

JOURNALS
OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

SESSION 1956

Tuesday, January 17th, 1956.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

This being the first day of the fourth 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 FRANK MACKENZIE ROSS, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, dated the 1st day of November, 1955.

Prayers by the Rev. *Alvin C. Hamill*.

Mr. Speaker reported to the House that he had received the declaration of resignation of James Gordon Gibson, member representing the Electoral District of Lillooet, on March 10th, 1955.

Ordered, That pursuant to the Statute in such case made and provided, an entry of the declaration so delivered to Mr. Speaker be made in the Journals of the House.

The letter of the Deputy Provincial Secretary and the certificate of the Chief Electoral Officer of the result of the by-election of a member to represent the Electoral District of Lillooet were read, as follows:—

“ Re By-election, September 12th, 1955, Lillooet Electoral District.

“ OFFICE OF DEPUTY PROVINCIAL SECRETARY,

“ VICTORIA, B.C., October 5th, 1955.

“ *E. K. DeBeck, Esq.,*

“ *Clerk of the Legislative Assembly,*

“ *Buildings.*

“ SIR,—I enclose herewith certified copy of the certificate of Mr. F. Hurley, Chief Electoral Officer, respecting the election of *Donald Frederick Robinson* to represent the Lillooet Electoral District in the Legislative Assembly.

“ Yours very truly,

“ R. A. PENNINGTON,
“ *Deputy Provincial Secretary.*”

(ENCLOSURE.)

“ October 5th, 1955.

“ *R. A. Pennington, Esq., O.B.E.,*
 “ *Deputy Provincial Secretary,*
 “ *Buildings.*

“ *Re By-election, Lillooet Electoral District, September 12th, 1955.*

“ SIR,—Whereas a vacancy occurred in the Legislative Assembly by reason of the resignation on the tenth day of March, 1955, of James Gordon Gibson, member for the Lillooet Electoral District:

“ And whereas on the ninth day of August, 1955, Writ for the election of a member to represent said district was duly issued to the Returning Officer of the said district:

“ Now I do hereby certify that the said Writ was returned by the Returning Officer with her certificate, dated September 21st, endorsed thereon that the voters of Lillooet Electoral District had chosen *Donald Frederick Robinson* to represent them in the Legislative Assembly.

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

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

That the letter of the Deputy Provincial Secretary and the certificate of the Chief Electoral Officer of the result of the by-election of a member to represent the Electoral District of Lillooet be entered upon the Journals of the House.

Mr. *Donald Frederick Robinson*, having been duly sworn, was introduced by the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett* and the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*, and took his seat.

His Honour FRANK MACKENZIE ROSS, 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 Fourth Session of the Twenty-fourth Parliament of British Columbia, and wish to express my pleasure in meeting with you for the first time as Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia and in being associated with you in the discharge of your most important duties as members of the Legislative Assembly.

It is my earnest hope that, with the advice of my Ministers and with your support, I may so serve during the term of my office that the welfare of my people may be further advanced.

Since last you met, British Columbia has been favoured with a visit from Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal. This charming lady endeared herself to all during this, her first, visit to British Columbia.

I wish to express my profound regrets that death has removed a valued counsellor and a representative of my people in the person of Mr. George Churchill Moxham, member for the Vancouver Centre constituency.

At the last Session of the Legislature the member for Lillooet submitted his resignation to the Speaker, following which a by-election was held to fill the vacancy. I take this opportunity of congratulating Mr. Donald Frederick Robinson upon his election to represent that constituency. It is my sincere hope that he will enjoy serving the public, and I feel sure much benefit will be derived from the counsel he has to offer.

It is pleasing to note that both the northern and southern extensions of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway are progressing according to the plans outlined at the last Session of the Legislature.

The railway extension from Squamish to Greater Vancouver should be completed this year, and the northern extension from Prince George to the Peace River Country, with favourable weather conditions, should be in operation in 1957.

The Prime Minister of my Government, other Ministers, and senior officials attended a total of not less than twelve conferences with the Government of Canada during 1955.

The financial policy pursued during the last three years has enabled my Government to effect a considerable reduction in the direct public debt and, concurrently, a most substantial related decrease in debt charges payable.

The resultant improvement in the Provincial credit is such to commend itself highly to all members of the Legislature.

During the past year the general prosperity of the Province has reached unprecedented heights, and my Government expects the year 1956 will see that record equalled or surpassed.

Since you last met, my Government has been fortunate in securing as Chairman of the Public Utilities Commission the services of the eminent economist Dr. Henry F. Angus, and also Mr. A. B. Jackson, who was appointed a member of that Commission.

Two matters of importance to the Province continue to receive the attention of Royal Commissions of Inquiry—namely, the inquiry into the disposition of Doukhobor lands and, secondly, the inquiry into matters affecting our forest resources. A third inquiry, that into the Vancouver City Police Force, requested by the Police Commission of that city appears to be almost concluded.

At the last Session it was deemed advisable to divide the Department of Public Works into two departments—one to be known as the Department of Highways and the other the Department of Public Works. Subsequently, a new Minister of the Crown has been appointed in the person of the Honourable William N. Chant to take the portfolio of the Minister of Public Works, and the Honourable Philip A. Gaglardi became the first Minister of Highways.

The plans made by my Government for the improvement of the facilities of the Mental Health Services two years ago have been implemented.

