

JOURNALS
OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

SESSION 1946

Thursday, February 21st, 1946.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

This being the first day of the first meeting of the Twenty-first Parliament or Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia for the dispatch of business, pursuant to a Proclamation of the Honourable WILLIAM CULHAM WOODWARD, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, dated the 22nd day of January, 1946, the members having been sworn took their seats.

His Honour WILLIAM CULHAM WOODWARD, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, having entered the House, took his seat on the Throne.

The Honourable Mr. *Pearson*, 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. Mr. *Hart*, first member for Victoria City Electoral District, addressing himself to the Clerk, moved, seconded by Mr. *H. E. Winch*, first member for Vancouver East Electoral District, that *Norman William Whittaker*, Esquire, member for Saanich Electoral District, do take the Speaker's chair and preside over the meetings of this Assembly, and it was so *Resolved*.

R. S. Stuart Yates, Esquire, the Clerk of the House, having declared *Norman William Whittaker*, Esquire, 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.

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 King 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 reasonable times, and that their proceedings may receive from Your Honour the most favourable interpretation.

The Honourable Mr. *Pearson* 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 His 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 reasonable 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 this the first Session of the Twenty-first Parliament of British Columbia.

In doing so, I unite with you in the general thanksgiving that hostilities have ceased. The sacrifices that have been made to free the world of sinister influences and bring about peace will long remain in our memories. I rejoice with you that so many of our men and women have been spared to enjoy happy reunions with those nearest and dearest to them, and extend my sincere sympathy and condolences to those whose hearts are sad because they wait in vain for the return of their loved ones.

Their loss and grief is a challenge to all to face the future with the determination that the horrors of war shall never again be inflicted upon a peace-loving people, and that upon new foundations, established by the sacrifices made by our gallant men and women, a better world will be built where mutual understanding will supplant the distrust of the past.

It has given me great satisfaction to note that my Government has planned so well for the future and that even now many of those plans are being carried into effect for the welfare of those who are re-establishing themselves in civilian life.

Since you last met, the Province has lost an outstanding public man through the death of the Honourable K. C. MacDonald, Minister of Agriculture. He devoted a great part of his life to others, and during his long period of public service did much to encourage the development of the Province, particularly in the sphere of agriculture.

Within the past few days there passed away Mr. James Alexander Paton, a member of this Legislature since 1937. His contributions to the debates in this House

will be missed greatly. He was a man who devoted the major part of his time to public affairs and always had the welfare of the people at heart.

During the past year, British Columbia had the pleasure and the honour of receiving a final visit from His Excellency the Earl of Athlone, Governor-General, and Her Royal Highness the Princess Alice before they concluded their term of office.

I join with the citizens of this Province in looking forward with pleasant anticipation to the occasion when Field-Marshal the Right Honourable Viscount Alexander, newly appointed Governor-General, and Viscountess Margaret will visit British Columbia.

During the course of this Session, my Government will submit measures of considerable importance.

Foremost among these will be legislation implementing the recommendations of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the cost of education, and which will result in lightening the tax burden on cities and municipalities.

I am gratified to learn that my Government has taken steps to conduct a survey of other Provincial-Municipal spheres of responsibility and that one of the most outstanding authorities on the subject in the Dominion of Canada has been appointed to undertake this task.

You will have placed before you for your consideration the report of the Royal Commission on Forestry. In accordance with the recommendation of the Commissioner, my Government will take appropriate steps to determine the competence of the Provincial Legislature to impose a severance tax on timber cut by purchasers of Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway timber land.

Provision will be asked for a further \$10,000,000 to enable the British Columbia Power Commission to extend its programme of rural electrification and power development.

There will be placed before you legislation providing for the establishing of separate Departments of Health and Welfare in recognition of the increasing importance of these two services.

I am gratified to learn that considerable progress has been made in the examination of all existing surveys and reports in connection with the proposal to extend the Pacific Great Eastern Railway into the Peace River district and so to develop our vast northern resources.

Legislation will be introduced repealing the "Pacific Great Eastern Railway Aid Act" of 1925, so that the resources involved in the land grants provided therein may be retained for the people of British Columbia.

It is likewise gratifying to note that the expansion programme for the University of British Columbia already has commenced and that my Government has played so important a rôle in assisting that institution to provide additional facilities to meet the needs of those discharged from the services who are desirous of completing their education.

My Government has been represented at the several Dominion-Provincial Conferences held in Ottawa to discuss financial readjustments and social services, and I am pleased to report that satisfactory progress has been made.

Legislation will be introduced extending assistance to municipalities in connection with slum clearance.

There will be submitted to you a "Probation Act" providing for the supervision of persons convicted, and the employment and conduct and general conditions under which they shall be placed during the period of probation.

I am happy to observe that excellent progress has been made in connection with the construction of the Peace River Highway and the Hope-Princeton Road, and that my Government proposes to implement other important highway and public building programmes.

