

JOURNALS  
OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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SESSION 1979

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**Thursday, March 22, 1979**

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TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. G. Fowler.

This being the first day of the fourth 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 the Honourable HENRY P. BELL-IRVING, D.S.O., O.B.E., E.D., Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, dated the 8th day of March, 1979, the members took their seats.

The Honourable HENRY P. BELL-IRVING, D.S.O., O.B.E., E.D., 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:*

It is with a sense of great pleasure and privilege that I have this opportunity to deliver the Speech from the Throne to the Members of this Assembly for the first time. In doing so, I am mindful of the dedicated service of those who have preceded me in performing this duty.

Therefore, Honourable Members, I would like to pay tribute to my predecessor as representative of Her Majesty in the Province of British Columbia, the Honourable Walter S. Owen, who retired on May 18 last, after five years of dedicated service.

I note with sadness the recent death of a man whose services to British Columbia were unique in the history of our province: William Andrew Cecil Bennett, who represented the Electoral District of South Okanagan in this House for thirty years, and served an unprecedented twenty years as Premier of British Columbia, through a period of growth and development never before seen.

We also mourn the passing of four other former Members of this House: Roderick Charles MacDonald, who represented the Electoral District of Dewdney from 1941 to 1952; Alexander Campbell Hope from Delta, who served from 1945 to 1952; Cecil Robert Bull, M.L.A. for South Okanagan who served from 1937 to 1941; and Dorothy Gretchen Steeves, former M.L.A. for North Vancouver who served from 1934 to 1945.

I also wish to note the death of Dr. Willard Ireland, former Provincial Librarian and Archivist, who, through a long and distinguished career in the service of the government and people of this province, did so much to keep our past alive.

During the past year the province was honoured by the visit of many distinguished people, including His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh and His Royal Highness Prince Andrew, who participated in our Captain James Cook Bi-centennial celebrations.

Among distinguished visitors to our province, I would like to mention Their Excellencies Governor-General and Madame Leger; and more recently, our new Governor-General and his wife, Their Excellencies Edward R. Schreyer and Mrs. Schreyer.

In addition, fifteen high commissioners and ambassadors paid official visits during the past year.

We wish to note the kind co-operation of the many nations of the world who helped us mark this commemoration of the visit to our shores by Captain Cook—a man considered by many to have been the greatest navigator and explorer the world has ever known.

I also wish to note the resignation of the former Member for North Vancouver-Capilano, Gordon Gibson; and the former Member for North Vancouver-Seymour, Jack Davis.

My government believes that the most important function of the Speech from the Throne is to establish the principles upon which the future actions of this Legislature will rest, so that the quality of life for the people of British Columbia will continue to improve and provide them with a more secure future.

My government also believes that the Speech from the Throne provides an opportunity to lay before the citizens of British Columbia an expression of the ideals and principles which my Ministers seek to bring to the task of government.

During the First Session of this Thirty-first Parliament, the Speech from the Throne emphasized the importance that my government places on the role of the individual in our society. During that Session, my government presented to you legislation based upon this important principle and you will be asked to reinforce the commitment to that principle in the days and weeks ahead.

A basic principle which my government will place before this Legislature involves the rights which the individual ownership of the business and industry in British Columbia can give our people. Members of this Assembly will be asked to confirm through legislation that this principle endures under the *British Columbia Resources Investment Corporation Act*.

For some time now, my government has been expressing concern that the ownership and management of the rich resource potential of this nation has been falling into fewer and fewer hands. My government believes that there are many who have talked about the ownership of our resource corporations falling into fewer and fewer hands, but have done little or nothing about it.

Recognizing that there are those who would resolve this problem through government ownership, my government affirms that “second-hand” ownership does not permit individuals to have any of the options, privileges and responsibilities which individual ownership gives.

My government believes that the ultimate freedom and security of Canadians rests on the right and responsibility of individuals to guide their own destiny: the right of individual ownership should never be surrendered to government.

Legislation to be placed before you by my Attorney-General will provide the citizens of British Columbia with important new evidence that the commitment of this government to the individual will always have top priority. The Members of this Assembly will be asked to enshrine in legislation a Bill of Rights guaranteeing fundamental freedoms to all of our citizens.

You will be further asked to ensure that the rights of individuals whose lands, homes or businesses may be expropriated by public or private agencies, are protected through the introduction of a "fair compensation" statute.

