because there are a lot of other statements, there are a lot of other statements that these members opposite have indicated. You know, just to show you how they're so much out of touch. We heard the other day . . . you know, when you really want to stop and think about the credibility of some of the statements of the members opposite.

Well you know, we've got a new critic over there for Agriculture today, Mr. Speaker; it's the member from Saskatoon Eastview. When it isn't the member from Saskatoon Sutherland, now it's the member from Saskatoon Eastview. You know what he was wondering the other day? He was wondering who speaks for farmers. This is the member from Saskatoon Eastview.

Well you know, they talk about people leaving the province. They don't obviously . . . You know, if they had a few farmers over there on the other side, they'd have an understanding of what's going on out in the rural areas of this province, Mr. Speaker. They obviously haven't seen the impact of drought. They don't know anything about impact of low prices, grasshoppers, any of those things.

You know the one that really surprised me though was the rhinestone cowboy from Elphinstone. He talks of houses for sale, Mr. Speaker, in some of our small towns, and he can't understand what's going on. Well good grief, what is the matter with the member from Elphinstone? He can't understand why there are houses for sale in some of our areas out in the rural part of Saskatchewan. And he talks about the Premier's plan to get rid of farmers. How blind they are — how blind they are. What did the NDP ever do for the farmers in this province? They can't even come up with a policy, for Heaven's sake, for farmers in this province.

Well let's take a look at some other statements that they've made. You know, they've talked an awful lot . . . we've heard an awful lot in this place for the last few days about out-migration — out-migration, Mr. Speaker. Well you know, as long as I can remember . . . I can remember back in the days of when this party across the road here were in power, and I can always remember that we had young people leaving this province to go to Manitoba or Alberta or some place else to find jobs. And these were good times, Mr. Speaker. But they were always going and looking for jobs in other provinces. They weren't all saying, by George, I'm going to stay here in Saskatchewan and work because we got an NDP government and they're providing all these jobs. That wasn't the case at all. Let me give you some figures.

You know they like to talk about our record in the last few years, and we know the economy has been down. Well let's take a look at some of the things that were happening in good years, Mr. Speaker, when they were in power — in the good years.

You know, they talk about out-migration, and often, you know, they'll give you the numbers of the people that are leaving the province. But they never talk about the numbers that are coming back in. Let me give you this, and this is for all the people in the province of Saskatchewan who will be watching tonight. Do you know that in 1978, Mr. Speaker, that 22,995 people left

this province? Isn't that terrible! Mr. Speaker, 22,995 people left this province in 1978. Terrible, terrible. Now if they were giving that figure, Mr. Speaker, you know, they'd leave it there, they'd leave it there. They'd break it down and they'd say how many are leaving every month. Well, I'll give you the actual fact, Mr. Speaker, that the net out-migration that year was 3,701. Now that makes them look a little bit better.

Well let's go on then down to 1979, because it was even worse. And you know if I remember rightly, 1979 was a better year in the economy here in Saskatchewan than '78 was. No drought, good prices; everything was great. Do you know how many people left the province that year, Mr. Speaker? Do you know how many people left the province that year?

An Hon. Member: — How many?

Hon. Mr. Meiklejohn: — Twenty-four thousand, six hundred and fifteen — 24,000. Good Lord! That's a lot of people leaving the province in a good year. But again, I'll give you the net figure, Mr. Speaker, because I am an honest person — 3,510 people, that's the net amount. Well now, here's the real kicker. Do you remember 1980? — 1980 was just a great year in this province — 25,046 people left this province in 1980.

An Hon. Member: — How many?

Hon. Mr. Meiklejohn: — Twenty-five thousand and forty-six, for a net out-migration of 4,382. Now, you know, they're the great saviours of the people of Saskatchewan, the great saviours. But we had a net out-migration of 4,382 people in 1980 — a good year in Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker.

Well we know what has happened to our economy in the last few years. There's no doubt about it, that we would like to have more jobs here. But when you consider that there are 10 or 11,000 people that have left the farms because of the drought and because of low prices, I think that that goes a long way to explain some of the reasons why we've got people leaving the province at this particular time, Mr. Speaker.

You know, another thing that they've talked about, they've made such a big thing about all the young people that are unemployed. I'm concerned about that; everybody on this side of the House and in this whole House is concerned. But let me just tell you something that you haven't heard from members opposite in this House, Mr. Speaker. Let me tell you this. Let's go back to those good old years of the NDP government in this province, the good years. You know, for the life of me I can't understand why they ever lost in '82; they were doing such a terrific job.

Well let's go back, let's go back to those good years. In 1976 to 1981, Mr. Speaker, the percentage of youth unemployed was 1.9 times the total unemployed rate during that period — 1.9 times the total rate. Do you know what it was, Mr. Speaker, from '82 to '88, the time that this party has been in power? Mr. Speaker, the percentage of youth unemployed was 1.8 times the total unemployed rate — 1.8. Less during the last six years

when this party has been in power, when we've had tough economic times, than when that bunch was in power back in the late '70s when we had good times in this province.

So let them stand up in this province and tell the people that the unemployment rate of our youth from age 15 to 24 is so tough today. It's higher than it should be, but it's not as high, Mr. Speaker, as it was back in the years when those people were in power.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

(1945)

Hon. Mr. Meiklejohn: — Well they talk about how our PC policies aren't working. I've heard the member from Saskatoon Eastview talking about this on more than one occasion. He says that it's just terrible.

Well I'd like that member over there, Mr. Speaker, to explain the fact that employment and manufacturing is up. Employment and manufacturing is up. And if our policies with regard to diversification and privatization are so terrible, why is employment up in manufacturing?

Now I think anybody, anybody with half a sense in this province knows why the unemployment rate is higher in the agricultural sector. That bunch doesn't. But we understand it over here, and, Mr. Speaker, the residents of Saskatchewan understand.

Well they're opposed to privatization, Mr. Speaker. Well we're not really sure about that. They said it's led to the loss of jobs. But what about Weyerhaeuser? What about Weyerhaeuser? You know, we've heard different things about Weyerhaeuser, but you know, we really can't believe that bunch over there.

Let's take a look at what one of the members here says about Weyerhaeuser. This is what he says. This is our hon. member from Saskatoon Sutherland again, the great wiz over there. This is what he says about Weyerhaeuser. He says:

But that was too much for the Premier to ask of his friends at Weyerhaeuser, the robber barons.

He calls them, Mr. Speaker, the robber barons.

Yes, what we have with Weyerhaeuser is a licence to rob the province of Saskatchewan, to rape and plunder Saskatchewan forests, and nowhere do we see the effects, the long-term effects of this feudal system, more than when it comes to young people.

The robber barons — Weyerhaeuser.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Meiklejohn: — This is our bright light from Saskatoon Sutherland, Mr. Speaker. Yes, Weyerhaeuser.

Yes, how many jobs have been created? We can talk to our hon. member here from Shellbrook-Torch River, in

which Weyerhaeuser is located. He knows how many jobs have been created at Weyerhaeuser. He knows the impact on the city of Prince Albert is concerned. You'd never hear the members of Prince Albert ever say one thing about Weyerhaeuser and all the jobs that have been created.

And not too long ago, Mr. Speaker, we had another announcement about the expansion and more jobs that are going to be created about at Weyerhaeuser by the robber barons. Now isn't that a joke, Mr. Speaker? And that's how they look at public participation or privatization.

What about WESTBRIDGE computers? What about the number of jobs that have been created there since that company was formed? What about the forest industry in Meadow Lake? Hey, I don't think public participation is a bad thing at all, and I think the people living in those areas can certainly see through all the rhetoric that they hear from the members opposite.

Well let's take a look at a few other things. There's no doubt about it, there's no doubt about it, that when it comes to agriculture that we've got a lot of would be critics of agriculture on the other side of the House, Mr. Speaker. They try to say who speaks for the farmer in this province; that the Premier of this province is trying to drive the farmers off the land. Well, Mr. Speaker, if that isn't the most ridiculous thing you ever heard.

Let's take a look at some of the programs that this government has provided for farmers in this province. You know we heard about interest rates, but I don't recall ever seeing the NDP around helping the farmers when they were in power. And I know — I've got a lot of connections with farmers and with the people that are out there — and I know full well that the support was not there by this party, a party who over the last six years since they got turfed out of office, still haven't got an agricultural policy.

Well let's take a look at some of those programs. What about the production program that has paid out more than a billion dollars in low interest rate loans to farmers? Does that sound like a party that's trying to get rid of farmers? What about the livestock drought assistance, the 1988 federal-provincial program provided by this government? How about the green feed program? Paid out more than \$40 million to encourage farmers to turn land over to green feed production. And we could talk about the livestock cash advance program, Mr. Speaker — almost \$150 million paid out to livestock producers.

Now I know in some cases, Mr. Speaker, the people in the city have a little bit of a difficult time understanding about the support this government gives to farmers. But I think we all have to recognize that agriculture is the main industry in this province and that impacts on people. It doesn't matter whether they live on the farm, in the small towns and villages, or whether they live in the city of Saskatoon. So any of these programs not only benefit the rural areas, not only benefit the farmers and the small towns and villages, but they also benefit our major cities, Mr. Speaker.

Well another area that I have to mention here is about free trade — free trade. Now we've heard lots from the other side of the House about how they are opposed to free trade. Well, you know, I think that we've got a lot of members, as you know, on the other side of the House, in the city of Saskatoon, and I hope that's going to change a lot in the next election.

