JOURNALS

OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

SESSION 1985-86

Monday, March 4, 1985

Two o'clock P.M.

Prayers by the Right Rev. J. T. Frame.

This being the first day of the third meeting of the Thirty-third Parliament of the Province of British Columbia for the dispatch of business, pursuant to a Proclamation of the Hon. ROBERT GORDON ROGERS, Lieutenant Governor of the Province, dated the 28th day of February, 1985, the members took their seats.

The Hon. ROBERT GORDON ROGERS, 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:

On behalf of our Sovereign, I would like to extend greetings to you all on the opening of the Third Session of the Thirty-third Parliament of British Columbia.

I trust and pray that the people of our Province and their needs will remain in the forefront of your thoughts and deliberations, and that all Members of this Assembly will strive during their service to work for the common well-being of all British Columbians, and to ensure that their hopes, dreams and aspirations are realized to the fullest extent possible.

As we gather here today, it is fitting that we pay tribute to the passing of old and valued friends.

All British Columbians were saddened by the death of Major-General George Pearkes, a former representative of Her Majesty in British Columbia, and one of British Columbia's most distinguished citizens.

The deep esteem in which General Pearkes was held by his fellow British Columbians was evidenced by the thousands who turned out to pay their respects at the state funeral.

The people of British Columbia also mourn the passing of Donald Campbell, who served his constituency of Okanagan North and the Province with great dedication and enthusiasm, and Arvid Lundell a Member of this Legislative Assembly between 1949 and 1963.

We mourn too, the death of the legendary Archie McKinnon, one of our truly great athletic heroes.

Today, the thoughts of all of us are with Steve Fonyo our fellow British Columbian who, in the tradition established by the late Terry Fox, is demonstrating that courage, determination and a brave spirit can overcome the most severe physical handicap.

During the past year, my Government and the people of our Province were honoured to welcome many important visitors, including His Holiness Pope John Paul II. whose visit was a unique inspirational event—not only for people of the Roman Catholic faith but for all British Columbians.

I am pleased to make special note of the first official visit of Governor-General Jeanne Sauvé to British Columbia, and trust it will be only the first of many.

We also had the pleasure of hosting the King and Queen of Spain, the Prime Minister of Thailand and many other important visitors from around the world. We note, in particular, visits from the Pacific Rim where we continue to strengthen economic and cultural ties in nations such as Japan, China, South Korea. Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia and Malaysia.

In the coming year, my Government will deepen and broaden contacts with other nations and peoples, as we prepare to welcome the world to Expo 86.

A committee under my Minister of Intergovernmental Relations will co-ordinate the many visits of Heads of State and other foreign guests to Canada's Pacific Gateway. This committee will ensure that all visitors, investors and countries participating in Expo leave with a greater understanding of our people and of the potential of every region of our Province.

It pleases me greatly to note the successful conclusion of two international negotiations.

After many years of discussion, my Government's efforts culminated in the signing of a treaty between Canada and the United States of America which will safeguard the natural wonders of the Skagit Valley while maintaining good relations with our neighbours in Seattle.

In recent days, too, Canada and the United States have reached agreement on the salmon fishery. I am advised this agreement will help ensure that our commercial and sports fishing industries have a future in which they can trust.

My Government is hopeful that these two agreements will establish a pattern in the coming years for even deeper and broader contacts with our American neighbours in economic and cultural matters.

British Columbians, having shared the adversity of the international recession, are entitled to feel a quiet sense of optimism as our Province enters what promises to be a time of economic renewal over this second half of the decade.

Having restrained public sector costs, thus preventing the build-up of massive debt and corresponding tax increases, my Government today has room to manoeuver to pursue its number one priority—the creation of real, permanent jobs for British Columbians.

As British Columbia continues to adjust and position itself within the next global economy, our people will face new challenges and new opportunities to work together for economic renewal.

Our Province in terms of its people, natural resources, fresh water and energy, has a potential which is limitless.

My Government believes the road to economic renewal will be paved by harnessing the skills and talents of our people in a program of partnership for economic renewal.

There are no easy or instant answers to the economic difficulties we still face.

But my Government will introduce a number of initiatives to expand job opportunities in the private sector; to broaden British Columbia's economic base; to attract new investments; to increase exports; to train our young people for new opportunities; and to retrain those who have been most affected by the international recession.

Economic growth in British Columbia is highly dependent on demand in international markets for our products, and continuing low prices for our natural resources have had serious effects on critical sectors such as mining and forestry.

These difficulties in our basic industries—the traditional engine of our economy—have constrained growth in other sectors and have reduced the revenues available to my Government.

