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FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1964

## *Columbia Millions Likely First Deposit*

# Opening Surprise

# B.C. BANK

# ON WAY

## *Large Venture Counters East*

By **TERRY HAMMOND**  
Colonist Legislative Reporter

The provincial government is going into the banking business and the \$275,000,000 advance payment for Columbia power may become its first deposit.

Announcement of the banking venture was the major surprise in the throne speech which yesterday opened the first session of B.C.'s 27th legislature.

After delivery of the speech Premier Bennett said his government would only be a minority shareholder in the huge venture but he indicated B.C. was one of its prime promoters.

The bank would be federally chartered and have its head office in Vancouver.

Political observers saw the move as a new ploy in the premier's battle against the concentration of Canadian financial interests in the east and were quick to link it with the cash to be paid B.C. for Columbia power upon ratification of the Columbia River Treaty.

### *Parlay Funds*

Premier Bennett said Wednesday he expected to invest the Columbia money at five per cent in order to parlay it into \$501,000,000 over the construction life of the project and the new bank was seen yesterday as part of this scheme.

The premier said the authorized capital of the new bank would be "many times" the \$50,000,000 figure put to him by reporters.

This means it would dwarf the Bank of Western Canada venture being pushed by former Bank of Canada head James Coyne. Coyne's bank would start with authorized capitalization of \$10,000,000 and plans for its development may be seriously affected by B.C.'s move.

### *Flabbergasted*

The announcement left B.C. officials of Canada's chartered banks flabbergasted.

Among the first to hear the announcement was Bennett confidante and one-time B.C. finance minister Einar Gunderson, a Canadian Bank of Commerce director who was present for the opening.

Gunderson said he was not involved in the new banking venture.

"I am not in any way connected with it," he told reporters after the House rose.

Names of the principals are still a mystery, but reports indicate the names of the backers are well known in B.C. business circles.

The premier was guarded in his comments on the venture. He said shares in the bank

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# B.C. Going Into Banking

would be made available to the people of B.C. and that the province would subscribe for an undisclosed number.

Would B.C. name bank directors?

"Directors are elected by shareholders," he replied. "The government won't run the bank."

But presumably either the premier or somebody designated by him would be a director and thereby in a position to influence investment policies.

The premier said a private bill, to be introduced by a B.C. member of parliament after the House of Commons starts sitting late next month, would be the means through which a federal charter would be sought.

## Laing Tabbed?

He declined to name the member but there was immediate speculation it could be Resources Minister Arthur Laing, a onetime leader of the B.C. Liberal Party and former MLA.

The section of the throne speech dealing with the new bank reads as follows:

"Honorable Members, I have spoken to you of our achievements and aspirations in a broad range of industrial, educational, cultural and commercial undertakings. As a further measure of encouragement to the balanced development of our economy, it is the intention of my government to support all positive measures which will make British Columbia, and our commercial capital of Vancouver in particular, a centre of Canadian finance.

"Accordingly, you will be asked at this session to authorize my government, on behalf of our citizens, to become a limited shareholder in a federally-chartered bank which will be established in this province."

## For Shares, No

An indication that Columbia project advance payments might find their way into the new bank came from the premier.

When reporters asked him if Columbia money was part of the deal, he replied, "For shares, no."

He termed the new bank as "very large" and another government source said it will be

one of the biggest in the country.

B.C. is expected to transfer most of its accounts to the new financial house and it would be expected to attract patronage from private supporters of the government and firms doing business with the province.

## Socialist Venture

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan was nonplussed by the surprise move.

"This might be considered a socialist banking venture," he said with a grin.

Mr. Strachan said that when the announcement came he was sitting near Mr. Gunderson and told him "you'd better sell your Bank of Commerce shares." (The Bank of Commerce currently has a major share of government business.)

Mr. Gunderson answered: "I hadn't thought of that," Mr. Strachan told reporters later.

## Low Rates

The NDP chief said, "In view of the premier's comments on interest rates and tight money I would expect the bank to offer lower interest rates than the other chartered banks and to make money freely available to the small businessmen of this province."

Aside from the new bank the throne speech produced little that was startling.

It forecast new legislation designed to prevent discrimination against older workers and amendments to the Municipal Act and the Municipalities Enabling and Validating Act, but failed to spell out the details.

## Lower Bills

The speech confirmed earlier statements by government officials that there will be further reductions in electricity rates charged by B.C. Hydro and announced plans to lift the tolls on the last two fee-collecting transportation facilities in the province—the Deas Island Tunnel and Vancouver's Oak Street Bridge.

Construction of the Northern Trans-Provincial Highway's missing link—Prince George to McBride—will be speeded up and so will the Yellowhead Highway. Both roads are part of a huge tourist circle-tour facility of which the Vancouver Island-Prince Rupert ferry link will be a major part

# Salvoes Hammer Throne Speech

Yesterday's traditionally vague B.C. throne speech had hardly been delivered by Lieutenant-Governor George Pearkes before it ran into a barrage of criticism from opposition forces.

Heaviest salvoes were fired by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan who described the 3,000-word document as "page after page of bragadoccio and one kernel of real interest."

## NEW B.C. BANK

The kernel of interest, he said, was the government's intention of investing in a new B.C. bank.

The speech, which theoretically contains an outline of legislative policy for the ensuing session, failed to come to grips with B.C.'s major problems, Mr. Strachan said.

"It's more like a propaganda sheet than a glimpse into the future."

Government participation in a bank, he said, was another Sacred excursion into the field of socialism.

## MORE RESTRAINED

Liberal leader Ray Perrault was a bit more restrained and obviously feeling the effects of the political pinch which the happy B.C.-Ottawa relations over the Columbia River agreement have imposed.

The speech, he said, contained "little new or startling" other than the bank measure.

## USE PRESTIGE

He said it was obvious the government would switch its accounts to the new financial house and attempt to use its prestige to persuade others to do the same thing.

He said his party was happy to note intended reforms in health and welfare but tempered its enthusiasm by the knowledge that such things have been proposed before.

## Student Aid

Many of the features of the throne speech won't be clarified until specific legislation is brought down.

Among these are such items as higher school district grants, greater assistance to students through scholarships and bursaries, a new Mental Health Act and measures to streamline county court operations.

The latter step is expected to bring appointment of additional county court judges and re-allocation of territories.

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## Numbers Grow Each Year

# 500 Handshaking Guests Greet Premier, Cabinet

By IAN STREET

The numbers attending the reception following the formal opening of the B.C. Legislature increases each year—as shown by yesterday's turnout which exceeded 3,500.

It took the whole ground floor of the Empress Hotel, with exception of the main dining room to accommodate this number, and maitre d'hotel Joseph Zanichelli said if the unprecedented growth continues the tea and coffee party will soon have to spill onto the front lawn.

### 3,000 PEOPLE

In 1963 just over 3,000 people from all parts of the province attended the reception following reading of the Throne Speech by Lt.-Gov. George Pearkes.

Shortly after 4 p.m. the crowd was packed into the main foyer where refreshments were served for the first time at this year's reception. Later the concentration of guests shifted to the main ballroom.

### STILL LINED UP

An hour and a half after the scheduled starting time guests were still lined up to shake the hands of Premier Bennett and his cabinet ministers.

Guests apparently found little excitement in the throne speech. Not so the government members who waxed enthusiastic about the proposal to put the government into the field of banking.

### OUTSIDE SOURCES

Victoria Socred MLA J. Donald Smith said the program outlined in the speech was "excellent" and applauded the move to put the province in position where it doesn't have to rely solely upon outside sources of financing.

"I'm going to buy shares in that bank," said John Tisdalle, Socred MLA for Saanich. But while he saw a trend towards new social services, promise of a down-to-earth anti-smoking campaign for youngsters, new controls covering use of chemical pesticides, Mr. Tisdalle added:

### NO MENTION

"I'm disappointed that there was no mention of definite action leading to creation of new four-lane highways that are so vital to the continued growth of Greater Victoria."

Herbert Bruch, Socred MLA for Esquimalt, said the speech indicates step-by-step improvement of existing facilities and provision of new ones "particularly in the field of education and social welfare."

### LESS SANGUINE

A less sanguine view was taken by Alan Macfarlane, Liberal MLA for Oak Bay.

"I think the speech was well read," Mr. Macfarlane said. "As to content, I know we live in a beautiful province, and the speech certainly described that beauty well."

As the guests departed their eye caught a familiar sign above the main entrance: "Sorry for the inconvenience. We're going to replace the revolving doors as soon as possible. L. C. Parkinson, manager."



FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1964

## Side-by-Side and Smiling Walk the Two Leaders

By JACK FRY

Premier W. A. C. Bennett and Opposition Leader Robert Strachan came closer during yesterday's opening of the first session of the 27th Legislative Assembly than they will be during the rest of the session.

The two political opponents shook hands and exchanged strained greetings in the legislative chamber prior to the opening of the session.

### SIDE-BY-SIDE

They walked side-by-side down the central aisle to escort Prince Rupert Social Credit MLA William Murray back as new House Speaker. The awkward tension was broken when a photographer snapped a picture of the pair and a round of laughter went up from politicians and their guests in the chamber.

The chamber was filled to capacity by 52 members and 625 guests. Former recreation and conservation minister Earle Westwood, defeated in Nanaimo during the last provincial election, sat in a back row, looking a little out of place.

Einar Gunderson, one-time finance minister for B.C., sat two seats away from Hugh Keenleyside, a co-chairman of B.C. Hydro. Dr. Gordon Shrum, the other co-chairman of B.C. Hydro, and chancellor of Simon Fraser University, was also there.

Also present was former lieutenant-governor Frank Ross, and Mrs. Ross, who was there as chancellor of the University of B.C.; John B. MacDonald, president of UBC; and Judge J. B. Clearihue, chancellor of the University of Victoria.

### B.C. SADDENED

Lieutenant-Governor Pearkes said in the throne speech that B.C. was saddened by the death this month of Byron Ingemar Johnson, who was premier of B.C. from 1947 to 1952.

"The memory of this distinguished public servant will live long in the hearts of our people," said Mr. Pearkes.

"We note with regret the passing of the former Chief Justice of British Columbia, Alexander Campbell DesBrisay—his services on the bench and in other official capacities were numerous and faithfully rendered."

### TYSOE NAMED

The throne speech named Mr. Justice Charles William Tysoe, of the B.C. Court of Appeal, as successor to DesBrisay in completion of the royal commission on operation and administration of the Workmen's Compensation Act, which was started in 1963.

Mr. Pearkes also paid tribute to the memory of the late president of the United States, John Fitzgerald Kennedy.

The House rose until Friday and members joined thousands

of Victorians in passing through a reception line at the Empress Hotel.

## Murray Speaker Speare Deputy

Prince Rupert hotelman William H. Murray yesterday became Speaker of the B.C. Legislature—as expected—but 74-year-old former deputy speaker Alex Matthew was replaced by Cariboo MLA Bill Speare, a resident of Saanich.

Mr. Murray (SC—Prince Rupert) was named by Premier Bennett as the government's choice for Speaker late last year, but he couldn't assume the title until the conclusion of formalities yesterday. The House must vote on its choice and usually gives unanimous consent to the government's nominee.

The new speaker, age 47, was first elected to the legislature in 1956 and had previously presided over the House periodically as acting chairman during committee sessions.

He replaces former speaker Hugh Shantz who declined the Sacred nomination last summer in North Okanagan.

The only surprise yesterday in the routine procedure of naming presiding officials was

in Mr. Speare taking Mr. Matthew's place.

Mr. Matthew (SC—Vancouver Centre) had been deputy speaker since 1956.

Mr. Speare, 48, was first elected in 1957 in a byelection created by the death of railways minister Ralph Chetwynd.

He is a resort owner and hospital consultant who makes his home in the Greater Victoria area.

## NDP Names Squire Whip

Alberni MLA John Squire was named yesterday as the new whip for the New Democratic Party, replacing Rae Eddie of New Westminster who stepped down from the post.

The decision was made during a caucus meeting before the opening of the legislature, party leader Robert Strachan said.

Kaslo-Slocan MLA Randolph Harding is chairman of the NDP caucus and Arthur Turner of Vancouver East, in hospital yesterday recovering from surgery, is deputy leader.

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## Tree Farm Legacy

# SHACK TOWNS ISLAND 'BLOT'

By TERRY HAMMOND  
Colonist Legislative Reporter

Tree farm licences have created shacktowns on Vancouver Island and something should be done about it, Dan Campbell (SC, Comox) told the Legislature yesterday.

He singled out Kelsey Bay, Sayward and Port Hardy as "disgraceful blots on the landscape" where people have to live in shacks.

Mr. Campbell spoke for an hour and 25 minutes in his role as mover of the throne speech and spent most of it eulogizing the government, attacking the opposition and criticizing education authorities.

**NO CONTINUING ROLE**  
But he regretted that the throne speech had not outlined a continuing role for the legislative committee on access.

He had hoped the government would broaden its terms of reference so it could become a sounding board for complaints against resource users.

**PROTEST CONDITIONS**  
If this had been the case, the public could more effectively protest conditions in sub-standard communities.

Not all company communities were bad, he said, but the worst were usually to be found in the primary production areas of tree farm licences.

**VOICE OPINIONS**  
"It seems to me that the public should be permitted an opportunity to voice opinions to the legislature on the husbandry that the resource companies have exercised in their production areas."

Mr. Campbell blasted higher education authorities for inconsistency in stating financial requirements and accused UBC President Dr. John Macdonald of distorting some of the facts in his report on the needs of higher education in B.C.

**LOW PROPORTION**  
Dr. Macdonald, he said, had shown the UBC had a low proportion of graduate students in relation to overall enrolment, but had failed to

say the percentage was low in the graduate field because of the large number of senior matriculation students which the university had taken gratuitously from the school system.

The matric students not only loaded the statistics, he said, they "diluted the effectiveness of the university" and should not have been there at all.

Education spokesman, he said, were continually confusing either the public, the authorities or both.

**INCONSISTENCY**  
"I am alarmed at the inconsistency evident in the stated requirements for higher education," he went on.

In 1958 UBC had said it needed \$30,000,000 over 10 years and then in 1960 said the money was needed immediately. Now, he said, UBC claims \$70,000,000 should be spent by 1967.

**LAST 10 YEARS**  
From 1930 to 1950 UBC's budget had increased by less than \$1,000,000 but in the last 10 years the B.C. higher education budget had jumped from about \$2,500,000 to \$20,000,000.

Mr. Campbell said all people connected with education and its financing should make clear and unified statements of what they want and what they think should be done.

In Vancouver last year, the school board was telling the public a junior college would cost taxpayers only \$2.58 a year while the city council was attempting to refute this and muddy the picture with a confusing ballot system.

In Prince George, said Mr. Campbell, an educator had spouted gobbledegook in discussing part of the curriculum at a teachers' convention.

Mr. Campbell quoted the man as saying, "the resource course

is not a teaching course—it is an instrument to assist the teacher in doing what one authority describes as translating the desired educational program into specific learning experiences."

No matter how you juggle it around, said Mr. Campbell, it still doesn't make sense.

The government had made great strides in health, hospitals, pensions, welfare and education,

Campbell said, and the Throne Speech had shown the government "is fed up with having the public of this province informed that services to human beings are inadequate."

He said the only reason the government had placed emphasis on development was so it could raise the basic revenues with which to underwrite the mounting costs of social services.

## Speaker Deputy

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## B.C. Bank

# Ottawa Won't Object

B.C.'s Liberal leader Ray Perrault said yesterday federal Finance Minister Walter Gordon had indicated there would be no objection to a federally-chartered B.C. bank.

Mr. Perrault said he had talked to Mr. Gordon by telephone and the cabinet minister had said he was in favor of encouraging Canadian-owned businesses and a new bank should be no exception.

Mr. Gordon indicated, Mr. Perrault said, there should be no difficulty in obtaining a federal charter, provided the B.C. venture was properly set up and in accordance with federal bank legislation.



SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1964

## Queries Indicate Searching Look At B.C. Welfare

B.C.'s social welfare department is in for searching scrutiny at the present session of the legislature if questions filed in the house yesterday are any indication.

Of 74 questions listed in votes and proceedings for Monday, 14 are directed at

Welfare Minister Wesley Black by NDP welfare expert David Barrett of Dewdney.

Most of the questions relate to social workers' case loads and to the number of staff.

Welfare became one of the major potential issues of the session early this month after a Prince George social worker addressed an open letter to Premier Bennett charging massive work overloads, inefficiency and misguided extravagance.

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### Legislature Committee Curb Asked

A government backbencher quoted a new B.C. supreme court jurist Friday in support of a demand for laws to curb the powers of B.C. legislature committees.

Donald Brothers (SC—Rossland-Trail) said he had been shocked when the 1963 select committee investigating highway graft allegations found it had almost unlimited powers with regard to witnesses.

Mr. Brothers also said Vancouver police should be given more authority and the city might even call in the army if there are future disturbances at Grey Cup finals.

"This is drastic but Vancouver will have to do something," said Mr. Brothers while seconding the speech from the throne. "This can't be repeated in the future."

Premier Bennett got an invitation to attend the official opening of the Salmo-Creston cutoff next spring from Mr. Brothers who seconded a motion in reply to the Throne Speech.

The Rossland member also produced an advance copy of the spring issue of the recreation department publication "Beautiful British Columbia," which features pictures from and of the new highway east of Trail.

He said the magazine has dubbed the road "The Skyway."

"I think the name is so good I'll recommend it to the highways department as the official one," he said.



# Strachan Attack: "MATERIALIST MONSTROSITY"

By TERRY HAMMOND  
Colonist Legislative Reporter

If ever a province needed an ombudsman, it is British Columbia under the "materialist monstrosity" of Social Credit, Opposition Leader Robert Strachan told the House yesterday.

In a 2½-hour speech which stung Premier Bennett into a shouted tirade against all opposition parties, he accused the government of playing dirty politics, running a ruthless political machine, doling out patronage, telling untruths and ignoring its responsibilities toward human beings.

Mr. Strachan accused the government of playing for the

friendship of Westcoast Transmission Co. president Frank McMahon after each of the last three elections and said the price this time was a B.C. Hydro gas contract.

He predicted the current royal commission on gasoline prices would get nowhere and that if the government was sincere in its concern for gasoline consumers it would set up a competing oil business.

## Failed to Keep Pace

Under Social Credit, he went on, welfare had fallen to a sorry state and facilities for the mentally retarded had failed to keep pace with need.

Time and again his charges on welfare and mental health brought a red-faced Health Minister Martin to his feet shouting denials across the floor of the House.

Mr. Strachan said the government had made it clear it is afraid to appoint an ombudsman to protect the public from its injustices.

"Their chief spokesman, for what they playfully call justice, the Hon. the Attorney-General,

has said there is no need for the appointment of an ombudsman because the position is already filled by the 52 members of the House.

"I want to say right now that one of the prime reasons (for an ombudsman) is the very fact that the members of this House frequently find it impossible to get straightforward answers and information from this government and many an injustice is done both to individuals and to the public in general.

"Despite your brag that you keep the people informed, you only keep them informed of what you want them to know."

## Word Is Worthless

The word of the government, he said, is "worthless."

When members filed questions on the floor of the House they often got evasive answers and "sometimes when answers are given they are absolutely untrue."

He accused Works Minister Chant of turning in "what must be the most arrogant answer ever recorded in the journals," when, in 1963, he replied to one

question: "Information not of any public importance."

The question had been one concerning political patronage in a civil service appointment at Kamloops.

"Meantime," said the opposition leader, "legitimate applicants with suitable qualifications are cheated out of a job which is paid for with public funds and the job given to a political sidekick of another minister

while the members of this House and the men who have been cheated are denied the facts.

"We need an ombudsman," Mr. Strachan thundered, "we need a government that keeps us informed."

For the past two sessions, he said, Welfare Minister Black had said it was impossible for him to answer questions concerning the number of medical cards issued to social assistance recipients.

"What sort of shambles is his department in?"

"This information is not available because the minister knows it will reveal how many of the unfortunate persons trying to exist on the pittance given by his department do not have any provision made for medical care for themselves or their families.

### REAL REASON

"That the real reason for this evasion. Because he does not want the people to know.

"Fifty-two ombudsmen? With this kind of government in power?"

In 1961 when the government was asked to describe the qualifications of a man who was given a highways department job following allegations of patronage, Highways Minister Gagliardi had replied, "Considerable related experience."

"Who was he related to?" shouted the speaker to a chorus of laughter from opposition benches.

Even the premier was guilty, he went on. At the last

session the NDF had asked if A. H. Cassidy or Casco Tire Company had been employed by the government as consultants and Premier Bennett had replied: "No, Interior Tire Consultants have been employed."

But a listing in the Kamloops directory reads: "Interior Tire Consultant" (A. H. Cassidy)" Mr. Strachan said.

Last spring's highway probe was "a classic example of the need for an ombudsman."

The existence of such a position then would have eliminated the need for "the whole fiasco" and a "politically loaded" committee would not have brought in an unsatisfactory verdict of "not proved."

### QUESTIONABLE THINGS

The verdict left the public "convinced that no matter what the committee said, some mighty questionable things had taken place."

Then Mr. Strachan reentered a series of questions which he charged had not been adequately dealt with in the past and which he hoped this year would be "answered in an open and straightforward manner."

"So long as ministers refuse information to MLAs, then it is obvious we don't have 52 ombudsmen. We have no ombudsmen."

Mr. Strachan said the throne speech had been "a great bag of chaff" containing one real kernel — the B.C. bank announcement.

He wasn't opposed to "socialized banking" but he was afraid it would turn into another "botched attempt by this government to move into a socialized area."

(cont'd)

#### ANOTHER BOARD

He said he is afraid it will turn into "just another board of directors to which the government can appoint its friends and its defeated cabinet ministers to be operated primarily to bring benefit to the few—such people as Frank McMahon."

It used to be said, Mr. Strachan went on, that "the B.C. Electric never lost an election."

#### NO DOUBT

Now there is "certainly no

doubt . . . that there is one man in British Columbia who profits pretty regularly at the expense of the people as a result of the last three elections—that man is Frank McMahon."

Mr. Strachan said that after the 1956 election Mr. McMahon got a pipeline franchise and after the 1960 election he got "a crude oil pipeline monopoly franchise."

#### NO MISTAKE

"Let's make no mistake about it. This man has always had his price and the Social Credit government has always paid it."

"We did not have to wait too long to find out McMahon's price for the 1963 election."

"We read that McMahon had been given a nice, fat contract for the purchase of natural gas by none other than the publicly owned B.C. Hydro."

#### ALL UNDERSTOOD

"Then, presumably to make sure that we all understood that this was the payoff, the

Hydro chairman, while declining to let the public know what they were to pay Mr. McMahon for his gas, said, "The contract is also to help finance the Westcoast Transmission line."

Mr. Strachan wondered why the throne speech made no mention of medicare in spite of the fact Mr. Martin had displayed a campaign sign reading, "Vote for Medicare, vote for Martin."

#### GO IT ALONE

When Premier Bennett had been deploring the projected cost of the NDP's medicare plan, Mr. Strachan went on, Mr. Martin had been saying B.C. could now afford to go it alone without federal aid.

"I did not! I did not!" shouted Mr. Martin.

"He said B.C. is now in the financial position to go it

alone. Well, let's go."

Mr. Martin turned red when the opposition leader said, "we on this side of the House are getting a little fed up with these juvenile outbursts which are becoming a trademark of this minister."

Mr. Strachan said the waiting list to get into Woodlands School for retarded children has soared from 551 in 1958 to more than 800 today, and that of 255 being held at Esson-dale awaiting admission in 1962, more than 170 had been there more than 10 years.

## NDP Wants to Know

# Relief Fund

# Status Sought

By TERRY HAMMOND

"If you are one of the 1,500,000,000 hungry people of the earth, take heart—the \$1,000,000 B.C. World Relief fund is not forgotten."

Not by the New Democratic Party, anyway.

In legislative orders tabled with the House yesterday the NDP's Bill Hartley of Yale asks five pointed questions about the government's 1960 gesture to the undernourished.

#### DONATIONS, GRANTS

What donations to the fund have been received to date, he asks, and what matching grants have been made by the government?

He also wants to know if the government has used any of the \$50,000 initial grant to the fund and what meetings have been held by its administrators.

The questions are calculated to cause some red faces on the government side of the House, particularly that of Health Minister Martin, chairman of the fund.

#### NO FUNDS DISBURSED

Answers filed by him in 1963 showed no funds had been disbursed, donations totalled only \$420 and the committee had met formally only three times in as many years. Other members are B.C. Hydro's Dr. Hugh Keenleyside and Provincial Secretary Black. Mr. Black last summer could not recall if there had been any recent meetings or even when the last one had been held.

#### SET UP IN 1960

The fund was set up in 1960 when Premier Bennett was feuding with Ottawa over a federal plan to bring 100 tubercular families into Canada.

Premier Bennett opposed the scheme and brought down the wrath B.C.'s editorial writers on his shoulders. So he countered with the B.C. world Relief Fund to show the government's heart was in the right place.

#### PLEDGE OF \$50,000

He kicked off the fund with a pledge of \$50,000 as the government's initial donation and said B.C. would match private donations to build the total to \$1,000,000.



# Strachan Stings Premier into Rebuttal

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan saw his first non-confidence motion of the 1964 legislative session go down to defeat yesterday, but not without the satisfaction of knowing his attack on the government had drawn blood.

Mr. Strachan had hardly resumed his seat after pro-

posing an amendment to the throne speech when an angry Premier Bennett jumped to his feet for an impromptu blast at all opposition parties.

It was the noisiest session of the House so far.

Government backbenchers laughed and cheered as their leader taunted the opposition with a recital of past leadership changes and election defeats.

It had been said the people of B.C. had no confidence in Social Credit that the people didn't trust it, Premier Bennett shouted.

But the Tories hadn't elected a member since 1953, the Liberals had been defeated in the last five elections and the people of the province had never shown any confidence in the CCF or NDP.

Then he was interrupted by Alan Macfarlane (L. Oak Bay), who said he had no right to continue because he was not talking on the amendment.

"I want to talk on the point of order," shouted the premier.

"The Liberal Party," he cried, "is trying to stop freedom of speech."

Mr. Macfarlane said the premier was "making a mockery of the legislature."

"I ask the speaker to rule now," he shouted over the din.

The premier said that accusations against his government in welfare and mental health had been "taken to the greatest court in the land," and Social Credit had been vindicated.

"Mr. Speaker, I ask for a ruling now," appealed Mr. Macfarlane.

"Oh sit down," Premier Bennett thundered.

The premier said Mr. Strachan was proposing a non-confidence motion and he had a right to defend the government.

At the last session, he continued, he had been challenged

42 times by Randolph Harding (NDP, Kaslo-Slocan) to call an election.

"Forty-three times!" cried Mr. Harding.

"Forty-three times," echoed the premier.

"Forty-four," said the Kaslo-Slocan member, laughing.

"Forty-four," he says, the premier corrected, and still Mr. Strachan had "the unmitigated gall" to charge him with calling a snap election.

## JUMPED UP

When the premier was through, the NDP's Dave Barrett (Dewdney) jumped up.

"All the levity and all the laughter on the government side" wouldn't wash out one word of the evidence, he said.

"It's all very well to sit there and laugh and crow at an election victory, but blacktop doesn't replace people."

The premier, he jeered, "has shifted political ground so many times there is nothing but sand under his feet."

## PROPER CARE

He said 800 retarded children were awaiting proper care facilities in the province.

"They can't come here today and hear this crowing laughter of past elections."

While government members crowded, he said, 16 and 17-year-old boys were sitting with confirmed criminals in Oakalla's west wing because there were no proper facilities for them.

"Is this something to laugh about?"

"I ask you, for God's sake do something about these services."

The opposition amendment, which dealt with welfare and mental health, failed 18 votes to 31.

**\$1,600,000,000**

## B.C. Investment Will Hit Record

Trade Minister Robert Bonner told the Legislature yesterday that 1964 capital investment in B.C. will hit a record \$1,600,000,000 and eclipse the last record year of 1957.

Aside from the dollar investment, the province has "tremendous spirit as well," and confidence in B.C.'s economy had never been higher.

He said the essential difference between prosperity and depression is a state of mind.

## THINGS BOOMING

In 1929 things were booming and in 1931 came the depression.

"There were the same people and the same resources. All that was lacking was confidence."

Rate of new investment in B.C. is tops for any area in Canada and, in spite of criti-

cism, had not become less attractive during the Social Credit administration.

## NEW JOBS

He said his government has been dedicated to industrialization in the realization that by 1969 it must help to create 100,000 new jobs to meet the needs of an expanding population.

Creation of new opportunity is most closely related to expanding trade, he told the House, and said his government would be interested in seeing B.C. business groups make trips to three Pacific "rim" countries this year—Japan, New Zealand and Australia.

## ONE-THIRD

One-third of the world's population lives in the "rim" countries and is readily accessible by water from B.C. ports.



Tues., Jan. 28, 1964

## Perrault Warning:

# *New Bank Beneficial If Not Sacred Tool*

By JACK FRY

Liberal leader Ray Perrault warned in the legislature yesterday that the new bank proposed by Premier Bennett must not be allowed to become a tool of the government.

"We are willing to concede there could be some merit in the proposal," but no one knows exactly what Mr. Bennett has in mind, he said.

"British Columbians do not want to see any bank established within our borders which is the servile instrument of the government of the day . . . riddled with political influence or political appointees.

### **COULD BENEFIT ALL**

"If this new bank is going to be oriented to B.C.'s special circumstances, if it is to be a bank which will take advantage of the resources and the requirements of the province, it could be a bank which will benefit everyone," said Mr. Perrault.

"The bank must be independent . . . the directors should be Canadians," and the bank should be owned as much as possible by the people of B.C., "not through government ownership of shares but through the ownership of shares by British Columbians in all walks of life."

### **NO ONE GROUP**

The Liberal leader said he hopes that "no one group will own enough of the bank to dominate the enterprise, and most particularly the government."

Mr. Perrault lashed out at Premier Bennett's actions in the legislature yesterday, and called for greater dignity in handling the affairs of government on the floor of the legislature.

"Our hopes have been dashed on the rocks of ignorance and bad manners," he said when

he rose to take part in the throne speech debate.

"We have seen an example of a pompous, petulant, predictable, arrogant, stuffy little diatribe by the premier this afternoon which does nothing to dignify this chamber and nothing to give an example to

the new members," charged the Liberal Leader.

He said Premier Bennett had shown "petty tyrannical properties" during the afternoon sitting and that "it is not only a disgrace to the students who came here but a disgrace to the chamber. This sort of thing will ensure his demise from B.C. politics faster than any other route."

Mr. Perrault called for sweeping reforms in the way justice is administered, in the rules of the House and in government interpretation of the spirit of those rules.

He urged the government to pump new vitality into the standing committees, to form a standing committee on power development and to hold frequent consultations with the leaders and members of the other parties.

He congratulated the B.C. and federal governments "for a job well done" on the Columbia River power agreement, but took the Social Credit government here to task for its "disappointingly vague and generalized" proposals for long overdue improvements in the handling of social welfare problems.

Mr. Perrault criticized the government for withholding information from members of the opposition and displaying an attitude that the opposition has "gotta have faith" that the

right decisions are being made.

"They talk about democracy in the legislature—we can't even get our letters (to government officials) answered," he said.

There has been a tendency toward more and more centralized control in B.C., and it was reported that 3,247 decisions were made by orders-in-council during 1961. "This is a situation which is getting steadily worse and worse in B.C."

One of the major problems in the social welfare field is that the government is "more power-conscious than people-conscious." Field workers are discouraged by heavy case loads, a mass exodus of trained staff continues and workers are driven to speak out in the press, Mr. Perrault said.

He called for government aid aimed at preventing family and social breakdown, a co-ordinated program for social rehabilitation, establishment of a full-time minister of welfare post and creation of an advisory council to the department—the latter composed of deputy ministers or directors from the departments of health, education, recreation and attorney-general.

"It is simply impossible to achieve any kind of comprehensive policy without liaison between these departments because of overlapping responsibilities which exist," he said.

British Columbia is still too dependent upon basic industries, and the government must work with management and labor in exploring ways of encouraging secondary industry which can provide more employment opportunities, said Mr. Perrault.

Tuesday, January 28, 1964

### 'Constituents Short-Changed'

# Cowichan Riding Plundered For Revenue, Says Strachan

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan yesterday accused the government of plundering his Cowichan-Newcastle riding for revenue while short-changing his constituents on expenditures.

He said he and Oak Bay Liberal Alan Macfarlane had been subjected to what was "probably the dirtiest campaign this government ever waged" when it hinted in election ads last summer that a Socred MLA could get more done than an opposition member.

#### \$1,000 MONTH

The campaign against them both, he charged, had been masterminded by Premier Bennett's executive assistant, W. C. Budd, who received \$1,000 a month in public funds while he was on the election trail.

"He was incompetent," cracked Mr. Macfarlane.

Mr. Strachan said that throughout the campaign "there was emphasis on the suggestion that only with a government member could my constituency expect to have its requirements met by this government."

#### SHODDY PATRONAGE

Then he went on to list the pressing requirements of his riding and added, "unless some action is forthcoming this year I will have to conclude that you are indulging in shoddy political patronage—that you are discriminating against ridings not represented by a government member—that you are selling our democratic system short—that you are no better than your predecessors in office."

For years, Mr. Strachan charged, tremendous resources and taxation revenues had gone out of Cowichan-Newcastle "to build the roads this government brags about."

"It is time some of the money was spent in the area that produces that wealth.

But roads weren't the only urgent need in Cowichan Newcastle.

Mr. Strachan said the district is still plagued with floods.

Years ago a committee of ministers and deputy ministers had been set up to look into the problem.

"What happened? Nothing happened."

#### OVER YEARS

"Unless this is done you jeopardize the continued ability of the area to produce the tax revenues you need over the years."

He referred to a new Duncan-Lake Cowichan road as the "daddy of them all" on the list of urgent projects.

The present inadequate road, he said, continued to take its annual toll in human lives and as far back as 1958 he was assured construction would get underway the following year.

Did anything happen?" he asked. "Of course it didn't."

After a child was killed in 1961 he wrote Highways Minister Gagliardi and got a reply from the department that "we will do our best."

#### MISERABLE FAILURE

"Well," Mr. Strachan continued, "your best is a miserable failure."

Then in 1962 government officials were quoted in a news story as saying the appropriation for the road would be in next year's estimates.

"We passed those estimates; where is the Cowichan Lake Road?"

#### NEW ROAD

The throne speech made much of new road construction, he pointed out, "but where is all this road work being done?"

In Premier Bennett's riding, he surmised, where he saw a blacktopped road being bypassed with a blacktopped road and where he saw crews "laying blacktop on blacktop."



# Kamloops Campaign Plot Claimed Gaglardi Throws Charges Back

By TERRY HAMMOND

Highways Minister Gaglardi yesterday threw Opposition Leader Robert Strachan's charges of "dirty politics"

right back at the New Democratic Party.

Mr. Gaglardi told the House he had proof of a massive NDP-Tory conspiracy which was to have brought about his defeat in the Sept. 30 election.

In his possession was a letter in which an NDP member told him he would lose the election because a lot of NDP votes would go to Tory leader Davie Fulton in the Kamloops contest.

## STRACHAN ABSENT

Labor spokesmen told him the same thing.

During the Kamloops campaign Mr. Strachan had been "conspicuous by his absence," Mr. Gaglardi said.

Proof of his charge, he said, was that the NDP vote in Kamloops fell from a 1960 figure of 2,820 to a mere 1,297 in 1963.

But the NDP-Tory alliance was not the only plot against him, the minister continued.

Somebody had imported Montana contractor Dick Holz, worth to harass him. Holzworth was the man who precipitated last year's highways probe.

"He followed me around like a puppy and stayed in Kam-

loops until after the election," the minister complained.

Looking straight at millionaire logger Gordon Gibson (L., North Vancouver) he asked,

"Mr. Member from North Vancouver, who sent him there?"

"Well, it wasn't me," hooted Mr. Gibson.

