

The Assembly met at 1:30 p.m.

Prayers

**ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

**PRESENTING PETITIONS**

**Mr. Krawetz:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have a petition to present on behalf of many residents in the north-east part of the province. The prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to reverse the decision to remove the pay telephones in Pelly, Saskatchewan, to ensure that citizens have access to pay phones on a 24-hour basis.

And as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Mr. Speaker, the signatures to this petition come from a number of communities: Pelly; Arran; Whitebeech; Keeseekoosie; Canora; Kamsack; Cote First Nation; Norquay; and two communities in Manitoba, Roblin and Swan River. I so present.

**Mr. D'Autremont:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also have petitions to present today on behalf of the people of Saskatchewan. The prayer reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to put an immediate halt to all investments in foreign countries by all Saskatchewan Crown corporations and instead invest Crown corporation profits in Saskatchewan.

And as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

These petitions come from the Redvers and Antler areas of my constituency in the south-east, Mr. Speaker. I so present.

**Mr. Toth:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As well to present petitions. Mr. Speaker, I present a petition this afternoon signed by many individuals who are very concerned about health care and the delivery of services in the Carrot River area. The petition is signed by people from Carrot River, Evesham, Nipawin, and Red Earth and other communities in the province. I so present.

**Mr. Bjornerud:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also have petitions to present to do with the closure of the Carrot River Hospital. Mr. Speaker, all the signatures on this petition are from the community of Carrot River. I so present.

**Mr. Heppner:** — Thank you. I rise to present a petition and these are signed by people from the community of Herbert. And they are requesting that investments in foreign countries by SaskPower be stopped and the money be spent in Saskatchewan. I so present.

**Mr. Gantfoer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise on behalf of citizens in the north-east of Saskatchewan concerned about the future of radiology services in the north-east. The signatures on

this petition, Mr. Speaker, come from the communities of Melfort, Tisdale, and Pleasantdale. I so present.

**Ms. Draude:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a petition:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take immediate action to ensure that the required level of service in radiology is maintained in the North Central Health District and the priorities of its board be adjusted accordingly.

As in duty bound, your petitioners ever pray.

Everyone that has signed this petition is from Melfort.

**Mr. Boyd:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased as well to present a petition to the Assembly this afternoon dealing with the issue of foreign investment by Crown corporations and the view of many people of how wrong that is in Saskatchewan.

These petitioners, as I'm pleased to present, come from the Gravelbourg, Bateman area of Saskatchewan.

I'm pleased to present on their behalf.

**Mr. McLane:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to rise in the House again today to present a petition on behalf of the people of Saskatchewan. The prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to save the Plains Health Centre by enacting legislation to prevent the closure, and by providing adequate funding to the Regina Health District so that the essential services provided at the Plains may be continued.

Mr. Speaker, the petitioners' signatures on this petition are from the city of Yorkton.

**Mr. Belanger:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also rise to present a petition:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to save the Plains Health Centre by enacting legislation to prevent the closure, and by providing adequate funding to the Regina Health District so that the essential services provided at the Plains may be continued.

And as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

And, Mr. Speaker, the people that have signed this petition are primarily from Yorkton, and I believe Broadview, and all throughout the land.

And I so present.

**Mr. Aldridge:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I too rise to present petitions on behalf of citizens concerned about the closure of the Plains Health Centre. The prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to save the Plains Health Centre by enacting legislation to prevent the closure, and by providing adequate funding to the Regina Health District so that the essential services provided at the Plains may be continued.

And as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Those who've signed this petition, Mr. Speaker, are from the community of Swan River as well as the city of Yorkton.

I so present.

**Mr. Osika:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also rise with my colleagues on behalf of concerned citizens of Saskatchewan with respect to the closure of the Plains Health Centre.

And the signatures on this petition, these petitions, come from Kelliher, Ituna, Hubbard, Yorkton, and Endeavour.

I so present.

**Mr. Hillson:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to present petitions from citizens concerned about deteriorating health care under the NDP (New Democratic Party), and specifically about the impending closure of the Regina Plains Health Centre. Your petitioners this afternoon do not come from all throughout the land, but they do come from the city of Yorkton.

**Mr. McPherson:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I join with my colleagues here today in bringing forward what is now upwards of 110,000 signatures that have been brought forward trying to convince the government to stop their ridiculous plans of closing the Plains hospital in Regina.

**The Speaker:** — Order, order. Now the hon. member will want to avoid falling in to debate of course in presenting petitions. And I'll ask him to go directly . . . Order.

**Mr. McPherson:** — The prayer reads as follows, Mr. Speaker:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to save the Plains Health Centre by enacting legislation to prevent the closure, and by providing adequate funding to the Regina Health District so that essential services provided at the Plains may be continued.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Mr. Speaker, the good people that have signed this petition are all from the Coronach area of the province. I so present.

**Mr. Goohsen:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to offer the following prayer for relief on behalf of the people from south-west Saskatchewan:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to reach the necessary agreements with other levels of government to fund the twinning of the Trans-Canada Highway in Saskatchewan so that work can begin in 1998,

and to set out a time frame for the ultimate completion of the project with or without federal assistance.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

And as I said, Mr. Speaker, these folks come from Golden Prairie, from Maple Creek, and of course there are a few here from Schuler, Alberta as well. I'm happy to present that today.

## READING AND RECEIVING PETITIONS

**Clerk:** — According to order a petition regarding the survival of the Carrot River Hospital presented on May 26 has been reviewed, and pursuant to rule 12(7) has been found to be irregular and therefore cannot be read and received.

According to order the following petitions have been reviewed, and pursuant to rule 12(7) they are hereby read and received on the following matters:

To ensure that the required level of service in radiology is maintained in the North Central Health District; to fund the twinning of the Trans-Canada Highway; to save the Plains Health Centre; to call an independent public inquiry into Channel Lake; to relocate Highway 40 to alleviate congestion at North Battleford; to take the required action to allow Steven and Kimberley Walchuk to remain in the custody of maternal grandparents; to take action to ensure the survival of the Carrot River Hospital; and to ensure equitable treatment to those injured and disabled through work-related accidents.

## INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

**Ms. Murrell:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my pleasure to introduce to you and to this Assembly Senator Mary Lou Freeman of Alta, Ohio seated behind the bar.

Mary Lou is a former teacher presently serving her fourth year on the Iowa State Senate. Mary Lou is on the Midwest Council of State Governments, Midwest Canadian Relations Committee, and the American Legislative Exchange Council .

This is Mary Lou's first visit to Saskatchewan and one of her interests is natural resources. As Saskatchewan has a wealth of natural resources, especially our people, I am positive Mary Lou's visit here will be most rewarding.

Please welcome Mary Lou to our Assembly and to our province. Thank you.

**Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. D'Autremont:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you to the Assembly, I would like to introduce, sitting behind the bar, Senator Keith Schraad from Overland Park, Kansas, which those of us who don't know the geography of Kansas, is actually a part of Kansas City.