I am advised our important forest industry continues to face increasingly competitive markets for its products and, as a result, employment and earnings in the industry in 1984 remained significantly below the pre-recession levels of the late 1970's.

Demand in the U.S. residential market for lumber remained relatively strong this past year, as United States housing starts increased slightly to approximately 1.8 million units. I am advised that housing starts for 1985 are projected at a level equivalent to 1984.

Of major concern to British Columbia and Canada, are attempts underway in the important United States market to limit Canadian lumber imports.

My Government will take whatever action is appropriate, in conjunction with business, labour and the federal government, to ensure that our access to this traditional market is retained and that quotas are not imposed.

I am advised that, in spite of the sorely depressed markets for some minerals, the year 1984 saw an increase of 17 per cent in the value of solid minerals produced in British Columbia.

This past year saw another gratifying development: more than 19 million metric tonnes of coal were shipped to destinations in the Pacific Rim, Europe, and other parts of North America. This represents a 68 per cent increase in shipments.

Despite these positive signs, low prices and depressed global markets have had severe impacts on our most critical sectors—mining and forestry.

While British Columbia cannot affect the price of, and demand for, the products of our mines and forests, I am advised it is in our power to control costs. To this end, my Government will propose measures to facilitate a concrete partnership to restore jobs that have been lost and to save jobs that may be threatened.

My Government will appoint an independent Commissioner to provide an opportunity for interested parties to work together. The Commissioner of Critical Industries will recommend measures and assist in developing a partnership involving business, labour and government on the basis of common and equal commitment.

As part of this partnership, my Government and its agencies stand ready to negotiate significant relief measures to aid our critical industries in the areas of taxation and transportation and energy costs.

My Government is hopeful that strong federal leadership will assist in bringing about economic renewal in our Province, through lower interest rates and inflation in the months and years ahead.

Amendments to the *Foreign Investment Review Act* and changes to the National Energy Program are important first steps in the process of convincing our friends, neighbours and trading partners that our country is again interested in attracting investment, new development and new employment.

I am advised that British Columbians now have strong representation in the national Cabinet and in its most important Committees, and that the diverse interests of our people will be promoted by a strong government caucus in Ottawa.

I am also advised that a positive and constructive atmosphere prevailed at the recent First Ministers' Conference on the Economy, and that there was a recognition that investment within and from outside Canada is needed to help create jobs.

As our Province works in partnership with the federal government, with British Columbia's Cabinet Ministers and federal Caucus, my Government believes that a fair allocation of federal dollars will be directed to British Columbia in the key areas of forestry, agriculture, tourism, minerals, science and technology and manpower training.

After a full-scale public hearing, the British Columbia Utilities Commission recommended, in July 1984, the Southern Route for the Vancouver Island Gas Pipeline. The Commission also determined the magnitude of the federal contribution that would be required; this would represent equitable treatment for British Columbia relative to the pipeline constructed in Quebec and the Maritimes. My Government will continue to assist British Columbia's representatives in Ottawa to press ahead with the federal government's commitment to the pipeline so as to ensure that construction begins as soon as possible.

My Government will continue to pursue the early resolution of the question of offshore resources. A negotiated settlement of this long outstanding issue could provide the impetus to economic development for the benefit of both British Columbia and Canada.

I am advised that the Western producing provinces and Canada are actively involved in negotiations on energy pricing and taxation issues. My Government views these negotiations as an excellent opportunity to stimulate the important oil and gas industries in our Province.

I am advised the immense potential of our food production industry will be enhanced by specific marketing initiatives which my Government will undertake in cooperation with the private sector.

These initiatives are intended to capture significant markets here and abroad, building towards an International Food Exhibition at Expo 86 which will provide global exposure of our industry to new markets and buyers from overseas.

The Lower Mainland's importance as a focal point for British Columbia's increasing trade and commercial links with the Pacific Rim will see my Government intensify its efforts to develop a major, international financial centre.

The channelling of international capital into resource and high-technology ventures in our Province and elsewhere will continue to receive major emphasis.

I am advised that British Columbia industry is already exploiting the leading edge of technology in underwater exploration and satellite communication, and that future opportunities in the areas of biotechnology and mariculture are significant.

In this regard, my Government views the development of the world's first rechargeable lithium batteries by Moli Energy Ltd., as an excellent example of job-creating partnerships between our universities, the private sector and agencies of government.

My Minister of Finance has undertaken a comprehensive review of taxation in British Columbia and its effect on economic development.

Throughout the fall of 1984, extensive public hearings were conducted to seek the opinions of British Columbians on the topic.

