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# Four Riverview psychologists on leave pending case ruling

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Four of the five clinical psychologists who resigned in protest from the staff of Riverview Mental Hospital are back on the payroll, says Health Minister Black.

He announced Tuesday they will remain on leave of absence with pay until the Civil Service Commission rules on their dispute with the hospital administration.

The fifth, Stephen Marks, intends to continue his studies and was not considered in the reinstatement, Black said.

The other four are Mrs. Joyce Treit, Sander Martin, Rudy Bouma and Mrs. Isabelle Moser.

Both sides in the dispute attended a nine-hour meeting in Victoria Monday with Black acting as mediator. The decision reached at the meeting, the minister said, was that both sides would abide by the commission's ruling.

This may be several weeks away, according to commission chairman Dr. Hugh Morrison. He said the commission first has to determine grievances and then set a date for a hearing.

In the meantime, Black said, dismissal of the four psychologists has been cancelled, their resignations have been withdrawn, and they will go on leave with pay pending the commission's ruling.

During this period the services of six part-time psychologists have been obtained so treatment of patients at Riverview can continue, the minister said.

The meeting in Black's office came after the Opposition forced an emergency debate in the legislature last Thursday on the resignation of the five psychologists — the entire staff of the psychological section at Riverview.

Opposition MLAs urged the government to do all it could to retain the services of the psychologists because, they claimed, patients would suffer and permanent replacements would be almost impossible to find.

Black said the four psychologists who attended Monday's meeting agreed unconditionally to withdraw the Feb. 7 ultimatum in which they threatened to resign if two supervisors were not fired.

The psychologists were fired a day after they submitted 30-day notice of resignation.

The administration is withdrawing letters accepting their resignations, Black said.

## Victoria comment

### Rare type forced play



By IAN STREET  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — It's a rare occasion in the legislature when nine members can force the government to bow to their wishes.

This happened here last week as the House paused briefly in its consideration of estimates to discuss the resignation of five clinical psychologists from Riverview Mental Hospital.

The government was obviously opposed to the discussion but under a little used rule was powerless to stop it once Speaker William Murray had declared it was a matter of urgent public importance.

Standing orders, the rule book of the legislature, states when a motion of this kind has been accepted by the Speaker it takes only the support of nine MLAs for the debate to proceed.

In the past half dozen years it has been tried six times but last Thursday, when Liberal Dr. Pat McGeer raised the issue of the staff crisis at Riverview, was the lone success. The other attempts failed to win acceptance of the Speaker.



The most recent was on Monday when the NDP tried to raise the continued pollution of Buttle Lake with tailings from Western Mines as a matter of urgent public importance. The motion by Tom Berger, member for Burrard, was ruled out of order and an Opposition challenge to the ruling was defeated by a vote of 28 to 19.

To qualify for immediate priority in debate, according to Murray, it is not enough simply to raise an urgent issue. There must be a compelling urgency to debate the issue.

The Riverview issue, he claims, met all the criteria. It was as new as the headlines in that morning's Province and therefore had been raised at the first opportunity. With the resignation of the entire psychological section of the province's largest mental hospital it was clearly a matter of public importance.

When Health Minister Black, rather belatedly, agreed to act as mediator in the dispute the urgency disappeared and the Speaker ruled the motion out of order.



Berger's motion to hold an urgent debate on continuing pollution of Buttle Lake, according to the Speaker, was a matter which had already been raised at this session and probably will be again. It also is a question of the ordinary administration of the law, says Murray.

The NDP member claims he should at least have had an opportunity to argue the propriety of his motion. According to Berger, the issue involves much more than the ordinary administration of the law. He claims the alleged breach of the law by Western Mines is so flagrant the issue assumes a new dimension.

However, this plea runs up against a stone wall of precedents established over the years in Ottawa and Westminster. In any event, when parliaments are considering ways of speeding up debates, it is unlikely the authorities will make it easier for the Opposition to interrupt regular business of the House.



# Law reform commission under study, says Bonner

Canadian Press

Attorney-General Bonner said Tuesday his department is studying the possibility of establishing a law reform commission in B.C.

Bonner was replying in the legislature to lawyer Tom Berger (NDP-Vancouver-Burrard), who called for such a commission to update, clarify and revive provincial legal statutes.

According to one statute, the English Law Act, the laws of England as they were in 1858 are supposed to be in effect in B.C. Berger argued that such archaic statutes should be eliminated.

Other legal changes should include the right to trial by jury for those accused of contempt of court, and provisions to ensure that a finance company purchasing a loan agreement held by an auto sales company, shares responsibility for any misrepresentation made at the time of sale, he said.

Bonner said the B.C. section of the Canadian Bar Association had recently recommended to his department establishment of such a commission. A submission had also been received from the faculty of law at the University of B.C.

"The suggestion is under study," Bonner said.

But the attorney-general said the legislature, in dealing with bills and amendments, including a forthcoming one on consumer protection "is engaged in many of the works that a law reform commission might be called upon to do."

Bonner said it is a mistake to assume that a new statute after court case of judgments will clarify an archaic one by on record to clarify any possible interpretation of wording. virtue of being modern.

## Bonner denies whitewash

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Attorney-General Bonner has denied charges that his department "whitewashed" an investigation into an accident involving an RCMP patrol car on the Deas Island Thruway last April.

Ernie LeCours (SC-Richmond), told the legislature Tuesday the police officer involved should be charged with perjury for giving evidence that his car was damaged when another backed into it.

LeCours said the occupants of the other car testified the police vehicle smashed into them from the rear.

Bonner said every lawyer in practice has to learn that two honest witnesses, even when testifying on the same side in a case, can give very different accounts of a single event.

He quoted from documents prepared during "a most thorough line of inquiry" into the incident raised by LeCours and said there was only one conclusion to be drawn from them.

"I most categorically disagree with the assertion made against the police or the courts in this particular connection," Bonner said.

The attorney-general also read a portion of a letter he sent to LeCours more than two years ago in which he said politicians were not elected to chastise the courts or criticize them publicly in their function.

"I do not regret that in the British Commonwealth so far, the job I hold does not include the right to direct the court," Bonner said.

He added the legislature should clearly understand the job of chief law enforcement officer for the province does not include "sorting out magistrates."

Bonner said he wouldn't deal with charges of police brutality made by LeCours during his 2½-hour speech to the legislature Tuesday.

He didn't mention the other charges directly, but added: "It is quite impossible to make a reply to what I can most generously describe as mixed fact, hearsay, opinion and conclusion."

The attorney-general said in the course of debate on his estimates, that a number of suggestions had been made about netiv laws, petty policemen, petty prosecutors, and petty magistrates.

This province has its share of young constables, Bonner said, who tend to stick too rigorously to the rulebook, which leads to some members of the public feeling put upon.

As they gain experience, however, these officers learn to take a more realistic attitude towards minor infractions, he said.

"Petty pin-pricking prosecutions by over zealous policemen are not part of the role of any police force," said Bonner.

## Committee wrangles over terms

The legislative committee on gasoline prices decided Tuesday to hear oil companies testify whether or not they have put into practice the recommendations of the Morrow Royal Commission.

But after a 30-minute wrangle on procedure and the interpretation of the committee's terms of reference, the committee also decided to let the oil companies explain briefly why they have or have not made the changes recommended by the royal commission.

Also subject of heated discussion was the introduction of a brief by the Automotive Retailers Association. ARA secretary J. L. Kinneard wanted to make a partial submission and reserve the right to make a further representation later.

He was told by committee chairman Herb Capozzi (SC-Vancouver Centre) that he must make one submission, and may be called on to answer questions on it by the committee when that submission is received.

All submissions must be received by March 10.

## CUFFS NEEDED?

The government wants to know why union leader Orville Braaten was handcuffed when led off to jail for contempt of the royal commission inquiry on invasion of privacy, the legislature was told Tuesday night.

Attorney-General Bonner said he was surprised to learn such a measure was considered necessary, and has ordered an inquiry into the circumstances.

Earlier, Leo Nimsick (NDP-Kootenay) complained about the use of handcuffs on the union leader and held up a copy of The Province which carried a front page picture of the event.

## Full reports suggested

Opposition leader Strachan suggested Tuesday in the legislature that the attorney-general's department should begin filing complete departmental reports, as other provincial departments do.

Strachan said the MLAs lack "this important documentation which reflects changes in the social patterns of the province."

Attorney-General Bonner said other reports, such as those of the corrections branch and provincial submissions to federal statistical publications, might provide the information Strachan sought.

But the NDP leader said federal statistics do not provide regional breakdowns which, he said, would be of help to the legislature.

# Socred rebel rips police, magistrates

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Some B.C. magistrates are incompetent and inhumane and some policemen are brutal bullies who use the law to vent their emotions on citizens, Ernie LeCours (S.C. Richmond) said Tuesday.

He told the legislature he has asked Attorney-General Bonner and Premier Bennett for help in pushing some of these people out of office, but has had no cooperation.

In fact, said LeCours, the attorney-general had white-washed officials' shortcomings.

In a two-hour speech during the attorney-general's department estimates, LeCours said travelling Magistrate Hugh Ellis is an example of an unjust magistrate.

"He is an epidemic," said LeCours. He said Magistrate Ellis travels between White Rock, Cloverdale, Ladner and Richmond.

"I hope I never have to appear before him," said the MLA.

(Contacted at Ladner Tuesday night, Magistrate Ellis said: "One really can't comment about Mr. LeCours. There's nothing I could really say about him.")

(Asked what LeCours meant by calling him an epidemic, Ellis said: "I don't know. He's an unusual sort of man. The facts are quite different from how he presents them.")

LeCours also told the House that he was told members of the Cloverdale RCMP detachment once beat a handcuffed man until his face was unrecognizable. The police also injured the man's crippled mother during an incident of their own making, said the Social Credit MLA.

He called on Bonner to take action to weed out incompetent magistrates and brutal police, and to institute tests to investigate backgrounds and abilities of both before they are allowed to hold office.

"This needs to be talked about," LeCours said. "And if the attorney-general won't do it, I'll do it for him."

He complained that magistrates, prosecutors and police "go around hand in hand. They have coffee together between sittings. No magistrate should consort with the police."

LeCours, who has attacked magistrates and policemen in other sessions of the legislature, listed 12 other incidents which he said showed his charges are true:

He claimed:

● Magistrate Ellis convicted a man of holding an illegal public assembly in his home when he taught a Sunday School class there.

● A Burns Lake area magistrate sentenced an Indian to four years in the penitentiary after hearing improper evidence through an incompetent interpreter; refused the accused counsel by saying "the Indian affairs department has been over this," and presumably asked police advice on the length of the sentence he should impose.

● Richmond police charged a man with failing to signal a change of lanes when his slowly-moving car momentarily slithered out of a line of vehicles on an icy road. Police later changed the charge to failing to signal a left turn, and the man paid a fine to avoid losing time from work to appear in court. LeCours also said the police would not listen to him when the MLA attempted to have them take back the ticket.

● A young man was charged with obstruction when he asked a policeman why he had been given a ticket. He was told it was for speeding, said LeCours, but the policeman would not say where — then dismissed the driver with a push towards his car. When the driver accused the policeman of assault and asked for his name and number, the policeman placed him under arrest. The charge was later dismissed.

● A Lower Mainland woman paid a \$25 speeding ticket issued to her through a mistake made by two policemen operating a radar trap. The ticket was issued when the wrong car's licence number was written down. The speeder escaped.

● A man found asleep in a car was fined \$250 for being in care and control of the vehicle while impaired — in spite of the fact that his girl friend had the car keys at her home some distance away.

● A man was transferred to Oakalla Prison Farm to await trial because police would not wait 15 minutes while a friend collected his \$300 bail. A few hours later the man was released on bail, but only after much unnecessary work by jailers. It finally cost the man \$500 to defend himself against charges which LeCours claimed were frivolous and were later withdrawn because of a lack of evidence.

● An RCMP constable claimed that a driver, subsequently convicted of impaired driving, backed into his police car on the freeway. LeCours said the policeman should be charged with perjury. The occupants of the car claim it was rammed from behind by the police cruiser and the MLA said he believed the policeman's story was fabricated.

He calimed the officer was involved in another accident a month earlier, and used this "most despicable way" of shifting blame to an innocent party. LeCours said a report of an investigation by the attorney-general's department which cleared the officer was "a mass of irregularities and untruths."

LeCours said some members of the attorney-general's department are helpful to him in his inquiries. All treat him with respect, at least on the surface, he said, but "I would say this is the type of respect given to a skunk at a garden party."

● A lawyer told him one magistrate had 38 consecutive convictions either reversed in higher courts or lost by default. LeCours said this magistrate lives "far from Vancouver."

## Perrault criticizes road safety

B.C. should have compulsory breathalyzer testing and car testing regulations plus a regular driver training program, Liberal Leader Perrault said Tuesday.

He was speaking in debate on estimates of the attorney-general's department, and comparing liquor spending with government spending on control of highway safety.

He said Canadians spend five times as much on liquor and smoking than they do on home furnishings; double the amount they spend on fuel, electricity and gas; 12 times as much as the total of all pensions paid to veterans of both world wars; almost 20 times the cost of national medicare; and 47 times the cost of free university tuition.

Perrault called provincial efforts to deal with highway safety problems backward.

"In the field of crime we have substituted the comparison microscope for the rack and thumb screw, but when it comes to finding out whether a driver has been drinking, we are still in the dark ages."

Bonner said the province's highway safety program has many facets including highway engineering, motor vehicle branch activity to suspend erring drivers, warning drivers of the dangers of drinking and driving, and roadside suspension for borderline impaired driver cases.

"There never seems to be enough pressure to ensure safe driving," said Bonner, "but in the final analysis safety is not in the hands of the government, but rather in the hands of the man who takes the wheel."



## Good citizenship gets a reward . . .

The price Allan J. Duplissie had to pay for aiding a waitress being attacked in a cafe nearly a year ago was the loss of 233 days of work through brain damage and an injured leg. His reward has been slow in coming.

But Attorney-General Bonner has announced it is on hand: Legislation to provide for financial aid for the victims of crime. It is not only a triumph for Duplissie's personal effort to change the law, but a possible breakthrough towards a new field of enlightened civil law from which many may benefit.

Apart from the promise of legis-

lation making compensation the responsibility of municipalities, apparently without any financial help from the province, not much of the government's plans is known.

Civil compensation is a complex field, full of legal entanglements and the possibility of abuse and injustice. For this reason alone, it is surely more a provincial than a municipal responsibility. And how would small municipalities with small revenues meet such claims?

Nor is it clear how Mr. Bonner's new law will affect existing civil law. Will a claimant be eligi-

ble for compensation only after he has explored all the other legal avenues? If this is so, municipalities may be required to award compensation after a court has declined to award damages. If it is not so, municipalities could face compensation claims that should be directed to the courts.

But these are problems that may be resolved by a common sense weighing up of the merits of each individual claim. What is important is recognition of the principle of compensation for people injured while acting with courage and a sense of good citizenship.

## Criminal charges due in Nakusp investigation

Criminal charges are "in the process of being laid now" in connection with an RCMP investigation of irregularities at the B.C. Hydro office at Nakusp.

Attorney-General Bonner made the statement in the legislature Tuesday in answer to a question by Randolph Harding (NDP-Revelstoke-Slocan).

Harding said: "B.C. Hydro have a civil writ against four individuals and two companies in the area, and there is so much speculation about what is going on that the names of some good Hydro officials have come under a cloud.

"The public is entitled to a full explanation of what is going on here and the longer it is withheld the more justifiably suspicious people will become."

Harding said the writ, a civil suit for recovery of \$34,405, was issued against Thomas Salanski and Harold Hinch of Cranbrook, and against four companies — Arrow Contracting, S & H Contracting, Salem Excavating and Construction, and Curzon Construction Ltd.

Nakusp is in an area where work is being carried out to move town sites and clear timber from areas which will be flooded by the damming of the Columbia River.

Jerry Mead, senior Hydro official at Nakusp, recently died. A coroner found the death to be suicide.

An investigation was carried out by Hydro and followed up by an RCMP investigation, which Bonner said is now complete.

## March 6 court date for offshore dispute

Canadian Press

VICTORIA — The B.C.-federal government dispute over offshore mineral rights will go before the Supreme Court of Canada March 6, says Attorney-General Bonner.

"Very extensive submissions have been filed," he told the legislature. Although the matter is of great importance to all Canadian provinces, only B.C. has been singled out for a personal reference he added.

B.C. government spokesmen have maintained that the province owned the rights prior to entering Confederation and never surrendered them. A provincial Crown reserve on mineral and petroleum rights to the continental shelf was proclaimed by cabinet order last December. Since 1960 both federal and provincial governments have been issuing exploration permits for offshore areas.

## MARKET IN DRUGS CREATED

A drug market is being created by the lumping together under the Criminal Code of Canada the use of heroin, an addictive drug, with marijuana and LSD, which are non-addictive, says Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP-Vancouver Burrard).

Parkinson said that while he deplored use of any drugs, university students and others, through misguided zeal or through other personal problems, are beginning to use drugs.

While young people are fully aware that they should not use drugs, he said, they sometimes do it out of rebellion.

Dr. Parkinson, a psychiatrist, urged the attorney-general to use his influence to have the federal government bring these drugs under separate legislation.

He also asked Bonner to make efforts to modernize the laws over which he has influence dealing with sexual morality and use and planning of contraceptive measures.

# Black tackles Riverview ills

By IAN STREET  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government has moved swiftly to head off an attack by the Psychiatric Nurses Association of B.C. on standards of patient care at Riverview Mental Hospital.

Health Minister Black has invited representatives of the association to his office at 9 a.m. today to discuss a brief they sent him.

The brief was received Jan. 6, Black said, but he has been so overwhelmed by problems in the mental health services that he has not been able to consider it.

The only immediate hope for solving the problems, he added, is the complete reorganization of the department he has already promised.

The association's brief, made public Wednesday, claims genuinely ill patients at Riverview are being neglected. It urges the minister to institute a study of the cause of staff dissatisfaction at provincial mental institutions.

## WORSE DAILY

"We believe the situation is deteriorating daily and no concrete action is being taken," Mrs. Faye Hartford, association secretary, said in an interview.

Black said he told Mrs. Hartford in a telephone conversation Wednesday he felt the association's charges were answered by his statements in the legislature earlier this session.

"I'm thinking of a complete reorganization," Black said. "What else can I say?"

"There are certainly some things in this brief that are going to have to be looked into. It all bears looking into. I won't belittle their brief in any way."

## BACKS COMPLAINTS

Meanwhile, psychiatrist-MLA Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP-Vancouver Burrard) said in an

interview the association's complaints are legitimate.

"The frustration of the nursing staff arises from attempts to cope with treatment of the genuinely mentally ill, while being confronted on the other hand with an overwhelming social rehabilitation problem," said Parkinson.

"Riverview has been made a dumping ground for the flotsam and jetsam of our society. These people are a social welfare problem; they receive no treatment, but there are no alternative facilities for them."

"One result is that nurses in the chronic ward are nothing

more than glorified babysitters."

Parkinson confirmed the association's charge that patients in chronic wards are stripped naked and herded into open showers in 50-year-old buildings like Westlawn.

But he said he was surprised to learn that graduate nurses are required to clean lavatories and wax floors.

The brief said there is a flagrant waste of nursing staff because graduate nurses are forced to clean lavatories, wax floors and perform other house-keeping tasks. It said the cattle on the institution's adjoining Colony Farm enjoy better bathing facilities than some patients.

"This method is not working for the benefit of the genuinely psychotic patient," the brief said. "It is, though, providing luxurious accommodation for the social parasites of Vancouver's skid road."

Parkinson said the present patient population of approximately 3,000 at Riverview could be halved if those in need of social rehabilitation were shifted to smaller institutions, preferably in their own community.

The switch would enable the present medical and nursing staff to cope with patients acquiring acute and chronic psychiatric care, he said.

## Licensing proposal criticized

B.C. credit unions should not be subject to municipal licensing regulations, the legislative committee on municipal matters was told Wednesday.

The committee responsible for making recommendations to the legislature on whether municipalities should be given the right to license credit unions and collect business taxes from them, received a brief from the B.C. Credit Union League.

League president R. J. McMaster said the credit unions are adequately policed by the attorney-general's department under the Credit Union Act, and therefore there is no need for licences to be issued to achieve that purpose.

Business taxes on credit unions to provide revenue to the local governments is unfair, he said, because credit unions make no profit and many are too small to carry additional costs of licence fees.

The Union of B.C. Municipalities has asked for legislation to allow them to license the credit unions. Theo Adams, executive secretary of UBCM, told the committee: "It's time the credit unions put a little into the municipal kitty."

## Women ask \$5 million for housing

The Women Against Higher Prices asked Premier Bennett Wednesday to use \$5 million of the province's surplus funds to finance a regional housing authority for the Lower Mainland.

The group, headed by Mrs. Elaine Podovnikoff, said in a brief that this is the third visit they have made to the legislature.

"We read that a surplus of \$76 million is in the treasury. If this legislature took \$5 million of this surplus, set up a housing authority, applied to the federal department responsible, an additional \$50 million could be added to this \$5 million, enough to make a good start toward public housing."

The brief also suggested that soap, toothpaste, toilet tissue and some medical supplies as well as children's books should be added to the list of goods exempt from the five per cent sales tax.

"We find that comic books are presently exempted, but the storybooks, or educational books are not," said the brief.

## Reserve created in park

The provincial government has created a new nature conservancy covering a quarter of the 2.4 million acres of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park.

Recreation Minister Kiernan said the 629,300 acre reserve is free of all mining claims and timber licences and constitutes an important expansion of the province's fully-protected Class A park area.

He said two other parts of Tweedsmuir are under study as possible future nature conservancy areas to preserve natural environment and scenic features. The total area of conservancies in Tweedsmuir and Garibaldi parks on the mainland and Strathcona Park on Vancouver Island now amounts to almost a million acres, the minister said.

The protected area in Tweedsmuir is to be known as Eutsuk Nature Conservancy and includes most of Eutsuk Lake, ninth largest in the province, large alpine areas and several smaller lakes.

No roads or other facilities can be constructed in nature conservancies and travel is limited to trails and waterways.

Parks director Harold McWilliams said Eutsuk Lake offers crystal clear water, fine beaches, good fishing and hunting around its scenic shoreline. Mountain caribou are a particular wildlife attraction, he said.

The eastern edge of the lake is excluded because park planners feel motels, hotels and other recreational developments may be required there in future.



Thursday, March 2, 1967

## Summit of sorts



By IAN STREET  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—In the midst of a legislative session there has been practically no build-up to today's little summit meeting between Premier Bennett and Alaska's new governor, Walter J. Hickel.

It's to be one of those informal get-acquainted affairs in which, it seems, lunch at the Union Club in Victoria is the only firm engagement.

But Gov. Hickel and his advisors will doubtless want to talk business with the premier and members of his cabinet on a number of issues of mutual concern. So will B.C., which is interested primarily in joint power development on rivers like the Iskut and a corridor through the Alaska Panhandle.

Premier Bennett often has a great affinity for U.S. politicians. He struck up a quick friendship with Michigan's Gov. Romney at the Pasadena Tournament of Roses a year ago, and got on well with William A. Egan, the former governor of Alaska.

This first meeting with Gov. Hickel promises to be nothing more than a round or two of light sparring. But by the time the Alaska party departs on Friday morning the positions of both sides should be clearer, to each other if not to the public.

The most important topic, for both sides, is the long-standing issue of a corridor from northwestern B.C. to the sea through the Alaska Panhandle.

As on all topics which come before the legislature, Premier Bennett finds no shortage of conflicting advice on the corridor question.

Liberal Dr. Pat McGeer tends towards the school which believes B.C. should take the initiative in the negotiations. He says it must be a trade, with this province granting transmission rights for power from the proposed Rampart Dam on the Yukon river to southeastern Alaska or improvements to the Alaska Highway.

## Let Alaskans move first

Frank Calder, NDP member for Atlin, says he speaks for many residents of the riding which borders on the Alaska Panhandle when he claims that B.C. should sit back and allow Gov. Hickel to make the first approach.

"Why should we negotiate and set terms and perhaps lose out when Alaskans are the people who really need a road link to the Stewart-Cassiar Highway?" Calder says.

He argues that Stikine copper deposits are still in the exploratory stages which removes much of the urgency from B.C.'s need for a corridor to a free port such as Wrangell. But the entire southeastern section of Alaska is without road access and the citizens of the northern state are well aware of the economic value of a road link, Calder claims.

The \$15 million Stewart-Cassiar Highway still has a stretch of approximately 80 miles uncompleted. Meanwhile, a road link from Terrace in the south through the Nass Valley could be completed easily if the government wished, Calder claims.

A connecting road from Wrangell via the Iskut River valley would be comparatively simple to construct, according to Calder. Some authorities don't agree; Alaska is reported to favor a route along the Stikine River and Northern Affairs Minister Laing wants joint development of a new highway along the Trail of 98 from Skagway to Carcross in the Yukon.

Many Canadians still feel the British sold out to the U.S. in agreeing to the establishment of an Alaska Panhandle which denied access to tidewater for a huge section of northwestern B.C.

It remains for Premier Bennett, who is often fiercely pro-British in his brand of Canadianism, to come up with a solution. Once again, it seems, luck has dealt him a strong hand.

## Two more judges for bench

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Legislation to create two new judgeships in the B.C. Supreme Court will be introduced this session, says Attorney-General Bonner.

When the positions are filled, he told the legislature, the Supreme Court bench will be increased to 17.

Bonner also said a new county court

judge will be appointed shortly to serve New Westminster and occasionally Vancouver.

With the appointment of Judge Wilson of Chilliwack last week, this will increase the number of county court judges in the province to 18.

The attorney-general said pressure of business before the courts was the reason for the appointments.

Earlier, Alan Macfarlane (L-Oak Bay) called for complete reorganization of the court system in the province to combine the Supreme Court and county court lists into a single trial division.

Macfarlane, a lawyer, said this would assist in elimination of delays which now mean the first available Supreme Court trial dates in Victoria are in January, 1968.

## Pressure charged over Sunday sport

By AL ARNASON  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell pressured a commission to drop a recommendation that commercial Sunday sport be allowed throughout the province, Barrie Clark (L - North Vancouver-Seymour), told a legislative committee Wednesday.

The commission, made up of two civil servants and Union of B.C. Municipalities president H. J. Gardner, travelled around B.C. seeking local opinion about UBCM proposals for Municipal Act changes.

Campbell later called the pressuring charge a complete falsehood, but said he had recommended the report not include a change in the act, suggested by the UBCM, to allow admission fees to be charged at Sunday sports.

Present regulations allow only a silver collection, although the prohibition is often disregarded in the interior of the province, according to Gardner, mayor of Williams Lake.

The issue was broached at a meeting of the legislative committee on municipal matters.

Clarke said the UBCM proposal favoring Sunday sports admission charges was not on the report of the three-man commission.

He was told the legislative committee has no right to deal with any matters outside its terms of reference as set by the government. The terms, said chairman Hunter Vogel (SC-Langley) dealt only with the remaining 15 recommendations submitted in the final draft of the commission's report.

The report whittled down the 19 changes in the act originally suggested by the UBCM.

In Wednesday's session of the House, Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby-Edmonds) said the government's policy on Sunday sport is "schizophrenic."

"You've given Vancouver the right to hold sport on Sunday, but you deny the same right to the municipalities around the province," he said.

The comment, during debate on estimates for the attorney-general's department, was answered by Attorney-General Bonner. Bonner said the issue should not come up under his estimates, but rather under those of the municipal affairs department. The House later approved the attorney-general's department estimates of \$23,049,774 after three days of debate.

