

JOURNALS

OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

SESSION 1978

Thursday, March 30, 1978

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

This being the first day of the third meeting of the Thirty-first Parliament or Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia for the dispatch of business, pursuant to a Proclamation of Colonel the Honourable WALTER S. OWEN, Q.C., LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, dated the 5th day of January 1978, the members took their seats.

The Honourable WALTER S. OWEN, Q.C., LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, entered the House.

The Hon. *Grace McCarthy*, Provincial Secretary, said:

"Members of the Legislative Assembly:

"I am commanded by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to announce that he does not see fit to declare the cause of his summoning you at this time, and will not do so until you have chosen a Speaker to preside over your Honourable Body. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor hopes to be enabled to declare, during the afternoon, his reasons for calling you together."

His Honour was then pleased to retire.

The Hon. *G. B. Gardom*, addressing himself to the Clerk, moved, seconded by Mr. *King*, that *Harvey Wilfred Schroeder*, Esquire, Member for Chilliwack Electoral District, do take the Speaker's chair and preside over the meetings of this Assembly.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

Ian M. Horne, Q.C., the Clerk of the House, having declared *Harvey Wilfred Schroeder* duly elected, he was then taken out of his place by the mover and seconder, and conducted to the chair, where, standing on the upper step, he expressed his grateful thanks to the House for the great honour they had been pleased to confer upon him by choosing him to be their Speaker.

And thereupon he sat down in the chair, and the mace was laid upon the table.

Prayers by Lieut.-Col. *H. Sharp*.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor again entered the House and took his seat on the Throne. The Speaker, standing on His Honour's right, then spoke to the following effect:

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

"The House of Assembly have elected me as their Speaker, though I am but little able to fulfil the important duties thus assigned to me.

"If, in the performance of those duties, I should at any time fall into error, I pray that the fault be imputed to me, and not to the Assembly, whose servant I am, and who, through me, the better to enable them to discharge their duty to their Queen and country, humbly claim all their undoubted rights and privileges, especially that they may have the freedom of speech in their debates, access to Your Honour's person at all seasonable times, and that their proceedings may receive from Your Honour the most favourable interpretation."

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor was then pleased to open the Session by the following gracious Speech:

Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:

I am pleased to welcome Members to this Third Session of the Thirty-first Parliament of British Columbia.

British Columbia within Canada

I am confident that all Honourable Members will recognize that we are meeting at a crucial time in the development of our province and our nation. A time which calls for an increased measure of public service and commitment from us all if we are to meet the formidable challenges which are faced on all fronts.

History shows that through firm resolve and hard work the people of Canada have often overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles so as to achieve a quality of life of which we all can be justly proud. My government is confident that current challenges can in like measure be fully and satisfactorily met.

Honourable Members, in making reference to history it is fitting to recall that we are commemorating this year the bicentennial of Captain James Cook's third voyage to the Pacific and the exploration and discoveries he made along this coast. It is almost two hundred years to the day that Captain Cook landed at Nootka Sound. Captain Cook's landing there in 1778 established the claim of the British Crown to the western shores of what was to become the Crown Colony of Vancouver Island and subsequently, in 1866, part of the United Colony of British Columbia.

Honourable Members might well recall that it was by choice—not by conquest or by purchase—that the United Colony of British Columbia entered the Canadian federation in 1871 and thereby made it possible for Canada to span a continent and to rightfully have as its motto "From sea to sea we prosper."

At the last sitting of the Second Session held yesterday my government tabled with the House a presentation made by my First Minister to the Task Force on Canadian Unity during its recent visit to Vancouver. Honourable Members will see that the record shows that British Columbia is a region separate and distinct in its history, in its demography, in its culture, and in its economic thrust from

any of the other regions of Canada. Our roots are in many cultures and founding races.

My government is of the firm conviction that the overwhelming majority of British Columbians are committed to a united Canada from coast to coast—but one wherein the unique differences of each of the country's five regions can be fully accommodated.

Honourable Members will also perceive that the presentation to the Task Force on Canadian Unity made by my First Minister contains specific proposals for the restructuring of our federal system and its institutions so as to bring to bear, in a new and more meaningful way, aspirations of the regions in the national decision-making process.

During the course of this Session, Members will be given a specific opportunity to express their views on the future of the Canadian federation.

Significant Events and Developments During 1977

During the past year the Province was honoured by the visit of many distinguished people including His Royal Highness, Prince Andrew.

Other visitors included Her Excellency, Madame Leger, wife of His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada; Chancellor Helmut Schmidt of West Germany; Dr. Herbert Kessler, Premier of the Austrian Province of Vorarlberg; Dr. Alfons Goppel, Premier of Bavaria; Prime Minister Tupuola Efi, of Western Samoa; Bernhard Vogel, First Vice-President of the German Bundesrat and Premier of the Rhineland Palatinate; Lord Louis Mountbatten; and the Lord Mayor of London, His Honour R. Gillett.

In addition, ten High Commissioners and Ambassadors paid official visits during the past year.

