

JOURNALS
OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

SESSION 1954

Tuesday, February 16th, 1954.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

This being the first day of the second meeting of the Twenty-fourth Parliament or Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia for the dispatch of business, pursuant to a Proclamation of the Honourable CLARENCE WALLACE, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, dated the 8th day of January, 1954.

Prayers by the Rev. *W. W. McPherson*.

Mr. Speaker reported to the House that he had received the declaration of resignation of Walter Percival Wright, member representing the Electoral District of Victoria City, on October 19th, 1953.

Ordered, That pursuant to the Statute in such case made and provided, an entry of the declaration so delivered to Mr. Speaker be made in the Journals of the House.

The letter of the Deputy Provincial Secretary and the certificate of the Chief Electoral Officer of the result of the by-election of a member to represent the Electoral District of Victoria City were read, as follows:—

“ Re By-election, November 24th, 1953, Victoria City Electoral District.

“ OFFICE OF DEPUTY PROVINCIAL SECRETARY,

“ VICTORIA, B.C., December 9th, 1953.

“ E. K. DeBeck, Esq.,

“ Clerk of the Legislative Assembly,

“ Buildings.

“ SIR,—I enclose herewith certificate of Mr. F. Hurley, Chief Electoral Officer, respecting the election of *George Frederick Thompson Gregory* to represent the Victoria City Electoral District in the Legislative Assembly.

“ Yours very truly,

“ R. A. PENNINGTON,

“ *Deputy Provincial Secretary.*”

(ENCLOSURE.)

" December 8th, 1953.

" R. A. Pennington, Esq.,
" Deputy Provincial Secretary,
" Buildings.

" *Re By-election, Victoria City Electoral District, November 24th, 1953.*

" SIR,—Whereas a vacancy occurred in the Legislative Assembly by reason of the resignation on the nineteenth day of October, 1953, of Walter Percival Wright, member for the Victoria City Electoral District:

" And whereas on the twentieth day of October, 1953, a writ for the election of a member to represent such district was duly issued to the Returning Officer of the said district:

" Now I do hereby certify that on the seventh day of December, 1953, the said writ was returned by the Returning Officer with his certificate endorsed thereon that the voters of Victoria City Electoral District had chosen *George Frederick Thompson Gregory* to represent them in the Legislative Assembly.

" F. HURLEY,
" *Chief Electoral Officer.*"

On the motion of the Hon. *W. D. Black*, seconded by the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*, it was *Resolved*,—

That the letter of the Deputy Provincial Secretary and the certificate of the Chief Electoral Officer of the result of the by-election of a member to represent the Electoral District of Victoria City be entered upon the Journals of the House.

Mr. George Frederick Thompson Gregory, having been duly sworn, was introduced by *Mr. Laing* and *Mr. Gibbs*, and took his seat.

HIS HONOUR CLARENCE WALLACE, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, having entered the House, took his seat on the Throne, and was pleased to deliver the following gracious Speech:—

Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:

I welcome you to the Second Session of the Twenty-fourth Parliament of British Columbia.

The knowledge that His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh has graciously consented to visit British Columbia during the British Empire Games has been received by our people with feelings of patriotism and gratification.

On December 14th, 1953, representatives of my Government presented a brief to the Government of Canada on Federal-Provincial Co-operation in Economic Development of British Columbia. This brief suggested a joint investment programme in railway and highway development, protection and conservation of natural resources. While I regret that no official answers have been received from the Federal Government following presentation of this brief, I am able to advise you that my Government is hopeful of reaching an agreement which would be of major national interest to the Federal Government as well as to the economic development of British Columbia.

During the course of this Session, measures of considerable importance will be submitted.

The committee which was set up during last Session to study the possibility of redistribution of seats for this Legislature will continue to operate during this Session.

I am pleased to learn that my Government will be placing a Bill before you to enable the commencement of the extension of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway from Squamish to North Vancouver and from Prince George into the Peace River District.

These extensions will bring about greater development of our vast northern resources and will be beneficial to all parts of the Province.

In order to improve the existing road-bed of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway, orders have been placed in the United Kingdom for 50 miles of new steel, and plans are being made to place further orders for that amount in the coming year.

This policy of purchasing rail was created to assist the United Kingdom in its dollar shortage with a view to encourage and enable the United Kingdom to make purchases of basic British Columbia commodities such as lumber, fish, and fruit.

My Government is continuing its enlarged programme of highway construction, both of arterial and secondary highways.

Amendments to the "Social Services Tax Act" will be introduced to include exemption on articles such as children's clothes, children's boots and shoes.

The 10-per-cent liquor tax, instituted during the last Session of the Legislature, will be eliminated.

It is proposed to grant a substantial reduction of registration fees on automobiles and trucks.

Inasmuch as our amusements tax is the highest in Canada, my Government proposes a reduction in the rate charged under the "Amusements Tax Act."

Proposals will be laid before you to increase the amount of Provincial bonus paid old-age pensioners and blind pensioners, also to increase the allowances to persons receiving social assistance.

You will be asked to approve legislation enabling my Government to take advantage of the disability-pension legislation now being considered by the Government of Canada for implementation by the Provinces on a Provincial-Federal basis.

It is pleasing to know that the British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service is in a good financial condition. However, certain changes in this Act will be placed before you.

During the past twelve months my Government has given considerable study to the problems of labour, particularly in relation to the "Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act." It is proposed at this sitting of the Legislature to make certain changes intended to improve management-labour relations.

My Government is also proposing changes to the "Workmen's Compensation Act" and, in so doing, has not overlooked the recommendations that have been brought to its attention from time to time.

All this provides an indication of the true importance held by my Government of the study and solution of the matters pertaining to industrial and human relations.

New legislation concerning petroleum and natural gas will be presented for your consideration. My Government's policy is to encourage exploration and, at the same time, see that the people of British Columbia share in this new development.

An Act will be placed before you entitled the "Meat Inspection Act."

Since last you met a new Royal mace has been made and exhibited to me. It is a magnificent example of the silversmith's art, locally designed and fabricated, and I am pleased to sanction its substitution for the present one.

Minor legislation of a character designed to improve existing Acts in the interest and well-being of the people will be submitted.

Reports of various departments of my Government will be laid before you.

The Public Accounts will be submitted, and Estimates for the ensuing year will be laid before you.

I pray that the blessing of Divine Providence may rest upon your labours.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor was then pleased to retire.

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

On the motion of the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*, Bill (No. 1) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Small Debts Courts Act'" was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be read a second time at the next sitting.

By leave of the House, the Hon. *W. D. Black* made the following statement:—

Maces of British Columbia.

There have been five maces in the history of British Columbia: (1) Original mace of Colony of Vancouver Island, (2) makeshift mace used at establishment of Colony of British Columbia, (3) mace of the Colony of British Columbia, (4) first mace used as a Province of the Dominion, and (5) present mace made for the new buildings.

(1) Original Mace of Colony of Vancouver Island: The first Legislative Assembly of the Colony of Vancouver Island was convoked on August 12th, 1856. With the union of the island and mainland colonies on November 19th, 1866, this body was abolished. The mace used during the ten years, however, survived and it was sold at public auction in December, 1936. Shortly thereafter it was acquired by Mr. B. A. McKelvie who subsequently presented it to the Shawnigan Lake Boys' School.

