

# JOURNALS

## OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

### OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

---

SECOND SESSION 1948

---

Wednesday, July 7th, 1948.

---

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

This being the first day of the fourth meeting of the Twenty-first Parliament or Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia for the dispatch of business, pursuant to a Proclamation of the Honourable CHARLES ARTHUR BANKS, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, dated the 16th day of June, 1948.

His Honour GORDON MCGREGOR SLOAN, Administrator of the Province, having entered the House, took his seat on the Throne, and was pleased to deliver the following gracious Speech:—

*Members of the Legislative Assembly:*

In opening the Fourth Session of the Twenty-first Parliament of British Columbia for the special purpose of dealing with flood matters, I do so with a full realization of the urgency that exists for making adequate provision to meet the varied and distressing problems inflicted on the people by the disastrous floods which have caused such widespread damage throughout the Province, particularly in the Fraser River Valley.

Never before in the history of Canada has so much misery and distress or loss of property been caused by flood.

It is significant, in appreciating its proportions, to observe the Dominion Government has interpreted as a national disaster the calamity which befell the Fraser River Valley.

I wish to express my deepest sympathy for those unhappy men and women who, with their children, have suffered the loss of house and home for so long. All of us share their anxiety as they view the devastation and seek to re-establish themselves with the assistance tendered to them by the Governments of Canada and British Columbia.

It is with gratification that I observe the agreements reached between my Government and that of the Dominion of Canada for the sharing of financial responsibilities in combating the flood, providing for immediate relief, repairing dykes, disposing of water and debris, completely reconstructing the dyking system, assisting in the rehabilitation of homes, farm buildings, and fences, and helping in the restoration of farm lands to their former usefulness.

You will be asked to provide funds and to empower the Government to adopt such measures as may be deemed necessary from time to time to expedite this work.

I wish to thank all public-spirited citizens who contributed to the British Columbia Flood Relief Fund. Their contributions will assist materially in meeting the needs of the people who have lost personal effects and household furnishings.

The prompt action of my Government in grappling with the varied problems arising from the flood are to be commended, and I feel sure that you will give thoughtful and sincere consideration to such measures as will be submitted to you.

I pray the blessing of Divine Providence will attend your deliberations.

His Honour the Administrator was then pleased to retire.

Prayers by the Rev. *H. A. McLeod*.

Mr. Speaker reported that, to prevent mistakes, he had obtained a copy of His Honour's Speech.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Wismer*, Bill (No. 1) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Revised Statutes Act, 1948,'" was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be read a second time at the next sitting.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Johnson*, seconded by Mr. *H. E. Winch*, it was *Resolved*,—

That the Speech of His Honour the Administrator be taken into consideration forthwith, and that this Order have precedence over all other business, except the introduction of Bills, until disposed of.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Johnson*, seconded by the Hon. Mr. *Anscomb*, it was *Resolved*,—

That the following address be presented to His Honour the Administrator:—

"We, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, in Session assembled, beg leave to thank Your Honour for the gracious speech which Your Honour has addressed to us at the opening of the present Session."

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Pearson*, seconded by the Hon. Mr. *E. C. Carson*, it was *Resolved*,—

That the Votes and Proceedings of this House be printed, being first perused by Mr. Speaker, and that he do appoint the printing thereof, and that no person but such as he shall appoint do presume to print the same.

By leave of the House, the Hon. Mr. *Johnson* presented a statement relative to the reasons for calling the present Session of the Legislature and matters pertaining to flood conditions and relief thereof generally.

By leave of the House, the Rules were suspended and, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Johnson*, seconded by Mr. *H. E. Winch*, it was *Resolved*,—

That on Thursday, July 8th, and all following days of the Session there be three distinct sittings in each day, one from 10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m., the second from 2.30 to 6 p.m., and the third from 8.30 p.m. until adjournment, unless otherwise ordered.

The Hon. Mr. *Johnson* presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Administrator, which read as follows:—

G. MCG. SLOAN,  
*Administrator.*

The Administrator transmits herewith a Bill intituled "An Act respecting Floods in British Columbia," and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,*  
*July 7th, 1948.*

*Ordered*, That the said Message, and the Bill accompanying the same, be referred to a Committee of the Whole House forthwith.

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

*Resolved*, That the Committee rise and report to the House, recommending the introduction of a Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act respecting Floods in British Columbia," a draft of which is annexed to this Resolution.

Resolution and Bill reported.

Report adopted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Second reading at the next sitting.

The Hon. Mr. *Johnson* presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Administrator, which read as follows:—

G. MCG. SLOAN,  
*Administrator.*

The Administrator transmits herewith a Bill intituled "An Act respecting the Fraser Valley Dyking Board," and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,*  
*July 7th, 1948.*

*Ordered*, That the said Message, and the Bill accompanying the same, be referred to a Committee of the Whole House forthwith.

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

*Resolved*, That the Committee rise and report to the House, recommending the introduction of a Bill (No. 4) intituled "An Act respecting the Fraser Valley Dyking Board," a draft of which is annexed to this Resolution.

Resolution and Bill reported.

Report adopted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Second reading at the next sitting.

The Hon. Mr. *Johnson* presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Administrator, which read as follows:—

G. MCG. SLOAN,  
*Administrator.*

The Administrator transmits herewith a Bill intituled "An Act to provide for a Reduction in the Allowances to be paid to Members attending the Session of the Legislative Assembly at which this Act is passed," and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,*  
*July 7th, 1948.*

*Ordered*, That the said Message, and the Bill accompanying the same, be referred to a Committee of the Whole House forthwith.