I note with sadness the death during the past year of Francis Xavier Richter, a Member of this House from 1953 to 1975, serving with distinction as Minister of Agriculture from 1960 to 1968, and Minister of Mines and Petroleum Resources and Minister of Commercial Transport from 1968 to 1972.

We also mourn the deaths of three other former Members of this House: Maurice Patrick Finnerty, who represented the Electoral District of Similkameen from 1950 to 1952; Jacob Francis Huhn from North Peace River, who served from 1960 to 1966; and John McRae Eddie, who represented New Westminster from 1952 to 1969.

I also wish to note the resignation of the former Member for Oak Bay, Dr. G. Scott Wallace, who was a valued Member of this Assembly from 1969 to the end of 1977. I welcome in his place Mr. Victor Stephens who was successful in a by-election in the Constituency of Oak Bay on March 20th, 1978.

It is with pleasure that I learned of the appointment of an Auditor-General, and that again an all-party committee of our Legislature has been established to select an Ombudsman honouring commitments made by my government during the first session of this Parliament.

I was pleased to be advised by my government of a number of new programs for people which are now in operation. Members of this Assembly can take satisfaction from the fact that these new programs have been a direct result of the improving economic performance of the Province.

The Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing advises that the new SAFER program, providing assistance to elderly renters, is now in operation. My Minister further advises that revenue sharing for municipalities will be commenced this year

—honouring a commitment made by my government during the First Session of this Thirty-first Parliament.

I am advised by the Minister of Education that the introduction of the "Open Learning Institute" will bring educational programs to adults of our province through television, radio and the printed medium in their homes or at their place of employment.

My government, through the Ministry of Health, has introduced a new Long-Term Care program. It is estimated that many thousands of British Columbians will be entitled to receive coverage under this often-promised program.

My Minister of Human Resources, in recognition of the continuing policy to help the less fortunate in our society, announced increases in the allowances to be paid handicapped persons. In addition, a more equitable homemaker program was introduced, and changes to broaden the availability of day care were made.

The Attorney-General advises me that he will be continuing an aggressive campaign against the impaired driving problem.

During the past year, the multi-faceted "CounterAttack" program has had a significant impact through the introduction of year-round police road checks and the breath-alcohol-testing mobile units. In addition, the people of British Columbia have been called upon to take a personal responsibility for reducing this social and criminal problem.

I am pleased to note that local "CounterAttack" committees are being developed across the province and such forms of citizen participation have contributed to a heightened consciousness and knowledge of this problem.

My Minister tells me all these activities and others will continue as a fact of life in British Columbia.

The Canadian Economy

Honourable Members, in November of 1977, a visit to my First Minister from the Right Honourable Pierre Elliott Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, set in motion events leading to the First Ministers' Conference in Ottawa, in mid-February of this year, to discuss the Canadian economy. It was recognized that steps are necessary to deal with a sluggish Canadian economy caused in part by government over-spending, lack of effective economic stabilization, federal industrial policies that have concentrated on narrow and short-term measures without an over-riding set of national economic objectives, and policies that are often unco-ordinated and unrelated to one another.

Yesterday, my government tabled a document entitled, "Towards an Economic Strategy for Canada; the British Columbia Position." This document, supported by eight equally comprehensive background papers was put forward at the First Ministers' Conference in Ottawa by British Columbia. It contains my government's solutions to the deep-rooted, economic difficulties with which the country is faced.

My government believes that the twin enemies of our people are an unacceptable level of Unemployment and Inflation—and that these have been our enemies for far too long.

However, Honourable Members will realize that significant steps were agreed upon at the Conference. All eleven First Ministers agreed that an expanding private sector would provide the major impetus for growth to the Canadian economy. All eleven governments agreed that government expenditure growth should be held, on average, to less than the growth in the Gross Provincial Product; and that current large deficits impede the ability of governments to provide the

stimulus needed by the economy because of the interest charges against dead weight debt carried by government. These charges are the unfair burden that future generations must carry as the result of the past excesses of government.

It is the view of my government that perhaps the most significant aspect of the First Ministers' Conference is that it marks the first time that the Government of Canada has recognized that the future of our country requires a high level of co-ordination, co-operation, and input from provincial governments to develop national economic policy and goals. My government has been advocating such an approach since it took office. In addition, it places high priority on developing the necessary follow-up mechanisms which will ensure that decisions taken during the Conference are properly and fully implemented and their results carefully monitored.

The Provincial Economy

During the life of this Parliament, my government has consistently emphasized that the people of British Columbia are ready and willing to accept the responsibility for building an economy *which is capable of working for people*.

Last year, the economy of the Province, in real terms, grew at an annual rate of 4.3 per cent compared with 2.6 per cent for Canada. Our growth was thus 65 per cent above that experienced at the national level.

Most important of all, British Columbia created 15 per cent of the new jobs found in Canada during 1977, although this province has only 11 per cent of the national work force.

In achieving this record, it is significant that last year time lost due to labour-management disputes within the provincial jurisdiction fell from 1,452,646 man-days in 1976 to 138,138 man-days in 1977. This is one of the lowest of such totals recorded in the province.