Since the last Session, a land-clearing scheme to assist farmers to bring more acreage under production has been started and I am pleased to learn that it is my Government's intention to expand this service as rapidly as possible.

The financial transactions of my Government during the past year will be presented, showing a further improvement in the Province's credit position.

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

Minor legislation designed to improve existing Acts will be placed before you.

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

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

Prayers by the Rt. Rev. *H. E. Sexton*, Bishop of British Columbia.

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

The Certificate of the Deputy Provincial Secretary of the result of the election of members to represent the respective electoral districts of the Province in the Legislative Assembly at the general election was read, as follows:—

“ PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

“ VICTORIA, January 22nd, 1946.

“ Whereas His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, by Proclamation dated the thirty-first day of August, 1945, was pleased to dissolve the Legislative Assembly of the Province:

“ And whereas it was necessary to hold elections to fill the vacancies caused by such dissolution:

“ I have now to report that under the provisions of the 'Provincial Elections Act,' being chapter 16, Statutes of British Columbia, 1939, and amending Acts, elections were held in all the several Electoral Districts of the Province:

“ And I hereby certify that from the returns received, it appears that members were elected to represent the Province in the Legislative Assembly thereof for the respective Electoral Districts as is hereinafter set forth, namely, for—

ALBERNI	James Mowat.
ATLIN	William Duncan Smith.
BURNABY	Ernest Edward Winch.
CARIBOO	Louis LeBourdais.
CHILLIWACK	Leslie Harvey Eyres.
COLUMBIA	Thomas King.
COMOX	Herbert John Welch.
COWICHAN-NEWCASTLE	Samuel Guthrie.
CRANBROOK	Frank William Green.
DELTA	Alexander Campbell Hope.
DEWDNEY	Roderick Charles MacDonald.
ESQUIMALT	Charles Taschereau Beard.
FERNIE	Thomas Uphill.
FORT GEORGE	John McInnis.
GRAND FORKS-GREENWOOD	Thomas Alfred Love.
KAMLOOPS	Robert Henry Carson.
KASLO-SLOCAN	Randolph Harding.
LILLOOET	Ernest Crawford Carson.
MACKENZIE	Herbert Gargrave.

NANAIMO AND THE ISLANDS	George Sharratt Pearson.
NELSON-CRESTON	Frank Putnam.
NEW WESTMINSTER	Byron Ingemar Johnson.
NORTH OKANAGAN	Kenneth Cattanach MacDonald.
NORTH VANCOUVER	John Henry Cates.
OAK BAY	Herbert Anscorb.
OMINECA	Edward Fraser Rowland.
PEACE RIVER	Joseph Hardcastle Corsbie.
PRINCE RUPERT	William Henry Brett.
REVELSTOKE	William James Johnson.
ROSSLAND-TRAIL	James Lockhart Webster.
SAANICH	Norman William Whittaker.
SALMON ARM	Arthur Brown Ritchie.
SIMILKAMEEN	Reginald Robert Laird.
SKEENA	Edward Tourtellotte Kenney.
SOUTH OKANAGAN	William Andrew Cecil Bennett.
VANCOUVER-BURRARD	{ George Moir Weir.
	{ Donald Cameron Brown.
	{ Allan James McDonell.
VANCOUVER CENTRE	{ Gordon Sylvester Wismer.
	{ Harold Edward Winch.
VANCOUVER EAST	{ Arthur James Turner.
	{ Royal Lethington Maitland.
VANCOUVER-POINT GREY	{ James Alexander Paton.
	{ Tilly Jean Rolston.
	{ John Hart.
VICTORIA CITY	{ Nancy Hodges.
	{ William Thomas Straith.
YALE	{ John Joseph Gillis.

" P. WALKER,

" *Deputy Provincial Secretary.*

" *To the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.*"

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Putnam*, seconded by the Hon. Mr. *Carson*, it was *Resolved*,—

That the Certificate of the Deputy Provincial Secretary of the result of the election of members be entered upon the Journals of the House.

The Certificate of the Deputy Provincial Secretary of the result of the by-election of a member to represent the Electoral District of North Okanagan was read as follows:—

" PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

" VICTORIA, January 22nd, 1946.

" Whereas a vacancy occurred in the members elected on the twenty-fifth day of October, 1945, to represent the Province in the Legislative Assembly thereof for the respective electoral districts, by reason of the death on the nineteenth day of November, 1945, of Kenneth Cattanach MacDonald, a member thereof for the North Okanagan Electoral District:

" And whereas on the twenty-seventh day of November, 1945, a writ for the election of a member to represent such electoral district was duly issued to the Returning Officer of the said district:

“ Now I do hereby certify that on the tenth day of January, 1946, the said writ was returned to me by the Returning Officer with his certificate endorsed thereon, whereby it appears that the electors of the said district have chosen *Charles William Morrow* to represent the North Okanagan Electoral District in the Legislative Assembly.