Within the next few weeks the Mental Health Centre, comprising a day-hospital and an enlarged modern Child Guidance Clinic Centre, will be completed, while additions are about to be made to the School for Mental Defectives and the Home for the Aged, Port Coquitlam.

Provision for further facilities required in dealing with mental illness will be made this year.

Further reform of correctional institutions will take place with construction this fiscal year of a new Industrial School for Girls.

The year 1958 marks the one hundredth anniversary of the famous gold-rush to the Fraser River which led to the organization of the Mainland Colony of British Columbia, an event which had such far-reaching implications for all British territory west of the Rocky Mountains.

My Government has already established an advisory British Columbia Centennial Committee, and legislation making provision for the proper commemoration of this significant event will be placed before you.

Mindful of the improvement and beautification of the capital of British Columbia, my Government intends to establish a Capital Improvement District Commission, whose objects shall be the orderly development of the Provincial capital and the surrounding districts in co-operation with the municipalities involved.

My Government fully realizes the importance of agriculture to the economy of British Columbia and is therefore greatly expanding the scope and size of the Department of Agriculture.

Legislation will be placed before you to bring into effect the recommendations presented by Mr. Justice Clyne in his report on the Royal Commission inquiring into the matter of the distribution of milk.

You will be asked to consider measures intended to widen the scope of the activities of the Farmers' and Women's Institutes.

Legislation will be placed before you to institute a Potato-warehouse Construction Assistance Act, which will enable the Provincial Government to assist co-operatives to erect potato-warehouses in British Columbia.

An amendment to the "Amusements Tax Act" will be introduced.

Consideration will be given to the problem of providing sewage-disposal in the Greater Vancouver area.

Cognizance has been taken of the need to make accessible additional stands of hitherto undeveloped Crown timber for early utilization, and provision will be made for a greatly augmented programme of forest access roads.

During this year my Government plans the largest highway programme in the history of British Columbia, with the building of roads to make more accessible the natural resources of the Province.

This year an increased effort will be made particularly in the construction of the Trans-Canada, the Cariboo, the Southern and Northern Trans-Provincial Highways.

It is pleasing to know that the work being done under the Crown corporation for toll bridges is progressing very favourably, with bridges under construction in Vancouver at Oak Street to replace the old Marpole Bridge, the Middle Arm, the Second Narrows across Burrard Inlet, as well as bridges at Nelson, Agassiz-Rosedale, and the Okanagan Lake bridge.

In all of the works programmes, my Government is conscious of the need of creating as much employment as possible in the winter months, and contracts have been let accordingly.

An Act will be placed before you to permit further extended activities of the British Columbia Power Commission.

My Government will introduce legislation designed to promote the observance of fair treatment to all men and women in respect of their employment.

You will be asked to consider legislation under the "Annual Holidays Act."

Legislation will be introduced which will make it possible for School Boards and my Government to assist financially the Association for Retarded Children of British Columbia.

Legislation affecting branches of public service of a character designed to improve existing Acts will be placed 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.

The Public Accounts will be laid before you, which are presented for the first time in a manner to enable a more objective and simplified study.

Reports of various departments of my Government will be laid 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.

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

On the motion of the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*, Bill (No. 1) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Equal Guardianship of Infants 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.

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

F. M. Ross,
Lieutenant-Governor.

The Lieutenant-Governor transmits herewith a Bill intituled "An Act to provide for the Celebration of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Establishment of the Mainland Colony of British Columbia," and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
January 17th, 1956.

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. 2) intituled "An Act to provide for the Celebration of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Establishment of the Mainland Colony of British Columbia," 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 after to-day.

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, the Hon. W. N. Chant, and Messrs. Corbett, Webster, and Laing.

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

That this House expresses its sincere regret at the death of George Churchill Moxham, member for the Electoral District of Vancouver Centre, and that the Clerk do convey to Mrs. Moxham and the family of the late member the condolences and sincere sympathy of the members of the Legislative Assembly.

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

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 Report of the Business done in pursuance of the "Teachers' Pensions Act" during the Period January 1st, 1954, to December 31st, 1954.

The Report of the Business done in pursuance of the "Civil Service Superannuation Act" during the Fiscal Year 1954-55.

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

The Forty-fourth Annual Report of the Superintendent of Insurance for the Year ended December 31st, 1954.

The Thirty-third Annual Report of the Fire Marshal for the Year ended December 31st, 1954.

The Annual Report of the Motor-vehicle Branch for the Year 1954.

The Report of the Provincial Game Commission for the Year ended December 31st, 1954.

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, 1954.

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

Public Accounts of the Province of British Columbia for the Fiscal Year ended March 31st, 1955.

The Thirteenth Annual Report of the Purchasing Commission covering the Period January 1st, 1955, to December 31st, 1955.

Return submitted in accordance with Section 44 (2) of the "Revenue Act," R.S.B.C. 1948, of Refunds and Remissions made under Section 44 (1) of the "Revenue Act," R.S.B.C. 1948, during the Calendar Year 1955.

Return submitted in accordance with Section 88 (4) of the "Taxation Act," R.S.B.C. 1948, of Refunds and Remissions made under Section 88 (1), (2), and (3) of the "Taxation Act," R.S.B.C. 1948, during the Calendar Year 1955.

Statement of Unclaimed Money Deposits, pursuant to the "Unclaimed Money Deposits Act," Chapter 348, "Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1948," for the Fiscal Year ended March 31st, 1955.