It is further encouraging to report that investment in manufacturing during 1977 rose by 21 per cent in real terms.

My Minister of Mines and Petroleum Resources advises me that government policy changes have resulted in a dramatic increase in the exploration for oil and natural gas during 1977. The 20.8 per cent increase in the value of mineral production, I am sure, will not go unrecognized by the people of British Columbia for its positive impact on employment.

It is fortunate, too, that predictions of insufficient natural gas reserves for the Grizzly Valley pipeline, have proven to be unfounded. This and other new pipelines in northern British Columbia will substantially add to our job-generating capacity and our energy reserves.

My government advises me that the forward thrust in our economy has created the expectation that British Columbia will be one of the bright spots in Canada. Independent authorities, including the Conference Board of Canada, predict that the economy of British Columbia will again run well ahead of the anticipated performance of the Canadian economy as a whole.

Honourable Members, my government advises that during the course of this Session you will be given further cause for optimism as to future economic prospects of this Province.

Proposals for Job Creation

My government believes that the private sector should be the engine which drives our economy towards the goal of more permanent jobs and that government should not fall into the trap of becoming the provider of short-lived employment.

However, my government, along with the private sector, has a role to play in establishing the infrastructure and the environment which will generate the necessary confidence in the private sector. Working together on the problem of job creation, both public and private sectors will achieve real results in the creation of permanent jobs, and will build a secure future for this province.

Therefore, my government proposes to take the following direct job-generating action:

- Funds for the construction of new community mental health centres in a number of areas.
- Major new construction programs for the provision of health units and court facilities throughout the Province.
- A continuing highway maintenance and construction program, to catch up with the lag in the early 70's.
- The seeking of an increase in the federal government contribution to northern road construction as contained in the Western Northlands Highway Agreement, in particular recognition of the impact the proposed Alcan Pipeline will have on the entire northern highway system of the Province.
- A new program of assistance for the exploration and development of new mines will be introduced by the Minister of Mines and Petroleum Resources.
- The Ministry of Labour will add greater emphasis to its apprenticeship program.
- The Ministry of Labour's Youth Employment Program will provide many thousands of new jobs this summer with the inclusion of a training component in the program.
- The Minister of Energy, Transport and Communications will ask you to provide funds for a major provincial undertaking with respect to the upgrading of airport facilities throughout British Columbia. My government has taken this step not only to create employment now but in recognition of the fact that the federal government has not served this province well in providing these much needed facilities. My Minister advises me, therefore, the government will wait no longer for positive action.
- Major new construction of educational facilities and hospitals will be undertaken by both my Ministry of Education and my Ministry of Health.
- My Ministry of Travel Industry predicts that extensive promotional programs will see still further increases in tourist spending in this province, and will provide welcome new employment in the service industries.
- Increased financial assistance for first-time home buyers will result in more demand for housing construction. This program which will be available to all first-time home buyers will be especially significant to our young people. My government believes that the expectations of home ownership, destroyed in recent years, should be restored.

These programs will put more British Columbians to work now, and at the same time build a more secure future for this province.

The Forest Industry

Honourable Members and citizens of this province need little reminding of the importance to us all of our forests and the industry which harvests its products. My government will be placing major emphasis at this Session of the Legislature on this key area of economy. The present and future health of this important resource cannot be left to chance, and my Minister of Forests will be presenting

you with initiatives which will see that actions are taken by government and industry to keep our forests in the forefront as a source of permanent employment, both now and in the future.

New forest and range legislation will be presented for your consideration to bring about long-needed changes to government's role in managing these important natural resources and to permit us to increase the degree to which we make use of them. A major program of intensive forest management, involving the private and public sectors of our economy, will be called for—an action which is part of an ongoing program to ensure that our forests continue to be a major source of new and lasting jobs for British Columbians. My government considers that handing over to future generations a healthy forest resource is one of its most sacred trusts. My Forest ministry has been charged by my First Minister to play a major role in the government program to create work today and build a secure future for tomorrow.

Government Deregulation

In keeping with the views expressed at the First Ministers' Conference, my government firmly believes that one of the most important contributions that can be made by government is to provide the climate in which the private sector can better respond to the challenge of providing jobs and opportunities for our people. Accordingly, my government will be examining, ministry by ministry, the proliferation of boards, agencies, commissions and departmental structures with a view to cutting regulations which no longer serve a useful public purpose. It is my government's view that government must become less of a burden and more of a servant.

Aid to Small Business

All eleven of the country's First Ministers have agreed recently that governments must play a more productive and positive role in the Canadian economy, and my government recognizes that this agreement carries with it the implication that it must act to encourage those in the private sector to grow.

In addition to proposing measures which will lessen the deadweight of government regulation, therefore, my government will put forward for your consideration policies which recognizes the great potential for new jobs if the many small businesses in the province are given the chance to prosper.

Last year this province signed an Industrial Development Subsidiary Agreement totalling \$110,000,000 with Canada to foster the development of small enterprise. Directly or indirectly all of the different programs which will be introduced under this agreement will be geared to assist new and existing industries within the Province, with particular emphasis on small and medium sized firms.