The highways minister said he "took them all on" in Kamloops and beat them.

"Aw, quit boasting and get on with it," Mr. Gibson shot back.

Then the minister clashed with Mr. Strachan.

He jeered at the opposition leader's criticism of B.C. social services and said the government was spending \$247,000, 000 on services to people.

## SMALL SPENDER

"In highways I'm getting to be a small spender," he said.

"In Cowichan-Newcastle," Mr. Strachan interjected.

If the opposition leader didn't like the highways expenditures in his riding he should tell his constituents and then see what they get next year, Mr. Gaglardi replied.

## GET MOTHER

"Are you threatening me?" shouted Mr. Strachan.

"If you want mama to sit alongside you I'll get her for you," the minister answered.

Mr. Gaglardi denied Mr. Strachan's earlier observation that the dearth of government

expenditure in his riding on roads and public buildings hinted at political discrimination.

From 1952 to 1964 his department had spent \$7,664,628 in Cowichan-Newcastle compared with \$7,397,000 in Nanaimo and the Islands, \$10,000,000 in Esquimalt and \$5,000,000 in Saanich.

In 1962, Mr. Gaglardi went on, Mr. Strachan had been quoted in a news story as saying his riding was "not forgotten."

"He must be speaking with a forked tongue."

## Battle B.C. —Calder

B.C. Indians should be fighting the B.C. government instead of Ottawa over the Indian land question, Frank Calder (NDP—Atlin) told the legislature yesterday.

He said a long-drawn-out battle is expected to be fought in Parliament in Ottawa when a bill on the disposition of Indian claims is considered. In fact, he warned, the bill could topple the minority Liberal government.

But Mr. Calder said that, since the colony of B.C. declared in 1866 land claims of B.C. Indians do not exist and the province of B.C. adopted the same policy in 1871, the Indians should face B.C. in court, where a solution could be found.

The Indian MLA, whose Atlin riding is the biggest in size and smallest in population, also called for redistribution.

He said he once feared his 61,700-square-mile riding might be carved up in redistribution, "but not any more . . . (since it) will increasingly provide revenue for B.C."

\* \* \*

Support for national lotteries to finance hospitals was voiced by Stanley Carmell (SC—South Peace River).

He said at least 50 per cent of the gross funds should go to the hospitals and main prizes should not exceed \$20,000 because a figure like \$140,000—chief Irish Sweep prize—doesn't give enough people a chance at the winnings.

# Bill Still Pending Access Probe Likely Soon

The B.C. legislative committee on public access will be reconvened this year, reliable sources said yesterday.

The committee, first set up in 1962 and reconvened in 1963, is given much of the credit for opening up private industrial roads to public use.

## PRIVATE ROADS

Still pending is the fate of the committee's draft access bill drawn up as a result of meetings last year. It was tabled at the 1963 session after the government brought in amendments to related legislation affecting private roads.

Meanwhile, noting growing public and government concern over lack of access to much Crown land held in the form of tree farm licences, many companies modified their policies on public use of private road systems.

Word the committee will meet again was interpreted as meaning the draft bill will not automatically go before the House.

The committee is expected to review the bill in the light of the more co-operative attitude shown by industry. It could withdraw it.

Observers noted the government has shown reluctance to force public access on private industry and may choose to seek further voluntary concessions rather than enact legislation.

## Scare Films Urged

Lurid wartime-type training films to shock youth into realizing the dangers of smoking should be made part of B.C.'s anti-cigarette campaign, William Speare (SC, Cariboo) told the legislature yesterday.

Health Minister Martin's proposed campaign against smoking should be aimed at young people, he went on, and the films should contrast healthy lung tissue with that from a lung cancer victim.

The Cariboo MLA is a former hospital administrator and currently a hospital consultant who makes his home in Saanich.



THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 1964

## Liberal MLA Attacks 'Nonsense' Law

# Debtors Can Live

## Like Riley

You can forget your debts in B.C. and live the life of Riley, Oak Bay MLA Alan Macfarlane said in the legislature yesterday.

All you have to do, he said, is get your creditors to have you jailed under the Arrest and Imprisonment for Debt Act.

Once in jail, the act gives the prisoner the right to subsist on a diet of free beer and the choicest food he cares to order from a place of his choosing.

"How happy can be the life of one in debt?" Mr. Macfarlane said.

"And, you're against that?" asked Attorney-General Bonner.

This is the kind of "nonsense" which should be struck from the B.C. statute books, said Mr. Macfarlane.

★ ★ ★

He quoted a section of the act: "The prisoner, at his free will and pleasure, may send for and

have brought to him at reasonable times, in the day time, any beer, ale, victuals, or other necessary food, from what place he thinks fit or can have the same, and also can have and use such bedding, linen or other necessary things as he has occasion for and thinks fit."

After Mr. Macfarlane's speech, the attorney-general said the Liberal MLA had left out one thing — the creditor

has to pay the bill, and "that is why it isn't much used."

Mr. Macfarlane mentioned other acts, some not so comical, which he said are in need of revision.

★ ★ ★

There should be a single voters' list for both federal and provincial elections, he said; staff at the registrar of voters' office should be

increased and premises enlarged and a public advertising campaign should be held between elections to advise people to get on the list.

An advertisement in a Victoria newspaper during the last election campaign, which implied the government was spending "more than \$5,000,000" on buildings at the University of Victoria campus, was "a blatant misrepresentation . . . I strongly resent this type of election advertising, and it does no good to say you (the Socreds) made a mistake when you made up your ad," charged Mr. Macfarlane.

★ ★ ★

He said the government is "morally obligated" to fulfill an election promise of a cultural grants council to promote work in fields such as art centres, symphonies and the like.

"Why was there no mention of this in the throne speech?"

What had become of the promise last year of the minister of health that a mental health centre would be established in the Victoria area?

"There are no facilities on Vancouver Island to take care of even the minimum requirements," he said.

★ ★ ★

The time is long overdue for the government to assume a larger share of the local cost of education, and municipalities in Greater Victoria are so "completely burdened and crushed" by the task of raising money for school purposes they have to forgo other desperately needed services.

"While the social welfare system crumbles about this government and social workers groan under the heavy burdens they carry, the govern-

ment wallows in statistics and brushes off the problem as if it were a pestering fly," said Mr. Macfarlane.

"You talk of the prosperity we have in this province. Yes, we have prosperity and we have an ever-growing population. What you fail to realize is greater prosperity brings with it greater problems and great responsibilities.

"You say that the opposition does nothing but criticize. But be reminded of this fact: We did not bring about the resignation of Ruby McKay — one of the best superintendents of child welfare this province ever saw."

## No Place for Wit

BENJAMIN DISRAELI once said: "In politics, nothing is contemptible."

How much more satisfied he would have been with this remark had he but known that a century later its truth was still being literally proved daily in the legislative halls of the erstwhile Crown colonies of Vancouver Island and British Columbia.

But then, he might also have been disappointed had he known that the parliamentary backchat of which he was so fond would so soon descend from witty debate to mere unwitty shouting matches.

How, indeed, would he have borne up under such sparkling retorts as: "Aw, quit boasting and get on with it," or "If you want mama to sit alongside you I'll get her for you," or "Oh, sit down" or even "I did not! I did not!"?

We shudder to think . . .

He might well have been inclined to suggest to the government benches that "a majority is always the best repartee," although he would have been hard put to it to find someone in the legislature with sufficient rhetorical qualifications on whom to use his famous line: "He is a sophistical rhetorician, inebriated with the exuberance of his own verbosity."

Chances are, however, that he would have been carried out with a bad attack of the vapours.

Thurs., Jan. 30, 1964

## Tisdalle Urges Example

# 'Put Out That Old Pipe'

John Tisdalle suggested Wednesday night that if the provincial government really wants to curb smoking it should set some examples.

For instance, the Saanich Socred told the House, Education Minister Peterson might do a better job of dissuading school children from taking up the habit if he "put out that smelly old pipe."

The government-owned B.C. Hydro bus system might replace some of the ads on the sides of its buses with

posters trying to sell something healthier—"like B.C. apples."

And then there was the case of the B.C. government ferry system.

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Mr. Tisdalle, a non-smoker, complained the spanking new ferries lack one thing—a "no smoking" area.

It always was bad enough, but now that frightened cigarette smokers were turning to cigars the situation was impossible.

"The smoke is so bad it almost

sophisticates . . . ah, er . . . efesclates . . ."

The laughter almost asphyxiated the MLAs, smokers and non-smokers alike.

Undaunted, Mr. Tisdalle returned to the theme with the suggestion many fires are caused by careless smokers. He suggested a motto:

"Don't smoke in bed. The ashes that fall on the floor may be your own."

Responded opposition leader Robert Strachan: "If you're an example of a non-smoker I'm going to start again."

## Saanich Socred Hints:

# Drinkers Are Winning

By JACK FRY

The drinkers seem to be winning their battle for a liquor store in Saanich, teetotaling Saanich MLA John Tisdalle hinted in the legislature last night.

The store wasn't the only Saanich issue on the floor during the day. Oak Bay Liberal MLA Alan Macfarlane said housing developments are springing up so fast along the Saanich Peninsula there soon will be no land left for parks—unless the government puts up money now for purchases later.

Mr. Tisdalle said:

"I don't suppose I can possibly keep my area free of alcohol . . . but so far as intimidating, influencing or undercutting the commissioner (Liquor Control Board chairman Col. Donald McGugan), I don't do these things."

Noting the liquor store campaign is headed by Mrs. Nora

Lindsay, a former political opponent of his, Mr. Tisdalle said he at first "suspected this was a political issue," but hoped this was not the case.

"Anyone who can do a good job with alcohol can do a better one without it," he said. "There is no substitute for abstinence when it comes to alcoholism."

### OPEN WOODLANDS

Mr. Macfarlane said Peninsula residents cannot afford the cost of setting aside land for recreational purposes such as parks, playgrounds, beach access, green spaces and open woodlands.

He said that while municipalities are sympathetic to the need, they do not have the money.

"The need is for the mother of the municipalities to provide the funds now, under some sort of arrangement with the municipalities for the repayment of a large portion of those monies over a period of years, to be raised from local taxation."

### AIR POLLUTION

Mr. Tisdalle attacked Victoria's industries which are associated with the air pollution problem, and asked, "Why should they throw their garbage into the air and let it fall on people's homes and nobody do anything about it?"

A set of air-pollution standards and enforcement arrangements should be drawn up by the provincial government for all of B.C., and municipalities should have the power to say whether they want to adopt the code, he said.

### FOUR LANES

The Socred MLA plumped for construction of a four-lane Patricia Bay Highway to replace the existing two lanes with "the additional suicide lane."

He also appealed for better dental facilities in provincial institutions for mentally retarded children. He said Woodlands school for the retarded in New Westminster, where his own son is a patient, has only one dentist for 1,000 children, and his son's teeth are so poor they are breaking off.



Thurs., Jan. 30, 1964

## Bonner Sums Up Hopes

# 'Easy Money' Bank

By TERRY HAMMOND  
Colonist Legislative Reporter

The Bank of British Columbia will be an "easy money" bank in comparison with Canadian chartered banks doing business here now, Attorney-General Bonner indicated yesterday.

The "easy money" quote wasn't his, but it sums up his aspirations for the government-backed venture.

In a legislative corridor interview he said he hoped the bank would be able to serve a segment of business and industry now forced to obtain its financing from the "grey market."

### FINANCE FIELD

Did this mean the B.C. bank would have a greater impact on finance companies than on the existing chartered banks?

Well, said Mr. Bonner, the chartered banks themselves were moving into the finance company field "but they are still terribly small—conservative."

He hoped the new bank would be "more like American banks."

### VITAL CONCERN

In the U.S., he said, large regional banks have been more intimately connected with their economic areas and vitally concerned with economic expansion within these areas.

Toward these ends they had been more active participants in regional businesses.

Mr. Bonner, who confessed to being one of the government spokesmen closely associated with the move for a B.C.-based bank, said one slice of the B.C. business spectrum is paying higher interest rates for expansion and development capital than if they were located in the U.S.

### HIGHER RISK

They would, he agreed, represent a higher risk than companies able to obtain money at going interest rates from the chartered banks, but don't necessarily represent a degree of risk commensurate with the interest they must pay in the "grey market."

Mr. Bonner thought the new bank would make its greatest contribution in the field of industrial and business financing.

He remained adamant in refusing to name the private backers.

### BUDGET DAY

He said a bill giving the government authority to buy shares in the new bank would probably be introduced on budget day, Feb. 7. The bill will allow B.C. to become a limited shareholder.

Mr. Bonner did not envision immediate expansion of the bank in the form of branches outside its Vancouver head office.

Among the backers, a decision is close on what the bank's share capital will be.

### NO KNOWLEDGE

Mr. Bonner disclaimed all knowledge of a proposal espoused in the House yesterday by Education Minister Peterson to house the B.C. bank in a new provincial building to be erected adjacent to the Vancouver courthouse.

The attorney-general said Mr. Peterson, who represents Vancouver Centre, made "an excellent constituency speech."

### 'MOST REASONABLE'

The site was accumulated by Vancouver city at a cost of \$1,375,000. Mr. Peterson thought it could be obtained for a "most reasonable price."

Mr. Peterson also indicated the lending policies of the new bank would contrast with those of existing banks.

B.C. particularly needed new secondary industries in order to create new jobs and they could only be established "if you have good banking provisions."

Value of regional banks was best illustrated by the Bank of America which started in California in 1904 as the Bank of Italy and is now the largest commercial bank in the world.

It was the first bank to back the movie industry, Mr. Peterson said, and probably accounted for that business settling in California.

"Americans will tell you, as I have been told, that without the solid, venturesome commercial banking of California, it would not have prospered and grown to the extent it has."

## Old Courthouse 'Dubious Honor'

New Westminster has the "dubious honor" of having the oldest courthouse in the province as well as the honor of being the oldest incorporated city in B.C., Rae Eddle (NDP—New Westminster) said in the House yesterday.

"We have an ancient pile of masonry over there which is disparagingly called a courthouse — I have heard some other names for it that would not bear repeating in this place," he said.

Candidates of all parties, including Social Credit, campaigned on this issue in the last provincial election, "so we are expecting a new building this year," said the New Westminster MLA.

"We still are using an old relic built before 1890 . . . it is completely inadequate to serve the needs of the rapidly growing country, which extends from Boundary Road up both sides of the Fraser River as far as Hope."

## Probation Setback

# Heathman: No Release?

Mr. Bonner said investigation of the Otley boy's murder has not been re-opened and no decision to renew it will come before questioning of Heathman is complete.

Meanwhile, the case was raised in the legislature yesterday by Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby), who pointed out that while Heathman was committed to Essondale on the findings of psychiatrists, his release order came after examination by two medical practitioners.

He said the government erred in having only two psychiatrists on its review board and he urged establishment of a board of psychiatrists to hear appeals under the Mental Hospitals Act.



Thurs., Jan. 30, 1964

Peterson:

## Courts, Statistics, History Vindicate B.C. Labor Laws

B.C.'s controversial labor laws have been vindicated by the courts, by statistics and by history, Labor Minister Peterson told the legislature yesterday.

"B.C. is no longer a province plagued by strikes and lock-outs," he said.

Time lost to industrial disputes in B.C. last year amounted to 24,056 man-days — the lowest since 1949.

### LOSS LOWEST

Mr. Peterson said B.C. time lost in 1963 was the lowest among Canadian industrial provinces in proportion to the labor force.

He cited two recent court decisions which supported his government's labor regulations.

The first was a Supreme Court of Canada ruling upholding the section of the B.C. Labor Relations Act which prohibits unions from using check-off dues for political purposes.

### RIGHT TO TRADE

The second was an Ontario appeal court judgement on secondary picketing which stated that if the right to secondary picketing does exist it must give way to a retailer's right to trade.

The court, said Mr. Peterson, established that the right to trade is more fundamental to the benefit of the community than the right to establish secondary picketing.

### STEMMED GROWTH

The labor minister denied that B.C. labor laws have stemmed the growth of trade union membership in the province.

In 1963, he said, 607 certifi-

cations were granted — the highest in 10 years—and union membership swelled by 5,000.

There had been a marginal drop in the percentage of unionized workers as related to the total labor force, but B.C. still led North America.

The minister said 45.2 percent of paid workers in the province are organized compared with 19.7 per cent in the Maritimes, 24.7 per cent in Quebec, 27.1 per cent in Ontario, 22.1 per cent in the prairie provinces and 24 per cent in the U.S.

Although 1963 was not a major contract year some 1,800 collective agreements had been signed

and provincial labor mediators had staved off 20 strikes involving 38 employers and 2,080 workers.

Of 57 disputes referred to the labor relations board prior to the arbitration stage, departmental officials had settled 53.

"The proof of the effectiveness of any legislation is in the results, and the results of our labor legislation are very heartening indeed," the minister said.

Since 1953, he pointed out, the government has passed legislation prohibiting discrimination against a person because of sex, race, religion, color, nationality, ancestry or place of origin.

## In the Legislature

# 'Nuisance Taxes Hardship'

Parents of B.C. school students are suffering undue hardship because of the government's "nuisance tax" on shoes and clothing, Mrs. Lois Haggen (NDP, Grand Forks-Greenwood) told the legislature yesterday.

She said regulations concerning the application of the provincial sales tax to children's clothing are ridiculous.

Exemptions are not based upon a child's age, she said, but on size.

Mrs. Haggen said it might be difficult to gear the exemption to age, but she proposed that the only qualification to receive tax exemption should be that the child is still attending school.

Another nuisance tax, she

continued, is that on prepared meals.

Loss of revenue from the elimination of the sales tax on children's clothing and meals would probably be offset by savings in administrative costs.

She asked what justification the government could offer for taxing food in one form and not in another.

The meal tax, aside from discriminating against the person who can't eat at home, offers cafe proprietors a chance to cheat the public.

The tax only applies to meals costing more than \$1 but many members of the public didn't realize this and got swindled by unscrupulous operators.

# 'Blackmail' Ban?

Resources Minister Williston said yesterday laws to prevent "blackmail" in crown timber auctions may come before the Legislature shortly.

Mr. Williston said he is asking leave of the House to place before the Legislature's select committee on forestry a report on allegations of blackmail, plus suggested legislative preventives.

He said the committee would be asked to decide what recommendations to make to the House.

The committee last year heard allegations from interior lumber men that competitors

were demanding payoffs to prevent their becoming rival bidders at crown timber sales. They said the rivals threatened to force the bidding up to unrealistic levels.

"The charges were a straight case of blackmail," Mr. Williston said. "We have got some evidence on this now and we are going to try to put it through."

He said existing legislation hasn't been effective in preventing such abuses. The legislative committee's request of last year for legislative proposals had been met by the forest service.

# 'Wonderful Step'

The B.C. government should award merit certificates to companies which forbid their employees smoking on the premises, the Legislature was told yesterday.

Bert Price (SC—Vancouver-Burrard) told the House that because of the current alarm over the health hazard of smoking several B.C. companies have already banned smoking.

They should be encouraged and more firms should be urged to take the plunge.

"This is a wonderful step in the right direction," he said.

The B.C. health department's fledgling anti-smoking campaign should be expanded, he went on, and the department should be authorized to issue special merit certificates which reward smokeless business firms.

He thought they could be something like the certificates awarded by safety councils for accident-free operations.

Mr. Price also warned anti-smoking advocates to stop smoking.

# Apples Cost Too Much?

Tired of paying high prices for B.C. apples?

Go to Edinburgh, they're cheaper there, according to Bert Price (SC—Vancouver-Burrard).

Mr. Price brought up the price of apples as he advised the government to set up a department of consumers supply.

The department would have broad terms of reference in the consumer field, he told the

Legislature, but it wouldn't actually control prices.

What it would do is investigate them and then tell the public when they were being cheated.

Reaction to such announcements would bring producers and sellers "to their knees."

"I don't suggest business is crooked," he said.

But the consumer was an amateur dealing with professionals.

# Apples for MLAs

A big, juicy red apple was placed on the desk of every member of the House yesterday because Salmon Arm MLA Willis Jefcoat wanted to point out a problem of the farmers in his area.

He said they were grown at Shuswap Lake near Salmon Arm.

The apples looked good from a distance—and Gordon Gibson (L—North Vancouver) and Opposition Leader Robert Strachan were seen munching happily on their samples—but they had hail pockmarks on the skin, said Mr. Jefcoat.

These apples would either have been culled or been turned into apple juice if they

had gone through the ordinary channels of the B.C. Fruit and Vegetable Marketing Board—and the farmer who grew them would have made no profit, said the Sacred MLA.

"He's got 1,400 boxes of them, and he's selling them at \$1.25 to \$1.50 a box, at his door," Mr. Jefcoat continued.

"Well, send me down a box of culls," boomed the loud voice of Gordon Gibson from across the floor.

"I feel a farmer should be at liberty to sell his produce on his own farm . . . I think there should be no further controls placed on farmers," said Mr. Jefcoat, who also called for "a better system of (crop) insurance."

# Peace Wants Bigger Share

The Peace River is a mighty big country but it needs government help to get things rolling.

"Up in our area, we have an empire of our own," Jacob Huhn (SC—North Peace River) said in the Legislature yesterday.

But that empire needs things like railroads, highways, pro-

vincial government campsites and parks—and at the moment isn't getting its share of the goodies.

If the government does not intend to develop Liard hot springs, on the Alaska Highway near the Yukon border, "we should contract it out to private operators," he suggested.

# 'Nothing Done' for Cripples

B.C. has money for the Wenner-Gren interests, useless royal commissions, huge hydro projects and costly expropriation procedures but not for cripples or chronic care, the legislature was told yesterday.

Last year 750 chronically ill patients had to pay their own

hospital bills because they aren't covered by B.C. Hospital Insurance, Mrs. Lois Haggen (NDP Grand Forks-Greenwood) told the House.

If able people can qualify for BCHIS coverage, she asked, why can't the helpless—"Those who have had to give up the fight?"

For the chronically ill, she charged, "This government has done nothing."

For the helplessly crippled, she continued, adequate services can be rendered "if the government wants to do it."

She asked for a blitz program in the field of welfare, chronic cases and for the helplessly crippled.



FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 1964

*North Arm of Fraser*

# Glass Plant Slated for Mainland

Plans of Vancouver interests to build a \$3,000,000 glass factory on the north arm of the Fraser River in Vancouver were announced in the Legislature Thursday.

The announcement was made during the throne speech debate by Jacob Huhn (SC—North peace River) who said his only regret was that the new industry wasn't locating a bit closer to his riding.

Mr. Huhn said the plant to be built by West Coast Glass Limited will be the first of its kind within 1,000 miles of the west coast.

Premier Bennett said later in a statement the plant "will fill a long-felt need, as up to this time considerable glass has been imported from the United States and eastern Canada."

The premier said all capital for the plant is being raised "locally." The firm's president is Paul Cote of Vancouver.

The highly-automated plant will initially produce only bottles and jars, Mr. Bennett said, but the production capacity is to be sufficient to satisfy the entire B.C. market.

Work on the factory, which will employ about 100, is to start next spring with initial production under way by the spring of 1965.

## Spike Heels Cost About \$5 Mile

Girls who wear high, spiked heels should stand still—it costs too much to walk.

Social Credit MLA Bert Price, a shoe retailer, told the legislature yesterday the cost of operating a pair of spindly-heeled shoes runs around \$5 a mile.

He got on the subject while discussing the need to protect consumers.

"If you don't think these shoes are expensive, you aren't in the shoe business."

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## NEW SESSION IN HOUSE

# Speech 'Surprise' Hinted by MLAs

By FRANK RUTTER

Social Credit government members were excited about plans disclosed to them before the opening of the legislature today.

"Wait till you see the throne speech," said one after a briefing on details contained in the traditional outline of government policy.

The Speech from the Throne, prepared for delivery by Lieutenant-Governor George Pearkes at the legislature's opening ceremony this afternoon, was a close-guarded secret until 3:30 p.m.

While it was not expected to contain many major proposals, something apparently was regarded as exciting by some Socialists after caucus meetings.

Already reported among the government's plans are changes in mental health legislation, abolition of tolls, a bigger education program and an anti-smoking campaign.

The House was scheduled to open what will probably be about eight weeks of sittings at 3 p.m.

First business for the 52 MLAs was appointment of a new Speaker.

The choice of Premier W. A. C. Bennett was Prince Rupert Socialist William H. Murray.

Mr. Murray replaces Hugh Shantz of North Okanagan who quit before the provincial election last Sept. 30.

Because of the election there are several changes in membership and opening ceremony.

Continued on Page 28

monies were to be extra special this year.

Mr. Pearkes, who was to open the session in the name of the Queen, was to be greeted by a 100-man guard of honor from the 1st Battalion of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada and its 33-member bugle band.

In addition, a 15-gun salute was to boom out across the Inner Harbor from guns of the 5th B.C. Independent Medium Battery of the Royal Canadian Artillery's militia unit.

There were 627 official guests invited for the opening ceremony.

Afterwards, a crowd of 3,000 was expected to pass along a reception line for coffee at the Empress Hotel.

Tonight at 9:30 Mr. Pearkes is host at a Government House state ball.

Today's House business was to be confined to the throne speech and filing of numerous annual reports and documents.

Friday will be devoted to the opening of debate on the speech by government members who will move and second a formal reply.

Mover of the reply will be Dan Campbell (SC—Comox) and seconder Don Brothers (SC—Rossland-Trail).

Then on Monday the Opposition will open its attack.

New Democratic Party leader Robert Strachan will speak first, followed by Liberal leader Ray Perrault.

## JOHN SQUIRE NEW WHIP FOR NDP

Alberni MLA John Squire is the new whip for the New Democratic Party.

He was chosen at a caucus meeting Wednesday before the opening of the legislature.

Mr. Squire replaced Rae Eddie of New Westminster, who "stepped down," party leader Robert Strachan said.

Kaslo-Slocan MLA Randolph Harding is chairman of the NDP caucus, as before, and veteran Arthur Turner of Vancouver East is deputy leader.

Mr. Turner, recovering from surgery, is not expected to arrive until Sunday.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1964

# Ottawa Indicates Ok On Bennett Bank Plan

## B.C. Gov't Fosters Proposal

By FRANK RUTTER  
Times Legislative Reporter

Federal government approval of a new "Bennett Bank" was indicated today by Finance Minister Walter Gordon.

Local financial and political leaders were astounded, but they also approved of the unprecedented proposal for a new all-B.C. bank made by Premier Bennett's Social Credit government Thursday.

The government announced through the throne speech at the opening of the legislature that it would invest in a new federally-chartered bank in Vancouver.

### GORDON APPROVES

B.C. Liberal leader Ray Perrault said he had received assurance of support for the bank — which must get a federal charter — from Finance Minister Gordon, who he telephoned this morning.

"He told me he was in favor of it," Mr. Perrault said. He said Mr. Gordon also told him:

"I don't think there is going to be any federal opposition.

"Ottawa is not going to oppose any legal, sound proposal.

### MORE BANKS

"My view is that we should encourage more Canadian-owned banks."

B.C. Opposition leader Robert Strachan, who termed the proposal another step toward socialism, appeared also to favor the new bank.

But, he said, it must provide the lowest interest rates in Canada.

Members of the public today were already ordering shares in the bank—even though its backers have not yet formed an organization to promote it.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner, who is also trade minister, confirmed that the government had floated out the idea in order to get the bank started.

### LACKED RESOURCES

He said a number of groups in the province have in the past expressed interest in a new bank, but none has had the resources to start it.

With the government taking the lead as the first-announced investor, he said he hoped they will now come forward.

Premier Bennett said the bank will have an authorized capital of "many times \$50,000,000."

While the government will only be "a minority shareholder" he implied that it will be a major depositor.

The government will get \$274,800,000 in cash from the U.S. for Columbia River de-

velopment by Oct. 1, and it is expected this will be one of the new bank's first big deposits.

The new bank has to receive a charter from the federal Parliament.

Mr. Bennett said this would be sought through a private bill to be presented by "a B.C. member."

That could only be either of the two Social Credit MPs from B.C.—Bert Leboe of Cariboo or Alex Patterson of Fraser Valley.

### KNEW NOTHING

Both said they knew nothing about the bank on Thursday.

Some details will be disclosed when the B.C. government brings in legislation within the next few weeks giving it authority to invest up to a certain amount of money in the bank.

Mr. Bonner said his personal view was the new bank should be "the spearhead of local development" in B.C.

"I hope the bank will place an emphasis on assisting to establish small businesses," he added.

"I would also expect heavy emphasis on import-export transactions."

### VANCOUVER BASE

At the start, the bank would be based in Vancouver and it might be some time before branches were established in other cities, Mr. Bonner thought.

Mr. Bennett said he would like the bank to be called the Bank of British Columbia.

This name has a long tradition in the history of the province.

A Bank of B.C. was established in Victoria in 1862. It was bought out by the Bank of Commerce in 1900, and its Fort Street offices are still used today by the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

The premier said the new bank would definitely not be "government-run."

### BENNETT'S IDEA

He refused to say who else was involved in the proposal, but made it pretty plain it was his own idea.

"Don't ask these personal questions," he told reporters. "The government has given leadership in this respect," he said.

The bank was the one surprise of the throne speech.

Many leading B.C. bankers and financiers were invited to attend the opening of the legislature, though they did not know why.

Mr. Bonner said their reaction afterwards at a state ball appeared very favorable.

Today investment houses reported a steady stream of telephone orders for shares.

Jack Van Luven, general manager of the Vancouver Stock Exchange said an aggressive chartered bank in B.C. would be "the best thing that ever happened to this community."

"I don't think the financial community can reach full maturity unless the head offices of financial institutions establish themselves in that community," he said.

Premier Bennett gave the tip-off of a possible connection between the bank and the Columbia River cash when asked if any of that money would be used as an investment.

"Certainly not. No Columbia money—you mean for shares," was his reply.

This qualification sparked immediate speculation the government would deposit accounts in the bank.

Mr. Gordon seemed to see nothing wrong with this when Mr. Perrault phoned him.

"He said it would create 'an interesting situation,'" the Liberal leader said.

### PIPSQUEAK RIVAL

Mr. Bennett said he hoped the new B.C. bank will be "one of the largest" in Canada.

A rival venture, the Bank of Western Canada, was described by a backer as "only a pipsqueak" with plans for \$10,000,000 authorized capital, compared with Mr. Bennett's prediction of many times \$50,000,000.

The premier said all the other chartered banks have headquarters in Ontario and Quebec.

"Our chartered banks in Canada are the best in the world. I have no criticism of them."

"But having it (the new bank) established in B.C. will recognize the great development of B.C."

Mr. Bennett predicted the new bank will "strengthen the whole structure of the banking system."

It would, he said, "create a balance" between eastern and western Canada.



# es Ok nk Pla

## More Aid Pledged Education

By FRANK RUTTER  
Times Legislative Reporter

More aid for B.C. education at all levels was pledged by the provincial government Thursday.

But no details were given in the government program outlined in the Speech from the Throne at the opening of the Legislature.

Apart from the "Bennett bank" the speech contained little that was unexpected or new.

In spite of this, the speech was one of the longest in recent years—4,000 words.

Opposition leaders said it was uninspiring.

New Democratic Party Leader Robert Strachan called it "page after page of bragadocio."

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault said it contained "little new or startling."

However, the throne speech does not necessarily mention

all the things a government intends to do during a session.

It was expected there would be more aid to education—if only to meet rising costs and population.

### SCHOLARSHIPS

However, the speech mentioned increased scholarships and bursaries, which may mean a boost in the \$520,000 student aid fund this year.

There will be labor legislation to prevent discrimination against older workers, the speech said.

Also planned is a new Mental Health Act, which would combine and modernize a number of existing pieces of legislation.

The government also promised more regional mental health treatment facilities.

It is believed these will include an addition to services in Prince George and hiring a large number of new staff.

### ANTI-SMOKING

Plans for an anti-smoking education campaign among children will be announced later.

There will be legislation to improve the province's county court system. It may provide for more judges and changes in court facilities, at present badly crowded across the province.

Amendments will be made to the Municipal Act and the Municipalities Enabling and Invalidating Act, both of which were linked in the speech to the new federal municipal loan fund.

### GAS ACT

A revised Petroleum and Natural Gas Act will come at this session as well as legislation regarding the underground storage of hydrocarbons—again not explained so far.

One new appointment was announced in the throne speech: Judge William Tysoe of the B.C. appeal court takes over as royal commissioner investigating workmen's compensation.

He replaces the late chief justice A. C. DesBrisay, who died before finishing the inquiry.



## In Our

## HOUSE

By Arthur Mayse

Thursday was all pomp and panoply in British Columbia's House, but today the ladies with their little white gloves and hats like coconut-dipped marshmallows are flitted, and the morning coats are back upon their hangars.

Today, in the leisurely fashion that befits a Friday afternoon under the green-copper dome, our 52 lawmakers begin to get down to business.

There's much to be done. That was plain to anyone who chose to read between the lines of the formally under-stated Speech from the Throne which launched the Legislative Assembly into its 1964 session.

We're to have a new bank. Already, and perhaps mistakenly, people are calling it The Bank of British Columbia.

And already, keen noses on the Opposition side of the red carpet are sniffing for a fiscal rat.

For this and other reasons, our dubious welfare situation among them, we may expect a brisk session; one which will test the mettle of parliament's new speaker before many days have passed.

★ ★ ★

Officially, we were in a bad way when Her Majesty's representative sought and was granted admission to the Legislative Chamber shortly before 3 o'clock Thursday afternoon.

The House lacked a referee. Hugh Shantz, who last year ruled the often-embattled roost as speaker, was out of politics and raising horses up-country.

So the speaker's chair in its alcove sat empty when Lieutenant-Governor George Randolph Pearkes paced into the House behind parliament's emissaries and his own uniformed aides.

★ ★ ★

What followed was gorgeous mummery, the acting-out of one of those traditions with which the Mother of Parliaments has so richly endowed us.

In theory, no man serves willingly as Speaker. The task is too dangerous: if an angered monarch doesn't get him, some incensed legislator will.

Thus, when elected, each new speaker must be dragged protesting to the arbitrator's perilous chair.

Down toward a dramatically-flinching William Murray of Prince Rupert stride Premier Bennett and Opposition Leader Strachan.

Coaxing and tugging, they dislodge parliament's choice from his seat.

"I do not wish to serve!" he mutters, hanging back (but not too hard), while they drag him to where the speaker's tricorn hat and black gown await him.

All is now in order. The lieutenant-governor intones the throne speech and presently departs. The doors of parliament are closed, curtained, and barred, and up rises Attorney-General Bonner to introduce the session's first bill.

★ ★ ★

Thursday was Mr. Bennett's day. His fates would be hard-put to send him a brighter.

For better or worse—and only time will answer—he had the Columbia deal snug in his pocket, not to mention a fine old sending of American dollars with which to sugar his new bank's kitty.

Last year's election whitened his NDP Opposition, and the Liberal band has not been increased.

The big smile beams on friend and foe with equal unctious. Our House has never seen it wider!

BY 'BENNETT'S BANK'

## City Bankers Surprised

Victoria bank managers today expressed unanimous surprise at the government's announcement in the Throne speech Thursday of its intention to become a shareholder in a new chartered bank to be formed in the province.

"This comes as a complete surprise to me, and to everyone else in the business so far as I know," a manager said.

A spokesman for the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, which has been handling most of the government's accounts for over a year, said his firm had no advance notice of the government's intention.

Asked whether there seemed to be any opening for a new organization in the Canadian banking field, one manager commented that "there doesn't seem to be any great profit outlook for a small, local bank operating under normal competitive conditions."

Another man cited the suc-

cess of the Bank of America in San Francisco as an example of a regional bank which had been built up by serving the needs of local people and suggested that the proposed new

B.C. bank could enjoy a similar success.

"However," he added, "there are 30 million people in California compared with less than 2 million in B.C."

## MORE WOMEN DRIVE CARS

The woman driver is slowly but surely catching up on the male.

B.C. motor vehicle superintendent George Lindsay reported to the Legislature Thursday that there are 484,377 men and 222,963 women licensed to drive.

