

# JOURNALS

## OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

### OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

SESSION 1955

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**Tuesday, January 25th, 1955.**

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THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

This being the first day of the third meeting of the Twenty-fourth Parliament or Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia for the dispatch of business, pursuant to a Proclamation of the Honourable CLARENCE WALLACE, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, dated the 5th day of November, 1954.

Prayers by the Most Rev. *James M. Hill*, Bishop of Victoria.

His Honour CLARENCE WALLACE, 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:*

I welcome you to the Third Session of the Twenty-fourth Parliament of British Columbia.

Since you last met, the Province has been favoured with a visit from His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh. The warm welcome and Royal enthusiasm which everywhere marked his reception demonstrated the continued and increasing devotion of Her Majesty's subjects in this part of the Commonwealth, and the very favourable impression produced on His Highness was to me exceedingly gratifying.

British Columbia has also been favoured with a visit of His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Reverend and Right Honourable Geoffrey F. Fisher.

The people of this Province also had the opportunity of welcoming Field Marshal the Right Honourable Earl Alexander of Tunis on the occasion of the opening of the British Empire and Commonwealth Games. This gentleman, soldier, and statesman endeared himself to the people of this Province during his visits while he was Governor-General of Canada.

The visit of the Right Honourable Viscount Swinton, Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations in the United Kingdom Cabinet, was an outstanding success, and the visits of the Right Honourable Peter Thorneycroft, President of the United Kingdom Board of Trade, and the Right Honourable Duncan Sandys, Minister of Supply, are significant of the interest which the United Kingdom is taking in this part of the Commonwealth.

The hope expressed by me, when releasing you from your labours at the close of the last Session, that the legislation that you had passed would prove beneficial to the

Province is being fulfilled, as you will learn from the reports that my Ministers will present to you.

It is with much gratification that, in meeting you again at another Session of this Parliament, I am able to congratulate you on the measure of prosperity which has marked the year just closed, and on the favourable prospects for the period which we are now entering.

The financial position of the Province has never been better, with great benefit to British Columbia as a field for profitable employment of capital and labour.

Confidence in the present economic stability of British Columbia has encouraged new industries and expansion of existing industries.

It is pleasing to note the great and increasing development in the central and northern portions of British Columbia.

I am sure that a continuance of this prosperity will be materially aided by your efforts in your enactment of wise legislation.

My Government is prepared to co-operate in any Federal measures which are deemed to be of mutual benefit, but regret no proposals have been forthcoming as a result of the Brief presented December 14th, 1953, by my Government to the Government of Canada on "Federal-Provincial Co-operation in Economic Development."

I am pleased to be able to inform you that my Government has been able to effect a large reduction in net debt while still able to show an increase in expenditure for public works and other services.

In carrying out my Government's undertaking at the last Session, a Royal Commission has been appointed to inquire into certain matters affecting the disposition of lands formerly the property of members of the Doukhobor community of this Province.

A Royal Commission has been appointed to inquire into matters affecting our forest resources so that they may be perpetuated and our assets conserved.

An inquiry is being held under the authority of a Royal Commission to look into the matter of the distribution of milk.

"The Disabled Persons Act" passed by the Government of Canada has now been proclaimed, and the legislation which you approved at the last Session enabling my Government to take advantage of this Act to assist those who are totally and permanently unable to care for themselves will come into force on the 1st of April. My Proclamation to that effect has already been issued.

Mr. Einar M. Gunderson, former Minister of Finance, is to be congratulated on the favourable impression made by him on the press and public of the Motherland, and in the countries of Western Europe where he visited as a Special Trade Representative to encourage trade between Europe and this Province.

During the past year, for the first time in its history, the Pacific Great Eastern Railway has shown an operating profit.

The purpose of the legislation which you passed at the last Session permitting the southern and northern extensions of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway has been already substantially effected.

Measures will be submitted to you to enable the completion of the northern extension, which will run through districts richly endowed with timber, minerals, and with agricultural and pastoral lands, the development of which has heretofore been retarded for lack of railway communication.

Provision will be made to meet the Province's immediate needs in connection with highway facilities in such a manner as to encourage development of our natural resources, agricultural produce, industrial undertakings, and tourist travel.

I am pleased that my Government has negotiated successfully with private industry to help build the long-awaited West Coast roads on Vancouver Island.