(2) Makeshift Mace: The mainland Colony of British Columbia was instituted at a ceremony held at Fort Langley, November 19th, 1858, when James Douglas was sworn in as Governor by Matthew Baillie Begbie. Evidently at the last moment, the rude makeshift mace was prepared. It subsequently became the property of Sir Henry P. P. Crease and in 1947 was secured by Mr. Noel Booth, Reeve of Langley, who subsequently deposited it for safe-keeping with the Provincial Archives.

(3) Mace of the Colony of British Columbia: The First Session of the Legislative Council of the mainland Colony of British Columbia was formally opened by Governor Douglas at New Westminster on January 21st, 1864. The mace used by this body continued to be used after the union of the island and mainland colonies in 1866 and until the colony became a Province of the Dominion of Canada. This mace cannot be located.

(4) First Mace of the Province of British Columbia: At the opening of the First Session of the First Parliament of British Columbia after Confederation on February 17th, 1872, the newspapers of the day noted the new mace: "It is a very handsome article made of wood, is gilded, and about three feet long. It is surmounted by an excellently carved crown and Grecian cross. The carving was executed by Mr. C. Bunting, the gilding by Mr. Keohan, and reflects credit on them as first-class workmen."

(5) Present Mace of the Province of British Columbia: At the time of the building of the new Parliament Buildings—1896 to 1898—it was felt that a new mace would be more in keeping with the dignity of the new building. This mace was made by Winslow

Brothers, a firm of art metal-workers in Chicago, and, according to the Public Accounts of 1896-97, they were paid \$150 "for mace and ink-pot covers." It was first used at the opening of the Legislature on February 10th, 1898, which ceremony coincided with official opening of the Parliament Buildings.

On the motion of the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett*, seconded by Mr. *Webster*, it was *Resolved*,—

That the new Royal Mace, now resting in the Speaker's Chambers, be substituted for the present one as the emblem of Mr. Speaker's authority, and that the present one be then consigned to the Provincial Archives.

After a short recess, the new mace was placed on the table and the old one delivered to Mr. Willard Ireland, Provincial Archivist.

On the motion of the Hon. *W. D. Black*, seconded by the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*, it was *Ordered*,—

That the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor be taken into consideration at the next sitting, and that this Order have precedence over all other business, except the introduction of Bills, until disposed of.

On the motion of the Hon. *E. C. F. Martin*, seconded by the Hon. *P. A. Gaglardi*, it was *Ordered*,—

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.

On the motion of the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett*, seconded by the Hon. *W. K. Kiernan*, it was *Ordered*,—

That the Select Standing Committees of this House, for the present Session, be appointed for the following purposes:—

1. On Standing Orders and Private Bills;
2. On Public Accounts and Printing;
3. On Mining and Railways;
4. On Agriculture;
5. On Municipal Matters;
6. On Forestry and Fisheries;
7. On Labour;
8. On Social Welfare and Education;

which said Committees shall severally be empowered to examine and inquire into all such matters and things as shall be referred to them by this House, and to report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon, with power to send for persons, papers, and records, and that a Special Committee be appointed to prepare and report with all convenient speed lists of members to compose the above Select Standing Committees of this House under Standing Order 68 (1), said Committee to be composed of the Hon. *R. W. Bonner* and Messrs. *Chant*, *Corbett*, *Webster*, and *Laing*.

On the motion of the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett*, seconded by the Hon. *W. R. T. Chetwynd*, it was *Ordered*,—

That *Alexander Small Matthew*, Esquire, member for Vancouver Centre Electoral District, be appointed Deputy Speaker for this Session of the Legislative Assembly.

The following papers were presented:—

By the Hon. *W. D. Black* (Provincial Secretary)—

The Eighteenth Annual Report of the Business done in pursuance of the "Civil Service Superannuation Act" for the Year ended March 31st, 1953.

The Twelfth Annual Report of the Business done in pursuance of the "Teachers' Pensions Act" for the Period January 1st to December 31st, 1952.

The Annual Report of the Director of Provincial Mental Health Services for the Fiscal Year ended March 31st, 1953.

The Report of the Civil Service Commission, pursuant to Section 7 of the "Civil Service Act," from January 1st to December 31st, 1953.

By the Hon. *R. W. Bonner* (Attorney-General)—

The Thirty-second Annual Report of the Liquor Control Board covering the Fiscal Year ended March 31st, 1953.

The Balance-sheet of the Liquor Control Board for the Six Months' Period ended September 30th, 1953.

By the Hon. *R. E. Sommers* (Minister of Lands and Forests)—

The Balance-sheet and Statement of Accounts of the Land Settlement Board (including the Agricultural Credit Commission) as at December 31st, 1952.

Return of Lands exchanged under Section 63, Chapter 175, "Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1948," from January 29th, 1953, to February 15th, 1954.

By the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett* (Minister of Finance)—

Public Accounts for the Fiscal Year ended March 31st, 1953.

"Administration Act," Chapter 6, R.S.B.C. 1948: Returns by Official Administrators of all Moneys paid and received by them in respect of all the Estates of Deceased Persons administered by them for the Calendar Year ended December 31st, 1953.

Return submitted in accordance with Section 44 (2) of the "Revenue Act," R.S.B.C. 1948: Refunds and Remissions made under Section 44 (1) of the "Revenue Act," R.S.B.C. 1948, during the Calendar Year 1953.

Return submitted in accordance with Section 88 (4) of the "Taxation Act," R.S.B.C. 1948: Remissions and Refunds made under authority of Section 88 (1), (2), and (3) of the "Taxation Act," R.S.B.C. 1948, during the Calendar Year 1953.

By the Hon. *W. K. Kiernan* (Minister of Agriculture)—

The Forty-eighth Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture for the Year 1953.

By the Hon. *P. A. Gaglardi* (Minister of Public Works)—

The Annual Report of the Department of Public Works for the Fiscal Year ended March 31st, 1953, in compliance with the provisions of the "Public Works Act."

By the Hon. *W. R. T. Chetwynd* (Minister of Fisheries)—

The Annual Report of the Provincial Department of Fisheries with Appendices for the Year ended December 31st, 1952.

By the Hon. *W. R. T. Chetwynd* (Minister of Railways)—

The Annual Report of the Operations and Activities of the Railway Department for the Year ended December 31st, 1953.

By the Hon. *R. W. Bonner* (Minister of Education)—

The Eighty-second Annual Report (1952-53) of the Public Schools of the Province.

By the Hon. *W. D. Black* (Minister of Municipal Affairs)—

The Annual Report of the Department of Municipal Affairs for the Year ended December 31st, 1952.

By the Hon. *E. C. F. Martin* (Minister of Health and Welfare)—

The Eighth Report of the Department of Health and Welfare (Health Branch) for the Calendar Year ended December 31st, 1953.

The Annual Report of the Social Welfare Branch of the Department of Health and Welfare for the Fiscal Year ended March 31st, 1953.

Fortieth and Forty-first Reports of the Medical Inspection of Schools for the Periods ended June 30th, 1951 and 1952.

By the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett* (Premier and President of the Council)—

The Eighth Annual Report of the Milk Board for the Year ended December 31st, 1953.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 3 o'clock p.m. to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 3.37 p.m.

Wednesday, February 17th, 1954.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Very Rev. *P. R. Beattie*.

Pursuant to Order, the House proceeded to take into consideration the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the Session.

Mr. Parker (Peace River) moved, seconded by *Mr. Bate* (Vancouver-Point Grey),—

That the following Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor:—

“ We, Her 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.”