As part of this Industrial Development program the British Columbia Development Corporation will make available \$20,000,000 in low-interest loans to businesses wishing to modernize, expand, or establish manufacturing or processing facilities.

My government recognizes that much of our international economy must involve large corporations. However, my government also believes that small businesses profoundly influence the growth of Canada, often by starting small and becoming big.

My government realizes that small business has suffered neglect throughout North America and Europe in recent times as a primary provider of job opportunities and Honourable Members will be asked to give positive support to small business.

The provincial scene should not be dominated by big government, big business, or big labour.

Agriculture

My government believes that the people of British Columbia realize the importance of protecting our ability to produce our own food. The use of land for agricultural purposes confers environmental as well as economic benefits on all of our people. Moreover, my government recognizes that the agricultural industry, through the preservation of the family farm, serves to maintain the total quality of life in British Columbia.

Therefore, in parallel with my government's commitment to an incentive policy for small business, my Ministry of Agriculture will expand programs to ensure further opportunities within the Province for the maintenance of a viable agricultural community.

I was pleased to be advised by my Minister of Agriculture that the Farm Income Stabilization program, while costly, will continue to provide British Columbia food producers with the best income assistance program in Canada.

The Ministry of Agriculture has taken positive steps to urge upon the Canadian Government that western agriculture must not be traded off in tariff negotiations at Geneva to achieve unwise protection for the industrial plants of Central Canada. In particular, British Columbia has, along with the three other western provinces, vigorously taken the position that British Columbia growers must have seasonal protection from farm produce imported from earlier markets.

During 1976, my Ministry of Agriculture developed a policy position with the Government of Canada under the Agriculture and Rural Development Act. This resulted in the signing of an \$86,750,000 agreement with the federal government in July 1977 . . . the largest such agreement of its type in Canada.

The programs under this agreement will also be complementary to my government's proposals with respect to small business. Major emphasis is being placed by my Ministry on the development of secondary processing and value-added production for the agricultural industry.

Social Policy Proposals

My government remains firm in the belief that the family unit is the most important building block upon which our society rests. Therefore, my social services ministries will ask you to consider a wide range of proposals for advancing family law into the twentieth century.

My Attorney-General advises me that Members will be asked to deal with a new Family Relations Act enshrining the principles of fairness and equity in family relations and family property. Matters related to custody, access and guardianship of children will also be included in the proposed statute.

My Ministry of the Attorney-General will also develop new programs designed to assist collection procedures for those who are entitled to family maintenance support.

A Good Samaritan Act will be introduced to clarify the legal responsibilities of citizens who help persons in distress.

My government will introduce a system of relieving the burden from homeowners who through misfortune miss the claim deadline existing under current legislation.

A new Health Bill will be introduced to bring realistic and compassionate treatment, based on the health needs rather than the criminal approach, to those dependent upon heroin. The aim is to enable those addicts to obtain an acceptable life-style.

Also proposed is a new detoxification centre in Vancouver as a humane alternative to the notorious "drunk tank."

The Minister of Health also advises me that commencing July 1, 1978, an additional 110,000 persons will receive increases in the premium assistance provided through the medical plan to low income residents of the province.

Additional Programs and Proposals

Honourable Members of this Assembly will be asked by my Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to undertake important new initiatives in the field of urban transit.

My government will also ask Members of this Assembly to consider other legislation to be introduced by my ministers—including a complete revision to the Land Registry Act, amendments to the Motor Carriers Act, the Energy Act, and various statutes under the Ministry of Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

My government intends to undertake a new program of park land acquisition to enhance public access to shoreline recreation. Under a new Wildlife Management Plan, my government will provide special protection to threatened and endangered species.

Honourable Members, you will shortly receive for the first time, the report of the Comptroller-General on the finances of the province for the eleven months ended February 28, 1978, which you will find indicates a surplus for that period. You will then be asked to consider a new budget which will emphasize again the importance of governments performing within the limits of their income.

My First Minister advises me that the ideas expressed in this address and the budget proposals which are to follow, have but one direction—and that is jobs and new programs to serve our people.

I have commanded my government to present for your consideration in due course Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure of the Province for the fiscal year 1978-79 and recommendations that supply be granted to defray the several expenditures included in the Estimates and to make good certain sums expended for the Public Service for the fiscal year 1976-77.

Therefore, Honourable Members, I charge you now with the responsibility for the conduct of the business of this Session, in full confidence that your deliberations will bring lasting benefit to the citizens of British Columbia you serve. And I further pray that Divine Providence may guide your deliberations.

I leave you now to carry out your legislative duties.

God Save the Queen and God Bless Canada.

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

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

On the motion of the Hon. *G. B. Gardom*, Bill (No. 1) intituled *An Act to Perpetuate a Parliamentary Right* was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

On the motion of the Hon. *W. R. Bennett*, it was *Ordered*—

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

On the motion of the Hon. *Grace McCarthy*, 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. R. Bennett*, 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 Economic Affairs;
3. On Agriculture;
4. On Municipal Affairs and Housing;
5. On Labour and Justice;
6. On Health, Education, and Human Resources;
7. On Transportation and Communications;
8. On Environment and Resources;
9. On Crown Corporations;

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. *Grace McCarthy*, the Hon. *R. H. McClelland*, Mrs. *Jordan*, and Messrs. *King* and *Gibson*.

