

**Monday, December 2, 1985**

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TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Mr. Speaker.

On the motion of Mr. *Skelly*, Bill (No. M 225) intituled *An Act to Rebuild the British Columbia Economy Through a "Jobs First" Employment Strategy*, 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."

On the motion of the Hon. *G. B. Gardom*, the House proceeded to "Public Bills and Orders and Government Motions on Notice."

The following Bills were read a third time and passed:

Bill (No. 33) intituled *Charter of Rights Amendments Act, 1985*.

Bill (No. 34) intituled *Family Law Reform Amendments Act, 1985*.

Bill (No. 55) intituled *Attorney General Statutes Amendment Act (No. 2), 1985*.

Bill (No. 68) intituled *Workers Compensation Amendment Act (No. 2), 1985* was committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 69) intituled *Travel Agents Amendment Act (No. 2) 1985* was committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

Sections 6 and 10 of Bill (No. 69) were passed on division.

Bill (No. 71) intituled *Capital Commission Amendment Act, 1985* was committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

The House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 73) intituled *Equity Investment Plan Act*.

The debate continued.

Bill (No. 73) was read a second time, on division, and by leave, referral to a Committee of the Whole House deferred until later today.

Bill (No. Pr 402) intituled *An Act to Amend the Vancouver Charter* was committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

Section 5 of Bill (No. Pr 402) was passed on division.

Bill (No. Pr 403) intituled *An Act Respecting Pacific Bible College* was committed, reported complete with amendment, and by leave, read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 72) intituled *Pacific Vocational Institute and British Columbia Institute of Technology Amalgamation Act* was committed, reported complete with amendment, and by leave, read a third time and passed.

On the motion of the Hon. *G. B. Gardom*, on behalf of the Hon. *B. R. D. Smith*, it was *Ordered* that the proceedings for third reading of Bill (No. 34) intituled *Family Law Reform Amendments Act, 1985* be declared null and void and that the Bill be recommitted in respect of section 10 thereof.

Bill (No. 34) recommitted in respect of section 10.

The Committee rose and reported Bill (No. 34) complete with amendment, and by leave, read a third time and passed.

By leave, Bill (No. 73) intituled *Equity Investment Plan Act* was committed, reported complete without amendment, and by leave, read a third time and passed.

Sections 3, 4 and 5 of Bill (No. 73) were passed on division.

Mr. Speaker declared a short recess.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor having entered the House, and being seated in the Chair—

*Ian D. Izard*, Esq., Law Clerk and Clerk Assistant, read the titles to the following Bills:

Bill (No. 2) *Coquihalla Highway Construction Acceleration Act*.

Bill (No. 33) *Charter of Rights Amendments Act, 1985*.

Bill (No. 34) *Family Law Reform Amendments Act, 1985*.

Bill (No. 37) *Securities Act*.

Bill (No. 44) *Vital Statistics Amendment Act, 1985*.

Bill (No. 45) *Finance Statutes Amendment Act, 1985*.

Bill (No. 47) *Notaries Amendment Act, 1985*.

Bill (No. 48) *Society Amendment Act, 1985*.

Bill (No. 54) *Capital Expenditures Miscellaneous Amendments Act, 1985*.

Bill (No. 55) *Attorney General Statutes Amendment Act (No. 2), 1985*.

Bill (No. 57) *Court Order Enforcement Amendment Act, 1985*.

Bill (No. 58) *Motor Vehicle Amendment Act (No. 1), 1985*.

Bill (No. 60) *Motor Vehicle Amendment Act (No. 2), 1985*.

Bill (No. 62) *Municipal Amendment Act, 1985*.

Bill (No. 63) *Motor Fuel Tax Act*.

Bill (No. 66) *Real Estate Amendment Act (No. 2), 1985*.

Bill (No. 67) *Foreign Arbitral Awards Act*.

Bill (No. 68) *Workers Compensation Amendment Act (No. 2), 1985*.