“ P. WALKER,
“ *Deputy Provincial Secretary.*

“ *To the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.*”

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Putnam*, seconded by the Hon. Mr. *Carson*, it was *Resolved*,—

That the Certificate of the Deputy Provincial Secretary of the result of the by-election of a member to represent the Electoral District of North Okanagan be entered upon the Journals of the House.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Maitland*, Bill (No. 1) intituled “ An Act to amend the ‘ Court of Appeal 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. Mr. *Hart*, seconded by the Hon. Mr. *Anscomb*, 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. Mr. *Kenney*, seconded by the Hon. Mr. *Putnam*, 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.

The Hon. Mr. *Hart* moved, seconded by the Hon. Mr. *Kenney*,—

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;

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 Messrs. *Straith, B. I. Johnson, Love, Gillis, Bennett, and H. E. Winch.*

Mr. *H. E. Winch* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Gargrave*,—

To insert the words “ and Education ” after the words “ Social Welfare ” in line ten.

Amendment carried.

Motion as amended carried.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Hart*, seconded by Mr. *H. E. Winch*, it was *Resolved*,—

That this House express its sincere regret at the death of Hon. Kenneth Cattanach MacDonald, formerly Minister of Agriculture and for many years a member of this Assembly, and that the Clerk do convey to Mrs. MacDonald and her family the condolences and sincere sympathy of the Legislative Assembly.

On the request of Mr. Speaker, the House expressed its approval of the motion by a silent standing vote.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Maitland*, seconded by Mr. *H. E. Winch*, it was *Resolved*,—

That this House express its sincere regret at the death of James Alexander Paton, who was a member of this Assembly since the year 1937, and that the Clerk do convey to the members of his family condolences and the sincere sympathy of the Legislative Assembly.

On the request of Mr. Speaker, the House expressed its approval of the motion by a silent standing vote.

The following papers were presented:—

By the Hon. Mr. *Maitland* (Attorney-General)—

Thirty-fourth Annual Report of the Superintendent of Insurance for the Year ended December, 1944.

Annual Report of the Fire Marshal for the Year ended December 31st, 1944.

Annual Report of the Liquor Control Board for the Year ended March 31st, 1945.

Balance-sheet of the Liquor Control Board as at September 30th, 1945.

By the Hon. Mr. *Pearson* (Provincial Secretary)—

Forty-first Annual Report of the Provincial Industrial School for Boys to March 31st, 1945.

By the Hon. Mr. *Kenney* (Minister of Lands)—

Return of Lands exchanged under Section 64 of Chapter 144, R.S.B.C. 1936, from February 6th, 1945, to February 20th, 1946.

By the Hon. Mr. *Putnam* (Minister of Agriculture)—

Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture for the Year ended December 31st, 1945.

By the Hon. Mr. *Hart* (Premier)—

Public Accounts for the Fiscal Year ended March 31st, 1945.

Seventh Annual Report of the Coal and Petroleum Control Board for the Year ended December 31st, 1944.

Fifth Annual Report of the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Section 36 of the "Motor Carrier Act" for the Licence-year 1944-45.

Sixth Annual Report of the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Section 64 of the "Public Utilities Act" for the Year ended December 31st, 1944.

Third Annual Report of the Purchasing Commission for the Period January 1st, 1945, to December 31st, 1945.

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

And then the House adjourned at 3.53 p.m.

Friday, February 22nd, 1946.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *George Biddle*.

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

Mr. *B. I. Johnson* (New Westminster) moved, seconded by Mr. *Welch* (Comox),—
That the following Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor:—

“We, His 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.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Hart*, seconded by the Hon. Mr. *Maitland*, it was Resolved,—

That *Leslie Harvey Eyres*, Esquire, member for Chilliwack Electoral District, be appointed Deputy Speaker of this Legislative Assembly.

The following papers were presented:—

By the Hon. Mr. *Maitland*—

Report of the Provincial Game Commission for the Year ended December 31st, 1944.

By the Hon. Mr. *Anscomb* (Minister of Municipal Affairs)—

Report of the Department of Municipal Affairs for the Year ended December 31st, 1944.

By the Hon. Mr. *Carson* (Minister of Mines)—

Annual Report of the Minister of Mines for the Year ended December 31st, 1944.

By the Hon. Mr. *Pearson* (Minister of Labour)—

Annual Report of the Department of Labour for the Year ended December 31st, 1944.

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 4.33 p.m.

Monday, February 25th, 1946.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. Dr. *H. A. McLeod*.

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. *H. E. Winch* moved, seconded by Mr. *Harding*,—

That the motion moved by the honourable member for New Westminster and seconded by the honourable member for Comox in reply to the Speech from the Throne be amended by adding the words "That this House is deeply concerned at the growing problems of unemployment, veterans' re-establishment, and the serious housing shortage in our Province due to the failure of the Government to inaugurate constructive policies able to cope adequately with the conditions resulting from a return to a peace-time economy; and regrets that the Government still fails to recognize the imperative and immediate need for introduction this Session of major legislation in the fields of housing, research, new industrial development, and legitimate requests of organized labour in line with representations made to the Government and as recommended in the Post-war Rehabilitation Council's report."