It is pleasing to note that under the Crown corporation for toll highways and bridges, which you set up at the Second Session of the Legislature in 1953, the Agassiz-Rosedale Bridge is already under construction, and tenders have been called for the Oak Street system replacing the Marpole Bridge, and plans for other bridges are progressing favourably.

A request will be placed before you to make additional money available for further construction.

Because of increasing public works, highways, and buildings, and the development taking place in all parts of the Province, it is deemed advisable to divide the Department of Public Works into two departments—one will be known as the Department of Highways and the other Department of Works—and to this end you will be asked to approve an amendment to the "Constitution Act."

It is confidently expected that the proposed arrangement will be found more effective in expediting service in connection with the planning and building of highways and servicing of public buildings.

My Government's programme of penal reform is being carried out, with much improvement of conditions at the Oakalla Prison Farm; moreover, the additional facilities planned at Prince George will be completed during the next few months, and the project at Haney is being carried out. Additional facilities are planned for female prisoners.

The new Boys' Industrial School at Brannan Lake was opened this month, and plans for a new Girls' Industrial School will be laid before you.

Following a request by my Government to the University of British Columbia for recommendations outlining a capital building programme to be carried out during the next ten years, a submission has been made by the President for a building programme amounting to \$10,000,000.

The President's recommendations have been accepted, and my Government will make provision for the implementation of this ten-year building programme, commencing this year.

You will also be asked to make available money for a survey for a Dental Faculty at the University.

It is pleasing to note that my Government in thus supporting the University has recognized its significant contribution to the academic and technical needs of the Province, and, moreover, that it has seen fit to declare the week of February 28th to March 5th as University Week.

Educational finance has been under exhaustive review during the past year, and measures will be laid before you to provide an equitable distribution of these costs.

My Government plans to implement an experimental programme for the treatment of narcotic addicts.

Provision will be asked for money to be made available to enable the British Columbia Power Commission to extend its programme of rural electrification and power development.

To improve conditions for the members of the Civil Service and persons employed by my Government, a proposal will be laid before you for the creation of a medical service.

Measures will be submitted to you in aid of improved arrangements for municipalities.

You will be asked to consider legislation affecting the administration of co-operative enterprises.

For some time the problems of apprenticeship have been under study, with a view to encouraging larger numbers of our youth and unskilled workers to attain greater

skill and higher qualifications. A number of steps have already been taken in this direction, and it is now proposed to submit legislation dealing further with this subject.

You will again be asked to set up a committee to study the possibility of a redistribution of seats for this Legislature.

Amendments to various Acts will be submitted to you.

The reports of the various departments of my Government will be laid before you.

The Estimates for the ensuing fiscal year that will be submitted to you have been framed with due consideration for economy while recognizing the necessity that exists for the development of this great Province and for efficiency in every branch of the administration.

I now leave you to your deliberations with the sincere trust and belief that your efforts will be productive of much good.

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. *W. A. C. Bennett*, seconded by Mr. *Webster*, it was *Resolved*,—

That the appointment of *Gerald Herbert Cross*, of Victoria, as Clerk Assistant of the Legislative Assembly, made by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor by and with the advice of his Executive Council on the 7th day of January, 1955, be now ratified pursuant to the provisions of section 44 of the "Constitution Act," being chapter 65 of the "Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1948," and that the said Clerk Assistant of the Legislative Assembly be Deputy Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

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

On the motion of the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett*, seconded by the Hon. *W. D. Black*, it was *Ordered*,—

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

On the motion of the Hon. *E. C. F. Martin*, seconded by the Hon. *P. A. Gaglardi*, it was *Ordered*,—

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

On the motion of the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett*, seconded by the Hon. *W. K. Kiernan*, it was *Ordered*,—

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

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

7. On Labour;

8. On Social Welfare and Education;

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

On the motion of the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett*, seconded by Mr. *Webster*, it was Ordered,—

That *Alexander Small Matthew*, Esquire, member for Vancouver Centre Electoral District, be appointed Deputy Speaker for this Session of the Legislative Assembly.

The following papers were presented:—

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

The Fifteenth Annual Report of the Business done in pursuance of the “Municipal Superannuation Act” for the Year ended March 31st, 1954.

The Thirteenth Annual Report of the Business done in pursuance of the “Teachers’ Pensions Act” for the Period January 1st to December 31st, 1953.

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

The Thirty-third Annual Report of the Liquor Control Board covering the Fiscal Year ended March 31st, 1954.