But do they ever stop and consider, do they ever stop and consider the impact of free trade on a company like Intercontinental Packers? And I can point to two or three members at least over there, Mr. Speaker, who have many constituents who work at Intercontinental Packers. But do they ever stop and consider the positive benefits for those people living in their own ridings who benefit from free trade, and yet they speak against it.

You know, we had such a great speech the other night from one of my constituents. I'm sorry to say that, after his demonstration that he put on the other night. But I didn't hear him saying too much about free trade although I know he is opposed to it.

But here is a company, as I understand it, is in his constituency, and that's the member for Westmount. And this was an announcement that was in the *Star-Phoenix* this weekend and it's to do with "Wescott sold, 100 jobs saved." Now these are the comments made by the company that bought Wescott:

In announcing the acquisition, Chairman Peter Nygard said the company hopes to expand the Avenue D North plant, perhaps "employing up to 300 workers in Saskatoon within the next three years."

And he went on, and I hope that the member from Westmount is listening to this:

"Free trade is a Canadian reality. We must position ourselves early to take advantage of the enormous opportunities which will become available to us in a much larger and vibrant market-place."

That's a company in Saskatoon Westmount. I hope that some day I hear the member from that area saying hey, you know, free trade is a great thing; it's helping people who live in my constituency; they're going to have more jobs and it's going to be great for the city of Saskatoon. Free trade. Now how do they stand up and say they're opposed to free trade with something like that?

Well they can't understand what a diversified economy is all about, Mr. Speaker. They can't understand why we need upgraders or paper mills or bacon plants, high tech industry. Their main concern is trying to shut down the high tech industry, Mr. Speaker; they're not concerned about building it. They're not concerned about power generator plants such as we've got with the new Hitachi-Marubeni plant up in my constituency. No, they're not concerned about that at all.

But these are all things, Mr. Speaker, that are going to go a long way to providing the stability in our economy that we need in the years ahead.

Now I want to, before I go any further, talk a little bit about science and technology and the fact that Saskatoon is looked upon, not only in Saskatchewan, but also in the country, as being a very important centre for advanced technology. We're very proud of what we've got there, and I think when you consider the fact that this is not a natural industry in Saskatchewan, it's not a natural industry like forestry or like agriculture or any of those, it's not a natural industry, it's something that has grown out of the innovative and creative nature of Saskatchewan people.

Saskatchewan entrepreneurs, we know, thrive on challenge. Saskatchewan has become known in three very, very particular areas, one of those of which is biotechnology. Another one is the area of computer software, and the third one is communications — very important areas, areas which we may not lead the nation, Mr. Speaker, but we certainly rank third behind the larger provinces of Quebec and Ontario. And many people, I know, in Saskatchewan don't realize that. Certainly people in Saskatoon don't realize the importance of some of those high-tech industries, not only to our city, but also to our province.

Mr. Speaker, I think we can all take a great deal of pride in the fact that it was our Premier who first recognized the potential that this industry has in the province of Saskatchewan, and it was through his initiative that, in 1984, early 1984, that Saskatchewan became the first provincial government in Canada to form a separate department for science and technology — solely responsible for that. So it shows you the high regard that he had for that interest, that particular industry, and how it's going to be important at leading this country into the 1990s and beyond, because the only way that we are going to be competitive with countries, whether it's in other countries here or across on the other side of the world, is going to be through advanced technology.

Some people, I'm sure, don't realize, Mr. Speaker, that Saskatoon houses western Canada's largest research and development park — not just Saskatchewan, but all of western Canada. We've got Innovation Place, which is located just adjacent to the university, that houses over 30 different organizations doing research or offering related services to the technology industry. Now that's pretty important. It's not only important because of the jobs that are created there, but it's also important for the amount of research that is being done here that benefits not only people in Saskatchewan, but also people in Canada and beyond.

Now when you take a partnership where you have the government involved, you've got all of the initiative of the Saskatchewan entrepreneurs, who have a lot of great ideas, and add to that the strong research and development component that we've got at our University of Saskatchewan, you've got a pretty powerful partnership that can go a long ways in helping to establish a very stable and very vibrant economy in this province.

No one can say, no one can say that the advanced technology industry doesn't have unique problems, and some of them I mentioned here earlier. I know that the members opposite feel that you can take an idea out of the

lab and it can suddenly become a commercial product in a short period of time, but let me point out, Mr. Speaker, that in some cases it may take anywhere from one to 15 years before an idea can be turned into production. So it's something that's very, very unique.

But another problem that's of significant importance as far as the high-tech industry is concerned, Mr. Speaker, is the whole idea of financing. Because of this long period of time that it takes to get a product into the market-place and have cash flowing back into a company, it demands a fair amount of financing, and that's unfortunately where some of our companies run into difficulty.

Another thing, Mr. Speaker, that I'd mention with regard to advanced technology is that they can't rely on the expertise that's been developed in the past. They have to fight a battle with innovation continually because they're always looking at new things. They can't always look back because there's just no record there.

So this partnership is very important. When you took scientists, the innovators, industry, and government, that's a very, very powerful team that's needed to develop this strong economy that we talk about.

One other area that I want to touch on, Mr. Speaker, and that's with regard to the Saskatchewan Research Council, because we are so pleased to have the Saskatchewan Research Council in Saskatoon; and when one considers the tremendous benefits that the people of this province are deriving from SRC (Saskatchewan Research Council), it is just unbelievable. We've got many, many people there who are very dedicated scientists and engineers, who are involved in working with industry throughout this province — new ideas, new products, new processes, and providing a very, very valuable service under the direction of Mr. Jim Hutch.

Mr. Speaker, there's no doubt advanced technology is the way of the future. It's through new technology that our industries are going to become competitive in what we classify as the global village. But one thing that we have to ensure, Mr. Speaker, is that we make people in Saskatchewan aware of the importance of science and technology. We've not only got to make our citizens aware of it, we've got to make our industries aware of it and how it can be utilized. But I think something else, Mr. Speaker, that we have to do; we have to make sure that our young people are aware of the tremendous opportunities that exist in the advanced technology sector.

And I'm very pleased that during the latter week of April, this year again, we're going to be having our science and technology week. And this is going to be an opportunity for young people to participate all over the province, whether it's in science fairs or whether it's looking at exhibits or having representatives from high-tech companies come in and speak to them in their classes. It's going to be a very important week in the province of Saskatchewan.

I also look forward, Mr. Speaker, to that time when the new Saskatchewan science centre will be open, because this is going to be a real show-case for the province of

Saskatchewan and certainly for the city of Regina, when young people are going to have an opportunity to see advanced technology at work.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to take a look at Consumer Affairs, another department that I'm responsible for, and point out that I'm very, very pleased to be involved with this department, because for one thing, with the Department of Consumer Affairs you touch every individual in the province of Saskatchewan — every individual. It doesn't matter how old a person is in the province of Saskatchewan, he or she is a consumer. So we want to continue, Mr. Speaker, building that confidence in the market-place — building that confidence not only with consumers, but also with the business community, so that people can feel that they can go out and do business and that they are going to be treated fairly.

Two of the areas that we're very, very proud of within the department are the education communications branch. We've got many people that are involved as facilitators around the province providing a very, very valuable service to residents, whether they're in remote areas or within our towns, within our cities. And it may be workshops that they're providing, free of charge, to people who want to know more about advertising, people who want to know more about better use of money and wise shopping. All of these different things — good consumer education.

And as well, as many, many people probably, Mr. Speaker, don't realize that the Department of Consumer Affairs also has the mandate for providing life skills education in our school system. So we're very pleased to be involved with the Department of Education in providing program materials, resource materials for our teachers.

(2000)

Another area that's of equal importance, I believe, is the licensing and investigating branch, because it's here where we have the opportunity to work with consumers and with businesses in helping to satisfy and work out problems that they might have. So a lot of good things happening there, Mr. Deputy Speaker, and I'm very pleased to be involved with the Department of Consumer and Commercial Affairs.

The one other area of responsibility that I have, Mr. Speaker, and you're going to be hearing more about that as time goes on, and that's with regard to the Gaming Commission. We know full well that we've had some concerns, we've had some concerns in the province of Saskatchewan with regard to gaming. A lot of people, of course, are involved with gaming in this province, Mr. Speaker, and I might point out that it's all legalized gaming, whether we're talking about bingo, whether we're talking about lotteries, whether we're talking about raffles, or whether we're talking about the casinos, Mr. Speaker, that are operated by our exhibition boards. And nothing is going to change in that regard, Mr. Speaker.

I might point out that on some occasions the members opposite have indicated that they're not totally in support of some of the things that are happening in the province. I

know I've heard, on more than one occasion, that they feel that lotteries . . . Of course that's a tax, Mr. Deputy Speaker, on the poor; that's the argument that I've always heard. But, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to point out to you that members opposite are certainly in favour of lotteries, because we see that that's one of the main ways in which they have of raising money for their party.

You know, Mr. Speaker, that last year in 1988 . . . And we heard there too, Mr. Speaker, from the Leader of the Opposition, where he was encouraging people to, you know, get a chance in their lottery because it was a great thing and it's going to help our party. You know, they only made about \$150,000 last year, Mr. Speaker. So when the members opposite talk about lotteries being a tax on the poor, and then I see that they raised something like \$150,000 last year on theirs, I kind of wonder if we're not looking at a double standard here, Mr. Speaker. I mean, there's something happening here.