Resolved in the negative on the following division:—

YEAS—10.

Messieurs

<i>Brett</i>	<i>Rowland</i>	<i>Winch, E. E.</i>	<i>Winch, H. E.</i>
<i>Turner</i>	<i>Guthrie</i>	<i>Harding</i>	<i>Gargrave</i>
<i>Corsbie</i>	<i>McInnis</i>		

NAYS—34.

Messieurs

<i>Morrow</i>	<i>MacDonald</i>	<i>Gillis</i>	<i>Hope</i>
<i>Smith</i>	<i>LeBourdais</i>	<i>Kenney</i>	<i>Johnson, B. I.</i>
<i>Webster</i>	<i>King</i>	<i>Hart</i>	<i>Bennett</i>
<i>Brown</i>	<i>Mowat</i>	<i>Maitland</i>	<i>Rolston, Mrs.</i>
<i>Welch</i>	<i>Green</i>	<i>Pearson</i>	<i>Weir</i>
<i>Johnson, W. J.</i>	<i>Straith</i>	<i>Ritchie</i>	<i>Anscomb</i>
<i>Laird</i>	<i>Eyres</i>	<i>Cates</i>	<i>Carson, E. C.</i>
<i>McDonell</i>	<i>Hodges, Mrs.</i>	<i>Beard</i>	<i>Putnam</i>
<i>Love</i>	<i>Carson, R. H.</i>		

PAIRS:

Messieurs

<i>Uphill</i>	<i>Wismer</i>
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On the motion of Mr. *Laird*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

The following papers were presented:—

By the Hon. Mr. *Pearson* (Provincial Secretary)—

Report of the Honourable Mr. Justice A. M. Harper, Commissioner appointed by an Order of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, dated the 1st day of June, 1945, relating to the "Chiropody Act."

Report of the Commission of Inquiry into Educational Finance.

Report of the Commissioner, the Honourable Gordon McG. Sloan, Chief Justice of British Columbia, relating to the Forest Resources of British Columbia.

By the Hon. Mr. *Weir* (Minister of Education)—

The Seventy-third Annual Report of the Public Schools of the Province of British Columbia, 1943-44.

By the Hon. Mr. *Anscomb* (Minister of Public Works)—

Report of the Minister of Public Works of the Province of British Columbia for the Fiscal Year 1944-45.

Return submitted pursuant to the "Public Works Act," January 1st, 1945, to December 31st, 1945.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.20 p.m.

Tuesday, February 26th, 1946.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. Father *Leonard*.

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. Mr. *Maitland* presented the Reports of the Commissioner of Provincial Police for the Year 1944 and the Inspector of Gaols for the Year ended March 31st, 1945.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.01 p.m.

Wednesday, February 27th, 1946.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Major A. McInnes.

Mr. *Brown* presented a petition from Hamish D. MacKenzie; British Columbia Sugar Refining Company, Limited; Burns & Co., Limited; and Ross & Howard Iron Works Company, Limited, for leave to introduce a Private Bill authorizing the Minister of Lands and Forests to give Crown grants or quit claim deeds of certain foreshore property.

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

Mr. *Straith* presented the Report of the Special Committee appointed on the 21st instant, as follows:—

REPORT.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
February 27th, 1946.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Special Committee appointed on the 21st instant to prepare and report lists of members to compose the Select Standing Committees of this House for the present Session begs to report and recommend that the personnel of the Select Standing Committees of the House for the present Session be as follows:—

STANDING ORDERS AND PRIVATE BILLS.—Messrs. *Straith*, *R. H. Carson*, *McDonell*, *Mowat*, *Wismer*, *Cates*, *B. I. Johnson*, *Morrow*, *Mrs. Rolston*, Messrs. *H. E. Winch*, *Corsbie*, and *Harding*.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND PRINTING.—Messrs. *R. H. Carson*, *King*, *McDonell*, *Wismer*, *B. I. Johnson*, *Bennett*, *Love*, *Straith*, *H. E. Winch*, *Gargrave*, and *Turner*.

AGRICULTURE.—Messrs. *LeBourdais*, *King*, *R. H. Carson*, *Morrow*, *Eyres*, *Ritchie*, *MacDonald*, *Hope*, *Laird*, *Beard*, *Bennett*, *Corsbie*, *Rowland*, and *Harding*.

MINING AND RAILWAYS.—Messrs. *Love*, *LeBourdais*, *W. J. Johnson*, *Smith*, *Webster*, *Gillis*, *Mowat*, *Welch*, *Uphill*, *Guthrie*, *Corsbie*, and *Rowland*.

FORESTRY AND FISHERIES.—Messrs. *Welch*, *Cates*, *Brown*, *Ritchie*, *Green*, *Mowat*, *Beard*, *B. I. Johnson*, *King*, *Bennett*, *Gargrave*, *Brett*, and *McInnis*.