More than 350 submissions were made in 27 communities; this extensive public input will form the major underpinning of the plans my Minister of Finance will present to this Assembly.

In the weeks and months ahead led by my First Minister, members of my Government will travel across our Province to communicate directly with ordinary British Columbians, our private sector, labour and management groups and local governments to put in place a program of partnership for economic renewal.

At the same time, my Minister of Municipal Affairs will offer to municipalities a program of partnership for economic renewal at the local level.

In broadening the partnership, my Government will harness the \$2 billion a year purchasing power of municipalities and other public sector bodies, including Crown corporations, to create new opportunities for business and new jobs for British Columbians.

My Government recently established the new B.C. Lottery Corporation.

The coming year will see the hiring of more than one hundred people from the Kamloops area to staff the headquarters. With an annual payroll of more than three million dollars, the Lottery Corporation will be a significant addition to the business community of Kamloops, and the purchasing power of the Corporation will provide the foundation for the spin-off of new, high technology industries.

In the coming year, my Minister of International Trade and Investment will launch an intensive and aggressive campaign to expand exports and investment.

As part of this campaign my Government will move to increase British Columbia's presence in key markets by placing representatives in Canada's Embassies and Consulates abroad.

This initiative is viewed by my Government as a very high priority because of the importance of exports and investment to the provincial economy and, in the coming year, these efforts will be supplemented by trade missions in which private sector participation will be encouraged.

Continued support will be extended to the Asia Pacific Foundation to aid in its valuable activities to promote and strengthen economic and cultural ties between British Columbia and Canada and nations of the Pacific Rim.

Our drive to penetrate new markets for our exports and to increase trade, will be matched by our efforts to attract new industries in order to create new employment for British Columbians.

Given the present trade orientation of our Province and our developing role in the Pacific economic community, my Government will introduce special measures to promote enterprise in British Columbia in co-operation with the federal government.

In order to increase the attractiveness of our local communities as places for new job-creating investments, my Government will propose measures to permit the negotiation of short to medium-term discounts for incremental electricity, and longer-term electricity discounts to encourage new investment.

An important factor in our Province's drive to increase its exports and attract new job-creating investment is the continued improvement in labour-management relations in British Columbia.

I am advised that significant improvements have, in fact, taken place since 1981 and that British Columbia's performance is improving steadily relative to other Provinces in Canada. My Government attaches great importance to demonstrating to our trading partners and potential investors a new level of maturity and stability in industrial relations.

My Government will continue to assess ways and means to improve industrial relations. Toward this end, my Minister of Labour will consult with ordinary British Columbians on the future of industrial relations in our Province.

My Government will propose new measures to encourage ordinary British Columbians to invest their savings in existing and new businesses—particularly small business—to help create new jobs.

To invest in the Province's future and contribute to employment, my Government has already undertaken several major projects.

Ports, rail and highways are vital to our Province's future, and I am advised that significant advances have taken place in the shipment of coal and grain from Prince Rupert—which is celebrating its 75th anniversary.

Major initiatives such as Expo 86, the new Annacis Bridge and the Coquihalla Highway are by conservative estimates expected to create up to 25,000 jobs between now and 1987.

The Coquihalla Highway, I am advised, will provide a new connection for visitors to Expo—including international investors—to travel to the Interior of our Province, and will provide new opportunities on the Coast for Interior businesses and residents.

My Government is committed to the development of tourism and looks forward to welcoming new visitors to British Columbia during Expo 86.

A healthy tourism industry, with its heavy reliance on small business entrepreneurs, will help provide jobs and employment opportunities for British Columbians now and in the years ahead.

During 1984, more than 12 million visitors travelled in British Columbia, spending more than \$2.2 billion.

My Minister of Tourism will place increased emphasis on three major goals:

- The continued increase of tourism revenues through aggressive and effective marketing;
- The further development of high quality tourist facilities and services to complement British Columbia's stunning natural attributes;
- The ongoing encouragement and co-ordination of training programs to enhance the high standards of service required for a truly effective and world-class tourism industry.

Expo 86 will be a benefit to all British Columbians: the world will see British Columbia in a way which has never been the case before.

Investors in the key areas of transportation and communication will see our Province as a good place to live, and a good place to locate and create jobs.

This \$1.5 billion in expenditures will create a \$4 billion increase in economic activity in Canada, \$3 billion of which will be in British Columbia.

Sixty-three thousand person-years of employment and \$1.3 billion in wages and salaries will result.

The spirit of Expo 86 will live on through a legacy of permanent facilities and community benefits to be enjoyed by future generations throughout the Province.

But my Government believes our greatest heritage will assuredly be the lasting spirit and reputation of having shown the world that we can achieve great things together.