"Whilst the percentage is still predominant in the male category it is noted that this ratio is declining by slightly more than 1 per cent each year," Mr. Lindsay said in his annual report.

## CANNON, BANDS, SEAGULLS

### 'House' Opens—Ho Hum

The crack of cannon, the blare of brass and the fast-stepping Queen's Own Rifles aroused Victoria Thursday to the opening of the 27th British Columbia legislature.

... Or tried to arouse Victoria.

Barely 200 spectators were on hand for the annual ceremonial that people in distant parts are envious to see. But

the event lost none of its flare for all the disinterest.

The rain held off though the earlier sunshine had gone. A 100-man guard of honor from First Battalion Queen's Own formed up before the Legislative Buildings in dress greens. The bugle band in Persian lamb shakos shared the honor of inspection by Lieutenant-Governor George Pearkes.

A 15-gun salute scattered a flypast of seagulls as Premier Bennett greeted the

Queen's representative on the steps.

Captain Vancouver looked down from the dome in polished splendor. Even without the cheering thousands he might have expected at home in England, he appeared satisfied with the event.

## B.C. Cares For More Children

The B.C. government managed to squeeze an extra 60 retarded children into provincial institutions at last count.

The annual report of the mental health service, filed in the legislature Thursday, showed there were 64 fewer children in Woodlands last year than in 1962.

However, new facilities at Tranquille, near Kamloops, took 126 more retarded children during the year, nearly all of them transfers from Woodlands, which is in New Westminster.

The report, from deputy minister A. E. Davidson, said 210 new patients were admitted to Woodlands during the year.

The report did not say what the Woodlands waiting list is. It has been variously reported between 200 and 800.

## Judge Tysoe Will Head Probe

Appointment of Judge Charles William Tysoe as new head of the royal commission on workmen's compensation was announced by the B.C. government Thursday.

He replaces Chief Justice A. C. DesBrisay, who died last year while he was still conducting his inquiry.

Mr. Justice Tysoe is on the bench of the B.C. appeal court.

## Inquiries Cost B.C. \$123,442

The B.C. government spent \$123,442 last year on royal commissions and public inquiries.

The public accounts of the province, tabled Thursday in the legislature, show that money was spent on five probes.

Costliest was continuing work of the B.C. Energy Board which studies the power field in general. In the financial year which ended last March 31, it spent \$45,464.

The workmen's compensation inquiry, which is still under way, cost \$43,626.

The Clyne royal commission on expropriation, which was appointed in 1961, and still hasn't reported, cost \$33,782.

An inquiry into fish and power on the Puntledge River conducted by Dr. Henry Angus cost \$419.

Another inquiry into amendments of the Marriage Act had a bill of \$148.



FRIDAY, JAN. 24, 1964

## MR. PREMIER—MEET MR. SPEAKER

# The Name Is Murray, Not Murphy

Premier W. A. C. Bennett made a slip of the tongue at the opening of the legislature Thursday—he nominated "William Harvey Murphy" as the new speaker.

No, it wasn't the head of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union of independent and often-questioned affiliation.

It was supposed to be William Harvey Murray, the Social Credit MLA for Prince Rupert.

He is the new Speaker of the House, and his election was the first formal act of the new legislature.

With mock resistance, he was escorted on each arm by the premier and Opposition Leader Robert Strachan.

A new deputy speaker was also appointed.

William Speare (SC-Cariboo) takes over from Alex Mathew (SC-Vancouver East), deputy speaker for the past seven years.

There were 627 special guests at the opening ceremony—but one of the invited did not appear.

That was Davie Fulton, provincial leader of the Conservative party, which has not one seat in the House.

As a member of the Privy Council because he is a former federal cabinet minister, Mr. Fulton got an automatic invitation. According to protocol sources he did not acknowledge it.

However, the heads of the judiciary, the armed services, education and some industrial captains were there in force.

Outstanding among them was Phyllis Ross, wife of former Lieutenant-Governor Frank Ross, wearing a glittering golden gown under her robes of office as chancellor of UBC.

Lieutenant-Governor George Pearkes took 34 minutes to read the 4,000-word Speech from the Throne.

## B.C.'s Taste Beery, Budget Champagne

The B.C. government is making a bigger than ever profit out of liquor, although the public is losing its taste for champagne.

The Liquor Control Board made a profit of \$15,095,008 in its last audited six-month period, up to Sept. 30, 1963. That is \$600,000 more than it made during the same time in 1962.

However, consumption figures disclosed in the LCB's annual report filed with the Legislature Thursday, show that British Columbians are drinking less champagne.

The LCB in its last fiscal year of operations sold \$239,223 worth compared with \$250,992 the previous year.

### WINES BOOM

Much cheaper B.C.-made wines, however, boomed—from \$3,250,000 to \$4,260,000.

Sales of spirits in the fiscal year which ended last March 31 were up \$3,000,000 to \$56,929,192.

Beer was also a \$3,000,000 better-seller. The values of malt liquor sales totalled \$45,264,434.

Total sales during the fiscal year, already reported in midsummer, were \$109,590,000 with a profit of \$31,180,000.

During the year, burglars made off with \$43,186 worth of drinks.

The courts put 961 on the interdict list and let 644 off.

## Motor Branch (Still) Seeks New Quarters

A plaintive annual plea for a new building was made to the provincial government Thursday by motor vehicle superintendent George Lindsay.

"Again I must mention that the facilities of this branch in Victoria are very inadequate," said Mr. Lindsay in his annual report, presented to the legislature.

"As each year goes by the situation becomes just that much more difficult through congestion of files and crowding of working areas."

The records now, said Mr. Lindsay, are "particularly vulnerable to fire." There are no copies of many of them, he added.

This year, Mr. Lindsay has said Mr. Lindsay in his annual report, presented to the legislature.

It is a question of more staff or more machines, he said.

The latest staff count of 294 is exactly the same as in 1961, he said.

## ised

B.C. bank could enjoy a similar success.

"However," he added, "there are 30 million people in California compared with less than 2 million in B.C."

## S s—Ho Hum

Queen's representative on the steps.

Captain Vancouver looked down from the dome in polished splendor. Even without the cheering thousands he might have expected at home in England, he appeared satisfied with the event.

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FRIDAY, JAN. 24, 1964

# Urgent Need for More Aid Child Welfare Chief States

Family and child welfare looms as a major new problem in a changing B.C. society, according to the provincial welfare department.

A report tabled in the legislature Thursday time and time again stresses the increase in family and child welfare cases during the past year.

This is contrasted against a decrease in aid and caseloads of elderly people.

Mary K. King, the superintendent of child welfare, which now also handles family problems, says there is an urgent need for increased service.

She says there should be a special education program for young people on the problems of marriage and children.

She also used the words "urgent need" for treatment facilities for emotionally disturbed and mentally ill children.

Sometimes, she says, people lose sight of the family from which a problem child comes.

"It requires emotional ma-

turity and great strength of character to meet the daily stress and frustration created by lack of work, marginal income, poor housing, lack of wholesome recreational and social activities."

She urged an education program of preparation for marriage and parenthood on a broad community level.

"It will take time and money to put the necessary program into effect but the time and money spent should result in a lessening of juvenile delinquency problems and children removed from their own homes."

Miss King is the successor to Ruby McKay, who quit in 1961 over conditions in the department. This is the first year Miss King has spoken out strongly on the needs of her division.

## Child Welfare Case Load Increases

The cost of caring for children rose more than 10 per cent in the year which ended last March 31, to hit a new total of \$4,200,000.

There were 8,522 children under the care of Miss King's division and private welfare agencies during the year, an increase of 416.

The child welfare case load for B.C. rose from 7,362 to 8,139 during the year. The number of family service cases rose from 1,325 to 1,601.

Together they comprise more than 12 per cent of all welfare cases.

Neglect was the main reason for child welfare services.

There were also 2,718 unmarried mothers during the year, an increase of 79.

Although 1,409 children were

found homes for adoption, at the end of the year there were still 64 without homes and a waiting list of only 101 would-be parents, a "very narrow margin," Miss King says.

Nearly every regional welfare superintendent pointed to family and child problems.

Miss M. Jamieson of the Vancouver Island region said the problems are caused by "the stress of family life under present unsettled conditions."

Although the Island welfare caseload declined 5 per cent, there were 112 more child welfare cases and 66 more family problems.

H. E. Blanchard, superintendent of the lower mainland metropolitan area, reported a "very significant increase" in child welfare cases—221 more than the previous year.

## Interior Case Load Jumps 19 Per Cent

"The average child welfare work case is much more demanding of the worker's time than is the average old age case," he said.

The biggest percentage increase of child cases came in the interior where the caseload jumped from 574 to 681, or 19 per cent.

Welfare director J. A. Sadler said that B.C.'s population is changing to a bigger proportion of people under the age of 15.

And those who need guidance, he said, come from all income levels of family.

A research consultant is checking family welfare cases, he said, to see if it is possible to change their pattern of living so that children will not grow up like their parents, who are on welfare.

A total of 4.74 per cent of B.C.'s population is receiving welfare aid.

The biggest proportion is still the elderly group receiving supplementary assistance—29,628—but it is smaller than in 1962.

Next come those on social allowance—28,793—only a slight increase from 1962.

Despite efforts to increase the number of trained social work-

ers, the welfare department still has staff problems.

Assistant director R. J. Burnham said the staff has been "under a great pressure of work."

D. W. Fowler of the training division, reported: "We are still faced with problems of a heavy staff turnover and lack of trained workers."

The department's social work staff totalled 268, an increase of 19 over 1962.

Of these 100 were university trained.

## Gaglardi Regains \$\$ Crown

Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi has regained the B.C. government expense account championship.

His expenses for the fiscal year which ended last March 31 were \$7,494 according to the public accounts, filed with the legislature.

The second highest spender in the government's service was labor minister W. H. Sands, with \$5,923.

Next came Premier Bennett with \$5,534.

Triple minister Wesley Black (Provincial Secretary, Municipal Affairs, Social Welfare) got \$4,625.

Other ministers: Education-Labor Minister Leslie Peterson \$3,238; Agriculture Minister Frank Richter, \$3,125; Attorney-General Robert Bonner, \$2,180; Recreation Minister Earle Westwood \$2,131; Health Minister Eric Martin, \$2,998; Resources Minister Ray Williston, \$3,559; and Works Minister W. N. Chant, \$2,191.





## In Our HOUSE

By Arthur Mayse

The victor is entitled to his gloat, and with the sweetness and light of opening day behind, a triumphant Social Credit government was quick to twist the knife in a diminished but still-kicking Opposition.

This on Friday, led to dismal groans and cries of "Shame!" from the losers' side of the legislative floor.

It also leads this observer to predict that the first session of our 27th provincial parliament is going to be both rough and noisy.

First glory over a smitten foe was Daniel R. J. Campbell, Comox riding's gift to our House. While the seven Sacred new boys sat demurely at their desks in the back row, old-hand Campbell got in his licks.

Except to note the prudence of separating Opposition benches from government by a traditional three sword-lengths, there's scant point in dwelling on this by-play.

Mr. Campbell also gave thanks for two dispensations to Comox riding, the projected ferries to Prince Rupert and Westview.

In this context, he described himself as singing "the Hallelujah Chorus which will again be part of the language of this House."

### Adjustment?

It was my personal impression that hallelujahs are reserved for the deity, but perhaps some local adjustment has been made which I've missed.

In any case I slipped out presently to the corridor, and there learned from one of tobacco's sternest enemies in our House that no government attempt will be made to fight nicotine by legislation.

"Prohibition does not work," said my informant. "They proved that in the United States with liquor. It only leads to bootlegging."

What the government does propose is a brisk campaign against smoking, to be waged on the departmental level. Aid of community groups throughout British Columbia will be enlisted, and our schools will be prime targets in the drive.

The federal government, I learned, is also considering an anti-cigarette campaign in schools across Canada, but may run into difficulties.

This through a provision of the British North American Act which places school matters firmly in the hands of each province.

### Pages Who Fit

Our war veteran attendants—capable, firm, and wonderfully kind—are at their stations in corridors and galleries. The pages are busy, too.

Only four of last year's page corps are with us this session. Recruited from top-level students at St. Louis College, the boys must be of a size to fit the dashing navy-and-red uniforms provided. When a boy's growth reaches a point where too much wrist and ankle shows, his days as a House page are over.

"Good boys," said an attendant of the six new messengers, "and they learn fast. They take it very hard if they make a mistake and have to be corrected."

### Touch of Spring

Our House is not without its flashes of sartorial splendor, and Friday's best was Opposition Leader Strachan's waistcoat. Worn with a red tie, this rather startling garment is of palest primrose, checked with thin black lines.

Like the flowers in front of our sole surviving lady member, Mrs. Lois Haggen, NDP for Grand Forks-Greenwood, it lent a welcome hint of spring.

## Brothers Hits Herridge On Columbia

Donald Brothers (SC—Rossland-Trail), seconding the Speech from the Throne Friday, said there will be "no further serious flooding" along the Columbia River when the treaty is ratified and the three dams in B.C. constructed.

The construction would bring in hundreds of construction workers and hundreds of others as service employees, he said.

"Only one man stands between immediate ratification of the Columbia—and that is H. W. Herridge," (New Democrat federal MP for Kootenay West), he said.

Randolph Harding (NDP—Kaslo-Slocan) interjected:

"That's naive."

Mr. Brothers retorted: "The member for Kaslo-Slocan has no right to delay the plan any longer."

Former prime minister John Diefenbaker and one-time federal justice minister E. Davie Fulton had obstructed the Columbia treaty "and this is one reason they are where they are."

## 'Have Army Crush Grey Cup Riots'

The City of Vancouver the situation, Mr. Brothers said.

There were hooligans, young punks and mobsters roaming the streets, he told the House.

"The city of Vancouver will have to do something about it. They should be given more authority. If necessary I think the city of Vancouver should call in the army."

He said he was "thoroughly frightened" when he went to Vancouver at Grey Cup time last November.

"It was a national disgrace that mob violence took place in Vancouver.

"I hardly saw a football-rooter downtown."

Instead, he saw "leather-jacketed hooligans breaking windows, tearing shrubs out of pots, tearing telephones out of booths, fighting, swearing, drinking in public."

The police handled things with restraint and fairness but they were not prepared for

## Power Sites on Stikine Eyed Now by Socreds

A big new power project is being investigated on the Stikine River but a go-ahead will depend on mineral development of the northwestern area, Resources Minister Ray Williston said Friday.

The Stikine, which runs roughly halfway between Casiar and Stewart high in the northwest, has a power potential of about 1,300,000 kilowatts.

The annual report of the provincial water resources department, tabled in the Legislature

Friday, says that four storage and power sites are being investigated.

Studies are continuing and will be followed by a preliminary engineering investigation of the sites, it said.

The project would include diversion of the Dease River into the Tazilla River, a tributary of the Stikine.

Mr. Williston termed the project as "in the future."

"It depends on what happens in the Prince Rupert and Stewart area," he said.

Mr. Williston suggested that the project might go ahead if a smelter were established to handle possible large copper deposits which are now being explored.

The water resources department is also conducting a thorough reappraisal of all B.C. power resources.

Much of the work is being done on a new IBM 1620 computer obtained last year by the statistics division of the trade department.

### SOCRED SAYS:

## College Costs 'Inconsistent'

Universities have been guilty of distorting their requirements and exaggerating their building programs, Comox Social Credit MLA Dan Campbell charged in the Legislature Friday.

He said the University of B.C. had "a surplus of plans for projected expenditure" and had been "amazingly inconsistent" in its requests to the government.

Among the examples he used of "inconsistencies" was a statement by former UBC president Dr. N. A. M. MacKenzie in 1957 that it was "foolish to start the University of Victoria now."

#### DISTORTED PICTURE

He attacked the present president, Dr. John Macdonald, for giving "a distorted picture" of higher education needs in a report made last year.

He criticized Macdonald Report figures showing UBC graduated only 6.3 per cent of its student enrolment, compared with up to 62.9 per cent in Columbia University in the U.S.

"UBC in a very large measure has taken senior matriculation students from the Vancouver school system and these inflated first year figures are further incorporated in the total enrolment of the university," Mr. Campbell said.

"Obviously this gives a distorted picture."

UBC admits that 40 per cent of its enrolment consists of first-year students, Mr. Campbell said.

#### CLEAR-CUT GOALS

University cash requirements have varied back and forth from \$10,000,000 over 10 years in 1955 to \$100,000,000, in 1962 Mr. Campbell said.

"I would think the public are entitled to a presentation of clear-cut goals for higher education expenditures which not only stand the test of time but are the product of the statistical brains that are supposed to be there on the campus at Point Grey," Mr. Campbell said.

He called higher education critics of government policy "shallow."

In 30 years between 1930 and 1950 the B.C. government increased its university aid by

less than \$1,000,000, Mr. Campbell said. This year it will spend more than \$20,000,000.

The government had built up a school system based on the idea of education for every man's child and now was turning to provide education fitted to the needs of every man's child, Mr. Campbell declared.

While it may be true that government highways and buildings were sometimes "overemphasized," Mr. Campbell said, B.C. has made advances in education social welfare and health "which are the envy of North America—with the exception of the Opposition parties in this House."

Mr. Campbell said there had also been shallow criticism about the quality of teachers in B.C.

#### CRITICS 'SHALLOW'

"The teaching staff of this province is quite flexible and quite capable of taking us through these periods of change," he said.

Mr. Campbell branded Opposition welfare critics as shallow, too, though he took the word back when challenged by the chief critic, Dave Barrett (NDP Dewdney).

"I won't suggest the member is personally shallow — his examination of the problem was shallow," Mr. Campbell amended.

The Opposition was only complaining that social workers were under-paid, he went on.

#### HIGHER PENSIONS

"The people of B.C. pay higher pensions to older people than anywhere in Canada," he declared.

He drew cries of "shame" when he recalled the time one of his speeches made a member cry.

And he reiterated the charge that forced the tears — from former Delta NDP member Camille Mather — that the Opposition was "playing politics with human misery."



SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1964

## FIRST NIGHT SESSION SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY

Night sittings and plenty of ammunition to keep them going appeared on the horizon of the legislature Friday.

Premier Bennett filed notice that night sittings would start Monday, probably at 8 p.m.

The first one will feature Attorney-General Robert Bonner.

He will speak after the two Opposition leaders, Robert Strachan of the New Democrats and Liberal Ray Perrault, make their replies to the speech from the throne in the afternoon.

A total of 74 questions appeared on the order paper at the first day of regular business Friday.

No less than 14 are directed at Welfare Minister Wesley Black by the Opposition welfare critic Dave Barrett (NDP Dewdney).

He wants to know details of caseloads, staff, training, resignations, social assistance figures, Woodlands school for the retarded and unemployment assistance.

Welfare is expected to be

a hotly-debated issue after last year's controversy sparked by charges from Prince George social worker Mrs. Bridget Moran that the welfare department's services were "sick."

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby) has a dozen questions for Health Minister Eric Martin including a request for the number of children on the waiting list for Woodlands.

Opposition Leader Strachan wants to know all about the expenses of parties and candidates in the Sept. 30 provincial election.

He also has questions about a contract between B.C. Hydro and Westcoast Transmission for gas.

Mr. Strachan has also filed notice that he will move consideration by the government of a Hansard to give verbatim record of proceedings in the House.

Mr. Dowding has a motion coming up to allow anyone to sue the Crown without first obtaining a fiat.

The House adjourned at 5:38 p.m. and will sit again at 2 p.m. Monday.

## Island Logging Companies Blamed for 'Shacktowns'

Logging companies have created "disgraceful shack towns" on northern Vancouver Island, an MLA charged Friday.

Dan Campbell (SC-Comox) said that at Kelsey Bay, Sayward and Port Hardy there are "shacktown bunkhouses."

"Some of them are not fit for anyone to live in," he told the legislature.

He said that tree farm licences should include provisions for proper subdivisions and townsites that are not controlled by the companies involved.

The people who work in these communities should be given a chance to develop new towns themselves, he said.

A first-class example of good development is at the Rayonier operation in Port McNeill, Mr. Campbell said.

He suggested that a legislative access committee, set up for the past two years to study specific problems, should be given the task of handling general features of resources development. He regretted the throne speech, to which he was moving the reply, had made no mention of the committee.

Mr. Campbell said that members of the public should be allowed to express their views on development of "company towns" before the committee.

"We can't have effective representation in government unless the public is given an opportunity to present its views" Mr. Campbell said.

## 'Have Army Crush Grey Cup Riots'

The City of Vancouver should be given the power to call in the army to quell Grey Cup "riots" that endanger lives, the legislature was told Friday.

"It is a wonder that somebody wasn't killed that night," said Rossland-Trail Social member Donald Brothers.

He said he was "thoroughly frightened" when he went to Vancouver at Grey Cup time last November.

"It was a national disgrace that mob violence took place in Vancouver."

"I hardly saw a football-rooter downtown."

Instead, he saw "leather-jacketed hooligans breaking windows, tearing shrubs out of pots, tearing telephones out of booths, fighting, swearing, drinking in public."

The police handled things with restraint and fairness but they were not prepared for

the situation, Mr. Brothers said.

There were hooligans, young punks and mobsters roaming the streets, he told the House.

"The city of Vancouver will have to do something about it. They should be given more authority. If necessary I think the city of Vancouver should call in the army."

## SOCRED MLA WANTS HELP

Research assistants for MLAs were advocated in the legislature Friday by Dan Campbell, the Social Credit member for Comox.

He suggested the trade department hire a number of researchers who could be seconded to the MLAs when the House was in session.

"It is sometimes difficult to reach an intelligent decision today in government," Mr. Campbell said.

"Government as we move into the 60s is going to become more complicated."

MONDAY, JAN. 27, 1964

## Legislature Committees Too Strong?

A Soerod MLA Friday called for a weakening of the powers of committees set up by the B.C. legislature.

Donald Brothers (SC—Rossland-Trail) quoted new B.C. Supreme Court Justice Angela Branca as a 'supporting' authority.

Mr. Brothers, speaking in the Throne Speech debate in the legislature, said he had been shocked by the apparent powers of the 1963 select committee investigating highways graft allegations.

He said Mr. Justice Branca, who had then been defence counsel, has stated that the hearings required the defendants to establish proof of innocence.



## 'FOR GOD'S SAKE DO SOMETHING'

## Emotions Run High In Welfare Hassle

By FRANK RUTTER  
Times Legislative Reporter

Social welfare hit the legislature like an earthquake Monday: tradition tumbled, tempers cracked and emotions poured across the floor.

The rumble began with a fierce indictment of Social Credit government policy by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan, who spoke 2½ hours; An unprecedented harangue by Premier W. A. C. Bennett;

A shouting match with Health Minister Eric Martin;

An Opposition welfare critic became so carried away with emotion that he forfeited his later place in the throne speech debate;

A tumultuous clash between the premier and Oak Bay Liberal Alan Macfarlane;

And new Speaker William Murray's first taste of fire in which he ticked off both the premier and Mr. Martin.

It ended, after three and a quarter hours, with the government defeating a non-confidence motion charging neglect of mental health and welfare by a vote of 31 to 15.

It was the first big debate of the session which opened last Thursday, and it broke several traditions.

Never before has Mr. Strachan forced the premier so early to his feet to reply to criticism. Usually Mr. Bennett does not participate in the throne speech debate. He said he did so because the Opposition should not have moved non-confidence so soon after his election victory.

## 'Five-Day Week Minister' Wanted

Not in recent memory has any member forfeited his chance to speak later in the debate by joining the debate on an amendment such as the non-confidence vote.

But David Barrett (NDP—Dewdney) pleaded with the government:

"For God's sake do something."

Mr. Strachan's attack culminated in a call for a "five-day week minister" instead of Welfare Minister Wesley Black who earlier admitted to spending two days a week on this department.

Mr. Black was only "fumbling and bumbling from one crisis to another," Mr. Strachan said.

The premier leaped to his feet to deliver a violent denunciation of the New Democratic Party and Liberals for losing elections and having so many different leaders.

It was greeted with howls of laughter by the Social majority.

"It's all very well to sit there and laugh and crow about your election victory—and it was a well-deserved victory," said Mr. Barrett.

"But with the victory goes an obligation.

"You won the fight. Now are you prepared to pick up from the field of battle and do what is expected of you.

"I ask you for God's sake do something about these services."

## 'I'm Glad He Did It'—Strachan

Mr. Barrett, who seconded the motion of non-confidence, thus lost his opportunity to speak in more detail until the budget debate, scheduled for the second week in February.

"But I'm glad he did it," Mr. Strachan said afterwards.

Mr. Barrett said that in 1953 B.C. had 243 social workers in the field.

In 1963 it had only 239—a decrease of four.

Yet the population had increased 40 per cent in those 10 years; the welfare case load had jumped 50 to 60 per cent.

"And you (the Socials) think it is funny to sit there and crow while the premier tells political fables."

Mr. Strachan branded the government "a materialistic monstrosity" which refused to answer questions or pay proper attention to welfare.

Mr. Strachan read portions of a recent letter from Amy Leigh, who was assistant director of welfare in 1953, but resigned in 1958.

She said:

1. The government's family service division is "practically non-existent" since it ordered a 10-per-cent cut in staff in 1956;

2. Services have deteriorated to such a point "that it is difficult to know just where we stand at the moment;

3. "The greatest and most urgent need is for a change in attitude on the part of those in power. . . . The waste of money under the present system should no longer be tolerated."

Said Mr. Strachan: "Under this materialistic monstrosity of Social Credit the social problems of our people have grown out of all proportion."

The government has neither the ability nor desire to do anything about it, he added.

"Year after year the premier and the ministers concerned have piously informed us that improvements would come 'next year.'"

"It's always 'next year.'"

He said a welfare debate between Mr. Black and Mr. Martin on television a few weeks ago was "a music hall act." Then came Mr. Black's TV appearance when he said he allotted three days a week to his other portfolios—municipal affairs and provincial secretary—leaving two days for welfare.

Mr. Strachan demanded a new department of social welfare and rehabilitation—with a heavy accent on rehabilitation. It would also include alcoholic and narcotic treatment as well as correctional services, with two deputy min-

isters. In addition all welfare costs should be removed from municipalities to set a single standard for all B.C.

Mr. Strachan aroused Mr. Martin's ire with an attack on mental health policy.

He recalled that Mr. Martin had threatened to "lower the boom" on Opposition health critics.

"We on this side of the House are getting a little fed up with these juvenile outbursts which are becoming a trademark of this minister," he said.

## Health Minister Should Resign

He said Mr. Martin should resign because he had campaigned in the election for medicare, but never did anything about it.

He accused the government of false propaganda in the election when it published a brochure saying a new Victoria mental health centre was "being constructed."

Mr. Martin said the word "constructed" had "somehow or other" replaced the intended word, which was "developed."

The Opposition leader said mental health reports had become so dull and controlled they were uninteresting; criticisms were edited out.

He predicted Mr. Martin would get up in the House this year and say "everything is all

right" as he had done every year.

He charged that the waiting list for Woodlands School for Retarded has jumped from 550 in 1958 to over 800.

"What waiting list?" Mr. Martin interjected.

Mr. Strachan said there had been 255 retarded patients in Essondale mental institution awaiting transfer to Woodlands.

"Oh nonsense," Mr. Martin said.

The minister denied he ever said everything was "all right." He demanded Mr. Strachan withdraw his remarks because he was "hitting below the belt" but Speaker Murray made him sit down and stop interrupting.

## Premier Attacks All Three Parties

When Mr. Strachan had finished, Mr. Bennett began an attack on all three other political parties in the province.

The Conservatives, he said, had had four leaders since 1952, and lost every election; the Liberals had four and lost, too; the NDP had five leaders since 1933 and had lost 10 elections.

Up jumped Mr. Macfarlane.

The premier had spoken for 10 minutes without mentioning either of the subjects under debate—welfare and health.

Mr. Murray cautioned the premier to "deal with the subject."

Mr. Bennett, pointing his finger at Mr. Macfarlane, stuttered: "This legal... this... trying to stop freedom of speech."

"The premier of this province is making a mockery of this legislature," the Liberal shouted back.

"We come here duly elected by the people of the province to seriously consider the affairs of the province."

"I am speaking on mental health," the premier replied.

"They said everything they said today (the opposition) through the election—the people decided... the people spoke."

Mr. Macfarlane attempted to rise again.

"Oh, sit down," snapped the premier.

An angry-faced Liberal leader, Ray Perrault, protested to the Speaker.

Mr. Bennett sailed on, blasting the NDP anew.

He wound up with a final charge that the NDP had changed its name from CCF "to fool the public"; announced "I'm against the amendment"; and sat down.



## In Our HOUSE

By Arthur Mayse

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Adversity makes strange bedfellows, and were it not for Fighting Bob Strachan's personal assurance that the flower in his lapel was a carnation, I might on Monday have mistaken it for a red, red Liberal rose.

Through rifts in the smoke of an afternoon flareup that all but splintered Speaker Murray's gavel, the official New Democratic Party Opposition and its little Grit companion could be glimpsed battling shoulder-to-shoulder against an aroused and trumpeting premier.

In fact, had they planned the attack, Liberals Alan Macfarlane of Oak Bay and his party leader, Ray Perrault of North Vancouver, couldn't have merged forces more solidly with NDP's Strachan and David Barrett, Dewdney.

Surface cause of the brangian—the first this budding session has witnessed—was Mr. Bennett's interpretation of a motion with which Mr. Strachan nipped off his somewhat querulous reply to the Throne Speech.

This motion called for an amendment to the earlier Sacred motion to accept the Throne Speech. The amendment, if passed, would place the government in the position of deprecating its "lack of adequate social welfare and mental health programs".

### Comic Opera

This bidding of the government to kick its own posterior was pure Gilbert and Sullivan, and I doubt even its originator expected the move to be taken seriously.

But Mr. Bennett, who had been looking more and more pent as the Opposition chief trounced Social Credit health and welfare measures, roared out of his big blue chair like a rocket off the pad.

As if last year's election were still to be won, the premier flew into a speech. Mr. Strachan's motion for an amendment, he branded a vote of non-confidence in the government.

With only the briefest pause for breath, he then danced on provincial Conservatism's grave, with an extra stomp for Davie Fulton, and went on to drub both Liberals and New Democrats.

Already that afternoon, Speaker William Murray had teetered on the verge of invoking standing orders against Health Minister Eric Martin when Mr. Martin tangled over his department's works with Mr. Strachan.

Now, while Mr. Speaker's gavel beat a rigadon any woodpecker might envy, Mr. Macfarlane and Mr. Bennett had at each other to the joy of well-populated galleries.

### Into the Fray

These were the principals, although both Mr. Strachan and Liberal Leader Ray Perrault got in a hasty shot or two.

Then, disregarding what appeared to be a 'keep-out' hand signal from his leader, into the fray plunged David Barrett.

Mr. Barrett is no new pleader for revised welfare policies. On Monday, though, he spoke with an eloquence and a fervor that did him credit.

Then the division bell, another first for the session, and a standing vote the result of which was predictable: government solidly against Mr. Strachan's motion, official and minor oppositions no less solidly for.

And that, I suspect, is how the lineup will shape at each crisis in a session that promises fireworks aplenty.

## Revival Asked Of Pattullo Gas Curb Bid

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan Monday called on the government to proclaim a forgotten piece of legislation allowing it to control the oil industry.

He said the current royal commission into gasoline prices is unnecessary.

The government had plenty of information about gasoline prices from two sources: a royal commission conducted in the 1930s by former judge M. A. Macdonald; a trade department investigation of two years ago.

All that is necessary, Mr. Strachan said, is for the government to proclaim the Petroleum Sales Act, passed about 20 years ago by the Pattullo Liberal regime as a club, but never invoked.

It gives the government the power to go into the sale of petroleum products on its own, and to establish controls.

But Attorney-General Robert Bonner was unimpressed, calling it "a happily dormant bill."

## Gagliardi Gave Untrue Answers Says Strachan

Highways Minister P. A. Gagliardi is guilty of giving answers in the legislature that were "completely and absolutely untrue," Opposition Leader Robert Strachan charged Monday.

He made the accusation in the House as he renewed a plea for a B.C. "ombudsman" to whom the public could take their complaints about government.

Attorney-General Bonner rejected the proposal, however. The role of such a person is difficult to define, he told Mr. Strachan.

The Opposition leader illustrated his argument with examples of questions that the government had refused to answer over the years in the House.

And, he said, an ombudsman could have done a much better job of handling last spring's highway graft probe than the House public accounts committee, which was "a farce."

### CITES LIST

Mr. Strachan cited a list of answers to questions given by Mr. Gagliardi on the last day of the 1963 session. The minister said 13 highway projects had not been completed so he could not tell how much they cost.

The very next day at the highway probe, Mr. Strachan said, the highway department comptroller gave a full answer with cost to one of the same questions.

The probe, which completely cleared Mr. Gagliardi of any wrongdoing, had been discussing "Project 1023" which the New Democratic Party charged was "a get well contract" handed out as a favor.

At last year's session Mr. Gagliardi was asked if 13 projects, including 1023 were completed and if so what they cost.

### NEXT DAY

"The minister answering this question on the order paper of March 27, 1963, says, 'No it's not completed and not paid for,'" said Mr. Strachan.

"The very next day, March 28, 1963, I asked a certain question of the comptroller of the department of highways who was then the witness under cross-examination at the highways probe."

The witness, under oath, was A. E. Rhodes.

The official transcript of the probe, Mr. Strachan said, shows that Mr. Rhodes answered the job was completed in 1962 and the cost was \$1,557,698.

He then cited a question asked last year of Premier Bennett: whether a certain A. H. Cassidy of Kamloops or his firm, Casco Tire, were employed by the government.

The answer was: "No. Interior Tire Consultants have been employed," and a figure of \$8,000 was shown as paid by the highways department.

At look at the Kamloops directory, however, showed that Mr. Cassidy owned Interior Tire Consultants.



# PERRAULT TEES OFF ON PREMIER'S BEHAVIOR

## Pompous Petulant, Arrogant

By AB KENT

The new legislature has a "great opportunity" to make sweeping reforms in rules of the House, Liberal leader Ray Perrault said in throne speech debate Monday.

The Liberal leader warned the government it could not "take any mandate to run roughshod over human rights."

He called for more dignity in the conduct of business of the House, and for closer government attention to the spirit of its rules.

"We have seen an example of a pompous, petulant, predictable, arrogant, stuffy little diatribe by the premier this afternoon which does nothing to dignify this chamber and nothing to give an example to the new members."

He said Mr. Bennett showed "petty tyrannical properties not only a disgrace to the students who came here, but a disgrace to the chamber."

"This sort of thing will ensure his demise from B.C. politics faster than any other route."

Increasingly since 1952 the premier and cabinet have assumed more control over the House and its decisions, he declared.

### 'FRESH AIR'

The Liberal leader said it is time to "blow some fresh air into the procedures of the House and its standing orders."

It was also time the leader of the opposition was accorded more recognition.

"The leader of the opposition should be given a day unto himself," he said.

He urged the House to observe spirit and letter of parliamentary traditions and become constructive.

There should be formed a standing committee on power development; the opposition should have the energy board estimate on forecast power demand in the years to come, and detailed power market prospects for Peace and Columbia power; the energy board should now be replaced by "an inquiry board of five top engineers and planners

and let us have their assessment of all B.C.'s energy requirements and energy sources — be they hydro, gas, oil or coal.

"Let us have no repetition of the kind of sterile, unproductive controversy which made many of the sessions of this House into nothing more than exercises of insult and futility," Mr. Perrault said.

### MODIFICATION

He called specifically for modification of the standing order that prevents the House from receiving any resolution urging money-spending unless recommended by the Crown.

This is not found in most other Canadian legislatures, he said.

He called Mr. Bennett's proposal of a new bank one of the bright spots in the throne speech.

But he said no British Columbian would want to see a bank established "within our borders which is the servile instrument of the government of the day, riddled with political influence or appointees."

He hoped it would not be socialist nor Social Credit.