In addition, the *Administration Act*, *Testator's and Family Maintenance Act* and the *Wills Act* will be amended to ensure that the principles of equality and fair distribution of assets of deceased persons are parallel to the concepts introduced and passed in the *Family Relations Act* last year.

I am pleased to note that all of these measures will add to our system of law for the protection of individual rights. I am also pleased to be advised that our system of laws for the protection of the individual from unnecessary regulation will be vastly improved by the introduction of the *Repeal of Obsolete Statutes Act*.

To ensure that the auto insurance industry in this province cannot discriminate with respect to rates on the basis of age, sex, marital status or geographic location, this Legislature will be asked to consider rights for the motoring public of British Columbia. My government believes that youth should carry no penalty, and that all drivers in British Columbia should have their individual rights protected by applying the principle that good drivers should not be penalized because of age, sex, marital status or geographic location.

During the course of this mandate, my government has sought to achieve a record of accountability to its citizens through the introduction of measures which are more comprehensively developed than in any other Canadian province. A series of initiatives has been introduced by my government—not the least of which was the appointment of an Auditor General, honouring a commitment made by my government upon taking office.

The statute providing for a special committee of this Legislature under the *Crown Corporation Reporting Act*, provides individuals with the added security of knowing that Crown corporations are also accountable through their Legislature. I am advised that this new measure of accountability—a first in Canada—has aroused great interest in other parliaments. In addition, I was pleased to note that an all-party committee met and has a recommendation to this Legislature for the appointment of an Ombudsman—honouring yet another commitment of this government on taking office late in 1975.

My government's recommendation that the citizens of British Columbia should have an on-going review of the actual financial performance of the province by issuing Quarterly Financial Reports represents, I am sure, a welcome change from previous practices.

To further advance the principle of accountability under which my government will continue to function, Members of this Assembly will be asked to endorse transferring the regulatory jurisdiction over B.C. Telephone Company from the federal government to the Province.

My government believes that the principle of accountability and sound financial management are the essential foundation for creating individual security and individual opportunity for the citizens of British Columbia.

Because my government believes that individual security starts in the home, it is fitting that this year was proclaimed to be "The Year of the Child and the

Family" in British Columbia. My government will announce new programs for children and families to be introduced by my social service ministries of Health; Education, Science and Technology; Human Resources; and Attorney-General.

My Minister of Human Resources will greatly expand services to handicapped children. The family services aspect of that ministry will also be strengthened through actions you will be asked to take.

Many of my government's major social policy initiatives have occurred in the Ministry of Health. During the past twelve months of operation, for example, more than 40,000 persons have benefitted from the Long Term Care Program launched by my government just over one year ago.

I am pleased to know that the Children's Care Hospital, initiated by this government, is under construction in Vancouver. It is regarded by many experts to be the finest facility of this kind in North America.

Through the introduction of a Universal Pharmacare Program, my government ended the discrimination, whereby only certain groups and individuals had protection from the high cost of prescription drugs.

My government believes that while we already enjoy a reputation for providing the best and most responsible health care system in Canada, yet another new initiative should be placed before you. A new comprehensive Denticare Program will give individuals in British Columbia a measure of protection from the high costs associated with basic dental care. It is a priority of my government to keep British Columbia in the forefront of providing responsible health care for all its citizens.

My government considers the family home to be the cornerstone of family life in British Columbia. My Minister of Lands, Parks and Housing will place before you a home ownership policy, involving amongst other initiatives, the release of Crown land by the introduction of a simplified application process. My Minister also advises me that as part of this new policy, the \$1,000 Home Purchase Assistance Grant for first-time home buyers, implemented in 1978, will be expanded. These new measures will supplement existing programs, such as Shelter Aid For the Elderly Renter, which seek to give our people individual solutions rather than institutional solutions to the provision of shelter.

My government believes that top priority should be given to ensuring that the young people of this province have the security which will come from improved educational opportunities.

My government further believes that it must provide our young people with programs designed to improve job-training.

My Minister of Education, Science and Technology will double the value of Grade Twelve Scholarships to encourage excellence in academic effort.

This fall, this Ministry will also have in place a special program for gifted children and a new program for dealing with children with learning difficulties.

My Minister of Education, Science and Technology will also advance a program for sports bursaries in our universities, to promote excellence in physical achievement in competitive fields.