The First Annual Report of the Operations of the Office of the Assessment Commissioner for the Fiscal Year ended March 31st, 1955.

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

The Annual Report of the Department of Public Works for the Fiscal Year ended March 31st, 1955.

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

The Annual Report of the Department of Labour of the Province for the Year 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, 1955.

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

The Seventh Annual Report of the B.C. Hospital Insurance Service covering the Calendar Year 1955.

The Annual Report of the Department of Health and Welfare (Health Branch) for the Year ended December 31st, 1955.

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, 1955.

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

And then the House adjourned at 3.37 p.m.

Wednesday, January 18th, 1956.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *A. Higgins*.

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. *Bruch* (Esquimalt) moved, seconded by Mr. *Robinson* (Lillooet),—

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 following papers were presented:—

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

Report of the Honourable Mr. Justice J. V. Clyne, dated October 17th, 1955, appointed a sole Commissioner under the provisions of the "Public Inquiries Act" by Order in Council No. 2008, approved by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in Council on September 3rd, 1954, to inquire into matters set forth in the said Minute of Council.

Interim Report of His Honour Judge Arthur Edward Lord, dated August 25th, 1955, appointed a sole Commissioner under the provisions of the "Doukhobor Lands Allotment Inquiry Act" by Order in Council No. 2028, approved by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in Council on September 8th, 1954, to inquire into matters set forth in the said Minute of Council relative to Doukhobor lands.

Report of His Honour Judge Lawrence Arnold Hanna, dated June 20th, 1955, appointed a Commissioner under the provisions of the "Public Inquiries Act" by Order in Council No. 716, approved by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in Council on March 29th, 1955, to inquire into matters set forth in the said Minute of Council relative to the amount of damage, if any, which will be suffered by reason of the construction of a logging-road by the Comox Logging and Railway Company through Lots 11 and 12, Plan 8255, being a subdivision of Lot 1476, Sayward District, and the amount of costs which should be payable to the owners of lots in the subdivision.

Return submitted in accordance with the provisions of section 199 of the "Provincial Elections Act, 1953," chapter 5 of the Statutes of British Columbia, 1953 (Second Session), being Order in Council No. 2423, approved by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in Council on October 11th, 1955.

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

The Fifty-third Annual Report of the Vancouver General Hospital for the Year 1954.

By leave of the House, the following notices of questions standing in the name of Mr. *Howard* were withdrawn:—

1. For the general election of June 9th, 1955, how many registered voters, if any, were there in each of the electoral districts affected by the said election?

2. Since that date (a) how many voters, if any, have been added to the voters list in each electoral district, and (b) how many voters, if any, have been removed from the voters list in each electoral district?

1. Relative to the Lillooet by-election of September 12th, 1955, have any returns been made pursuant to section 174 of the "Provincial Elections Act"?

2. What were the total election expenses listed by the Social Credit, C.C.F., Liberal, and Conservative candidates respectively, and upon what data was each return filed?

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

And then the House adjourned at 4.17 p.m.

Thursday, January 19th, 1956.

HALF-PAST TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Very Rev. *Bryan Whitlow*.

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.

By leave of the House, the following notice of motion standing on the Order Paper in the name of Mr. *Laing* was withdrawn:—

That copy of instructions sent to all Assessors in 1955 by the Minister of Finance by which would be implemented his assurance to the House: "Not one old-age pensioner will have to pay a single penny of additional taxes as a result of reassessment. Instructions have already gone forward to the Assessors to this effect."

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

1. What was the (a) number of inmates and (b) number of employees as at December 1st in each year since 1949 at Oakalla Gaol?
2. At same dates what was the total payroll of employees?

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

"1. (a) Number of inmates: 1949, 785; 1950, 720; 1951, 640; 1952, 773; 1953, 923; 1954, 910; and 1955, 967. (b) Number of employees: 1949, 120; 1950, 128; 1951, 129; 1952, 173; 1953, 284; 1954, 304; and 1955, 324.

"2. Amount monthly: 1949, \$27,537.95; 1950, \$24,398.04; 1951, \$31,212.34; 1952, \$44,104.68; 1953, \$65,044.67; 1954, \$74,314.73; and 1955, \$82,840.96."

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.40 p.m.

Friday, January 20th, 1956.

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *E. G. Thompson*.

Mr. Speaker made the following statement:—

Honourable Members,—Yesterday in the debate on the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the Session, the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition referred to a statutory declaration which, he stated, according to the *Vancouver Herald*, was placed before the Hon. the Attorney-General on

December 17th, 1955, by one David Sturdy. He referred to the subject-matter of the statutory declaration being *sub judice*. From his refusal to discuss the details of the case and his reference to the Minister of Lands and Forests, it is inferred that the matter before the Court is an action by the Minister against the said David Sturdy. He called upon the Attorney-General to explain his (the Attorney-General's) position in the matter to the House. The above may not be the exact words used by the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition, but, I believe, gives the essential gist.

There was considerable misunderstanding in the House as to how this matter would be regarded by myself.

I would allow a statement to be made by the Attorney-General or in his behalf, but within very strict limitations, following the principle that a matter which is before a Court or tribunal having judicial powers may not be discussed in the House. For instance, he might say he did nothing, but he could not say why he did nothing if, directly or indirectly, such a statement indicated an opinion as to the merits or demerits of the case before the Court. The Attorney-General would be granted no right or privilege in this matter or any other matter that would not be granted to any other member of the House, and statements may be made by any member with the same strict limitations.