On the motion of the Hon. *G. B. Gardom*, it was *Ordered*—

That *Charles Stephen Rogers*, Esquire, 1st Member for Vancouver South Electoral District, be appointed Deputy Speaker for this Session of the Legislative Assembly.

By leave of the House, on the motion of the Hon. *G. B. Gardom*, it was *Ordered*—

That Report No. 9 of the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills, adopted by this House on February 27, 1973, relating to Oral Questions, be adopted by this House for the present Session.

By leave of the House, on the motion of the Hon. *G. B. Gardom*, it was *Ordered*—

That on each Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of this 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 11 p.m., and on each Friday there will be one sitting from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m., unless otherwise ordered.

The following papers were presented:

By the Hon. *Grace McCarthy* (Provincial Secretary)—

Annual Report of the British Columbia Lotteries Branch for the period April 1, 1976, to March 31, 1977.

Public Service Labour Relations Act, Report for 1977.

Report of the First Citizens' Fund Advisory Committee for the period January 1, 1977, to December 31, 1977.

Twenty-second Annual Report of the business done in pursuance of the *Members of the Legislative Assembly Superannuation Act*, year ended March 31, 1977.

Forty-second Annual Report of the business done in pursuance of the *Public Service Superannuation Act*, year ended March 31, 1977.

Thirty-eighth Annual Report of the business done in pursuance of the *Municipal Superannuation Act*, year ended December 31, 1976.

Ninth Annual Report of the business done in pursuance of the *College Pension Act*, year ended August 31, 1977.

Thirty-sixth Annual Report of the business done in pursuance of the *Teachers' Pensions Act*, year ended December 31, 1976.

First Annual Report of the business done in pursuance of the *Public Service Benefit Plans Act*, year ended March 31, 1977.

By the Hon. *E. M. Wolfe* (Minister of Finance)—

Return submitted in accordance with section 46 (2) of the *Revenue Act, Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1960*: Refunds and remissions made under section 46 (1) of the *Revenue Act, Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1960*, during the calendar year 1977.

Return submitted in accordance with section 85 (4) of the *Taxation Act*: Remissions and refunds made under authority of section 85 (1), (2), and (3) of the *Taxation Act, Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1960*, during the calendar year 1977.

Annual Report of the British Columbia Assessment Authority for the year ended December 31, 1976.

Annual Report of the Assessment Appeal Board for the year ended December 31, 1977.

Annual Report of the Purchasing Commission, January 1, 1977, to December 31, 1977.

Public Accounts of British Columbia for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1977.

By the Hon. *J. R. Chabot* (Minister of Mines and Petroleum Resources)—

The Annual Report of the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum Resources for the year 1976.

By the Hon. *H. A. Curtis* (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing)—

The Annual Report of the Housing Corporation of British Columbia for the year ended October 31, 1977.

By the Hon. *W. N. Vander Zalm* (Minister of Human Resources)—

The Annual Report of the Ministry of Human Resources for the calendar year 1976, with fiscal addendum April 1, 1975, to March 31, 1976.

By the Hon. *Jack Davis* (Minister of Energy, Transport and Communications)—

The First Annual Report for the Ministry of Energy, Transport and Communications for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1977.

The Fifth Annual Report of the British Columbia Energy Commission for the year ended December 31, 1977.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 10 o'clock a.m. tomorrow.

And then the House adjourned at 3.30 p.m.

Friday, March 31, 1978

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *Gilbert D. Smith*.

By leave, Mr. *King* made a statement relating to the Select Standing Committee on Agriculture and the Special Committee to appoint an Ombudsman.

Mr. *Davidson* moved, seconded by Mr. *Bawtree*—

"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. *King*, on behalf of Mr. *Barrett*, the debate was adjourned until the next sitting of the House.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 2 o'clock p.m. on Monday next.

The Hon. *D. M. Phillips* (Minister of Economic Development) presented the Financial Statements for the British Columbia Railway for the year ended December 30, 1977.

The Hon. *H. A. Curtis* (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing) presented the Annual Report of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing for the year ended December 31, 1977.

And then the House adjourned at 11.30 a.m.

Monday, April 3, 1978

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

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

The letter of the Deputy Provincial Secretary and the certificate of the Chief Electoral Officer of the result of the election of a member were read by the Law Clerk and Clerk Assistant, as follows:

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY PROVINCIAL SECRETARY,
VICTORIA, B.C., March 30, 1978

*"Mr. Ian M. Horne, Q.C.,
"Clerk of the Legislative Assembly,
"Parliament Buildings, Victoria, B.C.*

Re By-election, Oak Bay Electoral District, March 20, 1978

"Dear Sir—I enclose herewith certified copy of the certificate of K. L. Morton, Chief Electoral Officer, respecting the election of Victor Albert Stephens, to represent the Oak Bay Electoral District in the Legislative Assembly.