In co-operation with the ministries of Tourism and Small Business Development, Forests, and Agriculture, the Ministry of Labour will ask you to provide funds for a private sector Youth Job Program.

At the last First Ministers' Conference on the Economy all premiers endorsed the concept that the private sector is the "engine" which drives our economy—a principle which has been clearly enunciated by my government since taking office

in 1975. I was pleased to be advised that major growth in the British Columbia economy, much of which is the result of forward thrusts in the private sector, is still outpacing the real growth in the economy of Canada as a whole.

My government will continue to tackle the problems of job creation being experienced across the western world—but it was gratifying to be advised that an additional 98,000 British Columbians have found a place in the work force in the three years since 1975.

To further encourage the expansion of the British Columbian economy and create job opportunities for the individual, you will have a number of major initiatives placed before you during the course of this Session.

My government has been concerned about the negative impact of excessive regulation and “red tape” on private initiative, investment, and employment. Conflict and lack of co-ordination between governments and their agencies have resulted in a serious burden of cost which has damaged the productivity of our national economy—costing jobs and frustrating the kind of initiative which built this country.

Accordingly, my government has established a new Ministry of Deregulation. The first of its kind in Canada, this Ministry will introduce at this Session of the Legislature, legislation which will bring under one authority the responsibility for co-ordinating codes, standards, and inspection services relating to the construction, use, and occupancy of buildings and structures. Furthermore, this Ministry in co-operation with other ministries will comb the legislation and regulations now in place to ensure the removal of barriers to initiative proposed by British Columbia's citizens.

My government informs me that it intends to use the newly-structured Ministry of Tourism and Small Business Development as a major tool for building the already-high job creating capacity of British Columbia. My government is aware that from 1961 to 1971, approximately 51 per cent of all jobs created by the private sector came from the growth of small business, and that from 1971 to 1978, the percentage has risen to 67 per cent. Therefore, major new initiatives will be introduced to make British Columbia increasingly attractive as a location for individual enterprise.

Low-interest loans for development projects which show positive economic returns to the province—regardless of the geographic location of the individual enterprise involved—will be introduced. All incentive programs to businesses will be consolidated by the Ministry of Tourism and Small Business Development through the adoption of a “one-stop service” concept.

My government will propose measures to encourage those individual citizens of British Columbia to invest in British Columbia companies.

The new Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources intends to follow up on the Coal Policy Papers of 1977 by establishing a comprehensive energy policy for the Province of British Columbia.

My government believes that more jobs can be created in British Columbia through significant improvement to the management of range lands within the province. My ministries of Agriculture and Forests have, therefore, been asked to significantly expand range improvement work in the Interior of British Columbia.

In addition, my Ministry of Agriculture will be asking Members of this Assembly to support programs which will include expanded efforts designed to increase employment in the food processing industry, and aid development of new crops and food products and the market promotion of fish and shellfish products in co-operation with my Ministry of Environment.

During the course of the last three years, my government has successfully negotiated over \$300 million in federal/provincial agreements for economic development. This very significant transfer of federal funds was highlighted in 1978 by the signing of a \$50 million Travel Industry Development Agreement, a first of its type in Canada. Again, this agreement, along with the others already signed, will ensure the development of the infrastructure needed in many parts of the province, generating large-scale private sector investment.

The Ministry of Economic Development will continue to pursue the further transfer of federal funding to support enterprises which will make significant contributions to the job-generating capacity of the province.

The construction of a \$25 million Trade and Convention Centre on the Vancouver waterfront remains a priority of my government. This facility will be the first of its magnitude in Canada and will give this province the opportunity for first-class display of our trade capabilities, particularly with our Pacific Rim trading partners.

My government's commitment to the British Columbia Railway will continue to ensure that the proven job-creating capacity of this transportation link will serve the needs of British Columbia.

Indicative of the increase in British Columbia rail activity is the fact that a record figure of close to 155,000 car loadings was recorded for 1978. The impact on the British Columbia economy of this railway can be significantly illustrated by the fact that the British Columbia Railway went from an operating loss of \$21 million in 1976 to an operating profit of \$3.3 million in 1978.

The British Columbia Development Corporation will continue to be used by my government as a major catalyst for development in the province. Through the Low-interest Loan Assistance Program, last year British Columbia manufacturing firms received loans totalling over \$4 million, and nearly 1,200 new jobs were created.