In conclusion he called for social welfare reforms, quoting from a provincial social worker's letter that said he and his co-workers are "guilt-ridden and frustrated" by the situation.

## Investment Record Possible

A great breath of confidence in B.C. could push this year's capital investment to an all-time high, Trade Minister Robert Bonner predicted Monday night.

He told the legislature that present expectations are for capital investment to reach \$1,600,000,000, the record set in 1957.

"This figure might be exceeded," he added.

"People have a tremendous view of this province," he told the legislature in a 50-minute speech at the first night sitting.

Mr. Bonner said the government's two-river policy (Peace and Columbia) has laid the groundwork for B.C.'s industrial future.

For the trade future, Mr. Bonner looked across the Pacific: to Japan, China and Australasia.

He announced the government hoped to see B.C. trade missions this summer to Japan, Australia and New Zealand for both buying and selling.

He also advocated trade with Communist China.

"Many Canadians, he said, are 'restive' about recognition of Red China.

Asked by Alex Macdonald (NDP Vancouver East) if he thought Canada should recognize Red China, he replied:

"I think we should trade. Recognition would be handled by the federal government."

Pressed, he added: "De facto existence can't be disputed.

"Whether you approve of their politics or not is not the issue.

"There is ample opportunity for doing business."

## 'Sacred s Always Pay Oil Magnate's Price'

The Social Credit party won last fall's election with "a dirty campaign" and now it is repaying some of its political debts, Opposition Leader Robert Strachan charged Monday.

The creditor in chief, he told the legislature, is B.C. oil tycoon Frank McMahon.

"This man has always had his price and the Social Credit government has always paid the price," Mr. Strachan declared.

He quoted Mrs. McMahon as saying in a national magazine from her Palm Beach home: "We really have our cake and eat it too."

The McMahon payoffs, Mr. Strachan charged:

In 1956, a gas pipeline franchise;

In 1960, a crude oil monopoly franchise;

In 1963, "a nice fat contract" for natural gas from the publicly-owned B.C. Hydro.

Mr. Strachan quoted Hydro chairman Dr. Gordon Shrum as saying the contract would help finance a new 250-mile Westcoast Transmission Co. pipeline, which Mr. McMahon had reportedly had difficulty in financing.

"The chairman did not say it, although I think he should have, that this will then ensure Mr. McMahon receives

another batch of huge profits so they can continue to have their cake and eat it, too."

Mr. Strachan also was critical of the affairs of W. C. Budd, the premier's executive assistant, who gets a salary from the taxpayers of \$12,000 a year.

Mr. Budd, the opposition leader said, while being paid by the taxpayers, was supervising the Social Credit election campaign in Oak Bay and In Cowichan-Newcastle, Mr. Strachan's own seat.

He had been responsible for advertisements telling the voters they would not get anything in their ridings unless they elected a government member.

"What sort of back-door democracy is this?" Mr. Strachan asked.

**STRACHAN:**

# Life-Saving Road Work Neglected by Socreds

The B.C. government is squandering money on unnecessary roads in Premier Bennett's riding, but ignoring work that could save lives on Vancouver Island, Opposition Leader Robert Strachan declared Monday.

He said the people of Cowichan-Newcastle—his own riding—"laughed and laughed" at the throne speech last Thursday because it said how much work is being done on roads.

The most critical project in the riding was a new road from Duncan to Lake Cowichan, Mr. Strachan said.

**SEVEN KILLED**

Seven people had been killed on it since 1959, two of them this winter.

It had been a government promise for 1963, but nothing had been done.

Another vital project, Mr. Strachan said, was a new road and bridge near Cedar on the way to the Harmac mill and the Hooker Chemical plant.

The bridge was one way and on a dangerous hill.

A third local project that required urgent attention was the Crofton Road.

Last summer, Mr. Strachan said, he had been amazed at the roads in Premier Bennett's South Okanagan riding.

A bypass to Peachland consisted of three separate, but parallel blacktop roads.

**'DISCRIMINATION'**

At another point, he said he found workmen laying new blacktop on a perfectly good highway surface.

"This is squandering public money and the worst kind of discrimination in allocating public funds."

Vancouver Island was also being discriminated against because it was helping to pay off the debt on provincial toll bridges on the mainland, Mr. Strachan said.

Money for this had come out of the general revenue which was collected from places like Cedar and Crofton.

"This is road building on a real patronage basis. They told us the people who used the bridges would pay for them. But the people of Cowichan-Newcastle paid for them

and paid for them with lives of people lost on the dangerous Cowichan Lake Road."

He accused the Socreds of "politicking with human lives" at the Jingle Pot intersection of the Trans-Canada Highway at Wellington, near Nanaimo.

A schoolboy was killed on the highway in January last year.

On June 30, Dan Campbell, the Comox Socred MLA, had promised the government would build an overpass.

On Aug. 20, Mr. Campbell had declared there would be no overpass, and a system of patrols would be adopted instead.

Then came the election, and on Aug. 28 Mr. Campbell and Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi announced there would in fact be an overpass.

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# Collusion Charged By Gaglardi

## NDP, Tories Joined Forces 'To Get Me,' Minister Claims

By FRANK RUTTER  
Times Legislative Reporter

The New Democratic Party has prostituted itself by backing Conservative leader Davie Fulton in the last provincial election, Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi charged Tuesday.

He said the NDP had entered into a collusion to try and defeat him in Kamloops.

He also claimed that one of the main witnesses at last spring's highway graft probe (which cleared him) had "followed me like a puppydog" during the campaign, and hinted that his expenses had been paid by the Opposition.

As it turned out, Mr. Gaglardi beat Mr. Fulton handily.

However, he told the legislature, the NDP vote in Kamloops had dropped from 2,820

in 1960 to 1,297 last Sept. 30. "You talk about dirty politics," he went on.

"There was some of the strangest collusion going on that I ever heard of in my riding."

It was a "collusive or a collective effort to get me out." "When a party prostitutes its own principles it isn't worth being called a party."

The scheme didn't work, Mr. Gaglardi said, because the working men of Kamloops supported Social Credit.

## 'Laboring Boys Told to Vote Tory'

"Laboring boys" there had informed him: "They're telling us to vote for the Tories."

"Imagine the once-proud CCF party coming to these tactics."

"I'd hang my head in shame."

"In spite of it I took 'em all on."

Mr. Gaglardi said he got 681 votes more than his combined opposition.

"Quit your boasting," chided North Vancouver Liberal Gordon Gibson.

"You set up the Liberals up there, too," Premier Bennett interjected.

"This little fellow don't do any boasting about anything," Mr. Gaglardi responded. "I have so much to be humble of—and

believe me I'm a lot closer to the ground than you are."

"That's because God made you that way," said Mr. Gibson, well over six feet to Mr. Gaglardi's five-foot and a bit.

Mr. Gaglardi said that star probe witness Dick Holzworth, a U.S. contractor, was "brought in" for the election campaign.

"Tell me Mr. Member for North Vancouver—who brought him in there? It is reported when he got back to the States he was waving a lot of bills about. I hope it isn't true."

"I don't think we should have paid him," said Mr. Gibson, laughing.

"No, I don't think you should," Mr. Gaglardi said.

## One-Sixth of Budget for Welfare

Mr. Gaglardi went on to defend his government's social welfare policies.

The government, he declared, is spending more each year on welfare than it does on the Peace and Columbia Rivers combined.

B.C. had allocated \$56,000,000—one sixth of its budget—for welfare, Mr. Gaglardi said.

The Peace project currently is costing \$73,000,000 over the next five years.

Altogether the government is spending \$247,800,000 a year

on "humanitarian services" which include welfare, education and hospitals, he added.

"Do you mean to tell me this is mere pittance?"

"Do you mean to tell me any man can stand up and say with a straight face this government is not providing services?"

He told NDP welfare critics: "If you don't think the province of B.C. is doing a big job in the regard go and get some figures from your beloved Saskatchewan (where there is an NDP government); or get some figures from Ontario if you please; or get them from Quebec."

"It would be better if you spent more time doing something on a constructive basis."

Mr. Gaglardi said a woman had phoned his wife and asked for \$5. He agreed to give it to her.

"How did she come? She came in a taxi for the \$5."

He said the Opposition was trying to make the Socreds into "a great bunch of ogres—mean and stingy."

They were "missing the point."

"It's one thing, all right, to sit on the floor of the House and talk—it's another to go out and put your hand on the wheel and work."

## WHO'D WANT \$140,000 ALL AT ONCE?

A Social Credit MLA Tuesday advocated lotteries to finance hospitals.

Although lotteries are currently a matter for the federal government, Stanley Carnell (SC—South Peace), said he expected they could soon become a provincial responsibility.

He proposed a lottery with tickets sold through chartered banks and at least 50 per cent of the gross take going to hospitals.

Top prize should be \$20,000, Mr. Carnell said.

"I can't see why anybody would want \$140,000 (top prize in the Irish sweepstakes), not all at one time."

## ANTI-FAG DRIVE SHOULD TELL B.C. HOW TO QUIT

A government anti-smoking campaign should tell people how to stop, a hospital administrator-turned MLA told the legislature Tuesday.

William Speare (SC—Cariboo) noted that the Throne Speech forecast an educational campaign among children.

"Make it good—make it effective," he said.

"Use the shock tactics to get the story across to young people that we had to adopt in time of war in training films."

Mr. Speare suggested showing examples of "unhealthy tissue" created by smoking.

But, he added: "Try and give the people who smoke a clue as to how to quit."

"Get them medical advice and advice from so-called experts on how to quit a hardened habit."

## Hospitals in Dark On How Rates Set

Controversy over hospital costs and services is caused by a lack of communication, Social Credit MLA William Speare said Tuesday.

The Cariboo member, a former hospital administration at Quesnel, told the legislature that hospitals get into trouble when they extend their services beyond the limits of the daily rates set by the B.C. Hospital Insurance Service.

"It would help immeasurably if an effort could be made to advise the hospitals clearly how the rate board does set the per diem rate," Mr. Speare said.

He referred specifically to last fall's charges by Dr. R. E. Adams, medical director of St. Joseph's Hospital, that babies had died in hospitals because proper studies and services were not available.

"Every prospective mother in the province has the seed of doubt sown in her heart when something like this is enunciated by a respected member of the hospital profession," Mr. Speare said.

He said the government is spending huge sums on hospitals but the health minister has to budget for 93 different hospitals, each of which has different needs.

"Hospitals must recognize they have surrendered some autonomy," Speare said. "I do not believe hospital boards in the province fully understand this point even yet."



## In Our HOUSE

By Arthur Mayse

For a workmanlike speech that makes its points with a minimum of fuss and feathers, I commend to you Frank Calder, the good and now greying NDP member for Atlin.

It would be unfair to suggest that Mr. Calder's remarks to the Legislature are tamely predictable. The amiable leader of the Nishka band has been known to take the warpath with a whoop and a holler when baiting from the government side overtaxed his patience.

But when Frank Calder rises to speak for his northern riding of 61,700 square miles, we know that a hearty breath of the British Columbia outdoors will presently invade the columned and high-ceilinged chamber.

### Son of Chief

His constituents range from trappers to industrialists.

"Within Atlin District's electoral boundaries," he intones, "are potentialities involving forestry, fisheries, big game and water power."

The son of a Nishka chief then demonstrates that he does his homework faithfully by delving into the needs of his enormous bailiwick.

Why ruin southern farm valleys, he asks, "just because the whole lower mainland is getting over-populated and over-crowded?"

He feels that government should support new city and park sites for his north country, which he insists has a rich enough future to warrant the planting of towns.

### Travel Tough

Not for the first time, Mr. Calder urges a copper smelter for the Portland Canal area.

He tells of a big game guide who didn't get to vote because he couldn't find an enumerator in time.

"Mine is an area in which travel is quite difficult," says the sturdy member who more than once has started his seasonal journey to Victoria by canoe. "Transportation depends upon weather conditions."

Because of this, "It is absolutely impossible to try and register people in my riding in the seven days provided, even if the registrar of voters was to use an aircraft, and flying weather conditions were in his favor."

### Wrong Gov't

Presently, and inevitably, Frank Calder takes his cut at the way in which Indian affairs are being handled.

"We are fighting the wrong government," he declares after an excursion into history for evidence to justify aboriginal land claims now before Ottawa. "This is the government we should be battling!"

But the government ranged behind its ornate brown hardwood desks across the alley of lush red carpet was in no mood for battle on Tuesday. A state dinner was in the offing, and an early adjournment hoped for.

### Perfect Decorum

Even Highways Minister Gagliardi, first speaker of the afternoon, failed to evoke more than a perfunctory snarl or two from the Opposition ranks.

It was a day of well-nigh perfect decorum, the sort when the true stature and function of Parliament shows plain to be admired.

Although the student visitors in the speakers' gallery would no doubt have preferred ructions, the picture they took away with them was a better . . . and I think a truer . . . remembrance of our Legislature at work.

## New Branch Of PGE Proposed

A new branch of the PGE railway right across northwest B.C. to the port of Stewart was proposed in the Legislature Tuesday by a Social Credit member.

Stanley Carnell (SC—South Peace) said the PGE should be extended from Kennedy, 85 miles north of Prince George on the existing line, across rich mineral deposits to the west coast port.

Mr. Carnell said it would be a tremendous boost for development of copper, coal and other resources.

It would also attract rail traffic from Alberta, he said.

"The north part of the province is on the first stage of an immense development," Mr. Carnell said, urging a full economic and industrial survey.

He predicted that the next major hydro power source to be developed could be the Liard River.

Highways Minister P. A. Gagliardi told the House earlier that he was hopeful there will be "American greenbacks flowing" down a completely paved Alaska Highway.

He said he was sending information down to Senator Mike Mansfield of Montana, who has introduced a bill in the U.S. calling for co-operative development of the highway with Canada.

"There people now recognize the tremendous importance of the province of B.C.," Mr. Gagliardi said.

## New B.C. Bank In Government Office Block?

Minister Likes Vancouver Site

A plan for the provincial government to build the home of the new "Bank of British Columbia" was disclosed today by Education Minister Leslie Peterson.

He floated out the idea in the legislature, but such suggestions usually turn out to be firm government policy, especially when they come from a front-rank cabinet minister.

Mr. Peterson's plan is to put the bank in a government office block in downtown Vancouver.

### LAND DEAL

It would involve a land deal with the City of Vancouver and the CNR-Hilton Hotel Vancouver.

The government intends to become a minority shareholder in the bank, once it gets a federal charter.

Mr. Peterson said the bank is one of B.C.'s "most critical needs" to spur industrial development.

He proposed that the government build a high rise block to include a court house, other government offices and the new bank.

The site he suggested is a city block bounded by Robson, Hornby, Howe and Smythe Streets adjacent to the existing court house.

Owned by the city it cost \$1,375,250.

### REASONABLE

Taking into account "other commitments in respect to expropriations" Mr. Peterson said the government could get it for a "most reasonable price" and Mayor William Rathie agrees.

Government-owned property right behind the hotel would then be made available for its proposed expansion plan, Mr. Peterson said. At present the recreation department has some offices there.

In addition he said the government might sell the city its old normal school property for a new junior college.



WED., JAN. 29, 1964

## GOV'T 'TOO FAIR' ON COWICHAN ROADS

The B.C. government has been "too fair" in giving roads to Opposition Leader Robert Strachan, Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi said Tuesday.

He was answering Mr. Strachan's earlier charges of discrimination, patronage and neglect that had taken lives in the riding of Cowichan-Newcastle, which the opposition leader represents.

He produced figures to show the government had spent a total of \$7,664,628 in the riding over the past 12 years.

"These even make my face red," Mr. Gaglardi told the legislature.

"Your riding fared exceptionally well. There is absolutely no kind of discrimination. I think we have been too fair."

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 1964

## 'BACKWOODS OF LIBERTY'

# Debtors' Jail A Happy Place

By FRANK RUTTER  
Times Legislative Reporter

A debtor in B.C. can live it up beering and dining on the best in jail.

He can call the sheriff to bring him anything he wants.

And he doesn't have to pay a cent.

This "happy and hilarious life" can be led under the Arrest and Imprisonment for Debt Act, lawyer Alan Macfarlane (L-Oak Bay) told the legislature Wednesday.

### WACKY LAWS

It was just one example, he said of wacky B.C. laws which desperately need revision. "B.C. is a backwoods of individual liberty," Mr. Macfarlane said.

The debt act provides that anyone who believes his debtor to the tune of more than \$100 is about to leave the province can have the debtor thrown in jail.

### Section 21 reads:

"The prisoner at his free will and pleasure may send for and have brought to him at reasonable times, in the day time, any beer, ale, victuals or other necessary food, from what place he thinks fit or can have the same, and also can have such bedding, linen or other necessary things as he has occasion for and thinks fit."

### FOOT THE BILL

The only snag is, Attorney-General Robert Bonner said later, the creditor has to foot the bill.

Mr. Macfarlane cited the law in calling for a law revision commission which would always keep B.C. laws up to date.

Another example he cited is the Distress Act, which provides a landlord may seize all an erring tenant's goods except:

"One cooking stove with pipe and furnishings, one other heating stove with pipe, one set of cooking utensils, one lamp, one table, one wash stand with furnishings, six towels, one clock, one broom, two pails, one axe, three smoothing irons, one sewing machine and attachments in domestic use and for the debtor and each member of his family,

the following: one chair, one plate, one cup and saucer, one knife, one fork, one spoon."

However, all old-fashioned B.C. laws are not so humorous.

He referred particularly to the inability of a citizen to sue the crown without first obtaining a fiat (permission). He also referred to the B.C. Electric takeover and subsequent two-year court case.

"How many thousands of dollars would have been saved if the B.C. Electric case had been settled by an assessment of damages or if a fiat had been granted?"

## SHELFORD TELLS HOUSE:

# Gas Prices Cut To Sway Probe

Oil companies are deliberately cutting gasoline prices to try and influence the Morrow royal commission, M.L.A. Cyril Shelford charged Wednesday.

The man largely responsible for the existence of the commission, investigating the fairness of B.C. gas prices, said that in Alberni prices were cut up to six cents.

"Actually they are playing right into my hands," the Omineca-Sored told the legislature.

"This is an open admission the prices were too high."

When Dave Barrett (NDP-Dewdney) called across, "That's free enterprise," Mr. Shelford responded:

"I've got a better word than that—but I won't say it here."

Mr. Shelford complained that the present system of royal commissions is unfair to the "average people."

Although he was speaking in general terms, his remarks closely paralleled statements he made when he faced a battery of top lawyers at the opening of the Morrow Commission in Victoria earlier this month.

On one side, Mr. Shelford said, special interest can hire the top lawyers; on the other side, the average person has to donate his time for what is often a hastily-prepared brief without the benefits of full access to all relevant information.

"This, I think, is a great danger, and the country itself stands to lose a great deal," Mr. Shelford said.

It was a matter of well-trained people "with an axe to grind" against untrained people with a poorly-prepared case.

Mr. Shelford said he knows hundreds of people who feel very strongly about matters which come before royal commissions, but they are not "sure enough of themselves" to face cross-examination by experts.

"The way it is now a commissioner, to reach a completely fair decision, would have to have the wisdom of a Solomon to determine the merit, if any, of a poorly-prepared and presented argument against the merit, if any, of a well-prepared and presented case on the other side."

"The ideal set-up would be of course to have an equal number of experts on both sides, but how can this be done under the present set-up?"

"It seems to me that the people in all cases are the losers in such an unequal argument."

Mr. Shelford did not offer a solution, but he told the House: "If I have added nothing today at least I hope I've given you something to think about."



THURS., JAN. 30, 1964

# 'Gov't Ignores Desperate Welfare Need'

By FRANK RUTTER

The B.C. government is doing nothing to meet desperate problems of child care of Vancouver Island, Oak Bay Liberal Alan Macfarlane said Wednesday.

There are 380 children up to Grade IX in Greater Victoria schools who need the services of a guidance clinic, Mr. Macfarlane told the legislature.

There are 950 more children who require "special attention".

There are at least 70 emotionally disturbed Victoria children who require residential care, but there are only 16 beds at Seven Oaks and only 31 across the province.

There are 123 Vancouver Island children on the waiting list of more than 800 for Woodlands

School for the Retarded in New Westminster, Mr. Macfarlane added.

There are no beds for psychotic children in special care centres anywhere in the province, he said.

"The government says it has not been able to obtain sufficient staff to take care of these problems," he said. "What is the government doing to try to encourage the training of proper staff? What is the government doing to provide facilities?"

## 'B.C. Social Service Crumbles'

A mental health centre for Victoria was promised last year by the government.

Mr. Macfarlane asked why there had been no mention in the throne speech of a start on construction.

He read a letter from a parent who had asked for child care but was told by local officials they could not take the case in the foreseeable future.

"It does no good to say the opposition criticizes just for the sake of criticism. You know as well as we do that these problems exist," Mr. Macfarlane said.

"So far as I can ascertain nothing is being done on Vancouver Island. These are problems as desperate as a family can meet."

Government speakers in this session have ridiculed the opposition for criticizing welfare policy, Mr. Macfarlane said.

"While the social welfare system crumbles about this government and social workers groan under the heavy burdens they carry the government wallows in statistics and brushes off the problem as if it were a pestering fly," he charged.

It was government policy that had forced people like Ruby McKay to resign from the child welfare service.

"Hundreds of other people are writing letters, making telephone calls, calling on their representatives and demanding something be done," he went on.

"We speak on behalf of those people and say that social welfare and mental health administration at the ministerial level is woefully and disgracefully weak and can no longer be tolerated in this province."

## 'WOODLANDS NEEDS MORE DENTISTS'

Dental care of patients at Woodlands school for the retarded is inadequate, Saanich Socred John Tisdalle said Wednesday.

There is only one dentist for 1,000 children, he told the legislature.

One 18-year-old boy in the school has teeth so badly decayed they are breaking off, he said.

"I don't understand it. I make no excuse or apologies for saying this."

If there were adequate dental care, Mr. Tisdalle said, he is sure the general health of Woodlands patients would improve.

## Culture Aid Lack Scored

Where are the cultural grants promised by the B.C. government?

The question was asked in the legislature Wednesday by Oak Bay Liberal Alan Macfarlane.

During last September's election campaign, he recalled, the Oak Bay Socred candidate announced to the world that there would be a cultural grants council. It would help symphonies, art galleries and other cultural activities.

"Why is there no mention of this in the throne speech?" Mr. Macfarlane asked.

## Government Should Fight Air 'Garbage'

The provincial government should legislate against "garbage in the air" Saanich Social Credit MLA John Tisdalle advocated Wednesday.

He said that smoke and air pollution in Greater Victoria is "a terrible thing."

"It is tragic what is happening to this beautiful city morning after morning."

He urged amendments to the Municipal Act to curb the problem.

Mr. Tisdalle also called on the government to give bigger pay raises to the lower-paid civil servants this year.

"I am not in favor of percentage increases rated on the existing salaries," he said.



## In Our HOUSE

By Arthur Mayse

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We had a mixed bag on Wednesday, a range of speakers from the urbane to the bucolic, on topics as widely separated as the evils of cigarette smoking and the need for revision of numerous British Columbia statutes.

To back up his case for a weeding-out of laws which have outlived their usefulness, lawyer Alan Macfarlane came up with a several-hundred-year-old ukase which still clutters our statute books.

This is the Arrest and Imprisonment for Debt Act, under which a creditor to the tune of over \$100 may have the debtor whom he fears may skip the province tossed into the skookum-house.

While in jail, according to a section of the Act read by Mr. Macfarlane, his privileges include these:

### Happy, Hilarious

"The prisoner, at his free will and pleasure, may send for and have brought to him at seasonable times, in the day time, any beer, ale, victuals

or other necessary food, from what place he thinks fit or can have the same, and also can have and use such bedding, linen or other necessary things as he has occasion for and sees fit."

For none of these services is the prisoner required to pay. "How happy and hilarious," observed Mr. Macfarlane dryly, "can be the life of one in debt!"

It remained for Attorney-General Bonner, the spoilsport, to flout this idyll. While the debtor doesn't pay for the service, he must fee the supplier of his cakes and ale.

### Go Green

In addition to a statute shake-up, the Oak Bay Liberal urged upon the government the need to acquire Lower Island tracts for recreational purposes while time remains.

The need, he felt, is especially great on Saanich Peninsula, where "green spaces, beach accesses, headlands, open woodlands, and other scenic and recreational facilities should be acquired."

The load, Mr. Macfarlane pointed out, is too heavy for the municipalities, and should be borne by the provincial government.

This need for a check to the ill-controlled advance of the sub-division was echoed at the evening sitting by a mainland legislator, NDP Gordon Dowding of Burnaby.

Lower Mainland farm country in in danger of being swamped by far-flung suburbs, Mr. Dowding warned. His solution: a speedy move by government to

confine builders to areas unsuitable for agriculture

### Around Stump

Mr. Dowding and Social Credit member John Tisdalle of Saanich had entered into a gentlemen's agreement to speak no longer than 45 minutes each, a pact which the former honored.

Not so Mr. Tisdalle, whose early fervor in chasing the twin devils of tobacco and alcohol around a stump caused him to exceed his limit.

"The person who can do a good job with alcohol," teetotaler Tisdalle challenged, "can do a better job without . . . I think everyone will agree with that!"

### No Comfort

Cigar puffers who have deemed themselves safe from the ravages of tobacco got no comfort from the Saanich member.

From a report by a Russian scientist, he plucked a claim that cigars even more than cigarettes shorten the user's life expectancy.

Government ferries should provide rooms where the traveller who doesn't indulge may breathe the pure air, said Mr. Tisdalle, and it would be well if Hydro buses used their advertising panels to extol B.C. apples rather than cigarettes.

And so on, till Opposition Leader Strachan rebelled. "If you're a non-smoker," he growled, "I'm going to start!"

## Let's (Puff) Warn (Puff) Smokers (Puff) of Danger

A pipe-puffer is proposing B.C. legislation to regulate cigarette advertising.

Alex Macdonald (NDP Vancouver East) is asking leave to introduce a bill on the issue today.

He would put this label on every pack of cigarettes:

"Warning. These cigarettes have nicotine and tar content and are dangerous to human health."

Mr. Macdonald also advocates the same warning in cigarette advertising.

### I'M EXPENDABLE

Mr. Macdonald, who smokes a pipe, says "I am expendable" but pointed out the health reports so far had indicated no serious hazard from pipes.

He hopes to get support from the Social Credit side of the House, which contains several outspoken critics of smoking.

One of them, Health Minister Eric Martin, has promised to introduce an education program, but says it is not right to legislate against the right to smoke.

Another of them, Saanich Social Credit John Tisdalle, spoke about it Wednesday night. He chided Education Minister Leslie Peterson, who also smokes a pipe.

"If he'd set an example and put out that filthy pipe of his . . ." Mr. Tisdalle declared.

Replied Mr. Peterson, somewhat nettled: "I object to some of your personal habits, too."

Mr. Tisdalle objected to cigarette advertising on B.C. Hydro buses and also urged a place to "sit down and enjoy fresh air" on government ferries.

Smoking cigarettes is also a fire hazard, Mr. Tisdalle said.

"I have seen more pitiful dire cases of welfare because somebody was burned out by a cigarette," he declared.

He urged the House to take heed of this warning: "Don't!

smoke in bed—the ashes you cause may be your own."

Commented Opposition Leader Robert Strachan: "If you're a non-smoker then I'm going to start again."

After Mr. Tisdalle quoted a Russian scientist on the evils of the weed, Mr. Strachan threw up his hands.

"We surrender," he cried.



## DIM VIEW OF PETITION

# Tisdalle Still Fights Grog

Saanich MLA John Tisdalle Wednesday opposed a liquor store for his municipality.

He told the legislature he has received many calls from people who say "We know the habit of alcohol in our community and we are still opposed to any further outlet."

"It's probably not too sure that I can do anything to keep it out," Mr. Tisdalle informed the House.

### I DON'T

"Far from intimidating, influencing or undercutting the (liquor) commissioner—I don't do these things."

But, he added he held "a dim view" of the people circulating a petition for a Saanich store.

"It was amazing to me that a lady would take it up," he said. "She was a Conservative candidate against me in 1953 so I immediately suspected a political issue, but I hoped it wasn't."

The lady is Nora Lindsay, who started off the petition at the request of a committee of Saanich residents.

### BREAKS HOMES

Liquor causes accidents and broken homes," Mr. Tisdalle said.

He said a navy padre told him about three suicides at HMCS Naden in which alcohol was one of the causes.

Anyone who can do a good job with alcohol can do a better one without it "unless to bone up for a crime or robbery," Mr. Tisdalle said.

## House to See Timber Sale Blackmail Law

Laws to prevent blackmail in the forest industry may come before the legislature shortly, Forests Minister Ray Williston said today.

A report on allegations of blackmail in crown timber auctions along with legislative proposals has been made by the B.C. Forest Service.

Mr. Williston is asking leave of the House to put it before the select committee on forestry.

He said the MLAs on the committee would decide what recommendations to make to the House.

Last year the committee heard allegations from interior lumbermen that competitors were demanding a payoff to prevent them becoming rival bidders at crown timber sales.

### FORCE BIDDING

They said they were being threatened that these rivals would force the bidding up to unrealistic prices.

"The charges were a straight case of blackmail," Mr. Williston said.

"We have got some evidence on this now and we are going to try and put it through."

He said existing legislation has not proved effective in preventing abuses.

Two opposition tax proposals are made in other motions on the legislature's order paper.

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault is proposing exemption from the 5 per cent sales tax on restaurant meals up to \$2 instead of \$1.

He also wants political contributions of up to \$100 to be exempt from income tax.

## MLA Courts Ball-Point Balloters

The ball-point pen vote was courted Wednesday by MLA Cyril Shelford.

The Omineca Socred urged the government to reform the Provincial Elections Act at the current session.

He urged two new provisions:

An X and only an X to count as a vote in recounts;

Ink to be just as good as the presently-prescribed pencil.

"I think it would be worthwhile for a study to be made to see if in some of these close ridings if the ink ballot would have changed the result," Mr. Shelford said.

### UP TO DATE

"Nothing should be spared in bringing this election act up to date," he added.

Mr. Shelford said he believes over 75 per cent of ink-marked ballots came from businessmen who are in the habit of reaching for their ball-point pens.

Another plea for better-kept voters lists was made by Oak Bay Liberal Alan Macfarlane.

### 20 PER CENT

"In Oak Bay, where the list is very good," he said, "about 20 per cent of the names were people who were dead, or moved away or had changed their address."

"This is not good enough."

## Gov't Loan Urged for Island Parks

A government loan to municipalities of southern Vancouver Island so they can implement a master plan for recreational lands was urged Wednesday in the legislature.

Oak Bay Liberal Alan Macfarlane said an excellent report on the matter had been made by Hugh Stephen for the Chamber of Commerce.

It urged acquisition of lands for parks, playgrounds and recreation to meet the tide of settlement up the Saanich peninsula.

While the municipalities may recognize the need for action, they just don't have the funds, Mr. Macfarlane said.

"The need is for the mother of the municipalities to provide the funds now, under some sort of arrangement with the municipalities for the repayment of a large portion of these monies over a period of years, to be raised by local taxation."



## In Our HOUSE

By Arthur Mayse

One question which for the moment must go unanswered is what brought Social Credit MP Alex B. Patterson from his Fraser Valley riding to our provincial corridors on Thursday.

Since not all government's fish are fried on the floor of the House, however, we might indulge in some amiable speculation.

First, Mr. Bennett's projected new Bank if the Golden West must have a federal charter.

Second, to obtain this charter, some federal member must introduce a bill when Parliament next foregathers at Ottawa.

Third, such a bill would undoubtedly be sponsored by a true-blue Socred . . . and Alex Patterson fits the designation.

Since we're surmising, we'll go for broke with a long shot: how, I wonder, would the Hon. Mr. Patterson shape as one of the bank's pioneer directors?

### Bargain Day

But enough of guesswork. Here, in a trim black suit and white blouse with a silver locket around her neck, is Mrs. Lois Haggen, NDP, Grand Forks-Greenwood.

Listening to our neatly coiffed lady member from the land of the Doukhobor and the rattlesnake is like touring a well-stocked variety store on a motor scooter.

You have but time to snatch at one richly-laden counter before you zip on to the next.

There is much to be said for the presence of lady members in the Legislative chamber. They are practical—they buckle down to the homely matters that concern the budget-conscious housewife.

### Monster Race

Tax on children's clothes, for instance. Mrs. Haggen would abolish it, or failing that, exempt public school children from what she feels is a nuisance levy pure and simple.

Age, not size, should be the factor, she tells male legislators on both sides of the floor. We are producing a monster race of children, and they all have big feet.

In consequence . . . and as every mother knows . . . it's unrealistic to make size six the deadline for tax-emption in kids' shoes. Equally foolish are the clothing limits of size 14x for girls and 15 for boys.

All of this works a hardship on a great many British Columbia families, she insists.

Mrs. Haggen expects no favors because she's a woman. This she makes plain to Speaker Murray in a prettily-turned little speech-within-a-speech. Even so, she's obviously pleased with her yellow chrysanthemums, and with the nose-gay of pink rosebuds in fern placed on her desk by fellow NDPs.

### Manners, Please

She also shows a thoroughly feminine dislike for rudeness, and in this context interrupts herself to lambaste the government side.

The buzz of conversation she finds most unseemly, and she would prefer not to find herself addressing the premier's back.

This decline of parliamentary manners which Mrs. Haggen notes is to be deprecated, and I trust that Mr. Murray—a speaker who has already demonstrated his firmness—will lose no time in cracking down on it.

# A-G's Dump Comm

## Rebel Soc By Opposi

The opposition won a establishment today with the rebels.

It happened in the leg committee.

The government's choice in favor of Victoria MLA J.

Mr. Smith last year bolted the government majority on the same committee to join the opposition in a minority report on the highways graft probe.

This year, he was joined by another Socred, Dudley Little of Skeena, in a new rebellion.

### MACHINE' BEATEN

"It's not often you can beat the machine," chortled Opposition Leader Robert Strachan afterward.

It was the committee's first meeting, called by Donald Brothers (SC—Rossland-Trail).

He was picked as convener by Attorney-General Robert Bonner and traditionally the convener becomes the chairman.

But this time something went wrong.

As expected Waldo Skillings (SC—Victoria) nominated Mr. Brothers for chairman.

Mr. Brothers had been a member of last year's committee and voted with the majority then on the highway probe verdict.

### STRACHAN MOVE

Mr. Strachan nominated Mr. Smith for chairman of the 13-man committee.

As Socreds outnumbered the Opposition 8 to 5, it was expected Mr. Brothers would make it easily.

But when it came to a vote Mr. Smith and Mr. Little joined forces with the opposition members—Mr. Strachan, Liberal Leader Ray Perrault, Randolph Harding (NDP—Kaslo-Slocan), David Stupich

## APPLES FOR MEMBERS PROTEST MARKET BARS

An MLA gave everyone an apple Thursday, then apologized for it.

Salmon Arm Socred Willis Jefcoat used a case of Shu-swap Delicious apples to demonstrate his plea for a halt to marketing restrictions.

He said the farmer who grew the apples had 1,400 boxes he is not allowed to sell because they were slightly pock-marked by hail.

The only possible commercial use for them would be fruit juice. That would mean no profit, he said.

Mr. Jefcoat maintained their is a move afoot to tighten marketing restrictions.

"This may come in front of you," he predicted.

However, Agriculture Minister Frank Richter later denied the government plans any new restrictions.

## OLD WORKERS TO GET HELP

A provincial cabinet minister said Wednesday that the British Columbia government hopes to wipe out arbitrary discrimination against older workers.

Labor Minister Peterson, speaking in the throne speech debate, offered no details about the speech's promise of new legislation banning job discrimination against older workers.

But he said it would be aimed at employing B.C.'s "greatest unused economic resources."

## TALL, SPINDLY HEELS COST GIRLS \$5 A MILE

Today's shoe fashions cost a girl \$5 a mile, according to an MLA who sells them.

"They can't buy anything without these great, big, tall spindly heels," Bert Price (SC—Vancouver Burrard) told the legislature.