"Yours very truly,

"GERALD H. CROSS,
"Deputy Provincial Secretary"

(ENCLOSURE)

"CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, REGISTRAR-GENERAL OF VOTERS,
"VANCOUVER, B.C., April 1, 1978

*"Gerald H. Cross, Q.C.,
"Deputy Provincial Secretary,
"Parliament Buildings, Victoria, B.C.*

Re By-election, Oak Bay Electoral District, March 20, 1978

"Dear Sir—The resignation, effective December 31, 1977, of *George Scott Wallace*, the elected member for the Oak Bay Electoral District, caused a vacancy to occur in the Legislative Assembly.

"A Writ, calling for a by-election to fill that vacancy, was issued on February 10, 1978, Polling Day being March 20, 1978.

From the Writ now returned to me, I hereby certify the election of *Victor Albert Stephens* as the member to represent the Oak Bay Electoral District in the Legislative Assembly.

"Yours very truly,

"K. L. MORTON,
"Chief Electoral Officer
and Registrar-General of Voters"

On the motion of the Hon. *Grace McCarthy* it was *Ordered*—

That the letter of the Deputy Provincial Secretary and the certificate of the Chief Electoral Officer of the result of the election of a member be entered upon the Journals of the House.

Mr. *Victor A. Stephens*, having taken the oath, and signed the Parliamentary Roll, was introduced by the Hon. *G. B. Gardom* and Mr. *King*, and took his seat.

Mr. *Stupich* rose on a matter of privilege and made a statement.

Mr. *Veitch* rose on a matter of privilege and made a statement.

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

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.

Mr. *Barrett* moved in amendment, seconded by Mrs. *Dailly*—

That the motion in reply to the Opening Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor be amended by adding the words: "But the House regrets that the speech of His Honour fails to show any economic thrust toward solving unemployment in the Province, and fails to provide any indication that the Government will change its policy of hiring non-Canadians in key posts in the public service or Crown corporations."

By leave, the Hon. *W. R. Bennett* (Premier) made a statement relating to the resignation of the Hon. *Jack Davis* (Minister of Energy, Transport and Communications) from the Executive Council.

The debate on the amendment resumed.

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

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 8 o'clock p.m. today.

The Hon. *J. J. Hewitt* (Minister of Agriculture) presented the Milk Board Annual Report for the year ended December 31, 1977.

Mr. *Bawtree* presented Report No. 2 of the Select Standing Committee on Agriculture.

REPORT NO. 2

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,

April 3, 1978

Mr. Speaker:

Your Select Standing Committee on Agriculture begs leave to report as follows:

The Committee has worked diligently to carry out the instructions which this Legislative Assembly gave nearly one year ago.

Under Phase I of our instructions, we have ascertained what agricultural land resources are available in this Province, and have compiled this information for

each of the nine agricultural reporting regions. From this information we are compiling data to determine what production capabilities are possible in each area of the Province.

Under the second phase, your Committee has identified what the agricultural production costs are in this Province and have compared these costs with the Province of Alberta and areas of the Pacific Northwest. We will be reporting where the greatest strengths and weaknesses are in the cost of production for each commodity in each of the agricultural reporting regions. We have reviewed current operations of all Marketing Boards.

In the third phase, we have identified and explained the cost factors of food processing, distribution, retailing, and food service in the Province, and are now comparing them with Alberta and pertinent parts of the Pacific Northwest. We will be reporting in detail British Columbia's strengths, weaknesses, and potentials in this sector. We have also examined the degree and effects of concentration of market power in this sector. We shall also report to you, by agricultural reporting region, the opinions and perceptions of the consumers on the agricultural and food system in British Columbia.

Although we have been delayed to some extent in each phase of our study, we are approximately 90 per cent complete in Phase I, and 80 per cent complete in Phases II and III. Phase IV has now commenced and work is progressing favourably.

We anticipate the publication of approximately 100 detailed reports on various aspects of the food system. Many of these reports are complete, and have been reviewed by the Committee.

The Committee wishes to acknowledge the contributions made by many individual citizens and groups who participated in public hearings and by answering questionnaires. There were 242 presentations made to the Committee during the public hearings which were conducted in many areas of the Province. There were 382 questionnaires sent to the commercial sector of the food industry and a total of 10,501 consumer questionnaires mailed in two series with a 58 per cent return on the second series of 7,618.

As the final phase of the study that this House instructed the Select Standing Committee on Agriculture to undertake is not completed, this Committee recommends that it be reconstituted at the earliest possible opportunity so that the work can be continued with minimum delay.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

LEN BAWTREE, *Chairman*

The Report was read and received.

And then the House adjourned at 6 p.m.

Monday, April 3, 1978

EIGHT O'CLOCK P.M.

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

The debate continued.

The House divided.