MUNICIPAL MATTERS.—Messrs. *MacDonald*, *Cates*, *Brown*, *Love*, *Morrow*, *Hope*, *Eyres*, *Bennett*, *Mrs. Rolston*, Messrs. *Brett*, *Guthrie*, and *Turner*.

LABOUR.—Messrs. *Gillis*, *W. J. Johnson*, *Smith*, *MacDonald*, *McDonell*, *Webster*, *Mrs. Hodges*, Messrs. *Welch*, *Hope*, *Uphill*, *Gargrave*, *Turner*, *E. E. Winch*, and *Guthrie*.

SOCIAL WELFARE AND EDUCATION.—*Mrs. Hodges*, Messrs. *Mowat*, *Gillis*, *Brown*, *Mrs. Rolston*, Messrs. *Green*, *Laird*, *E. E. Winch*, *Harding*, and *McInnis*.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. T. STRAITH, *Chairman*.

The report was read and received.

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

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.22 p.m.

Thursday, February 28th, 1946.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

The Clerk informed the House of the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker.

Whereupon Mr. *Eyres*, Deputy Speaker, took the chair, pursuant to the Statute in such case made and provided.

Prayers by the Rev. *T. G. Griffiths*.

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

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Hart*, the House proceeded to the Orders of the Day, "Public Bills and Orders."

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Maitland*, the following Bills were introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be read a second time at the next sitting:—

Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Credit Unions Act.'"

Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Notaries Act.'"

Bill (No. 4) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Administration Act.'"

Bill (No. 5) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Wills Act.'"

Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Attachment of Debts Act.'"

Bill (No. 7) intituled "An Act to facilitate the Enforcement in British Columbia of Maintenance Orders made in England and Northern Ireland and other parts of His Majesty's Dominions and Protectorates and vice versa."

Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act respecting Probation Officers."

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Maitland*, Bill (No. 1) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Court of Appeal Act'" was read a second time, and *Ordered* to be committed at the next sitting.

The following papers were presented:—

By the Hon. Mr. *Carson* (Minister of Mines)—

Return pursuant to section 14 (4), "Department of Mines Act," Statutes of British Columbia, 1937.

By the Hon. Mr. *Pearson* (Provincial Secretary)—

The Annual Report of the "Old Age Pensions Act" for the Province of British Columbia, 1944-45.

Tenth Annual Report of the Business done in pursuance of the "Civil Service Superannuation Act" for the Year ended March 31st, 1945.

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

1. In how many cases, if any, are aged husband and wife both being cared for in Government operated or supported institutions?
2. Are these being cared for separately or in accommodation for married persons?
3. Is there accommodation in any Government institution for the joint care of dependent married couples?

The Hon. Mr. *Pearson* replied as follows:—

"1, 2, and 3. There is no Government institution for the care of dependent married couples. At times married couples may possibly be patients in Government institutions at the same time, and in certain institutions, recipients of grants from the Government, it may happen that married couples are accommodated."

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

And then the House adjourned at 4.14 p.m.

Friday, March 1st, 1946.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. Dr. *A. E. Whitehouse*.

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

Mr. *Wismer* presented a petition from the City of Vancouver, for leave to introduce a Private Bill to amend the "Vancouver Incorporation Act, 1921."

Mr. *R. H. Carson* presented a petition from Frank Henry Proby (Sr.), Frank Henry Proby (Jr.), Janet Irene Proby, and John Martyn Proby, for leave to introduce a Private Bill to amend "The British Columbia Insurance Company Act, 1904."

The Hon. Mr. *Hart* (Minister of Finance) presented the following papers:—

Returns by Official Administrators of all moneys paid and received by them in respect of all the estates of deceased persons administered by them for the calendar year 1945.

Return submitted in accordance with section 45 (2) of the "Revenue Act," R.S.B.C. 1936 (remissions under authority of section 45 (1) of the "Revenue Act," R.S.B.C. 1936), during the calendar year 1945.

Return submitted in accordance with section 103 (4) of the "Taxation Act," R.S.B.C. 1936 (remissions and refunds made under authority of section 103 (1), (2), and (3) of the "Taxation Act," R.S.B.C. 1936), during the calendar year 1945.

Statements of Unclaimed Money Deposits for the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1945, under "Unclaimed Money Deposits Act," chapter 295, R.S.B.C. 1936.

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

1. What sum of money, if any, was appropriated in 1945 for work on the Whitesail-Eutsuk Lake portage in Tweedsmuir Park?
2. Has such work been carried out?

The Hon. Mr. *Anscomb* replied as follows:—

- "1. \$1,600 for survey and reconstruction.
- "2. Survey has been completed."

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

1. What action, if any, has been taken to replace the ferry now in use on Francois Lake with one larger and more suitable to meet the present-day traffic requirements?
2. Has a request been received from the Burns Lake and District Board of Trade relative to the provision of a landing barge to supplement the present ferry service facilities on Francois Lake?