A debate arose.

On the motion of *Mr. Webster*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 3 o'clock p.m. to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 4.24 p.m.

Thursday, February 18th, 1954.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. Father *G. Penfold*.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the Session.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Laing*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.42 p.m.

Friday, February 19th, 1954.

HALF-PAST TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *R. E. E. King*.

By leave of the House, on the motion of the Hon. *W. D. Black*, seconded by the Hon. *L. Wicks*, it was *Ordered*,—

That on page 70 of the Journals of the House, 1953 (Second Session), on the recording of the division on the motion for an amendment to Bill No. 21, the words "yeas" and "nays" be transposed and the Journals corrected accordingly.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the Session.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Chant*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

On the motion of the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett*, seconded by the Hon. *L. Wicks*, it was *Resolved*,—

Whereas the ninth decennial census of Canada, conducted in 1951, showed that the population of the Province had increased from 817,861 in 1941 to 1,165,210 in 1951:

And whereas the increase in population was much greater in some electoral districts of the Province than in others:

And whereas it appears that the representation of the people in this Legislature may not now be on an equitable basis:

And whereas during the First Session of this Parliament a Special Committee, consisting of ten members of the Legislature, was appointed to consider certain matters as hereinafter set out, which said Committee's appointment terminated with the conclusion of the last Session:

Therefore be it Resolved, That a Special Committee, consisting of ten members of the Legislature, be appointed to consider the desirability of amending section 14 and Schedule C of the "Constitution Act," being chapter 65 of the "Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1948," and to make recommendations in respect thereof to this Legislature as to the desirability of increasing the number of members to be elected to the Legislature and as to the distribution of the members amongst the electoral districts of the Province:

And be it further Resolved, That in making its inquiry the Committee be empowered to examine and inquire into all such matters and things as may be pertinent to the subject and to send for persons, papers, and records as required:

And be it further Resolved, That the Committee be composed of the Hon. *W. D. Black* and Messrs. *Parker, Bate, Chant, Reid, Turner, Nimsick, Moore, Laing, and Giovando.*

Mr. Gibbs asked the Hon. the Minister of Finance the following question:—

What was the amount collected under the "Social Services Tax Act" from the sale of liquor by the glass from the date the 10-per-cent tax was made effective to December 31st, 1953?

The Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett* replied as follows:—

"\$47,991.88."

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 2.30 o'clock p.m. on Monday next.

And then the House adjourned at 5.55 p.m.

Monday, February 22nd, 1954.

HALF-PAST TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *E. G. Thompson.*

Mr. Speaker made the following statement:—

Honourable Members,—It has come to my attention that the practice of reading written speeches is becoming all too prevalent and I have been perhaps too lenient in allowing it to go as far as it has without comment. I think the time has come for me to draw the attention of the House to the Rules governing the manner of speaking.

While the Standing Orders of this House are silent on the subject, by the usages and customs of the House of Commons of the United Kingdom, which apply to the proceedings of this House in the absence of any order or rule to the contrary, "a member is not permitted to read his speech, but may refresh his memory by a reference to notes." (*May*, 14th ed., page 417.)

"The purpose of this rule is primarily to maintain the cut and thrust of debate, which depends upon successive speakers moulding their speeches to some extent upon the arguments of earlier speeches." (*May*, page 418.)

Beauchesne, 2nd ed., pages 95 and 96, says, "By usage both in England and Canada that a member while speaking must not . . . read from a written previously prepared speech."

Bouvinot, 4th ed., page 335: "It is a rule of both Houses of Parliament that a member must not . . . read from a written previously prepared speech for the reason that . . . members might read speeches that were written by other people and the time of the House be taken up in considering the arguments of persons who were not deserving of their attention. It is the invariable practice to discontinue all such written speeches and it is the duty of the Speaker to interfere when his attention is directed to the fact."

It must be evident that under a system of set speeches prepared in advance and with little or no reference to one another, the very spirit of debate must wither and ultimately perish and our Legislature would be doomed to have to listen to a series of prefabricated theses.

The word "parliament" (and our Legislature is a parliament) is a combination of two Norman French words, to speak and the mind—not to write and what is in his mind. And how can a member know what will be in his mind at a future date?

It is customary to relax the rigidity of this rule in the cases of opening speeches on special subjects and speeches where there is special reason for precision of statement as, for example, ministerial statement or highly technical Bills. Extracts from documents and publications referred to in speeches may likewise be read.

It is not usual for the Chair to intervene in any particular instance. It is deemed sufficient if he merely remarks that the member speaking "appears to have very copious notes."

I wish to adjure the members to give attention to their choice of words. Last Session I had occasion to bar the use of the word "vicious." In this Session the word "collusion" has been used several times. I wish to ask the members to cease the use of this word in referring to each other or to their parties.

The definition given in Webster's new Collegiate Dictionary of this word is: "A secret agreement and co-operation for a fraudulent or a deceitful purpose; deceit; fraud."

You will readily understand that the further use of this word cannot be permitted.

T. J. IRWIN, *Speaker*.

By leave of the House, Mr. *Webster*, on a claim of privilege, made the following statement:—

Mr. Speaker,—I feel that it is important to this House, to the people of the Province, and to myself to bring to your attention a report that appeared in *The British Columbian* on February 20th and that has been circulated by a number of radio stations during the past forty-eight hours to the effect that I intended to resign from my present position as Leader of the Official Opposition in this Legislature.

On behalf of myself and my CCF colleagues, I wish to deny that any such action has ever been or is now contemplated or that any statement regarding the subject has ever been made.

Mr. Webster moved, seconded by *Mr. Turner*,—

That this House views with regret that misinformation regarding an elected member should have been circulated by a news agency without steps first being taken to confirm or deny the report.

By leave of the House, the motion was withdrawn.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the Session.

The debate continued.

On the motion of the Hon. *P. A. Gaglardi*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

The following papers were presented:—

By the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett*,—

The Pacific Great Eastern Railway Company Statement of Accounts as at December 31st, 1952.

By the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*,—

The Annual Report of the Motor-vehicle Branch for the Year 1952.

The Annual Report of the Inspector of Gaols for the Year ended March 31st, 1953.

Mr. *Winch* asked the Hon. the Provincial Secretary the following question:—

What action, if any, (a) has been taken or (b) is planned for early implementation to provide adequate facilities to house the Child Guidance Clinic and the Children's Observation Ward respectively?

The Hon. *W. D. Black* replied as follows:—

"Tenders will be called for construction of a new Child Guidance Clinic and Day Hospital within the course of the next few weeks; the Children's Observation Ward is in the planning stage."

Mr. *Winch* asked the Hon. the Provincial Secretary the following question:—

Are male and female psychiatric nurses in the Provincial Mental Health Services, with equal service and other qualifications, paid at the same salary rates?

The Hon. *W. D. Black* replied as follows:—

"No; the salary structure of psychiatric nurses is presently under study by the Civil Service Commission."

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.32 p.m.

Tuesday, February 23rd, 1954.

HALF-PAST TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *William Allan*.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the Session.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Squire*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

The Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett* presented the Eleventh Annual Report of the Purchasing Commission for the Period January 1st, 1953, to December 31st, 1953.

The Hon. *W. R. T. Chetwynd* presented the Report of the Department of Trade and Industry for the Year ended December 31st, 1953.