The amendment was negated on the following division:

YEAS—19

<i>Wallace, B.</i>	<i>Skelly</i>	<i>Lauk</i>	<i>Stupich</i>
<i>Barber</i>	<i>Sanford</i>	<i>Nicolson</i>	<i>King</i>
<i>Brown</i>	<i>Levi</i>	<i>Lea</i>	<i>Barrett</i>
<i>Barnes</i>	<i>Stephens</i>	<i>Cocke</i>	<i>Macdonald</i>
<i>Lockstead</i>	<i>Gibson</i>	<i>Dailly</i>	

NAYS—33

<i>Veitch</i>	<i>Calder</i>	<i>Phillips</i>	<i>Vander Zalm</i>
<i>Strongman</i>	<i>Fraser</i>	<i>McCarthy</i>	<i>Nielsen</i>
<i>Rogers</i>	<i>Curtis</i>	<i>Lloyd</i>	<i>Bawlf</i>
<i>Mussallem</i>	<i>Chabot</i>	<i>Kerster</i>	<i>Mair</i>
<i>Loewen</i>	<i>McGeer</i>	<i>Kempf</i>	<i>Williams</i>
<i>Bawtree</i>	<i>Wolfe</i>	<i>Kahl</i>	<i>McClelland</i>
<i>Smith</i>	<i>Bennett</i>	<i>Haddad</i>	<i>Hewitt</i>
<i>Jordan</i>	<i>Gardom</i>	<i>Davidson</i>	<i>Waterland</i>
<i>Shelford</i>			

The debate was resumed on the main motion.

The debate continued.

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

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

The Hon. *H. A. Curtis* (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing) tabled the following:

Report on the Administration of the *Transit Services Act* for the fiscal year 1976/77.

Financial statements for T.S. Holdings Limited and Subsidiary Companies for the year ended March 31, 1977.

And then the House adjourned at 10.59 p.m.

Tuesday, April 4, 1978

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *Norman K. Archer*.

The Hon. *L. A. Williams* (Minister of Labour) presented the Sixty-first Annual Report of the Workers' Compensation Board for the year ended December 31, 1977.

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

Mr. *King* rose on a point of order, namely, whether or not a government publication came within the definition of "media" in respect of the rules governing the content of questions in oral question period.

Mr. Speaker stated he would take the matter under advisement.

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.

Ms. *Brown* moved in amendment, seconded by Mrs. *Wallace*—

That the motion in reply to the Opening Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor be amended by adding the following words: "But this House regrets that the Speech of His Honour fails to outline any measures to alleviate the impact of the serious downturn in the economy on the women of this Province."

The debate on the amendment continued.

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

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 8 o'clock p.m. today.

And then the House adjourned at 5.58 p.m.

Tuesday, April 4, 1978

EIGHT O'CLOCK P.M.

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

The debate continued.

The House divided.

The amendment was negatived on the following division:

YEAS—17

Wallace
Brown
Barnes
Lockstead
Skelly

Sanford
Levi
Stephens
Lauk

Nicolson
Lea
Cocke
Dailly

Stupich
King
Barrett
Macdonald

NAYS—30

<i>Veitch</i>	<i>Shelford</i>	<i>McCarthy</i>	<i>Davidson</i>
<i>Strongman</i>	<i>Calder</i>	<i>Lloyd</i>	<i>Vander Zalm</i>
<i>Rogers</i>	<i>Fraser</i>	<i>Kerster</i>	<i>Nielsen</i>
<i>Mussallem</i>	<i>Curtis</i>	<i>Kempf</i>	<i>Bawlf</i>
<i>Loewen</i>	<i>Chabot</i>	<i>Kahl</i>	<i>Mair</i>
<i>Bawtree</i>	<i>McGeer</i>	<i>Haddad</i>	<i>Williams</i>
<i>Smith</i>	<i>Wolfe</i>	<i>Davis</i>	<i>Hewitt</i>
<i>Jordan</i>	<i>Phillips</i>		

The debate was resumed on the main motion.

The debate continued.

Mr. *Levi* moved in amendment, second by Mr. *Lea*—

That the motion in reply to the Opening Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor be amended by adding the words: "But this House regrets that the Speech of His Honour fails to provide any positive policies to stem the rising tide of personal and business bankruptcies and mortgage foreclosures."

The debate on the amendment continued.

The House divided.

The amendment was negatived on the following division:

YEAS—18

<i>Wallace</i>	<i>Skelly</i>	<i>Nicolson</i>	<i>Stupich</i>
<i>Brown</i>	<i>Sanford</i>	<i>Lea</i>	<i>King</i>
<i>Barnes</i>	<i>Levi</i>	<i>Cocke</i>	<i>Barrett</i>
<i>Lockstead</i>	<i>Stephens</i>	<i>Dailly</i>	<i>Macdonald</i>
<i>D'Arcy</i>	<i>Lauk</i>		

NAYS—32

<i>Veitch</i>	<i>Shelford</i>	<i>Phillips</i>	<i>Davidson</i>
<i>Strongman</i>	<i>Calder</i>	<i>McCarthy</i>	<i>Vander Zalm</i>
<i>Rogers</i>	<i>Fraser</i>	<i>Lloyd</i>	<i>Nielsen</i>
<i>Mussallem</i>	<i>Curtis</i>	<i>Kerster</i>	<i>Bawlf</i>
<i>Loewen</i>	<i>Chabot</i>	<i>Kempf</i>	<i>Mair</i>
<i>Bawtree</i>	<i>McGeer</i>	<i>Kahl</i>	<i>Williams</i>
<i>Smith</i>	<i>Wolfe</i>	<i>Haddad</i>	<i>Hewitt</i>
<i>Jordan</i>	<i>Bennett</i>	<i>Davis</i>	<i>Waterland</i>

Mr. *Lauk* rose on a point of order, namely, that the Minister of Economic Development having cited a document in debate, was bound to lay the same upon the table.