The principle that matters which are *sub judice* may not be mentioned in debate is of long standing. *May*, 15th edition, page 380, states: "*Matters pending Judicial Decisions*.—A matter, whilst under adjudication by a Court of law, should not be brought before the House by a motion or otherwise. This rule does not apply to Bills."

And again at page 437: "Matters awaiting the adjudication of a Court of law should not be brought forward in debate (except by means of a Bill)."

The principle has been followed by Legislatures throughout the Commonwealth—Legislatures which, like ours, are based on the parliamentary practices of the British Houses of Parliament. For instance, in New South Wales in 1932, the late Sir Daniel Levy, then Speaker, ruled that it was "not for the Speaker to microscopically sift the relevant from the irrelevant evidence, but to liberally apply the *sub judice* rule in such a way as to prevent the mischief which that rule was intended to obviate." (*Journal of the Table*, Vol. 23/69.)

There is nothing mysterious about the words "*sub judice*." A matter is *sub judice* when that matter is pending before a tribunal having judicial powers. The reason for the rule that matters *sub judice* may not be referred to in debate or upon a motion is twofold. In the first place, it might be inferred that a breach of this rule would be not only a grave discourtesy to the Court, but also might be considered an improper usurpation of the powers of the Court or an attempt to influence the Court—an attempt of the Legislature to influence that very distinct and parallel part of government, namely, the judiciary. In the second place, it might prejudice that sacred right of Her Majesty's subjects to a fair trial before the proper tribunal.

Administration of justice is in no way impeded by the *sub judice* rule as it does not preclude other Court action, whether civil or criminal.

This ruling will be entered upon the Journals of this House. I trust you will observe it carefully.

As for the suggestion that public interest is more important than the rights of two parties to a lawsuit, although I agree with that principle, it does not seem to me that the issue in this matter is between public interest and purely private rights. There is another very important and equally respected corner-stone upon which our system of government rests and that is the liberty of the subject, and surely a subject cannot be said to have that liberty of which I speak without having, at the same time, protection against what may be found by a Judge to be defamatory statements. I am supported in this statement by what was said by Lord Atkin on behalf of the Privy Council as

reported in 1935, Volume I, Western Weekly Reports, at page 3. For that reason it has been a long-standing rule in all Legislatures of the Commonwealth that while such matters as these are pending before a judicial tribunal, no discussion can take place in the Legislature.

T. J. IRWIN, *Speaker*.

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

The debate continued.

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

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

1. During 1955 did an interdepartmental or Governmental committee make an inquiry into the operation or administration into any of the offices coming under the jurisdiction of the Chief Electoral Officer and, if so, into which offices did the committee make the inquiry?

2. What was the cost of this inquiry?

3. What report did this committee make as a result of this inquiry?

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

“1. Yes; under the direction of the Civil Service Commission, a survey was made of the Victoria and Vancouver offices only; in those areas where the Government Agent also holds the appointment as Registrar of Voters, a general survey of the Government Agent's comprehensive duties was made.

“2. No cost other than normal travelling expenses incurred by the Government employees undertaking the survey.

“3. The report of the survey team is presently under consideration.”

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

1. For the general election of June 9th, 1953, how many registered voters, if any, were there in each of the electoral districts affected by the said election?

2. Since that date (a) how many voters, if any, have been added to the voters list in each electoral district, and (b) how many voters, if any, have been removed from the voters list in each electoral district?

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

“1. Alberni, 9,274; Atlin, 1,488; Burnaby, 39,867; Cariboo, 7,217; Chilliwack, 18,963; Columbia, 2,805; Comox, 20,556; Cowichan-Newcastle, 13,094; Cranbrook, 8,476; Delta, 44,857; Dewdney, 27,451; Esquimalt, 12,386; Fernie, 4,305; Fort George, 9,467; Grand Forks-Greenwood, 2,467; Kamloops, 10,316; Kaslo-Slocan, 3,816; Lillooet, 5,453; Mackenzie, 15,406; Nanaimo and The Islands, 13,237; Nelson-Creston, 10,465; New Westminster, 19,588; North Okanagan, 11,505; North Vancouver, 30,210; Oak Bay, 10,200; Omineca, 5,018; Peace River, 7,586; Prince Rupert, 8,303; Revelstoke, 3,572; Rossland-Trail, 14,346; Saanich, 22,868; Salmon Arm, 5,229; Similkameen, 13,453; Skeena, 6,778; South Okanagan, 14,773; Vancouver-Burrard, 53,412; Vancouver Centre, 41,323; Vancouver East, 70,155; Vancouver-Point Grey, 82,257; Victoria City, 34,101; Yale, 3,963; total registered voters, 740,006.

“2. This information is not readily available; although the Registrars of Voters throughout the Province could furnish a return of the number of persons who were

struck off the list for non-voting and the number removed through death, the number of new registrations is not maintained separately; further, since the registration of 1953, many liquor plebiscites have been held; in the polling divisions where such plebiscites have been held, voters lists have been revised and brought up to date; this would further complicate the situation because of new registrations, removals, and changes of address thus involved."

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 2.30 o'clock p.m. on Monday next.

And then the House adjourned at 5.44 p.m.

Monday, January 23rd, 1956.

HALF-PAST TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Very Rev. *G. Penfold*.