Mr. *Winch* asked the Hon. the Provincial Secretary the following question:—

1. How many, if any, applications for admission to Essondale on behalf of senile patients are on the waiting-list?
2. What additional building accommodation for senile patients is (a) under construction or (b) planned for early implementation?

The Hon. *W. D. Black* replied as follows:—

“1. On active waiting-list at February 16th, 1954, for admission to the Home for the Aged since April 1st, 1953, fifty-four men and fifty-seven women.

“2. Plans for a 300-bed unit at the Home for the Aged, Port Coquitlam, are nearing completion; it is expected that tenders for the construction of this unit will be called during the fiscal year 1954–55.”

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.44 p.m.

Wednesday, February 24th, 1954.

HALF-PAST TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *J. L. Clerihue*.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the Session.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Gibson*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

The Hon. *R. W. Bonner* presented the Report of the Special Committee appointed on the 16th instant, as follows:—

REPORT.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
February 24th, 1954.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Special Committee appointed on the 16th instant to prepare and report lists of members to compose the Select Standing Committees of this House for the present Session begs to report and recommend that the personnel of the Select Standing Committees of the House for the present Session be as follows:—

STANDING ORDERS AND PRIVATE BILLS.—Messrs. *Corbett* (Convener), *Matthew*, *Moxham*, *Newton*, *Parker*, *Price*, *Reid*, *Shelford*, *Tisdalle*, *Williston*, *Turner*, *Webster*, *Howard*, *Eddie*, *Gibbs*, *Brown*, and *Giovando*.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND PRINTING.—Messrs. *Bruch* (Convener), *Corbett*, *Matthew*, *Moxham*, *Newton*, *Richter*, Mrs. *Arsens*, the Hon. *W. D. Black*, the Hon. *L. Wicks*, the Hon. *E. C. F. Martin*, Messrs. *Strachan*, *Webster*, *Harding*, *Turner*, *Gibbs*, *Laing*, and *Giovando*.

MINING AND RAILWAYS.—Messrs. *Bate* (Convener), *Matthew*, *Parker*, *Price*, *Reid*, *Shantz*, *Tisdalle*, *Tomlinson*, the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*, the Hon. *W. K. Kiernan*, Messrs. *Nimsick*, *Segur*, *Calder*, *Haggen*, *Gibson*, *Gibbs*, *Uphill*, and *Giovando*.

AGRICULTURE.—Messrs. *Chant* (Convener), *Moxham*, *Newton*, *Parker*, *Price*, *Richter*, *Shantz*, *Shelford*, *Tisdalle*, the Hon. *P. A. Gaglardi*, Messrs. *Harding*, *Haggen*, *Strachan*, *Segur*, *Laing*, *Brown*, and *Giovando*.

MUNICIPAL MATTERS.—Messrs. *Matthew* (Convener), *Bate*, *Chant*, *Moxham*, *Price*, *Reid*, *Richter*, *Tomlinson*, the Hon. *L. Wicks*, Mrs. *Arsens*, Messrs. *Nimsick*, *Squire*, *Howard*, *Moore*, *Gregory*, *Gibbs*, *Uphill*, and *Giovando*.

FORESTRY AND FISHERIES.—Messrs. *Reid* (Convener), *Bate*, *Bruch*, *Corbett*, *Newton*, *Richter*, *Shantz*, *Shelford*, *Williston*, the Hon. *P. A. Gaglardi*, Messrs. *Howard*, *Eddie*, *Gargrave*, *Calder*, *Brown*, *Gibson*, and *Giovando*.

LABOUR.—Messrs. *Tisdalle* (Convener), *Bate*, *Bruch*, *Chant*, *Corbett*, *Tomlinson*, *Williston*, the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*, the Hon. *W. K. Kiernan*, Mrs. *Arsens*, Messrs. *Strachan*, *Moore*, *Squire*, *Eddie*, *Laing*, *Gregory*, *Uphill*, and *Giovando*.

SOCIAL WELFARE AND EDUCATION.—Messrs. *Parker* (Convener), *Bruch*, *Chant*, *Shelford*, *Williston*, the Hon. *W. D. Black*, the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*, the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*, the Hon. *E. C. F. Martin*, Mrs. *Arsens*, Messrs. *Webster*, *Moore*, *Gargrave*, *Winch*, *Gregory*, *Laing*, and *Giovando*.

Respectfully submitted.

R. W. BONNER, *Chairman*.

The report was read and received.

By leave of the House, the Rules were suspended and the report adopted.

Mr. *Matthew* presented the petition of British Pacific Insurance Company for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'British Pacific Casualty Company Act, 1913.'"

By leave of the House, the Rules were suspended and the petition received.

Mr. *Matthew* presented the petition of Universal General Insurance Company for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled "An Act to incorporate the Universal General Insurance Company."

By leave of the House, the Rules were suspended and the petition received.

Mr. *Bate* presented the petition of the English Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Redeemer for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Shaughnessy Heights Building Restriction Act, 1922.'"

By leave of the House, the Rules were suspended and the petition received.

Mr. *Tomlinson* presented the petition of certain owners of lands in the City of North Vancouver for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'City of North Vancouver Grand Boulevard Restriction Act, 1949.'"

By leave of the House, the Rules were suspended and the petition received.

Mr. *Price* presented the petition of the City of Vancouver for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Vancouver Charter.'"

By leave of the House, the Rules were suspended and the petition received.

Mr. *Giovando* presented the petition of Minnie Mead May as liquidator of Gibson Mining Company Limited (Non-Personal Liability) and Minnie Mead May on her own account and stated that the said petition was for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled "An Act to give Relief to the Gibson Mining Company Limited (Non-Personal Liability)."

By leave of the House, the Rules were suspended and the petition received.

By leave of the House, on the motion of Mr. *Laing*, Question No. 23, standing on the Order Paper in his name, was amended by prefixing to the question the words "For the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1953."

Mr. *Gibson* asked the Hon. the Minister of Lands and Forests the following questions:—

1. With respect to forest management licences, how many have been granted?
2. To whom were licences granted?
3. How many acres were in each grant and in what district?
4. Are any applications for licences pending and, if so, (a) how many, (b) by whom made, and (c) what acreage involved in each?

The Hon. *R. E. Sommers* replied as follows:—

"1, 2, and 3. Fourteen forest management licences have been granted to date as follows:—

F.M.L. No. and Forest District.	Name of Licensee.	Date of Award.	Productive Forest Area.
			Acres
1. Prince Rupert	Columbia Cellulose Co. Ltd.	May 4th, 1948	664,337
2. Vancouver	Elk Falls Co. Ltd.	January 24th, 1949	286,502
3. Nelson	Passmore Lumber Co. Ltd.	February 1st, 1950	92,960
4. Vancouver	D. Morrison	May 15th, 1950	3,817
5. Fort George	Western Plywood Co. Ltd.	May 15th, 1950	78,372
6. Vancouver	Alaska Pine & Cellulose Ltd.	October 26th, 1950	296,850
7. Vancouver	Salmon River Logging Co. Ltd.	December 15th, 1950	115,394
8. Nelson	Boundary Sawmills Ltd.	January 26th, 1951	87,380
9. Kamloops	S. M. Simpson Ltd.	August 16th, 1951	170,633
10. Vancouver	Timberland Development Co. Ltd.	November 7th, 1951	24,928
11. Nelson	Olinger Lumber Co. Ltd.	January 14th, 1952	69,295
12. Vancouver	Bendickson Logging Co. Ltd.	February 25th, 1952	15,497
13. Nelson	Galloway Lumber Co. Ltd.	June 17th, 1952	37,880
14. Nelson	Cranbrook Sawmills Ltd.	December 23rd, 1953	145,080

