

JOURNALS
OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

SESSION 1953

Tuesday, February 3rd, 1953.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

This being the first day of the first meeting of the Twenty-third Parliament or Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia for the dispatch of business, pursuant to a Proclamation of the Honourable CLARENCE WALLACE, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, dated the 2nd day of December, 1952, the members having been sworn took their seats.

His Honour CLARENCE WALLACE, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, having entered the House, took his seat on the Throne.

The Hon. *W. D. Black*, Provincial Secretary, said:—

Members of the Legislative Assembly:

I am commanded by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to announce that His Honour does not see fit to declare the causes 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 hopes to be enabled to declare, during the afternoon, his reasons for calling you together.

His Honour was then pleased to retire.

The Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett*, member for South Okanagan Electoral District, addressing himself to the Clerk, moved, seconded by the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*, member for Columbia Electoral District, that *Thomas James Irwin*, Esquire, member for Delta Electoral District, do take the Speaker's chair and preside over the meetings of this Assembly, and it was so *Resolved*.

E. K. DeBeck, Esquire, the Clerk of the House, having declared Mr. *Thomas James Irwin* 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 the Rt. Rev. *H. E. Sexton*, Archbishop of British Columbia.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor again entered the House, and taking his seat on the Throne, the Speaker-elect (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 may 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 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.

The Hon. *W. D. Black* then said:—

MR. SPEAKER:

I am commanded by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to declare to you that he freely confides in the duty and attachment of the House of Assembly to Her Majesty's person and Government, and not doubting that their respective proceedings will be conducted with wisdom, temper, and prudence, he grants, and upon all occasions will recognize and allow, their constitutional privileges.

I am commanded also to assure you that the Assembly shall have ready access to His Honour upon all seasonable occasions, and their proceedings, as well as your words and actions, will constantly receive from him the most favourable construction.

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 welcome you to the First Session of the Twenty-third Parliament of British Columbia.

Since the Legislature last convened, the people of this Province have suffered a great loss in the passing of two valued counsellors and representatives of the people in the persons of Ernest Crawford Carson, member for the Lillooet Electoral District, and Albert Reginald MacDougall, member for the Vancouver-Point Grey Electoral District.

Mr. Carson was, for many years, a member of the Executive Council. He was a man of outstanding ability, and his loss is mourned not only by his constituents, but by all those who knew his unselfish and untiring devotion to public affairs.

Mr. MacDougall was an outstanding member of the Legislature for seven years and, through his keen legal mind and personal qualities, made a contribution to this Province which will be greatly missed.

During the past year we have enjoyed the opportunity of welcoming to this Province the Governor-General of Canada, His Excellency the Right Honourable Vincent Massey.

This year will be marked by the Coronation of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second. My Government affirms its allegiance to Her Majesty and extends best wishes for a happy and fruitful reign, marked by peace and harmony amongst nations.

In response to the official invitation, it is intended that this Province will be represented at the Coronation of Her Majesty next June.

We in British Columbia view with grave concern the unrest apparent in so many parts of the world. British Columbia, in common with other Provinces throughout Canada, has suffered many casualties amongst her sons serving in the armed forces during the past twelve months in the Korean theatre of war.

To those who have been stricken through the loss of those near and dear to them, my Government offers its sympathy and the hope that triumph of the cause in which our men have suffered so valiantly will bring comfort to the sorrowing.

I note with pleasure that the steadily rising cost of living experienced in recent years, and occasioned by uncontrolled inflation, is now levelling off.

Although our basic industries are finding increasing competition, prosperity and development continue at a favourable rate.

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

Foremost among these will be legislation implementing the over-all policy of my Government, to encourage the development and expansion of the natural resources of the Province, and to expand the programme of the building of highways without increasing the net debt of the Province.

Amendments to the "Social Security and Municipal Aid Tax Act" will be introduced to include further exemption on meals.

Provision will be made to lighten the cost of education, and you will be asked to set up an Assessment Commission to establish equalized assessment values for school purposes throughout the Province.

It is proposed to grant further tax relief by the reduction of automobile licences, applicable to private passenger-cars.

In order that the wealth of resources in our lands, forests, mines, and agriculture, together with our scenic beauty, may be made more accessible, a well-considered policy of highway construction has been formulated. You will therefore be asked to appropriate funds to carry out this programme.

Provision will be asked for \$20,000,000 to enable the British Columbia Power Commission to extend its programme of rural electrification and power development.

A programme of improvement and reform of Provincial correctional and penal institutions is being planned.

The increase in the number of citizens of British Columbia who need the help of the Mental Health Services is a matter of grave concern, and my Government plans an extension of accommodation, treatment, and preventive facilities.

Every effort has been used to secure a removal of discrimination against British Columbia in the matter of railway transportation rates, and you will be pleased to learn that a measure of success has attended these endeavours, and it is intended that there shall be no relaxation of effort to secure substantial justice for the Province.

On June 12th last, a plebiscite on the liquor problem was held, and, as a result of this, my Government appointed a Commission of Inquiry consisting of the Honourable H. H. Stevens, the Very Reverend Cecil Swanson, and Mr. George Home. In consequence of their findings, remedial measures will be introduced for the consideration of the Legislature.

You will be asked to set up a committee to consider the Buttle Lake power situation.

You will be asked to authorize the appointment of a committee to inquire into the development of the Columbia River Basin.

Legislation will be presented contributing to the solution of the Doukhobor problem.

You will be asked to authorize the distribution of the fund created under the "Police and Prisons Regulation Act" amongst the former members of the Provincial Police Force.

As a result of a great increase in the population of British Columbia in recent years, a committee will be set up during this Session to study the possibility of a redistribution of seats for this Legislature.

Public Accounts will be presented and Estimates for the ensuing year will be submitted.

Legislation affecting many branches of public service of a character devised to improve existing Acts will be placed before you.

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

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.

The letters of the Deputy Provincial Secretary and the certificates of the Chief Electoral Officer of the results of the election and by-elections of members to represent the respective electoral districts of the Province in the Legislative Assembly at the general election were read, as follows:—

"General Election, June 12th, 1952.

*"OFFICE OF DEPUTY PROVINCIAL SECRETARY,
"VICTORIA, B.C., September 17th, 1952.*

*"E. K. DeBeck, Esq.,
"Clerk of the Legislative Assembly,
"Buildings.*

"SIR,—His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor by Proclamation dated 10th April, 1952, was pleased to dissolve the Legislative Assembly of the Province, and it was necessary to hold elections to fill the vacancies caused by such dissolution.

"The elections were duly held pursuant to the provisions of the 'Provincial Elections Act.'

"I transmit herewith the certificate of the Chief Electoral Officer setting forth the names of the members who were elected in the respective electoral districts.

"Yours truly,

*"R. A. PENNINGTON,
"Deputy Provincial Secretary."*

(ENCLOSURE.)

"September 17th, 1952.

"The twenty-second Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia was dissolved on April 10th, 1952, and Writs calling for a General Election were issued on that day and made returnable July 31st. An extension of time, however, was necessary in the Electoral Districts of Atlin and Skeena and the returnable date of the Writs was extended to the 6th day of August, 1952. The day for the nomination of candidates was set for May 22nd, with Polling Day being June 12th, 1952.