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

The Hon. *W. R. T. Chetwynd* (Minister of Fisheries) presented the Annual Report of the Provincial Department of Fisheries for the Year ended December 31st, 1954.

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

1. How much money has been placed in the Game Conservation Fund since its inception?
2. Have any moneys been expended from the Fund?
3. If so, (a) for what purposes and (b) what amount for each purpose?
4. What amount is in the Fund at the present time?

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

" 1. \$196,798.01.

" 2. Yes.

" 3. (a) and (b):—

	Expended.	Total Authorized Expenditure.
Libby Dam-Mica Creek project.....	\$936.50	\$1,000.00
Frobisher survey	17,284.83	20,220.00
Coarse-fish eradication, Horseshoe, Deer, and Allison Lakes	10,079.51	12,900.00
Mission Creek fishway (Okanagan)	145.60	7,500.00

" 4. \$168,351.57."

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

1. When will the 2,000-acre development at the University of British Columbia be placed on the market?
2. How many homes is it expected will be built on this 2,000 acres?
3. What is the anticipated range in price of such lots?
4. What building restrictions are to be placed in the area?

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

“ 1, 2, 3, and 4. Resurvey of master plan of University Endowment Lands is currently in process; decisions will be made following receipt and study of the report.”

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.55 p.m.

Tuesday, January 24th, 1956.

HALF-PAST TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. Major *Milley*.

The letter of the Deputy Provincial Secretary and the certificate of the Chief Electoral Officer of the result of the by-election of a member to represent the Vancouver Centre Electoral District were read, as follows:—

“ Re By-election, January 9th, 1956, Vancouver Centre Electoral District.

“ OFFICE OF DEPUTY PROVINCIAL SECRETARY,

“ VICTORIA, B.C., January 23rd, 1956.

“ E. K. DeBeck, Esq.,

“ Clerk of the Legislative Assembly,

“ Parliament Buildings.

“ SIR,—I enclose herewith certified copy of the certificate of Mr. F. Hurley, Chief Electoral Officer, respecting the election of Leslie Raymond Peterson to represent the Vancouver Centre Electoral District in the Legislative Assembly.

“ Yours very truly,

“ R. A. PENNINGTON,

“ Deputy Provincial Secretary.”

(ENCLOSURE.)

“ R. A. Pennington, Esq., O.B.E.,

“ Deputy Provincial Secretary,

“ Buildings.

“ Re By-election, Vancouver Centre Electoral District, January 9th, 1956.

“ SIR,—Whereas a vacancy occurred in the Legislative Assembly by reason of the death of George Churchill Moxham, a member for Vancouver Centre Electoral District:

“And whereas on the seventh day of December, 1955, Writ for the election of a member to represent said district was duly issued to the Returning Officer of the said district:

“Now I do hereby certify that the said Writ was returned by the Returning Officer with her certificate, dated January 23rd, endorsed thereon, that the voters of Vancouver Centre Electoral District had chosen *Leslie Raymond Peterson* to represent them in the Legislative Assembly.

“F. HURLEY,
“Chief Electoral Officer.”

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

That the letter of the Deputy Provincial Secretary and the certificate of the Chief Electoral Officer of the election of a member to represent the Vancouver Centre Electoral District be entered upon the Journals of the House.

Mr. *Leslie Raymond Peterson*, having been duly sworn, was introduced by the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett* and the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*, and took his seat.

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. *Segur*, 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 17th instant, as follows:—

REPORT.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,

January 24th, 1956.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Special Committee appointed on the 17th 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. *Matthew* (Convener), *Corbett*, *Peterson*, *Price*, *Reid*, *Shelford*, *Tisdalle*, the Hon. *W. D. Black*, the Hon. *W. K. Kiernan*, the Hon. *W. N. Chant*, Messrs. *Turner*, *Webster*, *Howard*, *Eddie*, *Brown*, *Gregory*, and *Giovando*.

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

MINING AND RAILWAYS.—Messrs. *Reid* (Convener), *Bate*, *Matthew*, *Parker*, *Peterson*, *Robinson*, *Shantz*, *Tomlinson*, the Hon. *L. Wicks*, the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*, Messrs. *Nimsick*, *Segur*, *Calder*, *Haggen*, *Brown*, *Laing*, and *Uphill*.

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

MUNICIPAL MATTERS.—Messrs. *Tomlinson* (Convener), *Bate*, *Bruch*, *Matthew*, *Newton*, *Peterson*, *Richter*, the Hon. *W. K. Kiernan*, the Hon. *L. Wicks*, the Hon. *R. G. Williston*, Messrs. *Nimsick*, *Squire*, *Howard*, *Moore*, *Gibbs*, *Gregory*, *Uphill*, and *Giovando*.

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

LABOUR.—Messrs. *Bruch* (Convener), *Corbett*, *Matthew*, *Parker*, *Robinson*, *Shelford*, *Tomlinson*, the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*, the Hon. *P. A. Gaglardi*, the Hon. *W. N. Chant*, Messrs. *Strachan*, *Moore*, *Squire*, *Eddie*, *Brown*, *Gregory*, and *Uphill*.