An attempt by Clark to introduce the matter earlier was ruled out of order by deputy Speaker Herb Bruch (SC-Esquimalt). Bruch is also a member of the legislative committee on municipal affairs.

In Williams Lake, Gardner said: "The issue of Sunday sport wasn't left out as far as the commission was concerned until the minister (Campbell) said it would be better to deal with it in another way."

Gardner said he understood Campbell to say he would provide another method of bringing the issue to the House, but Campbell said later Wednesday he meant only that "the UBCM is free to bring the matter up again to the cabinet."

Campbell told Gardner the introduction of the Sunday sport issue might jeopardize the UBCM brief which involved other proposals more vital to the municipalities.

Gardner said he understood the travelling commission was set up to make certain the UBCM brief had the support of the people of the province as well as local governments.

"I only recall one objection to the Sunday sport thing," Gardner said. "That was, I think, in Abbotsford. I think it was a small ministerial group."

Chairman of the travelling commission was W. K. Smith of the statistical section of the municipal affairs department. The third member was Ian Dodds, Campbell's administrative assistant.

## Premier takes dim view of loan study committee

B.C. won't take part in any committee studies of the need for a \$100 million federal loan to meet rising costs on the Peace and Columbia, says Premier Bennett.

He refused to comment Wednesday on reports that Finance Minister Sharp had sent him a telegram suggesting a technical committee be set up to study the provincial government's request for a federal loan.

"When B.C. loaned the \$100 million to Quebec, there was no committee," Bennett said. "It was handled by Premier Jean Lesage and myself, by the ministers directly."

"If the federal government is so hard up for money as this would suggest, then B.C. might consider lending them \$100 million, without a committee study."

## Log prices key factor

Stumpage rates—the price paid to the government by logging companies cutting Crown timber—were revised Wednesday to match more closely the fluctuating price of logs or lumber.

Forestry Minister Williston said the old 15 per cent sliding scale formula will be scrapped for all new licences. It is replaced by a system based on variations of \$5 in log prices

on the coast or in lumber prices in the interior.

Prices are calculated on an average of the month's log or lumber prices as supplied by the lumbermen.

The \$5 formula had been made compulsory earlier for licences issued on the new close utilization policy but will eventually effect all timber operations in B.C.

The new stumpage rates will be reviewed every two years instead of the present five.

## Bonner to remind officers of policy on handcuffing

Sheriff's officers will be reminded to use handcuffs on prisoners only if they appear to offer resistance, says Attorney-General Bonner.

He told the legislature Wednesday it is a firm policy that if there is no indication of resistance or lack of cooperation on the part of the prisoner handcuffs were not justified.

Earlier, when replying to

complaints by opposition MLAs about the handcuffing of union leader Orville Braaten when he was taken to jail on contempt charges, Bonner said an investigation of the circumstances has been ordered. No results are available yet.

Braaten was jailed for refusing to answer questions before the royal commission on invasion of privacy.

### 'Waste of time'

A law forbidding auto dealers or owners from turning back odometers, or mileage counters, on cars would be useless and a waste of time, said George Mussallem (SC-Dewdney) Wednesday.

A Haney new car dealer, he said: "One car may have 5,000 honest miles on the odometer, but because it was driven without oil, or over rough roads, it could be a wreck. Another car with twice the mileage could be a better buy."

### Tire law urged

B.C. should pass a law forbidding sale of poor-grade car tires because Canada may soon be inundated with second-rate tires from the U.S., said Gordon Dowding (SC-Burnaby-Edmonds) Wednesday. Dowding said stringent new U.S. laws banning poor quality tires will soon be enforced and "Canada may be the dumping ground."

### Tuition fee hike unlikely

The government sees no threat of a tuition fee increase this year at B.C.'s three public universities, says Education Minister Peterson.

However, he said in answer to Opposition MLAs in the legislature Thursday, the final decision is in the hands of the universities as autonomous bodies.



FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 1967

## Governor sees Bennett

# Alaska makes bid for Peace power

By IAN STREET  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The prospect of sale of Peace River power to Alaska emerged from informal talks here Thursday between Governor Walter Hickel and Premier Bennett.

The Alaska governor told a press conference later that talks so far have been informal, but his government is interested in buying either firm or stand-by power for Alaska cities and pulp mills.

Power, either purchased from a tie-in with the B.C. Hydro transmission line linking the Peace to Prince Rupert, or jointly developed by Alaska and B.C., should be a major topic on the agenda for a proposed Alaska-B.C.-Yukon conference this fall, said Hickel.

Premier Bennett said later there is agreement between B.C. and Alaska on the principle of a future grid tie-in just as there already is a link between the grids in this province and Washington State.

"We may decide to sell Alaska power on something more than a stand-by basis," Bennett said. "I cannot see why not, eventually, but I don't know how soon."

Resources Minister Williston said an agreement to sell power to southeastern Alaska initially would probably involve an extension of the Hydro transmission line now being built to Alice Arm, approximately 90 miles from Ketchikan.

Such an arrangement, if it is worked out, Williston said, would also speed development, possibly on a joint basis, of other potential power sources in northwestern B.C.

Williston mentioned the Iskut River, which has a potential of nearly 600,000 kilowatts, and the Dyea project which would harness the headwaters of the Yukon River to provide 1.2 million kilowatts at Skagway.

B.C. access to tidewater in the Alaska Panhandle was also discussed at Thursday's meeting. Hickel said access should be relatively easy to negotiate in return for a road link to the southeastern communities in the state using the Stewart-Cassiar road.

He indicated Alaska would not trade land to B.C. but

rather grant free access to tidewater.

The Alaska governor said his government might seek a way around the restrictions of the Jones Act by some form of integration of Alaskan and B.C. ferry services for the purposes of freight and passenger travel.

However, Hickel said, this was a matter for negotiation between the federal government of Canada and the U.S. So is paving of the Alaska Highway, he said.

The Jones Act prohibits the shipping of goods between two U.S. ports in foreign vessels. Hickel said Alaska has a unique problem because it is the only state separated from mainland U.S. by a foreign country.

"Both Alaska and B.C. suffer somewhat by being a great distance from our respective federal governments," Hickel said. "The solution lies in education, but obviously there are some things a state cannot do. However, those things which we can do that are beneficial to both Alaska and B.C., we certainly will do."

Hickel and his party met Bennett for more than an hour Thursday before lunching with the cabinet. The governor later described Bennett as "a challenger, a driver, but our kind of guy."

The Alaska party was introduced on the floor of the legislature at the start of the afternoon sitting. It is due to leave for home today.



GOV. WALTER HICKEL

Friday, March 3, 1967

# Bennett joins desk-pounders to buck separate school aid

## 'TIME RIFE'

"They should not receive the full cost, because after all they are asking for special privileges. But surely the time is ripe for some form of government grant. Now they can't even use the public school buses and this is just a small step along the way."

Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Point Grey) supported Capozzi and said the government has already established a principle by providing grants for Notre Dame University, a Catholic university in Nelson.

"There is nothing wrong with public support of parochial elementary and secondary schools provided adequate standards of instruction are maintained," said McGeer. "And anyone who suggests anything else is guilty of outright bigotry."

Education Minister Peterson said the government should not hinder development of private or separate schools. But he added it must be made clear that those who choose "to be separate and apart are going to have to pay for it."

## CLERGY BILL

Opposition Leader Strachan said the school system should not become a political issue. He said the NDP supports the public school system "and no other" but people who wish to exercise the right of choice should be able to send their children to separate schools.

Peterson later told the House new legislation will be introduced at this session to permit clergymen to serve on public school boards throughout the province.

He was answering a question by Barrie Clark (L—North Vancouver Seymour) who wanted to know why the provincial government does not allow clergy-

men to teach in public schools.

In remote areas, Clark said, a clergyman is often the best qualified man to fill a classroom vacancy and yet communities who want him are denied his services.

Peterson said the rule barring clergymen as teachers in public schools applies only to practising clergymen.

Section 62 of the Public Schools Act, which will be amended, reads: "No clergyman of any denomination is eligible for the position of superintendent of education, or district superintendent of schools, or teacher, or trustee under this act."

A Sacred back bencher precipitated a stormy debate in the legislature Thursday when he asked for government grants to cover a portion of the cost of operating separate (parochial) schools in B.C.

"I'm not asking for a great sum of money," said Herb Capozzi (S C—Vancouver Centre). "All I ask is that there should be some assistance from the government in maintaining in separate schools the same standards everyone wants for their children."

"The public purse is for public schools," shouted Bob Williams (NDP—Vancouver East) and the majority of MLAs pounded their desks in agreement.

One of the loudest desk-pounders was Premier Bennett who shouted "Hear, hear" to Williams' interjection.

The premier later rose to outline government policy on the issue.

"All around the world today the question is integration or segregation," he said. "If the people want segregation that is their right, but the government's policy is integration."

Bennett said he wanted to be clear as well as blunt in discussing the issue. He said all provincial administrations since B.C. entered Confederation in 1871 had supported a single public school system.

The move originally was not aimed at Roman Catholics but at Anglicans who wanted their faith to be the state religion as it was in many other parts of the British Empire, Bennett said.

"The British themselves who were here at the time said no, and their decision has stood the test of time," he said.

"It is easy to stay silent on this issue, but this is a matter of great policy and high principle, and I for one will stand or fall on this issue."

Capozzi said the time is coming when the government must recognize the large percentage of children in B.C. who attend separate and other private schools.

But he directed his remarks to the plight of those with children in separate schools.

People who desire their children to receive some religious training in schools should be encouraged rather than discouraged, Capozzi said.

## Report 'due

## Classes

## on sex near?

Sex education in B.C.'s public schools may be closer than was thought.

Education Minister Peterson told the legislature Thursday night a committee studying problems of introducing sex education to the public school curriculum is expected to report to him sometime this year.

Peterson said there is "considerable taboo in this area as far as some parents are concerned."

He said it is also difficult to get teachers to take on the sometimes embarrassing subject.

He was asked by Eileen Dailly (NDP—Burnaby North) why some school districts with a record of successful pilot programs in teaching the subject were not allowed to go ahead.

Peterson said he wasn't aware of this problem.

He said it was his impression that districts which wish to go ahead on after-hours basis could do so.

He said he would check into it and advise Mrs. Dailly.

## Speed up or work late says Bennett

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The present legislative session will continue after the Easter holiday unless business is speeded up, Premier Bennett said Thursday night.

Bennett says he doesn't want late night sittings but indicated they are necessary to carry on the business of the legislature under present circumstances. The original plan was for adjournment March 23, the day before Good Friday.



Friday, March 3, 1967

## Student quizzed by RCMP?

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Alleged RCMP interrogation of a Simon Fraser University student on the politics of students and teachers was brought to the attention of the legislature Thursday in a protest by Dave Barrett (NDP-Coquitlam).

Barrett said he had received a telephone call from a student, complaining about the incident.

A story in the SFU student newspaper quoted a student who said he was stopped outside the

university by four men who flashed badges and began asking about the political beliefs of faculty members.

The student said he assumed the men were RCMP officers. RCMP officials, however, said they had no knowledge of the incident.

"If they are RCMP," Barrett said, "then I would ask Education Minister Peterson to suggest to the RCMP that they stop."

"When you recruit an intelligent, capable faculty — the cream of their professional crop — then you should avoid any interference with the way they are teaching and you should avoid any pressure on the affairs of the campus, real or imaginary."

"I don't think there should be any politics at the universities, either in the classroom or parking lot."

Barrett also urged Peterson to lend his support to switching all university terms to a quarter system of three-month periods.

The revised system, said Barrett, would permit students to work for fees and expenses in periods spread over the entire year rather than having all students rushing for scarce summer jobs.

University facilities are being wasted in the summer because the old system of September to May classes with all summer off is out of date. Barrett said it was designed for B.C.'s long-vanished agricultural society.

Liberal Leader Perrault called for a large provincial program to bring educational television to B.C.

He said the value of television for pre-school classes, elementary and secondary classes, and even university courses, is only beginning to be realized.

He urged Peterson to seek information on the already-growing use of televised education programs in Ontario and Washington State.

The use of educational TV would bring education more forcefully into rural areas and to disadvantaged people such as welfare recipients throughout the province.

"Our very best teachers could appear on televised classes to share their talents among the people who would otherwise never experience them," said Perrault.

## Black's day — or a black day?

By IAN STREET  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The future of mental health services in B.C. hinges on a single vital decision which Health Minister Black must make in the next few weeks.

That decision involves appointment of a successor to the retiring deputy minister, Dr. Alan Davidson.

If it is the right one, an end could be in sight to the series of brushfire wars Black is fighting to quell staff dissatisfaction in provincial mental health services.

This means, according to Opposition critics, nothing less than recruitment of a prominent figure in the mental health field, possibly from the U.S. or Eastern Canada. They reject promotion within the government service on grounds the present mould must be broken.

Clearly Black's decision, right or wrong, will set the pattern of mental health care for years to come. He is being urged by the Opposition to make no policy decision now which would restrict the new deputy in future.

This does not mean, however, that Opposition spokesmen like psychiatrist Dr. Ray Parkinson think the minister should be sitting on his hands during the period. The member for Burrard wants the minister to lose no time in taking what he calls "hard-nosed" administrative action.

Parkinson urges Black to temporarily halt the grinding of what critics call the red tape machinery—among other things, a stop order on plans to build a new \$4 million medical centre for Riverview.

Most problems in the field of mental health focus on Riverview. The Ross report of 1961, former minister Eric Martin and Black all support decentralization of services. But admissions to Riverview continue to climb and problems multiply.

Parkinson claims the number of Riverview patients could be halved if admissions were restricted to those in need of acute or chronic psychiatric care.

He argues, however, that alternative facilities must be provided for those at Riverview who need social rehabilitation because they are addicts or alcoholics or are senile.

It is the pressure of admissions, which Parkinson claims is higher at Riverview than anywhere else on the continent, which causes discontent among staff. According to Parkinson, Black could do a lot to relieve this pressure without waiting to formulate new policies.

A simple decision to include treatment of alcoholics and addicts under BCHIS would mean they could be treated in general hospitals when general practitioners are willing, he claims.

Similarly, removal of the limit on psychiatric care under the B.C. Medical Plan would encourage physicians to treat patients in their communities instead of sending them to Riverview.

Parkinson adds that such action by the government would exert pressure on private insurance plans to do the same.

He also says the province should hire between 10 and 15 psychiatrists to staff regional mental health centres throughout the province.

At present, less than \$1 million of the \$26 million spent on mental health goes to regional centres which operate successfully in Burnaby, Victoria and Kelowna.

A crash program, he claims, is needed to provide more emergency facilities in the city of Vancouver which now contributes approximately half of the patients in Riverview.

Parkinson claims: "This is a real moment of decision for mental health. Black's career depends upon it and so does the welfare of thousands of patients."

Friday, March 3, 1967

# Education 'money curtain' attacked

## 'Perpetuating class system,' complains NDP member

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — There is a "money curtain" that prevents B.C.'s low-income families from providing their children with university education, says Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East).

"We are perpetuating in this country a class system of society while giving lip service to the principle of equality of opportunity," Macdonald said.

He called for elimination of university fees and for living allowances for deprived out-of-town students.

"In Point Grey, 80 per cent of the academically-qualified students go to university — the passport to real opportunity in this world we live in. But as you move eastward over Vancouver, the picture changes," he said.

"In my riding of Vancouver East, only 20 per cent of the academically-qualified students go on to university."

He said the new generation of doctors is made up mostly by the sons of doctors and the new lawyer generation mostly by sons of lawyers.

Macdonald was speaking during the education department estimates debate Thursday.

Education Minister Peterson replied that the government has boosted scholarship aid on a money-for-marks basis and has a bursary program with extra funds available to help out-of-town students.

He said there was little excuse for students being short of money for legitimate expenses when the federal student loan plan allows them to borrow up to \$1,000 a year interest free.

Pat McGeer (L—Vancouver Point Grey) said the B.C. post-secondary spending policies are far behind the programs of the other wealthy provinces.

He compared B.C.'s \$45 million operating expenditures

in higher education (out of a \$739 million total provincial budget) with Ontario and Alberta.

Ontario, he said, has \$161 million for educational operating grants this year and another \$165 million for capital costs.

McGeer said the educational allotment in Ontario is one-half the total provincial budget.

While B.C.'s capital grants to universities are the same as last year's (\$8 million) he said, Alberta's are nearly \$44 million.

McGeer chided the government members because only 16 of the 32 government seats were occupied while he talked about the "vital matter of education."

He told the House that B.C.'s total operating grant per student is \$1,665. Ontario's is \$2,180 and Alberta's \$2,370.

He said federal grants are available which make it possible for the provinces to build universities almost at federal expense.

The other two provinces, he said, have been quick to realize the financial advantages which accounted for their huge expenditures.

Peterson said McGeer's figures were misleading because the grants of other provinces include payment to public works departments for school construction while they are excluded in B.C. calculations.

Bob Williams (NDP—Vancouver East) criticized Peterson's explanations of the government's refusal to make kindergartens mandatory.

"There are disadvantaged areas in this province where pre-school training could be used to really accomplish something," said Williams.

Peterson had told Mrs. Eileen Dailly (NDP—Burnaby North) that the government had no intention of making kindergarten mandatory.

## Pupils not 'pampered,' MLA tells Peterson

Education Minister Peterson received a blast Thursday from Bob Williams (NDP—Vancouver East) for suggesting school children are "pampered" and could fill their exercise needs with outdoor runs and desk-side calisthenics.

Peterson was defending the government's policy of not providing gymnasiums in some schools during a slowdown in school construction.

"To talk of children going outside for gymnasium periods is just nonsense," said Williams angrily.

"The minister — and the government — have been in Victoria too long. There are parts of this province which are not in the early-spring belt of Victoria," he told the legislature.

"In a province as affluent as ours, there is absolutely no excuse for us to have to make these choices (classrooms versus gymnasiums). If we have to make them it is because the government has mismanaged the resources of this province."

Classes in physical education in most B.C. schools are a waste of time said Herb Capozzi (SC—Vancouver Centre).

Due to short-comings in the program, costly gymnasium facilities in schools are often a complete waste of public money, he claimed.

High schools throughout the

province are doing an excellent job in promoting team sports such as basketball, he said, but in individual fitness they are failing miserably.

Capozzi urged the government to introduce an approved physical training system for schools with awards and badges of merit for students who meet the required standards of physical fitness.

Schools should be the centre of the community's sports activities, and wherever possible facilities should be integrated with those of parks boards and other community groups, Capozzi said.

Peterson said he sympathized with Capozzi but added the admitted shortcomings of the physical education programs were not due to poor facilities.

## Bill aims to shield children

B.C. will seek to protect children from cruel treatment by offering protection to those who report abuses to authorities.

A bill introduced in the legislature and given first reading Thursday requires all citizens to report cases of child abandonment, desertion and beatings.

Welfare Minister Campbell said in an interview the bill will mainly affect "agencies and

professional people who are constantly in contact with this kind of situation."

Campbell said this would include school teachers, physicians, hospital personnel and social workers.

The amendment to the Protection of Children Act will make it mandatory for any abuses to be reported and "provide protection from legal suits those so reporting," Campbell said.

"No penalty is set out for non-

compliance so that it becomes a matter of individual professional responsibility to report abuses."

The legislature was told earlier this session that child beatings were becoming more frequent in B.C. but it is difficult to accurately assess the number of cases.

Campbell said the amendment he introduced was drafted with the help and support of the B.C. Medical Association.



# Preferred treatment claim levelled at culture fund

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—B.C.'s \$5 million cultural fund is "open to political influence and those closest to the government will get preferred treatment," said Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) Friday.

Macdonald criticized Premier Bennett's refusal to have the funds administered by an independent council.

"The finance minister will act on the advice of the people of B.C.," said Bennett, who is also finance minister.

"The funds will be administered with a broad interpretation. The minister will ask advice and will have the advice of experienced civil servants and others."

"That's not at all satisfactory," Macdonald snapped. "I'm not at all satisfied. Why not an independent council?"

"The government doesn't believe in passing on its responsibilities," Bennett answered.

Liberal Leader Perrault and Mrs. Eileen Dailly (NDP—Burnaby North) added quiet pleas for a statement of government policy on how the proceeds of the fund will be spent.

Perrault warned that the "predatory culture vultures" are "licking their chops" in anticipation of grabbing the big share of the fund's disbursement.

The fund will be invested and only the interest of about \$250,000 a year used to support the arts.

Perrault said he fears the aid will not reach the rural areas or extend to the folk arts of the province.

Macdonald put it more strongly.

"This is support for the arts on a cap-in-hand basis," he said. "The premier doesn't trust

the people of B.C. with this money, and he's light years behind the federal government on this."

He said Ottawa is "taking the patronage and politics out of the arts." But in B.C. the art groups will have to "talk nice with cap-in-hand — then you'll give them some money."

Bennett said Macdonald sounded "like a man looking into a looking glass."

The cultural fund bill and seven other bills were given third reading Friday — clause by clause approval — and now need only Royal Assent before becoming law.

Lieut.-Gov. Parkes normally signs the bills into law at the end of this session.

The bills passed were:

- The Parents Maintenance Act Amendment Act, which takes applications under the act out of magistrate's court and puts them in family and children's courts.

- The B.C., Yukon, North West Territories Boundaries Act, which sets out official boundaries between the three jurisdictions.

- The Colored Gasoline Tax Amendment Act, which makes minor changes in collection of purple or marine gas.

- The Home Owners Grant Act, which boosts the home owners grant from \$110 to \$120 a year.

- The PGE Loan Act, which extends PGE borrowing authority to \$190 million.

- The Gasoline Tax Act, 1948, Amendment Act, 1967, which provides taxing, auditing and appeal revisions of existing gasoline tax laws.

- The Crop Insurance Stabilization Fund Act, which creates a \$5 million fund to provide insurance for B.C. crops.

## Shaughnessy bill

# Storm expected over zoning

VICTORIA — The Shaughnessy Heights Building Restriction Act will be brought to the legislature Monday for second reading, said Waldo Skillings (SC—Victoria).

Skillings, chairman of the standing legislative committee on private bills, refused to say whether the committee supported the proposal or not.

But it was learned that the bill (to extend by 25 years the 1922 legislation which provides vigilante zoning that restricts Shaughnessy homes to single-

family dwellings), was narrowly approved by the committee.

It is understood the committee, which met in closed sessions, trimmed the proposal to a 15-year extension instead of the 25 years requested by supporters and voting was seven to six in favor.

While the future of the bill is

still uncertain, it is considered a controversial measure which will be hotly debated.

The NDP members are solidly against the proposal. The Liberals are expected to vote in favor.

Government members are not tied to the committee recommendations.

## No party line for Bennett, just what is best for B.C.

A policy rift between B.C. and Alberta Socreds on the question of death duties was aired in the legislature Friday.

Premier Bennett said during debate on amendments to the Succession Duty Act, that the government doesn't follow the party line, but does what it thinks is best for the people of the province.

He was replying to Alex MacDonald (NDP—Vancouver East) who called for repudiation by the government of Premier

Manning's policies designed to create a tax haven in Alberta by abolishing death duties.

Bennett said he had visited the Bahamas, a prime example of a tax haven with no land taxes, no income taxes, no corporation taxes and no death duties.

"This may appear to be heaven indeed. But it is far from it. In Nassau there is an expression, over the hill. Go there and you see the result of these other policies. Misery.

"As long as I'm premier and minister of finance, this government will never support those policies.

"I have nothing against wealth," said Bennett. "I want to make our people more wealthy.

"This bill is designed to help the ordinary person and hurt no one. It is not aimed against a single person, but only to ensure that those who try, with the help of lawyers and accountants, to avoid paying legitimate taxes, are placed in the same position as other taxpayers."

Bennett said no one has a moral right to avoid legitimate taxes approved by the legislature. To attempt it is a method of thievery, he said.

Alan Macfarlane (L-Oak Bay) said the government is setting up a system of double taxation and discouraging foreign investments by attempting to tax B.C. holdings of Bahamian and other foreign companies.

"If you want this province to have a reputation for injustice and just bad business, then I say pass this legislation," Macfarlane said.

He said the Liberals are sympathetic to attempts by the government to tax people who own property in this province and set up corporations abroad for the sole purpose of avoiding death duties.

But he accused the government of using a shotgun approach to plug loopholes in present laws that will hurt many innocent people.

The succession duty bill was approved in principle by a vote of 43 to 6, with only the Liberals opposing it.

## ★ Doctor seeks protection for emotional bruises

Children can be just as badly hurt emotionally and socially as they can be physically, says Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP—Vancouver Burrard).

Dr. Parkinson said Friday, during second reading of a bill to amend the Protection of Children's Act: "This only deals with the physical aspect of abuse or neglect. There is a far wider area—children who are emotionally or socially abused—which is in need of attention."

Dr. Parkinson, a psychiatrist, said the bill was a good one, but did not go far enough. He

said it will remove some of the problems of physicians and other professional people when they try to help neglected children.

Social Welfare Minister Campbell said the bill was an approach to the problem of "battered babies syndrome." It also provides mandatory reporting of beaten children in welfare families.

Parkinson asked the government to move as quickly as possible to widen the terms of the act. The bill was given second reading—approval in principle.

## ★ Mental services

### Probe team named

VICTORIA — Dr. F. G. Tucker, deputy director of mental health services, will head the four-man committee to study B.C.'s mental health services, as a first step to complete reorganization.

Health Minister Black also announced Friday that the three other members will be Dr. G. R. F. Elliot, deputy provincial health officer and director of special preventive and treatment services; J. W. Mainguy, director of hospital consultation; and Alex Porteous, an administrative officer.

The committee will report within three months, but the report will be confidential, said the health minister.



## Misuse of funds alleged

By IAN STREET  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C. municipalities are caught in their own glue because they have been misusing funds from the provincial government, says Premier Bennett.

He told the legislature Friday that provincial per capita grants to municipalities were always intended to be earmarked for roads and streets.

The bill, which required municipalities to give first priority to roads in allocating the grant, received approval in principle by a vote of 31 to 21 after a stormy debate in which opposition MLAs heaped abuse on the government.

They called the bill propaganda, a sellout, spiteful, anti-democratic, meaningless and thumbscrew legislation.

Bennett dismissed the attacks as political chatter from a bunch of wild men.

He remained silent when Opposition Leader Strachan demanded that he name the municipalities alleged to have misused provincial funds.

Strachan said the premier's

charge casts a cloud over all municipalities in the province. He added: "Let us know who the alleged offenders are."

Bob Williams (NDP-Vancouver East) told the House the seemingly harmless bill threatens to increase Vancouver taxes by two mills, or approximately \$1.5 million this year.

Seven out of nine municipalities in the Lower Mainland and Greater Victoria area will suffer a similar fate, Williams said.

The tax boost will be required to finance roads out of general revenues, which include provincial per capita grants, instead of by borrowing on a capital program, he said.

Mayor Campbell this week claimed the new legislation would cost Vancouver an additional \$1.5 million this year, but Ald. Earle Adams, chairman of the city council's finance committee, said later he disagreed.)

Williams, a former Vancouver alderman, sought adjournment of the debate on the bill until the government could make an amendment which would not add to the cost born by local taxpayers. The government voted the motion down 29 to 21.

Strachan said the bill was interference with autonomous rights of municipalities to spend funds.

Alan Macfarlane (L—O a k Bay) said the bill was politically motivated and a gimmick directed largely against Vancouver. He said it is designed to create an impression that the province

is being very generous in providing assistance for bridges and roads in the city.