“ I hereby certify that from the returns received members were elected to represent the Province in the Legislative Assembly thereof for the respective electoral districts as are hereinafter set forth, viz.:—

ALBERNI.....	Stanley John Squire.
ATLIN.....	Frank Arthur Calder.
BURNABY.....	Ernest Edward Winch.
CARIBOO.....	William Ralph Talbot Chetwynd.
CHILLIWACK.....	William Kenneth Kiernan.
COLUMBIA.....	Richard Orr Newton.
COMOX.....	William Moore.
COWICHAN-NEWCASTLE.....	Robert Martin Strachan.
CRANBROOK.....	Leo Thomas Nimsick.
DELTA.....	Thomas James Irwin.
DEWDNEY.....	Lyle Wicks.
ESQUIMALT.....	Franklin John Mitchell.
FERNIE.....	Thomas Uphill.
FORT GEORGE.....	Llewellyn Leslie King.
GRAND FORKS-GREENWOOD.....	Rupert Williams Haggan.
KAMLOOPS.....	Philip Arthur Gaglardi.
KASLO-SLOCAN.....	Randolph Harding.
LILLOOET.....	Ernest Crawford Carson.
MACKENZIE.....	Anthony John Gargrave.
NANAIMO AND THE ISLANDS.....	Lorenzo Giovando.
NELSON-CRESTON.....	Wesley Drewett Black.
NEW WESTMINSTER.....	Rae Eddie.
NORTH OKANAGAN.....	Lorne Hugh Shantz.
NORTH VANCOUVER.....	Martin Elliott Sowden.
OAK BAY.....	Philip Archibald Gibbs.
OMINECA.....	Cyril Morley Shelford.
PEACE RIVER.....	Charles William Parker.
PRINCE RUPERT.....	George Edwin Hills.
REVELSTOKE.....	Vincent Segur.
ROSSLAND-TRAIL.....	Robert Edward Sommers.
SAANICH.....	Frank Snowsell.
SALMON ARM.....	James Allan Reid.
SIMILKAMEEN.....	Harry Denyer Francis.
SKEENA.....	Edward Tourtellotte Kenney.
SOUTH OKANAGAN.....	William Andrew Cecil Bennett.
VANCOUVER-BURRARD.....	{ Eric Charles Fitzgerald Martin. Bert Price.
VANCOUVER CENTRE.....	{ James Campbell Bury. Laura Emma Jamieson.
VANCOUVER EAST.....	{ Harold Edward Winch. Arthur James Turner.
VANCOUVER-POINT GREY.....	{ Albert Reginald MacDougall. George Clark Miller. Tilly Jean Rolston.

VICTORIA CITY.....	}	Nancy Hodges.
		Daniel John Proudfoot.
		William Thomas Straith.
YALE.....		Irvine Finlay Corbett.

“ F. HURLEY,
“ *Chief Electoral Officer.*”

“ *By-elections, November 24th, 1952.*”

“ OFFICE OF DEPUTY PROVINCIAL SECRETARY,
VICTORIA, B.C., December 11th, 1952.

“ *E. K. DeBeck, Esq.,*
“ *Clerk of the Legislative Assembly,*
“ *Buildings.*

“ SIR,—I enclose herewith certificate of Mr. F. Hurley, Chief Electoral Officer, respecting the election of *Robert William Bonner* to represent the Columbia Electoral District and *Einar Maynard Gunderson* to represent the Similkameen Electoral District in the Legislative Assembly.

“ Yours very truly,
“ R. A. PENNINGTON,
“ *Deputy Provincial Secretary.*”

(ENCLOSURE.)

“ VICTORIA, December 9th, 1952.

“ SIR,—Whereas vacancies occurred in the Legislative Assembly by reason of the resignations on the fourth day of October, 1952, of Richard Orr Newton and Harry Denyer Francis, members-elect thereof for the Columbia and Similkameen Electoral Districts respectively:

“ And whereas on the fourth day of October, 1952, Writs for the election of members to represent such electoral districts were duly issued to the Returning Officers of the said districts:

“ Now I do hereby certify that on the eighth day of December, 1952, the said Writs were returned by the Returning Officers with their certificates endorsed thereon that the voters of Columbia Electoral District have chosen *Robert William Bonner* to represent them in the Legislative Assembly and that the voters of Similkameen Electoral District have chosen *Einar Maynard Gunderson* to represent them in the Legislative Assembly.

“ F. HURLEY,
“ *Chief Electoral Officer.*”

On the motion of the Hon. *W. D. Black*, seconded by the Hon. *W. K. Kiernan*, it was *Resolved*,—

That the certificates of the Chief Electoral Officer of the results of the general election of members and the by-elections of members to represent the Electoral District of Columbia and the Electoral District of Similkameen respectively be entered upon the Journals of the House.

On the motion of the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*, Bill (No. 1) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Supreme Court Act’ ” was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be read a second time at the next sitting.

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

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

On the motion of the Hon. *W. D. Black*, seconded by the Hon. *E. C. F. Martin*, it was *Resolved*,—

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

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

That this House expresses its sincere regret at the death of Ernest Crawford Carson, member for the Electoral District of Lillooet, and that the Clerk do convey to Mrs. Carson and the family of the late member the condolences and sincere sympathy of the members of the Legislative Assembly.

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

That this House expresses its sincere regret at the death of Albert Reginald MacDougall, member for the Electoral District of Vancouver-Point Grey, and that the Clerk do convey to Mrs. MacDougall and the family of the late member the condolences and sincere sympathy of the members of the Legislative Assembly.

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

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

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

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

On the motion of the Hon. *T. J. Rolston*, seconded by the Hon. *W. R. T. Chetwynd*, it was *Resolved*,—

That the appointment of Lieutenant-Commander *E. A. Jamieson*, R.C.N. (Retired), as Sergeant-at-Arms of the Legislative Assembly, made by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, by and with the advice of his Executive Council, on the 30th day of Decem-

ber, 1952, be, and the same is, hereby ratified pursuant to section 44 of the "Constitution Act," being chapter 65 of the "Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1948."

The following papers were presented:—

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

The Thirty-first Annual Report of the Liquor Control Board covering the Fiscal Year ended March 31st, 1952.

Balance-sheet of the British Columbia Liquor Control Board as at September 30th, 1952.

The Report of the Provincial Game Commission for the Year ended December 31st, 1951.

The Annual Report of the Inspector of Gaols for the Year ended March 31st, 1952.

The Forty-first Annual Report of the Superintendent of Insurance for the Year ended December 31st, 1951.

The Thirtieth Annual Report of the Fire Marshal for the Year ended December 31st, 1951.

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

The Report of the Civil Service Commission, Province of British Columbia, from January 1st to December 31st, 1952.

Profit and Loss Statement and Balance-sheet of the Queen's Printer for the Fiscal Year ended March 31st, 1952.

The Report of the British Columbia Liquor Inquiry Commission, 1952.

Three Returns submitted in accordance with Section 201 of the "Provincial Elections Act," being Orders in Council Nos. 2525, 1952; 2648, 1952; and 147, 1953.

The Report of the Business done in pursuance of the "Teachers' Pensions Act" during the Period January 1st, 1951, to December 31st, 1951.

The Report of the Business done in pursuance of the "Civil Service Superannuation Act" during the Fiscal Year 1951-52.

The Report of the Business done in pursuance of the "Municipal Superannuation Act" during the Fiscal Year ended March 31st, 1952.

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

The Annual Report of the Department of Municipal Affairs for the Year ended December 31st, 1951.

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

The Balance-sheet and Statement of Accounts of the Land Settlement Board (including the Agricultural Credit Commission) as at December 31st, 1951.

Return of Lands Exchanged under Section 63, Chapter 175, "Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1948," from February 19th, 1952, to January 28th, 1953.