The Balance-sheet of the Liquor Control Board for the Six Months’ Period ended September 30th, 1954.

The Forty-third Annual Report of the Superintendent of Insurance for the Year ended December 31st, 1953.

The Thirty-second Annual Report of the Fire Marshal for the Year ended December 31st, 1953.

The Annual Report of the Motor-vehicle Branch for the Year 1953.

The Annual Report of the Inspector of Gaols for the Year ended March 31st, 1954.

The Report of the Provincial Game Commission for the Year ended December 31st, 1953.

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

The Balance-sheet and Statement of Accounts of the Land Settlement Board (including the Agricultural Credit Commission) as at December 31st, 1953.

Return of Lands exchanged under Section 36, Chapter 175, “Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1948,” from February 16th, 1954, to January 18th, 1955.

By the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett* (Minister of Finance)—

Public Accounts for the Fiscal Year ended March 31st, 1954.

The Report of the Purchasing Commission from January 1st, 1954, to December 31st, 1954.

The Report submitted in accordance with Section 44 (2) of the “Revenue Act,” “Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1948,” of Refunds and Remissions made under Section 44 (1) of the “Revenue Act” from January 1st, 1954, to December 31st, 1954.

The Report submitted in accordance with Section 88 (4) of the “Taxation Act,” “Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1948,” of Refunds and Remissions made under Section 88 (1), (2), and (3) of the “Taxation Act” from January 1st, 1954, to December 31st, 1954.

The Report submitted in accordance with Section 53 of the "Administration Act," "Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1948," of Returns by Official Administrators of all Moneys paid and received by them in respect of all the Estates of Deceased Persons administered by them from January 1st, 1954, to December 31st, 1954.

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

The Forty-ninth Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture for the Year 1954.

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

The Annual Report of the Department of Public Works for the Fiscal Year ended March 31st, 1954, in compliance with the provisions of the "Public Works Act."

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

The Annual Report of the Operations and Activities of the Railway Department for the Year ended December 31st, 1954.

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

The Report of the Department of Trade and Industry for the Year ended December 31st, 1954.

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

The Annual Report of the Department of Municipal Affairs for the Years ended December 31st, 1953, and December 31st, 1954.

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

The Report of the Committee inquiring into Operations of the Provincial Industrial Schools, September 15th, 1954.

The Annual Report of the Social Welfare Branch of the Department of Health and Welfare for the Year ended March 31st, 1954.

The Fifty-second Annual Report of the Vancouver General Hospital for the Year 1953.

The Annual Report of the Old-age Assistance and Blind Persons' Allowances Boards for the Year ended March 31st, 1954.

The Ninth Report of the Department of Health and Welfare (Health Branch) for the Year ended December 31st, 1954.

The Report of the British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service covering the Calendar Year 1954.

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

The Annual Report of the Provincial Department of Fisheries with Appendices for the Year ended December 31st, 1953.

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

The Annual Report of the British Columbia Power Commission for the Fiscal Year ended March 31st, 1954.

The Fourteenth Annual Report of the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Section 36 of the "Motor Carrier Act," Licence-year 1953-54.

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

And then the House adjourned at 3.26 p.m.

## Wednesday, January 26th, 1955.

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THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Very Rev. *P. R. Beattie*.

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. *Chant* (Victoria City) moved, seconded by Mr. *Shelford* (Omineca),—

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

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

A debate arose.

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

The Hon. *L. Wicks* presented the Thirty-sixth Annual Report of the Department of Labour of the Province of British Columbia for the Year 1953.

By leave of the House, the following notice of questions standing in the name of Mr. *Haggen* was withdrawn:—

1. (a) Were any moneys collected under the 5-per-cent sales tax clauses of the “ Social Services Tax Act ” between April 1st and December 31st, 1954, and, if so, (b) how much was collected?

2. (a) Have any payments been made on account of hospital insurance costs from April 1st to December 31st, 1954, and, if so, (b) how much?

3. (a) Are any accounts unsettled or in dispute at this time and, if so, (b) how much?

*Resolved*, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 2 o'clock p.m. to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 5.35 p.m.

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## Thursday, January 27th, 1955.

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TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *M. A. J. Waters*.

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

On the motion of the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*—Bill (No. 11) intituled “ An Act to amend the ‘ Soldiers’ Land Act. ’ ”

On the motion of the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*—Bill (No. 12) intituled “ An Act relating to Highland Drainage Areas. ”

On the motion of the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*—Bill (No. 13) intituled “An Act respecting the Boundary between the Provinces of British Columbia and Alberta.”