The reform of our legislative and democratic processes is an on-going task. An enumeration of voters will be conducted in 1985 using computer technology to update voter lists.

Regulatory reform is underway across all levels and in every ministry of my Government, and on-going efforts are being made to cut government red tape and end bureaucratic roadblocks in order to produce more cost-efficient and effective programs for the benefit of taxpayers.

My Government believes that the family unit remains the cornerstone of British Columbia society and my Attorney General will initiate a number of reforms to strengthen, consolidate and update legislation in areas of family law related to children and spouses.

The civil rights of children and women will be further protected through measures designed to deal with the growing availability of materials, particularly those related to sex and violence.

I am advised that law enforcement in British Columbia will be examined to determine that the most effective and cost-efficient procedures are being followed, and my Attorney General will continue to view the reduction of child abuse and wife assault as matters of high priority.

In addition, steps will be taken to bring Provincial legislation into conformity with the equality rights provisions of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which come into effect on April 17, 1985.

1985 marks the conclusion of the United Nations Decade for Women; my Government wishes to recognize the substantial and tangible contribution women make to the economy and society of this Province.

Many women in the public service have received special training and instruction in career advancement and my Government intends to continue this program in the coming year.

My Government continues to place its highest priority on the maintenance of our excellent health care system.

My Minister of Health will again receive the single largest spending allocation of all government ministries, approximately one third of the total provincial budget.

My Government's commitment to high quality health care is exemplified by the recent opening of the A. Maxwell Evans Clinic, which offers one hundred beds and a large ambulatory unit. The Cancer Control Agency of B.C. now provides British Columbians with access to facilities and services which are among the finest in the world.

I am advised the hospitals and practitioners of British Columbia are to be commended for maintaining high quality, essential health services with only modest increases in expenditure. Improved efficiency, reductions in duplication and restrained settlements, have all contributed to the maintenance of our excellent system.

In the area of higher education, my Government is committed to consultation and co-operation with the universities and the Universities Council to promote excellence within a context of adjusting to changing priorities.

I am advised that our universities have made specific commitments to review institutional academic priorities. My Government will provide special assistance to permit our universities to strengthen areas of high priority and reduce areas of lesser priority. Measures will be introduced to improve technological and vocational training within the college system.

In 1985—International Youth Year—my Government will implement a new scholarship program to reward merit and achievement.

My Government has strengthened its commitment to distance learning by establishing the Open Learning Consortium. Through this Consortium, students can combine classroom and home study from member institutions to obtain a degree, no matter where they live or their financial or personal situation.

I am advised the Knowledge Network has continued to improve the quality of its educational programming and its coverage of the Province. Viewer ratings and correspondence confirm that it is highly regarded as a valuable service by many residents.

The establishment of the Science and Engineering Complex at the University of Victoria and the new Pulp and Paper Centre at the University of British Columbia are prime examples of partnership in economic renewal.

Employment training remains a high priority of my Government.

An extension to the federal-provincial *National Training Act* has been signed and negotiations are being held with the federal government to ensure that British Columbia's labour force is adequately trained to meet future needs.

And in keeping with my Government's concern that young people find summer employment, last year's successful job-creation programs—the Student Venture Capital Program and the Jobs for Youth Program—will be continued.

In the field of public education, I am pleased to report that examinations and learning assessments show our young people are performing well in critically important areas. My Minister of Education will continue to discuss new directions and methods to bring about further improvements.

In recognition of our increasingly technological society, my Government is proposing changes to high school graduation requirements that will place greater emphasis on mathematics and science.

My Government believes that effective teaching results in quality education and I am advised that measures to reward teachers who display outstanding ability will be considered.

My Minister of Education will consult with the community on the future of our school system and will propose new measures for consideration by Members.

My Government's commitment to help the disadvantaged, the handicapped and those British Columbians who encountered difficulties as a result of the recession, was met in a wide range of areas.

I am informed by my Minister of Human Resources that service levels were maintained in all programs despite increased workloads.

My Government commends the performance of the seventy-nine non-profit societies providing services to approximately 4,500 handicapped adults. All British Columbians owe a particular debt of gratitude to the 4,000 foster families who care for wards of the Superintendent of Family and Child Services.

Combatting child abuse will continue to be a high priority for my Minister of Human Resources. Increased public awareness of the resources available for reporting suspected incidents of abuse or neglect, such as the Helpline for Children, will be promoted. I am advised that staff of the Ministry will continue to undergo training in the crucial area of child protection.

My Minister of Environment, with sound environmental legislation now in place, will continue to fulfill his mandate to protect and enhance environmental quality in British Columbia.