Senator Keith Schraad was the former aide to U.S. (United States) Senator Bob Dole and participated in his run for the U.S. presidential nomination. He was elected to the senate in 1996, is married to wife Jodi, and has two children, daughter Madeleine

and son Jack.

Keith is a Republican Senator who does not support gun control. Mr. Speaker, he fits right into our caucus. In fact, Mr. Speaker, with his experience involved in presidential campaigns, I expect to see Keith as a future candidate for U.S. president. I'd ask the Assembly to welcome Keith and to all of the midwestern delegates who are in Saskatchewan visiting our Assembly. Thank you.

**Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Kasperski:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's also my pleasure to introduce today another member from the Midwest Regional Council of State Governments who's with us as part of this group. It's my pleasure to introduce to you and to my colleagues in the Assembly, Senator LeRoy Stumpf. LeRoy is from Thief River Falls, Minnesota. For those of you who may not be aware, it's the north-west part of the state alongside the Red River Valley, in that part of the state.

LeRoy was first elected into the Minnesota House of Representatives, District 13, in the year 1981 where he served in 1981 and '82. He was elected to the Minnesota State Senate, District 1, in 1982 and he was re-elected in 1986, 1990, 1992, and again in 1996. Not unlike our Deputy Premier, I can see. Anyway, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to have you and everyone welcome LeRoy here this afternoon.

**Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Hillson:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my honour this afternoon to introduce to you, Representative John Dorso, of the House of Representatives in Bismark, North Dakota. Representative Dorso represents Fargo, and he is the majority leader in the House of Representatives in Bismark — a position he has held for three terms and each time he has been unopposed in that position. He tells me that under the tutelage of my colleagues and myself, he is appreciating getting a "liberal" education into Saskatchewan politics.

**Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Bjornerud:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to introduce to you and through you, Brenda Bod, once again, who was the lady that was very close to being a fatality statistic in this province when a 10-pound piece of asphalt came through her windshield. I'd also like to introduce you to her dad, Roy, and her brother, Laverne. I would ask you to welcome them here today.

**Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Toth:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as well through you and to the members of the Assembly, I'd like to present a group of students from the Cowessess School at north of Grenfell. There is 10 grade 4 students here with us this afternoon accompanied by their teacher, Mrs. Bear, and chaperon, Jeanne Haywabe. I think that's sounds . . . I hope I got that right. But I'm looking forward to meeting with the students later on, and I'd ask the members to join with me in welcoming the students here.

**Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Jess:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to introduce to you and to the other members of the legislature, 13 students from Chief Mistawasis School in my constituency — grade 5 students, I'm told. They are accompanied by Donna Davis and Linda Johnston, their teachers; and chaperons, Mary Anne Johnstone and Shelley Duquette. And I will be looking forward to the opportunity to meet with this group in about, probably about an hour. And I would ask everyone here to join with me in welcoming them to this Assembly.

**Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. McLane:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now that we're getting down to the really important people in the gallery, I'd like to introduce to you and through you to the members of the Assembly, a group of students and chaperons and teachers from the town of Imperial and the Imperial School.

We have the grade 3's and 4's in today. We also have with them a number of adults, senior adults I guess — we have the young adults and we have the senior adults. I'd ask the senior adults to stand as I call out their name and we'll recognize them at the end.

The teachers with the group today are Ms. Barb Tittmore and Ms. Kathy Rieger. Also we have as chaperons, we have: Lorne Buztynski, Mike Coady, and as well, Nancy Hill.

And along with the group that drove them here I guess is Larry Cruise. I don't want to outdate Larry too much but I think when I went to school, Larry didn't drive me but he did drive some of the neighbouring kids to school — so Larry's been in the business a long time.

I'm looking forward, Mr. Speaker, to meeting with the group a little later and discuss a few issues. And I'd ask the whole Assembly to welcome them here today.

**Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. Ms. Atkinson:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It gives me a great deal of pleasure to introduce to all of my colleagues in the legislature, my mom, Betty Atkinson, who's visiting us today. She's travelled from the farm close to Landis, Saskatchewan. Joining my mom is my sister, Wenda Atkinson, and my niece, Kate Atkinson-Fiddler.

My mom's spending the week in Regina, my niece had her dance recital on Sunday, and my sister is convocating from the University of Regina on Friday. My sister will be the most well educated in our family when she obtains her third degree on Friday.

So I'd like all members to join me in welcoming my family to the legislature.

**Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Belanger:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you I'd also like to also join my colleague from Moosomin in welcoming the people from the Cowessess School. I just want

to tell the teacher and certainly the aboriginal students, not to downplay the importance of the other students in the Assembly, but . . .

(The hon. member spoke for a time in Cree.)

And as a native member of the Assembly, I want to tell all the students up there that this is our home as well, and I'd like to welcome you on behalf of the Liberal caucus. Thank you.

**Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. Mr. Lingenfelter:** — Mr. Speaker, I want you to join with me and with other members of the Assembly introducing six special guests. They are individuals who are from the cancer patient lodge here in the city of Regina. They are seated in the west gallery and I would just introduce them: Sam Bendickson, Nick Toderian, Donelda Tingle, and Lorna Greenway; as well as two good friends from the days that I spent in Shaunavon, Helen and Andy Fauchon.

Obviously these are families and family members who are involved in one way or another in cancer treatment here in the city of Regina. I want to say special wishes to you and best wishes on behalf of all members of the Assembly.

**Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. McPherson:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the Deputy Premier in welcoming Andy and Helen here today. I hope your stay at the . . . your visit to the Assembly is an enjoyable one here today.

**Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Johnson:** — Mr. Speaker, I'd like to introduce to you and to the members of the Assembly, Annette Smith, from the community of Shell Lake. She's here in the Assembly today to observe the members in their work. And I wish everyone to welcome her here this afternoon.

**Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

## STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

### Fire-fighting Efforts Acknowledged

**Mr. Belanger:** — Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a group of committed and dedicated employees in northern Saskatchewan. These employees include all the fire-fighters, the fire protection workers, pilots and crews, fire bosses, and the support staff that are fighting the many fires in northern Saskatchewan.

Many of these people go for days, if not weeks, fighting these fires to try to minimize threats to people, communities, and property. We all know and appreciate the fact that resources are stretched to the limit and many times crucial decisions to fight certain fires with certain methods or not to fight these fires at all, are made by professional and experienced people. There is no question that it takes skill, experience, knowledge, and teamwork to fight fires and I wish to congratulate and commend those people that are out there now as I speak, that are fighting

to protect their forest and communities from fires.