"This is another attempt to convince local taxpayers that the cause of all their troubles lies at the municipal level rather than right at the foot of this government where it belongs," said Macfarlane.

Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) said the bill represents the high watermark of Social Credit philosophy. "You blame Ottawa for all the big problems, and the municipalities for all the little problems, and you in the middle come out smelling like roses."

Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Point Grey) was rebuked by the Speaker when he called it a political sell-out by "the six silent Sacred members of the City of Vancouver."

Speaker William Murray ordered him to unconditionally withdraw the remarks on grounds it imputed improper motives to MLAs.

Bennett said the per capita grants were introduced by his government shortly after taking power to replace a share of motor vehicle and fuel taxes which was previously paid to municipalities.

These were allocated for roads, he said.

Bennett added: "The municipalities keep every nickel they collect, and in addition get 54 per cent of the taxes we collect. No municipalities anywhere else in Canada receive such generous treatment."

## \$4 million expansion to Strong centre passed

VICTORIA — Health Minister Black announced Friday he had approved plans for a \$4 million 150-bed expansion of the G. F. Strong Rehabilitation Centre in Vancouver.

First phase of the construction will be a building for 100 rehabilitation beds. A nursing unit for 50 beds will be left unfinished for the time being.

The addition will be built across the street from the present 50-bed centre on West Twenty-seventh.

Gordon T. Southam, the centre's president, said an immediate start is planned.

Black said the plans for the rehabilitation centre are being reviewed by the B.C. Hospital Insurance Service, which shares hospital construction costs of approved plans.

Tenders for the project will not be called until satisfactory arrangements can be made on appointments of the centre's medical staff.

## NEW AID BILL

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A medicare bill is among legislation to be brought down by the government later this session, says Premier Bennett.

He indicated Friday it will complement federal medicare legislation but refused to discuss details until the bill is introduced in the House. The federal plan, originally scheduled to go into operation July 1, has been postponed for a year.

## Forest committee tour

# Same problems plague B.C., Wash., MLAs find

B.C.'s legislative forestry committee spent the weekend in the neighboring U.S. state of Washington and came back convinced that both areas have many of the same problems to overcome with their No. 1 natural resource.

And this applies particularly in the field of reforestation — the returning of logged over areas to good wood production.

The committee, headed by MLA Cyril Shelford, spent Saturday and Sunday touring some of the vast holdings of Weyerhaeuser Co. of Tacoma.

### 3.7 MILLION ACRES

This company, with 3.7 million acres of owned forest lands, had sales last year of \$837 million and profits of \$79.2 million as compared to the total B.C. forestry output in 1966 of just more than \$1 billion. Canada's largest company, MacMillan Bloedel Ltd. had sales last year of \$478 million and profits of \$42.4 million.

Weyerhaeuser ranks No. 2 in U.S. behind International Paper and is generally considered to rate No. 1 there for its forest management and research policies.

Said Shelford on Sunday: "The forestry committee realizes that we both have many problems to overcome. At the same time, it brings home to us the good job our own forestry companies are doing."

### WORK PLANNED

Shelford said it is difficult to convince government it should spend more money on replanting trees, "but this week just reinforced my determination that we have got to get on with this job."

The MLA said B.C. plans about \$250,000 for this work in fiscal 1967-68.

(The Council of the Forest Industries of B.C. in 1965 pointed out that B.C. had 26 million acres of productive land not now supporting usable growth and proposed a program to replant the best seven million acres. In B.C., 93 per cent of forest land is controlled by the province. Companies owning tree farm licences have to do their own replanting with seedling provided by the government.)

### SPECIAL PROJECT

Shelford said he was also impressed by the research into forest growth methods undertaken by Weyerhaeuser from its special facilities at Centralia.

The view which brought home to MLAs the problems of reforestation was at a special rehabilitation project being undertaken by Weyerhaeuser in its Twin Harbors area, which ranges along the Washington coast.

Here Bob Ramsted, division forestry engineer, and Jim Church, assistant corporate manager of logging, pointed out a 10,000-acre stretch of high site land which has largely grown up into weed trees — alders and vine maple.

### HIGH SITE

The land is called high site because of its capabilities for producing trees. The same values which will produce valuable Douglas firs also gives rapid growth to weed trees.

Ramsted described the land as "one of the sins of youth." Weyerhaeuser bought most of the land after it was cut over as much as 50 years ago. No replanting was done then and successive forest fires destroyed all the natural conifer regeneration and established the weed trees.

"We now know that inaccurate replanting is necessary. In the old days, the point of view was different and so were the economics," said Ramsted.

"We now just can't afford to let nature take her course and perhaps produce another crop in 100, 200 or even 300 years."

Weyerhaeuser, which estimates it has 200,000 acres of land not in good productive growth, hopes to be able to harvest trees every 60 years.

At the special rehabilitation site, the company is working to solve the problems of animal destruction of new seedlings, erosion, moisture, weed-tree killing, fertilizing and many other problems.

### LATER HARVEST

The forestry committee visited sites which were being specially thinned to improve the remaining growth for later harvest.

A first for the forest industry was also shown the visiting MLAs. This is a Weyerhaeuser-developed grapple yarder which makes use of a radio system and reduces the men on a yarding crew from seven on the high lead method to two.

The grapple yarder uses a high lead cable fastened 650 feet out in the woods. A special grapple on the line can snare logs down to four inches in size.

A rigging slinger on the bush end directs the yarder operator by radio unit. The grapple takes the place of the usual choker-man.

Deke Shamley, division logging superintendent, explained that the two-man crew will pull 30,000 board feet of timber from the woods in a shift compared to 50,000 by the seven-man high lead crew. Further experiments and refinements will be needed, he said, to make the method fit the variety of sites on a logging show.



## Riverview: A case for action . . .

Health Minister Black is likely to find his promised probe of conditions at Riverview Mental Hospital damned by many before it has a fair chance even to begin. For this he has only himself to blame.

The problems of mental health have long been among the most emotional the government has had to face. Its critics have rarely had the grace to acknowledge the major improvements made in recent years. This is a perennial battle for absolutely ideal standards; merely being better than most other provinces, or improving gradually, is not enough.

Certainly Mr. Black has moved more quickly to investigate complaints about Riverview than his predecessor Eric Martin ever did. But if he is so determined to do the right thing, why did he limit the inquiry committee to members of his own civil service staff?

Surely he could have found one impartial professional from outside his staff who would have given the investigation a different aura, and silenced his critics? If he couldn't, then conditions might well be suspected by his opponents of being worse than he admits.

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the immediate problems will be cleared up. What is important, however, is whether this will delay dealing with the long-term problem.

In the last half-dozen years, assorted experts have told the government that the day of the vast mental institution is dead. Instead, they say, the emphasis must be on small treatment centres in local communities. The government applauded the idea—but went on adding to the facilities at River-

view, making it even more difficult to withdraw.

Of its \$26 million mental health budget, only \$1 million is allotted to regional mental health centres. Riverview admissions continue to climb.

Surely this is the time for the new minister to act, to take steps to cut the population of the sad city of Riverview, and to provide for treating most of the mentally ill in their communities, where they belong.

## Pulp mill expansion planned

By BOB McMURRAY  
Province Business Editor

Kamloops Pulp & Paper Co. Ltd., controlled by the giant Weyerhaeuser Co. of Tacoma, will expand its kraft pulp mill from 250 tons to 1,000 tons within two years.

Definite information on the expansion was given over the weekend to Cyril Shelford, chairman of the B.C. legislative forestry committee, while he was leading a tour of MLAs over Weyerhaeuser operations in Washington.

Announcement of the company decision was made by F. Lowry Wyatt, vice-president of Weyer-

haeuser's wood products group. Asked whether "within two years" meant a start on construction at that point or having the addition in operation, Wyatt said the company is now making this decision. Construction would take 14 months, he said.

He said marketing conditions will play a big part in the decision. These had not been as black as earlier forecast, but he pointed out there was a great deal of new pulp capacity coming into production in North America in the next few years.

No cost estimates have yet been made, but by normal industry standards, a 750-ton addition to the existing mill would cost from \$55 million to \$70 million.

Wyatt said that Weyerhaeuser had always had in mind the expansion but had not until now given a commitment as to timing. Last May, when Kamloops Pulp held an open house, Lands and Forest Minister

Williston said that the company had shown him plans for the expansion.

The forestry executive said that it was a matter of expanding the mill or losing part of the timber cutting rights granted under the pulpwood harvesting agreement with the provincial government.

He said that a conservative estimate made by Kamloops Pulp showed that the PHA would provide enough wood to operate a 1,350-ton-per-day mill.

Kamloops Pulp was founded by three local interior B.C. businessmen who obtained the harvesting rights from the government and then had trouble finding financing, marketing and technical knowhow for a pulp mill.

Weyerhaeuser provided this and now holds 51 per cent ownership. The mill came into production in December, 1965, at a cost of about \$17 million, on a site just west of Kamloops.



## Victoria comment

# Time running short

By IAN STREET

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — One sentence in Premier Bennett's tribute to the late Governor General Vanier did wonders for the failing spirits of the members of the legislature Monday.

Bennett said: "I'm sure that as an old soldier and statesman, he would prefer that the legislature carry on instead of adjourning for a period of mourning."

The remark was received as a clear indication the government wants to wind up the current session by Easter.

A kind of gloomy uncertainty that has pervaded these corridors ever since the premier threatened to bring the House back from a 10-day Easter recess April 3 began to lift immediately.

But it will still be a tight race and MLAs are preparing for three and four late night sittings instead of the usual two during each of the three remaining weeks.

It is up to the government, Premier Bennett claims, to open a legislative session but only the opposition can decide when to end it. This year, he didn't even have the usual flexibility because the opening was dictated by the 100th anniversary of the first legislative assembly in New West-

minster, and, to boot, Easter arrives early.

So, between Jan. 24 and March 23 there are only 59 days instead of the 65 which the sessions have averaged in the past two years.

Obviously the government would like to blame the opposition if an Easter recess is needed. However, Opposition Leader Strachan countered with an argument that full control remains in the hands of the government.

The length of the session, he claims, depends upon how much legislation is still to come, its complexity and the number of late night sittings.

Strachan answers charges of NDP filibusters by claiming the members of his party are told simply to ask whatever question and raise whatever issues they feel are necessary. He says the NDP will not allow itself to be bulldozed into meeting government deadlines.

This is hardly reassuring to those members who have arranged vacations in places like Hawaii, starting on Easter weekend. Nor does it gladden the hearts of upcountry members who, because of distance, seldom get home during the session.

The lineup of known legislation is already impressive. It

includes the setting up of regional hospital districts, new pollution laws, and, according to the premier, a new medicare bill. Also expected are changes in the Public Schools Act and Workmen's Compensation Act.

If the House is forced into a recess, there undoubtedly will be a new move to win compensation for upcountry members who face additional costs.

Most MLAs claim, with justification, that the 40-day limit on their \$25 daily living allowance doesn't dictate the length of the session. They point to the record which shows that in recent years this milestone, which passed last weekend for the present session, has been consistently exceeded by 20 to 25 days.

However, only those MLAs who live in the Victoria area are unaffected by the cutoff of the living allowance. Upcountry members claim they suffer the additional penalty of a travel allowance which covers only one return journey to Victoria each year.

There is a question, with the provincial budget already pushing three quarters of a billion dollars, whether some revision isn't needed for rules which could affect the length of a session. This may prove the year when this question is settled.

## A misused word about 'misused' money . . .

By misusing the word "misusing," Premier Bennett caused quite a commotion in the legislature and among municipal leaders.

But it is rather surprising that everybody jumped to the bait so quickly, for it seems clear that this was a deliberate tactic designed to work as a political smokescreen.

All that the premier was saying, in fact, is that anyone who spends government money in a way that the premier would not spend it is misusing that money. That can be pretty silly.

The cause of the uproar was a bill that the premier introduced. It will require municipal governments to give first priority to roads and streets when they are spending provincial per capita grants. The money was always intended for such purposes, he said.

During the discussion he alleged that B.C. cities—which regularly accuse him of being impossibly tight-fisted when it comes to helping them build roads and streets—are misusing the per capita grants.

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Monday, March 6, 1967

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Tuesday, March 7, 1967

## House pays tribute with eulogy, silence

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A eulogy and one minute's silence in the legislature Monday marked the news of the death of Governor-General Vanier.

Premier Bennett said no general halt will be called in legislative activity.

"I am sure that as an old soldier and statesman he would prefer that the legislature carry on instead of adjourning for a period of mourning," Bennett said.

The premier said he knew all MLAs would pay their personal respects at a memorial service to be held Wednesday in St. Andrew's Cathedral, Victoria. The service is at 11 a.m. and the House sits at 2 p.m.

Bennett told the legislature: "The loss to Canada of this distinguished Canadian and noble head of state will be mourned, not only in this province and in Canada, but throughout the world by all those people who love freedom, respect the democratic process, cherish international goodwill, esteem tolerance and understanding within and without the nation, foster family relationships, and sanctify individual liberties of word, thought and worship above all else."

Bennett described the military, diplomatic and humanitarian distinctions of the governor-general. He said the renowned soldier acquitted himself equally well on the battlefield and in the diplomatic service.

"As a humanitarian, he and Mme. Vanier organized and played host to a Government

House conference on family relations and encouraged the founding of the Vanier Institute of the Family."

Bennett said the family aspect of the welfare of Canadians was one of Vanier's greatest concerns. The other was his passionate desire for a united and understanding Canada.

"As a Canadian he was a great force for unity. He was the second native-born governor-general, and the first French speaking. He said of the two races that made his country: 'They go forward hand in hand to make Canada a great country, hand in hand also with Canadians of every origin, irrespective of race or creed.'"

Opposition Leader Strachan said news of the death was "a shock to all of Canada to realize a great Canadian has passed from life."

He called the governor-general a man of "warm personality, deep understanding and abiding faith."

Strachan said the soldier-statesman brought to mind a quotation from William Wordsworth: "The best part of a man's life is unremembered little acts of kindness and of love."

Liberal Leader Perrault said Vanier had a "noble spirit and rose above all that was cheap and tawdry." He said persons who met the governor-general or heard him speak were the better for it.

Attorney-General Bonner will represent B.C. at the state funeral in Ottawa Wednesday.

## MLAs complain B.C. history gets poor deal in text books

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C. history is given the brush-off in Canadian school textbooks, and even in this province there are no adequate B.C. history books, says Tom Berger (NDP-Vancouver Burrard).

"There is an absence of textbooks dealing with the history of B.C. — a glaring omission," he told the legislature Monday. "We should make every effort to see that textbooks on B.C. history are made available."

He particularly criticized a lack of information on B.C. Indian history and the stories of early exploration.

Premier Bennett said: "B.C. has a great history. But I think it is too much to put in a single book. We should encourage people in separate areas to produce books, even if it means we have to subsidize them a little."

Liberal Leader Perrault called for production of B.C. history texts as a centennial project.

Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP-Vancouver-Burrard) said one of the texts bought by the govern-

ment, combining Canadian, U.S. and British history, gives B.C. history 1½ pages including pictures. It also glosses over the events of the War of 1812, said Parkinson. He called the war the key to later Canadian developments.

Education Minister Peterson said it is "obsolete thinking" to rely on texts for teaching.

"There is now a greater flexibility and use of source material," he said.

Opposition Leader Strachan came to the defence of the historical image of B.C. Indians.

"All the schoolbooks showed was the Indians attacking white settlers and trappers, without giving the stories the balance of showing what the whites and their armies did to the Indians," said Strachan.

Mrs. Eileen Dailly (NDP-Burnaby North) said the government is apparently not spending enough money on visual education, according to estimates which showed \$28,000 for films and film distribution.

Peterson said the amount did not include large sums spent by some local districts.

## 'Streaming' in schools means fewer teachers

Artists being trained in B.C.'s high schools won't be qualified to teach art, says Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP—Vancouver Burrard).

Parkinson said in the legislature Monday that "streaming" of students in specific courses (to place an accent on the work of their choice) leads them from the academic courses and prevents them from going on to university and qualifying as teachers.

"This is drying up the supply of specialists qualified to teach," said Dr. Parkinson. He indicated other teaching specialties are also affected.

Education Minister Pearson agreed there is a shortage of specialists in some fields, but added that there always has been. He said the shortage varies from year to year.

Peterson, whose department's \$193.3 million estimates for the coming year were passed by the House Monday, was also asked to explain.

● Rumors of low graduation qualifications for deaf students because of a preoccupation in courses for speech.

Peterson replied that Vancouver graduates are found to be acceptable for more advanced studies.

● Alleged RCMP interrogation of a university student on the subject of political beliefs of professors and other students.

Peterson replied that his department would not interfere with the autonomy of the universities and his questioner, Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) should put his question to university officials.

## Peterson defends advisory board

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA —Education Minister Peterson has defended the independence of the advisory board which advises the government on allocation of grants to B.C.'s three public universities.

He was replying in the legislature Monday to a claim by Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP—Vancouver Burrard) that the board was not truly independent.

Parkinson said this led to complaints like those of University of B.C. president Dr. John Macdonald that the money is not being spent according to the needs of the universities.

"This is an advisory board, which, I must stress, only makes recommendations to the government," said Peterson, "but in the past two years we have accepted its recommenda-

tions and I see no reason why we should not do so again this year.

"It is independent, however, in the true sense of the word, because each of the three universities is free to appoint its own representatives to it."

Parkinson said a truly independent grants commission is needed which would be "away from the civil service atmosphere, no matter how good this atmosphere is."

The advisory board is made up of an appointee from each of the three universities and three from the government. The government also appoints the chairman presently Dean S. N. F. Chant, former dean of arts at UBC.

## Peterson tilts with Grit over varsity bursaries

Education Minister Peterson Monday angrily denounced what he called forked-tongued Liberal policies when he was accused in the legislature of double-talk about university bursaries in B.C.

Alan Macfarlane (L-Oak Bay) said the Social Credit government has no policy on equalization of grants to assist students from rural areas at universities.

Said Macfarlane: "The members on the government side have led people to believe the government is in favor of equalization grants. I say the maximum of \$300 on a bursary plus a loan from the Canada Student Loan Fund is not an equalization program and it is not going to help students from the rural areas."

"I think it's high time we had a very clear statement which really meant something and told us whether this government has, as I suspect, no policy on equalization. There has been enough of this double talk."

Peterson jumped to his feet

and said Macfarlane had misquoted him by saying \$300 was the maximum.

"I said the maximum went to \$350 to \$400," said Peterson. "I have made our position clear on this and it is more than the Liberals do, because if anybody speaks with forked tongue, the Liberals do."

He claimed the federal Liberal government has not clearly carried through with its policy on university scholarships.

Peterson said the Social Credit government policy to enable students with ability and inclination to go further with their education is to provide government scholarships to 75 per cent of tuition fees for first-class students, second-class scholarships and bursaries.

Peterson said: "The amounts of the bursaries do vary and if additional money is available from the federal government we will be happy to increase the amount of bursaries payable within B.C."

## Debt claims untrue, says NDP leader

Opposition Leader Strachan pounced Monday on what he called proof that financing authority debts do not liquidate themselves — in spite of claims by Premier Bennett.

Strachan said education department estimates showed a \$15.8 million school financing authority debt (to be paid out of current taxes) is up this year by \$2.8 million.

"This refutes the hoary old story that all these debts are self-liquidating and that no tax dollars are being used to pay debts," Strachan said.

Peterson said the government's responsibility is only to pay grants to help schools districts to pay debts.



# Berger blasts 'ruthlessness'

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The Workmen's Compensation Board should resign because it has been proven unfair, ruthless and even dishonest to its claimants, says Tom Berger (NDP-Vancouver Burrard).

Berger, a lawyer who has appeared in court and at board hearings on behalf of claimants, said in the legislature Tuesday that there are documented cases in which the board has suppressed medical reports to defeat legitimate compensation claims.

"I repeat now what I said during the (election) campaign—for I would not like the members of this House to think that I would not say in the House what I said in the campaign—that the men who administer this board should resign," said Berger.

He gave examples of cases in which he said the board acted reprehensibly.

- An engineer in a hospital died of a heart attack while rushing upstairs during working hours to replace a defective light bulb. His family was denied compensation because an autopsy showed a pre-existing heart condition.

- A dead miner's body was kept "on ice for 19 days" while board officials searched for a medical opinion to back their proposition that the death was not caused by silicosis (a lung disease caused by exposure to rock dust). Meanwhile the board suppressed a medical report which showed silicosis was the cause of death.

- A man, denied compensation for years until he won his case in court, said the board's refusal to pay had forced his children to leave school early to help earn money for the family.

- A man claiming for dermatitis (a skin disease) was turned down by the board. He appealed and won—but was told by the board that he had lost. He appealed again and this time lost. When he took his final appeal to the courts, said Berger, the board argued the loss of the second appeal wiped out the first-appeal win, even though all subsequent appeals had been forced by the board's failure to advise the man of his win.

- The board insisted, in spite of a silicosis diagnosis by a doctor, that a miner undergo a biopsy (removal of lung tissue for microscopic examination). He complied and was found to have silicosis, but the board refused to pay compensation benefits to the man back to the time he caught the disease because it

had a rule that payments begin at the time of diagnosis.

Berger said 96.4 per cent of claims are paid fairly, and most compensation problems are caused by the 3.6 per cent turned down by the board. He said the claim rejection figures have more than doubled in the past five years.

Berger said present counselling services by the board are inadequate.

"What we need for this board is an ombudsman—someone who can go through their files like a dose of salts, and find out what's in there. There is also a need for lessons in plain English for the board's officials," said Berger, referring to incomprehensible letters he said were received by claimants from the board.

He called for nine changes in the present Compensation Act (which Labor Minister Peterson said will be amended next week by a bill calling for wholesale revision).

- Agriculture workers and fishermen should be given coverage. They are now not covered.

- The three-day claims waiting period should be eliminated.

- All hernia claims should be paid. They are now paid on a selective basis.

- Pensions now being paid should be increased to match cost of living increases.

- Rates for new pensions should be boosted to meet cost of living increases as they occur.

- Uniform standards of proof of claim should be introduced and benefit of doubt given to claimants.

- Evidence used against claimants should be revealed. The board now is not obliged to give reasons for decisions.

- Medical reports should be shown to claimants unless doctors think knowledge of the contents would be harmful to the claimant's emotional health.

Dave Stupich (NDP-Nanaimo) said Peterson has delayed introduction of the bill amending the WCB Act until too late in the session for the opposition and the people affected to assess its impact.

## Office workers

### Minimum wage boosted

The minimum wage for office workers will be boosted in two stages this year.

Beginning May 1, the minimum will increase 10 cents per hour to \$1.10. It will rise again to \$1.25 on Nov. 1, said Labor Minister Peterson Tuesday.

The order also wipes out below-minimum starting wages for the first three months of an office worker's employment. These were allowed under earlier legislation.

The order also provides:

- A maximum of 12 hours between starting and ending a single day's split shifts.

- Two hours minimum pay for persons called to work by employers, including students on school days.

- Four hours minimum pay for workers called to work by employers who actually starts work. Students working on school days are excluded.

- Time-and-a-half for overtime over eight hours a day or 40 hours a week.

- A minimum of two paydays a month.

## New health board bill

A bill that would give the government power to transfer metropolitan health board duties to regional districts was introduced in the legislature Tuesday.

The House gave first reading to the amendment to the Health Act brought in by Health Minister Black.

The cabinet will be given power to transfer jurisdiction of metro health boards, which exist only in Vancouver and Victoria, to regional districts.

It says the regulations may further provide that the regional district shall exercise the powers and duties of local boards of health within its jurisdiction.

No details were available on general application of these powers to regional districts. But Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell said the Greater Victoria municipalities have requested a transfer of metro health functions to the Capital Region District.

Premier Bennett said outside the House the transfer of metro health duties is a step forward because it is not good to have several administrations within a region.

Wednesday, March 8, 1967

# Compensation revamp promised by Socreds

By JACK CLARKE  
Province Labor Reporter

VICTORIA — Labor Minister Peterson has promised a new Workmen's Compensation Act for B.C.

He told the legislature Tuesday his department at first thought of making amendments to the present act after considering recommendations of Mr. Justice Tysoe, who headed a royal commission inquiry into existing legislation.

But, he said, the task became so involved he thought it would be better to present a new act. He expects to have the legislation ready by the end of the week and has promised to introduce it early next week.

Said Peterson: "There will be no delay in bringing this legislation forward."

He was replying to opposition members who were pressing for amendments in line with the Tysoe report.

Mr. Justice Tysoe recommended 68 changes, including pension increases and changes in the structure of the Workmen's Compensation Board. A number of pension increases were granted last year, but opposition members claimed these were insufficient to meet today's cost of living.

Leo Nimsick (NDP—Kootenay), the main NDP spokesman on compensation affairs, said the increases are picayune. He said a widow's pension of \$122 a month, after losing a bread-winner in an industrial accident, is far from sufficient for today's standards.

He claimed victims of industrial accidents of years ago have been forgotten in the pensions granted by the board. He said the two per cent per year cost of living increase should be back-dated beyond 1964, the date on which the index is based, in order to take care of victims who suffered their accidents before this date.

Nimsick told Peterson the Opposition will keep pressing for changes during the rest of the session.

Replying to other Opposition

proposals, Peterson rejected the idea that conciliation boards should be scrapped in the collective bargaining process.

The B.C. Federation of Labor, in its brief to the cabinet earlier this year, claimed the boards serve no useful purpose.

In the House on Tuesday, Liberal Leader Perrault said the board system is an archaic and inflexible hold-over from B.C.'s contentious past.

"It serves to lock labor and management into inflexible positions, and the conciliation board report itself often becomes a strike issue," he said.

Perrault suggested an improved mediation service with a number of highly-qualified mediators who could keep dispute situations fluid until both sides are willing to settle.

Peterson said he subscribes to the view that, as long as parties in a dispute are kept talking, there is a prospect of settlement without work stoppages.

Said Peterson: "Our policy has been to provide a degree of flexibility so that the parties would not have to feel that at this stage they have to put their cards on the table."

"At one stage, conciliation boards were one of the essential steps in the bargaining process. No longer is that true and in very few instances now, in relation to the past, are conciliation boards appointed. But it is still useful to process. At the same time, I think the less they need to be used, the better."

Peterson said it's all very well to talk about highly-qualified mediators, but the question is where they will come from. He said it is very difficult to hire people and his department leans to the view that in-service training would provide better hope.

An in-service program now is in effect in the department, although it's not yet as good as he would like it to be. The new research branch will, however, be increasingly helpful to the conciliation service, he said.

## Mine damage

### Year's policing proposed

The Mining Association of B.C. asked the legislative committee on forestry and fisheries Tuesday for one year to police member companies accused of slashing through valuable grasslands and timber for mining exploration.

The committee is charged with investigating the effects of bulldozer prospecting on forests and grasslands. It has heard cattlemen's complaints and the reports of the Forest Service. Both complained of damage to trees and pasture.

The final decision of the committee will come after closed meetings in which recommendations to the legislature will be drawn up.

C. H. Mitchell, association secretary-treasurer, told the committee the problem is mostly one of lack of communications between mining companies and the government.

He said there is no need for new legislation on the matter because there is power under the Mining Act and the Forestry Act to deal with the problem.

The Forestry Act requires slash clean-up during road building operations, and the Mining Act requires notification of the Mines Department when prospecting is planned.

With its own policing and stricter enforcement of regulations already in effect, said Mitchell, the industry can solve the problem within a year.



## Less interference with labor urged

The provincial government must stop playing policeman in labor disputes and allow parties to settle their differences without interference, says Rae Eddie (NDP—New Westminster).