Bill (No. 69) *Travel Agents Amendment Act (No. 2), 1985*.

Bill (No. 70) *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act (No. 4), 1985*.

Bill (No. 71) *Capital Commission Amendment Act, 1985.*

Bill (No. 72) *Pacific Vocational Institute and British Columbia Institute of Technology Amalgamation Act.*

Bill (No. 73) *Equity Investment Plan Act.*

Bill (No. Pr 402) *An Act to Amend the Vancouver Charter.*

Bill (No. Pr 403) *An Act Respecting Pacific Bible College.*

His Honour was pleased in her Majesty's name to give assent to the said Bills.

The said assent was announced by *Ian M. Horne, Q.C.*, Clerk of the House, in the following words:

"In Her Majesty's name, His Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth assent to these Bills."

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor was then pleased to retire.

On the motion of the Hon. *J. R. Chabot* it was *Ordered*—

That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until it appears to the satisfaction of Mr. Speaker, after consultation with the Government, that the public interest requires that the House shall meet, or until Mr. Speaker may be advised by the Government that it is desired to prorogue the Third Session of the Thirty-third Parliament of the Province of British Columbia. Mr. Speaker may give notice that he is so satisfied or has been so advised and thereupon the House shall meet at the time and date stated in such notice, and, as the case may be, may transact its business as if it has been duly adjourned to that time and date; and,

That, in the event of Mr. Speaker being unable to act owing to illness or other cause, the Deputy Speaker shall act in his stead for the purpose of this order.

And then the House adjourned at 5.40 p.m.

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**Monday, March 10, 1986**

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker announced that His Honour the Lieutenant Governor was about to enter the Chamber.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor having entered the House, and being seated in the Chair, was pleased to deliver the following gracious speech:

*Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:*

As I speak to you on this closing day of the Third Session of the Thirty-third Parliament of British Columbia, I wish to express my appreciation for the attention and careful consideration given the numerous and important measures, particularly those related to economic renewal, outlined in my message to you on opening this Parliament on March 4, 1985.

The accomplishments of the past year included the passage of more than seventy measures proposed by my Government — many of major significance and benefit to the people of our Province. You have also enacted six measures proposed by individual Members of this Assembly.

Amid growing signs that our Province is emerging from the worst effects of the international recession, you approved, as part of my Government's long-range program for economic renewal, a range of stimulative measures to strengthen and expand our economy.

These measures included a three-year, major program of tax reductions for businesses small and large to make our Province a more attractive place to do business and employ people.

These tax changes included elimination of the corporation capital tax, property taxes on machinery and equipment, reduced commercial and industrial school tax rates, and tax credits for small business.

You brought about these tax reductions while maintaining control of government expenditures and retaining the second-lowest personal income tax rates in Canada.

You established a Critical Industries Commission to assist our mining and forest industries, provided electricity discounts to attract new industry and assist existing industry to expand their operations and increase employment and enacted a bold, new economic partnership with municipalities.

You aided our vital small business sector through a new public sector purchasing policy designed to stimulate employment in our Province. You also approved the *Small Business Venture Capital Act* and the *Equity Investment Plan Act* among additional measures to encourage greater economic activity, diversify the economy and create new employment opportunities for our people.

These and the other measures you approved are playing, and will continue to play, an important part in helping British Columbia business and industry expand and grow, and are further broadening the economy beyond the vital resource sector, while increasing the strength of these industries as well.

You established a Ministry of International Trade and Investment to seek new markets for our products and new job-creating investments, and enacted a new *Securities Act* to strengthen our Province's financial sector.

In addition, you enacted measures to bring several provincial laws into conformity with the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and established a Commercial Arbitration Centre to take advantage of growing opportunities in international trade.

For the second straight year the economy of our Province has demonstrated growth and increased strength. Employment has increased substantially and unemployment has declined steadily.

A number of other positive indicators — including housing starts, retail sales and the incorporation of new businesses — all support this trend towards increased consumer and business confidence and renewal across British Columbia.