There are pilots like Jimmy Hansen from Buffalo Narrows; fire protection workers like Lawrence Daigneault, William Caisse, Abe and George Bouvier, Alfred Durocher, Moise Morin, Joe and Chuck Desjarlais — all of Ile-a-la-Crosse; regional fire coordinators like Robbie Gardiner; and supervisors like Norman Fontaine; people like Brian Morin and Alice Pederson of Buffalo Narrows; people like Leonard Bouvier of Beauval and the many others who are working very hard and are doing a very good job with the resources they have.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all the Assembly members join with me to applaud the efforts of our northern forest fire-fighting team. Thank you.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

### Ribbon-cutting Ceremony at Molson Breweries, Regina

**Mr. Trew:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today in Regina is a day of celebration. Today there was a \$10 million ribbon-cutting ceremony at Molson Breweries — a \$10 million expansion that protects 107 jobs right here in Regina, an expansion that added dozens of jobs for local tradespeople during the construction phase of it, and an expansion that increases Molson's capacity from 8 to roughly 12 million cases of beer. And it also increases the keg capacity from 50,000, I believe . . . Yes, 50,000 kegs to 85,000 kegs. It's really a great day for Molson's and its employees right here in Regina.

It's an example, Mr. Speaker, of what can happen when you get government, business, labour, all working together. A great synergy that really enhances the job protection of jobs — very good jobs — here in Regina, well into the future. Thank you.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

### Canadian Booksellers Association President visits Ottawa

**Mr. Gantefoer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Gailmarie Anderson, the owner of the Bookstop in Melfort, delivered a brief to the Canadian Senate Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology, on May 26 in Ottawa.

Gailmarie is the incoming president of the Canadian Booksellers Association. She is defending the association's position that the GST (goods and services tax) be removed from all reading material. Gailmarie states that there are 1,300 members of the Canadian Booksellers Association and she will be the voice for small, independent book stores in a rural area.

Gailmarie will speak to Bill S-10, about to have a third reading, to amend the excise tax. Mr. Speaker, would the Assembly please join in congratulating Gailmarie Anderson and wish her success in the challenge she's extending to the Canadian Senate.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

### Youth Celebration Week

**Ms. Hamilton:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Rainbow

Youth Centre presented its first annual Youth Celebration Week luncheon on Monday. Rainbow Youth Centre is a United Way agency which is partly funded by the Department of Social Services.

The mission of the centre is to involve youth 11 to 19 years old in creating a safe, caring, healthy, and adaptive community of support by sharing responsibility for recognizing, accepting, and developing personal skills. The staff at the Rainbow Youth Centre facilitate workshops for youth in anger management, skills for adolescents, substance abuse, and education and peer help training.

The Government of Saskatchewan is very committed to the youth of our province. Through the Department of Social Services alone we have allocated very significant funds to the Children's Advocate and instituted the "building independence" initiative of which the children of this province will greatly benefit.

The reason why we have dedicated so much to Saskatchewan's youth is because, as the Minister of Social Services said when he addressed the Rainbow luncheon, we know that young people are the keepers of tomorrow. It is their energy, optimism, enthusiasm, idealism, combined with our strong and unwavering belief in the youth of our province, that leaves no doubt that our tomorrow, our future, is resting in extremely capable hands.

I add my voice to the minister's to congratulate the youth of our fine city in our province, and the Rainbow Youth Centre for helping us to celebrate them.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

#### **Error in Member's Statement**

**Mr. McPherson:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have some bad news for the good news member of Lloydminster today.

A few weeks ago the member from Lloydminster happily espoused good news headlines from Saskatchewan weekly newspapers. She went on to explain how each headline meant that the Saskatchewan economy, and especially small Saskatchewan communities, are doing quite well.

The member from Lloydminster gleefully explained that these good news headlines are a result of the government's strategy of investing in research and development in Saskatchewan. She explains there are more people working in Saskatchewan than ever before because of this strategy.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, it seems the member from Lloydminster is unsure of the people in the province she represents.

One of those so-called good news stories rose from CanAmera Foods expanding their plant. And I'm going to quote from the Langenburg newspaper, *The Four-Town Journal*. It's a public document, Mr. Speaker:

Vi Stanger unfortunately overlooked one fact. CanAmera

is located in Harrowby, Manitoba. The majority of jobs there are filled by Manitoba residents.

I'd like to send a copy of this over to the member so she realizes what she's got herself into.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

#### **Good News for the North**

**Mr. Johnson:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday in this Assembly we had an interesting debate on northern development, a debate I was happy to take part in because I believe we are making good progress towards strengthening northern communities.

For example, the Minister of Northern Affairs discussed the recent memorandum of understanding on northern development. Today, as further evidence of that progress, the Minister of Municipal Government affairs, at a round table in La Ronge — municipal round table in La Ronge — is announcing six new initiatives designed to assist Northerners and improve northern communities.

Briefly the initiatives are: a northern home-owner mortgage discount program; 40 new social housing units in smaller and remote northern communities; increase in home repair grants; the renewal of northern capital grant program; a northern water and sewer infrastructure study of all 35 northern municipalities; and an appointment of a board to support the Northern Revenue Sharing Trust Account.

Mr. Speaker, these initiatives are a direct result of consultation between the government and Northerners, and they are good news for the North. Thank you.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

#### **Final Tea for Scissors Creek Health Care Auxiliary**

**Mr. Toth:** — Mr. Speaker, a week ago Saturday was somewhat of a sad day for the community of Whitewood. I say sad in respect to the fact that the Scissors Creek Health Care Auxiliary had a tea, their final tea that they would be holding, as they were deciding to disband, feeling that they really didn't have a function to continue to offer to the community.

Mr. Speaker, the Scissors Creek Health Care Auxiliary was formed in 1958. That gives them 40 years of service to their community. In the 40 years of service to the community, they raised over \$50,000 of which 20,000 went to the care home, 25,000 to their hospital, 5,000 to the handivan and other worthwhile local projects.

Mr. Speaker, the unfortunate part about the winding down of the Scissors Creek Health Care Auxiliary is it's just another example of the fact that this is an ongoing process throughout the province of Saskatchewan. And so many organizations such as this health care auxiliary have done so much for our small communities.

While it is sad, we want to thank them for their worthwhile efforts, and the projects that they have worked so hard and so

diligently in supporting their communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

#### **Elrose Area Donates to Canadian Foodgrains Bank**

**Hon. Mr. Wiens:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Saskatchewan people, as we all know, have always been willing to lend a helping hand to those in need. I'm proud to say that this spring the community of Elrose has taken the lead in donating their time, effort, and enthusiasm to battle a serious problem — world hunger.

During the 1970s, a time when famine emergencies gripped many developing nations, the Mennonite Central Committee started a pilot project which was aimed at helping the starving people in the world in the most impoverished countries. This project's goal was to collect donations of wheat with volunteer workers and ship it to those countries in need.

What started out as a relatively small project of the Mennonite Central Committee led in 1983 to the establishment of a new, much larger, interdenominational agency, the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. This has resulted in a great strengthening of the capacity to feed the hungry world.