By the Hon. *R. E. Sommers* (Minister of Mines)—

The Annual Report of the Minister of Mines for the Year ended December 31st, 1951.

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

Public Accounts of the Province of British Columbia for the Fiscal Year ended March 31st, 1952.

The Tenth Annual Report of the Purchasing Commission for the Year ended December 31st, 1952.

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

The Forty-seventh Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture for the Year 1952.

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

The Annual Report of the Department of Public Works for the Fiscal Year ended March 31st, 1952, in compliance with the provisions of the "Public Works Act."

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

The Annual Report of the Operations and Activities of the Railway Department for the Year ended December 31st, 1952, with Appendices.

By the Hon. *W. R. T. Chetwynd* (Minister of Trade and Industry)—

The Report of the Department of Trade and Industry for the Year ended December 31st, 1952.

By the Hon. *L. Wicks* (Minister of Labour)—

The Thirty-fourth Annual Report of the Department of Labour of the Province of British Columbia for the Year 1951.

By the Hon. *T. J. Rolston* (Minister of Education)—

The Eighty-first Annual Report of the Public Schools of the Province.

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

The Annual Report of the Social Welfare Branch for the Year ended March 31st, 1952.

The Report on Vital Statistics in the Province of British Columbia for 1950.

The Annual Report of the Vancouver General Hospital for the Year 1951.

The Report on the Survey of Administration, British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service, June, 1952, prepared by Stevenson & Kellogg Limited.

The Report of the Hospital Insurance Inquiry Board, Province of British Columbia, 1951-52.

The Annual Report of the Health Branch, Department of Health and Welfare, 1952.

The Fourth Annual Report, British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service, January 1st to December 31st, 1952.

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

The Thirteenth Annual Report of the Public Utilities Commission, pursuant to the "Public Utilities Act," for the Year ended December 31st, 1951.

The Twelfth Annual Report of the Public Utilities Commission, pursuant to Section 36 of the "Motor Carrier Act," for the Licence-year 1951-52.

The Seventh Annual Report of the British Columbia Power Commission for the Year ended March 31st, 1952.

The Fifteenth Annual Report of the Coal and Petroleum Control Board for the Year ended December 31st, 1952.

The Seventh Annual Report of the Milk Board for the Year ended December 31st, 1952.

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

And then the House adjourned at 4 p.m.

Wednesday, February 4th, 1953.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *S. V. H. Redman*.

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

The Hon. *T. J. Rolston* (Vancouver-Point Grey) moved, seconded by the Hon. *W. K. Kiernan* (Chilliwack),—

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

“We, Her Majesty’s most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, in Session assembled, beg leave to thank Your Honour for the gracious Speech which Your Honour has addressed to us at the opening of the present Session.”

A debate arose.

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

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

And then the House adjourned at 4.45 p.m.

Thursday, February 5th, 1953.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *J. Smith*.

By leave of the House, the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett* made the following statement:—

Re North Vancouver General Hospital.

The board of management of the North Vancouver General Hospital has, by resolution, instructed the administrator of the hospital to refuse admission to all patients after midnight, Tuesday, February 10th, 1953, and has further instructed the administrator to take necessary action to discharge all patients in hospital not later than February 27th, 1953.

The Government of British Columbia feels that, in the public interest, it is essential that the North Vancouver General Hospital remain in operation. The Government has no desire to enter into the field of general hospital operation, but if the City of North Vancouver and the District of North Vancouver, the owners of the hospital, endorse the action of the board of management and refuse to undertake the continued operation of the hospital, the Government is prepared to accept responsibility for the management of the hospital as a going concern to ensure uninterrupted service to the people of the community.

I should make it clear that the Government has no intention of entering permanently into the field of general hospital operation and would undertake to return to the City and District of North Vancouver the management of the hospital whenever they indicated willingness to assume that responsibility, although it might well be that such a transfer could be effected only at the end of the hospital's fiscal year.

In connection with the financial operations of the North Vancouver General Hospital, a resolution of the hospital board states that granting minimum wage demands would cost approximately \$72,000 per annum and acceptance of those demands would result in the hospital incurring a deficit this year of approximately \$72,000.

The financial report submitted by the North Vancouver General Hospital for December 31st, 1952, states an operating surplus of \$52,275 for 1952. If services, salaries, and other operating costs remained the same in 1953, it is evident that at the existing *per diem* rate the hospital could operate with a similar surplus of \$52,000. That sum would therefore provide a cushion to absorb increased wage costs in 1953. Admittedly, the hospital's financial operations for the year 1951 were decidedly unsatisfactory and as a result a deficit of \$34,452 was incurred. The reported operating surplus for 1952 is, however, sufficient to absorb the 1951 deficit and leave a balance of \$18,000. This balance of \$18,000, in addition to the cushion of \$52,000 for 1953, should make available a total of \$70,000 for increased operating costs in 1953 without an over-all deficit for the three years 1951, 1952, and 1953.

It should be noted further that this hospital's *per diem* rate of \$14.05 per day is well above that of any other hospital in the classification of 200 beds or less.

Moreover, the Hospital Insurance Service has been furnished with no information to substantiate the reported minimum wage increase cost of \$72,000 which represents an increase of 18 per cent over payroll costs for 1952.

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. *Kenney*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

On the motion of the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett*, seconded by the Hon. *E. M. Gunderson*, it was *Resolved*,—

That, with leave of the House, the Votes and Proceedings of February 3rd, 1953, be amended by adding in the proper place the motion moved by the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett*, and seconded by the Hon. *E. M. Gunderson*, That *Lorne Hugh Shantz*, Esquire, member for North Okanagan Electoral District, be appointed Deputy Speaker for this Session of this Legislative Assembly and that entries be made in the Journals accordingly.

The Hon. *R. E. Sommers* presented a Return pursuant to Section 169 of the "Mineral Act."

The Hon. *E. C. F. Martin* presented the Statement of Expenditure, April 1st, 1952, to December 31st, 1952, duly certified by the Comptroller-General, pursuant to the Provisions of the "Old-age Assistance Act," Section 6 (2), and the "Blind Persons' Allowances Act," Section 6 (2).

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.11 p.m.

Friday, February 6th, 1953.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *T. H. McAllister*.

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. *Miller*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

The following papers were presented:—

By the Hon. *T. J. Rolston*—

The Report of the Provincial Museum of Natural History and Anthropology for the Year 1952.

The Report of the Public Library Commission for the Year ended December 31st, 1952.

By the Hon. *E. M. Gunderson*—

Return submitted in accordance with Section 88 (4) of the "Taxation Act," R.S.B.C. 1948; Remissions and Refunds made under authority of Section 88 (1), (2), and (3) of the "Taxation Act," R.S.B.C. 1948, during the Calendar Year 1952.

Return submitted in accordance with Section 44 (1) of the "Revenue Act," R.S.B.C. 1948; Refunds and Remissions made under Section 44 (1) of the "Revenue Act," R.S.B.C. 1948, during the Calendar Year 1952.

Statement of Unclaimed Money Deposits, "Unclaimed Money Deposits Act," Chapter 348, R.S.B.C. 1948, for the Fiscal Year ended March 31st, 1952.

Returns by Official Administrators of all Moneys paid and received by them in respect of all the Estates of Deceased Persons administered by them, "Administration Act," Chapter 6, R.S.B.C. 1948, for the Calendar Year ended December 31st, 1952.

By Mr. *H. E. Winch*—

Return of Correspondence relative to Saleable Logs left in the Forests, asked for by the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett* on February 5th, 1953.