---

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

*Resolved*, That the Committee rise and report to the House, recommending the introduction of a Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to provide for a Reduction in the Allowances to be paid to Members attending the Session of the Legislative Assembly at which this Act is passed," a draft of which is annexed to this Resolution.

Resolution and Bill reported.

Report adopted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Second reading at the next sitting.

The Hon. Mr. *Kenney* presented the Report of Inspection of Flood Areas with Recommendations.

*Resolved*, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 10.30 o'clock a.m. to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 4.38 p.m.

---

---

Thursday, July 8th, 1948.

---

HALF-PAST TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. Speaker.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Johnson*, the House proceeded to the Orders of the Day, "Public Bills and Orders."

On the motion for the second reading of Bill (No. 4) intituled "An Act respecting the Fraser Valley Dyking Board" a debate arose.

Motion agreed to, and the Bill *Ordered* to be committed at the next sitting.

Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to provide for a Reduction in the Allowances to be paid to Members attending the Session of the Legislative Assembly at which this Act is passed" was read a second time, and *Ordered* to be committed at the next sitting.

Bill (No. 1) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Revised Statutes Act, 1948,'" was read a second time, and *Ordered* to be committed at the next sitting.

*Resolved*, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 2.30 o'clock p.m. to-day.

And then the House adjourned at 12.18 p.m.

---

## Thursday, July 8th, 1948.

---

HALF-PAST TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Johnson*, the House proceeded to the Orders of the Day, "Public Bills and Orders."

On the motion for the second reading of Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act respecting Floods in British Columbia" a debate arose.

Motion agreed to, and the Bill *Ordered* to be committed at the next sitting.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Wismer*, Bill (No. 5) intituled "An Act respecting a Moratorium in Areas damaged by Flood during the Spring of 1948" was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be read a second time at the next sitting.

*Resolved*, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 8.30 o'clock p.m. to-day.

And then the House adjourned at 5.55 p.m.

---

---

## Thursday, July 8th, 1948.

---

HALF-PAST EIGHT O'CLOCK P.M.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Johnson*, the House proceeded to the Orders of the Day, "Public Bills and Orders."

Bill (No. 5) intituled "An Act respecting a Moratorium in Areas damaged by Flood during the Spring of 1948" was read a second time, and, by leave of the House, committed forthwith, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 1) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Revised Statutes Act, 1948,'" was committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act respecting Floods in British Columbia" was committed, reported complete with amendments, and, by leave of the House, read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to provide for a Reduction in the Allowances to be paid to Members attending the Session of the Legislative Assembly at which this Act is passed" was reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 4) intituled "An Act respecting the Fraser Valley Dyking Board" was committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

By leave of the House, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Johnson*, seconded by Mr. *H. E. Winch*, it was *Resolved*,—

That whereas it has been necessary for Mr. *J. L. Webster*, member for Rossland-Trail, to be absent from the Fourth Session of the Twenty-first Parliament of British Columbia owing to illness:

And whereas Mr. *Arthur J. Turner*, member for Vancouver East, has been unable to attend the same Session due to the short notice given and the fact that he was in Great Britain at the time that the Session was called:

And whereas section 54 of the "Constitution Act," R.S.B.C. 1936, in part states that "if any member of the Legislative Assembly, without the permission of the Legislative Assembly, fails during a whole Session to give his attendance in the Legislative Assembly . . . his election shall thereby become void and the seat of such member shall be vacated":

Therefore be it *Resolved*, That the said Mr. *Webster* and Mr. *Turner* be granted leave of absence from the current Session of the Legislature, and that their absence shall in no way impair their positions as duly elected members of this Assembly.

*Resolved*, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 10.45 o'clock a.m. to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 10.35 p.m.

Friday, July 9th, 1948.

TEN FORTY-FIVE O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. Speaker.

His Honour the Administrator having entered the House, and being seated in the chair,—

*R. S. Stuart Yates*, Esquire, the Clerk of the House, read the titles to the following Bills:—

- (No. 1) An Act to amend the "Revised Statutes Act, 1948."
- (No. 2) An Act respecting Floods in British Columbia.
- (No. 3) An Act to provide for a Reduction in the Allowances to be paid to Members attending the Session of the Legislative Assembly at which this Act is passed.
- (No. 4) An Act respecting the Fraser Valley Dyking Board.
- (No. 5) An Act respecting a Moratorium in Areas damaged by Flood during the Spring of 1948.

His Honour was pleased, in His Majesty's name, to give assent to the said Bills. The said assent was announced by the Clerk of the House in the following words:—  
"In His Majesty's name, His Honour the Administrator doth assent to these Bills."

Then His Honour the Administrator was pleased to deliver the following gracious Speech:—

*Members of the Legislative Assembly:*

This Fourth Session of the Twenty-first Parliament of British Columbia having been called for the special purpose of dealing with flood problems, I trust that the measures enacted will redound to the benefit of the people of the Province.

I thank you for your attendance and pray that the blessing of Divine Providence may accompany you to your homes.

The Hon. Mr. *Pearson*, Provincial Secretary, then said:—

*Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:*

It is His Honour the Administrator's will and pleasure that the Legislative Assembly be prorogued until it shall please His Honour to summon the same for dispatch of business, and this Provincial Assembly is hereby prorogued accordingly.

R. H. CARSON, *Speaker*.

---

VICTORIA, B.C. :

Printed by DON McDIARMID, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

1948.