This year, for the second year in a row, Mr. Speaker, some Elrose area farmers have combined their efforts in a unique way. One family has donated land, others donated seed, fertilizer, machinery, and work to seed 320 acres of wheat to donate to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

Last year, between the grain grown and the community cash donations, they raised a total of \$40,000 for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. In the last year, the Canadian Foodgrains Bank provided more than 32,000 metric tonnes which is more than 1 million bushels of food grain to 26 needy countries.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to salute all of those involved in this very important project. It is a true reflection of the spirit of Saskatchewan which has made this the best place on the earth in which to live.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

#### **ORAL QUESTIONS**

##### **Free Vote on Plains Health Centre Closure**

**Mr. Krawetz:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Premier or whoever is in charge.

Mr. Premier, four weeks in a row on private members' day we have called on you to allow a free vote on the future of the Plains hospital. For four weeks in a row you have blocked the free vote on the Plains hospital. You are refusing to stand up and take responsibility for this terrible decision that is hurting so many people in Regina and southern Saskatchewan.

The Saskatchewan Party wants to see a free vote on this issue before the end of this legislative session. Mr. Premier, when are you going to start listening to the people you represent? When

are you going to allow a free vote on the future of the Plains hospital?

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. Mr. Lingenfelter:** — Mr. Speaker, I want to say to the members opposite that the issue of free vote in our caucus is one that we take very seriously. Every day we have a caucus meeting where members are allowed to express openly their views on particular topics.

But as in many organizations, Mr. Speaker, in many organizations once a vote is taken in caucus we then come in with a common front as you do. I have not yet seen that particular party vote against itself. Now that may surprise them when in fact four of them . . .

**The Speaker:** — Order, order, order. Now the Chair is having a bit of difficulty already being able to hear the answer being provided and I'll — order, order — I'll ask for the cooperation of all members to enable the minister to be heard in providing responses.

**Hon. Mr. Lingenfelter:** — It's particularly surprising coming from that particular member and the other members from Saltcoats, Melfort, Canora-Pelly, and Kelvington-Wadena, who were elected a few years ago as Liberals and with no consultation, Mr. Speaker, with anyone crossed the floor to sit as Conservatives. I would argue, resign today and let's see whether you can win in a by-election in a free vote.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Krawetz:** — Thank you . . .

**The Speaker:** — Well now the Chair is having difficulty being able to hear the Leader of the Opposition put his question because of — order, order — because of disruptions on both sides of the House. And I'll ask for the cooperation of the House to enable the question to be heard and the answer to be heard.

**Mr. Krawetz:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'll have to try to project my voice even louder.

Mr. Deputy Premier, people expect their MLAs (Member of the Legislative Assembly) to represent their views and people are telling you to keep the Plains hospital open. You refuse to listen. You refuse to take responsibility and you refuse to hold a free vote. Mr. Deputy Premier, we refuse to accept that.

Today the Saskatchewan Party is serving notice that this House will do no more business until you set a date for a free vote on the Plains hospital. Immediately following question period we are going to start ringing the bells. And they are going to keep ringing until you set a date for a free vote on the Plains hospital in this Legislative Chambers.

Mr. Deputy Premier, will you set a date for a free vote on the future of the Plains hospital?

**Hon. Mr. Lingenfelter:** — Mr. Speaker, I want to say to the members opposite that we had a little bell-ringing incident

earlier in the session. And I remember how they had a difficult time getting their way back into the House.

And I say to the members opposite what we should think about around here is back-to-work legislation for that Conservative Party to stay here and do their work. This is the second time you've been on strike this session. And I would urge you to be more responsible, come here and do your work so that other members of the Assembly can carry on the business.

### Compensation for Highway Accident Victim

**Mr. Bjornerud:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, two days ago Brenda Bod visited this legislature looking for some justice and compassion from the Minister of Highways.

Just to recap, Brenda was injured, very nearly killed, when a 10-pound chunk of Highway 47 came crashing through her windshield last Friday. After Brenda's ordeal was raised in this House, a maintenance employee from the Highways department from the south-east visited her and told her the department would pay her SGI (Saskatchewan Government Insurance) deductible but only if she agreed to sign a paper waiving any liability against the Highway department.

Madam Minister, this is blackmail. Is your department at fault or not? Why are you asking Brenda to sign this waiver excusing you from any liability?

**Hon. Ms. Bradley:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said before, when this unusual type of an accident happens there is sympathy and there is compassion for the person that was involved.

Our department has responded as quickly as possible to this. I had the opportunity to meet with Brenda and her brother, Laverne, in my office. We certainly needed to try to look at the Department of Highways, to work out types of options — also through SGI.

My understanding is that there's several options there that can be worked out, and those will continue to be looked at.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Bjornerud:** — Well, Madam Minister, why then would you ask . . .

**The Speaker:** — Order, order. Now the hon. member will want to direct his question through the Chair as is the usual practice of the House.

**Mr. Bjornerud:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, then I ask the minister why on earth would you need — if there's going to be more talk on this issue — why would she have to sign a liability form? Mr. Speaker, we're very lucky that Brenda is with us at all. A few inches the other way and she quite likely would have been killed by this flying piece of asphalt. What would the no-fault system have done for her in that case? Not very much because she would have been dead.

Mr. Speaker, this is not a case of no-fault. There is clearly fault here and the fault is with the minister's shabby highways. And

in return Brenda's simply asking the Highway department to pay for the damage to her vehicle, compensate her for lost time from work, and pay for leasing replacement vehicle.

Madam Minister, if you had no liability here you wouldn't have to have tried to quietly coax Brenda Bod into signing this waiver. Madam Minister, Brenda Bod is here today because she was nearly killed because of your decrepit highways. How can you now stand there and tell us it wasn't your fault? Why not do the right thing and compensate her for your neglect of the highways instead of forcing her into your no-fault insurance?

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. Ms. Bradley:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said previously, by working with our own officials, also working with SGI, to come to a solution for this accident that had happened. Now I do want to say that there has been a lot of response on this and that we will take this very seriously and we will continue to work on it. Also I can inform people that the highway that has been involved too, there's been a lot of checking over, work done; they're talking with the trucking firms and trying to understand this whole circumstance.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

### Sale of Crown Life

**Mr. Gantefoer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the minister responsible for CIC (Crown Investments Corporation of Saskatchewan). Mr. Minister, I'd just like to recap that Crown Life deal. The government is going to lose about \$95 million in interest. It may or may not get back its \$271 million investment in five years or more, we're not sure. Regina stands to lose over 400 jobs and the minister calls this very good news. Who negotiated this deal — Lawrence Portugal? With what we have to lose, how can you possibly call this a good deal?

**Hon. Mr. Lingenfelter:** — Mr. Speaker, I continue to be amazed by the member opposite, the member from the Conservative Party, who wonders out loud whether we will get back the money that the Conservatives put into Crown Life. This is what they're wondering and they're wondering out loud. And they say to themselves, I wonder if we will get back the money that the Conservatives put into . . .

**The Speaker:** — Order, order, order. Now the commentary is almost constant and the Chair is having great difficulty being able to hear the answer being provided. And I ask for the cooperation of all the members of the opposition to allow the minister to be heard.