Well you know, Mr. Speaker, they like to talk about slot machines, and I'd really be remiss if I didn't say something here, Mr. Speaker. And I would simply like to point out to you and to the members of this legislature and the citizens of Saskatchewan, that I have never said on any occasion, and I will clarify right now that there's no intention, no intention, Mr. Deputy Speaker, of this government looking at Las Vegas style casinos with slot machines — no intention. I make that quite clear: we will not be looking at Las Vegas style casinos with slot machines. Now if we're talking about electronic bingo, Mr. Speaker, that is another matter.

Mr. Speaker, just in closing I would like to just say a few words with regards to the future of Saskatchewan. And I feel that . . . It sounds like we got the Hallelujah Chorus going on over there, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

I just want to say a few words about the future of Saskatchewan and how very positive and very optimistic that I feel with regard to our economy. We know that with prices of oil going up a little bit, we know that the market for potash looks like it will be very strong for this year. And we're very hopeful that as far as the weather is concerned, we're working on that, Mr. Deputy Speaker, in Science and Technology, and we are going to have rain this year and maybe a little more snow between now and spring.

But I think that for the most part, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that the attitude in Saskatchewan, with the exception of those opposite, is very, very optimistic for 1989.

Mr. Speaker, we can't ignore the rest of the world and pretend that we're self-sufficient. We must be prepared, we must be prepared to meet the challenges of the world. We've got a great diverse and talented population and they have the ability, Mr. Deputy Speaker, to build this province as they have built it in the past.

I've got confidence, Mr. Deputy Speaker, in the people and in this province — and in this government, I might add. We are going to look ahead to a very, very good year, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

And with that I would close by saying that I will not be

supporting the amendment but will support the motion put forward by the member from Assiniboia-Gravelbourg.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, for recognizing me. And I must say that we enjoyed that very lengthy presentation by the hon. member from Saskatoon Mayfair. I think that there are many things to which we would be tempted, those of us on this side, to respond, but time does not permit. I would however like to say to the hon. member from Mayfair, because I don't want to direct my remarks to his speech tonight, two things . . . well mainly one thing. The hon. member referred to Joytec and he referred to, in the next breath, how he would shudder if the New Democratic Party ever came to office again.

An Hon. Member: — You bet.

Mr. Romanow: — And he says, you bet. And I would say to the hon. member from Mayfair and to the Minister of Agriculture, if we do get to office and we do get a look at those books at Joytec, the member is fully justified in shuddering, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — Because we intend to take a very careful look at what exactly took place in the Joytec situation. I think that it is unfortunate when any business does not succeed — there's no doubt about that — and that's the case also with Joytec.

But when we have an expenditure of \$1.2 million of taxpayers' money being devoted to Joytec, notwithstanding the promises made by the minister and by the Premier that this was going to be a successful enterprise, and we now see the company leaving the province of Saskatchewan, I think it speaks a lot to the competence of this administration in really being able to garner industry in a solid industrial plan, strategic plan to route it to Saskatoon or to Regina or to the province of Saskatchewan. I think it demonstrates what we have heard in the last few days, that this government is totally incompetent, totally incapable, of attracting high-tech — no, not high-tech only — of attracting business to the province of Saskatchewan, and this kind . . .

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — And this kind, this kind of a record, I think, is clear testimony to the incompetence of which we speak.

I guess the other thing that I'd like to refer to very briefly before I go to the main thrust of my remarks this evening is the minister's statement toward the end about the casinos proposal, the slot machines proposal.

And I must say, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that his denial tonight is all too regular with respect to this government, in the sense that it makes all kinds of statements which are recorded very accurately and completely on the public record, and then when the public reacts negatively, there is a denial of the statement which has been made . . .

(inaudible interjection) . . .

And the hon. member opposite there is saying to me, what am I referring to, he asks. Well I have here in front of me a February 22, 1989 *Star-Phoenix*, in fact I'd call it an exclusive, SP exclusive by Art Robinson. Mr. Robinson is the city hall bureau chief of the Saskatoon *Star-Phoenix*. And he says, in this particular article, quoting the minister who just took his place — this is a direct quote:

We are looking at legislation which would allow the government to get into such things as electronic games, including slot machines.

That's a direct quote. Now, Mr. Deputy Speaker, it's possible that Mr. Robinson, the reporter for the Saskatoon *Star-Phoenix* got confused; that there was no letter of correction, there was no statement of correction for several days after that clear intention was listed. In fact the only time that that correction was issued was several days afterwards when the Premier and his colleagues decided to take the polls as to what the public reaction would be to bringing in full-style Las Vegas casinos, and they now seek to back down on the words that they say.

I say, Mr. Deputy Speaker, to the hon. minister opposite, you made that statement of your government's intentions to casinos. You say that that isn't the case now. But this is a familiar pattern of your government. You make these statements and you back down.

But I make one prediction, Mr. Deputy Speaker. If by some fluke of the next election this PC government should be re-elected, I guarantee you — they being the consummate privatizers and free enterprisers — they'll have Las Vegas casinos here, I guarantee you.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — And I say to the hon. minister opposite, it's not good enough to be able to try to get away from statements which are stated so clearly and so bluntly and so categorically of your government's intentions by the way that you have here this evening, which I think casts a lot of doubt on the strength of your argument and your speech this evening.

Well, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I don't intend to speak at length this evening. What I really want to talk about is vision and future of the province of Saskatchewan in the context of the Speech from the Throne and in the context of the image of the New Democratic Party in the 1990s and beyond.

The Speech from the Throne, Mr. Deputy Speaker, is supposed to outline not only a game plan, but it's supposed to describe what it is that governments, what it is that we as legislators of this great body, the Assembly of Saskatchewan, what is it that we're seeking for society, what is it that we're seeking for our individuals and for our families and for our workers and our farmers. A vision.

And, Mr. Deputy Speaker, tonight I want to say a few words about my vision, about our vision of what it means to be a New Democrat in Saskatchewan in the 1990s, and in general terms, what it is that we would see the province

developing and directing its attention to in the 1990s, and contrasting that by this Speech from the Throne, the debate of which is wrapping up here this evening in a few moments.

You know, it has been said many times by great philosophers, and in fact by philosophers who were poets, there isn't very much new under the sun. And that's true. It's true not only with ideas, it's true with philosophies.

And I decided, Mr. Deputy Speaker, in preparation for my few remarks this evening, to try to put into a philosophical framework what it is that this Speech from the Throne was trying to tell us, where it is that the government is directing us, and how does that contrast by the vision that we see for the 1990s.

And I decided that one way to begin would be to look to some of the history of the province of Saskatchewan and to see what other writers and what other thinkers and what other politicians have to say about what it is that the role of government, and what it is about the role of the legislature, what should be our function. To what goal are we aiming, whether we're Conservatives or New Democrats or Liberals? What are the objectives of our society and of political activity?

And in so preparing, I ran across a selected series of speeches by a person who I think, notwithstanding the fact that he's a leader of the party that I am now honoured to lead, speeches by the late Tommy Douglas which in my judgement set the tone of what I'm trying to describe. And I'll elaborate in a moment or two about the vision and the future of Saskatchewan for the 1990s, because I think we can learn from the wise words of Tommy Douglas and others.

But this quotation I think tells it all. I'm going to make some amendments, if I may, with the greatest of respect to the memory of Mr. Douglas, make some amendments to this vision for the 1990s. But I think at the heart of it is a vision and is a commitment and is a passion and is a dedication, which motivates all of us that get into political life; which in effect sustains us through all those days when sometimes we are subjected to speeches by members opposite which grovel, being very frank about it, in the seamy side, in the political attacks of politicians.

Those things which sustain us are the kind of philosophical ideas which great writers and politicians and speakers before us have tried to define as our vision and our mission.

Well I want to give you this quotation, and work from there, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Tommy Douglas, in 1976, not so long ago, was being awarded a doctorate degree at the University of Alberta, the convocation address. And I recommend the convocation address for obvious reasons. But Tommy said this in the book that I have in front of me, *The Quotations of Douglas*, at page 261. And I want to take some time to read this slowly. Tommy said this:

What is true of the individual is equally true of a nation.

I'll stop there to say, note the linkage of individual rights and freedoms with that of a nation. Tommy went on to say that:

The measure of a nation's greatness does not lie in its conquests or its gross national product, (Mr. Deputy Speaker) or the size of its gold reserve, or the height of its skyscrapers. The real measure of a nation is the quality of its national life, what it does for the least fortunate of its citizens, and the opportunities that it provides for its youth to live useful and meaningful lives, and equally important (Tommy said), what it does to share its affluence with those people around the world who suffer from poverty and disease.

(2015)

Just get the key points of that quotation, Mr. Deputy Speaker. The real measure . . . I'm saying this with some amendment. The real measure of a province, say the province of Saskatchewan — Tommy said the nation, but I call it this province — the real measure of our province is the quality of life that we provide to our people, and especially the quality of life to those least fortunate and the opportunities that we provide for those youth who seek to live meaningful lives, to contribute, to foster and to develop, and to expand and to progress in this struggle of building society, of building values based on independence and dignity and human worth and freedom.

Now you might say, well that's a New Democrat quoting the remarks of a former New Democrat and a former leader; why wouldn't you believe in that? To some extent, I plead guilty to that kind of a dismissal, if you would want to, in my attribution and support of those remarks. But I tell you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, those remarks cut beyond the philosophy of a New Democratic Party. They cut to the very essence of what it is that life is all about. They talk about values. They talk about the higher instincts and the higher values of free men and women working in a free society to improve not only their lives, but to improve the quality of the lives of their families and their children and their children, and more importantly, to improve the quality of the community in which they live. Those are values which we as politicians should subscribe to. Mr. Deputy Speaker, those are values that we on this side of the House subscribe to and fervently subscribe to as our guiding motto for the 1990s.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — And so I said to myself, well if I subscribe to those values, that's my credo, that's my party's credo, what are things looking like in Saskatchewan today about that quality of life? How is it that this government opposite is providing or isn't providing for those of us, in the words of Tommy Douglas, who are less advantaged; to those of us who perhaps may be young and want to seek the opportunities and the new hope and to build the new tomorrow, the new vision. How are we doing in Saskatchewan?