Recent monitoring of air quality in the Lower Mainland has indicated emerging problems associated with acid rain and high ozone levels. My Minister of Environment will continue his co-operative program with the other western provinces and with the State of Washington on acid rain, and has initiated an ozone control program in the Lower Mainland.

Because of flood damage sustained last year at various locations throughout the Province, provision will be made for an enhanced dyking program this year.

The diverse cultural heritage of our Province is an integral component of the fabric of British Columbia society. My Government will propose a number of measures to enhance further British Columbia's heritage.

My Government is proud to report that British Columbia, a Province with 10 per cent of Canada's population, sent 112 athletes—or 25 per cent of the Canadian teams—to the Summer Olympics in Los Angeles.

Nine of those athletes returned with gold medals, four with silver and eight with bronze.

In addition, nine British Columbia athletes competed for Canada at the Winter Olympics in Sarajevo. In World Disabled Games Competitions, our athletes won 21 gold, 18 silver and 14 bronze medals.

My Government will add a new dimension to sport programs aimed at increasing the number of B.C. athletes on the 1988 Olympic Teams.

The first phase of the program—B.C.'s Best Ever—will channel \$1.6 million to six Winter Olympic sports, with the objective of doubling the number of B.C. athletes on the Canadian Team for the Calgary Olympics. I am advised the second phase will focus on summer sports for the 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul.

Last year thousands of athletes competed in the B.C. Winter Games in Fort St. John and the Summer Games in Burnaby.

In 1985, about 275,000 British Columbians will be involved in playdowns leading to the Games, making it the largest participation program in North America.

Osoyoos and Oliver hosted the 1985 Winter Games last week with nearly 2,100 athletes competing. These two communities—with a combined population of 4,500—provided 2,400 volunteers working in a highly successful partnership. All British Columbians can look forward to equally successful Summer Games in Nanaimo which will host more than 3,000 competitors in 1985.

Since they were initiated by my Government in 1977, the B.C. Games have been consistently successful because of the thousands of local volunteers in the host communities, and my Government wishes to pay tribute to them for their efforts.

My Government believes in the power and the potential of individuals. It is their initiative, their effort and their creativity that has made our Country and our Province great.

Honourable Members, you are now poised to embark on a significant and challenging Session.

British Columbians in every corner of our Province will watch and follow your activities and decisions with close interest as you work to bring about economic renewal.

With the leadership provided by my Government, our people have come through our most testing times together. I am confident that you will overcome our economic difficulties and in a spirit of co-operation and partnership, help build a stronger British Columbia for all people.

May Divine Providence attend and guide you in your deliberations.

In the name of our Sovereign, I thank you.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor was then pleased to retire.

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

On the motion of the Hon. B. R. D. Smith, 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. J. R. Chabot, 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.

The Hon. W. R. Bennett moved—

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

1. On Standing Orders, Private Bills and Members' Services.

- 2. On Public Accounts and Economic Affairs.
- 3. On Agriculture.
- 4. On Municipal Affairs and Housing.
- 5. On Labour and Justice.
- 6. On Health, Education, and Human Resources.
- 7. On Transportation and Communications.
- 8. On Environment and Resources.
- 9. On Crown Corporations.

which said Committees shall severally be empowered to examine and inquire into all such matters and things as shall be referred to them by this House, and to report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon, with power to send for persons, papers, and records, and that a Special Committee be appointed to prepare and report with all convenient speed lists of members to compose the above Select Standing Committees of this House under Standing Order 68 (1), the Committee to be composed of the Hon. G. B. Gardom, the Hon. J. A. Nielsen, the Hon. H. W. Schroeder, Messrs. Ree, Mowat and Veitch, and Ms. Sanford and Messrs. Howard and Hanson.

Mr. Howard moved an amendment—

That the motion be amended by adding immediately after: "9. On Crown Corporations." the following: "10. On Economic Reconstruction and Job Creation." and by deleting the words: "and Economic Affairs" from item "2."

A debate arose.

The House divided.

The amendment was negatived on the following division:

		YEAS—21	
Blencoe	Hanson	Gabelmann	Dailly
Mitchell	Brown	Sanford	Cocke
Wallace	D'Arcv	Nicolson	Howard
MacWilliam	Lea	Lauk	Skelly
Lockstead	Williams	Stupich	Macdonald
Rose			
		Nays—32	
Strachan	Fraser, A. V.	<i>McCarthy</i>	Ritchie
Veitch	McGeer	Chabot	Hewitt
Revnolds	Phillips	Parks	Heinrich
Reid	Curtis	Fraser, R. G.	McClelland
Ree	Bennett	Kempf	Segarty
Mowat	Smith	Johnston	Rogers
Davis	Gardom	Michael	Brummet
Schroeder	Nielsen	Pelton	Waterland

Motion agreed to.