**Hon. Mr. Lingenfelter:** — Mr. Speaker, I say again to the members opposite, who are once again in a contrary position to the mayor of Regina, to the chamber of commerce, to the economic development authority, to Canada Life, to Crown Life officials who say this is a good deal . . . And they're hung up on the issue of whether we will get back the money that Grant Devine and the Tories put into the deal. That's what they're saying.

But what I would urge him to do tomorrow morning when he

gets up in the morning is look in the mirror and say, if he's concerned about it, why did I put the money into the deal? That's the question . . . (inaudible interjection) . . . Yes, you did. Members opposite, including the member from Moosomin, sat on this side of the House and decided to put the money into Crown Life.

And today they say, do you think we'll get the money out? Why didn't you think of that when you made the decision to invest in Crown Life?

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Gantefer:** — Mr. Speaker, I think that we should just turn the mirror so that the minister can look at it and tell us what kind of a good deal we got in Channel Lake, what kind of a good deal we got in Guyana, what kind of a good deal you're now negotiating all over in your little kingdoms.

Mr. Minister, taxpayers potentially — by your own comments — stand to lose potentially \$95 million of unpaid interest. There's no fixed timetable for the recovery of the \$271 million, and 400 people are going to lose their jobs.

The only people this is a good deal for potentially are companies like DEML (Direct Energy Marketing Limited) and Canada Life. How can you say to the 400 employees of Crown Life that are losing their jobs that it's a good deal?

**Hon. Mr. Lingenfelter:** — Mr. Speaker, if the member could or would read . . . I will quote for him from the *Leader-Post* what Crown Life's Brian Johnson says about jobs. He said "the loss of jobs was probably inevitable." Brian Johnson says "was probably inevitable given the current trend toward . . ."

**The Speaker:** — Order. Order, order, order. Now . . . Order. On both sides . . . Order from both sides of the House. Order.

**Hon. Mr. Lingenfelter:** — Mr. Speaker, in quoting Brian Johnson, the CEO (chief executive officer) of Crown Life, he would indicate, and has indicated to that member opposite in briefings to him personally, that the jobs would have been lost anyway.

And yet that member comes here, in light of the fact that he's been briefed, or for political reasons, to try to raise an issue around what? — about an investment that Grant Devine and his party made. This is hypocrisy at its best. And I now understand why the Liberal Party . . . I think this was not a crossing of the floor from you to the . . . from the Liberals to the Conservatives, I think maybe they pushed you a little bit because you lack a certain amount of integrity.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

#### Land Purchase for Parking at General Hospital

**Mr. Aldridge:** — Mr. Speaker, in early April the Premier toured the Regina General Hospital construction site and told the media that this new site would have everything. He told the media who tagged along on this public relations exercise that the site would contain a state-of-the-art health care facility and ample parking.

However, Regina city manager, Bob Linner, has confirmed that the Regina Health District is involved in preliminary talks aimed at purchasing a lot at the corner of 15th and Toronto in Regina and converting that land into parking space.

Mr. Premier, if this site is going to provide ample parking, why is there a need for the district to purchase land for a parkade?

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. Mr. Serby:** — Mr. Speaker, I think what's important to realize, and certainly I appreciate finally, that the member opposite is on his feet and talking about the fact that in the Regina system today we're going to have very good health care services. The member opposite has finally recognized that in fact in the city of Regina, and serving southern Saskatchewan, we're going to have two major facilities that are going to provide world-class services.

I say to the member opposite that it would not be unusual for the district health board to have consultation with the city of Regina to ensure that as they prepare for the move of the services from the Plains Health Centre to the Pasqua and to the General, that they would ensure that there would be sufficient parking and accessibility for its patrons.

And so I say to the member opposite this is part of ensuring that Regina people and southern Saskatchewan people are well served at the two new facilities. And I appreciate the information that the member provides to ensure that people are well served.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Aldridge:** — Mr. Speaker, the Liberal opposition has demonstrated that the cost of what they call consolidating health care services in Regina is already \$25 million over budget. The original price tag for the project was \$83 million. It grew to \$93 million. It's now \$108 million and counting. And this doesn't include the 30 million that will be spent converting the Plains hospital into a SIAST (Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology) campus or the cost of purchasing land and constructing a parkade.

It appears that the costs associated with this project are running away as fast as NDP supporters. Mr. Premier, the cost of consolidation is \$108 million and counting. What's the final bill going to be — 110 million, 120 million, 130 million? You tell us.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. Mr. Serby:** — Well, Mr. Speaker, one of the things that's important to recognize here is that on this side of the House, what we do is we plan and develop and work towards ensuring that we enrich health care services across the province. We don't look for a parade . . . we don't chase parades around the province and look at trying to get in front of them, Mr. Speaker, like the Liberals do, okay? What we do here is we carefully ensure that we plan for the future.

And today, Mr. Speaker, in this province and in this city, there is a major investment that's been made in health care — 1.72

billion to the province, the largest expenditure ever made in the province. And to the Regina projects, Mr. Speaker, today, \$94 million to date expended or committed. And there will be continued expenditures that will be made in the health care system, not only in Regina but in the member's constituency where he comes from, and from Saskatoon and across the province we'll continue to make those kinds of investments.

Because in order to ensure that we have quality health care services, it means we need to ensure that we put money into staffing, into facilities, into equipment. And that's the commitment that we make to all Saskatchewan people across the province, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Aldridge:** — Mr. Speaker, this government has maintained that it'll save about \$10 million annually by closing down the Plains hospital, but they're willing to spend well over \$100 million to do so.

Mr. Premier, we've already established that the closure of the Plains doesn't make any sense from a health care standpoint. Wouldn't you agree that it makes no more sense from a financial standpoint?

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. Mr. Serby:** — Mr. Speaker, if today I hear the member opposite saying that an investment of \$2.2 million on the part of the government to enrich the MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) services which are going to serve southern Saskatchewan in a major way, if the member opposite is suggesting that the 200 nurses that we've just added to complement the services across the province, if the member opposite is suggesting for a moment here that the money that we put in, \$48 million into new positions across the province, is a waste of taxpayers' money, then he should be standing up and saying that. Because that's exactly what his leader says, Mr. Speaker, that's exactly what his leader has said.

His leader has said just recently, Mr. Speaker, that a Liberal is a Liberal. Irrespective if it's federal or provincial, we all support the same concept. And the member opposite supports reducing the federal expenditures to health across the province and the member opposite now suggests that we should be cutting health care services in the province further.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

#### **Maintenance of Highway 155**

**Mr. Belanger:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, for the past three years I have raised concerns about the conditions of Highway 155 north of Green Lake. And on a number of occasions we have talked about the poor situation that people have to travel when we talk about that northern road. Each year that this road is ignored by the government, there is a greater risk of a real disaster.