SOCIAL WELFARE AND EDUCATION.—Messrs. *Parker* (Convener), *Bruch*, *Robinson*, Mrs. *Arsens*, the Hon. *W. D. Black*, the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*, the Hon. *E. C. F. Martin*, the Hon. *R. E. Sommers*, the Hon. *L. Wicks*, the Hon. *R. G. Williston*, Messrs. *Webster*, *Moore*, *Gargrave*, *Winch*, *Brown*, *Gibbs*, 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. Speaker directed that the statement made by him yesterday be entered upon the Journals of the House, as follows:—

Honourable Members,—The honourable member for Mackenzie has mentioned the subject of forestry. In view of the fact that this natural resource is under the consideration of a Commission at the present time, I would suggest that you deal with this subject as little as possible.

It might well be that the Commissioner could say—although I don't think that the present Commissioner would do so—that if we are going to discuss this matter on the floor of the House, there is little object in his pursuing the subject. Again, and this is important, comment coming from the floor of the House could affect the evidence being laid before the Commissioner and that would be most unfortunate.

Technically, this matter, in view of the fact that it is in the hands of a Commission, could be regarded as *sub judice* and I would ask you to very carefully regard this aspect of discussion of our forestry policy.

Part of our system of government is that the Legislature exists for the purpose of seeing that the affairs of the Province are properly operated and administered. To that end we appoint committees and commissions, and it would be obviously foolish to upset the work of a commission appointed by this House by unrestrained debate. It might even be termed an avoidance of your responsibilities as members of the Legislative Assembly.

Wherever this system of government operates, it is the custom to refrain from discussion of the subject-matter before a commission. In fact, in Great Britain the matter is strictly avoided in all respects.

T. J. IRWIN, *Speaker*.

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

1. How many motor-vehicles were, on any day in 1955 for which records are conveniently available, registered on Vancouver Island?
2. How many motor-vehicles were, on the same day, registered in British Columbia, exclusive of Vancouver Island?

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

“1 and 2. Totals as at December 31st, 1955: Passenger motor-vehicles—total for Vancouver Island, 57,391; total for balance of Province, 241,005; total passengers for Province of British Columbia, 298,396. Commercial motor-vehicles—total for Vancouver Island, 17,149; total for balance of Province, 83,110; total commercials for Province of British Columbia, 100,259. Passenger and commercial motor-vehicles—total for Vancouver Island, 74,540; total for balance of Province, 324,115; total motor-vehicles for Province of British Columbia, 398,655.”

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

1. Since January 1st, 1953, has the Home for the Aged in Terrace been painted, and has the painting been completed?
2. If so, how much was expended for painting for the years 1953, 1954, and 1955 respectively?
3. Was any of this painting done on a day-labour basis and, if so, how much was expended for (a) labour and (b) materials?
4. For the years 1953, 1954, and 1955 respectively, what arrangements were made relative to the painting and with whom were the arrangements made?

The Hon. *W. N. Chant* replied as follows:—

- “1. Yes; the painting is now complete.
- “2. 1953, \$6,232.50; 1954, \$1,582.29; and 1955, \$4,200.
- “3. In 1953 the painting was done on a day-labour basis, (a) \$1,182.29 and (b) approximately \$400.
- “4. 1953, contract with Coastal Painters Limited, Terrace, B.C., \$6,232.50; 1954, painting done on a day-labour basis, \$1,582.29; and 1955, contract was let with Columbia Painting Company, Terrace, B.C., for labour; amount, \$3,570; material supplied by the Government; amount, approximately \$630.”

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.55 p.m.

Wednesday, January 25th, 1956.

HALF-PAST TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *C. B. Smith*.

Mr. *Matthew* presented the petition of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled “An Act respecting Canadian Pacific Railway Company.”

Mr. *Price* presented the petition of the City of Vancouver for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Vancouver Charter.’”

Mr. *Richter* presented the petition of Reginald Hook, Norman Ferriere, Ernest Tratch, Athole Black, George Sheline, Robert Burns, Neil MacDonald, Marvin Johnson, Alfred E. Perry, Malcolm Grant, and Morrison Cranston, all of the City of Kamloops, Province of British Columbia, for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled “An Act to incorporate the Kamloops Exhibition Association.”

Mr. *Matthew* presented the petition of Cecil Walter Goodrich, George Henry Biddle, Samuel Garvin, Stephen Raymer, Alfred Molineux Lester, Robert Pollock Bingham, Robert Brade, James Miller McNab, and Francis Drewe Pratt, all of the Province of British Columbia, for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled "An Act to incorporate the North West Life Assurance Company."

Mr. *Price* presented the petition of John R. Lakes, as duly appointed agent of the British Columbia and Northwestern States Command of the Canadian Legion of the British Empire Service League, for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled "An Act respecting the British Columbia and Northwestern States Command and Branches of the Canadian Legion of the British Empire Service League."

On the motion of the Hon. *W. D. Black*, Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act respecting the Adoption of a Floral Emblem for the Province of British Columbia" was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be read a second time at the next sitting after to-day.

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

By leave of the House, the Rules were suspended and Mr. *Bate* presented the petition of Peter Dawson Gordon, Lyon H. Appleby, and John Boyd, all of the City of Vancouver, Province of British Columbia, for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled "An Act to incorporate Lansdowne Park Limited."

The Hon. *R. W. Bonner* (Attorney-General) presented the interim report of Reginald Hibbert Tupper, Q.C., dated December 31st, 1955, appointed a sole Commissioner under the provisions of the "Public Inquiries Act" by Order in Council No. 1618, approved by His Honour the Administrator in Council on June 24th, 1955, to inquire into matters set forth in the said Minute of Council, relative to the administration of the Police Department of the City of Vancouver, etc.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.48 p.m.