On the motion of the Hon. G. B. Gardom, seconded by Mr. Howard, it was Ordered—

That William Bruce Strachan, Esquire, Member for Prince George South Electoral District, be appointed Deputy Speaker for this Session of the Legislative Assembly.

On the motion of the Hon. G. B. Gardom, seconded by Mr. Howard, it was Ordered—

That Angus Ree, Esquire, Member for North Vancouver-Capilano Electoral District, be appointed Deputy Chairman of the Committee of the Whole for this Session of the Legislative Assembly.

On the motion of the Hon. G. B. Gardom, it was Resolved that the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 2 o'clock p.m. tomorrow.

And then the House adjourned at 3 o'clock p.m.

Tuesday, March 5, 1985

Two o'clock P.M.

Prayers by Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Mowat, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour, tabled, on behalf of the Minister of Labour, the Annual Report, 1984, of the Labour Relations Board of B.C.

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

Mr. Kempf made a statement on the occasion of the retirement of Mr. Clifford Ludtke, a member of the Sergeant-at-Arms' staff.

Mr. Mitchell made a statement relating to the same matter.

Mr. Skelly presented a petition praying that the House pass legislation to make Meares Island a tribal park.

Mrs. Johnston moved, seconded by Mr. Strachan-

"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. Skelly, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

On the motion of the Hon. J. A. Nielsen, the House adjourned at 3.20 p.m.

Thursday, March 7, 1985

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Major Edward Percy.

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.

Mr. Skelly tabled a background paper referred to during debate.

On the motion of the Hon. J. J. Hewitt, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 12.01 p.m.

Thursday, March 7, 1985

Two o'clock P.M.

On the motion of Mr. *Howard*, Bill (No. M 201) intituled *Forestry for the Future Act* 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.

The Hon. *J. R. Chabot* tabled the Ministry of Provincial Secretary and Government Services, Annual Report, 1983/84.

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

Mr. *Blencoe* presented a petition from certain students attending Mount Douglas Senior Secondary relating to funding for educational purposes.

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. Kempf, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

The Hon. P. L. McGeer tabled a document referring to the enrolment in British Columbia colleges, institutions and universities.

And then the House adjourned at 5.44 p.m.

Friday, March 8, 1985

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. Speaker.

Order called for "Oral Question Period."

Mr. *Rose* asked leave, pursuant to Standing Order 35, to move adjournment of the House to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the resignation of the President of the University of British Columbia.

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

The Hon. B. R. D. Smith made a ministerial statement relating to B.C. Steamships Ltd. and the advancement of the sailing season of the *Princess Marguerite*, and the lease of terminal facilities to Island Jetfoil Corporation.

Mr. Williams made a statement relating to the same matter.

Mr. Howard rose on a point of order relating to consultation on ministerial statements.

Mr. Speaker stated that the matter was one for the House Leaders and not a matter for the Chair.

Order called for "Private Members' Statements."

Mr. Reynolds withdrew Motion 1 standing in his name on the Order Paper.

Mr. Cocke rose on a point of order relating to recognition of members by the Chair during the Order "Private Members' Statements."

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

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

The debate continued.

On the motion of Ms. Brown, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

Mr. Speaker delivered his reserved opinion as follows:

Honourable Members:

This morning the Member for Coquitlam-Moody sought to move adjournment of the House, pursuant to Standing Order 35, to discuss a matter of urgent public importance in connection with the resignation of the President of the University of British Columbia.

I note that today's Order Paper provides for debate on the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, a matter which, by Standing Order 25, has priority. As a parliamentary opportunity to discuss the matter is thereby provided, the motion to adjourn the House does not qualify under Standing Order 35.

K. W. DAVIDSON, Speaker

And then the House adjourned at 12.55 p.m.

Monday, March 11, 1985

Two o'clock P.M.

Prayers by Mr. Speaker.

Upon presentation of the Public Accounts of British Columbia for the fiscal year 1983-1984, and on the motion of the Hon. H. A. Curtis, it was Ordered—

That the Public Accounts for the fiscal year 1983-1984 be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Economic Affairs.

The Hon. T. M. Waterland presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

Robert G. Rogers

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 3) intituled *Forest Amendment Act*, 1985 and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 4, 1985.

By leave of the House, Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

Order called for "Oral Question Period."