On the motion of the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*—Bill (No. 14) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Grazing Act.’”

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

The debate continued.

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

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

That on Thursday, January 27th, 1955, and all following days of the Session, there will be two distinct sittings on each day—one from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. and one from 8 p.m. until adjournment—unless otherwise ordered.

The Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett* filed a copy of an agreement made on January 20th, 1955, between P. Drummond Willoughby, Esq., and the British Columbia Toll Highways and Bridges Authority, the said agreement being pursuant to verbal negotiations.

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

1. Has any land been alienated within the drainage-basin of Homathko River since April 1st, 1954?

2. If so, (a) to whom were such alienations made and (b) for what declared purpose, if any?

3. Were any plans submitted for development of power on Homathko River since April 1st, 1954?

4. If so, by what parties?

5. Has the Department caused any survey to be made of the feasibility of transmission of electric power from Homathko River to Vancouver Island?

6. If so, what report was submitted on the project?

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

“ 1. Yes.

“ 2. (a) (i) An application to purchase the E. ½ of the S.E. ¼ and the S.E. ¼ of the N.E. ¼ of Lot 366, Range 2, Coast District, containing 120 acres, situated at Tatlayoko Lake, was approved September 8th, 1954, in the name of Harry E. McGhee, Tatla Lake, B.C.; this area was previously held under lease by the purchaser. (ii) An application to purchase approximately 40 acres of unsurveyed Crown land situated at Lunch Lake was approved October 6th, 1954, subject to survey, in the name of Edward A. Schuk, Tatla Lake Post-office, B.C. (b) (i) Grazing and (ii) agricultural.

“ 3, 4, 5, and 6. No.”

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

1. Has the Minister issued any instructions to officials of the Department of Lands and Forests that could be reasonably interpreted as forbidding the use of forestry equipment for protection of homes outside boundaries of municipalities in case of fire?

2. If so, will the Minister table in the House copies of any such instructions?



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

“ 1. No.

“ 2. Not applicable.”

*Resolved*, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 2 o'clock p.m. to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 5.34 p.m.

## Friday, January 28th, 1955.

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *G. R. Easter*.

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

### *Alcan Power Failure.*

The power breakdown was caused by a snow-slide in the Kildala Pass between Kemano and Kitimat.

The company has had similar breakdowns in its eastern operations.

While it is delaying, it is not expected to tie up production very much.

The company expects to have the breakdown rectified in a few days' time.

Contrary to early press reports, there is no question whatsoever of unemployment.

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. *Laing* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Gibbs*,—

To add the following words:—

“ But this Legislature regrets that your advisers have failed (a) to properly provide for the development of our resources so that long-term advantage will accrue to all our people, (b) to take advantage of the opportunity that invites the improvement of labour-management relations, and (c) to take any action to arrest the serious decline in our agricultural position which threatens to affect both farmers and the cost of living of urban dwellers.”

The House divided.

The amendment was negatived on the following division:—

YEAS—19.

Messieurs

*Gregory*  
*Brown*  
*Gibson*  
*Segur*  
*Eddie*

*Squire*  
*Calder*  
*Gargrave*  
*Howard*  
*Gibbs*

*Laing*  
*Uphill*  
*Strachan*  
*Harding*  
*Nimsick*

*Moore*  
*Winch*  
*Webster*  
*Turner*

## NAYS—24.

## Messieurs

<i>Chant</i>	<i>Corbett</i>	<i>Black</i>	<i>Moxham</i>
<i>Shelford</i>	<i>Arsens, Mrs.</i>	<i>Bate</i>	<i>Matthew</i>
<i>Shantz</i>	<i>Williston</i>	<i>Tomlinson</i>	<i>Bruch</i>
<i>Reid</i>	<i>Sommers</i>	<i>Tisdalle</i>	<i>Chetwynd</i>
<i>Price</i>	<i>Bennett</i>	<i>Richter</i>	<i>Kiernan</i>
<i>Parker</i>	<i>Bonner</i>	<i>Newton</i>	<i>Wicks</i>

## PAIRS:

## Messieurs

<i>Haggen</i>	<i>Martin</i>
<i>Giovando</i>	<i>Gaglardi</i>

Debate resumed on the main motion.