Thursday, January 26th, 1956.

HALF-PAST TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. Dr. *J. G. Brown*.

The following petitions were *Ordered* to be received:—

On the motion of Mr. *Matthew*—the petition of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled "An Act respecting Canadian Pacific Railway Company."

On the motion of Mr. *Price*—the petition of the City of Vancouver for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Vancouver Charter.’”

On the motion of Mr. *Richter*—the petition of Reginald Hook, Norman Ferriere, Ernest Tratch, Athole Black, George Sheline, Robert Burns, Neil MacDonald, Marvin Johnson, Alfred E. Perry, Malcolm Grant, and Morrison Cranston, all of the City of Kamloops, Province of British Columbia, for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled “An Act to incorporate the Kamloops Exhibition Association.”

On the motion of Mr. *Matthew*—the petition of Cecil Walter Goodrich, George Henry Biddle, Samuel Garvin, Stephen Raymer, Alfred Molineux Lester, Robert Pollock Bingham, Robert Brade, James Miller McNab, and Francis Drewe Pratt, all of the Province of British Columbia, for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled “An Act to incorporate the North West Life Assurance Company.”

On the motion of Mr. *Price*—the petition of John R. Lakes, as duly appointed agent of the British Columbia and Northwestern States Command of the Canadian Legion of the British Empire Service League, for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled “An Act respecting the British Columbia and Northwestern States Command and Branches of the Canadian Legion of the British Empire Service League.”

On the motion of Mr. *Bate*—the petition of Peter Dawson Gordon, Lyon H. Appleby, and John Boyd, all of the City of Vancouver, Province of British Columbia, for leave to introduce a Private Bill intituled “An Act to incorporate Lansdowne Park Limited.”

On the motion of Mr. *Howard*, Bill (No. 4) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Hours of Work Act’” was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be read a second time at the next sitting after to-day.

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

The Hon. *R. E. Sommers* (Minister of Mines) filed two returns pursuant to section 169 of the “Mineral Act.”

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.59 p.m.

Friday, January 27th, 1956.

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *W. S. Munro*.

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

On the motion of the Hon. *W. K. Kiernan*, seconded by the Hon. *L. Wicks*, it was *Ordered*,—

That this House authorize the Select Standing Committee on Agriculture to consider such matters as may be laid before it by the Advisory Board of Farmers' Institutes and to report its findings to this House.

On the motion of the Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett* (on behalf of the Hon. *R. W. Bonner*), seconded by Mr. *Webster*, it was *Ordered*,—

That Mr. *John D. T. Tisdalle* and Mr. *Bert Price* be named members of the Select Standing Committee on Municipal Matters and that Mr. *Frank X. Richter* be named a member of the Select Standing Committee on Labour.

The Hon. *W. A. C. Bennett* moved, seconded by the Hon. *W. D. Black*,—

That on Friday, January 27th, 1956, and on 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.

A debate arose.

Mr. *Brown* moved an adjournment of the debate.

The motion was negatived.

The debate on the original motion was resumed.

The motion was agreed to.

By leave of the House, the following notice of questions standing on the Order Paper in the name of Mr. *Howard* was withdrawn:—

1. During December, 1955, did the Board of Industrial Relations make any regulations exempting the operation and employees of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway Company Limited from any Provincial Statutes coming within the jurisdiction of the Board of Industrial Relations?

2. If so, (a) which Statutes was the company exempted from and (b) what reasons, other than so-called efficient administration, are there for making these exemptions?

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

1. Who are the members of the Provincial Advisory Committee on Indian Affairs and when was each appointed?

2. Is any member of the Committee from Vancouver Island and, if so, who?

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

“ 1. Ellis H. Morrow, Chairman, appointed August 31st, 1953, and Ernest Brewer, Lawrence Guichon, Edward Bolton, Capt. Charles Cates, and Chief William Scow, members, appointed December 20th, 1950.

“ 2. No.”

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

1. To what extent is the Cassiar–Stewart Road completed?

2. What has been the total cost of the above road to date?

3. Have tenders been called for all or any portion of the work to date and, if not, why not?

4. Does the Department consider construction work to date to be satisfactory?

5. Is it the intention of the Department to call for tenders for construction work to be done during 1956?

6. What companies have been engaged in the construction of this road to date and what amount has been paid to each of such companies?

7. Has the Department given consideration to the construction of a cut-off on the Cassiar–Stewart Road to Hazelton or any other point on Highway No. 16 and, if so, what is the intention of the Department?

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

“ 1. About 20 per cent to standard and about 16 per cent narrower, all on good location.

“ 2. Since the start in 1947, \$1,700,674 plus; total company expenditures not known; Government expenditures, \$1,517,957.

“ 3. No; the original road to McDame Creek was roughly built by Moccasin Mines Limited with Department assistance; when extensive improvements were needed there was no time to make detailed surveys, obtain quantities, prepare detailed specifications, and call for tenders; furthermore, the area is isolated, weather conditions, muskeg, and possible perma-frost were unpredictable and contractors would have had to protect themselves when bidding; relocations and improvements were made on a machine-rental and cost-plus for materials going into the road, and this original policy has been followed to date.

“ 4. Yes; except some construction at the start.

“ 5. Presently waiting for recommendations from our consulting engineers.