The massive Duke Point project at Nanaimo is another example of federal/provincial joint funding. This will result in the direct creation of a further 1,100 new jobs.

Trade missions mounted by the Ministry of Economic Development during 1978 have resulted in firm additional export sales of \$45 million—or the equivalent of 1,500 new jobs.

My Minister of Transportation, Communications and Highways advises me that the construction of two new ferries and the stretching of three others will generate in total a payroll of \$40 million, representing approximately three million man-hours of additional employment. This new initiative by my Minister will not only create employment, but will ensure that a pool of important skills are kept in British Columbia.

My Minister of Lands, Parks and Housing, in addition to asking you to approve the use of Crown land for residential purposes, advises me that Crown land could also satisfy the land requirements of some recreational, commercial, agricultural, and industrial enterprises which will add to our capacity to create jobs.

My government believes that through the intelligent and optimum use of this Crown land, no corporate user of Crown land will seek to destroy the environment which shareholders in such corporations would wish to protect as individuals.

My Minister of Environment holds firmly to the view that we can, and must, have a sound economy—but it must not be at the expense of our environment and the traditional recreational opportunities British Columbians have as a birthright.

He advises that he will be recommending to the government a Wildlife Management Program which will ensure that our unique numbers and varieties of wildlife are preserved and enhanced for the enjoyment of future generations. I am also pleased to note that my Ministry of Environment signed, on behalf of my government, the Salmonid Enhancement Agreement with the Federal Government, covering substantial joint efforts toward the goal of doubling our salmonid population in British Columbia.

My government believes that environmental management is good business and can be a prime creator of jobs. Following upon the joint Federal/Provincial Study of the Okanagan Water Basin, recommendations in regard to the management of this important water resource will have the consideration of our Ministry of Environment—with the result that the elimination of sewage outfalls in the Okanagan Lake area will create new opportunities for enterprise in the tourist and agricultural sectors of that region's economy.

My Ministry of Environment will also open up new opportunities for business with initiatives designed to improve the recovery of materials from waste.

I have found the report made to me by my Minister of Forests most encouraging. New forestry programs will ensure that generations of British Columbians yet to come will have security of employment in British Columbia's number one industry. These programs are typified by the intensified tree planting and forest management which utilizes revenue surplus to maintain a viable forest industry in British Columbia.

The health of the forest industry is also noted in the fact that between 1972 and 1975, capital investment in the forest industry was declining. In 1975 capital investment in our number one industry stood at \$562,000,000. In the years since, this capital investment jumped significantly—to \$720,000,000 in 1976; to \$851,000,000 in 1977; and to \$934,000,000 in 1978. In addition, the Members of this Legislature will take satisfaction from the fact that recently-announced capital expansion programs of major forest companies now total over \$1.2 billion dollars. I am sure it will also gratify the Members of this Assembly to know that during the year 1978 forest revenues reached an all-time high.

I was also pleased to have the report from my Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources that the value of mineral production in British Columbia during 1978 reached an all-time record of \$1.9 billion dollars.

I was further encouraged to learn that the indicators for the mining industry show significant upward trends. New mining companies have announced production plans including properties at such widely located sites as Atlin, Cassiar, Alice Arm, Babine Lake, Houston, Stewart, Princeton, and Chetwynd. This solid development and extension of the mining industry of the province will be a major factor in maintaining the job-generating capacity of British Columbia's economy.

While commenting upon the significance of the growing importance of the forest and mineral resources to the economy of British Columbia, my government has asked me to state on its behalf, certain fundamental principles which this Legislature will be asked to endorse with respect to the resource policies of this province. Members of this Legislature, I am sure, will not wish to forget that previous legislatures have, on behalf of the citizens of British Columbia, retained nearly 95 per cent of our forest, mineral, petroleum, and water resources in the name of the Crown-Provincial.

My government believes that the natural resources of British Columbia can serve a national purpose on behalf of all Canadians. My government, however, perceives that it has an historic and fundamental responsibility to ensure that, while

erving a national purpose, there is no need to transfer or sell out the management of the revenue-generating capacity of these resources to any centralized federal authority.

My Minister of Municipal Affairs reports to me that high on the agenda for review will be the *Municipal Act* which has not been substantially revised since 1957.