Mrs. *Hodges* asked the Hon. the Premier the following questions:—

1. Who is the Executive Assistant to the Premier?
2. What is his present salary?
3. Is this his commencing salary and what will be his salary range?
4. What are his qualifications and what previous experience, if any?

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

“ 1. Ronald B. Worley.

“ 2. \$8,760 per year.

“ 3. There is no range. This is a flat salary created by the former Government, under Order in Council No. 1302, approved June 2nd, 1952, when the cost-of-living bonus and raise were incorporated into the salaries of Civil Servants. The present incumbent took on the same salary as the previous holder.

“ 4. (a) Civil: Is a qualified chartered secretary, a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries; articulated as an executive in the insurance business in England for four and a half years; secretary-director of a business in the City of Victoria for two years. (b) Military: Veteran of over five years in the Royal Air Force. (c) Political: Was an executive member of the Liberal Party in England in 1945-46 and held the following offices in the British Columbia Liberal Associations before resigning from the party in September, 1951: (1) President of the Victoria and County Young Liberal Association, (2) first vice-president of the Victoria Liberal Association, (3) secretary of the British Columbia Young Liberal Association, and (4) a director for two terms of the Laurier Club.”

Mr. *H. E. Winch* asked the Hon. the Minister of Education the following questions:—

1. Was a Duncan high school built between the years 1949 and 1951?

2. If so, were any complaints received to the effect that lumber being used was not in accordance with specifications?

3. If so, was any investigation made and what were the findings, if any?

4. Are there now structural problems relative to this school?

5. If so, what investigation has been made and what, if any, action is contemplated?

6. Who held the general contract for construction of said school?

7. If faulty construction methods or materials are in evidence, will any action be taken against the contracting company?

The Hon. *T. J. Rolston* replied as follows:—

“ 1. Yes.

“ 2. Not by Department of Education.

“ 3. See answer to No. 2.

“ 4. Yes.

“ 5. The School Board of School District No. 65 (Cowichan) and the Department of Education have investigated the matter and are awaiting a report from experts of the Forest Products Laboratory at the University of British Columbia.

“ 6. Bennett & White Construction Company.

“ 7. This depends upon the results of the investigation referred to in No. 2. If faulty design, engineering, or construction are in evidence, the necessary action will be for decision by the School Board of School District No. 65 (Cowichan).”

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.03 p.m.

Monday, February 9th, 1953.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *F. E. M. Tomalin*.

Mr. Speaker delivered his reserved decision on a point of order raised by Mr. *H. E. Winch* on the 6th instant, as follows:—

Honourable Members,—At the last sitting of the House, on Friday, February 6th, an unexpected development gave rise to the question of the answering of written questions orally.

In the first place, the Speaker wishes to admit that he was remiss in permitting comment and cross-comment and will, in future, watch this aspect of questioning more carefully.

Standing Order No. 25 apparently permits the putting and answering of oral questions, but Standing Order No. 47, subsection (1), in part states “and the substance of all replies made by Ministers of the Crown to questions put to them shall be in writing and handed to the Clerk of the House and entered in the Journals of the Session.”

A careful and prolonged search into records reveals no previous occasion on which a written question was answered orally and thus there is no precedent on which to found a decision, but paying careful attention to the wording of that part of subsection (1), Standing Order No. 47, I feel that there was an intention to eliminate the oral answering of questions.

I, therefore, rule that hereafter, unless otherwise ordered by the House, all written questions shall be answered in writing only.

This interpretation is based on what I conceive to be the effect of the Rule, but the House has, in its own right, power to make any changes it may desire.

T. J. IRWIN, Speaker.

By leave of the House, the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett* made the following statement:—

Re Provincial Aid to Devastated Areas in Great Britain.

On the 1st day of February, 1953, the Province of British Columbia learned that portions of the United Kingdom and north-west Europe had suffered disastrous floods arising out of, virtually, unprecedented storms.

Acting on behalf of your Government, I caused certain inquiries to be made through the Agent-General of the Province in London to determine in what manner immediate and effective aid could be rendered by this Province to the stricken areas.

The Home Secretary has been pleased to advise this Government, through its Agent-General, that arrangements to release part of supplies of British Columbia lumber now in the United Kingdom would greatly speed up early relief work which might not otherwise be freely undertaken in so far as such work depends on timber, owing to the dollar shortage currently being experienced by the Government of the United Kingdom.

With this advice in mind, the Government has opened a public fund to which industry and the general public of this Province are invited to make contributions.

With the leave of the House, the Government proposes to place \$100,000 to the credit of this fund so that urgent reconstruction works may be undertaken without delay.

I should like, also, to advise that the Federal Government has formally requested the Canadian Red Cross Society to assist in the establishment of a National European Flood Relief Committee. In this connection it has been suggested to the Red Cross Society that any funds contributed for relief purposes be given to the committee and that the Red Cross Society would act for it by providing transportation and distributing relief supplies through the League of Red Cross Societies, Geneva, and the National Red Cross Societies of Great Britain, the Netherlands, and Belgium.

Having been asked by the Prime Minister of Canada to serve on such committee, I wish to advise this House that I have agreed to do so.

Concurrently, the Prime Minister has been advised that British Columbia is considering direct and material aid for Great Britain and I have suggested that the Federal Government consider a similar contribution at this time.

The following Bills were introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be read a second time at the next sitting:—

On the motion of the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*—Bill (No. 12) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Adoption Act.’”

On the motion of the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*—Bill (No. 14) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Jury Act.’”

On the motion of the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*—Bill (No. 11) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Police and Prisons Regulation Act.’”

On the motion of the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*—Bill (No. 10) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Wills Act.’”

On the motion of the Hon. *W. K. Kiernan*—Bill (No. 2) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Creameries and Dairies Regulation Act.’”

On the motion of the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*—Bill (No. 4) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Irrigation Assistance Loan Act.’”

On the motion of the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*—Bill (No. 5) intituled “An Act to repeal the ‘Mount Robson Park Act.’”

On the motion of the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*—Bill (No. 6) intituled “An Act to repeal the ‘Garibaldi Park Act.’”

On the motion of the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*—Bill (No. 7) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Coal Act.’”

On the motion of the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*—Bill (No. 8) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Petroleum and Natural Gas Act.’”

On the motion of the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*—Bill (No. 9) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘New Westminster Parks Act, 1908.’”

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. *Nimsick* (on behalf of Mr. *Uphill*), the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

REPORT.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,

February 9th, 1953.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Special Committee appointed on the 3rd instant to prepare and report lists of members to compose the Select Standing Committees of this House for the present Session begs to report and recommend that the personnel of the Select Standing Committees of the House for the present Session be as follows:—

STANDING ORDERS AND PRIVATE BILLS.—The Hon. *R. W. Bonner*, Messrs. *Shantz, Corbett, Price, King, Reid, Shelford, Turner, H. E. Winch, Snowsell, Bury*, Mrs. *Hodges*, Messrs. *Proudfoot, Straith*, and *Miller*.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND PRINTING.—The Hon. *E. M. Gunderson*, the Hon. *P. A. Gaglardi*, the Hon. *L. Wicks*, the Hon. *W. D. Black*, Messrs. *King, Parker, Corbett, Reid, H. E. Winch, Hills, Strachan, Turner, Straith, Gibbs, Kenney*, and *Giovando*.