And my colleagues here have ably described the hard,

cold, brutal statistics, Mr. Deputy Speaker, which I will not repeat again here in detail, but the statistics which are obvious; where we have a debt load of approximately \$13 billion which is not going to give an opportunity for our young people, but is going to saddle those young people with a debt long beyond their lives into their children's lives. That record's been talked about by my colleagues.

I think about the taxation records, that we are now the second highest taxed province in the history of Canada, only behind Quebec, and certainly the highest taxed in Saskatchewan. I think of the flood of young men and women — those statistics have been discussed here at length — over 6,000 in one month this year, more than all of those people who came to Saskatchewan in 1982.

And I think again of Tommy's credo about providing opportunities for jobs, the quality of life. I think about the health cut-backs, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I think of the fact of the hospital bed waiting crisis. I think of the crisis with respect to the staffing in hospitals. Day in and day out the Murray commission receives those reports of men and women who say that the hospitals are understaffed.

I think of the dismantlement of the dental plan for children. I think of the dismantlement of the drug plan for Canadians, and Saskatchewan Canadians in particular. I think of all of the waiting lists at the cancer clinics. I think of the confusion, the chaos.

I can think of the hurt and the bitterness which has been applied to ordinary families and ordinary people, perhaps less advantaged, disadvantaged young men and women; this model that we should be building to help to protect. I think of those, and I say to myself this Speech from the Throne and this government has failed, and failed abysmally to meet that test.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — But I guess, Mr. Speaker, I think of it in another way more specifically, that yardstick that I've discussed. I don't need to get into those other details and records. I have a bit . . . regret to have done so. To me the condemnation of the lack of policies, the cruel, heartless, unthinking free enterprise approach — which is their philosophy and not ours, and I'll say a word about that before I sit down — I think the damnation of that policy is seen right here in this report, the poverty profile report of 1988, Mr. Speaker.

The poverty profile report, not an NDP study, shows that the poverty levels in this province, Mr. Deputy Speaker — I underline these for you — are the second highest or the second worst of any province in all of Canada. Only Newfoundland is worse. We have more families on poverty, we have more children, 16 years of age, on poverty than ever before.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, we are in the bread-basket of the world right here in Saskatchewan, and somehow we've not been able to, as intelligent men and women, we've not been able to provide the food that we grow here and the produce that we grow here and the land and what it's done for the people of this province. We've not been able

to take care of a poverty rate which is the second highest in all of Canada.

And if you applied that measure, if you applied that fact to the Tommy Douglas credo, to the NDP credo, I say to you, Mr. Speaker, that this government opposite and every minister and every MLA ought to hang his and her head in shame because we have let down the people of Saskatchewan.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — What a juxtaposition to talk about. The juxtaposition of \$1.2 million for Joytec — gone from this province. The juxtaposition to talk of \$9 million for a Future Corporation birthday party. We'll be gone. The juxtaposition to talk of \$20 million or more in advertising.

The examples of all of these kinds of expenditures by this government, which is made opposite, Mr. Speaker, on a daily basis, that juxtaposition stands in stark naked contrast with the cruel brutality of families and children who do not have clothing, who do not have food, who come to school hungry, who leave school hungry, who come home hungry, and somehow this government pretends to say it cares. I say, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that is a condemnation which will ring around this government long after it's defeated in the next provincial election . . .

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — The measure of the quality of life, I come back to this quotation, Mr. Speaker.

The real measure of a nation, the quality of its life for its least fortunate, for its youth to live useful and meaningful lives, and how it takes care of others around in this planet of ours, which is truly now the global villages that cliché says . . .

And I ask you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, hearken back to that Speech from the Throne now, some 10 days ago. Hearken back to these policies that I've described, ranging all the way from taxation to unemployment and the jobless rate. Hearken back to all of the cut-backs in education and in health care and in social services. Hearken back to the record that my colleagues have described as to how those on social services are being brutalized by continued cut-backs, how they're being humiliated by the kinds of programs that the member from Mayfair advocates as welfare reform. Hearken back to all of that, Mr. Deputy Speaker, and ask whether the quality of life in Saskatchewan today, in 1989, is what you want for your family and for your children.

I ask you to hearken back, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Is that the standard that we want to follow, that standard set by the people opposite? Or do we want to aspire to that higher ideal and value of independence, worth, and individual dignity and freedom — freedom from want, freedom to speak, freedom to be democratic, freedom to be Saskatchewan and Canadian people. That's the standard that we want, and that's the failing in this Speech from the Throne, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — How little-visioned these men and women opposite are. How narrow, how dominated they are by opinion polls, how petty, how personal, Mr. Deputy Speaker, how personal . . .

An Hon. Member: — You're a loser, Roy.

Mr. Romanow: — Just like the hon. member from Cut Knife yelling from his seat, Roy, you're a loser. That kind of petty debate in this legislature, when there are 40,000 hungry people. That member opposite ought to be thinking about that kind of concern rather than debasing this institution and debasing himself by those kinds of interjections. But no, it is a petty, mean-minded, short-sighted administration, short-sighted administration which does not guide itself by those kinds of credos, does not have that philosophy.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, it goes beyond that, and I want to move to a second theme of my remarks — I only have two or three themes to raise here in my brief intervention this evening — and that is this debate of privatization which speaks in the same theme, the same mode of the vision that I have outlined to you, this debate about privatization.

I want to tell you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that we are facing a major fork in the highway on this privatization debate for the future of the province of Saskatchewan. Make no mistake about it.

And I want to tell you how I see the Conservative Party vision, and I want to contrast it with ours. The Conservative Party vision is very simple. They get up, the Premier gets up this afternoon, and the ministers and the members opposite, when they get to speaking the issues, get up and they say simply this. They say, you know, we're in a globally interdependent economy; we're tied technologically. It's all a global village now.

And here we are in little old Saskatchewan, these are in effect the words — there's nothing we can do about it. If there's a merger of Molsons and Carlings, there's nothing we can do about it. If there happened to be 100 workers laid off and their families laid off, I'm sorry, there's nothing we can do about it. We simply give up.

And not only that, they say, but as the world gets smaller, they say the world is becoming more competitive. It's fuelled by the free market-place. This is the year of the rugged individual. People are going to compete. The United States is the world of competition. The United States is where it's at.

So we're going to support free trade because there's nothing we can do about it. And of course we're going to deregulate, forget about the safety to airlines, the safety to the railway traffic, forget about the safety on health standards, forget about all of that. We are going to deregulate because government is an anathema. This is, after all, the brave new world of competition they would have us believe. And not only are we going to deregulate and privatize, we're also going to be involved in all of the other kinds of activities which essentially destroy the effective role of government to say something about our

lives, to direct what kind of a society that we want, because they say there's nothing they can do about it.

Mr. Speaker, they say that all that they can do is stay on the surf-board. They have no control over the economic waves as they keep on crashing against the Saskatchewan economic body fabric. There's nothing they can do about it. They are first class and they are world class, and they say we're into that world economy, Mr. Speaker, and we must plug into that world economy they say.

I'll tell you what they say, Mr. Speaker, the result of that. If they want to plug into the world economy, that means to the working men and women of the province of Saskatchewan that if we're going to compete with the workers in the rest of the parts of the world, we are going to have to go to Korea and we're going to have to compete with Hyundai, and we're going to be paying our workers here what they're paying in Korea, \$4 a day, because that's the world economy; that's their vision.

They say in farming, they say in farming, there's nothing you can do about it. There's a green revolution. Oh there's the subsidies war in the United States and the European community; there's nothing we can do about it. And if they say that is the approach, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that philosophy says if we're plugged into the world economy that there's no way that we can compete against the Chinese farmer who grows rice or the Thai farmer who grows rice, who gets 20 cents a day; that's what our farmers are going to be heading for too, because it's the world economy.

An Hon. Member: — Cheap land.

Mr. Romanow: — A policy, my colleagues say, of cheap land . . .

An Hon. Member: — Cheap labour.

Mr. Romanow: — Cheap labour, that's what the minister says. The Premier himself gets up in Moose Jaw and says, that's the world economy. How else can we compete, he says, against the Koreans? How else can we compete against the Thais and the Chinese and the Japanese and the Brazils and all of the other Third World people who exploit their working men and women, who exploit and brutalize their farming community, and the subtle message — no, not subtle message — the incessant messages that our farmers and our workers must lower their standards that tie into that Tory vision. I say, that's not how this province was built, and it's not my vision of how this province is going to be built.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

(2030)

Mr. Romanow: — So you see, it's a very simple approach that they have. You've got a problem? Well what can we do about it, Mr. Deputy Speaker? That's the way of the world. We have a merger; well you know, there's nothing we can do about it. The European community, the American subsidies, we simply give up; nothing we can do about it. All we want to do is to stay on the surf-board, cheap labour and cheap food and cheap land, Mr.

Deputy Speaker, that is the world economy. Because if they're telling us that we've got to compete with the Koreans and the Thailands and the Brazils, that's what they're telling our people and our province and our farmers and our working men and women in this province of Saskatchewan, and I say to you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that's not the way this province was built.