My Minister of Deregulation, in co-operation with the Minister of Municipal Affairs, is conducting a review of all regulations and procedures governing land-use, with a view to removing unnecessary overlaps among the agencies involved, and streamlining access to decision-making for all citizens.

My government believes that the people of Canada should recognize the facts of history which have brought this great nation to where it is today. . . . We are the product of, and the sons and daughters of, many races and cultures. Contributions made to Canada by the people who have come from many lands are no more in evidence than they are in British Columbia.

My First Minister advises me that in early April, his government will host a conference designed to provide all of our citizens the opportunity to contribute towards the multiculturalism policy of the Province of British Columbia.

During the past year, my government, along with the other provincial governments, has been involved in a number of constitutional conferences. On behalf of the people of British Columbia, my government has placed before the people of Canada important thoughts which it believes represent the thinking of the vast majority of British Columbians.

My government believes that after 100 years of experience with Confederation, it is time to review the mechanisms of federalisms, having regard for the realities of Canada today. In this connection, my government, on behalf of the people of British Columbia, has said that there is a need to make the federal system of government work better for the benefit of all regions of Canada.

My government will fight for fair representation on the central institutions of Canada so that our voice can be heard—so that we can make a contribution to strengthening Canada.

On behalf of the citizens of British Columbia, my First Minister has strongly opposed those who have a design for dismembering this great country. Members of this Assembly have already in hand documents which set forth the British Columbia design to maintain the unity of this country from sea to sea.

On behalf of the citizens of British Columbia my government will continue to support the Canadian fact with all its will.

Many of my ministers, of course, will be bringing before you measures for the improvement of the Statute Law within the Province of British Columbia—not so much in the spirit of making more laws—but in the spirit of correcting deficiencies in our existing laws.

Honourable Members, my government recognizes that you will have placed before you a large number of ideas, legislative and budgetary proposals in consideration of both this address and in the consideration of the budget to follow. However, I give into your capable hands these matters in the fullest confidence that you will approach with diligence all of the tasks placed before you.

I pray that Divine Providence may guide your deliberations.

Mr. Speaker, and Honourable Members, I leave you now to discharge your Legislative duties.

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. *H. A. Curtis*, 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;

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. *H. A. Curtis*, the Hon. *Grace McCarthy*, Mrs. *Jordan*, and Messrs. *King* and *Stephens*.

On the motion of the Hon. *G. B. Gardom*, seconded by Mr. *King*, 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.

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.

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.

The following papers were presented:

By the Hon. *H. A. Curtis* (Provincial Secretary and Minister of Government Services)—

Twenty-third Annual Report of the business done in pursuance of the *Members of the Legislative Assembly Superannuation Act* for the year ended March 31, 1978.

Forty-third Annual Report of the business done in pursuance of the *Public Service Superannuation Act* for the year ended March 31, 1978.

Thirty-ninth Annual Report of the business done in pursuance of the *Municipal Superannuation Act* for the year ended December 31, 1977.

Tenth Annual Report of the business done in pursuance of the *College Pension Act* for the year ended August 31, 1978.

Thirty-seventh Annual Report of the business done in pursuance of the *Teachers' Pensions Act* for the year ended December 31, 1977.

Second Annual Report of the business done in pursuance of the *Public Service Benefit Plans Act* for the year ended March 31, 1978.

Public Service Adjudication Board Annual Report for 1978.

Report of the First Citizens' Fund Advisory Committee, allocations for the period January 1, 1978, to December 31, 1978.

By the Hon. *G. B. Gardom* (Attorney-General)—

The 7th Annual Report of the *Criminal Injuries Compensation Act of British Columbia*, January 1, 1978, to December 31, 1978.

Law Reform Commission Report on the *Attachment of Debts Act*.

Law Reform Commission Report on *The Replevin Act*.

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

Public Accounts of British Columbia for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1978.

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 1978.

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 1978.

Annual Report of the British Columbia Assessment Authority for the year ended December 31, 1977.

Annual Report of the Purchasing Commission January 1, 1978, to December 31, 1978.

Statement of Unclaimed Money Deposits, under authority of *Unclaimed Money Deposits Act, Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1960*, for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1978.

Annual return for the calendar year 1978 submitted in accordance with section 53 of the *Administration Act, Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1960*.