MINING AND RAILWAYS.—Mr. *Reid*, the Hon. *W. R. T. Chetwynd*, the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*, Messrs. *Shelford, Corbett, King, Parker, Price, Nimsick, Segur, Calder, Hagen, Sowden, Gibbs, Kenney*, and *Giovando*.

AGRICULTURE.—The Hon. *W. K. Kiernan*, the Hon. *W. D. Black*, Messrs. *Shelford, Parker, King, Reid, Shantz, Price, Harding, Strachan, Snowsell, Segur, Sowden, Straith, Kenney*, and *Giovando*.

MUNICIPAL MATTERS.—The Hon. *W. D. Black*, the Hon. *W. R. T. Chetwynd*, Messrs. *King, Shantz, Price, Corbett, Parker, Shelford*, Mrs. *Jamieson*, Messrs. *Squire, Hills, Moore, Gibbs, Sowden, Proudfoot*, and *Miller*.

FORESTRY AND FISHERIES.—The Hon. *R. E. Sommers*, the Hon. *W. R. T. Chetwynd*, the Hon. *L. Wicks*, Messrs. *Reid, Corbett, Shantz, Shelford, Parker, Eddie, Gargrave, Moore, Mitchell, Kenney, Sowden, Proudfoot*, and *Miller*.

LABOUR.—The Hon. *L. Wicks*, the Hon. *W. R. T. Chetwynd*, the Hon. *W. D. Black*, Messrs. *Shelford, Corbett, Price, King, Shantz, Bury, Moore, Squire, Eddie*, Mrs. *Hodges*, Messrs. *Gibbs, Proudfoot, Giovando*, and *Uphill*.

SOCIAL WELFARE AND EDUCATION.—The Hon. *E. C. F. Martin*, the Hon. *T. J. Rolston*, the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*, the Hon. *W. D. Black*, the Hon. *W. K. Kiernan*, Messrs. *Parker, Price, Reid, E. E. Winch*, Mrs. *Jamieson*, Messrs. *Harding, Mitchell, Mrs. Hodges*, Messrs. *Proudfoot, Straith*, and *Miller*.

Respectfully submitted.

R. E. SOMMERS, *Chairman*.

The report was read and received.

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

On the motion of the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett*, seconded by the Hon. *E. C. F. Martin*, it was Resolved,—

Whereas the Ninth Decennial Census of Canada, conducted in 1951, showed that the population of the Province had increased from 817,861 in 1941 to 1,165,210 in 1951:

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

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

Therefore be it Resolved, That a Special Committee consisting of ten members of the Legislature be appointed to consider the desirability of amending section 14 and

Schedule C of the "Constitution Act," being chapter 65 of the "Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1948," and to make recommendations in respect thereof to this Legislature as to the desirability of increasing the number of members to be elected to the Legislature and as to the distribution of the members amongst the electoral districts of the Province:

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

And be it further Resolved, That the Committee be composed of the Hon. *W. D. Black* and Messrs. *Shantz, Parker, Shelford, Turner, Snowsell, Nimsick, Kenney, Miller,* and Mrs. *Hodges*.

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

Whereas the British Columbia Power Commission on April 26th, 1951, applied to the Comptroller of Water Rights for a licence under the "Water Act" to store water in Buttle Lake on Vancouver Island for the purpose of developing more electrical energy at the John Hart power plant:

And whereas the Comptroller of Water Rights, after public hearings, granted the licence on June 4th, 1952, under certain conditions:

And whereas objections have been made by certain interested organizations and members of the public to the issuance of the said licence:

Therefore be it Resolved, That a Special Committee consisting of ten members of the Legislature be appointed to inquire into the validity of the proposals of the Commission with respect to the storing of water in Buttle Lake for power purposes and the objections thereto and to recommend to the Legislature with all convenient speed whether or not, in the public interest, the British Columbia Power Commission should be permitted to exercise its rights under the licence:

And be it further Resolved, That in making their inquiry the Committee shall be empowered to examine and inquire into all such matters and things as may be pertinent to the subject and to send for persons, papers, and records as required, said Committee to be composed of the Hon. *R. E. Sommers* and Messrs. *Corbett, Reid, King, H. E. Winch, Moore, Mitchell, Straith, Gibbs, and Giovando*.

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

1. Has any winery permit or permits been granted since July, 1952?
2. If any, who are the directors of the company or companies?
3. Where will the winery or wineries be erected?
4. What is the proposed capital investment or investments?
5. Will the stock be placed on the open market or be held by a number of private individuals?

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

"1. Yes; two.

"2. (a) British Columbia Wineries Limited: *Jacob G. Derksen, Earl Percy, John H. Edmonds, Joseph Augustus, Henry H. Goossen, and Atlee Percy*. (b) Pacific Wine Growers: *Saul Kaganoff, Morris Kagnoff, and Nathan Kagnoff*.

"3. (a) *Sumas* and (b) *Abbotsford*.

"4. Shares, 100,000 shares without nominal or par value, and bonds, to be authorized, \$100,000; (b) partnership.

"5. (a) This is a private company and is prohibited by law from offering its shares to the general public; (b) this is a partnership and therefore has no share capital."

Mrs. *Hodges* asked the Hon. the Minister of Health and Welfare the following questions:—

1. Has the reorganization, ordered by the last Government, of the British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service been completed?

2. How many of the British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service employees have been discharged or transferred to other departments by the above reorganization?

3. What will be the annual savings to the British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service by this reorganization?

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

“ 1. Yes.

“ 2. It is estimated that the staff has been reduced by ten to twelve employees as a result of the above reorganization.

“ 3. It is estimated that the annual savings of the British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service will approximate \$20,000 to \$25,000.”

Mrs. *Hodges* asked the Hon. the Minister of Health and Welfare the following questions:—

1. How many delinquents under the British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service premium system have taken advantage of the reinstatement plan through suspension of arrears?

2. What is the total amount collected in arrears since the above regulation went into effect?

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

“ 1. 1,736.

“ 2. \$58,428.”

Mr. *King* asked the Hon. the Minister of Health and Welfare the following question:—

What was the cash balance of the Hospital Insurance Fund on January 31st in the years 1953, 1952, and 1951?

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

“ The cash balance of the Hospital Insurance Fund on January 31st, 1951, was a deficit of approximately \$454,236.98. However, this figure does not reflect the total subsidy of \$4,045,696 which was paid into the Hospital Insurance Fund on the 31st of March, 1951. The cash balance of the Hospital Insurance Fund on January 31st, 1952, amounted to \$5,710,158.83. The cash balance of the Hospital Insurance Fund on January 31st, 1953, amounted to \$8,323,374.13.”

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

1. How many patients under the British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service paid co-insurance at the rate of \$1 *per diem* from July, 1952, to December 31st, 1952: (a) \$30 to \$40, (b) \$41 to \$50, (c) \$51 to \$60, (d) \$61 to \$70, (e) \$71 to \$80, and (f) \$81 and over?

2. How many drugs or medicines have been struck off the list of prescriptions for old-age pensioners from July, 1952, to January 31st, 1953?

3. How many drugs or medicines have been placed on the restricted list and require special authorization before they can be prescribed to old-age pensioners between July, 1952, and January 31st, 1953?

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

- “ 1. This information will be secured and submitted in a few days.
- “ 2 and 3. None.”

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

1. What was the total of premium receipts to the British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service during the following ten-month periods: (a) April 1st, 1952, to January 31st, 1953; (b) April 1st, 1951, to January 31st, 1952; (c) April 1st, 1950, to January 31st, 1951?
2. How many registrants paid premiums during these periods?