My question is to the Minister of Highways. Each year almost 800 truckloads of fuel, more than 300 truckloads of sulphuric acid, 100 truckloads of lime and yellowcake are hauled on this

highway each and every year. Mr. Minister, this year your government intends to earmark \$180,000 to that highway. And that will resurface about 3 kilometres — 3 kilometres of this 300-kilometre stretch. For safety's sake, for the sake of our environment, and for the safety of northern residents, will you make a commitment today to address the hazardous Highway 155 north of Green Lake?

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. Ms. Bradley:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Every year within our budget we do a lot of allocations of dollars and we have to look at the benefit/cost analysis, all of those factors.

But the one thing that we have done certainly is addressing both northern roads, but also roads right across the province. We put more dollars, we put more dollars into our budget this year. And we added the \$20 million this year, \$30 million last year. And actually this year on fixing roads in the North, we've committed a significant amount of our budget — \$35 million is spent on work on the roads in the North.

One of the other aspects is not only spending more dollars but also in the planning of how those dollars are being spent. And we're working with communities, transportation area committees; and in the North, met with a lot of the community leaders . . .

**The Speaker:** — Order, order, order, order. Now the Chair is having some difficulty hearing the minister because of shouting coming from the benches of the third party. And I will ask for the cooperation, I will ask for the cooperation of all members to allow the answer to be heard. I'll give the minister a few seconds to wrap up her response.

**Hon. Ms. Bradley:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker . . .

**The Speaker:** — Order. Now I hadn't even taken my seat and the shouting has begun again. And I will ask for the cooperation of the House to enable the response of the minister to be heard.

**Hon. Ms. Bradley:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have dedicated more dollars, more money to the North for roads. What I'd also say is we wish that the federal Liberals would also respond in the need.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Belanger:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The late Louis Morin had a famous phrase that he spoke about when the government told him that his highway to Turnor Lake was on the list. And his response after 10 years of asking for highway improvement is, we can't travel on the list.

Mr. Speaker, the minister appears to be the only one who doesn't realize how important it is to improve Highway 155. I have received letters from the mayors of Beauval and the Chief of Patuanak Band, expressing the problems that we have with Highway 155.

The village council from Ile-a-la-Crosse— this is one of their main priorities. The people of Buffalo Narrows, and our key truckers, taxi-cab operators, were all upset about the

government's refusal to fix this highway. And now we throw on one company's needs in terms of transporting all these goods, with all these chemicals on that road, talking about the need to improve these highways.

Madam Minister, what commitment do you have with the people of the North when it comes to Highway 155, and when will this road be fixed?

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. Ms. Bradley:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think one of the challenges which we're facing, which is a good challenge to have, is because of all of the great economic development work that is being done in the North. And this is a challenge also to our infrastructure system. And certainly it's one of the ways in which, in this year's budget, we have targeted more dollars to be spent on roads in the North than every before — \$35 million is directed to northern roads.

As I've said previously, if we could get a reasonable cost-share arrangement with Ottawa, and I challenge the members opposite to show us their letters, to show us their requests — where Ottawa plays a role in all of this, so we could direct more resources to roads in the North.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

### International Trade War in Grain

**Mr. Goohsen:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question today through you to the Minister of Agriculture has to do with the international grain trade wars that we've been hearing about for the past three or four weeks.

Mr. Minister, as you well know, we have been worried about a trade war which, it has now been confirmed, is in full swing because of the fact that we've discovered that the Europeans have been subsidizing oats by 68 cents going into the United States — with the result that the North American oat market has dropped by 70 cents a bushel for all North American farmers. The net result of course is being that Canadian farmers have been cut out of that market. We fear of course, and I think it's real now, that that trade war will escalate into the wheat markets and all other grains.

My question to you, Mr. Minister, is: in view of the fact that both Canadian and American farmers will suffer from a trade war — especially in North Dakota and Saskatchewan — what do you plan on doing to get the federal government off its duff to play whatever cards we have left in this trade war to try to get it stopped?

**Hon. Mr. Upshall:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, Mr. Speaker, I'm really glad that the independent member is concerned about the international grain wars; obviously the Liberals and Conservatives aren't. And this is very important, the reason why they're not . . . (inaudible interjection) . . . Well, they say quit grandstanding.

Mr. Speaker, let me tell you, our federal government, our federal government was at WTO (World Trade Organization) with all the other countries that were there.

**The Speaker:** — Order, order. Now I'm asking again for the cooperation of the House and of all — order — of all hon. members to allow both the questions to be asked and the answers to be provided in an uninterrupted manner.

**Hon. Mr. Upshall:** — Mr. Speaker, at the last round of trade talks there was a formula put forward where people . . . whereby countries should reduce their subsidies. The United States did not throw away the export enhancement program; they simply set it aside. The European Union did not throw away their programs; they simply set it aside.

Our geniuses in Ottawa, what did they do? They toss out the \$320 million of Crow rate immediately and now they stand up and say: oh please, oh please, don't subsidize.

Well I'll tell you, the U.S. treasury in the United States are going to look after their farmers to the degree that they want to. The European treasury's going to look after their farmers to the degree that they can.

And I'll tell you, there is a provision where our federal government — and I'd like to see these Liberal members table their correspondence saying that we should get back in the game — there is a provision and a responsibility for this federal treasury to support Saskatchewan and western Canadian farmers like the other treasuries do in other countries.

I say the Liberals have played their race before the game started.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Goohsen:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a supplementary for the same minister.

After all of the local coaching that I've gotten for the next question, I want to boil it all down to one very simple question for the minister. It's all right, Minister, for us to point fingers as we did in the 1980s — and we had the result then that half the farmers in Saskatchewan went broke — I don't think we need to point fingers any more; I think we have to have action.

My question directly to you is: what are you going to do to try to get this process under way?

**Hon. Mr. Upshall:** — Well, Mr. Speaker . . .

**The Speaker:** — Order, order. Now again the Chair is asking for the cooperation from the benches of the third party to cease with the shouting across the floor. It makes it — order — and I will ask for the cooperation of all hon. members to enable the minister to provide the response in an uninterrupted manner.

**Hon. Mr. Upshall:** — Mr. Speaker, to the member. On April 14 I believe it was, 14 or 17, it was the last letter I wrote to the federal government explaining that — we think that they have a responsibility to ensure that if this grain trade war escalates — that they be in the forefront of trying to stop it, number one, but number two, to try to ensure that the farmers of Saskatchewan are protected.

Unfortunately the federal government since 1991 has cut its

funding to our province by 52 per cent in agriculture — 52 per cent. On top of that, they let the \$320 million of grain subsidy go, which puts our . . . inflates our cost of shipping grain to the West Coast to a third of the value, a third of the value of the initial price of wheat. On top of that, the grain trade wars bring the international grain price down.

And our federal MPs (Member of Parliament) stand up there and flap their jaws saying, well you guys shouldn't do this. Well I'm glad to hear them say not to do this, but I want to hear their federal plan on how they're going to have Saskatchewan farmers stay in the game, like U.S. and European farmers are going to be held in the game by their governments.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — Why is the member on his feet?