"4. (a), (b), and (c). Ten applications have been approved, contingent upon submission of a satisfactory management working plan, as follows:—

	Productive Forest Area (Acres).
Alaska Pine & Cellulose Ltd. (Queen Charlotte Islands)	118,200
Clearwater Timber Products Ltd. (North Thompson)	165,930
MacMillan & Bloedel Ltd., Alberni Pacific Lumber Division (Clayoquot)	199,697
Pondosa Pine Lumber Co. Ltd. (Monte Lake)	115,570
Oliver Sawmills Ltd. (Okanagan)	90,210
Clarke Bros. Timber Co. Ltd. (Chilliwack Lake)	33,360

	Productive Forest Area (Acres).
Allison Logging Co. Ltd. (Bella Coola).....	16,460
Celgar Development Co. Ltd. (Arrow Lakes).....	807,606
Timberland Development Co. Ltd. (extension to F.M.L. No. 10)	9,530
Evans Products Co. Ltd. (Knight Inlet).....	48,423

“ Three applications have been approved, with award appealed to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, and are awaiting decision, as follows:—

	Productive Forest Area (Acres).
Clayburn Co. Ltd. (Sardis).....	5,680
Moore-Whittington Lumber Co. Ltd. (Nitinat Lake).....	35,600
F. and R. Logging Co. Ltd. (Phillips Arm).....	9,360

“ Twenty-four applications have been advertised and await consideration, as follows:—

	Productive Forest Area (Acres).
Alaska Pine & Cellulose Ltd. (Vancouver Island and Main- land)	319,135
B.C. Forest Products Ltd.	151,560
B.C. Interior Sawmills Ltd.	101,375
Birch Island Lumber Co. Ltd.	60,000
Bischoff's Sawmill	5,505
Bloedel, Stewart & Welch Ltd. (now MacMillan & Bloedel Ltd.)	398,135
Canadian Forest Products Ltd.	99,050
Empire Mills Ltd.	62,610
Fadear Creek Lumber Co.	81,300
Galloway Lumber Co. Ltd. (extension to F.M.L. No. 13) ..	39,220
Industrial Lumber Co. Ltd.	18,240
Kitimat Pulp and Paper Co. Ltd.	362,225
H. R. MacMillan Co. Ltd. (Nitinat) (now MacMillan & Bloedel Ltd.)	49,245
Pacific Mills Ltd.	66,895
Pas Lumber Co. Ltd.	738,800
Peachland Sawmill	42,610
Penny Spruce Mills Ltd.	46,340
Powell River Co. Ltd.	489,580
Saskatchewan Federated Co-operatives Ltd.	95,040
Shuswap Timbers Ltd.	19,070
Tahsis Co. Ltd.	192,170
Trautman and Garraway Sawmills	44,905
Vernon Box and Pine Lumber Co. Ltd.	36,170
Western Plywood Co. Ltd.	573,660

“ Seventy-nine management licence applications are under review, which may or may not be approved for advertising, as follows: Alaska Pine & Cellulose Ltd. (extension to application being advertised), Allison Logging Co. Ltd. (extension to approved area), Anton Pole and Lumber Co., Armstrong Sawmill Ltd., Arrow Lakes Cedar Pole Co. Ltd., Associated Forest Products Ltd., B.C. Forest Products Ltd. (extension to area advertised), Bell Pole Co. Ltd., Roy Bell Ltd., Blackwater Timber Co., Canadian Forest Products Ltd. (Nimpkish), Canford Lumber Co. Ltd., Canim Lake Sawmills Ltd.,

Cardinal Lumber Co. Ltd., Cariboo Central Sawmills Ltd., Church Sawmills Ltd., Cecil T. Clare, Clinton Sawmills Ltd., Coast Logging Co. Ltd., Columbia Contracting Co. Ltd., Columbia Forest Products Ltd., Corbett Lumber and Tie Mill, Creston Sawmills Ltd., Drake Logging Co. of B.C. Ltd., Dumaresq Bros. Ltd., Eagle Lake Sawmills Ltd., Ferguson Bros. Lumber Ltd., Fort St. John Lumber Co. Ltd., Frolek Ranch & Sawmills Ltd., Gibson MacNeal Logging Co. Ltd., Graham Cartage Ltd., Grinrod Lumber Co. (1951) Ltd., John Hagen, Holding Lumber Co. Ltd., Interior Forest Development Ltd., Interlake Logging Co., Kettle Valley Lumber Co. Ltd., Kitishan Industries Ltd., Kootenay Forest Products Ltd., Leboe Brothers Sawmills, Lumby Timber Company Ltd., John Luttin Limited, McLean Sawmills Ltd., MacMillan & Bloedel Ltd. (Sayward), D. McPhee, Matthey Bros. Ltd., Merritt Forest Products Co. Ltd., Nicola Valley Sawmills Ltd., Nigei Logging Co. Ltd., Northern Spruce Co. Ltd., Oliver Sawmills Ltd., Pacific Pine Co. Ltd. (Anderson River), Pacific Pine Co. Ltd. (Quesnel Lake), Penticton Sawmills Ltd. (Naramata), Penticton Sawmills Ltd. (Princeton), Penticton Sawmills Ltd. (Otter Creek), Princeton Box and Lumber Co. Ltd., Princeton Trail Sawmills Ltd., Rutland Sawmills Ltd., Sandner Bros. Ltd., Shelley Development Ltd., Shuswap Timbers Ltd., Frank Sing, S. M. Simpson Ltd. (extension to F.M.L. No. 9), Sinclair Spruce Lumber Co., W. T. Squelch and Son, Stave Lumber Co. Ltd., Summerland Box Co., Sutton, Plummer, Deppiesse & McMillan, Taylor Lumber Co. Ltd., Tidewater Forest Products Ltd., Trethewey Logging Co. Ltd., Tudor Forest Products Ltd., Upper Fraser Spruce Mills Ltd., Washington Lumber Co., Western Interior Sawmill Co. Ltd., Western Pines Lumber Co. Ltd., Western White Spruce Mills, Willow River & Stoney Lake Timber Co.”

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.59 p.m.

Thursday, February 25th, 1954.

HALF-PAST TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Sergeant-Major *Walter Oakley*.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the Session.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Segur*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

Mr. *Tomlinson* presented the petition of Arthur Hugo Ray, William Henry Murray Haldane, James Duncan Donald Campbell, and Helen Vera Paterson for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled “An Act to incorporate the Pacific Automobile and Fire Insurance Company.”

By leave of the House, the Rules were suspended and the petition taken as read and received.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.38 p.m.

Friday, February 26th, 1954.

HALF-PAST TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *W. E. Greenhalgh*.

Mr. Speaker made the following statement:—

Honourable Members,—I have been advised that the Deputy Speaker has been addressed as such during my absence from the chair.

May I refer you to section 11 of the Standing Orders and point out that so long as the mace is on the table, the Speaker is in the chair no matter what person might be there. You are addressing the office, not the person.

T. J. IRWIN, *Speaker*.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the Session.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Winch*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

Mr. *Winch* moved, seconded by Mr. *Howard*,—

That the Standing Orders be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills with a view to their revision.