I mentioned the other day, and forgive me for a moment and talk about my personal experience. I mentioned in question period with the Premier about my own family situation. My father came over in the 1920s — came over from the Ukraine. He came over because he was in pursuit of freedom; he was in pursuit of opportunity; he was in pursuit of land. He was in pursuit of hope and all the dreams that he and hundreds of others from a variety of other parts of the world came to this part of the world to seek.

And when they came here, Mr. Deputy Speaker, they didn't come here to beggar their neighbours. They didn't come here, they weren't attracted here, they weren't part of the world economy to beggar the farmers of the day or the working men and women of the day. No, they came in and they blended and they assimilated and they worked.

And my father lived and died knowing 150 words of English. God bless his soul to this day. And if they called him at 2 o'clock in the morning to ice the boxcars of the CNR (Canadian National) Railways, he was there icing the boxcars. And if they told him to clean the railway tracks he was there to clean the railway tracks. He did everything that he could to work in this society.

It's not his story; it's the story of thousands of Saskatchewan people so that they can make a better life for myself and for members opposite and for all of us here to build a multicultural society. And when they got here they faced all of the hurdles of the Dirty Thirties; and they faced the hurdles of the banks who were foreclosing; and they faced the hurtles of the Grain Exchange in Winnipeg; and they faced the hurdles of an insensitive, uncaring government, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

And what was their response, those pioneers in Saskatchewan? Did they say, well that's the way of the world; there's nothing we can do about it? No. Mr. Deputy Speaker, they fought back. They picked up . . .

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — They fought back, Mr. Deputy Speaker. They fought back, and they adopted another vision and another philosophy which now brings me, as I say, more specifically to what we stand for. They fought for this kind of a statement, and I refer again to Tommy's statements which were made back in the early days from which we can learn.

And I think the members opposite ought to consider it and also learn as well. You know what they said, those pioneers, my father and thousands like him? I think it was captured, if father could read these, well, I'm sure this was the theme of what he was getting at.

Tommy's words — he said this about government, quote,

Mr. Deputy Speaker: "Government is simply the community writ large." I'll repeat:

Government is simply the community writ large. It is the instrument by which we do for ourselves co-operatively what we cannot do individually.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — "It's the instrument of what we do co-operatively for what we cannot do individually." And they could not individually take on the banks. They couldn't take on the grain exchange, Mr. Deputy Speaker. They got together and they said co-operatively through the CCF (Co-operative Commonwealth Federation) and through Tommy Douglas, we are going to fashion a society and a Saskatchewan which is caring, which is compassionate, which has control over economic activities. We can do it a better way; we don't have to plug into the world; we don't have to destroy our systems and our institutions here. We are going to build a better and new tomorrow. And, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I say that message in the '20s is more relevant in the 1990s, and that's what we stand for on this side of the House.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — And so the history is well written and well understood, Mr. Deputy Speaker, of what happens from that approach. We built up in Saskatchewan a mixed economy. We had a private enterprise sector going. We developed, Mr. Deputy Speaker, a co-operative sector right in that 1920s and '20s, the federated co-op movement and individual retail co-op movement, and we built the Saskatchewan wheat pools, and we set up the credit unions, and we got the National Farmers' Union . . . or it's called the Saskatchewan farmers union.

And we had the Progressives start up as an independent political party because they were upset with what western Canada was doing to us. Some of the progressives went to the Social Credits, some went to the CCF. But it was people, men and women saying that they believed that they can do something with their lives. They didn't take the position that they only could stand on the surf board and they couldn't control the waves. They said, no, we can control the waves, we can control the economic activity, we can develop institutions which empower us to build our communities and give some security for our families and for our people.

They did it, and what a record of success, Mr. Deputy Speaker, they had, from hospitalization in 1947, to Saskatchewan Government Insurance in 1948, to power corporation in a big way since Douglas took over, to telephones, to hospitalization I mentioned, to medicare. And from medicare to the dental plan, to the drug plan, and then to Crown corporations — not because they were ideologically committed to Crown corporations — because it made sense. It was a mixed economy. The three cylinders were private and co-operative and public, and working together they developed jobs, and that's how we got to be a million people here, Mr. Speaker.

Why is it straight south of the line of us, 49th parallel, in

the American economy where there is no co-operative sector and there is no public sector, there's a population of only 550,000 people? Because, Mr. Speaker, they didn't develop it the way we did. They developed it the way my friends opposite want to develop it. They put all their eggs in one basket in the United States; they put it in the free enterprise basket. They shut down the co-operative sector; they shut down the public sector. And when you play by the rules of the market, Mr. Deputy Speaker, it means three things: markets, transportation, and political power — none of which we have here in this area.

And if our forefathers, if my dad had adopted that approach, if Tommy Douglas had adopted that approach, we too would have been at 500,000 people. But we had men and women of vision and commitment and ideals and values, and they built up the province of Saskatchewan that we today love and cherish and promote.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — So, Mr. Deputy Speaker, here we are in 1989. And the members opposite, they say, well you know, privatization, it's the wave of the future. Privatization and deregulation and free trade — they say that's the wave of the future. Well you just think about it. Free trade ties us into the United States; that's the market, so forget about the co-op sector and the public sector. Deregulation — that takes off all the strings off the private market . . .

An Hon. Member: — Like the airlines.

Mr. Romanow: — That's right, like the airlines. And privatization, of course, just destroys the public sector. You just think of what's going to happen five years from now, Mr. Deputy Speaker. They say this is the wave of the future. You know what's going to happen, Mr. Deputy Speaker, if these people opposite get re-elected. They will end up having our economic engine being one, singular — the engine of the large market, open market-place — the private enterprise system.

And I say, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that if they do that, if they should ever succeed by doing that, then we'll be at 550,000 people like North Dakota and Montana, or less, as well, at that time.

Is that the vision? Is that the way to build a society to look after those of us who are less fortunate? Is that the way to build the hopes and the futures and the opportunities for young men and women that Tommy talked about in 1976? Of course, Mr. Deputy Speaker, it is not. And more than that, Mr. Deputy Speaker, what they have done is not true privatization. The members opposite say, oh, the NDP was for privatization in 1982. I want to tell you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that is a debate that I am going to welcome, and welcome with relish when it comes to this House, on what exactly it was the NDP believed in 1982. And I want to tell you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that what the NDP in 1982 advocated, as compared to what these people opposite are doing in their global economy approach, is like night and day.

Mr. Speaker, in 1982 the privatization approach of the NDP did not mean that there would be sell-offs of profitable companies to the private friends of this government opposite — not a suggestion of that, like in WESTBRIDGE or Sask Minerals. In 1982 privatization did not talk about privatization of such basic resources as potash, for example — not a word. It is a falsehood; it is an untruth. This government is spending \$40 million, I predict, on a massive publicity campaign starting right now on public participation and it is a pack of untruths and falsehoods about the 1982 situation.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — Make no mistake about it, I will be welcoming this debate when we debate Bill 1 in more specifics about that 1982 scheme. I tell you, by the way, parenthetically, I ask myself about the quality of government, how it is that selected minutes of government operations are leaked to selected journalists who happen to be former speech writers of the Premier of the province of Saskatchewan; some leaked and others not leaked, Mr. Speaker, and then not making it available to the rest of us — how the ethics of that applies, and how the ethics of the journalistic community is such that they would accept those kinds of documents without any kind of analysis or consideration whatsoever. I would like to talk about that in the near future as well.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — But, Mr. Speaker, just take a look at what the record is. I'll come back to the 1982 document, very much so.

But let me just take a look at what's happened. I mean, this has been documented by my colleague, the member from Saskatoon Nutana, and my colleague, the member from Regina Elphinstone. And we are going to zero in in this long session, I guarantee you, with details about what privatization has meant.

They talk . . . the Premier talks today about people in partnership. What people in partnership benefitted when they privatized the government office buildings and moved the ownership from government and from us the taxpayers and gave it to a few select friends of the Conservative Party? What benefit is there for people in that?

Who benefitted, Mr. Speaker, in the Weyerhaeuser privatization? They don't have to pay more than eight and a half per cent on their obligations, and they don't have to pay a penny if their profits are below thirteen and a half per cent. Did the farmers benefit on that style of privatization, Mr. Speaker?

What about the privatizations with respect to the Sask Minerals operation? We simply take the ownership right out of Saskatchewan and we ship it out to Quebec, and in doing so we lose control over the economic policy in this vital sector. Did the people of Saskatchewan benefit in that particular privatization, Mr. Speaker?

And then what about the Premier's latest foray? The Premier has gone to China and he's offering the Potash

Corporation of Saskatchewan for privatization. And he's doing it . . . he says he's going to change it by changing the ownership from the people of the province of Saskatchewan to the people of communist China because we're part of the global economy. I say, shame on the Premier. It's a betrayal of the history and the tradition of the province of Saskatchewan to do that.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — But it's going to be more than that, Mr. Speaker, this debate on privatization. This is not only debate on privatization. But when we get to debate privatization, Mr. Speaker, it's going to be more than that.

We'll be asking in this election — the sooner the better — we'll want to know how privatization has reduced the taxes of individual people. We'll want to know how privatization has reduced the debt of \$13 billion on the people. We'll want to know how privatization has removed the quotas on university students.