“ 6. Moccasin Mines Limited, \$113,111; Cassiar Asbestos Corporation Limited, \$143,649; Conwest Exploration Company Limited, \$50,585; McIsaac Construction Company, \$410,637; and Wade & Wells Limited, \$596,299.

“ 7. No.”

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

1. Since January 1st, 1954, have any companies been charged with violating the “Hours of Work Act”?

2. If so, (a) what were the charges in each case; (b) what are the names of the companies so charged; (c) did any of them plead guilty and, if so, which ones; (d) were any of them found not guilty and, if so, which ones; and (e) what penalty was imposed in each case where the company pleaded guilty or was found guilty?

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

“ 1. Yes.

“ 2. See Annual Report for the year ended December 31st, 1954; details for 1955 will be reported upon in the Annual Report for that year when compiled.”

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

1. On what date was Mr. Dickins appointed Workmen's Counsellor under the "Workmen's Compensation Act"?
2. What salary does he receive?
3. Since his appointment how many cases have been presented to him for counsel?
4. In how many of these cases was he successful in changing the decision of the Board, so far as the records show?
5. How many cases are currently under review?

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

- " 1. September 15th, 1953, by Order in Council.
- " 2. \$5,300 per year.
- " 3. To December 31st, 1955, 724 cases.
- " 4. The Compensation Counsellor's duties are to assist persons who have problems under the 'Workmen's Compensation Act'; he is not required to have knowledge of the final disposition of their problem.
- " 5. Approximately 550 active."

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

1. During 1955 did the Board of Industrial Relations hold a public hearing or hearings in the Queen Charlotte Islands?
2. If so, in which communities or industrial operations were the hearings held?
3. Did any organization, individual, or group of individuals, other than the Department of Labour, provide, free of charge, in whole or in part, transportation or accommodation to the said Board?
4. If so, what is the name, or names, of the organization, individual, or group of individuals who provided this transportation or accommodation?
5. Day by day, during the time that the Board left Vancouver for these Queen Charlotte Island hearings until they returned, what specific transportation and accommodation was provided by each of the organizations, individuals, or group of individuals referred to in No. 4?

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

- " 1. Yes.
- " 2. Juskatla and Aero Camps.
- " 3. No.
- " 4 and 5. Answered by No. 3."

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

1. Since March 15th, 1955, did the secretary of the Provincial Advisory Committee on Indian Affairs, Mr. Reginald Kelly, resign from his post?
2. If so, when did he resign and for what reasons?
3. Has he been replaced and, if so, (a) by whom, (b) when, (c) at what salary, and (d) what qualifications does the new secretary have with respect to Indian affairs?

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

- " 1. Yes.
- " 2. August 12th, 1955; for personal reasons.
- " 3. Yes; (a) Miss Joanna R. Wright; (b) September 1st, 1955; (c) \$3,636 per annum; and (d) Miss Wright has worked in the office of the secretary since it was established in October, 1950, and has made a thorough study of Indian affairs during the past five years. In September, 1951, the secretary was granted sick-leave and Miss

Wright carried out his duties for eleven months. Miss Wright has had considerable experience in dealing with native peoples through voluntary work done over a number of years in India. Miss Wright has been trained in public relations work, and as a naval intelligence officer during the war in the Women's Royal Naval Service she had specialized experience in correlating information and writing reports. These qualifications have been invaluable in carrying out the functions of the 'Indian Inquiry Act.' "

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 30th, 1956.

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. G. R. Easter.

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

On the motion of Mr. *Winch*, seconded by Mr. *Moore*, it was *Ordered*,—

That the Select Standing Committee on Social Welfare and Education be authorized to inquire into the operations of selected institutions supported wholly or in part by Government funds, and of matters pertaining to health, social welfare, and education, and to report to this House such findings and recommendations in respect thereof as the said Committee may deem advisable.

By leave of the House, the following notice of motion appearing in the Votes and Proceedings on Friday last in the name of the Hon. *W. D. Black* was withdrawn:—

That the Select Standing Committee on Social Welfare and Education be authorized to hear the Deputy Provincial Secretary, the Director of Mental Health Services, and the Clinical Director regarding the organization, administration, and treatment procedures of the Provincial Mental Health Services.

By leave of the House, the following notice of questions standing on the Order Paper in the name of Mr. *Turner* was withdrawn:—

1. How much, if any, has been borrowed for the purposes of the "Housing Act"?
2. If any amounts have been borrowed and used, give name of and amounts of each of the municipalities involved.

The Hon. *W. D. Black* (Minister of Municipal Affairs) presented the following papers:—

The Annual Report of the Department of Municipal Affairs for the Year ended December 31st, 1955.

The Sixteenth Annual Report of the Business done in pursuance of the “Municipal Superannuation Act” for the Year ended March 31st, 1955.

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

1. How many applications are now on a waiting-list for admission to The Woodlands School and the Homes for the Aged respectively?

2. When is it anticipated that new accommodation will be ready for use in each case?

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

“1. The Woodlands School, under 6 years, 104, and over 6 years, 185; the Homes for the Aged, 117.

“2. It is hoped that the 300-bed unit now under construction at The Woodlands School will be ready for occupation during the fall of 1956; tenders have been called for a 300-bed unit at the Home for the Aged, Port Coquitlam; it is expected that this unit will be completed by the spring of 1958.”

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 5.58 p.m.

Monday, January 30th, 1956.

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. *Gregory*, 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 10.55 p.m.