"It's costing an awful lot of girls \$5 a mile to walk."

## MLA, FEMALE, SOCIALIST SELDOM FATAL

The B.C. government was offered a live exhibit Thursday if only it would get cracking on a new museum for Victoria.

The exhibit was Lois Haggen (NDP—Grand Forks-Greenwood), a constant museum booster despite the fact she lives 604 miles from the capital.

"If I could believe with the people of Victoria that the government would build a museum and archives building, I'd be willing to go in as an exhibit," she said.



In consequence . . . and as every mother knows . . . it's unrealistic to make size six the deadline for tax-exemption in kids' shoes. Equally foolish are the clothing limits of size 14x for girls and 15 for boys.

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# A-G's Choice Dumped For Committee Post

## Rebel Socred Seated By Opposition Move

The opposition won a rare victory against the establishment today with the aid of two Social Credit rebels.

It happened in the legislature's public accounts committee.

The government's choice for chairman was dumped in favor of Victoria MLA J. Donald Smith.

Mr. Smith last year bolted the government majority on the same committee to join the opposition in a minority report on the highways graft probe.

This year, he was joined by another Socred, Dudley Little of Skeena, in a new rebellion.

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As Socreds outnumbered the Opposition 8 to 5, it was expected Mr. Brothers would make it easily.

But when it came to a vote Mr. Smith and Mr. Little joined forces with the opposition members—Mr. Strachan, Liberal Leader Ray Perrault, Randolph Harding (NDP—Kaslo-Slocan), David Stupich

(NDP—Nanaimo) and Leo Nimsick (NDP—Cranbrook). It was seven to four for Mr. Smith.

Mr. Brothers was supported only by Mr. Skillings, Arvid Lundell (SC—Revelstoke), Ralph Loffmark (SC—Point Grey) and himself.

#### TWO ABSENT

Two cabinet members of the committee were absent—Works Minister W. N. Chant and Health Minister Eric Martin—but their votes would not have made any difference. It would have been seven to six for Mr. Smith.

Mr. Brothers, who stalked out of the meeting white with anger, didn't even get the job of secretary. It went to Mr. Lundell.

Mr. Smith's record as a rebel makes him potentially a valuable ally for the opposition on what is probably the most important legislative committee.

Last year he was dissatisfied with a Socred-inspired report which not only cleared Highways Minister P. A. Gagliardi, but commended him.

#### SUNDAY MOVIES

The minority report which Mr. Smith signed questioned the propriety of dealing with unreliable contractors and criticized contract procedures.

Mr. Smith has bucked the government on a number of other issues, one of which is expected to come up at the current session.

He has threatened to bring in his own bill to allow Sunday movies if the government does not act.

## FAG BAN DIPLOMAS PROPOSED

Government diplomas for firms which ban smoking were urged by a Social Credit MLA Thursday.

Bert Price (SC—Vancouver Burrard) told the legislature several B.C. firms already prohibit smoking in their plants.

"It would be fitting if the department of health recognized such firms," he said.

They should get diplomas like the safety certificates handed out by the Workmen's Compensation Board, he said.

## \$3 MILLION

## Glass Plant Planned In Vancouver

Plans of Vancouver interests to build a \$3,000,000 glass factory on the north arm of the Fraser River in Vancouver were announced in the Legislature Friday.

The announcement was made during the throne speech debate by Jacob Huhn (SC—North Peace River) who said his only regret was that the new industry wasn't a bit closer to his riding.

Mr. Huhn said the plant to be built by West Coast Glass Limited will be the first of its kind within 1,000 miles of the west coast.

Premier Bennett said later in a statement the plant, "will fill a long-felt need, as up to this time considerable glass has been imported from the United States and eastern Canada."

#### LOCAL CAPITAL

The premier said all capital for the plant is being raised "locally." The firm's president is Paul Cote of Vancouver.

The highly-automated plant will initially produce only bottles and jars, Mr. Bennett said, but the production capacity is to be sufficient to satisfy the entire B.C. market.

Work on the factory, which will employ about 100, is to start next spring with initial production under way by the spring of 1965.

## MLA, FEMALE, SOCIALIST SELDOM FATAL

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The exhibit was Lois Hagen (NDP—Grand Forks-Greenwood), a constant museum booster despite the fact she lives 604 miles from the capital.

"If I could believe with the people of Victoria that the government would build a museum and archives building, I'd be willing to go in as an exhibit," she said.

## 'House Debate Stifled' By Commission Probes

The provincial government is using royal commissions to dodge criticism, the legislature was told Thursday.

A dozen royal commissions costing more than \$1,250,000 were set up during the Social Credit government's first decade of office, said Lois Haggen (NDP—Grand Forks-Greenwood).

Several more are currently under way, including one into gasoline prices.

"I believe commissions are used too often as a device to ease public clamor and to stifle debate in this House," Mrs. Haggen said.

She said the government could well afford instead to spend more on care of chronic invalids.

She advocated extension of B.C. Hospital Insurance Services to long-term patients in private hospitals.

There are 750 truly chronic patients who have to pay their own hospital bills, Mrs. Haggen said.

"The helpless are not taken care of, but the able are," she declared.

Mrs. Haggen said there should be a blitz program on welfare.

Acting "in all haste" is not good enough, she said.

"Let us not heap more guilt upon ourselves and

more misery on innocent people," she added. "I feel the money can be found to take care of these people."

She said the government had chosen the most expensive way of taking over B.C. Electric and could have saved money there.

## RESTAURANTS ABUSING SALES TAX—HAGGEN

The B.C. government is charging a "nuisance tax" on meals that is being abused by restaurants, New Democrat Lois Haggen told the legislature Thursday.

Food is not subject to sales tax in stores, she said, yet it is taxable when served up in a restaurant.

"Eating out is not a luxury. In many cases it is a necessity," she said.

The Grand Forks-Greenwood MLA said many thousands of dollars of tax are collected through misinterpretation of the rule that meals up to \$1 are tax-free.

One restaurant owner known to the government's taxation branch has been convicted of three or four violations, yet he continues to pay his fines out of the illegal tax he is charging, Mrs. Haggen said.

She suggested the saving on administration costs would

make up for the loss of revenue if restaurant meals were exempt.

## Salmon May Go Way of the Dodo

The B.C. salmon may soon follow the Dodo to extinction, the legislature's only woman declared Thursday.

Lois Haggen (NDP—Grand Forks-Greenwood) said the government is indifferent to the problems of fish conservation.

"They have become so obsessed with power that they've lost sight of the value of fish," she said.

She feared that plans for damming the Fraser River may kill off the huge salmon run there.

"I do not trust this government too much on hydro development as it relates to fish," she added.

Mrs. Haggen claimed the government's preoccupation with power development on the Columbia River would deteriorate the fishing there.

"The Columbia was one of the most abundant fish streams on the continent. Now you can't fish there," she said.

Too much is being sacrificed for hydro development, Mrs. Haggen said.

The price of salmon has become so high that many people cannot afford it, and despite the fact it is a native product, she said.

## 'MAKE STAND SOON'

## 40-Hour Week Urged by Socred

A government member Thursday urged legislation forcing a 40-hour work week in B.C.

"Make a stand as soon as possible," said Bert Price (SC—Vancouver Burrard).

The present 44-hour week was legislated in 1956, Mr. Price said.

He said 10 per cent of B.C.'s labor force works more than 40 hours a week, and most of these people are not members of trade unions.

Mr. Price also advocated a provincial department of consumer supply to police prices, credit and give-away gimmicks.

"This is one of the things that brought me into public life—to fight monopolies and to protect the consumer," he said.

Among the examples of unfair prices he cited were B.C. apples, which he said are cheaper in Edinburgh than Vancouver, and salmon, which costs \$1 a pound.



**JAN**

**1964**

THURSDAY, JAN. 23, 1964

# B.C. Gov't to Enter Field of Banking

## Plan Disclosed In Throne Speech

By IAN MacALPINE  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—British Columbia's Social Credit government today announced plans to enter the banking field.

The government's plan to become a limited shareholder in a federally chartered bank was revealed today in the throne speech.

No details were given, but the disclosure raised two possibilities.

These are:

That Premier W. A. C. Bennett's provincial government will buy into the new proposed Bank of Western Canada, being set up by former Bank of Canada governor James E. Coyne.

Or that the government might set up its own institution with the \$275 million it is to get from the United States for developing the Columbia River.

Disclosure of the banking plan was the highlight of the throne speech read by Lieut. Gov. George Pearkes at the opening of the 27th Legislature.

### EDUCATION FUNDS

The throne speech traditionally forecasts the government's plans.

Other highlights:

- More money for higher education and increased financial aid to students through bursaries and scholarships.

- Changes in the County Court system to improve service.

- Appeal Court Justice Charles William Tysoe to take over Workmen's Compensation Board inquiry.

- A start on Columbia River development this year.

- A new mental health act.

- A revised Petroleum and Natural Gas Act and legislation governing underground storage of hydrocarbons.

### MORE BALANCED

Referring to the bank proposal, the throne speech said that the government is moving toward more balanced development of the B.C. economy.

It added:

"Accordingly, you (the Legislature) will be asked at this session to authorize my government, on behalf of our citizens, to become a limited shareholder in a federally chartered bank which will be established in this province."

The speech termed this investment a positive measure to make B.C., and particularly Vancouver, a centre of Canadian finance.

Premier Bennett, as B.C.'s minister of finance, would direct any government banking venture.

### ISSUE IN FEBRUARY

Coyne, 52, fired from his post as head of the Bank of Canada during a quarrel with the former Diefenbaker government, plans to put shares for his new bank on the market in February.

The bank would establish a head office in Winnipeg and

Please Turn to Page Two  
See: "Banking"



THURSDAY, JAN. 23, 1964

## Banking Venture Planned By Bennett Government

Continued from Page 1

also plans to open a branch in Vancouver.

The Bank of Western Canada plans to enter the field with \$10 million of paid up capital, \$6 million of which will be raised by public subscription.

Also interested in the bank with Coyne is Sinclair M. Stevens, of Toronto, head of Stevens Securities Ltd., British International Finance, Wellington Financial Corporation Ltd., and York Trust and Savings Corp., all of Toronto.

Another principal is Philip B. MacDonald, 38, of Toronto. The group will petition for a charter when the federal Parliament opens Feb. 8.

### TREASURY UNITS

The Alberta Socred government operates treasury branches that function like the chartered banks in Canada.

The branches, located across the province, lend money to individuals, farmers and companies. They also pay interest on deposits.

The latest figures available show the branches had \$64 million (apart from government accounts) in deposits and \$26 million lent for commercial and industrial needs.

### MORE JUDGES?

The government's announcement that changes will be made in the County Court system raised speculation that more judges will be appointed to that bench to handle the burdensome court calendar.

Besides hearing some civil matters, the County Court handles criminal cases and appeals from magistrate's court.

The speech said only that the changes would be designed to further the functioning of the County Courts.

The legislature will be asked to increase grants to school districts, authorize increased expenditures for higher educa-

tion and provide grants for the operation of vocational schools.

In addition, the speech said, measures to increase financial assistance to students through scholarships and bursaries will be submitted to the legislature for approval.

The speech said many achievements have been made in natural resources development.

The extra educational help and plans to improve aspects of health and welfare would benefit the people, "our most valuable resource of all," it said.

The speech made no specific promises relating to social welfare, which has been a target of severe criticism in recent weeks.

But it said the government is developing a program centred on rehabilitation in the welfare services.

### DELINQUENCY

It said juvenile delinquency is being studied and the government is assisting the federal government in developing special placement facilities for disturbed children.

A modernized Mental Health Act will be brought into this session, it said, but gave no details of its contents.

It is believed, however, that it will provide for more after-care treatment and special services at the community level for patients discharged from institutions.

The throne speech also said the government will continue to expand its program for new regional mental health centres. It did not say how many are planned this year nor where the next centres would be located.

The throne speech said legislation to prohibit discrimination in employment against older workers will be brought down and amendments to the Municipal Act will be submitted.

In a section dealing with the province's forest industries the speech drew attention to the concerted effort of some elements of the American lumber industry to impose import restrictions on Canadian lumber.

"This serious potential threat to an important segment of British Columbia's economy is one which my government will continue to oppose vigorously," it said.

The speech said the legislature will be asked to authorize removal of tolls on Vancouver's Oak Street Bridge and the Deas Island Tunnel, the only remaining provincial toll structures.

Premier Bennett has promised removal of the tolls by April 1.

### PGE FACILITIES

General improvement in existing facilities of the government-owned Pacific Great Eastern Railway will be made during 1964 and unspecified new equipment will be purchased, it said.

# Bennett Gov't 'Gave Leadership'

By IAN MacALPINE  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The new federally-chartered bank proposed in the throne speech Thursday will be established as the Vancouver-based Bank of British Columbia.

Premier Bennett told The Sun following the startling announcement to the legislature that his government is the moving force behind the bank.

It will be launched with an authorized capital many times \$50 million, he said.

"It will be one of the largest in Canada," Bennett added.

The venture was kept secret until it was announced at the end of the 4,000-word throne speech read by Lieutenant-Governor George Pearkes.

Even after it became known, Bennett would not disclose who else is involved in the scheme. He said only: "The government has given leadership in this respect."

## NOT RUNNING IT

Bennett said the B.C. government will become a minority shareholder in the new bank. "The government will not run the bank," he said.

There will be no special shares for anyone. Shares will

be available to all British Columbians, he said.

Bennett said it is not true that the United States payment to B.C. for development of the Columbia River will be invested in shares of the bank.

But he did not rule out the possibility the \$275 million payment would be deposited in the bank.

## PRIVATE BILL

The premier did not say when the bank would become a reality. He said a private bill for a charter would be submitted to the federal Parliament.

Announcement of the bank scheme brought noticeable reaction from the packed floor of the House, where distinguished members of the judiciary, military, clergy and universities were seated.

Many bank heads from Van-

couver, who were invited to the opening ceremony, were also in the crowd of guests. Heads turned as whispers were passed, and a few of the dignitaries smiled.

Reporters met Premier Bennett in the corridor outside his office, after the House rose, to get more details.

## NO CRITICISM

He said he has no criticism of Canadian banks. "They are the best in the world," he said.

"But most of their headquarters are in Ontario and Quebec; now one is being established in Manitoba. This bank (the B.C. bank) will strengthen the whole structure of the banking system . . . create a balance," Bennett said.

"Having one established in B.C. will recognize the great development of B.C."

The Manitoba bank Bennett referred to is the new Bank of Western Canada, fostered by the former Bank of Canada governor James E. Coyne.

First speculation Thursday was that the B.C. government might become a shareholder in that bank.

Bennett was asked who proposed the B.C. bank.

He replied: "Don't ask those personal questions."

## SECOND B.C. BANK

If the venture gets a charter and its proposed name, it will become the second Bank of British Columbia.

Another bank of the same name was established in Victoria in the 1860s, at the instigation of Governor James Douglas, although the government did not participate in it.

The early bank was later taken over by the Bank of Commerce, which still operates in the same building last used by the old B.C. bank.

Ironically, the B.C. government now banks with the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

The proposal brought this reaction from opposition leaders.

Robert Strachan, the official Opposition leader, said he expects the bank will provide lower interest rates than any other bank and loans to small business at reasonable interest rates.

"Unless both of these features are policy of the bank there is no reason for setting it up," he said.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault said speculation about the bank is pointless until more details are known.

"It seems obvious, however, that the government intends to use its prestige to attract deposits from all over the province and that provincial government accounts will be handled by this institution if it comes into being," he said.

It was learned that more details about the banking scheme will be announced in the legislature Monday.

## PREMIER TAKES NAME AS READ

VICTORIA—Premier Bennett got his new legislative speaker confused Thursday with the spokesman for a Red-led union.

The premier flubbed his first lines of the session opening when he rose and should have announced that William Harvey Murray, Social Credit member for Prince Rupert, would fill the chair.

But the announcement came out William Harvey Murphy. Harvey Murphy is the president of the Mine-Mill union. The premier sat, slightly red.



Fri., Jan. 24, 1964

## Perrault Dubious On Health Clause

Promised Change 'Gratifying,'  
But Liberal Has to Be Shown

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Liberal leader Ray Perrault says the government's announced plans for health and welfare reforms could be nothing more than a false promise.

But Perrault, commenting on the throne speech read Thursday at the opening of B.C.'s 27th legislative session, said the pledges for improvements in those fields are gratifying.

He said they are the obvious results of criticism which has been levelled at the government's health and welfare departments in recent weeks.

### SAID BEFORE

"Our enthusiasm for the announcement is tempered, however, by the fact that previous throne speeches have contained similar indications of improvements in the field of social welfare and health," he said.

"Many of these have yet to be initiated."

In the 4,000-word speech, read by Lieutenant-Governor George Pearkes, the Socred government promised an extension of regional mental health centres and improvements generally in welfare.

### BANK STARTLES

Perrault said the only new or startling content of the speech was the proposal to establish a new, federally-chartered bank in B.C.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan agreed that this was the only significant measure in the speech.

"If there had not been an election last September I would have cast the throne speech as an election propaganda effort," he said.

## New Democrats Name New Whip

VICTORIA (CP) — John Squire, New Democrat member of the B.C. Legislature for Alberni, has been named new whip of the NDP caucus in the House.

He replaces Rae Eddie, of New Westminster, who Opposition Leader Robert Strachan had agreed to step down.

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# UBC Head Twists Facts, Says Socred

## Campbell Accuses Macdonald Of Misusing Statistics

By IAN MACDONALD  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A Social Credit MLA Friday accused University of B.C. president Dr. John Macdonald of distorting facts in his higher-education report.

Dan Campbell, Comox, said there was a need for more truthful use of statistics when considering government financial aid to UBC.

He said that in the Macdonald report, released last year, the case for improved graduate studies rested in part on the percentage of graduate students at UBC.

Campbell said the figures shown had UBC with 6.3 per cent, compared with McGill's 10.9 per cent and 62.9 per cent in Columbia and 50 per cent at Yale.

### SENIOR MATRIC

"However, most important is the fact that UBC, in very large measure, has taken senior matriculation students from Vancouver school system and these inflated first-year figures are further incorporated in the total enrolment of the university," said the Socred.

"Obviously this gives a distorted picture," Campbell added.

Many of the first-year students should not have been there in the first place, he said, because the university itself admits that 40 per cent of all first-year students fail.

He said the demands by UBC for future needs ranged from \$10 million in 1955 to \$100 million in 1962.

Campbell, a school teacher, said it was disturbing to read a recent Vancouver Sun story headlined "UBC Man Raps Obsolete Education."

He quoted the story as saying B.C. is spending millions of dollars on education and not getting its money's worth.

"This is nonsense," Campbell said.

"Coming from an institution which has been in the foreground of suggesting vastly increased expenditures, this must be disconcerting to the taxpayer who is being told that millions that are being spent now are useless."

The Socred said the budget for higher education will be more than \$20 million this year.

"I think the public is entitled to the presentation of clear-cut goals for higher education expenditure which not only stand the test of time but are the product of the statistical brains that are supposed to be there at a university of the calibre of the Point Grey campus," Campbell said.

"The present government has never been reluctant to meet these challenging situations whatever they might be.

### 'FLAWS IN SELLING'

"However, it is disturbing in the field of higher education today and education generally to note several flaws in the salesmanship which is going on in selling the public on these remarkable expenditures," he added.

In moving the throne speech, Campbell also rapped lack of co-operation between Vancouver's city council and school board on higher education needs.

## Logging Shacktowns Hit by MLA

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Social Credit MLA Dan Campbell charged Friday communities which have grown up around some Vancouver logging operations are disgraceful shacktowns.

Campbell, member for Comox, cited communities at Kelsey Bay, Sayward and Port Hardy which he said were run-down, disgraceful bolts on the landscape.

Campbell said that in 1959 the Powell River Company had pleaded that tree farm licences were in the public interest because they helped guarantee development of suitable communities.

Powell River itself is a suitable community, said Campbell.

"But after many years of resource use in areas around Sayward, Kelsey Bay and Port Hardy, communities that can properly be described as disgraceful shack towns have developed in the areas involved with the actual cutting of trees."

## ALL-OUT ATTACK

## Opposition Takes Bead On Welfare

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Opposition MLAs Friday began laying the groundwork for an attack on the government's health and welfare programs.

Thirty-two of 74 questions to be placed on the order paper Monday are directed to Welfare Minister Wesley Black and Health Minister Eric Martin.

The questions, most of them to be asked by the New Democratic Party's welfare critic Dave Barrett and health critic Gordon Dowding, seek a variety of information about the government programs.

One asks full disclosure of facilities and services at Woodlands school for retarded children and another seeks information about the number of patients and length of the waiting list there.

The social welfare department has been the target of a barrage of criticism in recent weeks following public disclosure of province-wide inadequacies.

Woodlands raised additional controversy following announcements that three senior officials have resigned and that children needing treatment cannot be admitted for space reasons.

The opposition is expected to launch an attack against the Socred government after the health and welfare questions have been answered.

The legislature adjourned Friday until 2 p.m. Monday, when Opposition Leader Robert Strachan leads off the throne speech debate.

The first night sitting of the session is scheduled for Monday night.

## MP Assailed For Stand On Columbia

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The only man still trying to block the Columbia River treaty is Kootenay west MP Bert Herridge, a Socred MLA claimed in the legislature Friday.

Donald Brothers, from Rossland-Trail, said the federal

NDP member is acting against the interests of his constituents.

"This man has no right to stand in the way of the hopes and aspirations of the people," Brothers said.

NDP opposition member Randolph Harding, Kaslo-Slocan, interjected that Herridge was elected in the last federal vote with the largest majority he ever had.

Brothers said federal Opposition Leader John Diefenbaker and Davie Fulton, now leader of the B.C. Conservatives, were also to blame for holding up the treaty.

"I thought you said Herridge was the only one," shouted an opposition MLA.



## CAPITAL COLUMN

# House Fired Up By Backbencher

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—Premier Bennett looked out Friday in the legislature upon a wider sea of Social Credit faces.

As he gazed, he became prouder by the minute and he beamed with great satisfaction, quietly pacing the bridge of his ship with all the self-confidence of an experienced captain with a willing, obedient crew.

That wider Social Credit sea was recalling for him his great success at the polls last Sept. 30.

I could see he was choosing to forget that more British Columbians voted against him than for him. No matter to him, he put that disagreeable, cold, hard fact right out of his mind in the ecstasy of the moment.

As I looked from the press gallery upon our law-makers, I could see proof, in flesh and blood, that Premier Bennett is still very much British Columbia's top man, a law unto himself, a spellbinder who stays in the driver's seat because he has imagination and initiative, daring, and a born gambler's sense of timing.

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Our premier knows all this, too, but he does his best to remain humble and earthy—a real man of the people, descending from time to time from his lofty pinnacle and walking among the masses, handing out government largesse and country-style comradeship.

There were the Strachan Socialists, two fewer than a year ago, and the lonely little Liberal group way down at the bottom of the room, five of them.

Well, if the Liberals didn't gain in the election they didn't lose, and for that they are duly grateful, though for the life of them they just cannot understand why the people won't put them into the seats of the mighty instead of always voting for those odd-ball characters who call themselves Social Crediters.

Hon. Ray Williston, pleased as a schoolboy, and no wonder, told MLAs how, 48 hours before he had stood in the historic treaty room of the White House with Prime Minister Lester Pearson and President Lyndon Johnson and watched the Columbia River Treaty being signed.

I could tell it was the most exciting day of his life. To be in the same room at the White House with president and prime minister is really something to tell your grandchildren about.

Ray Williston didn't pretend it was all in the day's work for him. He was not one bit sophisticated about it.

He let it be known it was a day he'll never forget, and I liked his fresh and frank exuberance and his sense of history.

\*\*\*  
Nobody expected politics to be dragged in so early in the session. But it happened, boom, just like that:  
It was Social Creditor Dan

Campbell of Comox who gratuitously stirred up the stew of political discord, brazenly crowing about Social Credit's victory four months ago.

Campbell crowed and crowed like a rooster at sun-up, and the premier beamed and beamed like a new father seeing his child for the first time.

The oppositionists squirmed and scowled and were unhappy, but they smiled hollow smiles, putting on a bold front of defiance, doing their best to ignore the crowing Campbell and the beaming Bennett.

Social Credit, opined the canny Campbell, is always so successful at the polls because the voters know it's one big happy family, working shoulder-to-shoulder for the good of the people.

They're loyal to the father, the premier, always with him, supporting him and giving him courage by their faithfulness to him, depending on him for guidance and always doing without question what he says.

\*\*\*

How different, sighed Campbell, how different are the foolish oppositionists.

Why, he said, those Liberals and those Strachan Socialists are always scrapping among themselves, sinking their own ships with their constant talk of switching their captains, being disloyal to them, doing them dirt, undermining them, belittling them, causing them sorrow and pain.

No wonder the oppositionists don't get anywhere, scoffed the man from Comox; What oppositionists need is a bit of Social Credit solidarity.

And so, there we were, on the session's second day, deliberately plunged up to our necks in politics by a usually mild-mannered man who, of a sudden, began rubbing the noses of his political enemies in their own humiliation, doing so with a cheerful venom.

Thus do shy men from the sticks become city slickers after a few years in legislative halls and the scheming inner recesses of politics.

## Diplomatic Move Gets Treaty Pen

By IAN MACALPINE  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A top-level diplomatic manoeuvre whisked the Columbia River Treaty pen out of the White House and into the hands of Premier W. A. C. Bennett Friday.

Lands, Forests and Water Resources Minister Ray Williston delivered the pen to the premier in the legislature and described the clandestine caper that got it here.

Normally, he said, important documents are signed with several pens in the historic White House treaty room, and the pens are handed out as souvenirs to the dignitaries.

But the Columbia Treaty, signed by State Secretary Dean Rusk and External Affairs Minister Paul Martin, required only one.

Williston asked for the pen to take back to Premier Bennett.

He finally got it after senior officials in the U.S. state department conferred with Canadian external affairs officials and okayed the plan.

The Washington authorities graciously gave up the onyx base, too.

## 64 Babies Homeless

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Sixty-four B.C. babies couldn't find homes last year, the social welfare department has disclosed.

The department's report, tabled in the legislature, said there was an increase in the number of children available for adoption and a shortage of adoption homes.

However, welfare workers were able to place 941 children. Of that total, 500 went to Protestant homes, 81 to Catholic parents, two to Hebrew homes, and one to a Confucian home. Children's aid societies placed 357 of the children.

The report said there was an increase of 116 births out of wedlock, to a total of 2,601 in the fiscal year ended March 31, 1963.

## Army Alert Urged At Grey Cup Time

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Vancouver police should be given authority to call in troops to quell Grey Cup violence, an interior MLA said Friday.

Donald Brothers (SC, Rossland-Trail) said in the legislature the performance of young hoodlums during the football weekend last November was a national disgrace.

"If the mayor had seen the leather-jacketed hooligans breaking windows, tearing flowers from pots, tearing telephones from booths, upsetting booths and newsstands and fighting and swearing, he would have been as alarmed as I was," said Brothers, who was visiting the city at the time.

"It's a wonder no one was killed," he said. "It's disgraceful that the people of B.C. can't walk in Vancouver without putting their lives in jeopardy."

Brothers said he saw few football fans in downtown Vancouver during Grey Cup.

What he did see he described as drunken hooligans, young punks and mobsters.

Brothers, who seconded the throne speech, said Vancouver police handled the situation fairly and with restraint.

But he said the police had difficulty coping with the situation.

"They should be given more authority and if necessary be able to call in the army," he said.

"This is a drastic step, a final resort," said Brothers.

## Government Eyes More Hydro Plans

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Government engineers are studying two new hydro prospects in northern B.C., it was learned Friday.

Larger of the two, capable of generating 1.3 million kilowatts, involves diversion of the Dease River into the Tanizilla, a tributary of the Stikine.

The other, still in the preliminary study stage, would harness the Cottonwood River, near Cassiar, to supply energy to the Cassiar Asbestos Corporation.

Both projects were described in the annual report of the water resources department, tabled in the legislature Friday.

Water Resources Minister Ray Williston said later the developments are "in the future."

He said the Stikine project could become a reality if an industrial operation locates in the Prince Rupert-Stewart districts.

There are several copper deposits in the region and it is possible that a smelter could be set up there in the future, Williston said.

He said four water storage and power sites are being considered on the Stikine River system.

The report also said that a new electronic computer is being used to review estimates of B.C.'s total power potential.

"This new study is believed to be a significant departure from current methods of determining system power outputs and it is hoped that it will be in operation in a few months," the report said.

## Ottawa to Receive Bank Bill Soon

By IAN MACALPINE

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A bill seeking charter of the B.C. government-led Bank of British Columbia will be presented to the Senate and House of Commons within weeks, Premier W. A. C. Bennett said Friday.

Plans are to submit the bill early in the new session of Parliament which opens Feb. 18, Bennett said.

This would enable the new bank to be in operation in 1965, he added.

### GUNDERSON IN DARK

"It won't take long, but there are some mechanics," said the premier. First hint that Premier Bennett was going into the banking business was revealed in the legislature Thursday.

Bennett said the government is giving leadership in establishing the bank and will become a minority shareholder in it.

Hundreds of calls for shares in the venture poured into investment houses in B.C. following disclosure of the banking scheme.

It still has not been revealed who else is involved in the scheme with the government.

Names logically associated with high finance in B.C. have denied participation and many of them said the bank plan caught them by surprise.

### CALLS POUR IN

Einar Gunderson, a close financial adviser to the premier, has attended the first two days of the legislature.

He said he knows nothing about the scheme.

"I am not in any way connected with it. I am a director of the Canadian Bank of Commerce," he said.

A report that some American capital would be behind the bank raised the possibility that the San Francisco-based Bank of America was involved.

But Frank Dana, executive vice-president of the bank, said the report is unfounded.

Premier Bennett said Friday that legislation concerning the scheme will probably be introduced about the time the budget is brought down, about two weeks.

Until then, what has been one of the best-kept secrets in financial circles is likely to remain a mystery.

## COUNTY COURT SETUP DUE FOR OVERHAUL

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C. county court system will undergo an extensive overhaul, it was learned Friday.

Announcement that changes to improve the system would be introduced in the legislature came Thursday in the throne speech.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner said Friday the proposed legislation changes would "not be minor."

Speculation is that more judges will be appointed to the county court bench and court facilities expanded.



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## Opposition Sparks Fiery House Row

### Strachan Non-Confidence Move Beaten After Verbal Fireworks

By IAN MacALPINE  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The Opposition's health and welfare bomb exploded in the legislature Monday.

New Democratic leader Robert Strachan's traditional vote of non-confidence in the government ignited the fireworks. Health Minister Eric Martin was asked to resign.

The NDP demanded a completely new department of social welfare and rehabilitation under a full-time minister.

Premier Bennett tangled in a fiery verbal battle with a Liberal MLA.

NDP welfare critic Dave Barrett, by seconding Strachan's motion and speaking on it, lost his chance to speak later in the throne speech debate.

#### LIGHTS FUSE

Opposition leader Strachan lit the fuse with an attack on the government for what he termed its tragic lack of interest in human problems.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner hit back later with an assurance that important

changes are scheduled for health and welfare services in B.C.

Bonner did not detail the upcoming moves but said: "A basic fact is that it (social welfare) has been and will continue to be one of the major considerations of this administration."

The attorney-general said that in 1962-63 the government had spent more than \$56 million on social welfare.

#### NEEDS GROWING

Strachan said the demand for mental health services has grown considerably in recent years, yet only minor improvements have been made because of the government's incompetence and unwillingness to spend money on anything that could not produce votes.

He said that since 1958, the waiting list at Woodlands School for Retarded Children in New Westminster has risen from 551 to over 800.

He claimed that 174 people awaiting entry to Woodlands have been kept in the provincial mental hospital at Essondale for more than 10 years.

And he said that psychiatric treatment services for disturbed children are almost nonexistent.

"You can talk all you want about new banks, the Columbia treaty, build the PGE all you want, all the highways you want, there has been suffering caused and it is to be answered for," said Strachan.

The Opposition leader charged that the real mental health situation in B.C. is being concealed in superficial department reports.

"The whole tone of the annual reports has changed (since 1958 when mental health was brought under the health minister's jurisdiction) so that while it is easy to tell what facilities we have, it is no longer possible to tell what those running the service feel are the deficiencies and what should be done about them," Strachan said.

"A similar change has overcome the social welfare branch reports, and I have no doubt that the government employees responsible for producing the reports are under no illusions as to their future progress in the service should their reports embarrass the government as the old ones did."

Strachan referred to a statement made by Martin recently in which the health minister said he would lower the boom on MLAs who criticized operation of Woodlands School.

#### 'GETTING FED UP'

Said the Opposition leader: "We on this side of the House are getting a little fed up with these juvenile outbursts which are becoming a trademark of this minister."

"He might just as well accept the fact that I will continue to criticize the deficiencies in our mental health services as long as these exist," Strachan said.

The NDP chief said the government's social welfare department, set up April 1, 1959, turned out to be merely a callous April Fool policy.

The decision to remove the department from the health and hospital services department could have given B.C. first class social services, he said.

#### 'POOR RELATION'

Instead, the welfare department became a poor relation of the provincial secretary's department under Municipal Affairs Minister and Provincial Secretary Wesley Black, he said.

According to his own statement, the minister devotes only two days a week to the affairs of the social welfare department, Strachan said.

At one point in his speech Strachan asked Martin to resign. He said the health minister had campaigned with a medicare slogan in the last election but, when re-elected, did nothing about medicare.

"We must set up a complete new department of social welfare and rehabilitation, with the emphasis on rehabilitation," Strachan said.

After speaking for two-and-a-half hours, Strachan moved a vote of non-confidence in the government over its handling of health and welfare.

#### TEMPERS FLARE

It was defeated 31 to 18, but not until a violent display of tempers and emotion flowed onto the floor of the House.

Premier Bennett sprang to his feet after Strachan moved the non-confidence motion.

He assailed the Opposition parties as untrustworthy, and criticized their leadership turnover in past years.

"The Liberals and Conservatives have run through four leaders each since 1952," he said. "The NDP has had five leaders since 1933."

"The Socreds, on the other hand, under a single leadership, have been elected to office continuously since 1952," the premier declared.

Alan Macfarlane (L-Oak Bay) jumped to his feet on a point of order, told Bennett to sit down, and addressed new Speaker William Murray.

"This is only an amendment (to the throne speech) on social welfare and mental health, not a vote of non-confidence," said Macfarlane.

#### BENNETT UP AGAIN

Bennett sprang up again, told Macfarlane to sit down, and replied: "This legal chap (Macfarlane is a lawyer) is trying to stop freedom of speech."

"The premier is making a mockery of this Legislature," Macfarlane shot back. "Not one word has been mentioned by the premier on the subject in the amendment."

"It is a vote of non-confidence," interjected Strachan, "and I still have no confidence in this government."

Then NDP welfare critic Barrett, the member for Dewdney, joined the argument. He tore into the government over the Woodlands School waiting list.

"You think it's funny to sit there and laugh while the premier tells about political fables," said Barrett, adding:

"Coming into public office is not just a jest. As long as you're in office you're faced with this responsibility. I ask you, for God's sake, do something about these services."

## GOV'T COULD EQUALIZE GAS PRICES: STRACHAN

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The B.C. government could equalize gas and oil prices simply by proclaiming a 20-year-old act passed by the legislature, Opposition leader Robert Strachan claimed Monday.

The NDP leader said putting into effect the Petroleum Sales Act passed when T. D. Pattullo was premier would permit the government to engage in the industry and ensure fair prices for all fuels.

"We don't need a royal commission. If the government wanted to act it could do so under this statute," said Strachan.

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## Gaglardi Accused Of Lying in House

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi was accused Monday of deceiving the legislature with untruthful answers to questions put by opposition MLAs.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan, renewing his annual plea for an ombudsman in B.C., levelled the charge and cited examples to back it up.

Strachan said he asked Gaglardi at last year's session whether three highway contracts had been completed and how much they had cost.