(2045)

We'll want to know how privatization has helped in cutting back the 10,000 people waiting to get into hospital beds, Mr. Deputy Speaker. We'll want to know how privatization has helped the drug plan and its re-establishment — not the plastic card, but the real goods. We'll want to know how privatization has helped the dental plan, how it's helped the senior citizens, and we'll want to know how it's helped the roads, and we'll want everybody at tax time today — I say those who may be watching, even the Conservative members opposite — take a look at your taxes and then ask yourselves, has privatization helped me? as I am now the second highest taxed province in all of Canada today.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — Yes, we're going to be asking about privatization. We're going to be asking about privatization. But you know, Mr. Speaker, there are some condemnations coming out of the words of the government in this issue itself. Here I have the remarks of the member who is from Qu'Appelle-Lumsden, I think, the Minister of Public Participation, as he calls himself. Look, someone should tell, Mr. Speaker, the government, they should forget it; give up the ship.

An Hon. Member: — Indian Head-Wolseley.

Mr. Romanow: — Indian Head-Wolseley, give up the ship. It's not the Minister of Public Participation, it's the minister of privatization; that's what everybody knows him as, so he should give up the ship and acknowledge it.

And here I have in front of me, in the *Globe and Mail* of March 20, 1989:

NDP attacks Devine's privatization plan (is the story). It's their Alamo, the Premier says, of the foes.

I might say the Premier should take a look at his history; I think the Mexicans beat the Americans at the Alamo.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — Nevertheless, we being the underdogs, we'll see whose Alamo it is. But here's the story of this grand privatization plan. By the way, and as I say, Mr. Speaker, we're going to be here for a long session in this session, quite obviously, unless this government calls an early election, which we would welcome, the sooner the better, unless it does.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — We'll want to know what latest stunts the billion dollar Finance minister is up to. You know, a couple of years ago he was out by a billion dollars in his deficit. And now he's out a billion dollars in the evaluation of the Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan. What's a billion? It's only \$2 billion.

But here's the point. The Premier this afternoon talked about how it was that privatization was a partnership with people. In the context of the words that I say, of course, it doesn't apply — a partnership with people in a co-operative movement. It isn't. And you know, his own minister says in this particular *Globe and Mail* article that I refer to on March 20, 1989, and I have to cite the name here, Mr. Speaker, in order to identify the direct quotation. The quote says this:

Mr. Taylor acknowledges that only a small percentage of Saskatchewan residents are shareholders in provincial corporations (on the privatization).

That's how people's democracy — shareholder democracy — is taking place. But you know, there is something even more insidious, apart from the difference in the visions that I describe — their global vision, their return back to the future — this other quotation which I think is even more damning. In the paragraph above, Mr. Deputy Speaker, it says this, the story:

There have been indications that the Tories want a permanent transformation of the province's economic map. Last year, deputy premier Eric Berntson vowed the government will make it almost impossible for the NDP to regain control of the privatized companies.

And it is applauded by the Minister of Education opposite. Get the motivation — hear, hear. Get the motivation — hear, hear. It is not for the people of Saskatchewan they're privatizing; it's not for the young people they're privatizing; it's not for the workers; it's not for the farmers; they're privatizing because they want to stop the NDP. That's their motivation, and that's a shame.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — Hear, hear. Hear, hear, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member from Weyburn says. That's exactly what they want to do. They want to shut down that public sector engine, and they want to shut down that co-operative sector engine, and they want to leave us at 550,000 people, and they want to leave us with no hope

to be able to look after those poverty numbers that I've talked about. They want to leave us with no chance to build our hospitals, our schools. That's what they want to do, and those people want to do it for partisan political reasons. I say you won't get away with it. You will be beaten so badly you won't be back for another 50 years because of that attitude.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — Let me close, Mr. Speaker, by describing to you . . . Let me close, Mr. Speaker. I've tried to outline this afternoon and this evening in my involvement in the Speech from the Throne, in, obviously, some political terms — I obviously admit that — but I've tried to do it in philosophical terms as well, because I think it's important to describe the differences, and to describe the vision, to describe the vision that we have of this province of Saskatchewan.

And I'm prepared, Mr. Speaker, at any time to wait until the Minister of Urban Affairs stops his agitated comments from his seated position to finish my remarks because, as I've said about the Minister of Urban Affairs, he has a particular aversion to truth which results in this kind of nattering from his seated position. So he ought to just tone it down a little bit.

Let me say, Mr. Speaker, in my few closing remarks about this . . . What I'm trying to do is describe here in an important debate — I don't expect everybody to agree with my view, but I'd like to think I contributed something to the visions and the philosophies. What I've tried to describe here, Mr. Speaker, is the visions, the competing visions, or lack of visions between the government opposite and we here on the . . . members of the New Democratic Party.

And I've told you about their belief about the global economy and that we can plug in — not plug in, but there is nothing we can do but be a part of that. And that's what the journalists say up there too. And what I might also only say, in probably the most shallow analysis when they analysed Gorbachev and they analysed China — the most shallow of economic analyses of the whole operation.

I shouldn't be critical of my friends in the gallery, but that's the reality of the situation. You seem to say, well you know, everybody's against the NDP — that's what they say. They say there's global economy; you know it's inevitable.

The logical conclusion, Mr. Speaker, is, if it's inevitable, why are we here? I mean, why is the Premier here?

An Hon. Member: — Would you pose that logic again? You lost me.

Mr. Romanow: — Yes, I lost the hon. member from Weyburn, who is very easily . . .

An Hon. Member: — It's not hard.

Mr. Romanow: — No, no, no, no. No, no. My colleague says, it's not hard to lose the hon. member from Weyburn.

I have news for my colleagues. The hon. member from Weyburn's been lost for the last seven years.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — So there's no problem there. Why are we here, Mr. Speaker? I tell you, the question is a fundamental question of why we're here, because these people have abandoned faith in the people of the province of Saskatchewan. The pioneers that I've told you about — my father — they've abandoned that faith in our people to be able to take charge of our destiny and our future. They don't believe that we can empower the people of this province. They don't believe that we can establish a set of programs which give ordinary men and women and families and communities a control over their economic and their social lives. They believe that simply all that they can do is forget about it, because the economic circumstances control. Why is he there? They're not doing their job; they're simply being patsies of those international large corporations, who also believe that we shouldn't be saying anything about our lives.

And you know they have it because their philosophy speaks to a meanness of people. It speaks to the question of greed and competition, and it speaks to the issue of acquisition and inquisitiveness, that's what it speaks to. It is competition. It is therefore the corporate efficiency standard for hospitals. It is the corporate efficiency standard for schools. It's the corporate efficiency standards that the Minister of Education has imposed and brutalized upon the universities. It is the corporate ethic of all of those mean sides of the human nature to which they speak, to which the whole situation develops.

It is the kind of an approach which would say that all the hospitals in the Assiniboia-Gravelbourg area, if implemented on the Schwartz report, ought to result in the closure of concerns for health care people, like that member there.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — A member from Assiniboia-Gravelbourg who — I am sad to say this because I do believe — I've met him several times here in the course of the Assiniboia-Gravelbourg election — was a decent person who came to this House with some ideals or ideas that I may not have supported. But I must say to the hon. member opposite in that performance of his maiden speech, in that kind of an approach, together with the member from Rosthern, has written his political demise, because he does not speak to the issue of the operation.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — The hon. member may or may not believe me, but I've been around this Chamber long enough to know what kind of a member makes a contribution and sticks around for quite some time. But that's a peripheral matter.

I still wish him luck and maybe he'll change. He has some good friends and workers behind him who I think are

concerned about his approach. That's peripheral.

What I'm saying, as I close on this issue, is that we don't hold this view that there is nothing that we can do about it. And we hold a different view about politics, Mr. Speaker, we hold this view about politics — we believe that the object of our system here in the legislature of Saskatchewan ought to be to build hope, Mr. Speaker, hope for young men and women. We believe that we ought to be providing opportunities, and we ought to be providing the questions of security, and we ought to be providing policies of fairness, and we ought to be having commitments to the finest health care system in North America, and that we ought to be having commitments to the finest and forward-looking education system ever. And that we're going to have an economic development program which will work on the mixed economy and which will involve people to participate as individuals, not in a wholesale give-away to the large corporation friends of the people opposite.

We believe in mankind and womankind being motivated by those virtues of decency and co-operation and self-worth and independence and hope. And I tell you, Mr. Speaker, we are saying to the people of Saskatchewan, stay with us; there's a new day coming; we are going to give you that hope.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — We are going to give you that hope.

There's a new day coming, Mr. Speaker; there's a new day coming of honesty in government; there's a new day coming of integrity in the political process. We are going to examine, and when we become the government of this province, we are going to introduce legislation. I'll tell you something that they'll never be able to do again. We're going to introduce legislation which will never ever allow a Conservative government to deny the basic democratic rights of this legislature . . .

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Romanow: — This parliament has to respect it, Mr. Speaker, because the difference, the fundamental difference is this: we believe that people working together can make a difference.

We believe that the people in Saskatchewan have made a difference. We believe that we can empower to give authority for the people to make that difference in their community levels. We do not believe that there is nothing can be done about it, as the big Progressive Conservatives and the big-business friends opposite. We believe that people in Saskatchewan, in today's world of the 1990s, can devise a newer, more exciting vision where, in the words of Tommy Douglas, government will do collectively that which we can't do individually. And in the words of Tommy Douglas:

Government will provide opportunity and hope for our young people, and care and compassion for those in need of health and social services and care, and the poor.

We believe in that. That's the issue in this session. That's where the Speech from the Throne has failed, and the sooner this government gets on with this election, so that we can start building the new tomorrow, the better for everybody in Saskatchewan and Canada, Mr. Speaker. I'll be voting against this Bill.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Saxinger: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is a pleasure to rise in this debate to the Speech from the Throne, and I congratulate Her Honour, Sylvia Fedoruk.