On the motion of the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

The Hon. *R. W. Bonner* presented the Report of the Special Committee appointed on the 25th instant, as follows:—

## REPORT.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
January 28th, 1955.

## MR. SPEAKER:

Your Special Committee appointed on the 25th 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. *Chant* (Convener), *Corbett*, *Matthew*, *Moxham*, *Newton*, *Price*, *Shelford*, *Tisdalle*, the Hon. *W. D. Black*, the Hon. *W. K. Kiernan*, Messrs. *Turner*, *Webster*, *Howard*, *Eddie*, *Gibbs*, *Brown*, and *Giovando*.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND PRINTING. — Messrs. *Bruch* (Convener), *Chant*, *Corbett*, *Moxham*, *Tomlinson*, the Hon. *W. D. Black*, the Hon. *E. C. F. Martin*, the Hon. *L. Wicks*, the Hon. *R. G. Williston*, Mrs. *Arsens*, Messrs. *Strachan*, *Webster*, *Harding*, *Turner*, *Gibbs*, and *Laing*.

MINING AND RAILWAYS. — Messrs. *Tisdalle* (Convener), *Bate*, *Moxham*, *Shantz*, *Reid*, *Richter*, *Parker*, *Tomlinson*, the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*, the Hon. *L. Wicks*, Messrs. *Nimsick*, *Segur*, *Calder*, *Haggen*, *Gibson*, and *Giovando*.

AGRICULTURE. — Messrs. *Richter* (Convener), *Moxham*, *Newton*, *Parker*, *Price*, *Reid*, *Shantz*, *Shelford*, *Tisdalle*, the Hon. *W. R. T. Chetwynd*, Messrs. *Harding*, *Haggen*, *Strachan*, *Segur*, *Laing*, and *Brown*.

MUNICIPAL MATTERS.—Messrs. *Bate* (Convener), *Bruch*, *Matthew*, *Newton*, *Parker*, *Price*, *Richter*, *Tisdalle*, the Hon. *W. K. Kiernan*, Mrs. *Arsens*, Messrs. *Nimsick*, *Squire*, *Howard*, *Moore*, *Gregory*, *Gibbs*, *Giovando*, and *Uphill*.

FORESTRY AND FISHERIES. — Messrs. *Corbett* (Convener), *Bate*, *Newton*, *Reid*, *Richter*, *Shantz*, *Shelford*, *Tomlinson*, the Hon. *R. G. Williston*, the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*, Messrs. *Howard*, *Eddie*, *Gargrave*, *Calder*, *Brown*, and *Gibson*.

LABOUR.—Messrs. *Bruch* (Convener), *Chant*, *Shantz*, *Price*, *Tisdalle*, *Matthew*, the Hon. *P. A. Gaglardi*, the Hon. *W. K. Kiernan*, the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*, Mrs. *Arsens*, Messrs. *Strachan*, *Moore*, *Squire*, *Eddie*, *Laing*, *Gregory*, *Giovando*, and *Uphill*.

SOCIAL WELFARE AND EDUCATION.—Messrs. *Tomlinson* (Convener), *Bruch*, *Price*, the Hon. *W. D. Black*, the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*, the Hon. *E. C. F. Martin*, the Hon. *R. G. Williston*, the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*, the Hon. *L. Wicks*, Mrs. *Arsens*, Messrs. *Webster*, *Moore*, *Gargrave*, *Winch*, *Gregory*, *Laing*, and *Giovando*.

Respectfully submitted.

R. W. BONNER, *Chairman*.

The report was read and received.

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

Mr. *Gibson* asked the Hon. the Minister of Railways the following questions:—

1. What was the reason for the resignation of David Livingstone, engineer on Pacific Great Eastern Railway construction?
2. Has a replacement been made and, if so, whom?
3. Has there been any change in policy as a result of the replacement?

The Hon. *W. R. T. Chetwynd* replied as follows:—

- “ 1. None given.
- “ 2. Yes; Mr. D. C. Gough.
- “ 3. No.”

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

1. To implement the plan of reassessment in the Province, how many additional assessors were employed?
2. Did all have previous experience in property assessment?
3. If not, was a school of instruction conducted before work got under way?
4. Were any of the assessors residents of Alberta and was there any consultation with the Department of the Provincial Treasurer of that Province in matters of detail?