B.C. needs a new labor code designed to encourage labor and management to handle their own affairs with less government control and interference, Eddie told the legislature Tuesday.

As labor spokesman for the NDP, he led off the discussion of estimates of the labor department. In Canada and particularly in B.C., he said, the state has assumed the role of policeman who tries to maintain industrial peace.

"We have so much treatment there is a fear the patient may die of the cure," he said.

"The state as a policeman has all but disappeared in European countries such as Sweden. Their affairs are regulated by mutual agreement and co-operation. The basis is respect, of labor for management and of management for labor."

It will take major adjustments on the part of both labor and management to solve labor-management problems in this province, he said.

"There is need for more and better self-regulation. We will have to develop the necessary respect for each other which is

not evident at this time. Labor does not now meet with management as an equal in our business-oriented society."

Eddie said negotiation procedures need shortening because as things now stand neither side has any respect for the system. The ultimate seems to be to get to a strike or lockout position at which times the real negotiations take place, he said.

To prevent repetition of the present sham negotiations in future, said Eddie, strike or lockout votes should be allowed at any stage of negotiation.

Legislation should also provide that changes brought about by automation and technological change should be negotiable during terms of a labor contract and must be negotiable when a contract expires, he added.

A reconstituted Labor Relations Board with full time members independent of government, is also needed, said Eddie.

"I want to repeat that this portfolio (labor) needs full attention if we are to have harmony in labor-management relations, and the efficiency so necessary in this department."

Eddie said the misuse of injunctions in labor disputes has been a major contributor towards unsettled conditions that exist in the field of labor-management relations.

## Peterson rejects plea for school gymnasium

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Education Minister Peterson has rejected an appeal against the departmental order requiring removal of a gymnasium from working plans for a nine-room addition to the Sir Wilfred Grenfell Elementary School in Vancouver.

The plea was presented in the

legislature by Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) on behalf of 1,320 parents who signed a petition requesting immediate approval of construction plans.

Macdonald said the gymnasium was an integral part of the plans and estimated architects' fees for its removal from the addition at this stage would amount to approximately \$20,000. It will also delay the project by about five months, he said.

The NDP member asked the government to approve roughing in of the gymnasium to save money, without delaying completion of classrooms needed for this September.

Peterson said the Vancouver school board has been aware of the government policy since last October and has had ample time to alter plans for the addition.

## LRB under criticism as 'legal monstrosity'

The provincial Labor Relations Board is a "legal monstrosity" as it now stands because it is not able to give reasons for its decisions, says Alex Macdonald (NDP-Vancouver East).

Shortage of staff forces the board to rush from one crisis to the next and there is no time to set out reasons for the decisions it hands down, Macdonald told the legislature during labor department estimates Tuesday.

"The board cannot claim to be fair and impartial when all that it gives are its decisions," he said. "At present labor cannot tell where it is going in future,

and neither can management."

Macdonald added: "I'm not attacking personalities of present members of the board when I say the LRB should not be connected with the government in any way."

If it is to earn the respect of both labor and management, Macdonald said, it must become an adequately staffed, full time, fully independent board.

Labor Minister Peterson told the House the LRB is independent and full time to the extent required.

It now gives reasons for decision in cases where this is practical, Peterson said.

## Department 50 years old

The 50th anniversary of the establishment of the provincial government's labor department will be celebrated with a labor-management conference in Hotel Vancouver May 19.

Labor Minister Peterson told the legislature Tuesday that former labor ministers in B.C. and a number of labor ministers in other provinces have been invited to the conference, which will deal with two major topics — the use of injunctions in labor disputes and the implications of technological change on industrial relations.

## Capozzi defends board in face of NDP attack

Herb Capozzi (SC-Vancouver Centre) went to the defence of the Workmen's Compensation Board Tuesday night.

NDP members had spent much of the day attacking the board and its policies.

Capozzi said the board had a responsibility to protect the public purse from spurious claims.

"I'd be just as outraged by the payment of a wrong claim as the failure to pay a legitimate claim," Capozzi said.

The new Workmen's Compensation Act, which was promised

earlier in the day by Labor Minister Peterson, will be fair and will meet the needs of claimants, Capozzi told the House.

His comment brought Opposition Leader Strachan to his feet with the cry: "If the member thinks that we are going to accept the legislation blind — the way he is — then he had better think again."

## Clerk honored

The legislature observed its annual "happy day" Tuesday as party leaders showered birthday wishes on Clerk of the House E. K. DeBeck, who is 84. He was presented with a whale's tooth, insignia of the Loyal Order of the Whale's Tooth, founded by Vancouver Islanders to honor distinguished Canadians.

## Relax girls, the heat's off

### Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Plans to send women underground in mining operations were scrapped Tuesday.

The legislative mining and railway committee was told that international labor codes restrict underground work by women.

As a member of the International Labor Organization, Canada is bound by regulations which will require a rider to the proposed new Mining Act. The

rider will restrict the underground function of women to managerial positions not involving manual work, health and welfare services and occasional visits by female employees for non-manual purposes.

The committee was told the labor department brought the ILO requirements to the attention of Chief Mines Inspector J. W. Peck, who made the original suggestion for underground jobs for women after seeing similar activities in Swedish mines.

Mines Minister Brothers said the original intent of the bill was to make it possible for women to work underground as computer operators and to supervise machine operations from office or laboratory-like surroundings.

The committee decided to ask mine operators and unions for their opinions of the proposed 68-page bill, which affects most of the safety and work regulations in mining. Submissions must be made by March 17.

## Back wages promised by April 30

### Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Labor Minister Peterson said Tuesday his department has been assured that back wages owing 145 employees of Cowichan Copper Ltd., at Jordan River will be fully paid by April 30.

The company ran into finan-

cial difficulties last summer and almost \$40,000 in wages and holiday pay were owed by the company to the workers.

Peterson said the Industrial Relations Board got a judgment against the company for the amount owing. A shipment of ore was seized and \$15,000

was paid for the workers.

He told the legislature the labor department has just received a further \$5,000 and has been given written assurance that another \$10,000 will be paid by March 31 with the remainder to be provided by April 30.



# Rid city of LSD — Mayor

City police must be given full support in their drive to stamp out the use of LSD, says Mayor Campbell. He is especially concerned with reports that the hallucinatory drug is being used in high schools, and called for tighter controls on it.

"The use of marijuana and LSD by young people is becoming a major menace to society," he said. "I think the police are taking the proper approach in attempting to stamp out the use of these drugs."

"I think society is entitled to use everything available to it to stamp out this cancerous growth," he said.

"I am all in favor of the actions being taken by the police and the school board and I do not think the police have been contravening their code in the investigations."

Campbell dismissed a claim by Ald. Harry Rankin that police are harassing the public and overstepping their own code by frisking young people on the street and at dances.

The mayor said he asked Police Chief Booth for a report on the charge but feels there is nothing to it.

"The police are exercising a most difficult function of the law and I think they are doing a commendable job," said Campbell.

Booth would not comment on Rankin's statement.

Meanwhile, in Victoria, Dr. Pat McGeer (L-Point Grey) told the legislature Wednesday that B.C. urgently needs a law to control LSD. Any university or high school teacher who recommends the use of dangerous hallucinatory drugs to the public should be fired, he added.

He said that if the federal government doesn't pass the necessary legislation within one or two weeks, the province should take action on its own.

Responsible citizens throughout the province have become alarmed at the spread of LSD among high school students, he said.

"We need legislation as soon as possible to outlaw the possession, handling and use of LSD without a government permit."

Drug usage is an infection that spreads by contact and Vancouver school board authorities have taken the right action in deciding to expel students using this dangerous drug, he said. Universities should be

prepared to do the same.

McGeer, a neurologist who does brain research at the University of B.C., said LSD can be pleasurable in small doses but in larger doses is "universally terrifying."

"LSD induces mental illness and 50 pounds of it can cause mental illness in every person living on the North American continent," he said. "It is colorless, tasteless and extremely powerful, which is why it has been considered for chemical warfare."

"This dangerous drug, contrary to the opinions of some pseudo-experts, does not expand the mind, but shrinks it. We can't prove how LSD works its effect, but we can prove that it interferes with many chemical processes in the brain."

McGeer called on Health Minister Black, whose estimates were being discussed in the House, to speak out strongly against the use of LSD and other hallucination-causing drugs.

Black interrupted with an assurance that the government will distribute pamphlets to schools and universities telling of the drug's dangerous qualities. Health department officials said later the material may take several weeks to complete.

McGeer said researchers had a 20-year record of responsible use of LSD until Timothy Leary, a former Harvard professor, began to use it freely and advocate its use to others.

"I think we should fire every professor and teacher in our educational institutions in North America who recommends the public use this dangerous agent," McGeer said.

Black said the government was greatly concerned by the growing use of drugs like LSD and marijuana.

"Every person who has children should acquaint himself with this problem and we must interest ourselves at once."

He cautioned members to be careful in making public statements about drugs, because "ill advised remarks can be dangerous to the impressionable people in our high schools."

## Controls on drugs sought

The government should set up a provincial pharmacy to control profiteering in medical drugs, the legislature was told Wednesday night.

Alex Macdonald (N D P - Vancouver East) said the drug business in Canada is dominated by five big companies which are subsidiaries of foreign concerns. They hold a patent monopoly that is unnecessary because most new drugs are now developed in non-profit laboratories.

Promotion costs of most drug companies have been found to be 35 to 45 per cent of the total cost of drugs, he said, and birth control pills, on which Canadian women spend \$2 million a month, have never had a reduction in the original price in spite of the massive increase in their use and the consequent savings to the companies through mass production.

"One manufacturer produces two pills with the same drugs in each," he said. "One costs \$24 per thousand, and the other \$17 a thousand. The \$24 per thousand pills are colored and heart-shaped while the \$17 per thousand pill is white."

He said the contents of either pill could sell in generic form for \$3.60 a thousand.

"This is profiteering in a field where it does not belong. I don't see the relationship between health and profiteering."

Macdonald urged Health Minister Black to use the powers of the government to bring down prices of drugs through pressure connected with massive government purchases of drugs for hospitals.

## Victoria comment

# On that major medicare bill



By IAN STREET  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A first move towards integration of private medical schemes with the public B.C. medical plan may be taken at this session.

An elaborately casual remark by Premier Bennett a few days ago gave the first indication that a major medicare bill is being prepared.

The premier refused to give details but indicated it will complement Ottawa's legislation to set up national medicare due in 1968.

The question is what B.C. will be required to do in order to meet the requirements for participation set out by Ottawa.

First, according to Liberal Leader Perrault, Ottawa has indicated the province must guarantee 90 per cent coverage at the outset, rising to 95 per cent by 1971.

This, as the NDP points out, represents a retreat from the original promise of universal coverage under the national scheme.

However, it will meet approval of Premier Bennett, who loves to boast that more than 90 per cent of B.C. residents already have medical coverage under one or other of the existing plans.

Perrault says he can't identify his Ottawa source because to do so might hurt inter-government relations. But he claims the information is authoritative and up-to-date.

He quotes the Ottawa source as saying that in order to function under national medicare doctor-sponsored plans will have to become part of a public authority.

If they are declared as such, presumably by provincial legislation, and subject to public audit, it seems federal authorities have no objection to private plans continuing to operate on much the same basis as they do now.

## Subsidies for private plans?

Perrault says it is assumed this means private plans would be required to provide same conditions of coverage at the same rates as the B.C. medical plan.

And since the province subsidizes its premiums heavily an obvious difficulty arises. Would the private plans also receive government subsidies? And once they become part of the B.C. medical plan would they not inevitably be absorbed, if only on grounds of duplication of administration?

Opposition Leader Strachan says the NDP isn't willing to settle for anything less than full medicare coverage on the same basis as the B.C. Hospital Insurance Service, which requires only proof of three months residence in the province.

He condemns Ottawa for retreating from a policy that everyone will be covered, to everyone may be covered by medicare.

A proper universal plan could be created out of the present B.C. medical plan, Strachan concedes. But he claims this would require amendments to bring all existing schemes in the province into line on both coverage and costs. Eventually it must lead to a single scheme.

Premier Bennett says he intends to bring new medicare legislation in at this session. But as the amount of proposed legislation in the hopper grows he is also giving himself an escape hatch. The premier told the House Tuesday night, without referring to any specific bills, that some legislation may be held back until the 1968 session.

Since national medicare isn't due to be implemented until July 1, 1968, there would be still time for B.C. to introduce its complementary legislation a year from now. But the government would obviously prefer to get the job done now.

## Land deals ruled out

The cabinet put a damper Wednesday on land speculation in a 2,000-acre Penticton agricultural area to be served by a proposed pressurized irrigation system.

An order-in-council sets a penalty of \$1,200 an acre on land sales (within the irrigation district) should the agricultural use of the land be changed to residential or commercial use.

The \$4 million improvement on the irrigation system is going ahead under the federal Agricultural Rehabilitation and Development Act. Federal and provincial governments will split the general \$3 million costs while Penticton will pay \$1 million for inclusion of the municipal system. The senior governments don't share the city costs.

The area affected by the plan is entirely within the municipality. Agriculture Minister Richter said Wednesday.

The order discourages land owners or speculators for applying to the city for rezoning of agricultural land for such purposes as motel sites. It also provides for a refund of federal and provincial grants if the land is rezoned.

ARDA is designed to maintain and improve present agricultural land for more efficient agricultural use.

The \$1,200 penalty will be decreased by \$60 a year until it is wiped out in 1987.

# Power of life and death

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—There is a panel of doctors in B.C. which decides who will live and who will die among kidney disease victims, says Liberal Leader Perrault. He was talking about people suffering kidney ailments which require an artificial blood cleansing process to replace a function of their kidneys.

"I'm not criticizing the minister," said Perrault, "because I know his feelings in this matter. But there are people in B.C. who are faced with death

if they do not have access to these machines."

Perrault said the medical panel decides which of the many applicants for blood treatments will have priority for the limited treatment time available.

Some, he said, are rejected and face death unless they can find some other hospital which will provide the treatment.

The Liberal leader said one West Vancouver man, E. M. Ehlert, wrote him to say he had been forced to apply

to the University of Washington for use of its kidney machine after being rejected in Vancouver.

He was told he would need \$17,500 to pay for treatments and most of the money would have to be paid in advance. Ehlert was also told he would be required to provide credit references and bank references to make sure he would pay the balance as it fell due.

"If he can put up the \$17,500 he will live," said Perrault to a hushed House. "If he can't, presumably he dies."



# Crowing hostility to Socreds seen

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Roads and dams won't win the next provincial election for Social Credit, says Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP—Vancouver Burrard).

He told the legislature Wednesday public attitudes have changed drastically in the past few months and predicted a growing public hostility to the failure of the government's services to people.

The government came to power by selling the notion that it was for the common man, Dr. Parkinson said, but many people are no longer willing to accept the approach of "handing out hampers to people" in health, welfare and education.

Dr. Parkinson said Health Minister Black is like a man rushing from breach to breach trying to plug leaks in a dike with his finger—he never has time to look over the top to see how much pressure is building up on the other side.

Dr. Parkinson referred to an attack by a Vancouver physician on the government's failure to provide adequate financial support for the local branch of the Victorian Order of Nurses.

He quoted Dr. Nairn D. Knott as saying: "This fear of big brother is an odious and numbing thing . . . reminiscent of an older time . . . but I'm going to spell it out tonight crystal clear, our problem is the provincial government."

Dr. Parkinson said: "This sort of criticism is found throughout the entire health field. Why should people like this, who are not political animals, be so vehement in their criticism. Why must the government go around lighting fires. Let's be sensible and rational about solving the health problems that face us."

He said attempts to control the intake of patients at Riverview Mental Hospital are doomed to failure unless a new facility is provided in Vancouver, which now sends almost half of the patients to the provincial mental hospital.

The new mental hospital should be built near Vancouver General at provincial expense because the solution cannot wait for implementation of the city's five-year plan, Parkinson said.

He said the government, despite many promises, has done nothing to improve chronic care facilities in the past 12 months. It should also amend B.C. Hospital Insurance regulations to allow alcoholics and addicts to be treated in general hospitals.

Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Point Grey) said the hospital construction program is totally inadequate in the lower mainland. He said the waiting lists for elective surgery in the area total 7,934 patients with only 3,894 beds available.

Black replied that local hospital boards are autonomous, and said he was not aware of any critical hospital needs which had been turned down by the government.

Meanwhile, the minister said, 2,522 new hospital beds have been approved for the Vancouver area alone, but some authorities cannot raise the local share of hospital costs.

## Stronger stand urged on fluoridation issue

The government came under attack in the legislature Wednesday for failing to endorse fluoridation and make it easier for communities to vote in the measure.

Health Minister Black refused to make any direct statement on fluoridation and said MLAs will have to wait until Municipal Act changes are brought in later this session to learn if voting on plebiscites will be changed.

Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Point Grey) said B.C. may become the last bastion of the health crackpot in North America if the government doesn't take a stronger stand on fluoridation.

Earlier, Dr. Ray Parkinson

(NDP—Vancouver Burrard) said the fluoridation issue is a good example of the government's policy of avoiding problems which carry a political disadvantage.

He said B.C. must accept the findings of medical and dental experts around the world that fluoridation of the water supply is the most efficient method of reducing tooth decay.

"It's about time the government faced this problem," Parkinson said. "I hope that in this session, or shortly afterwards, it will take action to expedite votes on the fluoridation issue by requiring a simple majority instead of the present 60 per cent approved."

He blamed the "conspicuous silence" of the government on the question, and called on Premier Bennett, Black, or any cabinet minister to endorse the principle. None did.

McGeer also asked whether the government would act on a request by the Union of B.C. Municipalities and Greater Victoria Water and Sewerage Board to change the voting requirements for fluoridation plebiscites to a simple majority.

Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell said later he could not comment on the requests.

Thursday, March 9, 1967

## Strachan challenges medicare bill

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Proposed B.C. medicare legislation must be faulty or Health Minister Black would answer specific questions about it, Opposition Leader Strachan said Wednesday.

"I am asking the minister of health," he said, "will he undertake to bring in medicare legislation that will enable us to qualify for federal aid?"

Black replied: "I can only say that a bill will be presented during this session, either late this week or early next."

Strachan said he could only deduce from the minister's answer that this will be "another year of wrist-twisting with Ottawa over terms of the plan."

"If you are silent," said Strachan, "I will take it you cannot say yes to my question."

Black answered that the provincial government has always shown willingness to co-operate with the federal government.

"But I'm afraid," said the minister, "that any discussion on the proposed bill will have to wait until it is presented."

Strachan replied: "Yes, you want to wait until you have your salary first. Then it will be too late to debate the bill."

(Debate on a minister's salary approval can range farther and is granted more leeway in the legislature than debate on other expense items in his department's estimates.)

Strachan said the government record on health matters, if not one of colossal failure, is one of never-enough.

He said any medicare bill should include four provisions: That every person in the province is covered, without any financial barrier; that prescription drugs are included; that dental care for all B.C. children is provided; and that ambulance service is part of the plan.

Liberal Leader Perrault also asked Black some questions but received no answer.

He wanted to know how many patients are being treated under \$1-a-day extended care program, how many persons are in nursing homes paying for chronic

care out of their own resources, and whether the government is going to increase the number of kidney machines in the province.

Perrault also called for legislation that would make a 50 per cent vote enough to approve fluoridation in a municipal plebiscite. Failing this, he said, the government should conduct a probe through its standing committee to determine the value of fluoridation. A 60 per cent majority is now required.

Alex Macdonald (NDP-Vancouver East) said health department statistics on provision of new chronic care beds are phony.

"The government keeps saying we have this many or that many beds when in fact no new beds to speak of are being added."

He said the government reclassified beds listed under welfare if they found the patient to be elderly.

Macdonald urged the government to take over private hospitals and asked whether B.C. qualifies for 50 per cent aid from the federal government with its new plan.

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby Edmonds) said the health department has failed to accept its responsibilities under the Criminal Code of Canada for the care of the criminally insane. He said the attorney general's department determines if and when such patients should be returned to society, although the Criminal Code places the authority on the health minister.

Dave Barrett (NDP-Coquitlam) said: "The health problem has become for this government nothing more than a ministerial shell game, passing the problem from one minister to another."

He was referring to the fact that mental health was once a segment of the provincial secretary's department under Black, then switched to former health minister Eric Martin, then again switched to Black as health minister when Martin retired last year.

## Responsible for wages

Prime contractors on B.C. Hydro projects will be responsible in future for insuring that wages of employees of sub-contractors will be paid, Labor Minister Peterson announced in the legislature.

Randolph Harding (NDP-Revelstoke Slocan) said workers in his area have lost as much as \$80,000 by being paid by sub-contractors with cheques for which insufficient funds were available at the bank.

He said this is happening in Hydro land clearing projects, and some tightening is required

in the laws governing non-payment of wages. He suggested prime contractors should be responsible in some way for the payment of these wages.

Peterson said the problem has been taken care of for the future.

"We have had a conference with the B.C. Hydro and in contracts in future, it will be held the prime contractors' responsibility for wages of sub-contractors," he said.

"This will obviate the problem for the future, but there are some difficulties in respect of the existing contract."



FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 1967

# Bill protects buyers, borrowers

## Covers credit

By IAN STREET  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A bill of rights for B.C. buyers was introduced in the legislature Thursday by Attorney-General Bonner.

It requires uniform disclosure of interest charges on borrowing and credit buying, gives the courts wider powers to grant contract relief, and provides for a three-day cooling off period on certain door-to-door sales.

The bill provides for a \$2,000 fine and a year in jail for individuals and a \$25,000 fine for corporations convicted of an offence under the act.

Bonner said in an interview the interest rate disclosure section in the act will apply to mortgages as well as other credit purchases.

In the case of banks and finance companies, which come under federal jurisdiction, Bonner said it is hoped the obvious public relations value of compliance will outweigh the legal right to ignore the provincial law.

The legislation is intended to suppress gimmickry in merchandising, the attorney-general said. "It gives new meaning to the phrase 'let the buyer beware' by making credit, as a commodity, readily comparable anywhere in the province."

Borrowers and credit buyers will be able to compare costs in both actual dollar amounts and nominal annual interest rates, he said.

Bonner added that the practical value of these provisions may be debatable, but at least they will give fair warning to credit seekers.

September is expected to be the earliest that interest rate disclosure sections of the bill will come into effect, said Bonner. Other provinces are enacting similar legislation, and it will probably take several months for national companies to adjust to the new requirements.

B.C. is also moving with other provinces to curb high-pressure tactics by door-to-door salesmen.

The bill provides for a buyer to cancel a contract within three days under this section. The contract may also be rescinded within one year if the goods are not delivered within 30 days of the promised date, or, if no date is specified, within 120 days.

The cooling-off period, the bill says, applies only to executory contracts. These are defined as

agreements for the purchase of goods or services which are not delivered or paid for in full at the time the contract is made.

The bill exempts from these provisions wholesale purchases, purchases for or by a business, purchases not made in person, and those of foodstuffs and other perishables. Bonner said other provinces have similar exemptions.

B.C. is moving alone in the field of contract relief in the courts, the attorney-general said. This section of the bill includes the present Contracts Relief Act, which is to be repealed, and adds a clause giving wider powers to the courts.

"The Simon Legree type of seizure can be attacked under this section," said Bonner.

It gives the courts power to step between buyer and seller where the judge finds "the cost of the transaction is excessive and the transaction is harsh and unconscionable."

The courts may decide to intervene without formal motion.

"When a seller is acting against a buyer, he has at some stage to get a court order," the attorney-general said. "All the buyer has to do is appear and complain and the court has power to intervene if it sees fit."

Bonner said the relief-from-contracts section of the bill could be proclaimed shortly after the end of the current session.

The curbs on door-to-door selling may take several months to implement because they involve disclosure of interest rates, he said.

## Increase in power supported

The legislative committee on municipal matters decided Thursday to support a proposal to give local governments wider powers to spend money without referring to the voters.

The proposal originated with a three-man committee of the Union of B.C. Municipalities.

The committee, made up by UBCM president H. J. Gardner, mayor of Williams Lake, and two senior municipal affairs department officials, visited 14 communities to hear non-government opinions on UBCM proposals for revision of the Municipal Act.

Its recommendations are now before the legislative committee which will assess them to help the legislature frame revisions in the act.

Chairman Hunter Vogel (SC—Langley), a member of the House committee, said the decision supports the UBCM contention that programs for extensions of water, sewer and drainage systems, as well as for roads, sidewalks and curbs, should be placed in the hands of local councils.

## Not enough supervision

Health Minister Black told the legislature Thursday that supervision of Riverview Mental Hospital patients is not good enough and something will have to be done about it.

He was responding to questions by Opposition Leader Strachan, who said only five guards patrol the grounds of the hospital, which are used by nearly 3,000 patients with grounds privileges.



## Victoria comment

# It's Bennett's oyster

By IAN STREET  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A tense, behind-the-scenes struggle between the NDP and the Liberals is stretching the hours MLA's spend on estimates this season.

Premier Bennett seems torn between amusement at the Opposition's predicament and frustration over the slowness of discussion on departmental spending for the coming year.

This, as the premier never loses an opportunity to point out, is not a time for speech-making but for policy statements, preferably brief, and questions directed at the minister whose department is under discussion.

The minister is not required to answer, though he usually does—because, by making announcements or hinting at possible future developments, he can take the edge off Opposition criticism.

But even Opposition Leader Strachan is forced to admit the so-called policy statements by his members bear a striking resemblance to the speeches made during the throne and budget debates. Several NDP MLAs are even distributing texts as they do with regular speeches.

The result is a tedious and repetitious debate that on several occasions has kept the House sitting past midnight.

The NDP is the worst offender and one of the new Liberal MLAs, Allan Williams of West Vancouver-Howe Sound, has called this tactic the official Opposition's "Money for Marks" program.

The speeches are intended, according to Williams, primarily for publication in the labor press so that the NDP can win financial support from labor unions.

Strachan sounds off about the government trying to "intimidate and bully" the Opposition into doing the people's business

hurriedly. When he has simmered down, however, the Opposition leader admits what he claims is the real source of trouble.

"This is the curse of the divided Opposition," says Strachan — political success in the legislature depends on the amount of publicity gained through statements on the floor.

The NDP leader says, "You raise an issue in estimates and hope your side gets the publicity for it."

It doesn't always work that way, however. Strachan cites the case of Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP—Burrard) who talked for more than 90 minutes at one time during Health Minister Black's estimates. He covered a wide range of subjects but missed LSD.

As soon as he sat down, Dr. Pat McGeer, the Liberal from Point Grey, launched into his pitch for provincial laws to control use and handling of hallucinatory drugs. (Ironically, McGeer was upstaged in the headlines by Mayor Tom Campbell who made an even stronger statement in Vancouver.)

But, Strachan argues, the principle of "if you don't raise it the other party will," remains valid.

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault complains about what he calls the inferior status of the third party in the House. He fumes over the refusal of the chairman to recognize Liberal speakers before those of the NDP, even when the Liberals are on their feet first.

Naturally, when Liberals do get a chance to speak they try to cover the potentially-live issues in the department under study. But they are not under the same pressure as the NDP.

In the best position of all is the government. Premier Bennett can deplore the long-windedness of the Opposition, play the staunch supporter of democracy by promising the House will sit as long and as often as necessary, and still stand a good chance of coming out on top in headlines.

## Black promises revised act

By AL ARNASON  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A bill to revise the Mental Health Act will be presented to the legislature next session, says Health Minister Black.

He had earlier promised a reorganization of the entire mental health branch. But his choice of a three-man committee of civil servants to frame the changes was met with a storm of opposition from NDP and Liberal benches. Opposition members asked for an independent committee of outside experts to do the job.