I would like to deal with the subject, Mr. Speaker, and that is the subject of trade and investment.

I am honoured to be the Legislative Secretary to the Minister of Trade and Investment, and that involvement has given me many insights to that subject. I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, that I have been involved in the business of trade for a good long time before the people of Kinistino honoured me with their trust as their MLA. That experience was often a frustrating one before 1982.

Mr. Speaker, the entire effort of the previous government was to build a Crown corporation. But that was not the business of trade and the province and the counting . . . counting for the diversification and growth. And the Premier deserves a commendation from the House for his personal intervention to help this province grow.

(2100)

The NDP criticized and condemned the government for the Pacific tour, Mr. Speaker, and in doing so they are condemning hundreds of millions of dollars worth of trade with the Pacific, including new contracts with Japan to buy new uranium. But the NDP, Mr. Speaker, don't want to trade with Japan. They make just terrible insults to the Japanese and then expect us to trade with ourselves. They boo their consul general from the United States and hope to stop trade with our biggest market.

Mr. Speaker, they are flag burners, they are insulters. They hide in the basement. New Democrats cannot be allowed to have their way.

Let me tell you a bit about my recent activities relating to trade, Mr. Speaker. I had the privilege of travelling to West Germany for the department. And, Mr. Speaker, I saw tremendous trade shows, just tremendous, and one of the best was a show of food and agriculture. They bring together producers for all kinds of the food products, food retailers, and consumers. They bring together all of the participants and they make it work. People from all over the world attend the shows, and we are doing some of that here.

I am very pleased, very pleased to see that a major step has been taken in the throne speech to get a unified approach for our own agriculture and food sale sectors, Mr. Speaker.

The creation of the department of agriculture and food will be the basis for not only creating more industries and creating diversification, but it can be the base for a more

united promotion of production, and we grow and process in this province. I personally look forward to the potential of more trade shows and bigger trade shows and encourage the government to continue to work with agribition to expand the show and expand the areas it involves.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to say a few words about my tour through Europe. I first . . . I had the first tour in October of 1987, and it was one of the biggest wholesale food show called Anuga. It was in Cologne, West Germany and there's about 157 countries participating. My main promotion, was to promote Saskatchewan-grown products, food products and northern products. I spent six days at this show. It took two and a half days just to make one round — it's just a tremendous exhibition.

I then travelled with Dale Bain, from the Economic Development. We went to Norway, where we visited a manufacturing plant called Smilde, and it's in Heereveen, Holland. Among their plant was one processing plant of salads. We spent one day with the president of the plant — it was Mr. Smilde — trying to promote and motivate him to build a food processing plant in this province. Well about three months ago I was very pleased that there was announcement in Delisle that they will construct a food processing plant, and the opening will be in May of this year, a food processing plant that will produce salads, mostly potato salads. In four or five years from now, it will have 500 acres of vegetable, mostly potatoes. And I'm proud, Mr. Speaker, I was part of this promotion to bring industry to this province. That's diversification, Mr. Speaker.

Amongst the promotion I did over there, there was for nature berry, wild rice, blueberry, cranberries, and mushrooms. And, Mr. Speaker, they wrote me a letter that their sales last year tripled, and it said it was because of the promotion in Europe.

Just on January 26, I went to Berlin, West Germany. I attended a retail food fair. The official opening was on January 26, which I took in, and I was very impressed with it. There were 85 countries participating in this fair, and in the opening of the 26th, I listened to two ministers of agriculture. And they apologized in their speeches, they apologized of what harm they did to the farmers around the world. Because of their heavy subsidy, they were aware of the damage they did, especially to a country like ours.

In this fair, there was from 50 to 70,000 people a day going through this food fair. Again I promoted the Saskatchewan food products. Among these products were lentils from Sedley. I had samples which I passed out all over Europe and they went to India and Saudi Arabia.

Just a week ago, I had a fax from one of their consultants from Ottawa. He had requested quotes on 25,000 tonnes of lentils. Twenty-five thousand tonnes is just about half of the Saskatchewan stock right now; it represents \$11 million. Well I sure hope this sale will go through.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Minister of Trade and Investment on initiatives his department has undertaken, getting information out to the business

community on how to trade and where there are good opportunities for trade. This is an important role for the government to play, and the minister has assured us to play his role well.

I also look to the Minister of Education, and I see that he, too, understands the importance of trade for the future for our province as he institutes new programs to better equip our children for a global market and a global competition.

I look to the new language institute at the University of Regina, and I say that's exactly the kind of things that we need to be successful.

I see the Minister of Science and Technology encouraging and actively supporting the technological development that serve not only our own market but international market. And I say it is amazing how consistent this government is in focusing on efforts and ensuring our economic future is a bright one.

Look at the minister, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Public Participation, who is creating hundreds and hundreds of jobs and opening brand-new international markets for Saskatchewan. And I say this government knows how to rate.

Look at Weyerhaeuser, Mr. Speaker, the business the NDP threatened to shut down if they ever take power from the people again. Look at that business and you will find it is a trading business. It built a paper mill on the exports of that paper.

Recently it started construction on the sheet mill to make paper for photocopiers, a product never produced in Saskatchewan before, and a product we'll trade in the world. There are a number of examples that the member of Indian Head-Wolseley is responsible, the area of expanding and creating new trade. And I say, congratulations!

Mr. Speaker, across the board, if you look at the front bench of this Progressive Conservative government, and you see people who are taking care of the interests of this province, and they're taking care of the future, creating the wealth for the health care, for the social services, and for the schools.

The Minister of Energy and Mines is no stranger to trade, Mr. Speaker. Just check the results. Her policy . . . just look at her results. The opposition can hoot and holler all they want but the results speak for themselves. We have more gas wells drilled than ever we could have imagined before. In fact, in one year alone we had almost more wells drilled than in 10 entire years from the NDP government. On that, gas is being exported out of the province, bringing wealth to our people. Congratulations, Madam Minister. Congratulations.

Look at the minister responsible for Agdevco, Mr. Speaker. This guy is probably the world's greatest trader. He's selling milk cows, beef cows, and trading on deals from investment in Saskatchewan for turbines and on and on. He gets rural gas distribution going for our farm family and then he tells SaskPower, go out, sell the technology to the world, and they are pursuing that, Mr. Speaker.

The NDP shout that they aren't happy about that. Well, of course they are not happy because the government is doing a heck of a job and they don't like it.

Then look across the floor, Mr. Speaker, and look at the opposition benches, and what do you see? Well, I look at the member from Saskatoon South. The member from Saskatoon South, Mr. Speaker, he wrote to my constituency telling them, when he was the Minister of Health, that he would not approve any nursing homes. He wrote them and told them he would not build any more nursing home beds; he couldn't afford it. Mr. Speaker, I'm sick and tired of hearing this. When somebody brings up that they had put a moratorium on nursing homes, he says it's not true. Well, Mr. Speaker, I want to table a document. I had brought this up before. I want to table this document, please.

Mr. Speaker, this document is a letter what was sent to William Komarnicki, administrator of the Cudworth Nursing Home. And it reads, and that came from Social Services:

I feel I must draw your attention first to the fact that our government has placed a moratorium on (the) approval or construction of any additional special-care beds in this province.

It makes me sick to listen to them and say it's not true. And it goes on. I want to further quote from this statement, and it is signed the Minister of Health, Herman Rolfe . . . (inaudible interjections) . . . It's true, but they have enough gall to stand there and say it's not true.

That is what the member from Saskatoon South wrote to my people of Cudworth. Six years of moratorium — six years, they never approved any construction of nurses homes. They would not have a nursing home in Cudworth, and they did not have a nursing home in Saskatchewan. That was the words from the former minister of Health, Mr. Speaker.

And why do they turn down the seniors of this province, Mr. Speaker? Why did he do it? It was a matter of cost for the member from Saskatoon South and his government. They said they could not afford to help our seniors, Mr. Speaker. They could not afford to help our seniors.

Well, Mr. Speaker, if they would have learned that we can gain revenues through trade with the world, they would have given the people of this province the opportunity and the information to trade with the world. We would have been able to say yes to the people of the Kinistino constituency, as this government said yes, and built new nursing homes.

(2115)

But he does not understand trade and does not want to trade. Who else have they got over there, Mr. Speaker? Well, they have the member from Saskatoon University and several of his colleagues who, when the President of France was here, he went and had dinner with the great international socialist. And after sharing a meal with the man, what did they do? They said, we don't sell this man's

country any uranium. They said, Saskatchewan must not trade with France because we don't need their business and we don't want their business. Well, Mr. Speaker, the member of Athabasca had something to say about this, but he never did manage to straighten out that bunch over there. They do not want to trade and they don't care.

We care, Mr. Speaker. We care about the families who depend on trade for their living. We have been trading minerals, grains, potash, oil, gas, mushrooms, lentils, wild rice, and other products we grow in this province or dig out of the ground.

I'm proud of the trading record for this government, and let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, it is going to be even better in spite of the members opposite. Look at them, look at the member from Regina Rosemont. He hates Americans, Mr. Speaker, he hates them. Keep the Americans out of Saskatchewan, he says. We don't want their business and we do not care. But, Mr. Speaker, this province depends on the trade from the United States. Tommy Douglas understood this; Tommy Douglas understood this. He understood, Mr. Speaker. I have an article from *The Melville Advance*, and it's from 1946 — 1946, Mr. Speaker; Tommy Douglas telling the people, we need free trade with United States. Tommy Douglas knew in 1946, and the member from Rosemont doesn't care.