A debate arose.

The motion was negatived on the following division:—

YEAS—15.

Messieurs

<i>Brown</i>	<i>Eddie</i>	<i>Laing</i>	<i>Winch</i>
<i>Gibson</i>	<i>Calder</i>	<i>Strachan</i>	<i>Webster</i>
<i>Haggen</i>	<i>Gargrave</i>	<i>Harding</i>	<i>Turner</i>
<i>Segur</i>	<i>Howard</i>	<i>Nimsick</i>	

NAYS—21.

Messieurs

<i>Chant</i>	<i>Sommers</i>	<i>Tomlinson</i>	<i>Bruch</i>
<i>Shelford</i>	<i>Bennett</i>	<i>Tisdalle</i>	<i>Chetwynd</i>
<i>Reid</i>	<i>Bonner</i>	<i>Richter</i>	<i>Kiernan</i>
<i>Price</i>	<i>Black</i>	<i>Moxham</i>	<i>Martin</i>
<i>Corbett</i>	<i>Williston</i>	<i>Matthew</i>	<i>Wicks</i>
<i>Arsens, Mrs.</i>			

PAIRS:

Messieurs

<i>Uphill</i>	<i>Parker</i>
<i>Giovando</i>	<i>Shantz</i>
<i>Gregory</i>	<i>Bate</i>
<i>Moore</i>	<i>Newton</i>
<i>Squire</i>	<i>Gaglardi</i>

Mr. *Gibson* asked the Hon. the Minister of Railways the following questions:—

1. With respect to the Pacific Great Eastern Railway and its operations during the last year for which figures are available, how many loaded cars went by barge from Squamish to Vancouver?

2. How many loaded cars went by barge from Vancouver to Squamish?

3. What is the average cost of loaded cars via barge between Squamish and Vancouver?

4. How many loaded cars were delivered from the Canadian National Railways to the Pacific Great Eastern Railway at Prince George?

5. What number of loaded cars was delivered from the Pacific Great Eastern Railway to the Canadian National Railways at Prince George?

6. Was any trackage leased by the Pacific Great Eastern Railway in Vancouver and, if so, (a) how much, (b) from whom leased, and (c) at what cost?

7. What amount was paid by the Pacific Great Eastern Railway in Vancouver for switching charges to other railroads?

8. What tow-boat charters were paid and to what persons or companies?

The Hon. *W. R. T. Chetwynd* replied as follows:—

“ 1. 8,559.

“ 2. 4,568.

“ 3. \$16.77, not taking into consideration cost of slips, cost of cargo insurance, cost of *per diem* rates, cost of switching charges, and cost of marine depreciation.

“ 4. 260.

“ 5. 2,811.

“ 6. No.

“ 7. \$47,492.52.

“ 8. Dola Towing Company, \$132,488.29; Canadian Pacific Railway, \$41,731.35; F. M. Yorke & Sons, \$6,090.50; Straits Towing Company, \$328.80; total, \$180,638.94.”

Mr. *Brown* asked the Hon. the Minister of Labour the following questions:—

1. What was the total cost to the Provincial Government of administering rent-control (a) during the fiscal year 1952–53 and (b) from April 1st, 1953, to December 31st, 1953?

2. How many persons are employed in the administration of rent-control (a) on a full-time basis and (b) on a part-time basis?

The Hon. *L. Wicks* replied as follows:—

“ 1. (a) \$50,286.10 and (b) \$26,993.31.

“ 2. (a) Eight and (b) one Administrator, four Commissioners, and eight Judges.”

Mr. *Laing* asked the Hon. the Minister of Education the following questions:—

1. Under the Community Programmes Branch, how many centres are in operation in British Columbia?

2. How many persons are registered at each centre?

3. What disposition has been made of the equipment formerly under control of Pro-Rec?

The Hon. *R. W. Bonner* replied as follows:—

“ 1. Thirty-two Recreation Commissions have been established to date with a number of others in process of formation.

“ 2. No information on this available as yet.

“ 3. Equipment distributed on loan to (a) Regional Consultants for use in all districts and (b) Provincial and other institutions and associations.”

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 2.30 o'clock p.m. on Monday next.

And then the House adjourned at 5.51 p.m.

Monday, March 1st, 1954.

HALF-PAST TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. J. B. Rowell.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the Session.

The debate continued.

On the motion of the Hon. R. E. Sommers, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

Mr. Gibbs asked the Hon. the Minister of Education the following questions:—

1. How many pre-primary classes are located in (a) Vancouver School District, (b) Burnaby School District, (c) New Westminster School District, (d) Victoria School District, and (e) all other school districts?

2. What is the sum of Provincial grants for pre-primary classes paid to (a) Vancouver School District, (b) Burnaby School District, (c) New Westminster School District, (d) Victoria School District, and (e) all other school districts?

The Hon. R. W. Bonner replied as follows:—

“ 1. The Eighty-second Annual Report (1952–53) of the Department of Education provides the following answers: (a) Seven, (b) none, (c) none, (d) eight, and (e) eight.

“ 2. For the school-year 1952–53, Provincial grants for pre-primary were on the same basis as for other classrooms operated by School Boards, namely: (a) \$15,190, (b) none, (c) none, (d) \$18,780, and (e) \$16,236.”

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.45 p.m.

Tuesday, March 2nd 1954.

HALF-PAST TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. Dr. J. G. Brown.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the Session.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. Bruch, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

On the motion of the Hon. *W. K. Kiernan*, seconded by the Hon. *W. R. T. Chetwynd*, it was *Ordered*,—

That this House authorize the Select Standing Committee on Agriculture to consider such matters as may be laid before it by the Advisory Board of Farmers' Institutes and to report its findings to this House.

Mr. Webster moved, seconded by *Mr. Turner*,—

That all available data relating to the Government's announced decision to extend the Pacific Great Eastern Railway from Squamish to North Vancouver be referred for study to the Select Standing Committee on Mining and Railways.

A debate arose, which was, on the motion of the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*, adjourned to the next sitting.

By leave of the House, the following notice of questions standing on the Order Paper in the name of *Mr. Nimsick* was withdrawn:—

1. Have any compensation cases been taken to the Workmen's Compensation Advocate since his appointment?
2. Is so, how many?
3. In how many cases was he successful in obtaining an increased award?

By leave of the House, the following notice of questions in the name of *Mr. Moore* was withdrawn:—

1. Did the Government set up a Commission last year to investigate the conditions as they pertain to the British Columbia Division of the Canadian Institute for the Blind?
2. If the answer to No. 1 is yes, has the Government received a report from this Commission?
3. If the answer to No. 2 is yes, will the report be tabled with the Legislature?
4. If the answer to No. 3 is yes, when will the report be tabled with the Legislature?

The Hon. *L. Wicks* presented the Thirty-seventh Annual Report of the Workmen's Compensation Board for the Province of British Columbia for the Year ended December 31st, 1953.

Mr. Laing asked the Hon. the Minister of Health and Welfare the following questions:—

1. In the last month for which figures are available, how many persons were receiving old-age pension (Federal) in the Province?
2. Of these, how many draw the full Provincial bonus of \$10 per month?
3. How many persons were receiving old-age assistance?
4. How many persons were receiving pensions for the blind?
5. Is any survey under way of disabled persons in the Province?

The Hon. *E. C. F. Martin* replied as follows:—

" 1. No information; contributory old-age security pensions are paid under Federal legislation, 'Old Age Security Act.'