**Mr. Toth:** — Point of order.

**The Speaker:** — I'll take the point of order when we get to orders of the day at the usual time.

### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

#### Bill No. 415 — The Channel Lake Indemnification Act (Town of Carrot River)

**Mr. Boyd:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move first reading of a Bill, Bill No. 415, The Channel Lake Indemnification Act (Town of Carrot River).

The division bells rang from 2:30 p.m. until 2:40 p.m.

Motion negatived on the following recorded division.

#### Yeas — 7

Krawetz	Bjornerud	D'Autremont
Boyd	Draude	Gantefer
Heppner		

#### Nays — 19

Flavel	Wiens	Atkinson
Tchorzewski		

**The Speaker:** — Order, order. Now hon. members will all recognize that it's not in order to be shouting while the vote is being taken. And I will ask for the cooperation of all members to allow the vote to be taken in an orderly member.

Johnson	Whitmore	Upshall
Trew	Lorje	Sonntag
Cline	Serby	Hamilton
Stanger	Wall	Kasperski
Ward	Murray	Murrell

**The Speaker:** — Why is the member on his feet?

**Mr. Trew:** — Mr. Speaker, I'm requesting leave to introduce guests.

Leave granted.

### INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

**Mr. Trew:** — I thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank all hon. members for generously granting leave that I might, on behalf of the member, my colleague, the member for Saskatchewan Rivers, introduce to you and other members of the Assembly, 16 grade 7 and 8 students from East Central School in Prince Albert. This fine group is accompanied by their teacher, Valerie Horner; and by chaperones Lucy Fowler, Anita MacDonald, and Audrey Linfitt.

It will be my pleasure to meet with this group a little bit later this day. And I look forward to a discussion with them and answering some of their questions.

I ask all members to join me in welcoming this fine group from P.A. (Prince Albert).

**Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — Why is the hon. member from Cannington on his feet?

**Mr. D'Autremont:** — Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, please.

### POINTS OF ORDER

**Mr. D'Autremont:** — Mr. Speaker, on a point of order related to Beauchesne's No. 6, Points of Order, page 96, section 317(3), it reads:

317(3) Since the introduction of a time limit on the daily oral Question Period it has become the custom for the Speaker to recognize points of order only at the conclusion of the Question Period.

I submit, Mr. Speaker, that we requested a point of order at the conclusion of question period, and would ask that it be recognized.

**The Speaker:** — Well the hon. member raises a point of order which in essence has answered itself. The Chair recognizes the hon. member . . . there was an attempt by the same caucus to raise a point of order earlier, and the Chair at that time said that as is the usual practice of our House that a point of order would be recognized at its usual time, before points of order which all members will recognize is the usual time in our House.

However the . . . did I say . . . Before orders of the day is what I intended to say. And I do recognize . . . Order. Where as it says, rule 42(3) in the rules of this Assembly:

The Speaker shall not entertain points of order during the Oral Question Period. Points of order may be raised later on Orders of the Day.

Which is the usual practice of our House. And that's what the Chair indicated at that time.

I think that's the question that the hon. member is raising, whether the Chair would entertain a point of order. As he asks

now, I think the answer is obvious. He requests to raise a point of order and given the unfolding of the agenda as it is taking place this day, the Chair has already recognized the hon. member to put a point of order.

And so therefore it is a moot question. In essence the hon. member is asking whether what has happened is acceptable and obviously it is.

Point of order is well taken.

(1445)

Why is the member on his feet?

**Mr. D'Autremont:** — Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** — What is the hon. member's other point of order?

**Mr. D'Autremont:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would rise on a point of order concerning a personal attack on the integrity of a member of this House, namely the member from Melfort, in a statement by the Deputy Premier in his response to a question where he stated: sir, you have a complete lack of integrity.

Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that this is not acceptable parliamentary behaviour and would ask that the Deputy Premier be asked to apologize unequivocally.

**Hon. Mr. Lingenfelter:** — Mr. Speaker, as it relates to the point of order made by the member opposite and the comments that I may have made that referred to the member from Melfort's integrity, obviously in the heat of debate in question period I can go back and quote many incidents when the member from Melfort, in a very personal way, referred to my abilities to do many things. And we take this cut and thrust in question period.

But having said that, if the member finds it insulting or not accurate, I have no problem with withdrawing and apologizing. I would only ask that the member opposite, who obviously feels slighted, would do the same thing back to me as an individual and apologize for all the slights that he has given during question period to the Deputy Premier.

And I don't mind apologizing; I think we should be more civil and more upright in how we treat each other in this House. But in response to your questions about the way I operate, which is very personal, I would urge that this is something that goes on in the House every day.

**The Speaker:** — Order, order, order. Order. The Chair has listened carefully to the point of order raised by the hon. member for Cannington as well as to the comments provided to the Assembly by the Deputy Premier.

It will be recognized by all hon. members, I know, that it is a characteristic of this House that when members come and engage in political exchange, the most heated of which in our House normally occurs during question period, that passions often run high and that's an acceptable thing to happen in our House.

Members will also recognize, as has been said, that however it is never, ever appropriate that, engaging in political cut and thrust of debate in this Assembly, that members would draw into question the character of another member.

We must clearly all operate on the assumption that all hon. members are indeed honourable members and grant to one another the assumption that that is the motivation with which affairs are conducted in this House.

Without having reviewed the record to listen to the . . . to see the precise words used, I take as intended the report provided in raising the point of order by the hon. member for Cannington. And I also recognize and appreciate that the Deputy Premier has indicated that if offence was taken, then he has extended his apology. That's a most appropriate course of action.

It will often be in the conduct of the House, sometimes under dispute, as to just exactly what it is that constitutes a violation of parliamentary practice and at the end of the day offence being taken by members is a significant factor considered by the Chair.

I've understood that to be the case. I've understood the apology extended by the Deputy Premier to address that point and therefore I will consider the matter to have been appropriately dealt with.

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

### Bill No. 416 — The Channel Lake Indemnification Act (Town of Central Butte)

**Mr. Boyd:** — Mr. Speaker, I move first reading of a Bill, Bill No. 416, The Channel Lake Indemnification Act (Town of Central Butte).

The division bells rang from 2:50 p.m. until 3 p.m.

Motion negatived on the following recorded division.

#### Yeas — 7

Bjornerud	Toth	D'Autremont
Boyd	Draude	Gantefer
Heppner		

#### Nays — 17

Flavel	Van Mulligen	Wiens
Atkinson	Tchorzewski	Johnson
Whitmore	Upshall	Trew
Lorje	Sonntag	Hamilton
Stanger	Wall	Kasperski
Ward	Murray	

### Bill No. 417 — The Channel Lake Indemnification Act (Village of Ceylon)

**Mr. Boyd:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move first reading of a Bill, Bill No. 417, The Channel Lake Indemnification Act (Village of Ceylon).

The division bells rang from 3:02 p.m. until 3:12 p.m.

Motion negated on the following recorded division.