Thursday, Black told Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP—Vancouver Burrard) after repeated questioning: "I'm not saying I'm not going to set up an advisory committee." But the minister then made it clear he also was not promising to do so.

"The present committee is getting advice from the outside. I want to make it clear that I will take good advice no

matter where it comes from," Black said.

"But the minister must decide. The government cannot abdicate its responsibilities to third and fourth parties."

Black said he was not opposed to a conference of interested agencies and groups to help assess organizational needs in the department, but that he would not necessarily call one.

During Thursday's seven hours of debate and questions on the minister's spending estimates, Black also said:

- The health department should take over supervision of emotionally-disturbed children who are now under other departments, including welfare.

- Reorganization of the department will provide treatment for emotionally-disturbed juvenile girls without their parents being forced to charge them in juvenile court.

- He will give some thought to appointment of an ombudsman or other

protector of children to prevent red-tape delay in health treatment for the young.

- The department will continue to rely on help from outside agencies for the emotionally handicapped and mentally ill.

- He will recommend examination by an outside psychiatrist for a woman inmate of Riverview Hospital who wrote Ernie LeCours (SC—Richmond) to complain that the hospital failed to supply treatment or rehabilitation.

- Charges by Strachan that Riverview mail is being tampered with or destroyed are untrue. "There is no censorship," Black said after consultation with department officials.

- Handling of Riverview patients under orders of the cabinet, such as homicidal patients committed before and after court trials, leaves much to be desired.

- That the creation of new facilities for the mentally ill is not going to happen overnight.



Friday, March 10, 1967

## Gov't will allow boards to pay school trustees

The provincial government has removed a barrier to school trustees being paid for their services, but the full cost must be borne by local taxpayers.

A bill to amend the Public Schools Act will allow school boards to pay an annual indemnity to trustees of up to \$2,000.

Trustees are now allowed to receive only travelling and living expenses.

The indemnity is to be paid on a sliding scale based on the number of pupils in the school district.

Districts with up to 3,000 pupils may pay a maximum of \$300 a year to each trustee; for 3,001 to 5,000 pupils the maximum is \$500; 5,001 to 7,000 pupils, \$700; 7,001 to 11,000 pupils, \$1,100; 11,001 to 15,000 pupils, \$1,500; and over 15,000 pupils, \$2,000.

Peterson said there is no differential between indemnities permitted for trustees and school board chairmen, but the board itself may set the rate for trustees at a lower figure.

"I expect many school districts will continue to function with their trustees on the present purely voluntary basis," he said.

However, some trustees who work on hourly rates suffer a loss of earnings when they take time off to attend school board business, Peterson said.

The minister said the B.C. School Trustees Association

asked for the indemnities to trustees.

The bill also permits non-practising clergymen to teach in public schools in B.C., and for the first time any clergyman, practising or not, can run for election as school trustee.

Boards are also authorized to give teachers up to six months leave of absence with pay, for professional improvement, maternity, or other approved reasons. Over six months leave with pay requires cabinet approval.

The bill also changes regulations for regional colleges to permit local representation on boards, and allows capital as well as operating costs to be shared on a sliding scale between districts based on distance from the college.

## Lumbermen fear fire runaway

Northern B.C. lumbermen said Thursday they fear legislation to enforce slash-burning by interior loggers will cause runaway forest fires.

R. G. Caine, chairman of the Northern Interior Lumbermen's Association, told the legislative committee on forestry the government should walk before it runs on specific slash-burning laws.

He said burning in the dry interior forests can only be done during a short period of heavy rainfall in the fall, and that there is not enough known about burning techniques to keep it safe.

The committee was also told burning is more expensive than the present method of cutting and spreading slash.

Another brief, from the B.C. Wildlife Federation, called on the government to provide laws recognizing the legitimate use by wildlife of range and brushland, and to give it priority where management policies indicate it is necessary.

In another presentation, UBC resources economist Dr. Peter Pearse said there are too few statistics available to the government for it to make proper decisions on how to use resources.

He also said the government apparently fails to put to use available statistics, and makes too many arbitrary decisions based on political and other unscientific reasons.

## 2-year nurse course due

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Two-year courses for training of registered nurses in B.C. are proposed in a bill introduced in the legislature Thursday.

It will allow candidates who have graduated from secondary school on an academic-technical

program, or the equivalent, to enter nursing training.

They now have to be at least 18 and have university entrance.

Health Minister Black said in an interview the bill broadens the definition of a nursing school to include institutions such as regional colleges and institutes of technology.

It provides for the council of the Registered Nurses Association of B.C. to recommend standards of training to be applied in nursing schools. These are subject to approval by the cabinet.

The bill also transfers to the council powers previously held by the cabinet to regulate hours of duty for student nurses in schools of nursing.

### NDP seeks censure

## 'BUNCH OF FRUITS'

The NDP gave notice Thursday in the legislature that it will seek censure of Herb Capozzi (S.C.-Vancouver Centre) by the Speaker of the House.

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby Edmonds) jumped to his feet after an exchange during debate on estimates for Provincial Secretary Black. The NDP lawyer accused Capozzi of calling the opposition "a bunch of fruits."

Dowding told the MLAs Capozzi is one of those who oppose Hansard in the House because "it would expose his scurrilous remarks."

Dowding said the statement was made just after Liberal Leader Perrault commented in debate "by their fruits, ye shall know them."

The NDP member expressed outrage earlier in the session when Capozzi called opposition members "a bunch of political eunuchs."

Dowding said outside the House later, that his party will consider action today and complain to the Speaker about Capozzi's language.

### Act under fire

Canadian Press

The provincial elections act should be scrapped because it is making a mockery out of democracy, Fred Vulliamy (NDP-Burnaby-Edmonds) said in the Legislature Thursday.

He said during debate on the provincial secretary's department estimates that thousands of persons were not included on the provincial voters list, and urged it be replaced with a complete list before each election or byelection.

# Bill slated for this session

## Law to control LSD in works.

### says Bonner

#### Alberta also acts

By IAN STREET  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C. is preparing to bring in a law to control the use of the hallucination causing drug LSD, Attorney-General Bonner disclosed Friday.

He said in an interview that a prohibitory section aimed at uncontrolled use of LSD and other dangerous drugs is being drafted by the government.

It is a comparatively simple bill to be introduced later this session, Bonner said.

The intention is to set out approved uses of LSD and other drugs, and set penalties for their misuse.

The attorney-general said: "There is a complicating factor in the matter of federal jurisdiction in this area, but I think we can get around it."

The government began drafting the bill before it learned that Alberta was taking similar measures against the improper use of LSD, Bonner said. He declined to give details until the bill is introduced, possibly next week.

The Alberta bill will make it illegal to manufacture, sell or possess the drug except for research.

Penalties for violation range from \$100 to \$1,000 fines and

15 to 90 days in jail.

In The Province today and Monday, the Vancouver School Board publishes an open letter to young people and parents concerning the dangers of LSD. (See page 7.)

Prepared by Dr. J. L. Gayton, medical health officer, the letter outlines the psychological and physical harm the drug can cause and explains the legal and social consequences.

Copies of the letter will be distributed to all secondary school students. Officials hope to have the letter at the schools by Wednesday.

The school board's action follows statements last week by Sgt. Don Bellamy of the police youth squad that at least 30 students in four Vancouver secondary schools — Kitsilano, John Oliver, King George and David Thompson — had taken LSD.

Dr. Pat McGeer (L-Point Grey), a neurologist engaged in brain research at the University of B.C., claimed in the legislature Wednesday that LSD-taking has reached epidemic proportions in Vancouver high schools.

Calling for immediate laws to govern its use in B.C., McGeer said students who use it should be expelled and any high school teacher or university teacher who advocates its use should be fired.

There are no laws at the moment against possession or use of LSD, but it is illegal to sell the drug under terms of federal Food and Drug Act. Several persons in B.C. have been convicted of selling LSD under this act.

#### Road density counts first —Gaglardi

Traffic density is the top consideration in setting highway construction priorities, Highway Minister Gaglardi said in the legislature, Friday.

Answering repeated questions from the opposition, Gaglardi said the next most important consideration is "the opening up of new areas."

If that is the case, said Bob Williams (NDP—Vancouver East), Vancouver is getting "Dogpatch treatment" because it is a high traffic density area.

Williams said Vancouver gets only \$360,000 in road grants. But Gaglardi countered that it is getting \$7.2 million.

"That legislation hasn't come in yet," retorted Williams, "and you know it. And you know what the municipalities think about it."

He was talking about a bill introduced this session to earmark per capita grants for municipal road work.

There is no increase in grants under the bill. It gives road work precedence in the use of per capita grants.

#### No need for list—MLA

B.C. doesn't need a voters' list, says Ernie Lecours (SC—Richmond).

"Everyone could be given an identification card to carry with their name and address, and maybe their photo on it," suggested Lecours in the legislature.

The suggestion was greeted by silence. It followed demands by opposition members that the government take the responsibility for placing the name of every eligible voter in the province on a voters' list.

Under present policy, the responsibility for being listed lies with the voter.

Leo Nimsick (NDP—Kootenay) said the provincial voters' list in his riding was smaller in 1966 than the federal list in 1963, in

spite of a growing population and inclusion of 19-year-olds on the provincial list.

Opposition members agreed the government should prepare an up to date list before the next election. The government made no comment.

#### No work planned on Upper Levels

There is no widening or straightening work planned this year for the Upper Levels Highway in either West or North Vancouver, says Highways Minister Gaglardi.

He made the statement in the legislature Friday during questioning of his department's estimates. He did not say when work is planned.



Saturday, March 11, 1967

## Harding says bottleneck strangling Slocan Valley

Highway construction discrimination has created a bottleneck which is strangling the Slocan Valley, said Randolph Harding (NDP — Revelstoke-Slocan) in the legislature Friday.

Harding said the district highways department office at Nelson needs a thorough shake-up.

"We've completely lost faith in the department in Nelson and in the department in Victoria, and with you," Harding told Highways Minister Gaglardi during debate on the minister's estimates Friday.

"We've reached the stage where people just sit in their office and pass over these problems year after year until they simply don't give a snap of their fingers about them," Harding said.

He made his attack during a day of debate that saw MLAs sitting an hour and 40 minutes overtime before approving Gaglardi's \$104 million departmental estimates.

Harding said Slocan was particularly hard hit by failure of the department to complete highways in the area. He said tourists are turned away from entering the community because of a 400-yard, one-way stretch of winding, rock-strewn highway 1,000 feet above a lake.

He said drivers in his area have the highest car repair bills anywhere in the province because of the poor state of the roads. The Cape Horn

bottleneck on the highway five miles north of Slocan was "throttling the area's economy."

Gaglardi said the road re-

quires construction of a tunnel and he could not promise heavy spending this year. He also defended the highway staff against Harding's attack.

## Stormy scenes over new crossing

By AL ARNASON  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The B.C. government has no intention of building Vancouver's second crossing of First Narrows, said Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver Burrard) Friday.

The statement sparked a stormy exchange with Highways Minister Gaglardi during which Premier Bennett walked out of the legislature.

"I don't think this government intends to build a second crossing on the First Narrows at all," Berger said to a roar of indignation from government benches.

"You should be fair to the people of the North Shore. Tell them whether or not you are going to build a crossing. Put them out of their misery."

The NDP member challenged Gaglardi to clear the way for the opposition to begin planning its own program for a second crossing, including a high speed commuter system.

"For God's sake tell us, so we can make plans accordingly when we take over the government in the next three or four years," shouted Berger, above the din of desk thumping, hoots, and general uproar.

Gaglardi replied that the crossing would be finished and operating in five years, if he could come to some agreement with the municipalities on sharing costs of an engineering study.

He said preliminary crossing plans include one-way traffic on both First and Second Narrows crossings; enlarged parking facilities on the North Shore for commuters' cars and an express bus service to the downtown area.

The crossing, said Gaglardi, "is not the first priority but it is near the top."

Berger attacked Gaglardi's budget speech as being "empty."

"I have some proposals for the minister," said Berger.

"Save your breath," called

Gaglardi across the floor, to the delight of a crowded public gallery.

Berger made a point-by-point resume of the issues with which he said Gaglardi's failed to deal.

Berger's first proposal was for integration of the highways, motor vehicles and commercial transport departments and the ferry authority into a department of transportation.

Gaglardi said the liaison between the various departments was excellent, and that no lack of communication existed.

"I'm a vice-chairman of the ferry authority, and on all the other levels, the whole transportation scene is tied together by our officials."

Gaglardi protested Berger's 40-minute speech. "Goebbels was a piker compared with that fella. Lay off the speeches, and I'll answer all of your questions yes or no."

The highways minister said Berger was ignorant of the facts and urged him as a new member not to involve himself in matters he didn't understand.

Other charges and answers:

● Gaglardi's speech failed to spell out policy on halting strip development along highways.

(Limited access legislation is on the statute books already in B.C.—"and it works—it's very effective.")

● City landscapes are blighted by billboards and signs which need government legislation.

("The entire North American continent is copying our legislation on control of billboards and signs. That's how far you are behind the times.")

● Air pollution by cars is not being dealt with.

(No answer.)

● Noise of automobiles and its effect on the public is not being dealt with, either in Gaglardi's speech, or in planning.

(No answer.)

# 'Investor equality'

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Legislation to put the small investor on an equal footing with stock market insiders was introduced in the legislature Friday.

"It takes the club atmosphere out of some stock market deals, and at the same time puts more people into the club," Attorney-General Bonner said.

The bill is modelled on a similar law passed in Ontario last year and one proposed for Alberta to give a substantial measure of uniformity in securities legislation across Canada.

It sets up a separate Securities Commission, with up to five members, and with the superintendent of brokers no longer on the commission. He now acts as chairman of the present three-man body.

## NO GREAT RUSH

New provisions in the bill include sections dealing with takeover bids, proxies and proxy solicitation, insider trading and financial disclosure.

Attorney-General Bonner said after introducing the bill that it looks ahead a few years to a time when Vancouver will have one of the major stock exchanges in North America.

The government isn't anticipating a great rush to establish all of the machinery covered by the bill, the attorney-general said. The various sections can be given effect at different dates by cabinet order.

Bonner said B.C. wants to move in concert with other provinces to "minimize inconsistencies between major trading units" in Canada.

The disclosure provisions in the bill are intended to put all shareholders, whether corporate or individual, on a more equal footing as far as company news is concerned, Bonner said.

## PENALTIES STIFF

Insiders will have to report stock transactions within 10 days of the end of the month in which the trade took place. An insider is generally defined as any director or senior officer of a public company, or any person who owns more than 10 per cent of the equity stock.

The insider, his associates and affiliates, will be under a new liability to the company and the persons with whom he trades for any profits made through use of confidential information.

The bill provides for penalties up to \$2,000 and one year imprisonment for anyone convicted of a charge under the new act. For a company convicted of an offence the bill provides for a maximum fine of \$25,000. The bill states:

"Where a company is guilty of an offence . . . every director or officer of such company who authorized, permitted or acquiesced in such an offence is also guilty of an offence and on summary conviction is liable to a fine of not more than \$2,000 or to imprisonment for a term of not more than one year, or both."

The financial disclosures section of the bill requires filing with the commission of detailed financial statements, and the making of this information available to the public.

The standards of financial reporting in prospectuses will be generally improved, Bonner said, and greater responsibility placed upon auditors in making financial statements.

Takeover bids will be regulated and specified information required for the use of shareholders in the event of a takeover bid being made.

The sections of the bill dealing with proxies and proxy solicitation will allow shareholders who are asked for their proxy vote, to be better informed on the issues under consideration. The form of proxies and the information in them is also set out in the legislation.

William Irwin, superintendent of brokers, is chairman of the present three-man Securities Commission. The new commission will have up to five members, but Bonner indicated this may be kept to three initially.

## REVIEW DECISIONS

The superintendent will no longer be a member of the commission, but will assume most of its administrative functions. His decisions will be subject to review by the Securities Commission and appeal by the Court of Appeal.

However, certain administrative functions would still be performed by the commission.

On many occasions in the past, Bonner said, the superintendent has asked to be replaced as commission chairman during hearings of an appeal against one of his own rulings.

The new two-level system in commission affairs would formalize what is now being done in practice in these cases.

The parts of Friday's bill dealing with new provisions for takeover bids, proxies and proxy solicitation, insider trading and financial disclosure apply only to extra-provincial corporations. However, Bonner said, complementary legislation covering B.C. companies will be introduced shortly.

## UNIFORMITY PRAISED

William G. Thomson, chairman of the Pacific District of the Investment Dealers' Association of Canada, said: "This new securities bill sounds progressive and in accord with our own estimation of what should be brought in."

"I am pleased that it is aligning B.C. legislation with that of Ontario and with Alberta's proposed legislation. We want uniformity as it will be better for all concerned."

Attorney-General Bonner also introduced a bill to amend the Supreme Court Act, which will increase the number of Supreme Court judges from 14 to 16.

William Hartley (NDP-Yale-Lillooet) introduced a bill entitled an Act to Amend the Fireworks Regulations Act.



## Resignation of MLA demanded Bias charges hurled on gas prices

Charges of bias in the legislative committee on gasoline prices were hurled back and forth across the floor of the legislature Monday.

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby-Edmonds) demanded the resignation of Herb Capozzi (SC-Vancouver-Centre) as chairman of the committee because he was a "spokesman for the big oil companies."

The cry was also taken up by Opposition Leader Strachan.

Capozzi drew NDP fire by criticizing Tom Berger (NDP-Vancouver-Burrard). Berger had been protesting construction of another gas station in his riding when Capozzi said he thought there was nothing wrong with it.

Premier Bennett came to Capozzi's defence after signalling the freshman MLA to forget his argument.

The premier pointed at Strachan and said: "You are on that committee. You are biased against the big oil companies. You should not be on that committee."

### Roberts Bank

## Move tosses ball to Ottawa

By NORMAN HACKING  
Province Marine Reporter

Legislation to establish a provincial harbors board is considered to be a bargaining move in the proposed development of Roberts Bank as a bulk loading terminal.

Late last year the federal government extended the jurisdiction of the National Harbors Board to cover the waters from Burrard Inlet south to Boundary Bay, which would include the Roberts Bank area.

Federal authorities are not in favor of any harbor development which would be detrimental to the existing facilities in Vancouver, but their powers are limited. The Roberts Bank foreshore comes under provincial jurisdiction under the British North America Act, and the province can do as it likes with the property.

Basis of the provincial government's interest in the Roberts Bank project is a proposed new coal contract between Crowsnest Industries Ltd., operators of the Crowsnest Pass coal mines, and steel makers in Japan.

At present, Crowsnest coal is being shipped to Japan via CPR lines and Pacific Coast Bulk Terminals Ltd. at Port Moody, a CPR subsidiary. The present two-year contract calls for shipment of 400,000 tons a year.

### Threatens to use U.S.

Crowsnest Industries is seeking a cheaper rail rate for its coal, and has threatened to ship through an American port, using Great Northern Railway facilities.

The company has applied in the name of Kootenay and Elk Railway for a new charter to build a rail link from Natal to the Great Northern main line.

Crowsnest has intimated that it will build a bulk terminal in the Everett area, but would be willing to ship through Roberts Bank if facilities were provided by the provincial government.

The coal company's executive vice-president, W. R. Prentice, leaves for Japan on Wednesday for preliminary talks towards contracts which would lead to shipments of 2 million tons of coal a year to Japan.

The cost of the rail extension has been estimated at \$14.5 million. Crowsnest has estimated its total expenditures, if it gets new contracts in Japan, would be in the vicinity of \$45 million.

Rumors are also prevalent that major B.C. lumber exporters are interested in the development of Roberts Bank as a lumber exporting centre.

### NDP satisfied

## Language lecture to still Capozzi?

Insulting language in the legislature is believed to have brought about a lecture from Speaker William Murray to Social Credit back bencher Herb Capozzi (SC-Vancouver Centre).

Capozzi said last week that Opposition MLAs are "fruits." Earlier, he said NDP members were "political eunuchs."

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby-Edmonds) was irritated by the first remark and outraged by the second. He said last Thursday he intended to intro-

duce a censure motion against Capozzi, but it never got to the floor of the House.

Dowding said Monday that, since a meeting between Capozzi and Murray, he has received satisfaction.

Although Dowding would not elaborate, it was understood Capozzi had apologized for the comment.

Capozzi also stirred up a fuss earlier when he said it was almost impossible to find a good piece of apple pie in B.C. restaurants.

Tuesday, March 14, 1967

# B.C. prepares to go alone on super-port

By IAN STREET  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government has served notice on Ottawa that it is prepared to establish a super-port at Roberts Bank — with or without federal participation.

A bill to establish a B.C. Harbors Board with authority to borrow up to \$25 million for port development was introduced in the legislature Monday by Commercial Transport Minister Bonner.

Bonner said later the move was prompted by the government's concern that something be done on the Roberts Bank project at this critical stage in negotiations for sale of Crowsnest coal to Japan.

## COAL EXPORT

The fact that a provincial harbors board is to be set up, he said, is offered as concrete evidence of Canadian performance on coal export at an acceptable price.

Bonner said the provincial government finds itself in the position of trying to save coal exports for a Canadian port with little or no support from the federal government.

He indicated the port authority may take some months to establish, and added that lengthy negotiations with the federal government and private concerns must be concluded before development of Roberts Bank begins.

The bill would allow the province to enter port development with the National Harbors Board or a private developer.

## FISCAL AGENT

It provides for establishment of a provincial Crown authority with between three and seven members. They would be appointed and receive salaries set by the cabinet. Premier Bennett would act as fiscal agent for the new authority.

The harbors board headquarters would be in Victoria, and its purposes, as set out in the bill, are to encourage development of harbor facilities, provide access to and from harbor facilities, and promote industrial development in connection with harbor development.

Bonner said deep-sea bulk loading facilities of the kind envisioned at Roberts Bank, just north of the Tsawwassen ferry terminal, would handle low-cost, high-tonnage exports like coal, sulphur, potash, oil and liquefied petroleum gas.

## RAIL LINK

The government surveys carried out to date produced a "startling" favorable response from exporters in the field, Bonner said.

The government, based upon current studies, would expect to complete reclamation of a dock area covering several hundred acres at Roberts Bank and provide a port authority railway to handle unit trains for approximately \$10 million.

The port railway would link up with all existing rail lines serving the Lower Mainland.

The provincial government has been encouraged by what one official termed an "unconditional undertaking" by the Great Northern Railway to carry coal from the Crowsnest region in southeastern B.C. via the U.S. to the Roberts Bank facilities for export to Japan.

## Anti-LSD law will help, but ...

B.C.'s new legislation to outlaw LSD will provide a useful base to fight the spread of this dangerous drug. But it will be no magic cure. It is only one weapon of several needed if the advocates of the drug and the professional peddlers are to be stopped from creating a big new drug market along with marijuana and heroin.

The bill that Attorney-General Bonner introduced Monday will ban possession of LSD unless the person who has it can produce a permit from the B.C. Provincial Health Department. This will enable controlled use of the drug to continue under medical supervision. Penalties for unlawful possession will be a fine of up to \$2,000 or six months in prison.

However, penalties for illegal possession and use of heroin and marijuana have not stopped their use.

The bill's real value is that it will declare LSD to be a dangerous drug. This in fact is what it is, and what its reckless champions choose to overlook: a poison as potentially destructive to the tissues of the mind as strychnine and arsenic are to the tissues of the body.

Declaring LSD's danger and laying down legal penalties for breaking the law, defines the enemy and the grounds on which it is to be fought without necessarily rooting it out. That job is perhaps best done by informed public opinion—which means an educa-

tional drive by parents, educators, the police and public officials.

Vancouver School Board has been quick to act and has chosen the right weapon: information. The assessment of the dangers of the drug drawn up by Dr. J. L. Gayton, Vancouver Medical Officer of Health, which the board has published and is to circulate to schools and parents, could possibly be a more effective deterrent than the law because it not only says "no" to LSD but gives plain medical reasons why it is such a menace.

Those ignorant, stupid or reckless enough to ignore Dr. Gayton's message will have only themselves to blame if besides the toll LSD itself demands the law adds a heavy penalty for good measure.



## Steady, Wicks cited in attack by Barrett

# Names named in allegations of Socred patronage

By AL ARNASON  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The B.C. civil service is riddled with Social Credit party patronage appointments, Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) charged in the legislative Monday.

Barrett, replying to a speech by Premier Bennett, listed the following as patronage appointees:

Lyle Wicks, former Socred labor minister, now a member of the public utilities commission; Charles Parker, ex-MLA now in the civil service; E. B. Merrick, defeated Socred federal candidate in Kamloops, appointed superintendent of the Kamloops extension of Woodlands school; W. J. Smith, former campaign manager for Highways Minister Gagliardi, appointed superintendent of public works at Kamloops (Barrett claims Smith was low man on a list of prospective employees who took tests for the job); Hugh Shirreff, former MLA and defeated Socred candidate, who later entered the toll bridge authority; A. G. Webb, former secretary of the Victoria Chamber of Commerce, now deputy minister of public works; Newton Steady, defeated former Socred agriculture minister, now commissioner of travel and tourism at San Francisco.

★  
Works Minister Chant defended his deputy by interrupting Barrett to say: "My deputy never had anything to do with the Social Credit party, either before or after his appointment."

Barrett said he meant that all the people he listed had either been connected with the party or had been selected by the government over others for their jobs.

Barrett told the House he had once been a personnel officer for the B.C. government and had been fired for his connection with the New Democratic Party.

★

Herb Bruch (SC—Esquimalt) Deputy House Speaker and recently elected National Social Credit party president, left the chairman's chair to defend his record.

He said from his front-bench seat that he knew some of Barrett's allegations may have been directed at him because of his civil service background.

But he explained he had been asked to run for the Social Credit party just one day before a nomination meeting.

He made up his mind to run shortly before the meeting and entered civil service offices the next morning with his written resignation in his pocket.

Bruch said the only reason for any delay in his resignation was caused by his request for a check by the personnel officer on the background of the resignation regulations which they had discussed.

In the Bennett speech, which triggered Barrett's outburst, the premier denied the existence of patronage appointments in the B.C. civil service.

★

To cries of "that old story again" from the Opposition benches, he told of hearing admissions from pre-Socred appointees to the civil service that they had been appointed through the patronage of earlier governments.

He accused the NDP of "always tearing down and trying to sow discord in the civil service."

Bennett also said Opposition charges that psychiatric nurses are leaving the government in large numbers because of low pay and bad working conditions are untrue.

He said pay rates since 1952 have gone up 106.1 per cent, while the cost of living has increased only 32.8 per cent.

"The civil servants of B.C.

know who their real friends are in this House," concluded Bennett.

Commented Liberal Leader Ray Perrault:

"The 'non-political' civil service is infested with political appointments left, right and centre. If there isn't a position open, they create one."

The Liberal leader said the presence of political appointees in the civil service plays a big part in unrest among members.

He also joined other MLAs in charging the government with passing laws restricting bad treatment of employees in private industry — but exempted itself from controls under the same laws.

★

Opposition Leader Strachan attacked the government's record as an employer. He called for collective bargaining rights for civil servants and recognition of the Civil Service Association as their bargaining agent.

He said that the government's attitude "has driven out some very fine civil servants," and added, "we must have not only a good civil service, but a proud and free civil service, able to act as our employees in outside industries."

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) said: "The appeal system for government employees is an old and reactionary appeal form." He said civil servants must appeal government decisions to the government, or a branch of it.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby Edmonds) said: "The record of patronage of this government makes a sorry catalogue."