" 2. The number of old-age security pensioners in this Province receiving the British Columbia cost-of-living bonus as at December 31st, 1953, was 26,258; of these, 21,748 were in receipt of the full bonus and 4,510 in receipt of a partial bonus.

" 3. The number of persons in receipt of old-age assistance as of December 31st, 1953, was 8,051.

" 4. The number of recipients of allowance under the 'Blind Persons' Allowances Act' as at December 31st, 1953, was 493.

“ 5. A sampling survey has been conducted for the last two years by the Health Branch in co-operation with the Department of National Health and Welfare, Ottawa; Provincial figures have not been released by the Federal Government because the tabulation is proceeding.”

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.59 p.m.

Wednesday, March 3rd, 1954.

HALF-PAST TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. J. Hyde.

Mr. Speaker made the following statement:—

Honourable Members,—Yesterday in the House I had occasion to tell a member that because he asked a question he would exhaust his right to speak further in this debate. This is based on a ruling given by Hon. Rene Beaudoin, Speaker of the House of Commons in Ottawa, on February 18th. On that occasion Mr. J. Watson MacNaught, Parliamentary Assistant to the Ministry of Fisheries, opened a debate on second reading of a Bill. He was followed by another member. At that point, Mr. A. W. Stuart (Charlotte) interjected a question. The question was answered. Mr. S. R. Balcolm (Halifax) continued the debate, followed by Mr. G. C. Nolan (Digby, Annapol. Kings). When Mr. Nolan sat down, Mr. Stuart rose to speak. Gen. Pearkes (Esquimalt-Saanich) pointed out that Mr. Stuart had already spoken. Mr. Stuart protested that he had not spoken, that he had asked a question.

The Speaker made the following ruling: “ In asking a question, the honourable member exhausted his right to speak on the second reading of this Bill, the honourable member from Esquimalt-Saanich may now speak.” That is from *Hansard*, pages 2223–2225, February 18th.

It has been the custom in this House that, during a speech, any member may rise in his place and ask Mr. Speaker if the member speaking will permit a question. It is then for the member speaking, in his entire discretion, either to yield or refuse. But it must be a question only without any statement or argument preceding or added to it.

I am quite prepared, if the House so wishes, to respect what has been practised in this House in the past and permit the asking of a question during a speech, without penalty, provided that there is no preamble or addition to that question.

I trust this is acceptable to the House.

T. J. IRWIN, *Speaker*.

On the motion of the Hon. W. A. C. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Webster, it was *Ordered*,—

That the practice as above stated by Mr. Speaker is acceptable to the House.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the Session.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mrs. *Arsens*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

On the motion of the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett*, seconded by the Hon. *P. A. Gaglardi*, it was *Ordered*,—

That on Thursday, March 4th, 1954, and all following days of the Session there will be two distinct sittings on each day—one from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. and one from 8 p.m. until adjournment—unless otherwise ordered.

The Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett* presented the Fifteenth Annual Report of the Public Utilities Commission, under the “Public Utilities Act,” for the Year ended December 31st, 1953.

The Hon. *W. D. Black* presented the Fourteenth Annual Report of the Business done in pursuance of the “Municipal Superannuation Act” for the Year ended March 31st, 1953.

Mr. *Winch* asked the Hon. the Minister of Labour the following question:—

Do the provisions of the “Annual Holidays Act” apply to Government employees?

The Hon. *L. Wicks* replied as follows:—

“No.”

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.59 p.m.

Thursday, March 4th, 1954.

HALF-PAST TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. Father *J. P. Farrell*.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the Session.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Gibbs*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

The Hon. *R. E. Sommers* presented the Annual Report of the Minister of Mines for the Year ended December 31st, 1953.

The Hon. *L. Wicks* presented the Fourth Annual Report of the Provincial Advisory Committee on Indian Affairs for the Year ended December 31st, 1953.

By leave of the House, the following notice of questions standing on the Order Paper in the name of Mr. *Moore* was withdrawn:—

1. Did the Government set up a Commission last year to investigate the conditions as they pertain to the British Columbia Division of the Canadian Institute for the Blind?
2. If the answer to No. 1 is yes, has the Government received a report from this Commission?
3. If the answer to No. 2 is yes, will the report be tabled with the Legislature?
4. If the answer to No. 3 is yes, when will the report be tabled with the Legislature?

Mr. *Winch* asked the Hon. the Attorney-General the following questions:—

1. What is the normal bed capacity of the women's gaols at (a) Oakalla and (b) Prince George respectively?
2. How many inmates are there at the present time at each of the above gaols?
3. What action (a) has been taken or (b) is proposed for early implementation to provide adequate facilities for the care and treatment of women gaol inmates?

The Hon. *R. W. Bonner* replied as follows:—

"1. (a) Normal bed capacity of the Women's Gaol, Oakalla Prison Farm, as at February 24th, 1954, 40, and (b) normal bed capacity of the Women's Gaol, Prince George, as at February 24th, 1954, 40.

"2. Population of the Women's Gaol, Oakalla Prison Farm, as at February 24th, 1954, 58, and population of the Women's Gaol, Prince George, as at February 24th, 1954, 33.

"3. (a) Four small buildings have been constructed in front of the Women's Gaol, Oakalla Prison Farm, for use in training programme for female inmates, also a new occupational-therapy room has been added by completing the second story of the Women's Building; this is used for occupational therapy and hobby programme; and (b) preliminary planning for a new Women's Gaol, cottage type, is under way and investigations have been made regarding a suitable site."

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 2 o'clock p.m. to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 5.59 p.m.

Friday, March 5th, 1954.

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *D. B. Carr*.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the Session.

The debate continued.

Motion unanimously agreed to, all members being present except Messrs. *Gibbs*, *Haggen*, and *Segur*.

On the motion of the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett*, seconded by the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*, it was *Resolved*,—

That this House will, at its next sitting, resolve itself into a Committee to consider the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

On the motion of the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett*, seconded by the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*, it was *Resolved*,—

That this House will, at its next sitting, resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the Ways and Means for raising the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

Mr. *Matthew* presented the First Report of the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills, as follows:—

REPORT NO. 1.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,

March 3rd, 1954.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills begs leave to report as follows:—

That the Standing Orders in respect to the petition of the British Pacific Insurance Company for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'British Pacific Casualty Company Act, 1913,'" have been complied with, and your Committee recommends that the petitioner be allowed to proceed with the Bill.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. S. MATTHEW, *Chairman*.

The report was read and received.

By leave of the House, the Rules were suspended and the report adopted.

Mr. *Matthew* presented the Second Report of the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills, as follows:—

REPORT NO. 2.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,

March 3rd, 1954.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills begs leave to report as follows:—

That the Standing Orders in respect to the petition of George Ronald Brown, George Wilson Blackwell, and David Sigler for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled "An Act to incorporate Universal General Insurance Company" have been complied with, and your Committee recommends that the petitioners be allowed to proceed with the Bill.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. S. MATTHEW, *Chairman*.

The report was read and received.

By leave of the House, the Rules were suspended and the report adopted.

Mr. *Matthew* presented the Third Report of the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills, as follows:—

REPORT No. 3.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 3rd, 1954.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills begs leave to report as follows:—

That the Standing Orders in respect to the petition of the English Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Redeemer for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Shaughnessy Heights Building Restriction Act, 1922,'" have been complied with, and your Committee recommends that the petitioner be allowed to proceed with the Bill.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. S. MATTHEW, *Chairman.*

The report was read and received.