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

- “ 1. Seven experienced Provincial Assessors and two senior appraisers.
- “ 2. Yes.
- “ 3. Answered by No. 2.
- “ 4. No.”

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

1. Has any income been received from taxpayers pursuant to the “Logging Tax Act”?
2. If so, what amount, if any, has been received from and (or) is due from (a) Kelley Logging Company Limited, (b) Alice Lake Logging Company Limited, (c) MacMillan & Bloedel Limited, (d) British Columbia Forest Products Limited, (e) Canadian Forest Products Limited, (f) Alaska Pine & Cellulose Company Limited, (g) Alaska Pine Company Limited, (h) Columbia Cellulose Company Limited, (i) Northern Pulpwood Limited, (j) Powell River Company Limited, (k) H. R. MacMillan Export Company Limited, (l) Hudson Lumber Company Limited, (m) W. F. Gibson & Sons Limited, (n) R. B. McLean Lumber Company, (o) W.M. & F. Logging Company Limited, (p) Lamb Lumber Company Limited, and (q) Fleetwood Logging Company Limited, and for which taxation-year in each case?

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

- “ 1. Yes.
- “ 2. Information relating to income of private firms or individuals is deemed to be confidential.”

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

1. Was the office building in Greenwood which housed Government offices disposed of during the year 1952, 1953, or 1954?
2. If so, under what terms was it disposed of?
3. What did the said building cost to build originally?
4. Have any expenses been incurred on its maintenance?
5. If so, how much?
6. If the said building was sold, to whom was sale made and at what price?
7. If said building was disposed of, were any steps taken to ascertain its value at time of such disposal?
8. If valuation was made, what valuation was given?

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

“ 1. Yes; 1953.

“ 2. With the closing of the Greenwood Sub-Agency, the building was conveyed to the City of Greenwood for a city hall under terms that the municipality would provide accommodation for the health unit and also act as sub-issuing office for game and motor-vehicle licences, etc., Sub-Mining Recorder and Registrar of Vital Statistics for a period of three years.

“ 3. \$10,700 (1903).

“ 4. Normal maintenance and repairs from time to time as required.

“ 5. Answered by No. 4.

“ 6. Corporation of the City of Greenwood for \$1.

“ 7. No.

“ 8. Department of Public Works made a valuation of repairs required and estimated that these would cost approximately \$13,000.”

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

1. Has any sales tax been collected on meals costing less than \$1.01 between April 1st and December 31st, 1954?
2. If so, how much has been collected and under what authority?

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

“ 1. No social services tax has been collected on separate sales of meals costing less than \$1.01 between April 1st and December 31st, 1954.

“ 2. Answered by No. 1.”

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

1. Has the Government made a contribution to the Vancouver Island Milk Foundation?
2. If so, will other industry promotion organizations receive like consideration?

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

“ 1. Yes.

“ 2. Consideration to other industry promotion organizations will be given on the merits of each case.”

*Resolved*, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 2 o'clock p.m. on Monday next.

And then the House adjourned at 5.59 p.m.

## Monday, January 31st, 1955.

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TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Major *C. J. Milley*.

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

On the motion of the Hon. *W. D. Black*—Bill (No. 19) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Schools for Mental Defectives Act.’”

On the motion of the Hon. *W. D. Black*—Bill (No. 20) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Psychiatric Nurses Act.’”

On the motion of the Hon. *W. R. T. Chetwynd*—Bill (No. 21) intituled “An Act to facilitate the Construction of Extensions of the Lines of Railway of Pacific Great Eastern Railway Company.”

On the motion of the Hon. *L. Wicks*—Bill (No. 26) intituled “An Act respecting the Training of Apprentices and providing for the Qualification of Tradesmen.”

On the motion of the Hon. *L. Wicks*—Bill (No. 27) intituled “An Act respecting Employment Agencies.”

*Mr. Laing* asked leave of the House to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance.

*Mr. Speaker* held that the request was not in order in that it was not brought up at the earliest opportunity and that there would be ample opportunity to discuss it at an early date.

*Mr. Laing* appealed from the ruling of the Chair.

The House divided.