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

And then the House adjourned at 2.53 p.m.

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## Friday, March 23, 1979

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TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *R. D. Holmes*.

By leave of the House, Mr. *Levi* presented the petition of Bruce Yorke, Harry Rankin, Bruce Erikson, and others, praying—

That this Honourable House may be pleased to amend the *Vancouver City Charter* to provide for the election of City Council, School and Parks Boards by neighbourhoods, "WARDS" AREAS, OR CONSTITUENCY.

The Hon. *H. A. Curtis* (Provincial Secretary and Minister of Government Services) tabled the following reports:

The Royal Commission on the British Columbia Railway:

- Volume 1—I. Introduction;  
II. Summary of Conclusions.
- Volume 2—III. The Role of the Railway;  
IV. The Northern Extensions.
- Volume 3—V. Control and Management;  
VI. Reducing the Burden;  
VII. The Commission's Task.
- Volume 4—VIII. Appendices;  
IX. References;  
X. Bibliography.

The Hon. *J. J. Hewitt* (Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources) tabled the following:

Annual Report of the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum Resources for the year 1977.

Annual Report of the British Columbia Energy Commission for the calendar year 1978.

Mrs. *Jordan* moved, seconded by Mr. *Kerster*—

“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. *Barrett* the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

The Hon. *L. A. Williams* (Minister of Labour) tabled the following:

Annual Report of the Labour Relations Board of British Columbia for the year ended December 31, 1978.

Annual Report for the Ministry of Labour for the year ended December 31, 1977.

The 62nd Annual Report of the Workers’ Compensation Board for the year ended December 31, 1978.

*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 11.53 a.m.

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## Monday, March 26, 1979

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TWO O’CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *Harold Allen*.

Order called for “Oral Questions by Members.”

Mr. *Bawtree* presented the Final Report of the Select Standing Committee on Agriculture dated March 21, 1979.

Mrs. *Wallace* rose on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker indicated that the House having ordered the Select Standing Committee on Agriculture to report, the Report ought to be received, and that debate thereon should follow a motion that the Report be adopted.

Mrs. *Wallace* sought the floor to file a minority report of the Select Standing Committee on Agriculture.

Mr. Speaker ruled that the House cannot receive a minority report and cited the following passage from the 18th edition of Sir Erskine May at page 642:

“It is the opinion of the committee, as a committee, not that of the individual members, which is required by the House, and, failing unanimity, the conclusions agreed to by the majority are the conclusions of the committee.”

Mrs. *Wallace* asked leave to file a minority report. Leave was not granted.

The Report was taken as read and received.

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 Ms. *Sanford*—

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 show any economic planning directed to solving unemployment, and fails to indicate policies to reduce the ever increasing cost of living and municipal taxation burden."

The debate on the amendment continued.

On the motion of the Hon. *P. L. McGeer* 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.

And then the House adjourned at 5.57 p.m.

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**Tuesday, March 27, 1979**

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TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *P. W. R. Isles*.

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

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—16

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

## NAYS—24

<i>Haddad</i>	<i>Smith</i>	<i>Wolfe</i>	<i>Davidson</i>
<i>Strongman</i>	<i>Jordan</i>	<i>Gardom</i>	<i>Veitch</i>
<i>Rogers</i>	<i>Calder</i>	<i>McCarthy</i>	<i>Vander Zalm</i>
<i>Mussallem</i>	<i>Waterland</i>	<i>Kerster</i>	<i>Bawlf</i>
<i>Loewen</i>	<i>Chabot</i>	<i>Kempf</i>	<i>McClelland</i>
<i>Bawtree</i>	<i>McGeer</i>	<i>Kahl</i>	<i>Hewitt</i>

The debate was resumed on the main motion.

The debate continued.

By leave, the Hon. *T. M. Waterland* (Minister of Forests) made a statement relating to logging in the Queen Charlotte Islands.

Mr. *King* made a statement relating to the same subject matter.

Mr. *Smith* rose on a point of order, namely, that leave was not required for ministerial statements and further that if leave was required, leave should also have been required for a reply by the leader of an Opposition Party.

The Deputy Speaker quoted from the Journals of the House, April 27, 1978 at page 54:

"In Summary, ministerial statements may be made without leave at the appropriate time, namely, before proceeding to Orders of the Day. Leave is required, however, if the statement is to be made by interruption of another proceeding. When a statement has been made, whether by leave or by right, replies as previously described are allowed and do not require leave. However, as stated by Beauchesne, such replies are limited to asking explanations and to making 'a few remarks' but no debate is allowed."