By leave of the House, the Rules were suspended and the report adopted.

Mr. *Matthew* presented the Fourth Report of the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills, as follows:—

REPORT No. 4.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 3rd, 1954.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills begs leave to report as follows:—

That the Standing Orders in respect to the petition of certain land-owners of the City of North Vancouver for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'City of North Vancouver Grand Boulevard Restriction Act, 1949,'" have been complied with, and the Committee recommends that the petitioners be allowed to proceed with the Bill.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. S. MATTHEW, *Chairman.*

The report was read and received.

By leave of the House, the Rules were suspended and the report adopted.

Mr. *Matthew* presented the Fifth Report of the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills, as follows:—

REPORT No. 5.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 3rd, 1954.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills begs leave to report as follows:—

That, while the Standing Orders in respect to the petition of the City of Vancouver for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Vancouver

Charter ' ' have not been complied with in respect to deposit with the Clerk of the House within the time required of the petition, copy of the Bill, and requisite fees, and in respect of proof of advertising, the Committee nevertheless recommends that the Rules be suspended, and that the petitioner be allowed to proceed with the Bill.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. S. MATTHEW, *Chairman.*

The report was read and received.

By leave of the House, the Rules were suspended and the report adopted.

Mr. *Matthew* presented the Sixth Report of the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills, as follows:—

REPORT NO. 6.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 3rd, 1954.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills begs leave to report as follows:—

1. That the petition of Minnie Mead May and of Minnie Mead May as liquidator of Gibson Mining Company Limited (Non-Personal Liability) does not comply with the provisions of Standing Orders in the following respects:—

- (a) The petitioner, Minnie Mead May, in her alleged capacity as liquidator of Gibson Mining Company Limited (Non-Personal Liability) has not filed with the Clerk of the House her authority for signing the petition in such capacity, as required by Standing Order 101:
- (b) The petition is not in the form or the approximate form prescribed by Appendix A of Standing Orders:
- (c) The petition does not embody a prayer for the passage of an Act, either public or private:
- (d) The copy of published notice filed does not clearly and distinctly specify the nature and object of the application as required by Standing Order 100 (1), and the said notice is at variance with the prayer of the petition.

2. That the petition does not appear to set forth a case in which the House has jurisdiction to interfere, inasmuch as the recitals in the petition indicate that both Gibson Mining Company Limited (Non-Personal Liability) and Daybreak Mining Company Limited (the registered owner of the mining claims referred to in the petition) are in process of being wound up under the provisions of the "Winding-up Act," an Act of the Parliament of Canada.

The Committee recommends that the order for receiving the petition be discharged, and the sum of three hundred dollars, deposited by the petitioners by way of fees, be refunded.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. S. MATTHEW, *Chairman.*

The report was read and received.

By leave of the House, the Rules were suspended and the report adopted.

Mr. *Matthew* presented the Seventh Report of the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills, as follows:—

REPORT NO. 7.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 3rd, 1954.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills begs leave to report as follows:—

That the Standing Orders in respect to the petition of Arthur Hugo Ray, William Henry Murray Haldane, James Duncan Donald Campbell, and Helen Vera Paterson for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled "An Act to incorporate Pacific Automobile and Fire Insurance Company" have not been complied with in respect to deposit with the Clerk of the House within the time required of the petition, copy of the Bill, fees, and proof of publication of notice of application, and the Committee recommends that the petitioners be not allowed to proceed with the Bill, and further recommends that the sum of six hundred dollars, deposited by way of fees, be refunded.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. S. MATTHEW, *Chairman.*

The report was read and received.

By leave of the House, the Rules were suspended and the report adopted.

On the motion of the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*, seconded by the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*, it was *Ordered*,—

Whereas on the 25th day of November, 1950, the Mount Maxwell Park Board, of Ganges, as vendor, entered into an agreement with one Armand Quesnel and William T. Guyer, as purchasers, operating as the Q.L.K. Logging Company, of Ganges, whereby the vendor agreed to sell to the purchasers all the merchantable timber on the North Half of Section 49 and the South-east Quarter of Section 49, of South Saltspring Island, Cowichan Land District, for \$130,000, on the terms and conditions mentioned in the said agreement, and that the said agreement was subsequently assigned by the said Quesnel and Guyer to one Mohan Singh:

And whereas the timber contracted to be sold under this agreement comprised the total stand of timber on Mount Bruce Provincial Park and belonged to the Crown in right of the Province and it appeared that the Mount Maxwell Park Board had no authority to sell the said timber:

And whereas by agreement, dated the 15th day of June, 1951, between the then Attorney-General of the Province of British Columbia and Mohan Singh and the Mount Maxwell Park Board, after reciting that the Attorney-General contemplated bringing action against Mohan Singh for obtaining the said timber contrary to the provisions of the "Forest Act," it was agreed that the contemplated action be settled upon the terms and conditions therein set out and it was intended by the parties thereto that the agreement should be ratified at the next Session of the Legislature (February, 1952):

And whereas the said last-mentioned agreement was never ratified by the Legislature:

And whereas it is deemed expedient to cause an inquiry into the above-mentioned matters and all other matters relative thereto:

And whereas these matters were submitted to the Select Standing Committee of the House on Forestry and Fisheries for inquiry in the last Session of the House:

And whereas a final report was not submitted to the House:

Therefore be it Resolved, That the matters above recited be again referred to the Select Standing Committee of the House on Forestry and Fisheries for inquiry and to make recommendations in respect thereof to this Legislature:

And be it further Resolved, That, in making its inquiry, the Committee shall be empowered to examine and inquire into all such matters and things as may be pertinent to the subject and to send for persons, papers, and records as required.

On the motion of the Hon. *W. D. Black*, seconded by the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*, it was *Ordered*,—

This House authorize the Select Standing Committee on Municipal Matters to hear representations from the Union of British Columbia Municipalities and any other body or individual desiring to make representations to the said Committee and to report its findings to the House.

The Hon. *W. D. Black* presented the Report of Inquiry pursuant to the "Public Inquiries Act" into the Circumstances of Landslides at Whatshan Dam by the Hon. Mr. Justice Clyne, dated March 4th, 1954.

Mr. *Eddie* asked the Hon. the Minister of Health and Welfare the following questions:—

1. Have there been any changes in the procedure for obtaining reports from field-service workers on applicants for old-age pensions in the 65-69-year group?

2. If the answer to No. 1 is yes, (a) when was the order issued, (b) what is the total number of applications received from the date of your order to December 31st, 1953, and (c) have any applications taken more than two months for final disposal?

3. If the answer to No. 2 (c) is yes, how many were granted (a) in Vancouver and (b) in Victoria?

4. If the answer to No. 2 (c) is yes, how many were refused (a) in Vancouver and (b) in Victoria?

5. How many field-service workers are employed by the Provincial Government to investigate these applications?

6. If other agencies have been engaged to do this work, who are they and what are the arrangements?

The Hon. *E. C. F. Martin* replied as follows:—

" 1. No.

" 2, 3, and 4. Answered by No. 1.

" 5. Social workers do a generalized service for many categories in addition to old-age pensions.

" 6. None."

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 3 o'clock p.m. on Monday next.

And then the House adjourned at 5.57 p.m.