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

“ 1. (a) Premium rates for period April 1st, 1952, to June 30th, 1952: Single, \$30; married, \$42; and for period July 1st, 1952, to January 31st, 1953: Single, \$27; married, \$39; premium receipts totalled \$13,157,365.98. (b) Premium rates for period April 1st, 1951, to June 30th, 1951: Single, \$21; married, \$33; and for period July 1st, 1951, to January 31st, 1952: Single, \$30; married, \$42; premium receipts totalled \$13,040,801.81. (c) Premium rates for full period: Single, \$21; married, \$33; premium receipts totalled \$9,706,387.08.

“ 2. Utilizing average premium rates, the premium totals represent the value of fully paid-up registrants amounting to 345,792 on January 31st, 1951; 374,520 registrants on January 31st, 1952; and 379,503 registrants on January 31st, 1953. Since the actual cost of social assistance cases has been paid to the Hospital Insurance Service from the Welfare Department since April 1st, 1952, and this amount is not included in the premium total for the period April 1st, 1952, to January 31st, 1953, the premiums received during 1950–51 and 1951–52 on behalf of social assistance cases have not been included in the totals for these years in order to make the comparison equitable.”

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

1. What number of male and female patients respectively, classified as senile, are now in residence in each Provincial mental hospital?
2. How many, if any, applications for admission on behalf of senile patients are on the waiting-list?
3. How many, if any, applications for admission to The Woodlands School on behalf of young children are on the waiting-list?

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

“ 1. The following gives the distribution of patients resident in the Mental Hospital at Essondale who are over 70 years of age and who may be classified as senile: Men, 121; women, 113; total, 234.

“ 2. As of February 1st, 1953, 93 applications for the admission of senile patients were on the waiting-list. These applications were made during the years 1952–53 and are considered active. An additional 87 such applications dating back to 1948 are on file. Inasmuch as nothing further has been heard from this group during the past year, it is assumed that they are either deceased or that other disposition has been made. They are, therefore, not regarded as active.

“ 3. As of February 1st, 1953, 17 applications were on the waiting-list for admission to The Woodlands School. These applications were made during the years 1952 and 1953 and are considered active. An additional 34 applications dating back to 1947 are on file. Spot checks in this group indicate that the children are either deceased or that other provision has been made. They are, therefore, not regarded as active.”

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

1. How many, if any, present inmates of Essondale, Woodlands School, and Colquitz Mental Hospitals respectively are suffering from tuberculosis?
2. What facilities, if any, exist within each institution for the care and treatment of tubercular patients?
3. Do such facilities (a) conform to present-day medical standard requirements for this type of ailment, and (b) if not, what action has been or is now being taken to provide adequate accommodation and treatment in conformity with currently acceptable medical standards?

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

“ 1. Essondale: Active tuberculosis, 81; arrested tuberculosis, 151. The Woodlands School: Active tuberculosis, 6; arrested tuberculosis, 8. Colquitz: Active tuberculosis, none.

“ 2. Separate ward accommodation has been provided for the treatment of active cases only.

“ 3. (a) Such accommodation does not conform to present-day medical standards; (b) plans for a new building are practically completed and it is hoped that construction will be started in the course of the next few months.”

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

1. How many patients appeared before the Appeal Board at Essondale during the past year?
2. How many were recommended for probation?
3. How many were accompanied by a friend or advocate?
4. (a) Are patients who desire to appear before the Appeal Board given prior information as to the date of their hearing and (b) are they informed of their right to be accompanied by a friend or advocate?

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

“ 1. Thirty-nine during the calendar year 1952.

“ 2. During the calendar year 1952 the panel recommended the discharge of two patients; both were discharged in full.

“ 3. During the calendar year 1952 one patient was accompanied by a friend or advocate; one panel was initiated by the Medical Superintendent.

“ 4. (a) Patients are given prior notice of the date of appeal as soon as a firm date can be established; (b) patients have no specific rights to be accompanied by a friend or advocate, although any person recognized by the Medical Superintendent as a properly authorized personal representative of the patient may make an appeal for a review on behalf of the patient.”

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

1. What is the number of medical staff doing ward duty at Essondale and the Crease Clinic respectively?
2. What number of patients has each medical staff member under his care at Essondale and the Crease Clinic respectively?

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

“ 1. Total medical staff at Essondale is twenty-five and medical staff on ward duty is nineteen.

“ 2. All physicians at Essondale have assignments in both the Mental Hospital and the Crease Clinic; the combined average ratio of ward physician to patients is 1 to 194.”

Mr. *Proudfoot* asked the Hon. the Premier the following questions:—

1. On what date did the reporters of the Press Gallery receive a copy of the British Columbia Liquor Inquiry Commission Report?
2. Were any instructions issued to the reporters or any restrictions imposed as to what they should report with regard to the British Columbia Liquor Inquiry Commission Report?
3. Had the reporters to sign a document covering the instructions in No. 2?
4. On what date did the members of the Legislature have their copies of the British Columbia Liquor Inquiry Commission Report mailed to them?

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

- “ 1. January 14th, 1953.
- “ 2. No instructions were issued to the reporters, but certain conditions with respect to release were agreed to by members of the Press Gallery and signed by them.
- “ 3. Answered by No. 2.
- “ 4. January 14th and 15th, 1953.”

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

1. How many patients were admitted to Essondale and the Crease Clinic respectively during the past year as alcoholics (a) with or (b) without psychosis?
2. How many were (a) voluntary or (b) certified admissions in each such category?
3. How many alcoholics are now resident in each institution?
4. Is there (a) a limit to the number of readmissions of an individual in this category or (b) a minimum period of treatment?

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

- “ 1. Alcoholic patients are not admitted to the Crease Clinic. The following figures cover the admissions to the Mental Hospital for the fiscal year 1951-52: (a) With psychosis: Male, 40; female, 11; total, 51. (b) Without psychosis: Male, 200; female, 39; total, 239.
- “ 2. (a) 217 and (b) 73.
- “ 3. Forty-seven.
- “ 4. (a) With regard to voluntary admissions to the Mental Hospital, each alcoholic patient is limited to three admissions in any twelve-month period; committed alcoholics cannot be refused admission to the Mental Hospital; (b) treatment period is determined by the progress of the patient; voluntary patients, however, may terminate their hospitalization by giving five days' notice.”

Mr. *Harding* asked the Hon. the Minister of Finance the following questions:—

1. Have any school taxes been paid by the Canadian Pacific Railway in the following school districts, or any of them, for any of the years 1949, 1950, 1951, and 1952?
2. If yes, what was the amount paid to (a) Slocan School District No. 8, (b) Kootenay Lake School District No. 6, and (c) Arrow Lakes School District No. 10?
3. What is the assessed value of the Canadian Pacific Railway property in the above school districts?

The Hon. *E. M. Gunderson* replied as follows:—

- “ 1. Yes.
- “ 2. (a) Slocan School District No. 8: 1949, \$2,291.33; 1950, \$2,246.54; 1951, \$2,500.54; and 1952, \$2,485.97. (b) Kootenay Lake School District No. 6: 1949, \$544.05; 1950, \$567.33; 1951, \$541.21; and 1952, \$613.33. (c) Arrow Lakes School District No. 10: 1949, \$713.96; 1950, \$707.15; 1951, \$612.21; and 1952, \$592.49.

" 3. The assessed value of Canadian Pacific Railway property for the calendar year 1952 for school taxation purposes was: (a) Slocan School District No. 8, \$209,955; (b) Kootenay Lake School District No. 6, \$56,790; and (c) Arrow Lakes School District No. 10, \$36,230."