The Hon. A. V. Fraser tabled the Annual Report of the Ministry of Transportation and Highways for the fiscal year 1983-84.

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.

Mr. Howard moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. Williams—

But this House regrets that the Speech of His Honour fails to indicate measures necessary for the reconstruction of the economy of our Province, and that it continues to send negative signals to our people, thus undermining confidence in our resource blessed Province.

The debate on the amendment continued.

The House divided.

The amendment was negatived on the following division:

Blencoe Mitchell Wallace MacWilliam	Lockstead Rose Hanson Brown	Gabelmann Sanford Nicolson Lauk	Howard Cocke Dailly
		Nays—28	
Strachan Veitch Reynolds Reid Ree Mowat Davis	Schroeder Fraser, A. V. McGeer Phillips Curtis Bennett Nielsen	McCarthy Chabot Parks Fraser, R. G. Kempf Johnston Pelton	Richmond Heinrich McClelland Segarty Rogers Brummet Waterland

The debate was resumed on the main motion.

On the motion of the Hon. C. H. Richmond, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 5.42 p.m.

Tuesday, March 12, 1985

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by the Rev. David W. Widdicombe.

The Hon. J. R. Chabot presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

ROBERT G. ROGERS

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 26) intituled *Legislative Assembly Allowances and Pension Amendment Act*, 1985 and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 12, 1985.

Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

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. Veitch, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 11.57 a.m.

Tuesday, March 12, 1985

Two o'clock P.M.

The Hon. A. V. Fraser presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

Robert G. Rogers
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 2) intituled *Coquihalla Highway Construction Acceleration Act* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 4, 1985.

Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

On the motion of Mrs. Wallace, Bill (No. M 202) intituled An Act to Regulate Smoking in Public Places 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.

Order called for "Oral Question Period."

The Hon. P. L. McGeer tabled a letter from the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the University of British Columbia to the Minister of Universities, Science and Communications

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.

The Hon. P. L. McGeer tabled correspondence between the Minister of Universities, Science and Communications and the Universities' Council of British Columbia.

Pursuant to Standing Order 2 (2), the House was advised of Wednesday sitting.

And then the House adjourned at 5.57 p.m.

Wednesday, March 13, 1985

Two o'clock p.m.

Prayers by Mr. Speaker.

The Hon. T. P. Segarty presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

ROBERT G. ROGERS

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 4) intituled *Workplace Act* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 4, 1985.

Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

Order called for "Oral Question Period."

Mr. Howard asked leave, pursuant to Standing Order 35, to move adjournment of the House to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, a statement made by the Minister of Forests.

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

On the motion of the Hon. J. A. Nielsen, the House proceeded to Orders of the Day.

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

The debate continued.

Motion agreed to on the following division:

Strachan			
	Fraser, A. V.	Chabot	Richmond
Veitch	McGeer	Fraser, R. G.	Hewitt
Reynolds	Phillips	Kempf	Heinrich
Reid	Curtis	Johnston	McClelland
Ree	Bennett	Michael	Segarty
Mowat	Gardom	Pelton	Rogers
Davis	Nielsen	Ritchie	Waterland
Schroeder			

Nays-19

Blencoe	Rose	Gahelmann	Howard
Mitchell	Hanson	Sanford	Cocke
Wallace	Brown	Nicolson	Dailly
MacWilliam	Lea	Stupich	Macdonald
Lockstead	Williams	Skelly	

Mr. Speaker delivered his reserved opinion as follows:

Honourable Members:

The Member for Skeena advised the Chair, prior to the afternoon sitting, that he intended to raise a matter of urgent public importance under Standing Order 35, and I commend him for observing the courtesy implicit in Practice Recommendation No. 8 of our Standing Orders.

The guidelines governing motions under Standing Order 35 are well known to this House, and are stated in Sir Erskine May's *Parliamentary Practice*, 17th Edition, at page 364: "What is contemplated is the occurrence of some sudden emergency" It is the Chair's opinion that a remark attributed to a Minister of the Crown from an unknown origin can hardly qualify as a "definite matter of urgent public importance" within the specific words, or indeed the spirit, of Standing Order 35.

I observe that Standing Order 35 has been significantly amended under the new rules, presumably to encourage the Chair to exercise some latitude in deciding whether tendered statements are in order. However, in this instance, the statement submitted by the Honourable Member for Skeena is so clearly outside the scope of Standing Order 35, the Chair can be of little assistance to him. Accordingly, as stated above, it is the opinion of the Chair that the statement, as submitted, does not even remotely satisfy rules relating to motions for adjournment on a matter of urgent public importance.

K. W. Davidson, Speaker

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.55 p.m.