3. Has (a) consideration been given or (b) action taken to obtain a landing barge from the War Assets Corporation for the above specified purpose?

4. If yes, what was the result thereof?

The Hon. Mr. *Anscomb* replied as follows:—

- "1. No action has been taken.
- "2. Yes.
- "3. (a) Yes; (b) application made to War Assets Corporation.
- "4. None available for sale."

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

1. What was the total log scale for the Fort George forestry district for the year 1944-45?
2. What was the number of railway-ties produced in that year in that district?
3. What was the total revenue accruing to the Government, for that year, from this district (a) from royalties, (b) from stumpage, and (c) total revenue from all forest products produced in this district for that year?

The Hon. Mr. *Kenney* replied as follows:—

- "1. Total log scale for the Fort George forest district for the calendar year 1945 was 129,117,505 F.B.M.
- "2. Number of railway-ties produced in that district for the same year was 83,812.
- "3. Total revenue accruing to the Government for that district for the same year was: (a) Royalty, \$137,758.17; (b) stumpage, \$215,020.57; (c) total revenue from all forest products, \$361,460.99.

"NOTE.—Calendar year figures are submitted inasmuch as Forest Service records pertaining to Questions 1 and 2 are not compiled by fiscal years and therefore do not lend themselves to extraction of scaled volume by fiscal years. Difference between total revenue and total of (a) and (b) is accounted for by amounts collected as trespass and seizure charges, scaling expenses, timber sale rentals, cruising, advertising, and transfer fees."

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 5.50 p.m.

Monday, March 4th, 1946.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *F. Pike*.

On the motion of Mr. *R. H. Carson*, the petition from Frank Henry Proby (Sr.), Frank Henry Proby (Jr.), Janet Irene Proby, and John Martyn Proby, for leave to introduce a Private Bill to amend "The British Columbia Insurance Company Act, 1904" was received.

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

The debate continued.

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

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Hart*, the House proceeded to the Orders of the Day, "Public Bills and Orders."

By leave of the House, Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act respecting Probation Officers" was withdrawn, and the Bill *Ordered* dropped from the Order Paper.

The Hon. Mr. *Maitland* presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, which read as follows:—

W. C. WOODWARD,
Lieutenant-Governor.

The Lieutenant-Governor transmits herewith a Bill intituled "An Act respecting Probation Officers," and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
February 28th, 1946.

Ordered, That the said Message, and the Bill accompanying the same, be referred to a Committee of the Whole House forthwith.

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

Resolved, That the Committee rise and report to the House, recommending the introduction of a Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act respecting Probation Officers," a draft of which is annexed to this Resolution.

Resolution and Bill reported.

Report adopted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Second reading at the next sitting.

The following petitions were received:—

From the City of Vancouver, for leave to introduce a Private Bill to amend the "Vancouver Incorporation Act, 1921."

From Hamish D. MacKenzie; British Columbia Sugar Refining Company, Limited; Burns & Co., Limited; and Ross & Howard Iron Works Company, Limited, for leave to introduce a Private Bill authorizing the Minister of Lands and Forests to give Crown grants or quit claim deeds of certain foreshore property.

The following papers were presented:—

By the Hon. Mr. *Pearson* (Provincial Secretary)—

Sixth Annual Report of the Business done in pursuance of the "Municipal Superannuation Act" for the Year ended March 31st, 1945.

Thirty-first Annual Report of the Provincial Industrial School for Girls from April 1st, 1944, to March 31st, 1945.

By the Hon. Mr. *Carson* (Minister of Mines)—

Return pursuant to section 170 of the "Mineral Act," Chapter 37, Statutes of British Columbia, 1938.

Mr. *McInnis* asked the Hon. the Attorney-General the following question:—

What is the amount of bounty paid on (a) wolves, (b) coyotes, and (c) cougars?

The Hon. Mr. *Maitland* replied as follows:—

"(a) Wolves, \$10; (b) coyotes, \$5 during the period from April 1st to October 31st, inclusive; and (c) cougars, \$15."

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

1. Is it the intention of the Government to establish a land registry office at Prince George?

2. If yes, when?

The Hon. Mr. *Maitland* replied as follows:—

"1 and 2. The whole situation concerning land registry offices in the Province is now under consideration."

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

1. What number of prescriptions to obtain liquor were issued by members of the medical profession during the latest year period for which records are available?

2. Are records kept of the number issued by individual members of the medical profession?

The Hon. Mr. *Maitland* replied as follows:—

"1. 37,839.

"2. Yes.

"NOTE.—There are some twelve hundred registered doctors in British Columbia."

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

1. What is the known or estimated number of children of school age, whose intelligence quotient is below eighty, who would benefit by the facilities of special classes for retarded or mentally deficient children?

2. What classes, if any, exist in the public schools of the Province for the training of children of school age with an intelligence quotient under eighty?