Our people have seen the successful completion of the initial phase of our modern and efficient rapid transit system. Between Vancouver and New Westminster, the system is serving thousands of commuters and rapid transit will soon be extended into Surrey and other areas.

We have also witnessed the near completion of two major projects — the first phase of the challenging Coquihalla Highway project and the new Annacis Island Bridge across the Fraser River, both of which stand as magnificent engineering achievements.

Our steady economic progress and the continuing diversification of our economy have been matched by the growth of a new consensus in our Province and a much-improved industrial relations climate. I am advised that British Columbia's industrial relations record was the best in twenty years. Credit for the improvement is due to both our workers and management.

The Critical Industries Commissioner — with the cooperation of workers, management and my Government — has been instrumental in assisting six forestry and mining firms to keep operating, thus safeguarding more than 1,500 jobs across our Province.

You approved the *Provincial-Municipal Partnership Act*, which directly involves local government in the provision of taxation and other incentives to stimulate job creation.

During the past year, you enacted legislation designed to enhance stability in revenue-sharing with municipalities, and amendments to simplify and make more efficient the planning and development provisions of the *Municipal Act* are now being implemented.

In the past year, fourteen industries benefitted from discount sales of surplus electricity and it is my Government's intention to use this surplus in the coming year both as a domestic incentive for industrial expansion and as a valuable export commodity.

You approved measures that established a market-oriented regime for both domestic and export sales of gas and established a royalty system that is responsive to the marketplace. Another important step was to set up attractive incentives to encourage oil exploration and development.

I am advised that the result of these energy initiatives has been a resurgence of oil and gas drilling activity in the northeast of our Province and a major increase in revenue to my Government as a result of record bonus bids by the industry.

As my Government's long-range strategy brings new investment and new economic activity through the development of both small and large projects, there is agreement that we must continue to work together if we are to continue our steady progress.

While my Government's main priority remains the creation of new employment opportunities for British Columbians, there is also agreement that we must invest the benefits of an expanding economy to further improve government services for people, particularly in the fields of education and health.

This agreement on our priorities has been matched by the support that British Columbians are giving to Expo 86.

Members of this Assembly are to be congratulated for their part in the preparations being made to welcome the nations of the world to our Fair.

This challenging and exciting undertaking will provide millions of visitors with a greater understanding and appreciation of our people and the immense potential which exists in every region of our great Province.

Expo 86 represents a pivotal point in British Columbia's fortunes. It will be a catalyst in my Government's long-range plan to attract new investment and new business, and will pave the way for a stronger and more prosperous future for our Province.

Honourable Members, you will soon be returning to this Chamber to again represent the interests of the people of our Province.

You will be asked to consider and debate a range of measures to enhance economic renewal over the remaining years of my Government's mandate and beyond.

My Government's priorities are two-fold: to strengthen and diversify our Province's economic condition and create employment opportunities for our people, and to improve education and health services for all British Columbians.

Both goals are important, neither can be subservient to the other.

All British Columbians can be encouraged by the progress that we have made together. The challenge that lies ahead is to ensure that it continues.

I know that all of you as elected representatives will work to meet that challenge.

Honourable members, I thank you for your efforts on behalf of all British Columbians and it is now my duty to relieve you of your legislative duties.

I trust the blessing of Divine Providence will attend you when you shortly resume those duties in this House.

The Hon. *G. M. McCarthy* (Provincial Secretary and Minister of Government Services) then said:

*Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:*

It is His Honour the Lieutenant Governor's will and pleasure that this Legislative Assembly be prorogued until 2 o'clock p.m., Tuesday, March 11, 1986, and this Provincial Legislative Assembly is hereby prorogued accordingly.

The Hon. *F. C. Austin Pelton* (Minister of Environment) tabled the Report of the Wilderness Advisory Committee.

The House prorogued at 3.21 p.m.

K. W. DAVIDSON, *Speaker*