The debate continued.

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

The Hon. *E. M. Wolfe* (Minister of Finance) tabled the Annual Report of the Assessment Appeal Board for the year ended December 31, 1978.

The Hon. *E. N. Veitch* (Minister of Tourism and Small Business Development) tabled the British Columbia Steamship Company (1975) Limited Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 1978.

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

And then the House adjourned at 6 p.m.

**Tuesday, March 27, 1979**

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HALF-PAST EIGHT O'CLOCK P.M.

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. *Levi* 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.

And then the House adjourned at 11 p.m.

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**Wednesday, March 28, 1979**

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TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *David A. Smith*.

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

Mr. Speaker presented the Report of the Librarian, pursuant to the *Legislative Library Act*, for the year 1978.

Mr. *Lauk* asked leave to move adjournment of the House to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely, to reject an application to allow General Telephone and Electronics of the United States to increase its share ownership in the British Columbia Telephone Company.

Mr. Speaker stated the matter raised did not qualify under Standing Order 35 as ordinary parliamentary opportunity for debate would occur shortly or in time, and cited Sir Erskine May, 16th edition at page 369 and 17th edition at page 364.

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. *J. A. Nielsen* the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.51 p.m.

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### Wednesday, March 28, 1979

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HALF-PAST EIGHT O'CLOCK P.M.

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. *W. N. Vander Zalm* 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.

And then the House adjourned at 11 p.m.

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### Thursday, March 29, 1979

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TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Mr. *J. W. Robertson*.

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

The Hon. *G. B. Gardom* (Attorney-General) made a statement relating to a television program on the nature and extent of organized crime in Canada.

By leave, the Hon. *G. B. Gardom* (Attorney-General) tabled a copy of the press release dated March 30, 1979.

Mr. *Macdonald* made a statement relating to the same subject matter.

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. *Barnes* the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

The House proceeded to the Order "Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees."

Pursuant to Order, Mr. *Davidson* presented the following report:

#### REPORT

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
March 29, 1979

MR. SPEAKER:

I am pleased to present the report of the Special Committee of the Legislative Assembly setting out our recommendation to the Assembly for the Selection of an Ombudsman.

#### *Recruitment:*

The Special Committee was formed pursuant to Section 2 (2) of the *Ombudsman Act, 1977* (a copy of the Act is given as Appendix A of this report). The Committee held its first meeting on October 21, 1977 to plan the method of recruiting for the position of Ombudsman.

The Committee resolved to place an advertisement in the major newspapers across Canada (a copy of the advertisement is given as Appendix B to this report).

A total of 401 applications were received as a result of advertising. Candidates responded from every province in Canada as well as several from the United States.

The Committee agreed that every application received would be given consideration.

#### *Preliminary Screening:*

Due to the large volume of applications received, the Committee resolved to establish a Sub-committee composed of the Chairman, the Secretary and a Member of each representative Party.

The Sub-committee's function was to thoroughly screen each application and to notate an evaluation of the qualifications. This was done prior to submitting them to the Whole Committee for further discussion, and to reach a unanimous decision on either to hold for a further review or rejection. Many applications were held over repeatedly in order that the Committee could reach a unanimous decision.

After the Committee's decision was finalized, letters were forwarded the applicants advising them accordingly.

#### *Candidate Evaluation:*

Meetings of both the Sub-committee and the Whole Committee were held in an on-going basis until all the applications had been thoroughly reviewed and evaluated.

A short list of eight finalists was reached and the Committee resolved to personally interview each one.

On November 6, 7, and 8, 1978, the candidates met with the Committee Members in Vancouver and personal interviews were conducted including prepared questions by the Members.

The Committee was sincerely impressed with the calibre and qualifications of the candidates.

On November 16, 1978 the Committee met again to review their evaluations of the candidates and after discussion, it was agreed to hold a second interview with four of the candidates.

*Finalists Selection:*

Second interviews were held on November 28, 1978 with the four finalists in Vancouver. After the interviews the Committee reviewed and reached further decisions on the qualifications of each finalist.

It was resolved that a consulting firm would be asked to make a background study on the Committee's choice of candidate prior to a final decision.