3. What number of children attend same?

The Hon. Mr. *Weir* replied as follows:—

"1. Tests of general intelligence are made by most School Boards, but not by the Department of Education. The total number in any intelligence age-group in the Province is therefore not known. It is thought that the children in British Columbia do not differ from similar groups in other parts of Canada in this respect. Normal distribution indicates that approximately 7 per centum of the total numbers tested would have intelligence quotients below eighty.

"2. Special classes for retarded children are held in Vancouver and Victoria.

"3. In Victoria, 57, and in Vancouver, 399."

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

1. Have any members of the Forest Branch service above the rank of assistant forest ranger left the service in the past year?

2. If yes, how many and positions held?

The Hon. Mr. *Kenney* replied as follows:—

“1. Yes.

“2. Forty-three. Details of positions held are given hereunder:—

“Resigned (Technical and Field Staff): 1 Forester (in charge of Operation Division), 3 Assistant Foresters (2 Economics Division and 1 Management Division), 1 Forest Ranger, and 1 Scaler.

“Resigned (Clerical and Stenographic): 33, including 19 temporary employees.

“Superannuated: 1 District Forester, 1 Assistant Forester, 1 Ranger, and 1 Chief Clerk.”

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

1. Since February, 1943, has any survey been made of the needs of post-war education in this Province?

2. If yes, did such survey take into consideration a probable influx of new population into this Province after the war and the need to develop skills for new industry and agricultural development?

3. Has any estimate been made of the probable costs of post-war plans for education?

4. Has any survey been made for school building needs?

5. Has any plan been drawn up for a school building programme?

6. If yes, did such programme pay particular attention to the construction of adequate rural schools?

7. Has any survey been made of teacher needs, with particular emphasis upon the new types of specialized and vocational teaching?

8. Have plans been made for more extensive teacher-training?

9. Has any study been made of the constitutional aspects of Dominion grants to education?

10. Has consideration been given to setting the school-leaving age at 16 and a system of compulsory part-time education to the age of 18?

The Hon. Mr. *Weir* replied as follows:—

“1. A survey is now proceeding in connection with the establishment of large School Administrative Areas.

“2. Yes.

“3. See answer to No. 1.

“4. Yes; see answer to No. 1.

“5. Each School Administrative Area will prepare such a plan, which will be submitted to the Department of Education for approval.

“6. Yes.

“7 and 8. A committee of the Department of Education, the University, and the Normal Schools, with a representative of the Teachers' Federation, is studying the question of teacher-training in all its aspects.

“9. The principle of Dominion grants to education is embodied in the 'Vocational Training Co-ordination Act' and the 'National Physical Fitness Act,' which are both Federal statutes.

“10. This matter is being studied.”

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

What support is (a) provided and (b) available from Government resources toward the cost of providing hot free meals for children attending school?

The Hon. Mr. *Weir* replied as follows:—

“(a) Rural school districts are given a grant of 50 per cent. of the cost of the equipment necessary to prepare hot lunches; (b) \$3,000 was voted for this purpose in the fiscal year 1944–45 and a like amount in 1945–46 (*see* Vote 72 (b)).”

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

1. What number of patients are in residence in the Provincial Infirmary at Marpole?

2. What number, if any, of applications for admission are on the waiting list?

3. What is the estimated number of persons in the Province whose physical condition is such as to warrant provision for care and treatment similar to that now provided in the Provincial Infirmary?

The Hon. Mr. *Pearson* replied as follows:—

“1. Provincial Infirmary has 142 patients in residence.

“2. Number of applications for admission on waiting list: 123 recommended, plus 15 under study; of these, 92 are now being cared for in hospitals and 6 in licensed welfare institutions.

“3. Number of persons estimated in the Province whose physical condition is such as to warrant provision for care and treatment similar to that now provided in the Provincial Infirmary: Infirmary applications received at rate of two per day; estimate 300 or more in hospitals; field service staff active; no known need is neglected.”

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.43 p.m.

Tuesday, March 5th, 1946.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Very Rev. Dean *S. H. Elliott*.

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

The Hon. Mr. *Pearson* (Commissioner of Fisheries) presented the Report of the Provincial Fisheries Department for the Year ended December 31st, 1944.

The Hon. Mr. *Pearson* (Provincial Secretary) presented the Seventy-second Report of Vital Statistics of the Province of British Columbia for the Year 1943.

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

1. Has the Government purchased any heavy land-clearing machinery during the past year?
2. If yes, (a) specify items, (b) from whom were they purchased, and (c) for what price?
3. Has the Government authorized the hire of privately-owned machinery for land-clearing purposes?

The Hon. Mr. *Putnam* replied as follows:—

“1. Yes.