"The minister's reply was a decisive 'no, none was completed or paid,'" Strachan said.

But the NDP leader said subsequent investigation showed that all three jobs, including the controversial contract 1023, had been completed and paid for.

Contract 1023 was associated with contract 819 that was the subject of the highways probe last spring.

"The answer was absolutely untrue, and Attorney-General Bonner says we have 52 ombudsmen in B.C.," said Strachan.

He was referring to Bonner's comment earlier that B.C. doesn't need an ombudsman because the 52 MLAs are supposed to fulfil that role.

"We can't get information concerning public affairs of this province and when we do get answers, they're untrue," the Opposition leader said.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner indicated in the House Monday that there is little chance of ombudsman being appointed.

He said B.C. is not the only province or country to have reservations on the subject.

Only one commonwealth country—New Zealand—has seen fit to adopt this notion, he said.

### BONNER SAYS:

## 'Investment Will Boom'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Record capital investment of more than \$1.6 billion is expected in B.C. this year, Trade Minister Robert Bonner said Monday.

He told the Legislature confidence in the province was never higher.

Bonner said investment will likely exceed the \$1.6 billion high set in 1957.

"The rate of investment continues to be the foremost among industrial sectors of the whole of Canada," Bonner said.

The trade minister said new opportunity is largely linked to trade, and Canada should take note of the new patterns that could emerge from French recognition of Red China.

Bonner announced the government's intention of organizing trade and purchasing groups to the Far East and Australasia this year.

## Strachan Charges McMahon 'Payoff'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Opposition leader Robert Strachan fired another round Monday in his running battle with industrialist Frank McMahon.

He said in the throne speech debate that he is afraid the Social Credit government will appoint friends and defeated cabinet ministers to the board of directors of the new Bank of B.C.

The NDP leader said McMahon, head of the gas pipeline firm of Westcoast Transmission and a close friend of Premier Bennett, was a likely candidate for a bank job.

### 'PAID OFF'

He claimed McMahon had been paid off for his services to the Socreds in the last three general elections.

"There is certainly no doubt about the fact that there is one man in British Columbia who profits pretty regularly at the expense of the people as a result of the last three elections," said Strachan. "That man is Frank McMahon."

The Opposition leader continued: "Let's make no mistake about it. This man has always had his price and the

Social Credit government has always paid it."

He said that for his help in the 1956 election, the Socreds gave McMahon a gas pipeline franchise.

### 'GOT MONOPOLY'

After the 1960 election, his assistance was paid for by a crude oil pipeline monopoly franchise, Strachan said.

"We did not have to wait too long to find out McMahon's price for the 1963 election," said Strachan.

"On Jan. 3 the headlines said 'huge gas deal pushes pipeline' and we read that McMahon had been given a nice, fat contract for the purchase of natural gas by none other than the publicly-owned B.C. Hydro," he said. (Price of the gas contract has not been disclosed.)

Strachan said the idea of a bank of B.C. was a good one if it made available lower interest rates and more aid for small businesses.

"But my real fear is that this will be another botched attempt by this government to move into a socialized area. They don't believe in public ownership of anything," he said.

## Perrault Turns Heat On Bennett

By IAN MACDONALD

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Liberal Leader Ray Perrault threw some hard punches in the legislature Monday and then pleaded for peace.

In his first speech of the young session he teed off at Premier Bennett in grand style.

Perrault tackled the top man after Bennett had staged a minor donnybrook following a slashing attack by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan on the government.

For a man of peace, Perrault did pretty well.

He charged Bennett with showing the "petty, tyrannical properties he possesses."

Perrault maintained Bennett had done nothing to dignify the House and had not set a good example to the new members.

"We expect a higher standard of conduct from the first minister," Perrault proclaimed.

"This has been the worst start we have had in a number of years," said Perrault, who made a dire prediction that such actions would ensure the premier's political demise faster than any other.

A member of the House since 1941 and decisive winner in last fall's election, Bennett didn't look too worried.

Perrault said members should aim for a session "free from rancor, instead of battling back and forth."



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## Perrault Wants B.C. Bank Free of Political Influences

By IAN MACDONALD  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — British Columbians don't want a provincial bank under powerful political influence and riddled with political appointees, Liberal leader Ray Perrault said Monday.

But Perrault said a federally-chartered bank for B.C. as proposed by Premier Bennett in the throne speech last week, could be a good thing.

"Such a bank could provide for B.C. and British Columbians additional capital for expansion in all parts of B.C.," he said. "It could take its place alongside other lending institutions as a real benefit to the people."

He said it would be a boon if oriented to B.C.'s special circumstances and was a bank that took advantage of the province's resources.

### BROAD DIRECTORATE

He said the directors should be Canadians and preferably British Columbians from all parts of the province, not just Vancouver and Victoria.

Perrault said he hoped the bank would be neither socialistic nor Social Credit.

"I hope that a lighted portrait of Major Douglas (the founder of Social Credit) is not posted in every branch lobby," Perrault said. "He may give pause to any legitimate investor."

He said he hopes the premier would join in the enterprise with experienced partners (Bennett has said the government will be a minority shareholder) and that no one group would own enough of the bank to dominate it.

In a one-hour and 40-minute speech in the throne speech debate, Perrault said B.C. still is too dependent on basic industries.

He accused the government of not advancing a major plan to expand and diversify industry.

### CREDITS OTTAWA

Perrault said the amended Columbia River Treaty is a better one than Bennett had been prepared to accept at one time, and he credited the Liberal government at Ottawa with playing a major role in obtaining it.

The B.C. energy board has outlived its usefulness and an inquiry board of five top power engineers and planners should report on all of B.C.'s energy requirements, Perrault said.

He accused the premier of withholding information from the House, and said more work should be given to standing committees.

Perrault said some of the battles in the legislature could be avoided if the opposition had freer access to information.

He maintained Bennett and the cabinet have taken too much control and that too many decisions are being made by too few people.

Among other suggestions,

Perrault said the province should look at education taxation with a view to removing the people from the burden of property taxes.

He also said that federal participation in Garibaldi Park development would permit Victoria to spend its money on purely provincial parks.

## Top Liberal Asks Reform In Welfare

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Appointment of a full-time welfare minister was demanded by Liberal leader Ray Perrault in the legislature Monday.

He accused the Social Credit government of paying only lip service to its legal and moral responsibility in the welfare field.

"The government has come perilously close to destroying what was once the most effective, enlightened and economical welfare program in Canada," Perrault charged.

He said too many ministers are trying to do too many jobs in the Bennett administration. (Social Welfare Minister Wesley Black is also municipal affairs minister and provincial secretary.)

The Liberal leader said that since 1952 there has been no clear enunciation of welfare policy.

## Socred Road Policy Blasted By Strachan

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The Socred government was lambasted Monday for its highway spending policy.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said the government spends heavily in constituencies that elect Social Credit members and holds back in areas represented by Opposition members.

He used his own riding of Cowichan-Newcastle as an example.

For six years, Strachan said, the Chamber of Commerce has been asking for road improvements to the heavily-travelled Duncan Lake-Cowichan Road.

Trucks hauling wood chips from three large mills in the area pass over it every seven minutes, he said.

Despite several accidents and deaths, and recommendations by coroners' juries for improvements, nothing has been done, he said.

On the other hand, he said, the government spent \$3.8 million on the Agassiz-Rosedale Bridge, \$3.9 million on the Nelson Bridge and \$7.8 million on the Okanagan Lake Bridge at Kelowna.

## CAPITAL COLUMN

# New B.C. Bank Is An Old Idea

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—Our new bank which is a-borning, sponsored by our provincial government, has really captured the public's imagination.

Everyone's all for it, even the government's political enemies. Canadian banks are so cold, so steely-eyed that apparently we're all afraid of them and the Montreal and Toronto tycoons who run them.

Now everyone seems of the mind we're going to have a nice, cozy bank right here at home, a friendly bank, a

free-and-easy bank that will look upon us all with a warm and sympathetic heart, perhaps giving us loans without interest, even if we have no PGE bonds to put up as security.

It's going to be such a home-town bank, a father-confessor sort of bank that I've heard it called the BBB—the Bennet-Bonner Bank.

★ ★ ★

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan and Liberal leader Ray Perrault are all for B.C.'s very own bank, but they're mighty suspicious that the premier will be sitting behind the scenes, a sinister wraith, pulling strings and telling his minions how to run affairs, purely for his own glory.

If this should be so, Messrs. Strachan and Perrault have convinced themselves the premier will drive the new bank right into the ground. When the premier hears these two talking thus he laughs and laughs and laughs.

To the premier, Messrs. S. and P. are always oozing great bags of sour grapes, and he'll not pay any attention—or not too much.

Strachan sees the bank as another victory for socialism, which is fine by him, but he says Bennett knows nothing of true socialism. In the Strachan view socialism's wonderful as long as it's run by Strachan, and not by Bennett.

★ ★ ★

Perrault says the bank idea's OK—but not with Social Credit the boss. As long as SC runs the bank, in the Perrault view, it'll be nothing but a "supine instrument" riddled by politics, a poor weakling, a plaything for the premier, a toy for him, a sop to his vanity.

The premier already runs a railway, a ferry system, the retail booze business, the hydro business, and now he wants to be a big-shot banker, just because he wants to impress Wall Street. That, I figure, is the way Ray Perrault has it figured.

I suspect Strachan and Perrault are terrified the premier's picture, and the B.C. flag which he fathered, and a ferry and a dam, a

train and a tunnel and a bridge, and perhaps a halo will appear on the new bank's notes. Well, if so, they'll indeed be collectors' items, worth a king's ransom 150 years from now.

A century ago this year British Columbia was in a tizzy over banks. The Bank of British Columbia was trying to make people believe that folding money was just as good as gold and silver money.

It was a tough job, just as tough as trying to convince Strachan and Perrault that Bennett might be able to run a bank, though the premier insists he has no such intention.

★ ★ ★

The first folding money for the Bank of B.C. arrived here in 1863. There was but one denomination—\$5. The Colonist said: "These issues are printed on very good paper—the design bears in one corner a bust of the Queen and in the other; '\$5.' On one end is a miner at work, on the other a ship; at the top is Britannia—the centre, or body of the note is written minutely all over with 'five dollars.'"

In 1864 came B.C.'s first bank robbery, right here in quiet Victoria, and a mysterious affair it was, as mysterious, up to this point as our new Social Credit bank.

Overnight \$30,000 disappeared from MacDonald's Bank. The Colonist noted: "The robbers made use of an ash-bucket to which they had fastened a piece of spun yarn to hoist their plunder up to the skylight and lower it on the outside.

"The absence of vigorous effort on the part of the police—or those personally interested in the recovery of the stolen property, elicited the most pointed expressions of astonishment in the streets."

Bank owner A. D. MacDonald was in the Cariboo, and took his time about returning here. When he arrived, those who had lost their shirts pounded in fury upon his door, but he calmly told them to come back a week later.

When they did, they found he had taken off to California, and that was that.

Listening to Strachan and Perrault one gets the notion they fear it'll be MacDonald's Bank all over again when the BBB get going.

## Indian MLA Threatens Ottawa

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The Liberal government at Ottawa could bite the dust if Indians get mad at them, B.C.'s only Indian legislator predicted Tuesday.

Frank Calder, NDP MLA for Atlin, said the Indians could topple the government over the question of their claims for payment for lands taken from them.

"We have the vote now and political power," Calder said.

He said most Indians had given the Liberals their vote last time but could take it away.

Calder, who represents a far-flung riding of 61,700 square miles in northwest B.C. with only about 1,300 registered voters, said Indians will vigorously oppose a federal bill for disposition of Indian claims to be considered when the federal government reconvenes next month.

He said the Indians disapprove of several sections of the bill but he did not elaborate.

"But one good example is that even if an Indian band presents a good case and is awarded certain compensations for lands claimed, the Indian Claims Commission and the government will not admit that the Indians were the original owners of the land," Calder said.

He said that in B.C. since 1866 when B.C. was a colony it is claimed that aboriginal rights are not enforceable.

"This is the reason why we would prefer to meet the provincial government in court and decide once and for all," he said.

## B.C. Hospital Sweep Asked

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — National lotteries to help run hospitals were advocated in the legislature Tuesday.

Stan Carnell (Social Credit—Peace River South) suggested tickets be sold through chartered banks and that at least 50 per cent of the gross take go to hospitals.

He advocated prizes not to exceed \$20,000. "I don't see why anybody should want \$140,000 (top prize in the Irish Sweepstakes)," Carnell said.



Wed., Jan. 29, 1964

## Humanitarian Bill 'More Than Hydro'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—B.C. spends more money a year on humanitarian services than it will spend on both the monumental Peace and Columbia River hydro projects.

Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi used the comparison Tuesday in a biting rebuttal to opposition claims that the government is neglecting welfare services.

Gaglardi said B.C. spends \$56 million a year on welfare alone — more than \$1 million a week.

The total annual expenditure for humanitarian services is \$247.8 million, he said.

The minister said the Peace River dam contract for \$73 million was the largest ever awarded in Canada. But it is spread over five years, he said.

The Columbia development will cost close to \$500 million over 10 years, Gaglardi said.

"You mean this is a mere pittance?" he asked the Opposition. "Is there any man who can stand up and say with a straight face this government has turned its back on the people?"

Gaglardi rapped NDP welfare critic Dave Barrett for what he termed a tear-jerker treatment of the welfare situation.

"Nobody is more concerned about welfare than Social Credit — from the premier right on down the line," said Gaglardi.

## Shock Films Suggested On Smoking

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Shock treatment to dissuade young people from smoking was recommended Tuesday in the legislature.

William Speare (SC—Cariboo) said any government action against the problem should be strong and effective.

"I think we can adopt some of the shock tactics in getting the story across to our young people that we had to use in wartime training films," Speare suggested.

He said pictures of healthy tissue compared with tissue damaged by smoking would be "terrifically impressive."

And he made a pitch on behalf of people trying to find a way to quit smoking.

"Get some medical advice and the advice of some of the so-called experts on how to go about arresting a hardened habit of years standing," he said.

This suggestion drew some heartfelt applause from both sides of the House.

## Gov't to Push Public Access

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government will continue to press for more public use of private industrial roads.

A reliable source said Tuesday the two-year-old special legislative committee on public access is to be reconvened at this session.

The government has expressed concern over the lack of access to much Crown land help privately under tree-farm licences.

Many companies, recognizing the possibility of a legislative act to open more private roads, voluntarily have permitted greater public access.

## Hospitals Get Tip on Rules Of Insurance

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A Social Credit MLA told B.C. hospitals bluntly it is time they realize they surrendered some of their autonomy under B.C. Hospital Insurance Service.

William Speare, member for Cariboo and a hospital consultant, said in the legislature the government has spent plenty of money in doing a good job in the hospital field, but:

"We still have constant trouble with the hospital association and the hospitals."

He said hospitals must recognize they operate in a framework of 93 provincial hospitals, adding:

"I don't believe hospital boards of this province realize this point even yet."

"They get into trouble when they extend services over and above those covered by the daily rate set by the rate board of the BCHIS."

Speare suggested hospitals should be clearly advised how the rate board rates.

He also suggested study of proposals that welfare recipients work for their money.

## NDP Shamed Itself, Claims Gaglardi

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The New Democratic Party shamed itself by conspiring with the Tories to defeat Social Credit in Kamloops during the last election, Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi charged Tuesday.

Gaglardi told the legislature the NDP could think of no other way to beat him, so threw its support behind Conservative leader Davie Fulton.

But in the end it didn't work because the working man who had been instructed to vote for Fulton backed the Social Credit organization, he said.

### STRANGE COLLUSION

"There was some of the strangest collusion going on that I ever heard in my life," Gaglardi said in the throne speech debate.

"Now," he continued, "there isn't a member of the NDP who will ever be able to hold up his head in my riding."

"You talk about dirty poli-

tics," he went on. "When a party prostitutes its own principle it isn't worth calling a party."

"Imagine the once proud CCF party dropping to these tactics," Gaglardi said. "Dropping from the Regina manifesto to the Winnipeg fiasco to changing its name."

### TAILED BY CONTRACTOR

The highways minister said another strange aspect of the election campaign in his riding was the appearance of Montana contractor Dick Holsworth, a key witness at last year's highways graft probe.

"Mr. Holsworth was brought into Nelson-Creston when I was speaking there and he followed me like a puppy dog into Kamloops," Gaglardi said.

The minister hinted Holsworth was in the employ of the opposition when he added: "It was reported that after he got back to the States he was waving quite a bit of money."

Wed., Jan. 29, 1964

# Bank Plans Skyscraper

## Site Behind Courthouse Favored for Project

By IAN MacALPINE  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Labor-Education Minister Leslie Peterson disclosed today the headquarters of the new Bank of British Columbia will be built in downtown Vancouver, adjacent to the courthouse.

He told the legislature the government is considering building a skyscraper that would house the bank, additional courthouse facilities and government offices in the block bounded by Robson, Hornby, Howe and Smith.

### MOVING QUICKLY

Peterson's announcement in the throne speech debate indicated the speed at which the bank group is moving to get established.

The government-backed group has yet to apply for a federal charter, but plans are to do so early in the new session of the federal Parliament which opens Feb. 18.

Peterson said the city of Vancouver now owns much of the block and had intended to develop it as a civic square.

But he said he met recently with Mayor Bill Rathie and learned the city is no longer interested in retaining the land for that purpose.

### READY TO SELL

"From these discussions I learned that the city is anxious to dispose of this property to the province and is prepared to sell it to us at cost," Peterson said.

The minister said the city has spent \$1,375,250 on the property to date.

"In my opinion, a better location for the head office of the bank cannot be obtained," Peterson said.

Peterson said that if the courthouse facilities were provided in the bank building the province could dispose of land it owns behind Hotel Vancouver, sought for hotel expansion.

He said the multi-purpose bank building could be assured of full occupancy because it could lead to disposal of the old Normal School and Model School properties now housing government departments.

Peterson said sale of these two school properties might be of interest to Vancouver as sites for a junior college.

## B.C. Supports U.S. - Alaska Paved Road

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C. will go along with a United States proposal for completion of a paved highway to Alaska.

Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi told the legislature Tuesday that Montana Senator Mike Mansfield is placing a bill before the U.S. Senate, urging a joint Canadian-U.S. program.

"I wired Mansfield and told him any contribution I could make, just let me know," said Gaglardi.

"We'll be happy to co-operate with them in any venture."

The plan involves hard surfacing and improvements to large unpaved sections of the Alaska Highway and B.C. highways which link it to south-bound routes.

All but 300 miles of the 1,523-mile Alaska Highway lies in Canada, and about 600 miles of the route is in B.C. It runs from Dawson Creek in northern B.C. to Fairbanks, Alaska.

"I hope some day the U.S. and Canada will participate in joining Alaska and B.C. with a road paved from one end to the other," Gaglardi said in the throne speech debate.

## THE OFFICIAL WORD: A SORT OF BIG BANK

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Premier W. A. C. Bennett and Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi can't seem to agree on how big the Bank of B.C. is going to be.

Gaglardi warmed to the subject in the throne speech debate Tuesday and loudly declared: "It will be the biggest bank in the whole of Canada."

The premier swivelled around in his chair, spoke a few quiet words to the minister, and Gaglardi continued: "... this will be one of the biggest banks in Canada, I'm sure."



THURSDAY, JAN. 30, 1964

## 'Gov't Must Pay Full School Cost'

**Sun Victoria Bureau**  
VICTORIA—A Liberal MLA Wednesday urged the government to assume the full cost of elementary and secondary education.

Alan Macfarlane, Oak Bay, said he hoped a proposal in the throne speech to increase grants to school districts is more than an idle statement.

He criticized the government for lack of provincial

facilities for mental health treatment.

Macfarlane, a lawyer, also urged Premier Bennett to repeal the Crown Procedure Act, which rules that a person wishing to sue the provincial government must get the government's permission to do so.

He said the federal government and the majority of the provinces already have done so.

## Forget Bills, Enjoy Free Drink in Clink

**By IAN MACDONALD**  
**Sun Victoria Bureau**

VICTORIA — To hell with paying bills when you can live it up in jail.

Why bother scratching for the monthly payment when you can have the sheriff deliver a case of suds to your cell free, with maybe a T-bone thrown in?

The life of a debtor in B.C. can be happy, Liberal MLA Alan Macfarlane told the legislature Wednesday.

He said that under the Arrest and Imprisonment for Debt Act, a person who is owed \$100 or up and believes the debtor is likely to skip B.C., can have him arrested and thrown in jail.

He said section 21 of the Act

provides for the rights of prisoners while in jail.

"The prisoner, at his free will and pleasure, may send for and have brought to him at reasonable times, in the day time, any beer, ale, victuals, or other necessary food, from what places he thinks fit or can have the same, also can have and use such bedding, linen or other necessary things as he has occasion for and thinks fit."

This, Macfarlane pointed out, could be a fairly cushy and pleasant existence.

But before anybody gets any ideas, there is a catch that might put a creditor off having a debtor, or more likely a friend, into the lush life.

The creditor has to pick up the bills.

### MLA CHARGES:

## Woodlands Needs 2nd Dentist

**Sun Victoria Bureau**

VICTORIA—A Sacred MLA claimed Wednesday that dental treatment at the government's Woodland school for handicapped children is inadequate.

John Tisdalle of Saanich said there is only one dentist for 1,000 children. This means the children have their teeth checked only once a year.

Tisdalle told the legislature he knows of the situation from personal experience.

He said his own 18-year-old crippled boy in the school has teeth so badly decayed they are breaking off.

"I don't understand it. I make no excuse or apologies for saying this. I'm not tattling," said the government member. "It was just a matter of citing a personal experience."

Tisdalle said he is certain that if dental health at the school were adequate the general health of the patients would improve.

## MLA URGES STAFF HUNT

**Sun Victoria Bureau**

VICTORIA — The government was told Wednesday to canvass the world for staff for B.C. institutions housing retarded and handicapped children.

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby) rapped the attitude of Health Minister Eric Martin. "Sitting in his seat and saying nobody understands him or his problems is hardly the answer to the acute agony of the thousands of people involved," he said.

Dowding urged the government to try every avenue to find trained staff, or untrained people willing to be trained.

## Law to Tap Unused 'Well'

VICTORIA (CP) — Labor Minister Leslie Peterson says a proposed law banning job discrimination against older workers will be aimed at employing one of B.C.'s greatest unused economic resources.

"Today, when there is a great demand for trained manpower, many of our citizens remain unemployed because they are considered too old, because the skills they have are obsolete, or because they have not been given a training opportunity commensurate with their potential for productive work," he said in the legislature's throne-speech debate.

Peterson would not divulge contents of the proposed bill.

But he said the government feels all available manpower should be utilized, and arbitrary discrimination against individuals able and willing to work should be barred.

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THURSDAY, JAN. 30, 1964

## TISDALLE ON THE ATTACK

# Peterson Bears the Brunt Of an Anti-Smoke Barrage

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA (Staff) — Tobacco-hater John Tisdalle doesn't like the big switch from cigarets to smelly old pipes and choking cigars.

But the Sacred MLA from Saanich had trouble at first getting his idea across to the legislature that all smoking is a dirty, filthy habit.

He knocked cigars:

"Too much cigar smoke on the ferries sophisticates people . . . ah, asphisticates people . . . heck, it nearly chokes people to death."

The laughter almost asphyxiated MLAs.

Tisdalle turned to pipe-smoking Labor-Education Minister Les Peterson and said:

"If the minister of education set an example and put out that filthy pipe, students wouldn't come and tell me that the minister smokes."

Peterson replied: "I object to some of your personal habits, too."

He brought the house down.

Tisdalle said: "If someone came up and blew smoke in my face I'd charge them with assault upon my person."

He said the government should set some examples if it wants people to curb smoking.

The government-owned ferry system, for instance, has new ferries that lack just one thing — a no-smoking area or retreat for tobacco haters, he said.

It was bad enough on the ferries when the smoke usually came from cigarets. But now, with frightened cigaret smokers turning to cigars, the situation is impossible, he said.

And, the government-owned B.C. Hydro bus system might replace some of the tobacco ads on buses with posters trying to sell something healthier "like B.C. apples."

Tisdalle also suggested a motto:

"Don't smoke in bed. The ashes that fall on the floor may be your own."

A recent habit-kicker, Opposition Leader Robert Strachan, replied: "If you're an example of a non-smoker, I'm going to start again."

MLA Alex MacDonald (NDP-Vancouver East) gave notice that he will introduce a bill Friday requiring tobacco companies to advertise the dangers of smoking.

## NDP Charges Hack Given Election Job

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The NDP member for New Westminster claimed Wednesday the So-creds appointed an incompetent party hack as returning officer in his constituency in the last election.

Rae Eddie did not name the officer when he spoke in the throne speech debate. (Outside the House he said he was referring to Dr. George L. Goode.)

"We in New Westminster had a most incompetent returning officer," said Eddie. "He is a party hack whose only concern evidently was to get the job. Once he had it, he had no desire to work at it."

The snap election called by Premier Bennett caught the election machinery in B.C. unprepared, the MLA said.

As a result, there was a mad rush to compile voters' lists and several thousands of voters lost their right to ballot, he claimed.

Dr. George L. Goode, when told of Eddie's statement today, said:

"I take it he was referring to me. I was the returning officer in the last election."

He said he would not comment further at this time.

## Peterson Denies Act Hurt Labor

By IAN MacALPINE  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Complaints that B.C.'s Trade-unions Act is hampering the union movement are groundless, Labor Minister Leslie Peterson said Wednesday.

He said in the legislature the number of certifications, organized workers and total union membership prove the legislation is not obstructing union moves to organize the labor force.

He said the fact is that B.C. has sound labor laws and a top-notch record in labor-management relations.

Peterson said 607 certifications were granted in the province last year, a number exceeded only once in the last 10 years.

The minister said 45 per cent of the total number of paid workers in B.C. were union members in 1962, compared with only 27 per cent in Ontario.

And he added that last year, while trade union membership declined generally across Canada, union membership in B.C. rose by 5,000.

"The record clearly indicates that neither the Trade-unions Act nor any other labor legislation in this province is hampering the trade union movement," Peterson said.

SAYS MLA:

## Tolls Are Still Around

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier W. A. C. Bennett won't be able to boast about a toll-free highway system in B.C. until charges are lifted from the Queensborough Bridge in New Westminster, an opposition MLA said Wednesday.

Rae Eddie (NDP-New Westminster) told the legislature the premier will brag about the accomplishment when tolls are taken off the Oak Street Bridge and Deas Island Tunnel in April.

But the MLA said it will be meaningless as long as tolls remain on the Queensborough Bridge.

Eddie said although the bridge is owned and operated by the city of New Westminster, it is actually a part of the province's secondary highway system.

"There should most definitely be a meeting of minds now between this provincial government and city officials as to the disposition of this crossing," Eddie said.



## CAPITAL COLUMN

## Non-Socred 'Junk' Bothers Our Phil

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—Our minister of highways, Hon. and Rev. Phil Gaglardi, told me the other day, in legislative corridors, that there's an awful lot of trash (his very own words) talked in our legislature, and there's an awful lot of time wasted talking politics.

He appeared quite shocked.

Yes, said he, that's absolutely so, trash and politics, and so it's no wonder he nearly goes out of his mind and, in self-defence, nods off to sleep, he's that bored stiff.

Well, Rev. and Hon. Phil talked this week, and while I'm not going to say he talked trash (a rough word) I will say he talked politics—and how!

He didn't talk too long—about an hour—but it was all politics.

For all, he says he's no politician, letting on he's merely an innocent citizen, wanting to do his best for his fellow citizens.

That's why he can't stand politics, and can't bear those who do—politicians being, to him, shady characters who plot deeply in the dead of the midnight.

I was completely taken off guard by all this, for our highways minister is a persuasive, disarming person.

And so I looked down from the press gallery, and there he was, Hon. and Rev. Phil, unable to stand politics, all upset because his fellow MLAs talk what he calls trash, even those on his own side.

Yes, he admitted that. He said they all talk trash and politics and he—of course not, no, never.

He can't abide trash and politics talk.

And so he stood up in the House and plunged headlong into politics.

He dragged in the last election and conducted a post mortem—and how happy he was.

He said the Strachan Socialists and the Fulton Tories were in collusion in order, they hoped, that they might force him, Gaglardi, out onto the ash heap.

For shame upon them, scoundrels, wastrels that they are!

He's up to them, said he, and he beat them all, and the Strachan Socialists are that dirty they sell their principles, if ever they had any, which he doubts.

As I heard the word collusion come from lips, I thought me back some years when the then speaker, the late Tom Irwin, ruled that word unparliamentary and said it was not to be uttered in the rarified, dignified atmosphere of the legislature.

Those were the days not far removed from coalition of Liberals and Conservatives and everyone was that jumpy they suspected everybody else of being in collusion with somebody or other.

And now that nasty word has popped back in 1964, hauled in by Mr. G., so sure is he that Strachan Socialists and Fulton Tories are bed fellows.

He sees it as a wild and desperate—and entirely hopeless—effort to get rid of the little fella (his very words) who has labored and toiled and sweated away in all honesty for the people of this province.

This he says has been done without a thought of himself, only a dedication to the public, while those others were in shameful collusion against him.

Terrible! Now, Rev. and Hon. Phil may not be a politician, if we are to believe him, but he sure talks like one, and a darn good one at that.

Indeed, he's so good a politician that his enemy politicians, sitting across from him, practically shut up entirely, feeling quite helpless before such a political barrage.

The reverend looked injured and hurt and righteous and furious and indignant, all at one and the same time.

He said he's humble and modest, though there's little sign of it.

And he said he loves his fellow men, but he can't stand untruthful politicians like there are in this House

—all those characters who aren't Social Credit, that is.

Why, Mr. Speaker, those people who are Social Credit's enemies tell so many whoppers, it makes him sad.

But, just the same, he's not going to sit quietly all his life.

No sir, he's not going to be always meek and mild and pushed around.

No sir, he's no longer going to be a doormat, a walk-over.

He's now going to stand up, and no longer will he turn the other cheek, but, with all his God-given strength he'll fight back. He'll fight the good fight, so the people may know the truth which shall make them free—the Social Credit truth, which, to him is the only truth, the non-political truth.

Quite breathless, I sagged down the press gallery stairs, coming to the opinion that we have had few politicians as astute as Rev. and Hon. Phil.

Yes, he is, in very truth, quite a little fella, as he delights in calling himself.

He's a little fella who faces his fellows unafraid, as long as they believe the Social Credit truth as he preaches it, which those in opposition in this Legislature will never, never do.

## TIGHTWADS WERE TABBED

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Government labor inspectors last year helped workers collect \$250,000 in wages and holiday pay from tight-fisted employers.

Labor Minister Leslie Peterson told the legislature Wednesday this was the largest sum ever collected in one year.

Peterson said unfortunately there are still some employers who fail to pay wages and holiday pay when due.

## CIVIL SERVICE CASE PLEADED

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C. government employees should be allowed the right of collective bargaining, an Opposition MLA said Wednesday.

Rae Eddie (NDP—New Westminster) said this is the only sensible solution to the problem of wages and working conditions in the civil service.

"We are long past the time when we should cease treating them like second-class citizens," he said.

## Rae Still Courts New Courthouse

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Rae Eddie is still pleading for a new courthouse in New Westminster.

He began pleading 12 years ago, when first elected to the Legislature, and he's asked for it every year since.

The New Westminster NDP member renewed his campaign Wednesday, reminding the government his city is next now that a new courthouse has been completed in Victoria.

This was promised some time ago, he said.

THURSDAY, JAN. 30, 1964

## REBEL WITH CAUSE

# Omineca's Champ Holds Rapt House

By IAN MACDONALD  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The "Cock of the North" crowed Wednesday and the legislature listened.

It accorded its usually attentive audience to the man from Omineca, maverick Socred Cyril Shelford.

To Shelford, his far-flung, rugged riding is not only the centre of B.C. — if you draw a straight line from southeast B.C. to the western Alaska border—it's the greatest place in the world.

Its inhabitants aren't merely his constituents, they are his people, and he is their protector against the city slickers.

Shelford is about the most popular member in the House. The Opposition quips that he

is really a Liberal with NDP leanings who is only sitting on the Socred side until he makes up his mind what to do in politics.

His voice, more a cackle than a crow, suggests he is being strangled.

And many times in the past Premier Bennett must have been tempted to put his hands around Shelford's throat.

He has bucked the party more often than any other member, and rumors always run that he is threatening to cross the floor.

As usual, his speech in the

throne speech debate contained demands for his beloved north, some home-spun humor, and a fair amount of common sense.

Shelford extolled the advantages the north experienced during the year.

"Generally speaking, there is practically no unemployment in my area," said Shelford. In fact, some jobs were held up because of manpower shortage.

He congratulated the government on the Columbia River deal, and then pressed for fair treatment for people who will be forced out by flooding.

"Country people, and farmers in particular, are very close to the land and home in which they live," Shelford said.

He said an area to be flooded in any power scheme should have first call on the electricity generated.

"People without power are second-rate citizens," Shelford said.

"In my opinion there should be no further reduction of electricity rates until most of those unfortunate people have power."

# Shelford Charges Gas Price-Juggling

## Companies Trying to Influence Royal Commissioner, He Says

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—British Columbia gas companies were accused Wednesday of deliberately juggling prices in a bid to influence a royal commissioner.

The charge was made in the legislature by Cyril Shelford, Social Credit member for Omineca, whose threatened resignation last year prompted Premier Bennett to order the inquiry.

Shelford said some companies deliberately manoeuvred prices as much as six cents a gallon in an at-

tempt to influence the commission.

"Little do they realize that this is playing right into my hands," Shelford said. "They have made an open admission that the prices were too high in the first place."

"If this (the reduction) was not done on purpose, why was it not done four or five years ago or six months ago?"

"Why should they wait until the commission was sitting to do this price manoeuvre?"

"Everybody should take a dim view of this type of thing while the commission is sitting."

Shelford said he hoped it would not take years for his claims that gas prices are too high to be found correct.

"There is no doubt in my mind, and in the minds of the people of B.C., that I am right on this question," he said.

Both government and opposition members applauded.

The particles in the tail of a comet are so widely spaced that the molecules can travel one billion miles without colliding.

## 50 CENTS EACH

# Vote-Buying Laid to PCs By Socred

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The B.C. Conservative Party was paying 50 cents a vote for support in the last provincial election, Labor-Education Minister Leslie Peterson said Wednesday.

Peterson told the legislature he discovered the offer when he went to a polling station in his riding, Vancouver Centre, on election day.

He said individuals outside were handing out slips of paper bearing the names of candidates.

He said the names were marked with an X to show voters how to cast their ballots. Inside the slips, he said, was a fifty-cent piece.

Col. C. C. I. Merritt, president of the B.C. Conservative Association, today challenged Attorney-General Robert Bonner to investigate Peterson's allegations.

"Conservatives take seriously any suggestion of corruption at the polls and we believe Mr. Peterson should furnish full information which will bring before the courts any persons who have engaged in such practices," said Merritt.

# ANYONE FOR WATER SKIING?

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Seymour Mountain is getting as crowded as Georgia and Granville on Grey Cup night, the legislature was told Wednesday.

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby) appealed to the government to help develop Burnaby Lake as another recreational spot on the Lower Mainland.



Thursday, January 30, 1964

## Dowding Urges Psychiatrist Board

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Establishment of a board of psychiatrists to hear appeals under the Mental Hospitals Act was urged Wednesday in the legislature.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby), said only psychiatrists should rule in such cases.

He said the government made a serious mistake in having only two psychiatrists on its existing 11-doctor board.

Dowding referred to the Charles Heathman case when he spoke in the throne speech debate.

Dowding said Heathman originally was examined by two psychiatrists who found he was potentially dangerous and psychopathic.

"That does not mean that such a person would normally be removed from public life," Dowding said.

### EXPERTS LEFT OUT

"But in this particular instance the government has failed to appoint to its board of review the acknowledged experts in the field of psychiatry."

"Out of the board of review that was appointed by the cabinet, only two were recognized in the field of psychiatry."