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

And then the House adjourned at 4.59 p.m.

Tuesday, February 10th, 1953.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *Edward Doyle*.

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

The debate continued.

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

The Hon. *L. Wicks* presented the Annual Report of the Labour Relations Board (British Columbia) for the Year ended December 31st, 1952.

The Hon. *W. R. T. Chetwynd* presented the Annual Report of the Provincial Department of Fisheries for the Year ended December 31st, 1951.

Mr. *Kenney* asked the Hon. the Minister of Public Works the following questions:—

1. How much money was appropriated by the Legislature in 1952 to be used for any and all purposes in connection with public works for the fiscal year 1952-53?
2. How much of such appropriations were expended as between April 1st, 1952, and August 1st, 1952?
3. How much of said appropriations were expended as between August 1st, 1952, and February 1st, 1953?
4. What amount as at February 1st, 1953, still remained unexpended?

The Hon. *P. A. Gagliardi* replied as follows:—

- " 1. \$36,718,490.
- " 2. \$6,954,572.74.
- " 3. \$16,110,207.97.
- " 4. \$13,653,709.29."

Mr. *Haggen* asked the Hon. the Minister of Mines the following questions:—

1. Has the Department of Mines any information as to any mining operations in the Province having been discontinued since July 31st, 1952?
2. If so, how many such operations have been shut down?
3. How many people, if any, have lost employment as a result of such shut-down?
4. Have any reasons been given for any shut-down?
5. If so, what?

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

“ 1. Yes.

“ 2. Fifteen producers.

“ 3. No information; 867 men employed in these operations; probably some duplication as all operations did not close at the same time; most have found employment.

“ 4. Yes.

“ 5. Reserves exhausted; high cost of production; lower prices for lead and zinc; adverse winter conditions and shortage of power.”

Mr. *Parker* asked the Hon. the Minister of Health and Welfare the following question:—

How many hospitals receiving payments from the Hospital Insurance Service incurred deficits or surpluses (*a*) in 1951 and (*b*) in 1952?

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

“ During 1951, sixty-seven hospitals operating on firm budgets reported as follows: Forty hospitals, or 60 per cent, reported a surplus or that they broke even; total surpluses amounted to \$74,000; twenty-seven hospitals, or 40 per cent, reported deficits amounting to \$360,000. Reported to date for 1952: Forty-eight hospitals, or 72 per cent, of the sixty-seven hospitals on firm budgets reported surpluses or indicated that they broke even; total surpluses reported, \$710,000; nineteen hospitals, or 28 per cent, reported deficits amounting to \$135,000; only five hospitals reported a deficit of over \$10,000; nine of the nineteen hospitals have had deficits for all four years since the British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service commenced operations; three of the nineteen hospitals reporting deficits in 1952 have surpluses in previous years which more than offset the deficit incurred in 1952.”

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

And then the House adjourned at 4.56 p.m.

Wednesday, February 11th, 1953.

HALF-PAST TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Major *Thomas Elwood*.

Mr. *Miller* presented a petition from the City of Vancouver for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled “An Act to supersede and replace the ‘Vancouver Incorporation Act, 1921,’ being Chapter 55 of the Statutes of 1921 (Second Session), and all Amendments thereto.”

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

Mr. *Proudfoot* presented a petition from The Corporation of the City of Victoria for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled “An Act relating to The Corporation of the City of Victoria.”

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

Mr. *E. E. Winch* presented a petition from David Mathews, Oscar Frederick Morrison, Gerald Robert Smith, and Edwin A. Rae for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled "An Act respecting Dental Technicians."

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

The following Bills were introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be read a second time at the next sitting:—

On the motion of Mr. *H. E. Winch*—Bill (No. 23) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Laws Declaratory Act.'"

On the motion of Mr. *H. E. Winch*—Bill (No. 24) intituled "An Act to protect certain Civil Rights."

On the motion of the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*—Bill (No. 18) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Commorientes Act.'"

On the motion of the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*—Bill (No. 17) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement) Act.'"

On the motion of the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett*—Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act to repeal the 'Coal and Petroleum Products Control Board Act.'"

On the motion of the Hon. *W. K. Kiernan*—Bill (No. 19) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Pound District Act.'"

On the motion of the Hon. *W. K. Kiernan*—Bill (No. 20) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Trespass Act.'"

On the motion of the Hon. *W. K. Kiernan*—Bill (No. 21) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Farmers' and Women's Institutes Act.'"

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. *Strachan*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

The Hon. *L. Wicks* presented the Third Annual Report of the Provincial Advisory Committee on Indian Affairs for the Year ended December 31st, 1952.

The Hon. *W. D. Black* presented the Annual Report of the Director of Provincial Mental Health Services for the Fiscal Year ended March 31st, 1952.

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

1. Have any producing oil-wells been brought into production in British Columbia, and, if so, (a) how many, (b) by what owners, and (c) what is the daily production of each?
2. What is the total daily production of natural gas at present proven in all wells in this Province?
3. In what wells and in what daily quantities is commercial gas proven?

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

“ 1. No.

“ 2. 152,000,000 cubic feet per day.

“ 3. Proven daily production: Pacific Fort St. John No. 3, 1,000,000 cubic feet per day; Pacific Fort St. John No. 4, 29,000,000 cubic feet per day; Pacific Fort St. John No. 5, 4,000,000 cubic feet per day; Pacific Fort St. John No. 6, 26,000,000 cubic feet per day; Pacific Fort St. John No. 7, 38,000,000 cubic feet per day; Pacific Fort St. John No. 8, 500,000 cubic feet per day; Pacific Fort St. John No. 9, 3,000,000 cubic feet per day; Pacific Fort St. John No. 10, 1,000,000 cubic feet per day; Pacific Fort St. John No. 12, 30,000,000 cubic feet per day; Pacific Fort St. John No. 14, 1,500,000 cubic feet per day; Pacific Fort St. John No. 15, 500,000 cubic feet per day; Pacific Fort. St. John No. 17, 500,000 cubic feet per day; Pacific Peace River British Dominion No. 1, 4,000,000 cubic feet per day; Peace River Natural Gas No. 8, 1,000,000 cubic feet per day; Peace River Natural Gas No. 1, 5,000,000 cubic feet per day; Peace River Natural Gas No. 5, 1,000,000 cubic feet per day; Peace River Natural Gas No. 6, 500,000 cubic feet per day; Pacific Sunrise No. 3, 1,500,000 cubic feet per day; Pacific Sunrise No. 4, 2,500,000 cubic feet per day; and Pacific Sunrise No. 6A, 1,500,000 cubic feet per day.”

Mr. *Haggen* asked the Hon. the Minister of Lands and Forests the following question:—

With respect to natural-gas licences under the “Petroleum and Natural Gas Act” in the Peace River Land District, have any licences been issued and, if so, what is the total area covered thereby?

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

“None.”

Mr. *Haggen* asked the Hon. the Minister of Lands and Forests the following question:—

With respect to permits under the “Petroleum and Natural Gas Act” in the Peace River Land District, have any permits been issued and, if so, (a) what is the total area covered by such permits and (b) have there been any instances of more than one such permit being issued to more than one applicant, and, if so, how many and what is or are the name or names of persons or companies holding more than one?