“2. (a.) (i.) One D-8 Caterpillar tractor, towing winch, logging arch, and angle dozer blade; (ii.) one Allis-Chalmers HD-10 Crawler tractor, towing winch, angle dozer blade, and special clearing blade; (iii.) two model TD-18 International Trac tractors equipped with winch hoists and special clearing blades. (b.) (i.) War Assets Corporation, Vancouver, B.C.; (ii.) Rendell Tractor & Equipment Co., Vancouver, B.C.; (iii.) Galbraith & Sons, Vernon, B.C. (c.) (i.) \$13,000; (ii.) \$14,125.95; (iii.) \$24,437.80. (NOTE.—Two HD-7 Allis-Chalmers Crawler tractors have been ordered and are now in Vancouver being equipped with auxiliary machinery; delivery has not yet been taken. Three D-7 Caterpillar tractors have been ordered, but, owing to labour conditions in the United States, delivery may be delayed until early summer.)

“3. Only in exceptional cases.”

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

Are the “findings and recommendations” of the Superintendent and the Superintendent of Child Welfare available to members of the Legislature (*vide* forty-first annual report, Provincial Industrial School for Boys, page L 6, paragraph 5)?

The Hon. Mr. *Pearson* replied as follows:—

“Yes; copies will be available shortly to members of the House.”

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

1. Has the Government as yet decided on the locations for their land-clearing units?
2. If yes, (a) is a unit to be located in the Kootenays and (b) at what location?

The Hon. Mr. *Putnam* replied as follows:—

“1. Yes.

“2. (a) Yes; (b) not decided.”

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.35 p.m.

Wednesday, March 6th, 1946.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *J. Hood*.

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

The following papers were presented:—

By the Hon. Mr. *Anscomb* (Minister of Railways)—

Annual Report of the Railway Department for the Year ended December 31st, 1945.

By the Hon. Mr. *Pearson* (Provincial Secretary)—

Twenty-ninth Annual Report of the Workmen's Compensation Board for the Year ended December 31st, 1945.

Annual Report of the Director of Welfare on the Administration of the "Mothers' Allowances Act," 1944-45.

The Hon. Mr. *Hart* (Premier) handed to the Clerk of the House the Report on Proposed Acquisition of Properties of British Columbia Power Corporation, Limited, and certain correspondence in connection therewith, for the purpose of making the same available to honourable members of the Legislature.

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

1. Does the Department of Finance rent any office space or buildings in Fort St. John?

2. If yes, what rental was paid in the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1945?

The Hon. Mr. *Hart* replied as follows:—

"1. No.

"2. See No. 1."

Mr. *H. E. Winch* asked the Hon. the Premier the following questions:—

1. During the past year how many requests have been received by the Public Utilities Commission asking for extension of services as supplied by the British Columbia Electric Railway Company, Limited, and subsidiary organizations?

2. Do the engineers of the Public Utilities Commission make a personal investigation in answer to requests for extensions?

3. Upon receipt of a request for extension does the Public Utilities Commission send a copy of the request to the British Columbia Electric Railway Company, Limited, asking for a report on same?

4. If so, is the reply of the Public Utilities Commission to the applicant based upon information supplied by the British Columbia Electric Railway Company, Limited, or its subsidiaries?

The Hon. Mr. *Hart* replied as follows:—

"1. Ten in 1945.

"2. When advisable.

"3. Yes.

"4. In part."

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

1. Does the Department of Public Works rent any office space or buildings in Fort St. John?

2. If yes, what rental was paid in the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1945?

The Hon. Mr. *Anscomb* replied as follows:—

“1. Yes.

“2. \$180.”

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

1. Does the Department of Lands and Forests rent any office space or buildings in Fort St. John?

2. If yes, what rental was paid in the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1945?

The Hon. Mr. *Kenney* replied as follows:—

“1. No.

“2. Answered by No. 1.”

Mr. *H. E. Winch* asked the Hon. the Premier the following questions:—

1. In what year did the Public Utilities Commission last make an audit of the accounts and operations of the British Columbia Electric Railway Company, Limited, and subsidiary companies?

2. On what basis and facts are present electric light rates or monthly cancellation of light bills established?

3. By whom are these facts submitted to the Public Utilities Commission?

4. Does the Public Utilities Commission make any check to verify the correctness of the information supplied?

5. Is the securing of any new data on British Columbia Electric Railway Company, Limited, operations contemplated by the Public Utilities Commission?

The Hon. Mr. *Hart* replied as follows:—

“1. 1943, but since appointment of new Chief Engineer of Commission on November 13th, 1945, an investigation and audit has been undertaken and is still in progress.

“2. After hearings and on consideration of Commission's appraisal and report on properties and earnings of the companies and of reports required from the companies as to operations in subsequent years.

“3. Commission's appraisal and report were submitted by Commission's Chief Engineer. Annual reports of operations are filed annually by British Columbia Electric Railway Company, Limited. Supplementary information is submitted as required by the Commission by British Columbia Electric Railway Company, Limited.

“4. Yes.

“5. Yes.”

Mr. *Harding* asked the Hon. the Minister of Public Works the following question:—

In the fiscal year ended March, 1945, what was the total amount paid in wages and salaries to the permanent staff in the Public Works Department at New Denver?

The Hon. Mr. *Anscomb* replied as follows:—

“\$9,843.50.”

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.51 p.m.