**Yeas — 6**

Krawetz	Toth	D'Autremont
Boyd	Gantfoer	Heppner

**Nays — 18**

Van Mulligen	Wiens	Lingenfelter
Mitchell	Atkinson	Tchorzewski
Johnson	Whitmore	Trew
Lorje	Sonntag	Hamilton
Stanger	Jess	Wall
Kasperski	Ward	Murray

**Bill No. 418 — The Channel Lake Indemnification Act  
(Village of Chamberlain)**

**Mr. Boyd:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move first reading of a Bill, Bill No. 418, The Channel Lake Indemnification Act (Village of Chamberlain).

The division bells rang from 3:14 p.m. until 3:24 p.m.

Motion negated on the following recorded division.

**Yeas — 6**

Krawetz	Toth	D'Autremont
Boyd	Gantfoer	Heppner

**Nays — 21**

Flavel	Van Mulligen	Wiens
Lingenfelter	Atkinson	Tchorzewski
Johnson	Whitmore	Upshall
Bradley	Lorje	Sonntag
Cline	Serby	Hamilton
Stanger	Jess	Wall
Kasperski	Ward	Murray

**Bill No. 419 — The Channel Lake Indemnification Act  
(Village of Chaplin)**

**Mr. Boyd:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move first reading of a Bill, Bill No. 419, The Channel Lake Indemnification Act (Village of Chaplin).

The division bells rang from 3:26 p.m. until 3:36 p.m.

Motion negated on the following recorded division.

**Yeas — 4**

Toth	Boyd	Draude
Heppner		

**Nays — 16**

Van Mulligen	Wiens	Atkinson
Tchorzewski	Johnson	Whitmore

Upshall	Bradley	Lorje
Sonntag	Cline	Hamilton
Stanger	Jess	Wall
Ward		

**Bill No. 420 — The Channel Lake Indemnification Act  
(Resort Village of Chitek Lake)**

**Mr. Boyd:** — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I move first reading of a Bill, Bill No. 420, The Channel Lake Indemnification Act (Resort Village of Chitek Lake).

The division bells rang from 3:38 p.m. until 3:48 p.m.

Motion negated on the following recorded division.

**Yeas — 5**

Toth	Boyd	Draude
Gantfoer	Heppner	

**Nays — 18**

Van Mulligen	Wiens	Lingenfelter
Atkinson	Tchorzewski	Johnson
Whitmore	Upshall	Bradley
Lorje	Sonntag	Cline
Hamilton	Stanger	Jess
Wall	Ward	Murray

**The Deputy Speaker:** — Order. Why is the member on her feet?

**Ms. Murray:** — With leave, to introduce guests, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Leave granted.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

**Ms. Murray:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. And my thanks to my colleagues for leave to introduce a very fine group of young students seated in your gallery, and I am very pleased to introduce them on behalf of my colleague, the member from Prince Albert Northcote.

We have with us all the way from Prince Albert a group from W.J. — and I hope I'm going to get all these pronunciations correct — W.J. Berezowsky School, and they are grade 4 students, Mr. Deputy Speaker — 25 of them. They are accompanied by their teachers, Ms. Janet Simpson and Ms. Janelle Matice. They are accompanied by a number of very community-spirited chaperons: Nancy Pardu, Nancy Keller, Kelly Timmerman, Marilyn Brown, Grant Gordon, Carey Fedoruk, Dale Redford, and also with them is Melanie Braaten from SaskPower.

So that is really a wonderful group and we thank you for spending time in the Assembly and visiting Regina. I look forward to meeting with you later on, and I will ask all my colleagues to join with me in extending a very warm welcome to all of you.

**Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

The division bells rang from 4:16 p.m. until 4:26 p.m.

### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Motion negated on the following recorded division.

#### **Bill No. 421 — The Channel Lake Indemnification Act (Town of Choiceland)**

#### **Yeas — 7**

**Mr. Boyd:** — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I move first reading of a Bill, Bill No. 421, The Channel Lake Indemnification Act (Town of Choiceland).

Krawetz	Bjornerud	Toth
Boyd	Draude	Gantefoer
Heppner		

#### **Nays — 18**

The division bells rang from 3:51 p.m. until 4:01 p.m.

Motion negated on the following recorded division.

#### **Yeas — 6**

Bjornerud	Toth	Boyd
Draude	Gantefoer	Heppner

#### **Nays — 18**

Van Mulligen	Wiens	Atkinson
Tchorzewski	Johnson	Whitmore
Upshall	Bradley	Trew
Lorje	Sonntag	Cline
Serby	Hamilton	Stanger
Jess	Wall	Ward

#### **Bill No. 427 — The Channel Lake Indemnification Act (Village of Coderre)**

**Mr. Gantefoer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I move first reading of the Bill No. 427, The Channel Lake Indemnification Act (Village of Coderre).

The division bells rang from 4:28 p.m. until 4:38 p.m.

Motion negated on the following recorded division.

#### **Bill No. 422 — The Channel Lake Indemnification Act (Village of Christopher Lake)**

#### **Yeas — 8**

**Mr. Boyd:** — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I move first reading of Bill No. 422, The Channel Lake Indemnification Act (Village of Christopher Lake).

Krawetz	Bjornerud	Toth
D'Autremont	Boyd	Draude
Gantefoer	Heppner	

The division bells rang from 4:04 p.m. until 4:14 p.m.

Motion negated on the following recorded division.

#### **Yeas — 7**

Bjornerud	Toth	D'Autremont
Boyd	Draude	Gantefoer
Heppner		

#### **Nays — 19**

Van Mulligen	Wiens	Lingenfelter
Atkinson	Tchorzewski	Johnson
Whitmore	Upshall	Bradley
Trew	Lorje	Sonntag
Cline	Serby	Hamilton
Stanger	Jess	Wall
Ward		

Flavel	Wiens	Lingenfelter
Shillington	Atkinson	Tchorzewski
Johnson	Whitmore	Upshall
Bradley	Lorje	Sonntag
Cline	Serby	Hamilton
Jess	Wall	Ward
Murray		

#### **Nays — 19**

#### **Bill No. 428 — The Channel Lake Indemnification Act (Village of Codette)**

**Mr. Gantefoer:** — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I move the first reading of Bill No. 428, The Channel Lake Indemnification Act (Village of Codette).

The division bells rang from 4:40 p.m. until 4:50 p.m.

Motion negated on the following recorded division.

#### **Bill No. 423 — The Channel Lake Indemnification Act (Town of Churchbridge)**

#### **Yeas — 6**

**Mr. Boyd:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move first reading of Bill 423, The Channel Lake Indemnification Act (Town of Churchbridge).

Krawetz	Bjornerud	Toth
Draude	Gantefoer	Heppner

## Nays — 20

Flavel	Wiens	Lingenfelter
Shillington	Atkinson	Tchorzewski
Johnson	Whitmore	Upshall
Bradley	Trew	Lorje
Sonntag	Cline	Serby
Hamilton	Jess	Wall
Ward	Murray	

The Assembly adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

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