The ruling of the Chair was sustained on the following division:—

### YEAS—14.

#### Messieurs

<i>Gregory</i>	<i>Eddie</i>	<i>Gibbs</i>	<i>Harding</i>
<i>Brown</i>	<i>Squire</i>	<i>Laing</i>	<i>Nimsick</i>
<i>Gibson</i>	<i>Gargrave</i>	<i>Strachan</i>	<i>Winch</i>
<i>Segur</i>	<i>Howard</i>		

### NAYS—29.

#### Messieurs

<i>Giovando</i>	<i>Price</i>	<i>Black</i>	<i>Matthew</i>
<i>Uphill</i>	<i>Parker</i>	<i>Bate</i>	<i>Bruch</i>
<i>Webster</i>	<i>Arsens, Mrs.</i>	<i>Tomlinson</i>	<i>Chetwynd</i>
<i>Turner</i>	<i>Williston</i>	<i>Tisdalle</i>	<i>Kiernan</i>
<i>Chant</i>	<i>Sommers</i>	<i>Richter</i>	<i>Martin</i>
<i>Shelford</i>	<i>Bennett</i>	<i>Newton</i>	<i>Gaglardi</i>
<i>Shantz</i>	<i>Bonner</i>	<i>Moxham</i>	<i>Wicks</i>
<i>Reid</i>			

### PAIR:

#### Messieurs

*Haggen*

*Corbett*

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.

During the debate, the Hon. *R. E. Sommers* (on behalf of the Hon. the Minister of Finance) tabled the following agreements:—

An agreement made the 14th day of January, 1955, between Her Majesty the Queen in right of the Province of British Columbia, as represented by the Minister of Finance, and Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation.

An agreement made the 17th day of September, 1954, between Her Majesty the Queen in right of the Province of British Columbia, as represented by the Minister of Finance, and Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation.

An agreement made the 23rd day of August, 1954, between Her Majesty the Queen in right of the Province of British Columbia, as therein represented by the Minister of Finance, and Northwest Power Industries Limited.

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

The Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett* moved, seconded by the Hon. *R. G. Williston*,—

That whereas the ninth decennial census of Canada, conducted in 1951, showed that the population of the Province had increased from 817,861 in 1941 to 1,165,210 in 1951:

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

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

And whereas in each Session of this Parliament a Special Committee, consisting of ten members of the Legislature, has been appointed to consider certain matters as herein-after set out, which said Committee's appointment terminated with the conclusion of the last Session:

Therefore be it Resolved, That a Special Committee, consisting of eleven members of the Legislature, be appointed to consider the desirability of amending section 14 and Schedule C of the "Constitution Act," being chapter 65 of the "Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1948," and to make recommendations in respect thereof to this Legislature as to the desirability of increasing the number of members to be elected to the Legislature and as to the distribution of the members amongst the electoral districts of the Province:

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

And be it further Resolved, That the Committee be composed of the Hon. *W. D. Black* and Messrs. *Parker, Bate, Chant, Reid, Shelford, Turner, Nimsick, Moore, Laing, and Giovando*.

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

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

How much of the \$50,000 appropriated for beautification of the capital city has actually been spent?

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

"It is understood that the City of Victoria has expended approximately \$22,350 to date."

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

1. Who are the members of the Columbia River Basin Advisory Committee appointed by the Government?
2. How many meetings of this Committee have been held?
3. Was this Committee consulted before signing of the so-called Kaiser Dam agreement and, if not, why not?
4. Was the Committee called after the agreement was signed, did it approve the agreement, and what members of the Committee were present?
5. If it approved the agreement, were all present members unanimous?

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

" 1. The Hon. *R. E. Sommers*, Minister of Lands and Forests; the Hon. *W. D. Black*, Provincial Secretary; the Hon. *W. K. Kiernan*, Minister of Agriculture; Mr. *T. H. Crosby*, Chairman, British Columbia Power Commission; Mr. *R. G. Anderson*, Vice-President, West Kootenay Power & Light Company; Mr. *T. Ingledow*, Vice-President, British Columbia Electric Railway Company Limited; and Mr. *G. J. A. Kidd*, Project Engineer, Department of Lands and Forests (Secretary).

" 2. Six.

" 3. Committee was advised negotiations were proceeding and informed of bases of discussion as early as May 19th, 1954.

" 4. Committee endorsed agreement by motion at meeting on November 26th, 1954, with the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*, the Hon. *W. K. Kiernan*, the Hon. *W. D. Black*, Messrs. *T. H. Crosby*, *R. G. Anderson*, *G. J. A. Kidd*, and *J. H. Steede* (Chief Engineer, British Columbia Electric Railway Company, and alternate for Mr. *Ingledow*) in attendance.

" 5. No; one member voted contrary to the motion."