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

“Yes; (a) 31,430,548 acres; (b) yes, thirty-eight companies and thirty-four individuals, listed as follows:—

Company Name.	Number of Permits.	Total Acres.
Allenbee Petroleums Limited.....	2	59,200
British-American Oil Company Limited.....	3	757,536
Bralsaman Petroleums Limited.....	9	196,386
Barons Oil Limited.....	2	19,801
B.C. Oil Lands Limited.....	13	1,935,466
The Beaver Oil & Gas Company Limited.....	12	449,538
Basco Petroleums Limited.....	2	99,200
Canadian Gulf Oil Company.....	3	745,920
Calvan Consolidated Oil & Gas Company Limited	5	499,520
Charter Oil Company Limited.....	5	471,462
Central Leduc Oils Limited.....	10	1,510,386
Crowshore Patricia Gold Mines Limited.....	9	99,328

Company Name.	Number of Permits.	Total Acres.
Canadian Pipelines Producers Limited.....	10	238,434
Edoran Oil Corporation Limited.....	2	49,664
Fargo Oils Limited.....	17	1,073,900
Fort St. John Petroleums Limited.....	3	58,849
Gas Exploration Company of Alberta Limited....	4	198,985
Hudson's Bay Oil & Gas Company Limited.....	2	275,840
Imperial Oil Limited.....	8	2,001,436
Lloydminster Development Company.....	2	49,952
New Continental Oil Company of Canada Limited	2	144,057
Northern Oil Company Limited.....	5	308,940
Phillips Petroleum Company.....	4	416,000
Pacific Petroleums Limited.....	27	2,344,505
Prudential Trust Company Limited.....	14	523,960
Rampart Petroleums Limited.....	3	167,972
Stanolind Oil & Gas Company.....	2	389,280
Sun Oil Company.....	3	627,992
Socony Vacuum Exploration Company.....	3	590,080
Shell Oil Company.....	4	805,120
Sparmac Petroleums Limited.....	8	244,304
Texaco Exploration Company.....	4	1,020,960
Trans-Empire Oils Limited.....	21	1,480,224
Trans-Western Oils Limited.....	2	19,984
Trans-Era Oils Limited.....	2	39,680
Union Oil Company of California.....	4	569,472
Wagner Oils Limited.....	3	64,745
Wagner Holding & Development Limited.....	2	89,504

Individuals.	Number of Permits.	Total Acres.
G. J. Allison.....	2	59,840
E. I. Bird.....	4	89,673
M. P. Boyd.....	8	438,808
J. A. Crossie.....	8	298,656
H. Cree.....	2	99,952
G. A. Costigan.....	4	103,888
R. DesHarnais.....	5	59,526
C. E. Disher.....	3	150,000
M. L. Dalley.....	5	179,731
E. L. Filer.....	4	109,840
R. K. Farris.....	10	893,729
R. G. Filer.....	2	39,835
M. M. Haines.....	2	19,654
W. J. Hunter.....	2	19,920
G. K. Harrison.....	2	89,920
M. E. Manning.....	7	408,518
L. G. McKenzie.....	6	209,856
J. A. McLallen.....	3	328,473
A. F. Mercer.....	2	49,708
J. J. Miller.....	2	149,920
Martin Mayrath.....	3	129,702
C. W. Nash.....	3	39,968
P. M. Reynolds.....	8	948,956

Individuals.	Number of Permits.	Total Acres.
V. J. Schwerdt.....	4	428,568
W. J. Sharp.....	2	69,888
J. W. Sharp.....	2	39,936
P. A. Schwerdt.....	3	308,925
D. J. Speakman.....	7	195,349
S. Steinberg.....	11	569,490
J. Thomas.....	5	249,410
W. J. Wallace.....	2	149,200
H. C. Webber.....	10	306,791
W. E. Whittall.....	2	59,345
N. H. Young.....	3	29,760."

Mr. *King* asked the Hon. the Minister of Agriculture the following questions:—

1. Has the Department of Agriculture received any report of cases of rabies in British Columbia since January 15th, 1953?
2. If so, how many instances and in what locality or localities?
3. Were precautionary measures taken to prevent the introduction or spread of this disease?

The Hon. *W. K. Kiernan* replied as follows:—

- "1. Yes.
- "2. One wolf and one fox; Fort Nelson.
- "3. Yes."

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

Is the fire-alarm system of the buildings at the Colony Farm connected directly with the central fire-protection service?

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

"Four fire-alarm boxes situate in the Colony Farm area outside the buildings are connected directly with the fire-hall, the telephone switchboard, and the boiler-house. Direct connection from the wards in the Colony Farm area to the fire-hall is contemplated; provision for this installation has been included in the Mental Health Services construction programme."

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

1. Has any contract yet been made by your Department with respect to a forest management licence in the valley of the Columbia River with the Celgar Corporation?
2. If so, what is the date the contract was signed?
3. If the answer to No. 1 is yes, what provisions are made for royalty and stumpage payments and at what rates are such royalties and stumpage chargeable?

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

- "1. No.
- "2 and 3. Not applicable."

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

1. Has a homogenizing plant been installed at Essondale?
2. If yes, (a) is it in use, and (b) if not in use, why?

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

“1. Yes.

“2. (a) No. (b) There has been a delay in delivery of refrigeration equipment. Installation is now completed; a trial run was commenced yesterday, February 10th, and will be completed to-day. If satisfactory, the plant will be in operation next week.”

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

1. How many timber sales have been made under cubic-content scale since August 1st, 1952, and on advertised timber sales to February 1st, 1953?
2. What is the average stumpage charged throughout the Province per 100 cubic feet on such sales for (a) fir, (b) spruce, (c) cedar, (d) hemlock, and (e) pine?
3. What would be the comparative price per thousand for same species if sold 1,000 feet board-measure under British Columbia log-scale?
4. What was the average price per thousand on the above-mentioned species as between January 1st, 1952, and August 1st, 1953?
5. How much overrun on British Columbia log-scale was allowed prior to cubic-content scale being introduced?

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

“1. Number of sales awarded under cubic-content scale from August 1st, 1952, to January 31st, 1953, was 506, of which 372 were disposed of following advertising.

“2. Average stumpage charged throughout Province per 100 cubic feet on such sales was as follows: Fir, \$4.95 per 100 cubic feet; cedar, \$2.58 per 100 cubic feet; spruce, \$5.22 per 100 cubic feet; hemlock, \$2.70 per 100 cubic feet; white pine, \$18.36 per 100 cubic feet; yellow pine, \$6.55 per 100 cubic feet; lodgepole pine, \$3.86 per 100 cubic feet.

“3. The comparative price per thousand for these same species if sold under feet board-measure British Columbia log-scale would vary between wide limits depending upon the size and form of the timber involved; however, using a broad average, comparable rates would be: Fir, \$8.41 per thousand board-feet; cedar, \$4.39 per thousand board-feet; spruce, \$8.87 per thousand board-feet; hemlock, \$4.59 per thousand board-feet; white pine, \$31.20 per thousand board-feet; yellow pine, \$11.13 per thousand board-feet; lodgepole pine, \$6.56 per thousand board-feet.

“4. Average price per thousand on the above-mentioned species between January 1st, 1952, and August 1st, 1952, was as follows: Fir, \$11.41 per thousand board-feet; cedar, \$9.96 per thousand board-feet; spruce, \$8.68 per thousand board-feet; hemlock, \$10.28 per thousand board-feet; white pine, \$24.02 per thousand board-feet; yellow pine, \$14.07 per thousand board-feet; lodgepole pine, \$5.35 per thousand board-feet.

“5. *Nil.*”

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.45 p.m.