## Comptroller appointed for House

The appointment of Tom Stanford Duckitt to the post of comptroller for Government House was approved Monday by Cabinet order.

The hiring follows resignation of Sydney George Eales, who has been in the post since 1961.

# Medicare bill to encompass private plans

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A bill setting up a public authority to bring private medical insurance plans in B.C. under the proposed national medicare scheme starting in 1968 was introduced in the legislature Monday.

It gives the provincial cabinet wide powers to licence carriers, set standards of service and fix premiums to meet Ottawa's requirement of uniform coverage.

The plan will be voluntary rather than compulsory, but it must meet an initial 90 per cent coverage by July, 1968, rising to 95 per cent of B.C.'s population by 1971.

Health Minister Black said in an interview that the bill is an "umbrella" under which existing private plans of all kinds can be brought into national medicare.

He said the key word in the bill is "enabling" because it gives the cabinet powers to meet any requirements the federal government may impose upon the provinces.

The bill would set up a medical services commission composed of not more than three members. The chairman would get a salary but the other members would receive only expenses.

The commissioner is required to establish an accounting system which would apply to all plans which are designated as agencies under the national medicare scheme.

Because they will receive public funds, all plans would have their books scrutinized by the government's comptroller-general.

The cabinet will be given power to set up the commission to administer and operate a voluntary medical insurance plan for the province. It will also give the commission authority to designate agencies to carry out specified responsibilities in connection with medical care insurance.

Black said the designated agencies may be non-profit plans like MSA and CU&C, or a company-run plan such as those now operated by the B.C. Telephone Co. or the CPR.

The cabinet, however, may also give the commission broad powers to do anything that is necessary to keep the medicare scheme functioning properly in the province.

The bill also brings present employees of the government-operated B.C. Medical Plan and the Government Employees' Medical Service under the provisions of the Civil Service Act.

The cabinet will be able to pass regulations under which the voluntary medical care scheme will operate.

The bill says these may include licensing of carriers, prohibiting any agency from providing medical insurance unless licenced, and setting up qualifications for licensing.

It can give the commission power to set up uniform standards of services to be provided, as well as fix uniform premium rates. Other regulations which may be made by the cabinet include the establishment of a schedule of maximum medical costs to be borne by licenced carriers.

# Penalties imposed for LSD

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The provincial government has proposed a bill which would provide a stiff penalty for unauthorized use of the hallucinatory drug LSD.

A bill introduced by Health Minister Black and given first reading in the legislature Monday requires a permit from the provincial health department for use of LSD and marijuana.

The penalty for failure to comply is a fine of up to \$2,000 or imprisonment for six months, or both, the bill says.

Tom Berger (NDP — Vancouver Burrard) said in an interview it is an example of "instant legislation."

## UNCONSTITUTIONAL

"Obviously it is unconstitutional," Berger said, "because it is nothing more nor less than criminal law, and only the federal parliament has power in Canada to enact criminal law."

Berger says the bill makes no provision for education treatment or treatment facility, and is therefore purely punitive.

It doesn't recognize the fact that marijuana has no legitimate medical use, he said, and infers that with a permit issued by provincial health authorities, it is possible to be legally in possession of marijuana while this is forbidden under the federal Narcotics Control Act.

## INEVITABLE

In Vancouver, head of UBC's department of psychiatry, Dr. J. S. Tyhurst, said it was inevitable that possession of LSD should become illegal.

"I regret restrictive measures but they are inevitable because the drug is dangerous and is getting people in trouble," he said.

Vancouver school board Monday night backed Attorney-General Bonner's move despite objections from Trustee James MacFarlan that the curbs will make criminals out of young people.

Trustee Robert Dundas said persons under 17 charged in connection with the drugs would be dealt with in juvenile court and not as common criminals.

## Premier joins press

# 'SCOOP' BENNETT

Premier Bennett joined the press Monday night to spike the guns of Opposition Leader Strachan.

The NDP leader had just begun to denounce the government for allowing the export of large numbers of logs stockpiled in anticipation of a forest strike in 1966, when Bennett appeared above him in the press gallery.

Strachan lost his audience immediately as members gleefully watched Bennett take a pad and pencil and start taking notes.

The NDP leader struggled on for a few more minutes, then shouted:

"The people's business is more important than the peregrinations of the premier at midnight."

He then called for adjournment and Bennett hustled down the gallery's steep stairs to take his place in the House for the vote. The adjournment motion was defeated 28-18.



Tuesday, March 14, 1967

## Steel industry still in works, says Loffmark

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A multi-million-dollar iron and steel industry with mining and processing links in B.C., Britain and Germany is still being hammered out, says Industry and Trade Minister Loffmark.

He told the legislature Monday he had been laying groundwork for the new industry during talks last December, but was interrupted by a recall to B.C. for legislative swearing-in ceremonies.

He was responding to a charge by Gordon Dowding (NDP — Burnaby Edmonds), who wanted to know why the minister had failed to keep appointments with some German business and industrial leaders during his tour of Germany.

Dowding said relations between Germany and B.C. were strained, and Canadian trade officials who arranged the meetings were embarrassed by Loffmark's failure to keep the appointments.

"His visit was more a disaster than a benefit," said Dowding. "I don't know what he was doing in Rome, or whether he was visiting Hamburg, or what. But I do know they had a jolly good time in Japan."

Dowding was referring to a cabinet trip to Japan in May, 1965.

Loffmark was accused by

Dowding of flitting about in Rome and Germany but without getting anywhere as far as B.C.'s economic future was concerned with these countries.

The minister replied he spend most of his time talking to German, Italian and British industrialists about the proposed deal which, he said, would involve no government participation.

"I intend to go back again," he said, after expressing his regret at being unable to call on some of the German industrialists with whom he had had appointments.

He said B.C. has plenty of alloys, vital to steel production but the problem is one of finding adequate markets.

The plan is to induce foreign companies to give commitments to B.C. to purchase iron-alloys, by inviting them to share in its production by local industry and by assuring them of a good supply of metals.

Loffmark later explained that B.C.'s part in the deal would be to supply the raw materials and carry out preliminary processes to produce iron-alloys.

He said the program would put B.C. one step up from being merely a producer of raw materials and would pave the way for increasing numbers of secondary industries in the province.

### New bill

## Fluoride switch mapped

Regional water districts will be able to introduce fluoridation by an overall vote of residents under a bill introduced by Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell in the legislature Monday. A 60 per cent majority will be required.

At present, fluoridation must be approved by a 60 per cent vote in each municipality in a district, and it is up to the municipalities to introduce the plebiscite. Under the new legislation, the municipalities must present the fluoridation issue to ratepayers if the water district demands it. There are regional water districts in the Campbell River, Nanaimo, Victoria and Vancouver areas.

Other Municipal Act amendments will allow municipalities to set their own indemnities for elected municipal officers, and compensate persons injured in aiding a policeman or fireman.

At present, indemnities for elected municipal officers are set by the government according to the population of the community. There are no limits under the new legislation.

Campbell said the compensation legislation expands on that in the Vancouver city charter. The provincial bill allows a municipal council to pay up to \$5,000 from municipal funds for death, injury or property damage. There is no provision to compensate crime victims.

## Customers not beating at door, says Perrault

There isn't any lineup of European customers beating at B.C.'s door for the privilege of trading with this province, says Liberal Leader Ray Perrault.

A suggestion he made for a demonstration of economic stability as B.C.'s best draw for foreign investment drew applause from Premier Bennett, and the applause got louder as Perrault agreed B.C. should get a better deal from Ottawa.

The Liberal leader said freight rates and port charges were two areas of legitimate complaint.

The applause faded later when the Liberal leader added: "But these complaints have been magnified out of all proportion by this government."

Free trade, either industry-by-industry, or on an overall basis would boost trade and commerce, Perrault said.

He predicted the lifting of a 3-cents-per-ton "nuisance charge" on materials shipped through Vancouver.

He later clarified this to mean about \$650,000 in cargo rates out of a total of about \$4 million in port charges.

## Mileage fixers beware

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Used car dealers who change the mileage readings on their cars can have their business licences suspended or cancelled under legislation introduced by Attorney-General Bonner Monday.

Such a law has been opposed by used car dealers, who claim mileage readings are a poor indication of a car's condition and are over-emphasized by car buyers.

The amendment requires that the dealer must have intended to mislead the buyer of the car before he can be found guilty. No fines or jail terms are provided for.

## Debt court change planned soon

### Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — An expanded small debts court and a fund to repay victims of dishonest notaries are provided for in legislation introduced Monday in the legislature.

The limit on damages that may be sought in small debts court is increased from \$200 to \$500 to allow more people to get fast, inexpensive legal action on debt claims.

An amendment to the Notaries Act requires every notary to contribute \$30 a year into a special fund until it reaches \$100,000.

Any person who feels he has been a victim of a corrupt notary can apply to the Society of Notaries Public of B.C. for damages up to \$5,000.

The society is also required to appoint a discipline committee to investigate professional misconduct or misappropriation or wrongful conversion of funds by notaries.

The committee will be able to reprimand, suspend or dismiss an offender and order him to pay damages.

Legislation introduced by Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell allows the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District and Water District to increase payments to their directors from \$15 to \$30 a meeting.

Other municipal affairs department legislation allows Richmond and Coquitlam to proceed with sewer development plans without holding a plebiscite.

Amendments to the Companies Act would extend the new securities legislation introduced last week to all provincially chartered public companies and private companies with more than 15

members.

Companies are now allowed up to 50 shareholding members before they must become public.

The government estimates that only three per cent of private companies in B.C. have more than 12 members.

The new legislation is intended to prevent insiders in the company (directors, senior officers, or persons holding more than 10 per cent of the equity voting shares) from benefiting by information not available to all shareholders.

Details of share ownership and transfers must be provided to all shareholders, and private companies affected are required to make a brief annual report.

Violators of the act may be fined up to \$1,000.

An amendment to the Chiropractic Act expands the board of directors from seven to nine members, three from each of the three areas of the province — Vancouver Island, the Lower Mainland and the Interior.

An amendment to the Forest Act will allow the government to seize drift logs on beaches and foreshore and turn them over to a licensed beachcomber to remove and sell.

At present, a company stamp on the log gives the company control over it, and it may only be removed from a beach and sold by the company itself.

This makes it difficult for municipalities to clear beaches.

All bills received first reading and will be considered by the legislature later in the session.

## Another forest inquiry requested by Harding

The government should set up a new royal commission on the forest industry, says Randolph Harding (NDP—Revelstoke-Slocan).

He said the earlier commission, headed by former chief justice Sloan, advocated in 1957

that another commission be struck in 10 years.

The basic problems listed in the Sloan report — control of fire, disease and insects, and forest regeneration — are still being neglected by the government, Harding said.

He quoted former deputy forests minister R. G. McKee, who said after his retirement two years ago that the federal and provincial governments take \$200 million a year from B.C. forests, and return only \$23 million in protection and improvements.

Harding said the province needs to develop new forest districts, increase reforestation programs and build hundreds of miles of access roads into remote forest areas.

## Multiple resource use aim of wildlife branch

Multiple use of resources by cattlemen, wildlife and loggers was advocated Monday by the B.C. government's fish and wildlife branch.

In a brief to the forestry and fisheries committee, the branch suggested there is little or no merit in allocating extensive areas of Crown land for the exclusive use of grazing wildlife.

The committee has heard from most of the interested groups on the old question of whether Crown land should be used for grazing by cattle or by wildlife.

The branch said wildlife must be considered as a prime resource, however, in setting up any system of land use on an integrated basis. Only a few relatively-small areas are considered essential for exclusive wild animal grazing, said the brief.

The fish and wildlife branch added its voice to cries about unnecessary destruction of meadows and forests by mining exploration. It also backed a suggestion to require interior loggers to burn slash.



## Wider pollution control

By BOB McCONNELL  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A revised Pollution Control Board, with wide policy-making power, will be created under a new Pollution Control Act introduced by Lands and Forest Minister Williston.

But the enforcement power earlier promised by Williston—and the strength of new pollution control practices — will be up to the board to establish.

Where the old board concerned itself mainly with administration of pollution control, the new body will advise and coordinate government departments, organize pollution research and set pollution standards.

The administration will be handled by a director of pollution, responsible to the board.

The new board's responsibility is province wide. The old board's jurisdiction was limited to areas described by the cabinet.

Air and soil pollution, ignored by the old board, will come under the new board's control. The cabinet will direct the board in these fields, until it can muster adequate staff and knowledge to deal with them on its own.

Specifically, the board is empowered to:

- Determine the qualities and properties of water that will be considered polluted.
- Prescribe permissible standards for waste material discharged into the waters of the province.
- Appoint any advisory or technical committees it needs—either from government departments or independent bodies such as the B.C. Research Council.
- Report to the cabinet on pollution matters and carry out any remedial steps ordered by the cabinet.

Under the new act, anyone discharging waste onto or under land or into the water must apply to the director of pollution for an interim pollution permit.

If this is granted, the director

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Under the new act, anyone discharging waste onto or under land or into the water must apply to the director of pollution for an interim pollution permit.

If this is granted, the director will set a period to examine the operation and ensure it is not exceeding permissible levels of pollution. After receiving and judging any objections to the operation, he may modify the requirements and issue a final permit.

The power to control any polluting agency starts with engineers working under the director, who may enter any land or buildings to inspect them, and, if necessary, lock them or close them down.

Three levels of appeal are provided for — an engineer's decision may be appealed to the director, the director's decision to the board, and the board's ruling to the cabinet or the B.C. Supreme Court, whichever the objector prefers.

Objections to the granting of a permit must be made to the director, who will decide whether to hold a public hearing. The director and the board will have the power to subpoena witnesses.

The legislation allows the government to pay indemnities to board members, which, Williston said, means there will likely be outside members on the board as well as senior civil servants. The medical profession and the municipalities will likely be represented.

# Hospital spending will be tripled, expects Bennett

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C. soon will be spending more than \$50 million a year on hospital construction under a new financing system for regional hospital districts, says Premier Bennett.

This will more than triple the current rate of spending — estimated at \$15 million last year — and is due to establishment of a Crown agency to raise both government and local shares of hospital construction costs, he said in an interview Tuesday.

He was commenting on a bill given first reading in the legislature which allows the cabinet to establish boundaries for between 25 and 30 regional hospital districts.

Cabinet orders setting up the hospital districts to blanket the province will be passed soon after the end of the current session, said Bennett.

The bill before the House gives the cabinet broad powers to establish districts. It allows no opting out for individual municipalities and other areas within a region which votes for a hospital construction program.

Health Minister Black said existing debt for hospitals will be spread over the entire region and, where voters have approved a new construction program, cost of borrowing for this will be added to that debt.

Earlier this season, the government announced a new cost-sharing formula which would increase the provincial share of hospital construction costs from the present 50 per cent to 60 per cent; where programs cost less than four mills on the region's assessment.

Where the program represents an outlay of more than four mills, the provincial share of costs rises to 80 per cent. In both instances, federal contributions of approximately \$2,000 a bed are deducted before the provincial local cost-sharing formula comes into play.

Bennett said the government had considered introducing this new system of capital financing for hospitals for the last three years. It hadn't done so until now because of tight money and high interest rates, he said.

It is designed to meet what the premier called the great

need for acute and chronic hospital facilities.

"These regions will be set up arbitrarily, as the school districts were set up on recommendations of the Cameron commission in 1946," said Bennett. "There will be no opting out because this could destroy the whole system. But, before a hospital is built, a bylaw will be put to the voters of the region, just as it is now for schools."

Bennett cautioned reporters not to "jump to conclusions" over boundaries to be set for regional hospital districts.

He said private hospitals, which require no bylaw vote to raise the local share of costs, will be able to use the existing formula under which the government pays 50 per cent of approved costs. The federal share averages 6 per cent, leaving a private concern to find the remaining 44 per cent.

The new formula will apply to purchase by a region of existing private hospitals to be brought under the dollar-a-day chronic care program, Bennett added.

The bill allows municipal councils to appoint directors to regional hospital boards. The cabinet will appoint representatives for unorganized territories.

Directors may be paid up to \$25 for each meeting they attend, and will be subject to reappointment annually. The payments, plus an additional unstated sum for the chairman, may be set by a bylaw passed by the board.

The regional hospital boards will have powers to establish, acquire, construct, reconstruct, enlarge, operate and maintain hospitals and hospital facilities. They will also handle financial arrangements for construction and operation of hospitals.

The owners of existing hospitals will have the choice of dealing with the new district, or carrying on independently as before, says the bill.

Assessments for regional districts will be based upon school tax rolls and the list of owner-electors in hospital votes will be the same as those for schools. Debentures sold by the hospital financing authority will be repayable over a period of 20 years.

## Union plans

### Pension board wanted

All union-negotiated welfare and pension plans should be controlled by a union-management trustee board and an independent professional administrator, the government labor committee was told Tuesday.

The Amalgamated Construction Association, representing 580 companies in B.C., said in a brief that unions and management should be equally represented on the trustee board, but should take no part in administering the fund.

"It is the beneficiaries of the plan that have the vested interest, not the parties to the collective agreement."

The brief said trust agreements have sometimes been improperly drawn because the negotiators acted without legal or professional advice.

It called for legislation making joint union-management trusteeship mandatory, prohibiting any union or employer's association from administering such a trust, and requiring trusts to provide the government with an annual report, including a financial statement.

A brief from the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Union called for provincial legislation to supplement the Canada Pension Plan, and provide for employees of small companies that cannot afford pension schemes.

Committee chairman Ernie LeCours (SC-Richmond) said the committee, which has been studying various pension plans, will make no final recommendation to the government at this session.



## Stellako River

# Question marks stud report

By BOB McCONNELL  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The B.C. Research Council report on the controversial Stellako River log drive was delivered to the legislature Tuesday — studded with question marks.

While the council could find no evidence of immediate damage to salmon spawning as a result of the 1966 drive, its final conclusion was:

"On the basis of this study it is not possible to state what may be the long-term effects on salmon reproduction of log driving on the Stellako River."

The 1966 drive was approved by Forests Minister Williston, and took place over the protests of conservation groups and the federal fisheries department. At one point, an injunction was taken out in an

effort to stop the drive, but it was too late.

After the drive, Williston asked the research council to assess the damage to salmon spawning areas from erosion, log jams, and pollution of water and gravel beds by bark fragments.

Because of time limitations and technical problems, the council's study only extended as far as the early development of eggs — before the eggs had hatched, and months before the young salmon emerge from the gravel.

The council found that:

- Despite controlled release of logs from Fraser Lake, an unspecified number of log jams occurred, half of them on or directly adjacent to the 1966 spawning beds.

- Of the 106,700 logs released down river from June 14 to

June 20, 10 per cent remained tied up in permanent jams.

- The average log lost 20 per cent of its bark during the drive. Bark deposits were extensive over spawning grounds in August, and wood and bark fibres were still in the water and gravel beds when the salmon spawned at the end of September.

- An unspecified amount of erosion occurred during the drive, but the council could not determine how much was caused by the logs.

- The gravel beds available for spawning appeared sufficient to accommodate the 1966 run.

- Despite the presence of decaying bark, there was enough oxygen in the gravel beds to meet requirements for development of eggs to the eye stage. At that stage, carbon dioxide concentrations from wood decay had not reached harmful levels.

The council planted free eggs in plastic containers floated in the water, and set other eggs in gravel containing bark particles and in clean gravel. It also tested eggs laid naturally in the spawning beds.

It found no difference among planted eggs, but all had a lower mortality rate than naturally-spawned eggs.

The study, admitted a failure to determine the effect of the drive on the full development of the 1966 salmon hatch.

It made no estimate of reductions in spawning areas as a result of the drive, of the effect of log jams on salmon running upriver to spawn, or the effect of the drive on the river's trout population and food organisms.

No mention was made of the possibility that damage from subsequent drives could accumulate and impair spawning potential.

Williston said he felt the report vindicated his decision to go ahead with the drive in 1966.

He said he would recommend the council continue its studies on the river.

Asked whether there would be a drive on the Stellako this summer, Williston said this would depend on federal authorities.

The report is expected to produce heated debate in the legislature.

The Stellako, a short stream linking Fraser Lake and Francois Lake, is a prime sockeye spawning area, and regarded as one of the finest trout streams in northern B.C.

The logs that are driven down it are mainly cut by farmers in the Fraser Lake area. They claim this logging is essential to their livelihood, and it would be too expensive to haul the logs by road.

## Irrigate range lands, says Kootenay MLA

Crown range lands must be irrigated and seeded if cattle and game are to continue competing successfully for forage, says Leo Nimsick (NDP — Kootenay).

"Hunting is very important in B.C., and probably brings in more money than farming," he told the legislature Tuesday.

"We could get more money out of both if the government developed range areas by irrigation and seeding, and charged ranchers enough for grazing rights to recover the costs."

Randolph Harding (NDP — Revelstoke-Slocan) said the reservoir of the Libby Dam will destroy one of the finest big game areas in the East Kootenays.

He said the government should buy up farms that become uneconomically small as a result of the flooding and preserve them as big game areas.

The reservoir will extend 40 miles into the province south of Fernie when the dam is completed around 1973.

## Insurance bill CHANCES DIM

Opposition Leader Strachan Tuesday resubmitted his bill to put the government in the automobile insurance business.

The bill was given routine first reading, but has little chance of going further. The royal commission on automobile insurance is still studying the question.

Strachan's bill would provide a government insurance office to set premiums and provide compensation for injuries and property loss from motor vehicle accidents, regardless of fault.

Strachan has introduced the same bill in earlier sessions, without success.

# Gov't roasted over compensation delay

By IAN STREET  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The government was sharply criticized in the legislature Tuesday for its decision to delay passage of the revamped Workmen's Compensation Act for 12 months.

The move was announced by Labor Minister Peterson as the bill was given first reading in the House. The proposed legislation will implement all but one of the recommendations of the Tysoe Royal Commission.

While announcing delay of the new act, however, the government introduced interim legislation expanding coverage and increasing compensation for disabled workers.

Criticism of the government came from Opposition Leader Strachan, who said the government had 18 months to study the Tysoe recommendations and has no reason to impose 12 more months of suffering on people directly affected by the present outdated act.

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault told the House: "The files of every MLA are full of cases of real anguish and pain and hardship as a result of inadequacies in the present legislation."

By holding up the new act for 12 months, Perrault said, the government was letting down both the members of the legislature and the working people of the province.

Opposition MLAs earlier objected that there would not be sufficient time at this session to examine the bill in detail.

Peterson informed the House Tuesday that the government had decided to give everyone concerned until next session to study provisions in the new bill.

The minister introduced a second bill containing interim changes in the present legislation which give greater coverage for disabled workers until the new act becomes effective.

It increases compensation for totally-disabled workers to a minimum of \$150 a month, effective April 1.

Peterson said average earnings, used to calculate total disability compensation under the present system—which includes payments as low as \$81.60 a month—are still taken into account, but a new minimum is introduced.

This complements increased benefits for certain workmen and dependents approved by the

cabinet shortly after Mr. Justice Charles Tysoe brought down his report in November, 1965.

The interim amendment also authorizes retroactive compensation for workers with disabilities resulting from Caisson disease (the bends).

Peterson said outside the House that workmen employed on the Highbury Tunnel project in Point Grey were found, in some cases more than a year after leaving the job, to be suffering from symptoms of the bends. As a result they were unable to receive coverage under the present act.

The new Workmen's Compensation Act, given first reading and then held over until next session, provides:

- Compensation for injury arising from and in the course of employment, instead of limiting compensation to disability from a specific accident on the job.

- Spreads coverage to include volunteer as well as paid workers.

- Throws onto the Workmen's Compensation Board the onus to disprove an applicant's claim, instead of requiring the applicant to prove his disability arose from conditions of his employment.

The one recommendation in the Tysoe report not incorporated in the new bill is adoption of a Nova Scotia act clause providing special compensation due to radiation.

Peterson said radiation is included in other diseases to be covered by the new act.

The new bill also includes:

- No change in the makeup of the present board, composed of three civil servants.

- Revised powers of medical review panels, composed of specialists in various diseases, allowing the specialists to make separate reports and recommendations on any matter arising out of reviews. Dependents of deceased workmen may appeal to the panels on the medical cause of death of a workman.

- A provision that nursing care may be furnished in addition to medical, surgical, hospital and other benefits provided under present legislation.

- Authority for the WCB to close down operations of an employer for failure to comply with directions for installation and maintenance of first aid equipment.

# Control plan for Squamish up at talks

A flood control program for the Squamish Valley will be discussed when B.C. Water Resources Minister Williston meets Federal Resources Minister Pepin in Ottawa in May.

Williston told the legislature Tuesday that previous federal proposals for flood control in the area were far too expensive to carry out. A provincial proposal was rejected by federal engineers.

Williston was answering Alan Williams (L. — West Vancouver — Howe Sound), who complained that the constant flood trend endangers the valley and inhibits development of port facilities at Squamish.

Opposition Leader Strachan said nothing has been done to reduce the flood danger in the Cowichan Valley, despite serious flooding there in December.

Williston told him that studies of the problem have been made and a report will be completed in four to six months.

Property-owners who will be flooded out by the Libby Dam reservoir will be notified this summer, Williston said.

After repeated questioning by Leo Nimsick (NDP-Kootenay) Williston told the legislature the flood level has now been established by American engineers.

He said preliminary clearing of the reservoir area may start this summer.

The dam, to be built at Libby, Montana, is scheduled for completion in 1973. The reservoir will extend 40 miles into B.C., south of Fernie.





## Victoria comment

# Bill dismays NDP

By IAN STREET  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—"I'm not going to praise the bill, I'm not going to attack it—it's just there."

Opposition Leader Strachan was poring over the government's new medicare bill brought down in the legislature Monday and thinking aloud about the deviousness of a government that won't admit it was wrong.

As expected, the NDP leader had some unkind things to say about the proposed legislation. It is, Strachan claims, a face-saving bill, a backdoor means of getting the province out of an untenable position on the medicare issue.

The bill does give the government blanket powers in setting up a medicare scheme for B.C. under the national plan due to start in July 1968.

Its appropriateness, from the government's viewpoint, and incidentally the reason that the NDP seems so dismayed, is that it is legislation which covers every eventuality—from do nothing to do everything.

Premier Bennett is now able to say we intended to keep the private medical insurance plans in operation but Ottawa wouldn't let us. Or, if negotiations with the federal government scheduled for April 17 and 18 are successful, he can once more play the role of the saviour of private enterprise.

Health Minister Black will say little for the record. But it seems clear the bill has been drawn up to give the government the maximum room for manoeuvring both at the Ottawa conference table and on the local political scene.

If B.C. gets its way, the NDP claims, we are headed for Alberta-style medicare in which the government pays a portion of premiums for private plans in the case of the needy.

This isn't medicare according to Strachan, who claims Ottawa will never accept it. He argues that B.C. knows this and is prepared to amalgamate all existing plans under a single public authority.

There is room to argue, as the critics do, that the medical services commission as envisioned by the provincial government meets the federal requirement for a public authority to "administer and operate" medicare in the province.

But there is no argument that the powers are there for the cabinet to employ, if they are forced to by Ottawa.

Officials of the B.C. medical plan claim there is no need in this province to subsidize premiums under any private plan. They say the government-run scheme, with a membership exceeding 378,000, has attracted most of the poor risks and so removed any need for broader subsidies.

Why is the opposition so upset? If, as Strachan claims, the federal government won't fall for B.C.'s "pious hopes" then a properly functioning public authority will be required in this province.

Premier Bennett will do whatever is required to qualify for federal contributions estimated at \$40 million coming to this province under the national health plan.