"For this reason I think that was probably a mistake because there certainly is a difference of opinion between the medical practitioners (who examined Heathman) and the evidence in the case that was before the courts," he said.

Dowding said that if Heathman was to be released it should be under a section of the act that places him under control of a responsible person.

### CONTROL PLANNED

Attorney-General Robert Bonner said that is what is planned by the medical superintendent of Essondale mental hospital.

Dowding said the whole case points up the need for proper rehabilitation and after-care treatment of such people.

Regarding Dowding's proposed review board of psychiatrists, Bonner later commented:

"My reaction to this point of view will be reflected later in the session."

He referred to the new mental health act to be brought in this session.

"I think the people will be pleased with its contents," he said.

## Bank Favored As Own Builder

VICTORIA—Who will build the Bank of British Columbia?

This is one of the many unanswered questions surrounding Premier Bennett's banking scheme announced in the throne speech last week.

Bennett declared that the government fathered the bank plan and will become a limited shareholder in it.

Labor-Education Minister Leslie Peterson Wednesday announced that the city of Vancouver is prepared to offer a downtown site at reasonable cost to the government.

But no one has announced officially who actually will build the skyscraper that will house the bank, government offices and court facilities.

Government thinking so far, however, appears to favor a private building erected by the bank itself.

Other space in the skyscraper would be rented to the government.

Peterson said today that the proposed site, bounded by Robson, Smith, Hornby and Howe, will be turned over to the province for about \$1.3 million.

Peterson suggested two schemes for developing the block.

He said the land could be sold to the bank or the block could be subdivided, with part being retained by the Government for a courthouse annex.

He added: "I think the bank would build its own building."

Works Minister W. N. Chant agreed with Peterson that the bank should erect its own building.

He said it would be wise for the bank to rent space to the government rather than have the government acting as landlord.

Peterson said banks traditionally build their own buildings.

"I would expect this building to be the most attractive and outstanding in the city—larger than any other building," he said.

## Forest Blackmail Could Trigger Law

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—New legislation to prevent blackmail in B.C.'s forestry industry could emerge from the findings of a special committee of MLAs, it was learned today.

The committee headed by Soerod rebel Cyril Shefford will consider allegations from interior lumber men that competitors are demanding pay-offs to keep them from bidding up crown timber sales.

Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston said the study could result in new legislation at the current session.

Williston said he will seek

leave of the House to bring the allegations before the select committee on forestry.

"We have got some evidence on this now and we are going to try and put it through," Williston said.

"If the allegations are true this is a straight case of blackmail."

Williston added that existing legislation has not been effective in preventing abuses in the forest industry.

The blackmail abuse by what were described as false competitors at crown auctions threatened to boost timber sales to unrealistic levels, he said.

## Farmers to Help Plan Courses

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The B.C. Federation of Agriculture has been invited to help the departments of agriculture and education map the future of agricultural training in the province.

## 2 Socreds Rebel Over Chairman

By IAN MacDONALD  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Two Social Credit MLAs voted with the opposition today to defeat the government's choice for public accounts committee chairman.

Donald Brothers (SC-Rossland-Trail) was dumped in favor of Victoria Socred Donald Smith, who last year bolted government ranks in the highway graft probe.

Smith filed a minority report along with the opposition that criticized some aspects of the department, while a majority report filed by Socred strength in the investigating accounts committee not only cleared Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi, but commended him.

### RARE VICTORY

Smith and Dudley Little (SC-Skeena) were the rebels who voted with the opposition in today's rare victory over a government nominee.

The public accounts committee is one of the most important standing committees.

Brothers was named convener for the first meeting, which normally would ensure chairmanship in the government-loaded committee.

The committee has 13 members, eight Socreds, four NDP and one Liberal.

Two Socreds were absent today — Health Minister Eric Martin and Public Works Minister William Chant were in cabinet—but their presence would not have affected the result.

### BY RUNNING MATE

Brothers was nominated by Smith's Victoria Socred running mate, Waldo Skillings, but Opposition Leader Robert Strachan proposed Smith.

In the show-of-hands voting, Brothers voted for himself along with Skillings and Socreds Ralph Loffmark, Point Grey, and Arvid Lundell, Revelstoke.

But they were defeated, 7-4, when Smith and Little voted with Strachan, NDP members Randolph Harding, Kaslo-Slocan; Leo Nimsick, Cranbrook; David Stupich, Nanaimo and the Island and Liberal leader Ray Perrault.

Brothers, his face white with anger, vacated the chair. A lawyer, he was one of the most contentious members during the probe last year.

Strachan, after today's victory, had the smile of a cat that swallowed a mouse.

## MARKETING

### MLA Uses Apples to Prove Point

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A Socred MLA brought six dozen apples into the legislature Thursday to prove a point.

The point: B.C. farmers should be able to market their own produce at their farms.

W. F. Jefcoat (SC, Salmon Arm) gave every MLA a big red Delicious apple when the session resumed Thursday afternoon.

The members were obviously impressed by the size and quality of the fruit, donated by a Salmon Arm orchardist.

But Jefcoat just as obviously surprised them when he told the legislature the fruit would have been rejected as culls by the B.C. Fruit and Vegetable Marketing Board.

He said hall pock marks on the apples would have made the fruit sub-standard.

Jefcoat said there is a move afoot to place further restrictions on marketing. But agriculture Minister Frank Richter later denied this.

## MLA Urges 40-Hour Work Week

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A 40-hour work week was advocated in the legislature Thursday by Vancouver MLA Bert Price.

"Ten per cent of B.C.'s workers presently work more than that and they would be grateful for action to reduce it," said the Social Credit member for Burrard as New Democratic members applauded.

(The present 44-hour work week was established in 1956.)

Price also recommended that the government:

Cut electricity and natural gas rates.

Buy Grouse Mountain and establish more provincial camps and parks within 100 miles of Vancouver.

Form a B.C. aviation committee and build more small air strips.

Build a tunnel across Burrard Inlet.

Provide summer jobs for youngsters in the recreation and forestry departments.

## Rail Link Sought by North MLA

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Extension of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway from north of Prince George to Stewart was suggested in the legislature.

Stan Carnell (SC — Peace River South) said such an extension would help tap the resources of a rich part of B.C. and also help develop Stewart, at the head of Portland Canal north of Prince Rupert, as a Pacific port.

"A survey of that possibility should be undertaken," Carnell said. "We have to remember the northern part of the province is in the first stage of its great development and this should not be taken lightly."

Carnell also recommended the government take action to acquire a radar station soon to be given up by the national defence department at Dawson Creek.

## Penny's Name Backs Point In House

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The Sun's shopping guide, Penny Wise, was quoted Thursday on the floor of the Legislature.

Bert Price (SC—Vancouver-Burrard) referred to one of her articles as he repeated his proposal for a department of consumer supply.

He quoted Penny as saying the consumer too often is taken for a ride on prices and packaging and needs some protection at the government level.

Price urged the government provide this through a consumer supply department.

He said B.C. apples cost more in Vancouver than imported oranges and bananas, although the orchardist doesn't get very much for his produce.

Price said the public too often is at the mercy of monopolies.

He maintained that all the authority such a department would require would be to publish its findings on prices and markups, and the public would act accordingly in its buying.



FRIDAY, JAN. 31, 1964

## MLA Foresees End Of B.C. Salmon

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Mrs. Lois Haggen told the legislature Thursday the B.C. salmon faces extinction.

In fact, said the NDP member for Grand Forks-Greenwood, the species may soon become a museum piece like the dinosaur and the dodo bird.

The reason is the provincial government's indifferent attitude to the fishing industry, she said.

"They have become so obsessed with power that they've lost sight of the value of fish," said the interior MLA.

Mrs. Haggen said the Puntledge River on Vancouver Island is a good example of this. She said the government installed a hydro plant there and ruined the fish run.

With plans now afoot to dam the Fraser River for flood control and hydro power the important salmon run there could meet the same fate, she said.

The government also was urged by Mrs. Haggen to take the tax bite from meals.

She said it is ridiculous to tax prepared meals when food-stuffs themselves are not taxed.

B.C.'s only woman MLA said eating out is not always a luxury but often a necessity.

"We wouldn't lose too much in taking the (five per cent sales) tax off our books when you consider the cost of administering it," she said.

She also asked the government to reconsider its method of taxing children's clothing.

Mrs. Haggen said the tax should be based on the age of children, rather than clothing size.

## Non-Smoking Plaque Urged

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Certificates of recognition for companies that forbid smoking on their premises were advocated in the legislature Thursday.

Bert Price (SC—Vancouver-Burrard) made the suggestion in a plea for strong government action against the habit.

He said one approach could be issuance of certificates to companies that prohibit smoking similar to those awarded by the Workmen's Compensation Board for accident-free records.

Price also maintained that people who smoke cannot advocate non-smoking.

"Smoking is killing people and taking years off their lives," he said, "but you can't smoke and cry havoc about it at the same time."

## SPINDLY HEELS COME HIGH

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Ladies, it costs you \$5 a mile to walk on high spindly-heeled shoes.

That is the estimate of Social Credit MLA and shoe-store owner Bert Price (Vancouver-Burrard).

He gave the legislature the figure Thursday as he discussed consumer prices.

"If you don't think these shoes are expensive you're not in the shoe business," Price said.

## Port Urged At Squamish

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Development of Squamish as an ocean terminal to help move grain exports was advocated in the Legislature Thursday.

Jacob Huhn (SC — North Peace River) said the government should investigate all aspects of terminal establishment.

Huhn also called for extension north and east of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway to provide better access from his area to the coast.

He also advocated an intensive highway program in the north, establishment of an agricultural school, a crop insurance policy, and camp and park development in the Peace River.

## MLA Raps Royal Probes

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C.'s only woman MLA accused the provincial government Thursday of trying to dodge public criticism with royal commissions.

Lois Haggen said a dozen royal commissions costing more than \$1.25 million have been set up by the Socreds since the party came into power in 1952.

Mrs. Haggen (NDP—Grand Forks-Greenwood) said the commissions have been used to ease public clamor and to stifle debate in the legislature.

She said the government would do better to spend more money on the care of chronic invalids, rather than royal commissions.

## MRS. HAGGEN OBLIGES

VICTORIA (CP) — The British Columbia government has been offered a live exhibit as a reward for fast action on a new museum for Victoria.

The exhibit would be Mrs. Lois Haggen (NDP—Grand Forks-Greenwood), a constant museum booster despite the fact she lives 600 miles from the capital.

"If I could believe with the people of Victoria that the government would build a museum and archives building," she said Thursday in the legislature's throne speech debate, "I'd be willing to go in as an exhibit."

**J A N**

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Friday, January 24, 1964

## What's he up to?

# Bennett plan for B.C. bank jolts financiers, politicians

### A place to deposit Columbia millions

By PADDY SHERMAN  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier Bennett has again exercised his unprecedented talent for doing the unexpected. The announcement in the throne speech Thursday that the provincial government is going into business as a minority shareholder in a new federal chartered bank has caught financial and political circles by surprise.

Just what is he up to, what are his aims? No one seems to have the answer. "This might be considered a socialistic banking venture," said Opposition leader Strachan. Liberal leader Perrault deferred comment.

One thing is sure, the premier is going into the banking business in a big way, and the \$275 million advance payment for Columbia River power may play a part in it.

Authorized capital of the bank will be "many times more than \$50 millions" the premier mentioned cryptically after the throne speech, and he said headquarters of the new bank would be in Vancouver.

#### ONE OF BIGGEST

The premier said he hoped the new bank would be one of the largest in Canada. He pointed out that the present chartered banks have headquarters in Ontario and Quebec.

"Our chartered banks in Canada are the best in the world. I have no criticism of them. But having one established in B.C. will recognize the great development in B.C.," he said.

When reporters asked if the advance payments for Columbia power, due Oct. 1, would be used in connection with the bank, he replied: "For shares, no."

He seemed to be saying by this that the new bank may play a large part in the investment of the Columbia cash.

#### MEMBER OF BOARD?

If the government had a sizeable share in the bank's operations, presumably the premier, or any other member of the government who might be elected to the board, would have a considerable say in the investment pattern.

Asked if the Columbia money would be the leading asset of the bank, he replied: "Not necessarily so."

Names of the principals are still a secret, but it was learned that they are all prominent figures in B.C. financial circles.

Einar Gunderson, long-time financial adviser to Bennett, was asked here if he was involved in the new deal.

He replied: "I am not in any way connected with it. I am a director of the Canadian Bank of Commerce."

The new bank will not be

connected with the Bank of Western Canada, being set up by James Coyne, former head of the Bank of Canada.

It will dwarf Coyne's bank, if the premier's estimate of paid-up capital is valid.

The Bank of Western Canada has an authorized paid up capital of \$10 million compared with "many times \$50 million" mentioned by Bennett.

The premier said that the bank will be incorporated by way of a private members bill to be presented in Parliament when it opens in Ottawa next month.

He said it would be a B.C. member, but declined to name him. The B.C. Social Credit members are Bert Leboe and Rev. A. B. Patterson. Patterson said Thursday night it was the first he had heard of the plan.

A reference to the bank plan came in the throne speech read by Lieut. Gov. George Pearkes at the opening of the Legislature.

#### DEVELOPMENT

It said in full: "As a further measure of encouragement to the balanced development of our economy, it is the intention of my government to support all positive measures which will make B.C. and our commercial capital of Vancouver in particular, a centre of Canadian finance."

"Accordingly, you will be asked at this session to authorize my government, on behalf of our citizens, to become a limited shareholder in a federally chartered bank which will be established in this province."

It is understood that the legislature will have no part in authorising the foundation of the bank. It will simply approve the government's investment in shares. There is little doubt the measure will be approved.

Opposition leader Strachan said:

"In view of the premier's comments on interest rates and tight money, I would expect the bank to offer lower interest rates than other Canadian chartered banks and to make money freely available to the small businessmen of this province."

#### INVESTMENT

One aim of the new bank could be to try to ensure that the bulk of the Columbia River money would be invested and turned over in B.C.

If the government does in fact intend to invest the bulk of this money in the proposed new bank, it would be making a safe investment in the shares.

With an initial investment of that size available, there is little doubt that the bank would be clearly profitable from the start, according to some observers.

Therefore instead of letting the regular banks make their regular profit on the investment, Bennett would be claiming a share of it for his own government.

## Who's in? It's secret

By R. M. SHAW  
Province Business Writer

Identity of principals in the new federally chartered bank, which will be established in this province, is a complete mystery.

James E. Coyne, principal in the proposed Bank of Western Canada and former governor of the Bank of Canada, telephoned in Toronto, said his new banking venture was not involved.

"It's news to me," he said, when told of the B.C. throne speech.

### SECRET KEPT

An investment dealer, speculating on the possibilities a few hours earlier, said, "If this isn't the Bank of Western Canada, it's the best kept secret I ever heard."

An official of Laurentide Financial Corp. Ltd. said that company is not involved in any banking venture in B.C. In fact, he pointed out, two heads of the company recently disposed of their interests in a mortgage company to avoid possible future conflict of interest.

Leonard Walker, chief general manager of the Bank of Montreal, recalled a cryptic statement made by Premier Bennett last Friday when he officiated at the formal opening of the new office of Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Inc., New York-based investment house.

### CLAIM RECALLED

The premier said, "We intend to make Vancouver the financial capital of Canada."

However, the resident manager of Merrill Lynch said his firm was not connected with any new banking venture in B.C. "I never heard such a thing mentioned when our top men were out from New York," said William E. Weed.

Another investment man suggested it was highly unlikely that the B.C. government would transfer all its banking business to a new bank.

### NOT LIKELY

"No single bank could pull all his (Bennett's) irons out of the fire if things got tough," he said. He recalled the critical period of July and August 1962 when interest rates rose and a flood of B.C. parity bonds were presented for redemption at par. Eventually the premier stemmed the tide by raising the interest on outstanding parities from 5 to 5½ per cent.

"The banks were hard put to help for awhile," the investment man recalled. "The Commerce went as far as it could, then the Nova Scotia took on the Toll Highway bonds and the Royal handled the B.C. Electrics."

At present the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce has most of the government accounts, including the government itself and B.C. Hydro. The Bank of Nova Scotia has the Liquor Control Board and the Toronto-Dominion Bank has the Toll Highways and Bridges Authority.

## Legislative reports

# Relief load steady in most of B.C.

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — One out of every 21 B.C. residents got some sort of welfare aid in the year ended last March.

The annual report of the social welfare department showed 80,339 cases, slightly up from 80,135 the year before.

There were 28,793 getting welfare allowances, up from 28,026 the year before.

The number of pensioners on welfare supplements dropped from 31,262 to 29,628.

But the number of child welfare cases went up from 7,362 to 8,139.

Staff remained a problem training director D. W. Fowler reported: "We are still faced with the problem of heavy staff turnover and lack of trained workers."

During the year, 52 social workers left the government service. Despite this, the total staff went up from 249 at the

start of the year to 268 at the end.

The Prince George area, in a region stretching to the Peace River, showed a heavy increase in work load.

This is the region that prompted Mrs. Bridget Moran to write a complaint to Premier Bennett recently. The case load went up 16.2 per cent to 6,956 in the nine months to Jan. 31, 1963. Child welfare cases went up 16 per cent to 1,241. Social welfare allowance cases were up 26.2 per cent to 3,567.

The Peace River offices reported a staggering increase of 37.8 per cent in welfare allowance cases.

Mrs. Moran's complaint of a lack of treatment centres for disturbed children was confirmed by Miss Mary King, superintendent of child welfare.

## Hospitals \$63 million

VICTORIA — One B.C. resident in six was in hospital last year, and the cost to the taxpayer was \$63 million.

The annual report of the B.C. Hospital Insurance Service showed the payments

amounted to \$38 for each man, woman and child during 1963.

The total number of discharges and deaths was 271,911. This was an increase of 2.7 per cent compared with 1962. Of these, 95.5 per cent were covered by BCHIS.

## Pupil cost hits \$370

VICTORIA — It cost the taxpayer \$370 for each of 358,905 children in B.C.'s public schools in the 1962-63 school year.

The total bill was \$157.6 million. Of this, the provincial government paid \$83.8 million.

The number of students was up more than 18,000.

Last year there was 37,000 in grade one, 35,000 in grade two, 34,000 in grade three and so on until the total by grade 10 was down to 25,000.

## Socred MPs in dark about B.C. banking bill

If either of B.C.'s two Social Credit MP's is going to introduce a private bill in Parliament to incorporate Premier Bennett's proposed new bank, he doesn't know it yet.

"I know nothing about it, except what I've heard in today's budget speech," said Rev. A. B. Patterson of Abbotsford, Fraser Valley member.

"No approaches have been made to me," said Bert Leboe of Prince George, Cariboo MP. "It wouldn't need to be done this early, of course."

Greater Vancouver's leading

government members, Jack Davis, Art Laing and Jack Nicholson, were all out of town and unavailable for comment.

It is not considered likely that Premier Bennett would entrust his new bill to one of the province's New Democratic Party members. There are no B.C. Conservative members.

Premier Bennett said the bank will be incorporated by way of a private member's bill to be presented in Parliament when it opens in Ottawa next month. He said it would be a B.C. member, but declined to name him.

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## Victoria comment

# How about some facts?



By PADDY SHERMAN  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — When he'd finished reading the highly-secret document, the reporter turned it upside down. "Let's see if I can find something in it this way," he said.

He wasn't being strictly accurate, for there were one or two items in it that may turn out to be interesting as the Legislature goes ahead.

But he was taking part in what has become a traditional ritual.

Each year, somebody forecasts the fabulous things that the Speech from the Throne will contain. Each year, reporters troop down to the premier's office to get their secret advance copies.

A solemn declaration has to be signed that details won't be released in any way before the speech is actually delivered, and away we all dash to find out what the big news is.

## 4,000 words, nothing new

We really should know better by now, but we live in hope. Thursday's 4,000 words or so contained mainly nothing. Nothing new, that is. Premier Bennett can hardly expect to get much more political mileage out of taking the tolls off Deas Island Tunnel when he has already used it to win a couple of seats from the NDP in Delta.

Each year, with a captive audience of most of the social leaders of the province, the government takes the opportunity to recite a long list of

achievements already well known to everyone.

The opening is mainly a social function, of course. But surely it wouldn't hurt to bend the protocol a little and say something clearly.

If the government really is going to do something about helping out the mixed-up juveniles who get in trouble, why not say so. All the speech said was that last year's act will help the government's "on-going treatment program."

This omission is bound to produce some fire when the opposition party leaders speak Monday.

## Profit is a magic word

New spending on education? The speech mentioned "increased expenditures" in several fields. But this is something that has to happen every year anyway with an expanding population.

Why not indicate that this is spending beyond that needed simply to cope with increased number?

There were 11 lines on the Pacific Great Eastern Railway, which for the last few years has been on the brink, the premier says, of making a profit. The lines said that 1963 brought record revenue, but

didn't say whether the magic word "profit" can yet be used.

Lots of specific figures will come only with the budget, of course. Nobody suggests that tradition need be bent so far as to produce the figures ahead of time.

But after all his years in office, it wouldn't hurt the premier to make another "first" for this "little Social Credit government." — A Throne Speech that is short and snappy and does tell us something specific about future government policy.

## Liquor sale rises, so do profits

VICTORIA—British Columbians are spending ever more on liquor. In the year ended last March the drinking bill hit \$109.6 million. (See also page 2).

From this, the liquor control board made a net profit of \$31.2 million, up \$2.5 million over the preceding year.

And in the six months to last Sept. 30, the profit was \$15.09 million, up from \$14.4 million in the comparable part of 1962.

The figures were tabled in the legislature Thursday.

Sales to the public were up \$6.5 million last year.

Biggest percentage increase was in home grown wines. Consumption was up almost one third in a year — from \$3.2 million to \$4.2 million.

As always, the board's biggest money-making plant was the Pender street liquor store in Vancouver. It sold \$4.8 million worth of liquor, and made a net profit of \$1.37 million for the year.

Outside of Vancouver and Victoria, Prince George was the most profitable centre. The board made a net profit there of \$763,853.

One reason for the high cost of drinking: the LCB paid the federal government \$18.4 million in the year for duty, excise and sales taxes.

# More money for education slated

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — More money for education and a move to outlaw job discrimination against older workers were forecast in the Speech from the Throne Thursday.

The increase in education grants was dealt with vaguely and will not be spelled out before presentation of the budget two weeks from today.

The speech, by Lieut.-Gov. George Pearkes, said only that there will be increased grants to school districts, more spending on higher education, grants for operating vocational schools and more money for scholarships and bursaries.

No details were given of the legislation on older workers.

As promised last August, the government will take the tolls off Deas Island tunnel and Oak Street bridge on April 1. These are the last toll structures in the province.

The speech also promised "legislation designed to further the functioning of county courts and county court judges" to bring better service.

Also planned is revision of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Act and laws governing underground storage of hydrocarbons; introduction of a new Mental Health Act; amend-

ments to the Municipal Act and the Municipalities Enabling and Validating Act.

William H. Murray, Soerod MLA for Prince Rupert, was sworn in as the new speaker of the 27th Parliament, although Premier Bennett nominated somebody else.

As he rose to nominate Murray, he referred to him as William Harvey Murphy — which sounded suspiciously like the head of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Union.

But Legislative Clerk E. K. De Beck ignored the slip and put Murray's name before the House for unanimous approval.

Alex Matthew, 76-year-old member for Vancouver Centre, was passed over for the deputy speakership. He had held the post since 1956.

The House elected in his place William Speare (S.C., Cariboo). He will be paid an extra \$1,500 per session for the post.

One former federal cabinet minister was present — former defence minister Ralph Campney of Vancouver. But another was missing — E. Davie Fulton, B.C. Conservative party leader who failed to win a seat at the last election — Both were invited as members of the Privy Council.

Saturday, January 25, 1964

## In the Legislature

# NDP questions Bennett on Westcoast gas deal

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The NDP is trying to find out if Premier Bennett has been unfairly helping his old friend Frank McMahon in the natural gas business.

Opposition Leader Strachan put two questions in the Legislature's order paper Friday about a recent deal between McMahon's Westcoast Transmission Co. and B.C. Hydro.

He wants to know if a contract was signed, and if so, how much gas was involved and at what prices.

At the time a deal was announced recently for the purchase of gas to replace oil at the Burrard thermal plant in Vancouver, Hydro Chairman Dr. Gordon Shrum said the deal was beneficial to both sides.

He said Hydro customers would get cheaper power, and Westcoast would be helped with the financing of a 220-

mile extension of its gas line to Fort Nelson.

Other Strachan questions seek to find out expenses of the 1963 election, who has passes on the government's ferry system, who supplies the government with school books, and whether B.C. Hydro has bought out Northern B.C. Power Co.

In all, 74 questions appeared on the Friday order paper.

Most of them were routine. Liberal Leader Perrault wants to know what share of various pension funds administered by B.C. is in B.C. bonds, and who has the insurance contracts for various government agencies.

Dave Barrett (Dewdney) the NDP's welfare critic, seeks details of social work staff and caseloads in 1963, and Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) is trying to find out the size of the waiting list at Woodlands School.

★

## Use army, urges MLA

VICTORIA—A Sacred MLA, hardly a football roofer, or a student from the university. who said he was "thoroughly frightened" by the Grey Cup rioting in Vancouver, suggested that perhaps the city should call out the army if anything similar happens again.

Donald Brothers (Rossland-Trail) also urged that police should be given more authority in such situations.

He told the Legislature: "These are drastic steps to take and should be only as a final resort. But something has to be done."

Brothers said he was at Granville and Georgia on the first night of the festivities.

"It's a wonder somebody wasn't killed that night. It was a serious riot. I can't blame the police for it. They were doing everything within their power."

During the whole time of the riot, Brothers said, he saw

But he did see "a lot of drunken hooligans, and bunches of young punks and mobsters."

Brothers said that Mayor Rathie said things could not have been as bad as they were pictured.

"I don't know where he was, but if he had been standing at Granville and Georgia and seen young leather jacketed hoodlums breaking windows, tearing shrubs out of pots, upturning booths and news stands, throwing bottles in the air and fighting and swearing, and drinking in public, he would have been alarmed."

Brothers praised the conduct of the police but went on: "It is a national disgrace that the people of Vancouver can't walk down the main street without their lives being in jeopardy."

★

## Shacktowns under fire

VICTORIA — "Disgraceful shacktowns" at MacMillan, Bloedel and Powell River logging operations at Sayward, Kelsey Bay and Port Hardy were criticized by Dan Campbell (S.C., Comox) in the legislature Friday.

He was pleading for the establishment of a legislative committee that could keep a constant eye on multiple uses of B.C. resources.

He said that in 1959 the Powell River Co. (since merged with MacMillan, Bloedel) pleaded that tree farm licences were in the public interest because they helped guarantee development of suitable communities.

Campbell said Powell River

itself was a suitable community.

"But the Powell River Co. also operates in my Comox constituency. After many years of resource use in the areas around Sayward, Kelsey Bay and Port Hardy, communities that can properly be described as disgraceful shacktowns have developed in the areas involved with the actual cutting of the trees."

Later he referred to "shacktown bunk houses, and shacks that have been there too many years, and people live there in shacks not fit for anyone to live in."

This, he said, did not reflect well on the husbandry that went into the resources.



## Mac not factual, says MLA

By PADDY SHERMAN  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — University of B.C. President Dr. John B. Macdonald was accused Friday of distorting the picture of higher education needs by untruthful use of statistics.

The charge came from Dan Campbell, schoolteacher Soared MLA for Comox, opening the throne speech debate in the Legislature.

He complained that critics take a shallow view of the government's achievements in education.

People forget, he went on, that higher education costs 10 years ago were only \$2.5 mil-

lion. Today they are more than \$20 million.

Campbell said there was inconsistency in UBC's demands. In 1958 it sought \$30 million over 10 years. In 1960 it wanted the \$30 million at once. In 1962 it asked for \$100 million, with \$70 million by 1967.

From 1930 to 1950 the UBC budget went up less than \$1 million, he said.

Recently, he continued, there were attempts to belittle UBC in the graduate study field. But UBC has now almost as many graduate students as Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba universities together, he said.

"It is also important that the use of statistics be more truthfully used than has recently been the case," he went on.

"In the Macdonald report, for example, the case for im-

proved graduate study in part rests on the percentage of graduate students in terms of total enrollment."

The figures showed B.C. had 6.3 per cent compared with McGill's 10.9, Columbia's 62.9 and Yale's 50 per cent.

At first look this indicated B.C. was not doing a good job on graduate studies, Campbell continued.

But the figures were inflated because of the B.C. system, which included senior matriculation students in first year university, and 40 per

cent of them failed first year exams.

"Obviously this creates a distorted picture," he said.

Campbell also accused education spokesmen of not getting together to sell a clear picture of the bargain education represents.

He cited the "curious" picture where Vancouver's school board was promoting a junior college, but city council not only suggested costs were out of line but was trying to confuse those voting on the school by a multiplicity of colored ballots.

## Pupil rates an A in politics

VICTORIA — The legislature heard Friday about the bright student who knew nothing about steamboats but may become a whiz at politics.

Dan Campbell (S.C., Comox) a schoolteacher, told

of a social sciences examination question: What was Fulton's folly?

The student, apparently forgetting the riverboat Fulton in the U.S., answered: "Coming back to B.C."

# Five to run bank

**Bonner tells  
of plans**

B.C.'s new bank will be directed by one government member and four businessmen, Attorney-General Bonner said at the weekend.

Premier Bennett announced the creation of the new bank in the Throne Speech at the opening of the Legislature Thursday but most details of the project are being withheld.

B.C.'s investment community has hailed the plan and hundreds of persons have asked to be put on the list for shares, if there is a public issue.

## WIDE SPECULATION

Amid wide speculation on the financial interests behind the bank, who directors will be and what the original deposits will total, Attorney-General Bonner also told The Province:

- The bank's five original directors will petition to Ottawa for a federal charter.

- The federal charter would allow the bank to do business in other provinces.

- The government is surprised at public reaction.

"This will not be a government-run bank," Bonner said. "It will remain in the hands of the shareholders and the government's desire to be a minimum shareholder is only to provide impetus for the organizational drive that is required."

"We thought the idea would be well received, but the reaction the announcement brought is very encouraging and surprising."

## NO COMMENT

Socialist MLA Dr. Ralph Loffmark, UBC professor of economics and finance, would not comment on speculation that he will represent the government on the new bank's board of directors.

"I think the new bank plan is another piece of evidence of the premier's desire to increase commerce and industry in B.C.," Dr. Loffmark said.

He would not speculate on who would be named to the board of directors of the bank from business.

Many of the premier's possible choices as directors already are connected with other banks, but observers say there is nothing to stop them from resigning.

## FINANCIAL MATTERS

One of these is Einar Gunderson, long-affiliated with Bennett in provincial financial matters.

Another choice might be Frank McMahon, chairman of Westcoast Transmission Co. Ltd. He was unavailable for comment Sunday at his Palm Beach, Florida, home.

Dr. Gordon Shrum, co-chairman of B.C. Hydro, said the bank will be welcomed by emerging B.C. industry.

# Power site to depend on copper

VICTORIA — A big new power project is still being investigated on the Stikine River in northwest B.C. but a go-ahead will depend on development of possible large copper deposits in the area.

Water Resources Minister Williston said the Stikine, which runs roughly between Cassiar and Stewart, has a power potential of about 1,300,000 kilowatts.

The annual report of his department, tabled in the legislature, said four storage and power sites are being investigated. The project has been referred to in previous reports. Studies are continuing and will be followed by a preliminary engineering investigation of the sites.

The project would include diversion of the Dease River into the Tanizilla River, a tributary of the Stikine.

Williston said the project is "in the future — it depends what happens in the Prince Rupert and Stewart area."

The project might go ahead, suggested Williston, if a smelter were established to handle possible copper deposits now being explored.

# Welfare questions top list for B.C. cabinet

Canadian Press

VICTORIA — Seventy-four questions that began when Mrs. Bridget Moran, a Prince George social worker, charged late last year that social welfare department's services are "sick, sick, sick."

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby) has a dozen questions for Health Minister Eric Martin including a request for the number of children on the waiting list at Woodlands.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan of the NDP has filed a number of questions which appear at the top of the order paper.

Night sittings of the Legislature start today.

The questions, follow the

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## LEGISLATURE

# Strachan skeptical of bank

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Opposition Leader Strachan favors the new bank of B.C. — but he's afraid it will be "another botched attempt by this government to move into a socialized area."

This would happen, he told the Legislature Monday because "the government doesn't really believe in public ownership of anything."

"They never manage to do the job the way it should be done and the way it would be done by those who believe in protecting the public interest."

The NDP leader went on: "I am afraid it will be just another board of directors to which the government can appoint its friends and its defeated cabinet ministers to be operated primarily to bring benefit to the few — such people as Frank McMahon (chairman of the board of Westcoast Transmission Ltd.)"

### NOT INVITED

(McMahon said in a telephone interview in Palm Springs, Fla., that he has no connection with the Bank of British Columbia mentioned in the speech from the throne.

"I have heard of the bank through the speech from the throne and I have also heard that my name was mentioned in the papers, but I have never been invited to participate in such a bank and I don't know who is involved," he said.)

Strachan said he wasn't objecting to "socialized banking." He went on: "But if this new bank is to serve B.C., it won't do so simply as a reflection of the existing banks.

"It must provide loans at lower interest rates than the others and it must have a generous and understanding attitude toward the financing of our new and small businesses, and provide loans to municipalities at lower rates.

"Otherwise it has no reason for being. It's just another bank."

### UNDER FIRE

Westcoast's McMahon a longtime friend of Bennett, came under considerable fire from Strachan.

"There is certainly no doubt about the fact that there is one man in B.C. who profits pretty regularly at the expense of the people as a result of the last three elections. That man is Frank McMahon," Strachan said.

"Let's make no mistake about it. This man has always had his price and the Social Credit government has always paid the price," he said.

## B.C. spent \$123,442 on inquiries

VICTORIA (CP) — The B.C. government spent \$123,442 last year on royal commissions and public inquiries.

Costliest was continuing work of the B.C. Energy Board which studies the power field in general. In the fiscal year ending last March 31, it spent \$45,464.

The Workmen's Compensation Act inquiry, still under way, cost \$43,626.

The Clyde royal commission on expropriation, appointed in 1961 but as yet unreported, cost \$33,782.

An inquiry into fish and power on the Puntledge River conducted by Dr. Henry Angus cost \$419, and another inquiry into amendments of the Marriage Act, had a bill of \$148.

## Old law holds oil, gas key

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government should use existing laws to get into the oil and gas business and give the oil companies some real competition, Opposition Leader Strachan proposed Monday.

Strachan said the power lies in the Petroleum Sales Act passed under Premier Pattullo more than 20 years ago but never proclaimed into effect.

The act was passed "when the oil companies were putting a gun at the head of the people," Strachan said.

Under it the government may enter all phases of the petroleum industry. It gives the cabinet power to enter any plant and examine accounts, letters and papers found there.

Strachan said that proclamation of the Act now would force oil companies to toe the line by competing with government.

"Unless there is definite action by the government the oil companies will continue to hoodwink the government and the public as they have done since 1936.

"The real procedure that should be adopted is to proclaim chapter 281 of the statutes. They don't need any royal commission."

Strachan said that two years ago a government study of gas prices was tabled in the Legislature. It contained all the information the government needed to act, he said.

Strachan said that his plan was the only way to get equalization throughout B.C. of not only gas prices but prices of oil furnaces, diesels and stoves.

"Otherwise, unless you bring in price control, which nobody wants, you will never beat them."

## Highway fiasco blamed on lack of ombudsman

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — If B.C. had an ombudsman, the "whole fiasco" of the highway probe last year would never have taken place, Opposition Leader Strachan suggested Monday.

In that case, he said, "the reputable companies who were concerned right at the start would have been able to refer their protests to an ombudsman, and the get-rich-quick contractors would never have gained a foothold."