The Speaker stated he would peruse the record of the debate and determine whether the document ought to be tabled.

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

And then the House adjourned at 11.01 p.m.

Wednesday, April 5, 1978

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *C. Barner*.

The Hon. *R. H. McClelland* (Minister of Health) presented The Medical Services Plan of British Columbia financial statements, as at March 31, 1977.

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

By leave, the Hon. *K. R. Mair* (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs), tabled information in reply to a question by the 1st Member for Vancouver East today, relating to the Liquor Distribution Branch.

By leave, the Hon. *W. R. Bennett* (Premier) tabled information in reply to a question asked by the 1st Member for Vancouver East on April 3, relating to the Academic Advisory Group.

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.

By leave, Mr. *Cocke* tabled information referred to during debate today, relating to Pacific Western Airlines Limited.

The debate continued.

On the motion of the Hon. *L. A. Williams*, on behalf of the Hon. *K. R. Mair*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

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

The Hon. *A. V. Fraser* (Minister of Highways and Public Works) presented the Annual Report of the Ministry of Highways and Public Works for the fiscal year 1976/77.

The Hon. *L. A. Williams* (Minister of Labour) presented the Annual Report of the Labour Relations Board of British Columbia for the year 1977.

And then the House adjourned at 5.30 p.m.

Thursday, April 6, 1978

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *R. Forsythe*.

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

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.

By leave, the Hon. *G. B. Gardom* (Attorney-General) made a statement relating to the Honourable Member for North Vancouver-Seymour.

By leave, Mr. *Davis* made a statement.

By leave, Mr. *Macdonald* made a statement.

By leave, the Hon. *W. R. Bennett* (Premier) made a statement.

By leave, Mr. *Barrett* made a statement.

The debate resumed.

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

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 10 o'clock a.m. tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker delivered a reserved decision as follows:

On April 4, in debate, the Minister of Economic Development referred to a document apparently produced in his department. The Honourable 1st Member for Vancouver Centre rose on a point of order and said that the Minister was bound to table the document.

I have examined the "Blues" which indicate that the Minister did not quote from the document but rather summarized it and is therefore not required to table the document. The "Blues" also show, however, that the Minister indicated he would table the document.

For detailed explanation of the requirement that public documents cited in debate be tabled, I would refer Members to the 18th edition of May at page 421, and Speaker's decisions of February 1, 1977, and June 27, 1977, in the Journals of the House.

H. W. SCHROEDER, *Speaker*

And then the House adjourned at 6 p.m.

Friday, April 7, 1978

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *R. K. Vickers*.

Mr. Speaker advised the House of the death of George Edwin Hills, Esq., a former member of the Legislature, and stated that he would convey to the family of the late Mr. Hills the condolences and sympathy of the Members of the Legislative Assembly.

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.

By leave, the Rules were suspended to permit the member to continue past the hour of 12.45 p.m.

Motion agreed to on the following division:

YEAS—26

<i>Veitch</i>	<i>Fraser</i>	<i>Phillips</i>	<i>Vander Zalm</i>
<i>Strongman</i>	<i>Curtis</i>	<i>McCarthy</i>	<i>Nielsen</i>
<i>Rogers</i>	<i>Chabot</i>	<i>Kerster</i>	<i>Bawlf</i>
<i>Mussallem</i>	<i>McGeer</i>	<i>Kahl</i>	<i>Mair</i>
<i>Smith</i>	<i>Wolfe</i>	<i>Haddad</i>	<i>Williams</i>
<i>Jordan</i>	<i>Bennett</i>	<i>Davidson</i>	<i>McClelland</i>
<i>Calder</i>	<i>Gardom</i>		

NAYS—15

<i>Wallace</i>	<i>D'Arcy</i>	<i>Nicolson</i>	<i>Stupich</i>
<i>Barber</i>	<i>Sanford</i>	<i>Lea</i>	<i>King</i>
<i>Barnes</i>	<i>Levi</i>	<i>Cocke</i>	<i>Barrett</i>
<i>Lockstead</i>	<i>Lauk</i>	<i>Dailly</i>	

On the motion of the Hon. *E. M. Wolfe*, it was *Ordered*—

That this House will, at its next sitting, resolve itself into a Committee to consider the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty, and that this Order have precedence over all other business, except interim supply and introduction of Bills, until disposed of.

On the motion of the Hon. *E. M. Wolfe*, it was *Ordered*—

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

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 2 o'clock p.m. on Monday next.

And then the House adjourned at 1.03 p.m.