*The Selection:*

The consulting firm of John Fleury & Associates, Vancouver was asked to provide a background report on the choice of candidate.

The Committee met again to read the report on January 29, 1979. It was resolved at the meeting that the Chairman and Members of the Committee would hold a press conference and release the name of the Special Committee's choice of candidate. The Party Leaders had previously been approached and their approval obtained to inform the public that the Committee had reached a unanimous decision for recommendation.

It is the unanimous decision of the Special Committee to the Legislative Assembly to recommend the following name as our recommendation for the position of Ombudsman for the Province of British Columbia:

Dr. Karl A. Friedmann  
20 Varscliff Place  
Calgary, Alberta T3A 0G4.

Dr. Friedmann is an Associate Professor at the University of Calgary, Alberta. A Canadian citizen, Dr. Friedmann is known as one of the most knowledgeable Canadians in the Ombudsman field. He is the author of numerous journal articles, has contributed to many book reviews, and has had a substantial number of conference papers submitted. He is also the author of two books and has analyzed Ombudsman legislation throughout the world.

In announcing our unanimous recommendation to the Legislative Assembly, I wish to place on record the excellent co-operation and spirit with which all the Members of the Special Committee displayed throughout the period of time it took to reach a unanimous decision.

Mr. Speaker, your Committee unanimously recommends to the Legislative Assembly that the name of Dr. Karl A. Friedmann be recommended to the Lieutenant-Governor for the position of Ombudsman to exercise the powers and perform his duties as provided by the *Ombudsman Act*.

Special Committee of the Legislative Assembly  
to Select an Ombudsman for the Province  
of British Columbia

WALTER DAVIDSON, *Chairman*

The report was taken as read and received.

By leave of the House, the Rules were suspended and the report unanimously recommending the appointment of Dr. Karl A. Friedmann as Ombudsman of the Province of British Columbia was adopted.

The Hon. *J. A. Nielsen* (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs) tabled the following:

The Annual Report of the Ministry of Consumer and Corporate Affairs for the year ended March 31, 1978.

The Annual Report in accordance with the *Trade Practices Act* for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1978.

The Annual Report of the Debtor Assistance Program for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1978.

Fifty-seventh Annual Report of the Liquor Distribution Branch for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1978.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.59 p.m.

## Friday, March 30, 1979

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Pastor *D. L. McMillan*.

By leave of the House, Mr. *Skelly* presented a petition as follows:

*To The Honourable Legislative Assembly of British Columbia  
in Legislature Assembled:*

The petition of the undersigned humbly sheweth

That whereas the salmon and herring resource of the Pacific Coast may be endangered because of incompetent management by the Federal Department of Fisheries

And whereas preferential treatment has been given to a select few in the allocation of rights to harvest the salmon and herring resource (Sinclair Report Volume 1, pp. 32-33)

And whereas independent fishermen and support industries and the economies of a number of coastal communities are threatened by present and proposed fisheries policy which will have the effect of concentrating harvesting capacity in few hands

And whereas present Federal Fisheries Legislation is unduly harsh and discretionary

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Honourable House may be pleased to appoint a full public enquiry into all aspects of the management of the Pacific Coast Fishery before any changes to present regulations are implemented.

And as in duty bound your petitioner will ever pray.

Dated at Victoria, B.C., March 30, 1979.

WAYNE JORDAN, 11224 Heather, Sidney.  
BILL HOWELL, 765 Arden Road.  
H. BICKERDIKE, 5108 Sandgate Road.

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—28

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

NAYS—14

<i>Wallace</i>	<i>Sanford</i>	<i>Cocke</i>	<i>King</i>
<i>Barber</i>	<i>Stephens</i>	<i>Dailly</i>	<i>Barrett</i>
<i>Brown</i>	<i>Nicolson</i>	<i>Stupich</i>	<i>Macdonald</i>
<i>Skelly</i>	<i>Lea</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.

The Hon. *K. R. Mair* (Minister of Environment) tabled the Annual Report and Financial Statement of the Provincial Agricultural Land Commission for the year ended March 31, 1978.

The Hon. *D. M. Phillips* (Minister of Economic Development) tabled the British Columbia Railway Company Auditors' Report—Financial Statements for the year ended December 29, 1978.

And then the House adjourned at 1.07 p.m.