Mr. Speaker, the throne speech indicates that government will produce measures to better equip the businesses and to compete internationally. And you know full well the members opposite will oppose those measures. They will oppose the throne speech and they will oppose trade, but we will not let them stop Saskatchewan from growing and prospering. Our children cannot afford the attitude of the member of Riversdale who thinks we just need to attack the Americans, attack the French, attack the Japanese, and attack the government of India.

Can you imagine, Mr. Speaker, the NDP attacking the possibility of a third-world country obtaining an interest in the potash mine, an interest that might help to assure the people to over-supply of fertilizer so they do not have to worry about food shortage?

The NDP says it's a bad deal. Well, Mr. Speaker, you cannot run around attacking countries and expect them to be excited about the idea of trading with you.

They want to burn American flags, Mr. Speaker. The member from North Battleford, he wanted to burn the American flag. Well we don't burn flags over here, Mr. Speaker, and we don't boo the representative of other countries, and we don't oppose trade and investment from third-world countries. We will continue trade and investment from around the world, and I am proud, I am proud of that fact, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I want to get into a subject, a subject that's been a sore spot in this House. And I don't want to go into details because the member of Rosthern did it quite well last week. But I want to make one thing clear. The fellow who was involved with the foreclosure, and he was introduced in the gallery, is a member of my constituency. He's a farmer. I knew him for about 15 years. He's well respected, Mr. Speaker. And I want to tell

you that the member of . . . Allan Gaudet, that he started to get foreclosed on, foreclosed on by the Leader of the Opposition's law firm, which had . . .

An Hon. Member: — Not true, not true.

Mr. Saxinger: — There we say it's not true. Mr. Speaker, there's two members involved. They have enough gall to say it's not true. Well, Mr. Speaker, I want to table a document. And I want to table a document, Mr. Speaker, and I have more copies left in case you forgot what the firm did . . . (inaudible interjection) . . .

The Speaker: — Order, order. I think that we should just refrain from using that type of unparliamentary language in this House, in whatever context, and then we won't have any problems.

Mr. Saxinger: — Mr. Speaker, again the member from Saskatoon South, he said before, as I tabled the document he had signed, and he said it was not true. Well, Mr. Speaker, and I quote from a document. I quote from this document, and the letter-head is Mitchell, Taylor, Romanow, and Ching. And it's dated July . . .

The Speaker: — Order, order, order, order. There's a sub-debate taking place. Let's allow the member for Kinistino to make his remarks.

Mr. Saxinger: — Well, Mr. Speaker, that document is dated July 8, and again I repeat the heading of the letter. It's Mitchell, Taylor, Romanow, and Ching. And it's addressed to Allan Gaudet, and it's from the Bank of Nova Scotia, and it states:

This will confirm that our office acts on behalf of the Bank of Nova Scotia with respect to the current outstanding indebtedness and liabilities of the (above-mentioned man).

Mr. Speaker, that's one document.

The second document is dated November 3, 1984. Again the same headline, Mitchell Taylor Romanow (and) Ching, which two of them are members of this House here. And it's addressed to the United oilseed producers in Lloydminster, and here they're telling them they had foreclosed and seized Allan Gaudet's farm. Again, it says: "This will advise that our office has been retained by the Bank of Nova Scotia with respect to the above-mentioned customer." Oh, by the way, and it's signed, "Yours truly, Mitchell Taylor Romanow (and) Ching".

Mr. Speaker there's another document and that's dated in '85, again about the foreclosure. Here is an order, and again this order is prepared by Mitchell Taylor Romanow (and) Ching, and that's dated on August 21, 1986, just before the election.

Mr. Speaker, Allan Gaudet, he said he did not mind the bank foreclosing on him, but he said what he really . . . he really got upset over is the Leader of the Opposition because, he said, he blew out of both sides of his mouth in the same time.

A day before the election, the Leader of the Opposition

stood in front of the television, he said he cannot let them do it, he cannot let them take our small farmers and our small businesses, and he just was in the process of foreclosing on the poor fellow — foreclosing on Allan Gaudet. By the way, Allan Gaudet only lost five quarters of land, but his son Keith Gaudet was 20 years old at the time when they lost his farm; he's now working for somebody else.

Again this order is prepared by Mitchell Taylor Romanow and Ching. Finally, Mr. Speaker, finally we have the final process, a lease, a lease, and that's dated . . . for 1987, oh, the 20th day of May, 1987. It's a lease agreement leasing the land back to Allan Gaudet. Finally he made a crop sharer out of him.

Mr. Speaker, I did not want to bring this subject up, but I got sick and tired of telling . . . of listening to these guys telling us that's not true. And I also was sick and tired, that's why I tabled the bill from the former minister of Health.

Well, Mr. Speaker, before closing I would like to speak for a few moments about my constituency.

Well, Mr. Speaker, we did not have a nursing home built, and I challenge the member of Saskatoon South to tell me one nursing home he built from 1976 to 1982 — just tell me one nursing home you built, or one bed.

We have a brand-new nursing home in the last six years, a brand-new nursing home in Middle Lake, a brand-new nursing home in Birch Hills, and we have . . .

The Speaker: — Order. I know it's getting near the end of the debate on the throne speech. However, I think the hon. member does have the floor for a few more minutes and we should respect that right.

Mr. Saxinger: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We also had extensions. We also had extensions in my constituency. We had an extension in Middle Lake, in Wakaw, and in Kinistino. Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, we had enriched housing — three: one in St. Louis, one in Middle Lake, one in Cudworth. Mr. Speaker, that's performance. What we had from the NDP government from 1976 to '82, we had one liquor store in Wakaw. No nursing home, no hospitals.

Mr. Speaker, with this, I want to oppose the motion, and I certainly . . . I oppose the amendment, and I certainly am in favour of the motion of the Speech from the Throne. Thank you.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Hagel: — Well thank you very much. Mr. Speaker, I welcome the opportunity — although it will be brief, I understand — to enter into the debate.

Mr. Speaker, this debate on the Speech from the Throne has been exemplified by the member who just spoke, Mr. Speaker, who stood in his place and uttered nary a positive thought. This whole speech, Mr. Speaker, it's been a carry-on Speech from the Throne from a carry-on government, resulting in carry-on hurting for the people

of Saskatchewan.

Did we see, did we see a statement of vision from the government opposite — a vision of hope and caring to provide hope for the people of Saskatchewan? No. What we saw was member after member, just like the member who just spoke, stand and condemn the NDP government of the 1970s. These folks are trapped in the past, and they're grasping, Mr. Speaker, to try and deal with the present, and they are totally out of touch when it comes to the future.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Hagel: — That's been the tone of the whole debate from every member from the government side, Mr. Speaker: condemnation of the record of the New Democratic Party; some weak, limp-wristed defence of their own actions in government, and rarely a thought about the future.

But what do they have to say about the future, and in the time . . . in the minute or two that is left, Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that when the Premier of Saskatchewan came to my home city of Moose Jaw, he said exactly what the vision of this government is all about — the hurting vision, the hurtful, harmful vision of the Government of Saskatchewan — what did he say? And I quote, he said, and I quote from the Saturday, March 4 *Times-Herald*:

Asian entrepreneurs hoping to cash in on the Canada-U.S. free trade pact could be lured to Saskatchewan with promises of cheap land and labour, Premier Grant Devine said Friday.

Mr. Speaker that's . . . It's cheap land, cheap labour . . . That's the mission of the Premier of Saskatchewan.

(2130)

The Speaker: — Order. Order. Order. Order. According to rule 13(4):

On the sixth (day) of the said days, at thirty minutes before the ordinary time of daily adjournment, unless the said debate be previously concluded, Mr. Speaker shall interrupt the proceedings and forthwith put every question necessary to dispose of the main motion.

The motion that we have been debating, then, is the main motion proposed by the member for Assiniboia-Gravelbourg, and seconded by the member for Yorkton, which reads as follows:

That an humble address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor as follows:

To Her Honour, the Honourable Sylvia O. Fedoruk.

May it please Your Honour:

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the province of Saskatchewan in session assembled, humbly

thank Your Honour for the gracious speech which Your Honour has been pleased to address to us at the opening of the present session.

appoints the Committee of Finance to consider the supply to be granted to Her Majesty and to consider the ways and means of raising the supply.

The division bells rang from 9:31 p.m. until 9:34 p.m.

Motion agreed to.

The Speaker: — Order, order. The Clerk and myself will be unable to hear the members' response.

The Assembly adjourned at 9:39 p.m.

Motion agreed to on the following recorded division.

Yeas — 35

Devine	Meiklejohn
Muller	Pickering
Duncan	Martin
McLeod	Toth
Andrew	Sauder
Berntson	Johnson
Lane	McLaren
Taylor	Hopfner
Smith	Swenson
Swan	Martens
Muirhead	Baker
Maxwell	Wolfe
Schmidt	Gleim
Hodgins	Neudorf
Gerich	Gardner
Hepworth	Saxinger
Hardy	Britton
Klein	

Nays — 20

Romanow	Solomon
Rolfes	Atkinson
Shillington	Anguish
Tchorzewski	Goulet
Koskie	Hagel
Thompson	Lyons
Brockelbank	Lautermilch
Mitchell	Trew
Simard	Van Mulligen
Kowalsky	Koenker

MOTIONS

Address be Engrossed and Presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor

Hon. Mr. Hodgins: — Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by my friend and colleague, the member for Redberry:

That the said address be engrossed and presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor by such members of the Assembly as are of the Executive Council.

Motion agreed to.

Ways and Means

Hon. Mr. Hodgins: — Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the member for Redberry:

That this Assembly, pursuant to rule 84, hereby