The main reason for NDP misgivings is that Premier Bennett by some slick political manoeuvring is about to upset the party's carefully constructed image as the real promoter of medicare.

## Socred claim denied

# Strachan quit? 'Nonsense'

George Driediger, president of the B.C. Social Credit League, says NDP Leader Robert Strachan plans to leave provincial politics and seek a seat in the House of Commons.

Strachan describes the Driediger claim as "nonsense."

The Socred president made the claim in a speech at Nanaimo Tuesday night. He said Colin Cameron would retire as MP for the area before the next federal election and Strachan would seek the seat.

He said Randolph Harding (NDP—

Revelstoke-Slocan) and David Stupich (NDP—Nanaimo) will be among other provincial NDP members to run federally.

A revolt is also brewing in Ottawa, Driediger said, where NDP deputy national leader David Lewis is preparing to overthrow NDP Leader Douglas.

"Douglas has so many knives in his back they are sticking out of his stomach," Driediger said. "One of these days Douglas is going to bleed to death just as Bob Strachan is

bleeding to death in the legislature right now."

Strachan, said Driediger, is being forced out as provincial leader by top labor officials and Vancouver-Burrard MLA Tom Berger.

He described Berger as "a big knife in Strachan's back."

"Nonsense," Strachan said in Victoria Tuesday night. "I have no intention of resigning. No wonder Thompson (Robert Thompson, former federal Socred leader) quit."

Wednesday, March 15, 1967

## Open up Cypress Bowl, gov't urged by Barrett

Cypress Bowl in West Vancouver should be placed under the provincial parks branch and opened to new developers as a recreation area, says Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam).

He told the legislature the present developers, Alpine Outdoor Recreation Resources Ltd., have tied up the area for two years without even putting in a public access road.

"The people of the Lower Mainland are desperately crying for new recreational areas," Barrett said during debate on Lands Minister Williston's estimates.

"If the government won't develop Cypress Bowl, let's find some promoters who will put cash down and get going in honest development under a master plan by the parks branch."

Two years ago, the cabinet gave Alpine Resources the right to develop the area without putting up any money and without any government control.

Subsequently a company named Alpine Sand and Gravel Co. was formed to take gravel from the area, Barrett said, although this was not done. Alpine Resources also staked a number of mining claims in the bowl, most of which have reverted to the Crown because the required work was not done on them.

"These promoters have made statement after statement that work is starting soon," Barrett said. "This is a sordid chapter in the development of parks and recreational areas in the Lower Mainland."

Williston said the government had made no commitment to the promoters and had issued no leases.

"Despite this, no alternative proposals have been put forward," he said. "I don't think he (Barrett) is sincere in his protestations before the house."

"The government cannot declare the land a park without the approval of West Vancouver," Williston said.

He refused to answer when Barrett repeatedly asked him to write West Vancouver council seeking approval of such a move.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) said Cypress Bowl should be put under the control of a regional park authority.

"Those mountains don't belong to West Vancouver," he said. "They belong to the people."

In other debate on Williston's estimates, Bob Williams (NDP—Vancouver East) said the government should be charging for log storage in the waters of False Creek. Williston said it will soon be possible to make an economic survey of False Creek.

## 'Flood alert out' — Williston

Trouble spots are being pinpointed in the dikes along the Fraser River, Resources Minister Ray Williston said Tuesday.

But, he added, the great danger in attempts to mobilize emergency Fraser Valley flood control measures is the possibility of "getting people worked up" before a flood threat actually materializes.

He told the legislature Tuesday night a decision must be made within two weeks to put an emergency plan into action. He made the statement during discussion of a record snowpack that covers the higher elevations throughout the province.

"The alert is out," the minister said in reply to questions from Opposition members about the potential flood threat in the Fraser Valley.

"A general form of attack is being drawn up. If the threat is there we must be ready around June 1 to put in an efficient, smoothly-functioning organization."

Williston said this would include the resources of the inspector of diking, the department of highways, civil defence and equipment from all these branches of government. He added that prisoners from forest camps in the Fraser Valley and the army would also be placed on standby if the flood threat continues to build.

When it is decided that a potential exists, said Williston, the government will begin stockpiling

sandbags and equipment at trouble spots along the dikes throughout the Fraser Valley.

If it looks as though emergency repairs to dikes are needed to forestall a possible breakthrough of flood waters, the government will provide the necessary funds immediately, he said.

Earlier in the debate, Williston complained that B.C. had spent almost \$1 million on new diking measures in the Fraser Valley, but had failed to get support from either local authorities or Ottawa in what was to be a \$5 million joint project.

Williston said he will go to Ottawa in May to discuss with federal authorities what has now become a proposed \$30 million joint flood and draining control project for the Fraser Valley.

Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) said at this stage no amount of words spoken by politicians will halt the flood threat, but he accused B.C. of failing to implement the Fraser River board report dealing with flood control measures which has been available since 1963.

He accused both the government and the Liberal party in the house of indulging in a "shocking display of cheap politics" and said an expenditure of \$4 million by the senior government some months ago would have saved a potential \$100 million in damage to the Fraser Valley.



## Strategy, sloppiness or arrogance?

The provincial government is to be commended for bringing in legislation on so many major subjects at this session of the Legislature. It is to be roundly condemned for the way it is bringing them in, for its method shows either ineptitude or arrogance.

On Monday, 19 bills were introduced, many of them major. On Tuesday, in came a whole new Workmen's Compensation Act.

This means that the House has now to embark on new statutes that will effect far-reaching, often fundamental, changes in the areas of: securities trading, compensation, medicare, pollution control,

hospital financing, working conditions in mines, and many others.

Yet under Premier Bennett's schedule to have the House rise by Easter, only seven sitting days remain.

That time is clearly inadequate if the legislation is to be studied and debated with the care all major legislation deserves. The answer, presumably, will be that favorite answer of the premier: a furious round of late night sittings, when men are so tired they often speak nonsense.

Why is the flood of legislation so late, coming at the end of long

weeks in which great amounts of time were wasted?

Did the government once again make up its mind at the last minute and ram through poorly-considered legislation?

Did it have the bills ready and waiting, and decide to hold them back deliberately, so that the Opposition wouldn't have proper time to find all the undoubted flaws in them?

Either way means an insult to the Legislature. Both the government and the Opposition should now forget any plans to rush away for Easter. The important matters before them deserve far more serious treatment.

## Special assistance urged

Equal treatment in school is not enough for Indian children, says the annual report of the B.C. Indian Advisory Committee.

The problems of educating Indian children are special ones and cannot be dealt with in traditional ways, said committee director R. J. McInnes.

"The Indian child at early school levels requires special educational assistance if he is to catch up with the non-Indian pupil.

"It is not enough to offer him services equal to his non-Indian counterparts; he must have something in addition."

The committee, made up of Indian leaders and persons interested in Indian affairs, said B.C. Indians must be given the opportunity to handle their own affairs and work out their own problems.

"He must be given the opportunity to seek better housing, employment and training on the same basis as others in B.C.

"He must become responsible for the conditions under which he lives."

The Indian population is continuing to increase at three times the rate of the non-Indian population and the task of caring for neglected children is still one of magnitude.

Of the 4,744 children under the care of the superintendent of child welfare in 1966, 1,736 or 36.6 per cent of them were either Indian or part Indian.

And this was a big improve-

ment over 1965 when 39.2 per cent of them were Indians.

The committee estimates that 23 per cent of the 42,141 Indians are now living off the reserves compared with 17 per cent five years ago.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1967

# Bennett ridicules Narrows offer

## Financing plan riles premier

Premier Bennett has all but rejected the federal government's latest proposal for helping to finance another First Narrows crossing.

He said Ottawa should provide an outright grant of at least \$55 million towards the cost of the structure, rather than the \$20 million-plus-loans-tolls scheme offered Wednesday.

And if Ottawa can't find the money, the premier told the legislature, then B.C. will be pleased to lend it, at current interest rates.

While Bennett ridiculed the federal offer, however, Mayor Tom Campbell was enthusiastic about it. He said it could, at long last, result in actual construction of the crossing.

But that was before Premier Bennett issued his statement Wednesday night.

In an interview, Bennett threw cold water on the federal proposal for financing, which would be partially repaid out of provincial tax revenues.

The provincial government, Bennett said, will keep its promise to build either a parallel crossing at Lions Gate, or give an outright grant of \$27 million to the authority which builds the new crossing, provided there are no tolls.

### BLUFF CALLED

"There are no ifs, ands or buts," Bennett added. "It's as clear cut as that. There's no news in it because it has been said by this government a thousand times before."

Referring to a previous B.C. offer to lend Ottawa \$100 million at market rates, Bennett said it was designed merely to call Ottawa's bluff. He was asked: Is that what the province is doing now on bridge aid? Bennett replied: "We called their bluff on this one a long time ago."

The bridge issue came up in the legislature during discussion of Mines Minister Brothers' departmental estimates. The NDP wanted the federal-provincial roads-to-resources program re-established, but Premier Bennett called it foolish and said the federal Liberal government had seen the weaknesses in the program and stopped it.

### NO PROBLEM

Liberal Leader Perrault then suggested there should be a whole new national roads program. This was a good idea, the premier replied, and exactly what B.C. needs because it would mean Vancouver would no longer have a bridge problem. His remarks about a \$55 million outright grant from Ottawa followed.

Outside the House, Premier Bennett also said the province has no desire to establish a public authority to construct the new inlet crossing. He added this should be up to either the municipalities in the Vancouver area, or Ottawa through an agency such as the National Harbours Board.

In his comment on the Nicholson offer, Mayor Campbell said local municipalities could set up a non-profit authority to operate the two existing crossings and the proposed new one. The authority would then get a long-term, low-interest loan from the federal government.

The loan could be repaid from the gasoline tax or tolls, Campbell said, though he favored use of the gas tax.

He said it would be necessary for Premier Bennett to agree to turning a maximum of three cents of the present 13 cents per gallon provincial gas tax over to the authority to cover amortization of the loan. An alternative, he said, would be to take 1½ cents of the present provincial tax and add 1½ cents to the price of a gallon of gas.

He said hiking the price of gas by 1½ cents a gallon would cost the average motorist only \$5 a year.

Campbell said he expected the federal grant would be in the order of \$25 million and he believes the National Harbours Board will contribute a further \$15 million.

Meanwhile, it was learned that two prominent local firms will shortly reveal a proposal to build a six-lane bridge crossing, with facilities for a monorail system. They will claim they can do it with the amount of federal and provincial funds already committed—somewhere around \$57 million.

The crossing would run from the Upper Levels on the North Shore to approximately Georgia and Cardero. However, it envisions a bridge, rather than the tunnel favored by a committee of experts.

Labor Minister Nicholson said at a Vancouver news conference Wednesday morning he hopes Ottawa's offer will bring an "almost immediate" start on the project.

The federal offer of a grant of \$20 million or more—plus long-term, deferred interest loans was detailed exclusively in Wednesday's Province. It is understood the amount could go as high as \$30 million.

At a press conference with North Shore MP Jack Davis, Nicholson said Ottawa's decision to participate in the long-awaited new First Narrows crossing was based on belief the project is vital to the whole nation, and that the municipalities involved could not afford to pay the share demanded by provincial government plans.

"We are prepared to give a substantial grant and extensive loans to a harbor authority or whatever authority it is that will assume responsibility for building the crossing," Nicholson said. "Exact amounts will be decided in talks with provincial and municipal representatives."

Nicholson suggested Ottawa might also finance the current financial feasibility study, possibly through the urban renewal program—which he directs.

Repayment, he said, will be the responsibility of the crossing authority; it could be financed through a portion of provincial gasoline tax revenue, he added, but this would be up to the province and the municipalities involved.

The federal minister said Project 200—the \$200 million commercial-residential complex proposed for Vancouver's downtown waterfront—had something to do with expediting our decision.

Project 200's developers don't want to proceed without assurance of a third inlet crossing, he added, and the two projects would fit well together.





## Victoria comment

# That gambling fever

By IAN STREET  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — It seems the "psychology of the crap table" can apply to government as well as to the small investor in the stock market.

The phrase is used by Attorney-General Bonner to describe the gambling instinct which motivates many of the approximately 2,000,000 small investors in B.C.

According to the attorney-general, a larger proportion of these investors would like to shift their responsibilities onto the government's shoulders.

They prefer, Bonner says, to concentrate on searching Dow Jones for signs that the time is right for a plunge on the stock market.

The same philosophy, according to critics of the government, might just as well be applied to the government's attitude towards policing of securities regulations in this province.

Bonner says the new securities act now before the House, requiring full disclosure of company business, imposes what he calls an almost absolute standard of truth on corporate officials.

Failure to tell all that is required about share transactions and holdings, he argues, will place top officials not only in trouble with the Securities Commission but with their shareholders as well.

But the attorney-general claims legislation alone won't protect the interests of shareholders. They must accept the responsibility of being well informed on the business dealings of companies in which they are investing.

Surely, the critics ask, won't the same be true of the Securities Commission in its role of watchdog?

The big question, according to Liberal Allan Williams, a lawyer, is precisely this — will the government provide enough trained staff for the commission to properly fill its role under the new system?

Bonner offers no direct answer. He says the government will try to meet the situation in the year ahead, but claims there will first have to be a review of the work of the new Securities Commission.

The lawyers on both sides of the House seem to regard the new securities legislation as a step in the right direction. Several, however, look askance at the government's apparent decision to rely on others to do the policing of the act for them.

The attorney-general often talks about the efficiency of the Vancouver Stock Exchange in policing of its own members.

Now he is placing a further onus on company officers to disclose dealings, and the legislation also requires auditors to take an even closer look at the books they scrutinize for companies.

Williams also questions the wisdom of patterning the B.C. act on the year-old Ontario statute. In spite of its legislation, he says, Ontario seems to be as much or more plagued with stock scandals as any province. This could simply be due to the greater volume of trading, but it points up the danger of borrowing from another jurisdiction.

The general reaction from the Opposition seems to be: If a person wants to gamble in stocks let him, but the government must see the dice aren't loaded.

## Crossing by inches...

Ottawa's offer of a substantial grant and a long-term, low-interest loan toward construction of a new Burrard Inlet crossing is encouraging. But don't expect to be using the proposed tunnel-bridge next year—or the year after.

Political forces are beginning to jockey for position with regard to who will put up the money and who will share in the credit for getting the project under way.

Premier Bennett has undertaken to put up \$27 million toward the crossing as his earnest of intent. Labor Minister Nicholson's ante on behalf of the federal government is not precisely specified. Neither

are details of Ottawa's proffered long-term loan.

Mayor Campbell has said Vancouver should make a contribution and the North Shore municipalities would be obliged to follow suit in a more modest way if Vancouver participated.

The idea that the federal long-term loan could be repaid by turning over to Ottawa a part of the provincial gasoline tax raised in the Vancouver metropolitan area is not likely to be considered for a minute by Premier Bennett. It would be the same thing as undertaking to put up \$27 million for the crossing and also repaying the

federal loan from provincial revenues WITH INTEREST.

But somebody would have to repay Ottawa. The idea that a metropolitan transit authority including the provincial government, the municipal authorities and the Harbors Board (a federal body) might be the appropriate agency responsible for the crossing, will make good sense to many.

At any rate, Mr. Nicholson's offer is another step in the right direction. There will undoubtedly be a lot more arguing and parleying. But the crossing project is inching along. One day we may hope it will make it.

## Is Jolly Jack boxed in?

Frank Howard (NDP-Skeena) offered good advice to Transport Minister Pickersgill on the proposed new B.C. Harbors Board.

"Don't take steps under the constitution to disallow the legislation, and for goodness sake don't engage in a full-scale war with B.C.," Mr. Howard said.

Despite this, Jolly Jack Pickersgill sailed ahead firing volleys of constitutional grapeshot. By the time he pauses to reload, he may find he has got himself into a political battle he can't win.

The provincial government has done surveys of the potential of Roberts Bank, near the Tsawwassen ferry terminal, as an ultra-modern bulk-loading port site. It found the site excellent, and found there was what Transport Minister Bonner called a "staggering" interest by industry.

The project was promoted by a massive coal export possibility. Japanese importers say the main

thing in the way of the deal is the cost of carrying the coal from Fernie and shipping it to Japan. They say that the Roberts Bank facility would make the difference.

Mr. Bonner's bill is primarily a bargaining gambit. He has told the industries involved that B.C. will commit itself to building the harbor. Now it is up to them to complete the deal.

The bill says: "The Board is established for the purposes of developing or encouraging the development of harbor facilities in the province . . . and to assist and promote the industrial development of the province in conjunction with harbor development."

It is true that the British North America Act says shipping and navigation are federal responsibilities. It is true that a good harbor is valuable to Canada as a whole. But if B.C. encourages the development, it will still be in Canada.

It is also true that B.C. has long

been in the position of owning foreshore rights, and licensing the use of foreshore for docks and other uses.

By showing leadership, the provincial government may well get the first super-carrier port in Canada or on the Pacific Coast of North America.

Thus Mr. Pickersgill puts himself in the position of saying, in effect: We realize this may produce a unique, forward-looking development in Canada. We realize that this may give Vancouver a big advantage over U.S. Pacific ports. But we are not going to let it be built because it's something we in Ottawa should have done.

Politically, Ottawa would find itself an impossible stance. Far better that Mr. Pickersgill should keep quiet until he finds the deal is as good as it seems to be, then offer his wholehearted support. Meantime, if it is not as good as claimed, the private businesses involved will drop it anyway.

### Vancouver company

## Northern B.C. coal will be explored

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A new Vancouver based company has taken out 21 licences in the Groundhog coal field in northern B.C., Mines Minister Brothers said Wednesday.

The company, Coastal Coal Co., was incorporated last September. Duncan Harry Bell-Irving, Vancouver lawyer, is solicitor for the principals.

Brothers told the legislature the licences were issued last month.

"I understand they intend to do some mining and study the various types of coal they find," he said. "I believe they will be working in the area this spring."

Brothers said several large companies have recently asked the government to set up pre-

ferential reserves in the area, which would prevent anyone else from staking claims while the reserve holder explores the region and decides which areas it wants to stake.

"We turned these requests down," Brothers said. "We told them they would have to compete on the same basis as anyone else."

He did not name the companies.

Brothers was replying to Frank Calder (NDP-Atlin) who asked the government to make a survey of the Groundhog field to see whether commercial coking coal deposits could be found.

The Groundhog coal area is the most extensive coal deposit known to exist in northern B.C. It is located in Groundhog Range of the Skeena Mountains, approximately 80 miles north-east of Stewart.

The probable minable coal from this field has been estimated at 448 million tons with a possibility of more than doubling this amount. The coal is predominantly of low volatile bituminous and anthracite rank.

The field has long been known, but inaccessibility has precluded exploitation.

## Mining industry probe suggested by Nimsick

The government should appoint a royal commission to investigate the mining industry, says Leo Nimsick (NDP-Kootenay).

He told the legislature that mining promoters are more interested in mining Howe Street (Vancouver's stock market street) than in developing ore bodies.

Only 18 per cent of the money invested in mine stocks goes into the mine or exploration program, he said, and the public doesn't get sufficient returns from the industry.

A royal commission should investigate every aspect of the industry from claim staking to ore export, he said, to ensure

that the province's ore bodies are being developed fully rather than having the rich ore skimmed off and less productive ore left behind.

Mines Minister Brothers, whose departmental spending estimates were under debate, said: "I have no intention of setting up a royal commission into the mining industry. I think it is carrying on very well today."

Brothers said work will go ahead on all parts of the Stewart-Cassiar Road this summer for the first time. He said a bridge at Bell-Irving River that had been holding up some sections of the road, will be completed this summer.



Thursday, March 16, 1967

## Macdonald criticizes delay in protection of privacy bill

Legal recognition of the right to privacy for individuals in B.C. is long overdue, says Alex Macdonald ((NDP—Vancouver East)).

"I deplore the fact this legislature is being held up while a meandering royal commission decides what we are elected MLAs to decide — whether or not privacy of the individual as a civil right should be protected," Macdonald said during discussion of private members' bills Wednesday.

He said the Sargent Royal Commission inquiry into Vancouver's union bugging case is

"in high contravenious disregard" of a decision by the B.C. Supreme Court.

In some of its deliberations, Macdonald said, the commission appears to have almost inadvertently invaded the privacy of union officials while inquiring into the individual's rights of privacy.

A Supreme Court judgment on this point, Macdonald said, ruled there was no need for the inquiry to make a minute examination of the affairs of union officials while probing the case.

Macdonald said the Sargent commission has lost much of the

confidence of the public. He was cautioned by Speaker William Murray to confine his remarks to the principle of Macdonald's bill to protect the privacy of individuals.

Discussion of his bill and those of several other private members was adjourned by the government. This normally means they will not come up again before the final day of the session, when they will be defeated.

Liberal Leader Perrault said his party supports the NDP bill because bugging devices are widely used.

A bill introduced by Ernie Le Cours (SC—Richmond) would allow laymen to defend persons appearing in county or magistrate's courts or before a justice of the peace, if they do so without being paid.

Earlier in the session, Le Cours claimed many magistrates in B.C. are unjust and incompetent, and ignore the rights of persons appearing before them.

The bill was supported by Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver-Burrard) who said many areas in B.C. do not have enough lawyers to handle the volume of criminal cases.

## Compensation haste sought by Strachan

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The legislature should return to work after an Easter recess to avoid a 12-month delay in approving a new Workmen's Compensation Act, says Opposition Leader Strachan.

He issued a statement from the NDP caucus Wednesday which said the government will be derelict in its duty if it doesn't proceed with this legislation as soon as possible.

"The government is determined to ram through immediately other legislation of a complex nature which is brand new," Strachan said. "But the people of B.C. have been waiting since 1961 for improvements in workmen's compensation."

Labor Minister Peterson told the House Tuesday while introducing a new act and

an amendment to the present Workmen's Compensation Act that the new act would be held for study until the 1968 session.

Peterson said the amendment would meet some of the most urgent needs during the next 12 months.

There are now 78 bills on the order paper, a dozen of them private members' bills. If the House prorogues, as has been suggested, by March 23, there are six sitting days left to deal with the bills and dispose of the spending estimates for four departments.

Strachan said: "There is no reason why we cannot return after an Easter adjournment, during which the members will be able to again consult with their constituents, ready to debate and pass a new Workmen's Compensation Act which is so desperately needed."

Premier Bennett refused comment.

Thursday, March 16, 1967

## Legislation unnecessary says oil company brief

No legislation is needed to enforce a 1966 Morrow Report on gasoline prices in B.C., says Imperial Oil Ltd., the province's largest oil company.

Some of the report's recommendations have been compiled with and the others are undesirable or unworkable, Imperial said Wednesday in a brief to the legislative committee studying the report.

R. S. Ritchie, a director and former B.C. manager of Imperial, came from Toronto to present the brief.

The brief agreed with three of the Morrow recommendations:

- That a dealer being financed by a gas supplier on the condition he buy only from the supplier during the period of the loan, be free to pay off the loan and end the supply agreement after five years. Imperial has done this in B.C. and will do so across Canada.

- That consignment selling be ended. Imperial said all but eight of its 557 dealers in B.C. have withdrawn from consignment sales. Ritchie said the system protects dealers during price wars, and there would be pressure from dealers to resume the system if another price war develops.

- That there are enough service stations in B.C. and a five year halt be made in construction of new stations. Imperial said it has reduced the number of its stations by 85 since 1957, although it is building new stations as it retires obsolete ones. Gallonage per station has increased 89 per cent since 1957.

Judge Morrow said dealer markups were too high in some parts of B.C. and should be uniform throughout the province. Imperial agreed some markups are high, but said this matter is under control of the dealers.

A uniform markup would ignore differences in service station operating costs in B.C. and would be unfairly low for some dealers and unfairly high for many motorists, the brief said.

Reducing the price difference between regular and premium gasoline from five to three cents, as recommended in the Morrow Report, would increase the demand for premium gasoline and cost millions of dollars in new refining facilities, the brief said.

This would have to be paid for by increasing the price of regular gasoline, which is adequate for 75 per cent of cars on the road. Ritchie said.

## 'Insult' shouts Gaglardi

By IAN STREET  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The legislature erupted into a noisy scene Wednesday night as Liberal Leader Perrault urged the government to accept the "generous" offer of federal aid for a new First Narrows crossing.

Highways Minister Gaglardi shouted: "That's an insult!"

And Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell twice rose to object that the issue had nothing to do with administration of his department, then under debate. Chairman Jim Chabot (SC — Columbia River) cautioned the Liberal leader, but Perrault persisted.

"This government has followed a penny-pinching policy for too many years on the matter of a new crossing," he said. "It is time the government turned to a penny-giving policy. In my riding it would require a seven mill tax increase to finance the local share of the proposed new crossing."

Perrault said one cent from each gallon of gas sold in the Lower Mainland over the next 10 years would meet the full local share of the cost.

He explained outside the House his calculations are based on federal and provincial contributions totalling approximately \$50 million, leaving a local share of some \$35 million.

This, spread over 10 years at 5½ per cent interest, could be met by a one-cent levy on gas sold in the Lower Mainland.

## NDP stresses homes plight

B.C. and Ottawa both need full-time ministers of housing and urban affairs, says Bob Williams (NDP—Vancouver East).

Housing has such low priority in Canada that Italy and Belgium are ahead of this country, he told the legislature Wednesday night during discussion of municipal affairs department estimates.

Williams said housing must be considered a public utility if the urgent needs of the present as well as those of the future are to be met.

There should also be special incentives for rehabilitation of older houses, planned satellite towns near larger centres, particularly in the lower mainland, and major public land areas for resale at low prices and rental on long-term lease.

Williams congratulated the government on a new effort to co-ordinate municipal resources at the regional level, but said it is still largely ignoring the problems of more than half of the province's citizens who live in the Lower Mainland.



FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1967

## Federal welfare funds

# Gov't accused of plan to side-track millions

## MLA threatened with expulsion

By IAN STREET and BOB McCONNELL  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government was accused Thursday night of planning to divert millions of dollars in federal welfare funds earmarked for B.C. to its own pet programs.

The accusation was made by Liberal Leader Ray Perrault during a long and stormy debate in the legislature on spending estimates for the welfare department.

Perrault said the money available to B.C. under the Canada Assistance Plan will be put into the province's "own pet programs."

"The millions available from Ottawa under this plan," he said, "are not intended to permit the province to escape its justifiable responsibilities. The money must be spent on extending benefits to more deserving people."

After five hours of debate — in which the Opposition attacked the government for failing to live up to an election promise to increase welfare payments — Welfare Minister Campbell's office estimates were approved by a vote of 27-20.

### \$8.5 MILLION

During debate on the Perrault charge, Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) said B.C. would receive an additional \$8.5 million under the Canada Assistance Plan, and he predicted it would be spent on the government's two-river power development program.

During the debate, Leo Nimsick (NDP — Kootenay) was threatened with expulsion from the chamber for charging that Soerod backbenchers were ordered to keep silent by what he called "this chicken coop administration."

The government deserves the name, Nimsick said, because it keeps welfare payments so low that many recipients are forced to live in chicken coops and hovels.

Campbell said repeatedly he had no announcement to make about increased welfare payments.

### NEW POST?

However, Barrett predicted the government will shortly announce an increase in the social welfare allowance.

The announcement will be made in connection with the creation of a new cabinet post, Barrett said, "as soon as we

get out of here, and it will be purely for politics."

Campbell said if the federal government agrees to raise the ceiling on shareable welfare costs "we'll take it from there."

He said he threw this "challenge" to the Liberal party in the house to take up with Ottawa.