Mr. *Winch* asked the Hon. the Minister of Municipal Affairs the following questions:—

1. What is the total amount of loans made under provisions of the "Municipal Improvements Assistance Enabling Act," chapter 230, "Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1948"?
2. What amount of loans are outstanding, if any?
3. (a) What was the date of the latest loan made, (b) to whom was it made, and (c) for what purpose was it made?
4. Are provisions of the Act still operative?

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

" 1. \$2,114,757.70.

" 2. \$784,870.94.

" 3. (a) June 30th, 1941, (b) City of Armstrong, and (c) replacements of and extensions to waterworks system.

" 4. Yes."

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

Has any decision been reached by the Executive Council on the appeal against the application for a forest management licence by Empire Mills Limited in the Squamish area?

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

"Actions of the Executive Council do not come under the jurisdiction of my Department."

Mr. *Howard* asked the Hon. the Minister of Labour the following questions:—

1. Since January 1st, 1953, has the Minister appointed any arbitrators or Arbitration Board chairmen to deal with grievances or disputes arising out of collective agreements between employers and unions?

2. If so, (a) how many have been appointed; (b) what are the names, addresses, and occupations of the respective appointees; (c) what was the date of appointment of each appointee; (d) who were the parties to the collective agreements under which the disputes or grievances arose for which the respective appointees were appointed; and (e) which of the disputes were settled in favour of the employer and which ones were settled in favour of the union?

3. Does the Minister maintain a panel of names from which to choose such arbitrators or Arbitration Board chairmen?

4. If the answer to No. 3 is yes, what method of selection was used in establishing such a panel?

5. If the answer to No. 3 is no, what method was used in selecting the appointees referred to in No. 1, if any were so appointed?

The Hon. *L. Wicks* replied as follows:—

“ 1. Yes.

“ 2. No record; provision for the constitution of Arbitration Boards to deal with grievances or disputes arising from collective agreements is contained in those agreements. The Minister is not required to appoint chairmen of such Boards. He does so if requested, as a matter of courtesy, when the nominees of the parties on a Board fail to agree.

“ 3. No.

“ 4. Answered by No. 3.

“ 5. Appointees are persons in whose ability, integrity, and experience the Minister has confidence.”

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

1. How many cash registers have been purchased for liquor stores, what is the cost of each, and in how many stores are they now installed?

2. Has installation of these machines resulted in a reduction of staff?

3. Have the machines disclosed shortages in stock at any stores?

4. If yes, has the cause, extent, and duration of the shortages been investigated?

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

“ 1. Fifty cash registers have been purchased at a cost of \$4,306.93 each; cash registers are now installed in eight stores and are in the course of installation in seven more.

“ 2. No.

“ 3. No.

“ 4. Answered by No. 3.”

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

1. In connection with the Whatshan slide, what was the total cost to restore service?

2. What was the cost (a) of earth-removal, (b) reconstruction of plant, and (c) purchase of power and alternate facilities to maintain service?

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

“ 1 and 2. The British Columbia Power Commission does not come under jurisdiction of my Department.”



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

Since February 24th, 1954, how many forest management licences have been granted in the Province, to whom granted, and what is the acreage in each case?

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

“Six forest management licences, plus one extension to an existing management licence, have been granted in the Province since February 24th, 1954, as follows:—

Licence Number.	Licensee.	Productive Area (Acres).
15	Oliver Sawmills Limited .....	90,837
16	Pondosa Pine Lumber Company Limited .....	115,570
17	Evans Products Company Limited .....	46,479
18	Clearwater Timber Products Limited .....	155,500
19	Tahsis Company Limited .....	190,910
20	MacMillan & Bloedel Limited .....	204,291
10	Timberland Development Company Limited (extension to licence awarded November 7th, 1951) .....	24,359 ”

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

1. Since April, 1954, what surveys have been undertaken by the British Columbia Power Commission on the proposal to dam Buttle Lake or to seek alternative sources of power on Campbell River?

2. On what specific date did these surveys commence, how many men were engaged, and what has been expended to December 31st, 1954?

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

“1 and 2. The British Columbia Power Commission does not come under the jurisdiction of my Department.”

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.59 p.m.

## Monday, January 31st, 1955.

HALF-PAST EIGHT O'CLOCK P.M.

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

The debate continued.

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

*Resolved*, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 2 o'clock p.m. to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 10.21 p.m.