Thursday, March 14, 1985

Two o'clock P.M.

Prayers by Rev. W. T. Blizzard.

Order called for Budget Debate.

On the motion of the Hon. H. A. Curtis, it was Ordered—

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

The Hon. H. A. Curtis presented:

The Report of the Comptroller General, pursuant to the provisions of the *Financial Administration Act*, 1981, chapter 15, section 8 (4).

The Hon. H. A. Curtis presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor which read as follows:

ROBERT G. ROGERS

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith:

Estimates of sums required for the services of the Province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1986;

and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House.

March 13, 1985.

Ordered, That the said Message, and the Estimates accompanying same, be referred to the Committee of Supply.

The Hon. H. A. Curtis moved, seconded by the Hon. B. R. D. Smith, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

Mr. Speaker declared a short recess.

A debate arose, which was, on the motion of Mr. Stupich, adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

The Hon. H. A. Curtis presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

ROBERT G. ROGERS

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 11) intituled *Social Service Tax Amendment Act*, 1985 and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House.

March 12, 1985.

Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. H. A. Curtis presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

ROBERT G. ROGERS

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 17) intituled *British Columbia Transit Amendment Act*, 1985 and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 12, 1985. Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. H. A. Curtis presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

Robert G. Rogers

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 12) intituled *Tobacco Tax Amendment Act*, 1985 and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 12, 1985.

Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. H. A. Curtis presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

ROBERT G. ROGERS

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 13) intituled *Hotel Room Tax Amendment Act*, 1985 and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 12, 1985.

Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. H. A. Curtis presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

ROBERT G. ROGERS

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 14) intituled *Insurance Premium Tax Amendment Act*, 1985 and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 12, 1985.

Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. H. A. Curtis presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

ROBERT G. ROGERS

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 8) intituled *Gasoline Tax Amendment Act*, 1985 and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 13, 1985.

Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. H. A. Curtis presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

ROBERT G. ROGERS

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 9) intituled *Gasoline* (Coloured) Tax Amendment Act, 1985 and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 13, 1985.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. H. A. Curtis presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

ROBERT G. ROGERS
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 10) intituled *Motive Fuel Use Tax Amendment Act*, 1985 and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 12, 1985.

Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. H. A. Curtis presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

ROBERT G. ROGERS
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 18) intituled *Income Tax* Amendment Act, 1985 and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 12, 1985. Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. H. A. Curtis presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

Robert G. Rogers

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 15) intituled *British Columbia Railway Amendment Act*, 1985 and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 12, 1985.

Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. H. A. Curtis presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

Robert G. Rogers

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 16) intituled *Business Licence Repeal Act* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 12, 1985.

Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. H. A. Curtis presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

Robert G. Rogers

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 5) intituled *Income Tax* (Small Business Employment Tax Credit) Amendment Act, 1985 and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 12, 1985.

Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. H. A. Curtis presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

ROBERT G. ROGERS Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 7) intituled *Corporation Capital Tax Amendment Act*, 1985 and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 12, 1985.

Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. H. A. Curtis presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

ROBERT G. ROGERS

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 6) intituled Assessment and Taxation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act, 1985 and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 14, 1985.

Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. D. M. Phillips presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

ROBERT G. ROGERS

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 20) intituled *Ministry of International Trade and Investment Act* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 13, 1985.

Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. R. H. McClelland presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

ROBERT G. ROGERS

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 23) intituled *Industrial Development Incentive Act* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 12, 1985. Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. R. H. McClelland presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

Robert G. Rogers

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 19) intituled *Small Business Venture Capital Act* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 14, 1985.

Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

And then the House adjourned at 4.30 p.m.

Friday, March 15, 1985

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. Speaker.

The Hon. J. R. Chabot made a statement relating to the death of Chief Henry E. Hunt.

Mr. Howard made a statement.

The Hon. W. S. Ritchie presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

Robert G. Rogers

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 25) intituled *Provincial-Municipal Partnership Act* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 14, 1985.

Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. W. S. Ritchie presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

ROBERT G. ROGERS Lieutenant Governor

1985

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 22) intituled *Revenue Sharing Amendment Act*, 1985 and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 15, 1985.

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Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. H. A. Curtis presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

ROBERT G. ROGERS

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 21) intituled *Provincial-Municipal Partnership (Taxation Measures) Act* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 12, 1985.

Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. C. S. Rogers presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

ROBERT G. ROGERS

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 28) intituled *Industrial Electricity Rate Discount Act* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House, March 15, 1985.

Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading at the next sitting after today.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

The debate continued.

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

And then the House adjourned at 11.53 a.m.