The hearing he referred to was into allegations of corruption in the highways department involving project 819 on the Trans-Canada Highway near Revelstoke. Highways

Minister Gagliardi was cleared after long and acrimonious hearings by the Public Accounts Committee.

Strachan went on: "Perhaps more important, however, is the fact that we would not have the situation where a politically loaded committee was only able to bring in what amounted to that old Scottish verdict of not proven — a highly unsatisfactory type of verdict for all those involved.

Strachan said an ombudsman would also prevent the government giving evasive answers to attempts to find proper information.

## Victoria comment



# Storm clouds on horizon

By PADDY SHERMAN  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—If this session of the Legislature turns out to be quiet, it will be little more than an accident.

The first two business days of the House made it clear that in this branch of politics, there's no such thing as water under the bridge.

Several sore points most likely to cause trouble have been re-opened by government members.

It's obvious, of course, that the whole issue of social welfare will be thrashed through again. It's become such a part of the routine that a session without it would be like the Sullivan show without Ed.

But if Dan Campbell (S.C.,

Comox) wanted to make it even more bitter, he couldn't have chosen a better way to do it.

Said he: "Some of the members who are not with us often broke into tears when they were playing this game so characteristic of the NDP, which is to play politics with human misery."

He was, of course, referring to Mrs. Camille Mather, the only member who ever broke into tears. The comments of Campbell and one or two other members provoked this scene, which led to one of the more lamentable lapses of taste and good temper seen here for a long time.

## Gagliardi case dragged up

Now, presumably, we are in for more of it. When the opposition interrupted his recent remarks, he insisted: "It may not be good, but it's the truth—either there has not been an examination of what is happening in B.C., or they indeed are guilty of very shallow examination of the services that are being expended."

When Donald Brothers (S.C., Rossland - Trail) seconded Campbell's motion in favor of the Throne Speech, he picked

up the other most bitter hang-over from last session, the hearing into charges of graft and corruption in the highways department.

That's true. NDP Leader Strachan said Monday: "It leaves the public convinced that no matter what the committee said, some mighty questionable things had taken place."

Well, intentionally or otherwise, the government is moving along well to riling the opposition.

## Bonner aims at headlines

For years, the government has managed to schedule the release of some major news for the time that Opposition Leader Strachan or Liberal Leader Perrault has been due to make a major speech.

But on Monday it made an unprecedented move in this direction. For the first time, it scheduled Attorney-General Bonner for a night sitting on the day the opposition leaders spoke.

The technique was transparent. By coming out with something major, Bonner

would overshadow Strachan in the headlines.

The government is moving in on the opposition steadily. A few years ago, Strachan traditionally had the whole afternoon to make his comments on the Throne Speech and budget. When Perrault was elected, the time was split.

Last year, they finished early, and Bonner rose to reply. There was a violent outcry from the opposition at what they called an invasion of traditional rights. This year it has gone farther, which isn't likely to soothe any tempers.

## \$1.6 billion predicted

# Investment record in '64 says Bonner

Province News Services

VICTORIA — B.C. is expected to set an all-time record for capital investment this year, Trade Minister Bonner told the Legislature Monday night.

He said his department is projecting a total of \$1.6 billion, which is the same as the record high of 1957.

But, he said, it is expected that the total will go a shade higher than this.

"The essential difference between prosperity and depression is a state of mind," he went on. "We have probably a greater breadth of confidence than at any time since the province was founded."

The minister also indicated that the government is planning a trade mission to Japan and perhaps Australasia early this summer.

The provincial government, with assistance from Ottawa, would put together a mission involving all trades and industries which could show major possibilities of buying and selling, particularly in Japan.

He said that France's recognition of Red China showed the speed with which commercial opportunities could arise with changing conditions.

He said he favors trading with China, but recognition was a matter for the federal government.

There was no present indication that the planned mission would visit China, he said.

# House in uproar as motion beaten

By PADDY SHERMAN  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier Bennett made his first speech of the legislative session Monday — and within minutes there was pandemonium.

The issue was a no-confidence motion by the NDP. It was made on the grounds that the speech from the throne didn't show the government was aware of the needs of social welfare and the mental health program.

Bennett took seven violent minutes to reply that the people had confidence in his government because they elected it last September and rejected other parties.

At one point Alan Macfarlane (Lib., Oak Bay) interrupted that Bennett hadn't touched the subject and was making mockery of the legislature.

When Liberal Leader Ray Perrault got up he said: "We have seen an example of a pompous, petulant, predictable, arrogant stuffy little diatribe by the premier this afternoon which does nothing to dignify this chamber and nothing to give an example to the new members."

He said Bennett had shown all his "petty tyrannical propensities" in the process.

He went on: "It is not only a disgrace to the students who came here but a disgrace to the chamber. This sort of thing will ensure his demise from B.C. politics faster than any other route."

The Liberal leader said this was the most arrogant session opening he had seen, and he called for a session free of rancor.

Welfare and mental health problems took up a good part of Opposition Leader Strachan's opening speech that lasted two and a half hours.

He said "Government incompetence and unwillingness to spend money on anything that could not produce votes was the cause of the tragic lack of facilities."

The number of professional social workers has gone down over the years while the number of cases has gone up drastically, he claimed.

In 1952 there were 155 university trained workers, but the 1960 departmental report showed only 78. The total

number of workers was down by six, but the case load was up by 16,000.

Strachan introduced a new note to the welfare controversy that has raged since Mrs. Bridget Moran, a Prince George social workers complained to Premier Bennett several weeks ago.

He produced a letter from Miss Amy Leigh, former B.C. assistant director of welfare.

It said that the family service division "is practically non-existent because of insufficient staff."

At another point it said that in 1955 Ottawa agreed to pay half of all welfare costs. With this extra money, B.C. had the money to increase staff.

She went on: "Had this been done, B.C. could have retained her position as a first-class department of public welfare. But we have deteriorated to such a point that it is difficult to know just where we stand at the moment."

The final extract: "The greatest and most urgent need is for a change in attitude on the part of those in power."

"This could lead to the restoration of policies which were designed to rehabilitate and to reduce dependency. The waste of money under the present system should no longer be tolerated."

Strachan summed up: "I agree completely with Miss Ruby McKay (former child welfare superintendent who resigned) when she says the deficiencies caused by poor administration and lack of judgment in the department are well known and documented."

"What we need is a five-day week minister with the ability and determination to take some positive action, in place of two days per week in fumbling and bumbling from one crisis to another."

(Welfare Minister Black also holds two other portfolios.)

The motion was defeated by 31 votes to 18, Liberals and NDP voting together.



Wednesday, January 29, 1964

## \$20,000 top prize

# Let's legalize lotteries, urges Socred member

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Socred MLA Stan Carnell (South Peace River) can't understand why anybody would want to win \$140,000 in a sweepstake all at once.

What he'd like to see, he told the Legislature Tuesday, is a legalized lottery that would provide first prizes in the \$20,000 range so that prizes would be spread wider.

The funds would go towards hospital costs, he said.

The member said that he was sure such lotteries would

come eventually, and he'd like to see the following safeguards:

- Tickets sold over the counter at chartered banks, and no street or other sales.

- At least half the gross take to go to hospitals.

- He'd want the top prize money brought down into the \$20,000 range.

When the question finally came up for a vote in future, he said, he'd be glad to support it.

## Money donated for food, collection made by taxicab

VICTORIA—The poor may be always with us, but Highways Minister Gagliardi does not like the way they travel.

A woman recently called his wife, he said, and said she had to have food money until the welfare office open-

ed. Mrs. Gagliardi said her husband would give five dollars, and the woman arrived to collect it.

"How did she come down?" the minister asked the Legislature Tuesday. "In a taxi."

## Phil claims plot

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The NDP and Conservatives joined in a "collusive, collective effort" to get Highways Minister Gagliardi beaten in Kamloops at the last election, the minister claimed.

He said he had a letter in which an NDP member said Gagliardi would lose the election because the NDP was going to vote for Conservative leader Davie Fulton.

As he was making these charges, opposition leader Strachan was tapping his forehead with his finger and pointing at Gagliardi.

"I took them all on," said Gagliardi.

Gordon Gibson (Lib., North Vancouver) told him: "Quit your boasting and get on with your speech."

Gagliardi replied: "This little fellow don't do any boasting about anything."

Gibson said: "Surely there must be business to do here rather than this childishness."

## Indian war warning from MLA

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C.'s Indians are fighting the wrong enemy in their bid to get their land back from the white man, Indian MLA Frank Calder (NDP, Atlin) said Tuesday.

And in the process, he suggested, the Liberal minority government in Ottawa may become a casualty in the Indian war.

Calder said that last December a bill was placed before the federal House that would reopen the whole question of Indian land claims in B.C.

It will come up again when Parliament resumes. But he said it was a "very silly bill" which would draw much criticism from Indians. Calder said Indians now have political power through the vote, and it was possible "that this bill can topple the minority government in the east."

Calder said that under the British North America Act the province owns all land. Although B.C. has always declared that aboriginal rights to the land do not exist, he would like to see the matter settled by a court battle with the provincial government.

## Cancer peril cited

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Young people should get shock treatment to show them the dangers of smoking, William Speare (S.C., Cariboo) said in the legislature Tuesday.

He urged Health Minister Martin to concentrate his planned anti-smoking measures on young people.

Shock treatment on the lines of wartime training films should prove effective, he went on. The films should show healthy lung tissue and then the condition it reaches with lung cancer.

Speare, a former hospital administrator at Quesnel, urged Martin to keep in closer contact with hospital boards.

He said boards did not all seem to realize even yet the government's concept of regionalized services, designed to avoid duplication.

"They get into trouble when they extend their services over and above those covered by the per diem rates set by the B.C. Hospital Insurance Service."

Wednesday, January 29, 1964

## LEGISLATURE

# Gaglardi inflates that bank

By PADDY SHERMAN  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Highways Minister Gaglardi had a hard time deciding Tuesday whether the new bank of B.C. is going to be Canada's biggest or merely one of the biggest.

He told the Legislature: "I am glad that the government is not going to run the bank. I am glad it is going to be a bank set up on proper banking principles.

"I dare to forecast it will be the biggest bank in the whole of Canada."

But a little later he put it another way: "I say given time, given proper procedure, given careful consideration it will be one of the largest banks in Canada, I am sure."

He said he has had lots of requests from people who want to subscribe.

"Why they are phoning me from everywhere thinking I have something to do with it. Why, this little fellow . . . I

only spend money. I don't put money in, I take it out."

The highways minister devoted most of his 50-minute speech to rebutting opposition criticism of the government's welfare policies.

He said the Peace River dam contract of \$73 million was the biggest in Canada. But it spread over five years. Every year the welfare department spent \$56 million.

Duncan Dam, one of the three involved in the Columbia treaty, will cost \$33 million over four years, he went on.

Each year B.C. spent almost the cost of two Duncan dams on welfare.

The only reference he made to highway problems was to say he favored a recent U.S. suggestion that the U.S. federal government pay part of the cost of paving the Alaska highway through B.C.

He said he would deal with safety and highway construction in his next speech.

The minister said he hoped a national conference of highway ministers would be called to discuss further participation in joint road projects.

## West route suggested for PGE

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Instead of extending the PGE Railway north, the government should consider pushing it out west to Tidewater at Stewart, Stanley Carnell (S.C., Peace River South) said Tuesday.

This would mean a shorter route to the coast for rail traffic from the Peace River, and would tap copper, coal and mineral deposits, he said.

He suggested the government should survey such an extension and see if it was potentially economic.

"The northern part of the province is on the first stage of immense development," he said. "These things should not be passed over lightly."

Carnell suggested the starting point should be at Kennedy, a PGE station 85 miles north of Prince George.

The member also suggested that once the Peace and Columbia rivers are developed, the next big hydro project will be the Liard River.

He also proposed a new version of the biblical version of beating swords into plowshares — almost literally.

He said a radar station at Dawson Creek has been closed as part of the defence economy drive.

This leaves 65 acres of land and buildings worth about \$2 or \$3 million without a use. He urged the provincial government to buy them for a Peace River vocational school.

## New probe into private road rights

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The legislature's special committee on public access to private roads will be set up again this session, it was learned Tuesday.

The information was received shortly after last year's chairman, William Speare (S.C., Cariboo) had urged the government to appoint the committee again.

He said the problem was still critical, and growing every year.

Some of the problems have been eased by the law changes last year that eased the responsibilities of logging companies and allowed the public use of their roads.

He said he was amazed to learn that some of the changes proposed last year were extremely costly to the companies, but nevertheless urged that the committee and the public get a chance to deal with the problem again.



**Victoria comment**

# Information hard to get



By **PADDY SHERMAN**  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — In this age of the specialist, it's refreshing to find our MLAs trying to keep sufficiently up to date to earn their pay.

The day when the English gentleman was raised with the idea of becoming a politician, and trained by getting a decent liberal education, has now passed.

Dan Campbell (S.C. Comox) started the move for more information which has quickly been taken up by all parties, though there is, as always, a rather violent clash on the details.

Campbell said that this is the day of the expert legal mind, the expert economist,

the expert engineer. "In our own fields, some of us may be expert," he said. "But when it comes to the study of the overall business of government, it's sometimes difficult to reach intelligent decisions today."

That should be struck in letters of gold and hung in the debating chamber where all can see it. Many speeches would then never be made at all.

Campbell said he has always felt research facilities for MLAs were weak, and members should be able to call on trained researchers of the bureau of economics and statistics during the session.

## Reports not too explicit

"If there is a weakness in our legislative setup, as opposed to the American, it's that the American system does provide a little more opportunity for members to study in some depth and detail the questions placed before them."

Research facilities are certainly scanty here when you think of the staffs U.S. senators have. Opposition Leader Strachan does have a full-time assistant and secretary, whose salaries are paid by the government. But this has been the case only since 1958.

The five Liberals have a party research director, who mainly digs up statistics and quotations for Liberal Leader Perrault. He works in Vancouver, though the members are

in Victoria, and the party pays his salary.

Perrault has asked the government for a grant towards research costs, with the idea of making the opposition more informed, and more able to expose the government's weaknesses.

As it is now, a very large body of information is available to any MLA who wants to work hard at it. The provincial library in the building, a corridor's width from the chamber, is closed to the public while the House sits.

All the staff are then available to help MLAs research anything they want. Some do, but it's usually the same small percentage, and the majority of those are from the opposition side of the House.

## Research facilities scanty

This system has one flaw. The library is loaded with every official report you ever saw, but as Strachan claimed the other day, it's getting harder and harder to find out what you really want to know from this government's reports.

A new reporter who has covered other legislatures was astonished to find that the 74 questions on the order paper on opening day won't be answered for weeks, if at all. He couldn't believe that there is no oral question period each day when members question ministers.

The nearest approach, as Strachan carefully documented, is order paper questions

that can take three years to get less information than would be available in three spoken minutes.

Even after all this effort, the eventual answers might be: Information not of any public importance; information not readily available; or complete misinformation.

Strachan wants an ombudsman to get at the facts; Campbell wants researchers; Perrault wants a grant.

Nobody will be surprised if the government impartially awards them all the same—nothing—and thereby retains its powerful near-monopoly of information that might harm it.

Thursday, January 30, 1964

*Peterson's report*

## B.C. called labor stronghold

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C. workers are almost twice as highly unionized as those in the rest of the country, Labor Minister Peterson said Wednesday.

(See also Page 10)

To counter claims that the provincial Trade Unions Act is hurting unions, he gave these figures to the Legislature these figures:

In B.C., 45.2 per cent of paid workers were union members, compared with 19.7 per

cent in the Maritimes, 24.7 per cent in Quebec, 27.1 per cent in Ontario and 22.1 per cent on the Prairies.

The figures were the latest available, for 1962, he said.

In the U.S., only 24 per cent of the work force was organized, he said.

He quoted CLC vice-president William Dodge as saying that union membership is

dropping all across Canada. While total figures are dropping across the country, the

B.C. total went up 5,000 in 1963, he said.

"The record clearly indicates," he went on, "that neither the Trade Unions Act nor any other labor legislation in B.C. is hampering the trade union movement."

Peterson said the time lost through industrial disputes last year was the lowest since 1949, and better than figures in Ontario and Quebec.

"B.C. is no longer a province plagued by strikes and lockouts, a situation resulting not

just from legislative changes but even more from new attitudes of labor and management.

"For this they deserve the commendation of this Legislature."

At July, 1963, B.C. workers had the highest average pay and the shortest average work week in Canada, he said.

Average wage in the manufacturing industry was \$2.37 per hour, and average work week was 37.9 hours.

### Very smoky on the ferry

## MLA all choked up

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Too much cigar smoke on the B.C. ferries sophisticates people. —Er, asphisticates people.

Heck, spluttered John Tisdalle (SC, Saanich) at the third try Wednesday night, it nearly chokes people to death.

The non-smoking MLA urged non-smoking Premier Bennett: "Let's have some place on those ferries where a person can sit down and enjoy fresh air."

How about the outside deck, someone asked?

Said Tisdalle: "The seagulls are dangerous."

He also urged that tobacco advertising be taken off the publicly-owned buses and that hospitals should ban sale of cigarettes in their buildings.

Turning to Education Minister Peterson he said: "If the minister of education set an example and put out that filthy

old pipe, students wouldn't come and tell me that the minister smokes."

Peterson retorted: "I object to some of your personal habits, too." This sally was wildly applauded from all over the Legislature.

Opposition Leader Strachan said to Tisdalle: "If you are a non-smoker, I am going to start again."

The NDP will take the initiative Friday in a bid to attach a strong warning to all cigaret advertising.

A bill to be introduced by cigar-smoking Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) will ask that all cigarets carry the label: "Warning. These cigarets have a nicotine and tar content and are dangerous to human health."

The same message would also be required under the bill in all advertising, written or spoken.

## Law allows debtor gay old time

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A man jailed for debt in B.C. can get all the beer, ale, victuals "or other necessary things" he wants free, a Liberal lawyer said in the Legislature Wednesday.

Alan MacFarlane (Oak Bay) cited arrest and imprisonment under the Debt Act as an example when he pleaded for revision of laws still on the books which were passed in the 17th century.

Under the act, he said, a man with a case against another for \$100 or more can, if he thinks the person will leave B.C., have him jailed.

The act provides that "the prisoner, at his free will and pleasure, may send for and have brought to him at seasonable times . . ." a variety of items. And he doesn't have to pay for them.

"How happy and hilarious can the life of a debtor be!"

Attorney-General Bonner said later, however, that the person who sends the debtor to jail foots the bills. And for that reason the Act is rarely used.

He said that civil and criminal laws of England are still generally in force in B.C., and some date from the 17th century. England has changed many, but the changes were not necessarily made here and a continuing commission could ensure that our laws were constantly kept up to date, he said.



Thursday, January 30, 1964

# Shelford kicks up his heels again

## He differs on power

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Outspoken Cyril Shelford is opposing Premier Bennett's policy once more.

This time, the Socred MLA from Omineca wants an end to further electricity rate cuts until people in isolated areas have electricity.

The premier has promised rate cuts in the year ahead.

Shelford told the legislature Wednesday the government should find out how many people and areas are still without power and that the number would be surprising.

Power rates now are quite reasonable, he said. The cost of running small private plants is very high, he said, especially with gas and diesel prices twice as high in remote areas as in larger centres.

Shelford also urged the government to be fair with those flooded out by the Columbia river project.

Relocation has caused problems at Kitimat, he said. Older people, heartbroken at being moved, lived only a very short time in new areas. The resource was developed, but local residents didn't even get electricity out of it.

The Omineca member said there was no such thing as unemployment in his riding in the sense it was known in the lower mainland.

Several mills and a mine were unable to open up recently because workers couldn't be found, he said.

## Remove tolls, Eddie urges

VICTORIA (CP)—Rae Eddie (NDP-New Westminster) told the legislature Wednesday tolls must be removed from Queensborough Bridge in New Westminster.

The throne speech had referred to plans for removal of tolls at Deas Island Tunnel and the Oak Street Bridge. This would leave only the Queensborough with tolls.

Eddie said the bridge, owned and operated by the city of New Westminster, is part of the secondary highway system and the government had a responsibility for maintenance.

## Sees gas manoeuvre

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Cyril Shelford (S.C., Omineca), the man who brought the royal commission on gas prices into existence, accused oil companies Wednesday of manoeuvring to influence Commissioner C. W. Morrow.

Shelford told the Legislature: "I think the commissioner is a very fair man. But I resent the oil companies' deliberate manoeuvring of prices six cents a gallon in the case of Alberni, while the commission is still sitting to try and influence the commissioner's thinking."

"Little do they realize that this is playing right into my hands."

"It is an admission that prices were too high in the first place. If it wasn't done on purpose, why wasn't it done four years ago, or even six months ago?"

Shelford had some strong words on royal commissions in general. They have a very real weakness, he said.

"On one side you have special interest groups represented by the best legal counsel to be found . . . with unlimited time, staff, money and information at their fingertips to present a case that will further their interests."

"I find no fault with this as they have much to gain or a lot to lose."

"However, on the other side, speaking for the people as a whole, you get untrained and unpaid people donating their time and energy."

## How about sorting this out, Phil?

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Highways Minister Gagliardi mixed the best metaphor of the session so far.

He told opposition welfare critics: "It's all right to sit on the floor of the House and talk. But it's another thing to put your hand on the wheel and work. That's a horse of another color."

## Tories tried to buy votes claims MLA

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The Conservatives tried to buy Vancouver votes for 50 cents each in last September's election, Labor Minister Peterson told the legislature Wednesday.

He said that as he approached a polling booth in his Vancouver Centre riding, he found little slips of paper were being distributed.

On them were the names of the two Conservative candidates with crosses in the appropriate places.

The fact that such distribution was against the Elections Act didn't disturb him too much, Peterson said.

"But wrapped inside this piece of paper was a 50 cent piece," he said.

Opposition leader Strachan cracked: "Cheap seats, two for 50 cents."

Victoria comment



# Cabinet runs to Black's aid

By PADDY SHERMAN  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—It's hard to resist a chuckle at times when Premier Bennett, amid criticisms that he is a one-man government, waxes lyrical about his "great cabinet team."

This is especially so when it is noticeable, on occasion, that surprise government announcements surprise the odd cabinet minister as much as the rest of us.

However, a team spirit really is in evidence so far this session.

All the cabinet is rallying around to cover up for Welfare Minister Black, who has been the target of most of the opposition's attacks, to date.

## BLACK QUIET

Every minister who has spoken so far has defended Black. But he's not been on his feet yet. His sole contribution to rebuttal has been to sit with his back to the opposition and toss asides to Highways Minister Gagliardi.

Premier Bennett began the diversion when he took the rare step of intervening in the first no-confidence motion of the session.

He produced a violent speech that had his backbenchers applauding wildly — but didn't deal with the problems of welfare at all.

## FIGURES USED

Since then, ministers have concentrated on showing how big a percentage of the budget is spent on welfare. This proves, they say, that the government is not niggardly, as charged.

This too, is evasion. The storm-centre of the current welfare battle is Mrs. Bridget Moran of Prince George and her celebrated letter to the premier.

She didn't accuse the government of being penny-pinching or niggardly.

Her letter said: "From where I sit (and I know I'm a mighty small cog in a big machine) money is spent lavishly, sometimes in an almost uncaring way."

The cabinet team is working hard to create a new atmosphere among the public. It may well work. But sooner or later Black will have to rise and defend his department's administration, even though it may not be for several weeks, when his salary is debated.

Then we can expect some angry scenes. The opposition does not think very highly of Black's knowledge of his department or of his ability to defend it under pressure.

A no-confidence vote is virtually assured, and at that time you can expect almost the entire government to pitch in on his behalf.

However, there's an indication that we needn't expect any fireworks on the public accounts committee this year. Last year, as you will recall, the NDP filed affidavits alleging highway corruption.

As part of this battle, the NDP tried to get a lawyer on the committee membership because of the legalities involved. They didn't make it.

Presumably no such attack is planned this year. The committee memberships have just been announced. The NDP had a chance to put one of its three lawyers on, but didn't do so.

# Dowding asks extension of retarded care aid

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The government was urged Wednesday night to begin a crash program to help the 57 per cent of B.C.'s mentally retarded and handicapped persons get the facilities they don't get but need.

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) told Health Minister Martin he should "canvas the world if necessary" to find the trained staff needed, or untrained volunteers who could be trained.

This way, he said, an end could be made to the excuse used since 1953 that trained staff could not be found.

Dowding said a University of Toronto thesis showed that in 1959 only 43 per cent of the known mentally retarded and handicapped children in B.C. needing institutional care were getting it.

The same figures probably applied today, he said. The problem was getting worse.

In 1957 the waiting list for Woodlands school in New Westminster was 469, he said. Now the figure is no longer given, but it is around 860, he suggested.

Dowding urged Martin to visit universities and high schools and urge students to take up this work.

He said that the Ross report on B.C. mental health services two years ago had urged more facilities for Woodlands but these were not provided.

# B.C. gov't brushes off welfare mess—MLA

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — While B.C.'s social welfare system crumbles, the government "wallows in statistics and brushes off the problem as if it were a pestering fly," Alan MacFarlane (Lib., Oak Bay) charged Wednesday.

Speaker after speaker had tried to ridicule the suggestion that something is wrong in social welfare, he said.

"They give us a flock of book entries, a regimented line of statistics, and tell us that . . . the Ruby McKays and the Bridget Morans are talking about conditions on Mars, not in B.C."

(Miss Ruby McKay resigned as child welfare superintendent several years ago because, she said, the government wouldn't heed her requests for adequate facilities.

(Prince George social work-

er Mrs. Bridget Moran didn't resign, but wrote a strong public complaint to Premier Bennett recently on similar lines.)

MacFarlane said: "Social workers, mental health administrators, members of the public cry in frustration for something to be done. Year after year all we get is denial of the existence of the problem."

Then MacFarlane directly attacked Welfare Minister Black and Health Minister Martin who have not yet spoken on the issue this session.

"We speak on behalf of those people," he went on. "We say that social welfare and mental health administration at the ministerial level is woefully and disgracefully weak, and can no longer be tolerated."



## LEGISLATURE

### Salmon ruin seen in power emphasis

Canadian Press

VICTORIA—The lone woman member in the B.C. Legislature made a plea Thursday for preservation of the province's salmon industry.

Mrs. Lois Haggen (NDP, Grand Forks-Greenwood) said there is a danger that the Social Credit government's "quick-buck" power policies will make the salmon a "museum-piece" along with the dinosaur and the dodo bird.

"The minister of resources and his advisers seem to be so obsessed with power production that they have lost sight of the value of the salmon industry to this province."

She said Resource Minister Williston has predicted eventual harnessing of the Fraser River for power despite the warning of fisheries experts that power dams would ruin the salmon industry.

The Columbia River had once been one of the best fishing streams on the continent, she said, yet through lack of conservation measures had been fished out, and too little had been heard of the potential destruction of fish that may be wrought by the Peace River power project.

Jacob Huhn (SC-North Peace River) pleaded for better transportation and recreational facilities in Northeastern B.C.

"Up in our area we have an empire of our own," Huhn said. But the empire wasn't being nourished.

There are 371,000 acres of parkland, mostly undeveloped.

Huhn called for extension of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway in three directions—to the west, and northward and eastward to meet the Northern Alberta Railway. The connection would permit B.C.-bound produce to be moved direct to Vancouver rather than by way of Edmonton.

Willis Jefcoat (SC-Salmon Arm) had the House pageboys distribute an apple to each MLA as an illustration of a problem some farmers are having with marketing board legislation.

He said the marketing board had decreed that the shiny red Delicious apples could be sold only for apple juice because they had been slightly pocket-marked by hail. The marketing law even prevented their sale on the farmer's property.

### 'B.C. apples cost less in Edinburgh than here'

Canadian Press

VICTORIA — The government whip in the B.C. Legislature said Thursday B.C. should have a department of consumer supply to protect the public from cartels.

Bert Price (SC-Vancouver-Burrard) said that at one time open competition was thought to bring fair prices but instead production and supply have come into the hands of cartels that compete only with others the same size.

"If you look at it they all get money from the same source," he said.

"The need to fight these monopolies brought me to public office the consumer can't fight them alone — he just does without. I don't think they should have to do without."

The government department would only make public its findings on unfair practices. "The public would refuse to buy if it knew it was being overcharged."

He said two pounds of B.C. apples cost 39 cents in Vancouver but the grower gets only 4½ cents.

"The consumer is not getting a fair deal," he said. "B.C. apples are cheaper in Edinburgh than in Vancouver."

He had received more telephone calls on the price of apples and fish "than on any other subject."

Price called for reduction of electric and gas rates. Hydro rates in Vancouver were double those in Seattle and gas rates "don't bear comparison with Alberta," he said.

Price urged acquisition of Grouse Mountain for development as a recreational area.

Price also advocated a mandatory 40-hour week; a tunnel crossing of Burrard Inlet to spare Stanley Park; and suggested the provincial government step in and determine whether former Agriculture Minister Alvin Hamilton was right in saying the port of Vancouver isn't doing its job.

### Perrault urges probe of traffic death rate

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A new attempt is being made to get the Legislature to investigate traffic deaths and their causes.

Liberal Leader Perrault filed notice of motion Thursday seeking a nine-member special house committee for the investigation.

He suggests it would have power to send for persons, papers and records and make suggestions.

There is no sign that the government will move quickly

on the motion.

The NDP brought in a similar motion last year, but it sat on the order paper throughout the session.

Perrault will also move that the government consider the advisability of recommending free slack-hour bus travel for pensioners and handicapped.

The government has refused such requests in the past even when they have come from the government side of the House.

### Exemption doesn't spare kids clothes, says MLA

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The trouble with today's kids is that they wear the same size clothes as father and run into tax problems, the Legislature heard Thursday.

Mrs. Lois Haggen (NDP, Grand Forks-Greenwood) told the government that the present exemption of children's clothes from sales tax doesn't work.

She told of one 10-year-old whose shoes were always taxed because his feet were so big.

The exemption is now based on size, she said. It should be changed so that all children in public schools could get clothes without tax.

She also urged the end of another "nuisance tax" — the sales tax on meals.

She couldn't see why food that was untaxed in one form should be taxed in another, since this was taxing services.

And to bolster her point that the loss wouldn't be great when administration costs were removed, she told of a Vancouver cafe owner who had a good thing going.

He wanted to charge her tax on a \$1 meal, she said. When she complained to the tax office, she was told he'd already been charged several times with withholding tax, but apparently made enough by taxing \$1 meals to pay his fines.

Friday, January 31, 1964

## Victoria comment

# Valid criticism lost in shuffle



By PADDY SHERMAN  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The present seesaw struggle for the headlines is symbolic of the long-term conflict between Social Credit and the NDP.

As each day of the Legislature grinds by, we hear at least one emotional speech on behalf of the mentally and emotionally disturbed, decrying the lack of facilities on their behalf.

Make no mistake about it, this is a perfectly valid criticism. You don't have to accept the words of the opposition for this. When the head of the child welfare department warns of such a lack year in, year out, and then finally resigns in desperation,

you can draw at least the inference that things are not as good as the government tells us.

But while the attack goes on, what does the government do? It goes through the motions of denying everything, of course, pointing to all the millions it spends on welfare.

At the same time, however, it dangles before the public the glittering prospect of a new bank.

It does so in rather a crafty way, too. Now you see it, now you don't. The interest is kept up at fever pitch by this sort of thing and the result is obvious and predictable.

## What's up his sleeve?

Get involved in any group that is interested in provincial affairs and what is the topic? Of course, social welfare is rarely mentioned — everybody is wondering what Premier Bennett has up his sleeve this time.

The coterie of reporters in the gallery here occasionally gets the feeling it is involved in a big shell game. So far, despite all the publicity, all we know is that the premier will present legislation, probable next Friday, Budget Day, giving the government permission to buy "a limited number of shares" in a chartered bank.

Education Minister Peterson's speech was a good example of cat and mouse technique. He proposed that "the new bank building" be on the

block south of Vancouver's court house.

He said he was speaking only as the MLA for Vancouver Centre. His colleagues laughed, giving the clear impression that Peterson was speaking for the cabinet.

In fact, one minister said later: "He said no more than he was authorized to say." But another, closely involved with the whole deal, whatever it may turn out to be, said: "Very interesting, but the first I've heard of it."

Opposition chit-chat back and forth across the floor left the impression that the government will not be building the bank headquarters. Mayor Rathie, however, seems to have the impression it will.

## The bank's the thing

In the middle of it all, some feel that the premier is just whipping up excitement and interest, hoping that this will produce a private deal that will keep government spending to a minimum.

There's no doubt the bank project is very serious. He's been toying with it ever since the parity bond run in 1962. His frequent visits to California haven't been just to watch ball games.

It wasn't Perini he was interested in so much as A. P. Giannini, who founded the

Bank of Italy in San Francisco. These days it's called the Bank of America, the largest commercial bank in the world.

One way or another, its influence will be felt in the bank of British Columbia.

Meantime, worthy as the welfare battle may be, the bulk of the public, which knows nothing of poverty and hardship is liable to care even less. The world prefers a winner and the bank shows all the signs of being that.



Friday, January 31, 1964

## Prove vote buying or admit false charge, Peterson told

B.C. Conservative Association president Col. Cecil Merritt has challenged Labor Minister Peterson to back up charges of corruption at the polls last September, or apologize.

Peterson said in the Legislature that Conservatives in Vancouver Centre tried to buy votes for 50 cents each in the provincial general election.

"If Mr. Peterson had done his duty as a citizen he would have caused an information to be laid against anyone he felt was engaging in corrupt practices," Merritt said.

"His failure to do so indicates either the levity with which he views the law or that the accusation itself is unfounded.

"The duty of Attorney-General Bonner is clear. Mr. Peterson alleges that an extremely

serious offence has been committed. Moreover it appears that he states he was a witness to its commission.

"Applying the same common sense standard used in respect to Charles Heathman's recent statements, Mr. Bonner should investigate Mr. Peterson's allegations and call his colleague to account for them.

"Conservatives take seriously any suggestion of corruption at the polls, and we believe Mr. Peterson should furnish full information which will bring before the courts any persons who have engaged in such practices. Failing that, Mr. Peterson should apologize for his statement Wednesday."

In Victoria Peterson said: "I have no apologies to make. I was there, and whether it went on with the knowledge of the candidates or not I don't know. But still I saw it and it does not alter the fact that it went on."

When asked if he would furnish Attorney-General Bonner with the complete details, he said: "I have furnished the legislature with them.

"It's no secret even down on Cordova Street that this went on. It should not now be a surprise to party officials. Whether the candidates were aware of it, I can't say nor have I bothered to inquire.

"In my speech to the House I commended the other candidates in my riding for conducting campaigns without stooping to dirty politics."

## Testing station in jam

Vancouver needs a new vehicle testing station, says H. S. Gray, superintendent of the present station.

He told the civic finance committee that the average time required to proceed through the station is about 10 minutes, but 18 per cent of motorists who drive in for inspection have to wait in line for an hour.

He said that by the end of 1965 it is estimated 50 per cent will have to wait an hour, unless more facilities are provided.

### RATHIE OPPOSED

Mayor Rathie said recently he opposes construction of another testing station. But in Victoria, a second testing station in the Vancouver area — possibly in Burnaby — was called for by Bert Price (SC—Vancouver-Burrard). He told the House that the number of cars to be serviced by the present station has jumped to 150,000 from 44,000 since the station opened and "There is too much waiting."

## Easy money indicated for B.C. bank

VICTORIA (CP) — The proposed Bank of British Columbia will be an "easy money" bank in comparison with existing chartered banks, Attorney-General Bonner has indicated.

While not mentioning "easy money" as such, it summed up his aspirations for the B.C. government-backed venture. Mr. Bonner said he hoped the new bank would be able to serve a segment of business and industry at present forced to obtain financing from a "grey market."

The chartered banks were moving into the finance company field "but they are still terribly small — conservative." He hoped the new bank will be "more like American banks."

In the United States, banks have been more intimately connected with their economic areas and active participants in regional business.

Part of B.C. business now was paying higher interest rates for expansion and development capital than would be the case if they were in the U.S.