"It is the opposition which challenges the government," retorted Dr. Pat McGeer (L-Point Grey). "You stand up and tell us how much you are willing to raise these payments — on the understanding that, if the federal government has set a ceiling on shared costs, you can withdraw."

Campbell replied: "We have negotiated on that basis and have gone as far as the federal government is willing to go."

The minister was apparently referring to Ottawa's refusal earlier this year to share in pensions for those over 68, beyond a maximum of \$135 for a single person and \$240 a month for a couple.

The Opposition appeared to be concerning itself mainly with welfare payments of \$75 a month maximum for a single person, \$125 for a woman and child or couple, and \$25 a month for each additional child.

Campbell announced earlier that allowable earnings for a single person on welfare have doubled to \$30, for a maximum of \$105 a month. For a couple, \$50 earnings are now permitted — for a maximum of \$175.

Premier Bennett told the House there is a joker in the federal offer of aid under the Canada Assistance Plan because Ottawa has set a ceiling on shared costs. He promised that, if the national government will raise its ceiling, the province will do likewise.

Barrett said \$1 spent on the needy in this province costs B.C. only 40 cents because Ottawa contributes 50 cents and local authorities the other 10 cents.

"This government is too cheap to spend a 40-cent dollar to save some money," Barrett said.

Chairman Herb Bruch (SC—Esquimalt) threatened to "name" Nimsick for charging that Premier Bennett told backbenchers they should keep silent.

"This question is so serious every member of the backbenches should be up on his feet fighting for an increase in the \$75 maximum for single people on welfare, and \$150 for a couple," said Nimsick.

He was ordered to stop lecturing members or face expulsion from the chamber.

Soerod MLAs, led by government whip Waldo Skillings (SC—Victoria), accused Nimsick of shedding "crocodile" tears.

"Yes, I am crying for these people," Nimsick said. "I won't give up their fight—it is too important."

Opposition Leader Strachan threatened to move a vote of non-confidence in the chair after Bruch cut off Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP—Burrard) when he said to the government backbenches:

"How can any of you go home, live in the houses you live in, eat the food you eat and raise your children as you do, when you know the level of social assistance payments?"

Bruch ruled that Parkinson was to stop lecturing government members and address himself to Campbell's salary vote.

Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver Burrard) shouted: "There's nothing in those rules about lectures. For God's sake read them!"

Bruch told him if he wanted to challenge the ruling he could do so.

Strachan stood up and said "If you want a vote of non-confidence, call in the Speaker and I'll call a vote of non-confidence in the chair right now."

Attorney-General Bonner stood up and the House grew quiet.

"I suggest the leader of the Opposition does not want to do that," Bonner said quietly. He and several other speakers appealed for order.

Bruch told the House that he had taken his position after consulting with its legislative experts and he would prefer a vote of non-confidence to permitting members to indulge in practices of debate he felt were incorrect.

Debate resumed after Strachan said:

"The members are used to having freedom in metaphor and freedom in their phrases. We've never had this problem before. For the first time, we have a man in the chair who won't allow us this freedom."

Parkinson said it is impossible to live on the government's social welfare allowances and maintain a level of comfort described as a basic human right in the UN charter.

"We can't give a minister, no matter how new in the job, another year to raise the standards of these allowances," Parkinson said.

"If there's a conscience in this government, I'm appealing to it now. I spend more than \$75 a month on my car. How can you expect anyone to live on that?"

## Three areas get welfare projects

New welfare projects for Vancouver, White Rock and Greater Victoria were announced in the legislature Thursday by Welfare Minister Campbell.

They are expected to eliminate duplication of welfare services and agencies, Campbell said during debate on his department's spending estimates.

"There is a great deal of overlapping of private agencies and government efforts. We are not getting the best value for the tax dollar.

"We are never going to be able to successfully declare war on welfare problems unless we bring in the concept of total and co-ordinated community involvement."

Each of the projects will be left to work out its own methods, he said.

Grace McCarthy (minister without portfolio and member for Little Mountain) will head the Vancouver project.

She said she will try to expand the experimental Red Door Project, in which two social workers were assigned to co-ordinate welfare programs in the Little Mountain area over a three year period.

"Even though it still has a year to run, the project is already a success," she said. "With their experience, and the knowledge of years of study by various people into Vancouver's welfare problems, we have a solid basis to go on."

The project may not reduce the number of welfare agencies in Vancouver, she said, but it will make them all more efficient by eliminating duplication. Some agencies may end up with different jobs than they now have.

Vancouver will be divided into eight areas for the project, but

boundaries have not yet been drawn.

Details of staff and cost-sharing remain to be worked out between Vancouver and the government, Mrs. McCarthy said.

The White Rock survey will determine welfare resources, including such things as school counsellors and police, available in a typical small town in B.C., Campbell said. Ernie Le Cours (SC—Richmond) will work on the study.

The Greater Victoria project will examine the possibility of setting up a regional welfare program for the area.

Campbell said Isabel Dawson (SC—Mackenzie), another minister without portfolio, will study the problems and needs of senior citizens for the new division of the aged.

The welfare department will establish central registries of part-time jobs, such as babysitting and lawn mowing, in various communities, he said.

Campbell agreed to Opposition demands that he consider the possibility of providing property tax relief for elderly persons on fixed incomes so they can keep their homes during retirement.

## Double staff, urges Barrett

The staff of the provincial child welfare branch should be doubled, says Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam).

He said in the legislature Thursday night the director of child welfare for the province, with responsibility for 35,000 children, is paid less than the principal of a moderate-sized high school.

Superintendent of Child Welfare J. A. Sadler is listed in estimates as having a salary of \$11,700. His deputy is paid \$9,900.

Barrett said the government failed to appreciate that it costs a lot of money to train professional people of this calibre. Their services often were lost to senior governments, which pay higher salaries.

He asked Welfare Minister Campbell if any steps were being taken to bring child welfare staff salaries more in line with those paid elsewhere in the same field. Campbell said this was a matter for the civil service commission to decide.

The branch has 38 staff members. No staff increase is provided for in the coming fiscal year.

## House battles over welfare

VICTORIA — Far too much money is going down the drain on welfare payments in B.C., says Tom Bate (SC—South Vancouver).

He told the legislature Thursday night that if the Opposition paid less attention to "the sob sister stuff," more could be achieved in rehabilitation of able-bodied welfare cases.

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault said some government members are "born with a silver foot in their mouth."

He attacked Welfare Minister Campbell for failing to point out to Bate that the Canada Assistance Plan offers aid to provinces to engage in rehabilitation projects.

Perrault and the minister tangled earlier as Campbell announced B.C. would sign a formal agreement on phase one of the plan later today.

Campbell said the rules under which this initial phase would operate were explained to the provincial government here approximately two weeks ago.

He added no word had yet been received on either phase two or phase three, which include the rehabilitation agreement.

However, the minister said, he is prepared to say now that B.C. will participate in that section of the program.

"The only objection I have to the plan is that it doesn't take into account the fact that B.C. has the highest rate of immigration from other provinces," Campbell said.

"Many of these people add to our welfare costs and I feel that the plan should reflect this. We are having talks with federal welfare minister MacEachen on this now, and I would suggest (Perrault) get on the phone to Ottawa and put in a good word for B.C."

Perrault stood up and shouted: "It's small wonder people having difficulty helping this government. This is perhaps the greatest piece of legislation in the history of Canada and you have to stand here and trade insults about it."

"I demand you retract your ridiculous statement against the welfare minister in Ottawa."

In the brief uproar that followed, Campbell angrily denied he had criticized the Canada Assistance Plan or McEachen.

During a later phase of the debate on Campbell's departmental estimates, Campbell informed the House that an increase of almost \$5 million in the vote for social allowance to \$37 million for the coming year, was entirely due to an increase in the case load.

He was attacked by the Opposition for making no provision for increased welfare payments.

Under the Canada Assistance Plan the federal government pays 50 per cent of the costs of a wide range of welfare payments and services. Ottawa expects to pay out \$115 million a year to the provinces by 1971 if the plan is fully implemented.

## Snap vote by NDP fails

An NDP attempt to keep the revised Workmen's Compensation Act alive at this session of the legislature failed by a vote of 26-22 early this morning.

Several government members had gone home when the NDP made its surprise move just before adjournment of the night sitting. Opposition Leader Strachan moved that the bill, which the government has hoisted for study until the 1968 session, be placed on the order paper for second reading this session.



# Big fish and broken lines

By IAN STREET  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — This government's vaunted dialogue with municipalities in B.C. is showing signs of breaking down.

It works efficiently enough on the smaller issues, municipal spokesmen claim. But on the big ones, compulsion in regional districts and the financial arrangements between provincial and local governments, there is little real communication.

The debate so far this session would bear out this charge.

Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell appeared genuinely surprised and dismayed in the House this week when an NDP member called his brainchild — the administrative vehicle for setting up regional districts — a dump truck.

Former city alderman Bob Williams (NDP—Vancouver East) was probably trying to be kind. Some opposition MLAs are inclined to regard Campbell's vehicle as something like one of those Mercedes staff cars you see in old German war movies. To this group it epitomises the dictatorial bent of this government.

True, Campbell can claim the best relations with local government of any minister since Social Credit came to power. But then his predecessor for the 12 years before he took over the post in 1964 was Wesley Black.

So Campbell's achievement must be studied in this light, as well as with due regard to what some members have called "The Credibility gap" that exists between the province and individual municipalities.

When the executive of the UBCM met the cabinet here last January it asked for establishment of a regional hospital financing authority. At that time the premier said he had no intention of doing so. Yet two months later the authority is about to become a reality.

Theo Adams, executive di-

rector of UBCM claims: "The more local governments feel they are being chivvied, the harder it is to believe the things they are being told by the provincial government."

General agreement on a regional approach to problems like capital financing of hospitals is tempered by a growing feeling the government is pushing too hard, too fast. This gives rise, Adams says, to fears that regional districts may become top-heavy and over-powerful, with control in the hands of Victoria.

But, he adds, these are only fears and not facts.

Hence the need for a new dialogue between province and municipalities. Obviously the government can't go out and meet 138 different municipal councils individually. But there should be a form of communication which would prevent outcries like the one by Greater Victoria municipal leaders this week. They are objecting to being saddled with existing Gulf Islands Hospital debt which would amount to .02 mills.

For the Greater Vancouver water and sewage district, which could form the boundaries of one of the new hospital districts, the spreading of debt would result in a uniform levy of 0.84 mills. Individual municipalities within this region now pay up to five mills for existing hospital debt.

Municipal leaders who complain about this enforced spreading of debt, according to Campbell, are just not thinking. They do not, for instance, take into account that outlying areas also for the first time will pay a share of new capital costs for hospitals.

The minister adds, once the regional structure has been established the government will move towards a system of transfer of funds to local governments. If so, Campbell would be wise to lose no time in telling municipalities they will get more money to meet the new responsibilities.

## 'Sin and win'

Common-law living is the swinging way to get welfare payments in B.C., says Dave Barrett (NDP-Coquitlam).

He told the legislature Thursday the government's welfare policies subsidize sin, break up families and keep people poor.

A married couple on welfare receives \$125 a month, Barrett said, but an unmarried man and woman living together get \$75 each for a total of \$150. This encourages common-law relationships, he said.

Barrett complained the government provides only \$200 a month for a needy mother and four children, but pays far more to them if the family is broken up.

★

"The woman is only allowed to earn \$25 a month before her earnings start being subtracted from her welfare payments," he said. "When she decides she can't care for her children on \$200 a month and turns them over to the welfare department, the government puts the children in foster homes and pays \$80 a month for each one."

"With the mother's \$75 payment as a single person, this works out to \$395 a month. The government provides \$395 a month to break up a family, and only \$200 to keep it together."

★

He said a married man with four children on welfare receives \$225 a month. If he decides to go to vocational school to prepare himself for a job, he qualifies for a \$75-a-month incentive payment from the provincial government.

"But then the welfare department classifies the incentive payment as income and subtracts it from his welfare payments," Barrett said. "The only way this man can qualify for the \$75-a-month is to desert his family."

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## Socred backbencher jolts premier **Bennett jumps as Wolfe at door**

VICTORIA — Stung by criticism from one of his own backbenchers, Premier Bennett told the legislature the cabinet is prepared to consider replacing the present system of per capita grants to municipalities.

"If members want to do away with per capita grants in favor of a percentage of services, we'll give it favorable consideration," he snapped during debate on the \$73.6 million estimates of the municipal affairs department.

Evan Wolfe (SC—Vancouver Centre) attacked the government for giving Vancouver a poor shake on sharing of provincial revenues. He supported a 1965 City of Vancouver report which claimed grants should increase according to population because of the greater variety of services larger cities must provide.

Vancouver now gets only 6½ per cent of its revenues from provincial grants and the rest from city taxpayers, Wolfe said. Other municipalities get 14 per cent, he said.

Wolfe asked Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell: "Why do we persist in using this form of per capita grants in larger areas?"

MLAs laughed as Bennett jumped to his feet to claim "this proves beyond a shadow of a doubt" the freedom of speech enjoyed by government members. He defended the present system which he said benefits Vancouver more than any city in B.C.

Vancouver also enjoys lower net taxes than any city in Canada due to the scale of provincial assistance, Bennett said.

### Briefs heard

## Mining guide ready

The legislature will be urged to pass the new Mines Regulation Act with only minor changes, says James Chabot (SC—Columbia River), chairman of the legislative committee on mining and railways.

The new act passed its last major hurdle in the committee stage Thursday when briefs from the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Union and the B.C. Mining Association agreed with most of its conditions.

The new bill revises health and safety regulations to conform with modern mining technology.

The committee's recommendation will go to the House next week.

## 'Municipal gov't threatened'

By BOB McCONNELL  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell's regional district plan could kill municipal government, says Barrie Clark (L—North Vancouver-Seymour).

"If the trend to regional districts continues, municipal governments are going to have less and less responsibility unless the districts are restricted to functions that cross municipal borders, and the government provides the wherewithal for municipalities to provide services to people," Clark told the legislature.

"Municipal officials are worried about regional districts. They want more than ideas from the minister — they want explanations of ideas, financial explanations especially," Clark said.

"What are regional districts going to do to the municipal tax base? Where are we going? What is the property tax base going to have to bear?"

Even under regional districts, municipalities will have no enthusiasm for such things as public housing projects, he said.

"The housing problem is regional and financing of the projects would be regional, but the costs arising out of the projects are municipal — schools and parks and policing.

"The government will have to provide the municipalities with money to meet these costs," Clark said.

The Lower Mainland Regional Planning Board's blueprint for orderly development of parks, farms, industry and residential areas from the North Shore to Hope will become just another map on the wall if the government doesn't help solve the problems the plan poses, he said.

"Under the plan, some municipalities lose any hope of industrial or even commercial development — an important part of the municipal tax base.

"The government must investigate the sharing of tax rev-

enues on a regional basis."

Clark said the Union of B.C. Municipalities is becoming increasingly angry at Campbell's failure to answer its questions on problems of immediate importance.

The UBCM, he said, wants to know if the government will:

- Allow the UBCM executive to see legislation affecting municipalities before it is introduced in the House.

- Guarantee municipal debentures for self-liquidating utilities and other projects.

- Make Canada Pension Plan funds from the federal government available for municipal projects.

- Study the possibility of integrating municipalities and Indian reserves, or creating municipalities within reserves.

- State a policy on the municipal responsibility for public transport.

- Amend the present Assessment Equalization Act, which limits property assessment increases for municipal tax purposes, to five per cent per year, regardless of the increased market value of the property.

Clark referred to Premier Bennett's statement earlier in the session that some municipalities have misused public funds.

"Will the minister (Campbell) categorically state that no municipalities in B.C. have misused funds?" he asked.

"Will he answer the numerous letters and wires he has received from angry municipal leaders on this issue?"

In reply, Campbell said the provincial government has the most generous financial arrangements, as between the province and municipal governments, of any province in Canada.

He said he agreed with the principle of municipal sharing service costs on a regional basis.

He added that if municipalities in an area could not afford to provide services for themselves they should amalgamate and spread the tax load.



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## Cancerous parochialism blasted by Campbell

Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Campbell says a cancerous parochialism is preventing local government in B.C. from being as effective as it should be.

Defending his regional district concept, Campbell told the legislature that many municipalities are dragging their feet on the road to modern government.

"Abbotsford, Sumas and Matsqui do not make any sense as separate municipalities in the modern world," he said.

"North Vancouver district and city should be amalgamated. So should Fraser Mills, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, Coquitlam district and Ioco. Mission City and district belong together."

Amalgamation would solve many of the problems facing regional districts that consist of municipalities which differ widely in their ability to levy taxes.

"Municipalities that can't afford to join regional programs because of low assessment roles should be amalgamated."

Even if this is done, Campbell admitted, regional districts require a strong sense of responsibility from member municipalities.

"Are the people of the built-up

areas of the Lower Mainland willing to pay for park development and maintenance in the Fraser Valley?" he asked.

"Are they willing to transfer some of their assessments to the upper Fraser Valley so it can be kept an agricultural area under the Lower Mainland's Regional Planning Board's formula?"

He rejected a suggestion by Barrie Clark (L.—North Vancouver-Seymour) that the Union of B.C. Municipalities executive be allowed to see municipal affairs department's legislation before it is presented in the House.

"We can't give them bills in advance because no one is entitled to see legislation before it comes to the House."

## Controversial bill back before House

A bill to reconstitute the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, which was too controversial for last year's session to handle, has been re-introduced in the legislature.

The bill was submitted by Herbert Bruch (SC-Esquimalt) without notice at the request of SPCA officials.

It was withdrawn last year after coming under heavy fire from former SPCA members and other animal protection groups during a series of committee hearings.

Bruch said the dissension now appears to have cleared up and he expects passage of the bill.

It would consolidate and streamline most of the provisions in five separate acts going back to 1895 which now govern the SPCA in B.C.

The section of the bill which was most protested at last

year's committee hearings empowers the SPCA to "examine, seize, hold, destroy, or dispose of any animal found straying at large, abandoned or apparently homeless."

The same action can be taken in the case of severely-injured or sick or neglected animals, with the costs involved to be recovered from the owners of the animals.

The bill will permit the SPCA to sell or dispose of an animal in its custody provided three days' notice is given to the owner, if he can be found.

SPCA officials and police are authorized to break into property if necessary to rescue an ill-treated or neglected animal.

These powers are included in existing legislation but the new bill will clarify their application.

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## MLAs all for it

# Amalgamation? Yes, sir!

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell mentioned municipal amalgamation in the legislature—and was almost swamped by Opposition members climbing on the bandwagon.

The most ambitious was Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP-Vancouver Burrard) who said Burnaby, Vancouver and the three North Shore municipalities should merge.

"Most of the people who live in one of these areas have lived in another," Parkinson said. "It's a ridiculous situation."

Dave Barrett (NDP-Coquitlam) invited Campbell to come to his constituency any time to persuade its municipalities to merge.

"I will give the minister every assistance," he said.

Allan Williams (L-West Vancouver-Howe Sound) said Campbell should come to West Vancouver and explain

the virtues of a Lower Mainland regional district to residents.

Barrie Clark (L-North Vancouver-Seymour) said the minister should help iron out the problems of amalgamation of North Vancouver city and district.

Ernest Hall (NDP-Surrey) couldn't quite muster an amalgamation in his riding but he did ask Campbell what he thought of possible fragmentation of Surrey.

He nodded approvingly when Campbell said he would be against it.

## Increased minimum wage sought in private bill

Private members bills to increase the minimum wage to \$1.75 an hour and end job discrimination against women have been introduced in the legislature by the NDP.

Rae Eddie (NDP—New Westminster) introduced the amendments to the minimum wage act. The present minimum wage in B.C. is \$1 per hour, and a government bill presented earlier this session would raise this by stages to \$1.25 in selected industries by Nov. 1.

Eddie's amendment would apply to all industry. The bill introduced by Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) forbids job discrimination by sex. Existing legislation bars discrimination by race, religion, color, nationality, ancestry and place of origin as provided in existing legislation, but not by sex.

Another Macdonald bill would set up a commission to investigate the possibility of a government sickness and injury benefit program.

Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) presented a bill allowing prisoners in provincial jails to leave jail for work, job hunting, attending school or university,

or, in the case of a woman, to keep house and maintain her family.

Unless recommended by the warden of a jail, prisoners would have to return at night and on weekends and pay for room and board on weekends.

Money earned by the prisoner during his term would be put into a fund supervised by the warden, and used to pay his board at the jail, his travel expenses, support of his dependants, and any debts for damages. The balance would be paid to the prisoner on discharge.

Private members bills usually are given first reading on introduction but then die on the order paper, unless given support by the government, a rare event.



# Pollution control bill given rough passage

VICTORIA—The government's new Pollution Control Act was given a rough ride by Opposition members during second reading in the legislature Friday.

The act sets up a new pollution control board with wide powers to set pollution standards and control policies throughout B.C.

The old board was primarily an administrative body to enforce pollution control under the direction of the cabinet.

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby Edmonds) said the principle of the bill leaves much to be desired.

"I am disappointed that the bill indicates the pollution control board will continue to be made up primarily of civil servants as it is now," Dowding said.

"We need an independent board with no subservience or suggestion of subservience to the government, with no civil service responsibility, or ministerial control."

He criticized the section of the bill that allows appeal of the board's rulings to the cabinet, as well as the B.C. Supreme Court.

"In the Supreme Court every citizen of the province has the right to attend a hearing, but the cabinet's proceedings are held in secrecy."

Without an independent board, conflicts between different government departments on any particular pollution situation will lead to the lack of impartiality. This, he said, was shown in the dispute over the Stellako River log drive.

The International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission, aided by the federal fisheries department, studied the 1963 Stellako drive and found it had done considerable damage to the river's valuable spawning areas. The commission recommended that no further drives be held.

Despite this, Resources Minister Williston allowed the drive to take place in 1966 and asked the B.C. Research Council to study its effect on salmon spawning. The council's report was tabled in the legislature last week.

"To say this report is of any use to anyone is nonsense," Dowding said.

"This is an example of two government departments trying to promote their different jurisdictions in the same problem."

## LEGISLATURE

He said the pollution control board should consist of knowledgeable and independent men to act as watchdogs for the people.

Opposition members criticized the bill for giving responsibility for air pollution control to the cabinet rather than the pollution control board.

Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP-Vancouver Burrard) said the government must end the conflict of interest which results from bringing pollution control under the minister in charge of resource management. The PCB should be under the minister of health, he said.

Williston said he would not argue whether the board should be part of the health department. But he added that other Opposition requests for a completely independent PCB "just can't be granted under our democratic system."

B.C. has resolved the problem of water pollution and is now working on a control program for air pollution. But all aspects of pollution control require continuous study, he said.

The government introduced the new act while the studies are in progress because the need for tighter controls is urgent. Williston added: "If the stand of the Opposition is that everything must be perfection before proceeding, then that is not the stand I am going to take."

## B.C. plea for extra \$2 million welfare

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C. wants Ottawa to provide an extra \$2 million this year under the Canada Assistance Plan, to cover the cost of welfare services for people who came here from other parts of Canada.

Welfare Minister Campbell signed an agreement Friday on behalf of the provincial government to participate in the plan.

But he said B.C. enters on the basis that a satisfactory formula will be arrived at to compensate the province for the cost of welfare services to outsiders who are flocking here.

The hope was set out in an addendum, also signed by Campbell, and attached to the formal document which was despatched to Ottawa for signature by Federal Health Minister Allan MacEachen.

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"This is nothing more or less than public mischief, and does nothing to increase the public's understanding of the welfare problem," Campbell said.

"No money provided under this plan will be used on programs other than those for human betterment and specifically not one dime of it will go to B.C. Hydro."

The minister said participation in the Canada Assistance Plan for B.C. does not just mean new dollars being pumped into the same old program. Inherent in the plan, he added, is a new look at welfare spending on all programs, with emphasis on rehabilitation.

# Bennett invites mayor to hear crossing plan

Mayor Campbell will be invited to Victoria next week for confidential talks on a new formula to finance a new First Narrows crossing, says Premier Bennett.

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all parties — the province, the federal government, the National Harbours Board, and the CPR and its associates in Project 200.

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"It's only natural that they should contribute to it."

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Late Friday, the premier added that his proposal does not involve a new crossing plan. It is strictly a new formula for financing the crossing which is already under consideration, he emphasized.

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## A PHONE CALL

Campbell said he would gladly go to Victoria, or anywhere else, to talk to Bennett about the crossing. He still hadn't received a call from Bennett when informed about the invitation by a Province reporter.

"I think the premier's statement shows something is breaking on this problem," said Campbell. "All levels of government are working on it, all want to see a new crossing."

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The mayor said Gagliardi called to offer his co-operation in efforts to obtain a new crossing.

## WAIT AND SEE

The mayors and reeves agreed to appoint themselves as a committee to study methods of financing the crossing, but it is unlikely they will do anything until they see what Bennett has to offer.

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A spokesman for Project 200, the \$200 million waterfront development, said he was startled to hear the premier suggest they might be expected to contribute toward the crossing project.

He said there have been no discussions with provincial authorities on this.

# Opponents of port 'fouling' coal talks

By BOB McCONNELL  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Opposition to the provincial government's super-port bill is jeopardizing crucial coal export negotiations, says Attorney-General Bonner.

He was speaking in a stormy debate that ended with the six Liberal members voting against the bill on second reading Friday.

"Suggestions that this government cannot or will not provide a B.C. exit for Fernie coal have caused great confusion in the last 48 hours in Japan and have seriously jeopardized negotiations there," Bonner said.

(W. R. Prentice, executive vice-president of Crows Nest Industries Ltd., of Fernie, is in Tokyo negotiating for the export of two million tons of coal a year to Japan.)

The super-port bill would set up a provincial harbors commission under which the government could build its proposed bulk loading facilities at Roberts Bank, near Tsawwassen.

The bill has been attacked by Federal Transport Minister Pickersgill, who says B.C. does not have constitutional authority to build the port. CPR president Ian Sinclair has opposed plans to build spur lines at Fernie and in Cloverdale to enable the coal to be shipped to the Lower Mainland by U.S. rail lines, rather than the CPR.

Liberal leader Perrault said Ottawa is already working toward development of bulk loadings facilities in the Lower Mainland and is studying Roberts Bank.

"The federal government is working with Swan, Wooster Engineering Ltd., of Vancouver, on a \$75,000 feasibility study of Roberts Bank," he said.

"The provincial government has never made a detailed economic study. It is conceivable

Roberts Bank might not be the best location."

He admitted the federal government had not done as much as he would have liked in developing B.C. ports over the last 25 years.

But when Pickersgill was in Vancouver in November, he indicated the government is now moving ahead rapidly in port expansion, Perrault said.

"We cannot afford to work at cross purposes with the federal government, which has exclusive jurisdiction in the area."

"Let's determine whether Ottawa is willing to go ahead with the vast developments which we in B.C. know are necessary—at the expense of the federal government, rather than B.C."

"We don't want either the federal or provincial governments trying to do a spectacular solo on port development in this province."

Perrault said a super-port at Roberts Bank might lead to fantastic over-capacity of shipping facilities in the Lower Mainland.

"It would be far better to hold this bill to the next session. We should find out what the economic feasibility report says, and how much Ottawa is prepared to put up if the project is a good one."

Premier Bennett replied that he has always advocated more federal co-operation in B.C. enterprises.

"Pickersgill went off a little half-cocked on his first reaction to our bill, but now he's cooled off a little."

"We're quite happy if the federal government wants to co-operate with us."



# Pollution control bill given rough passage

VICTORIA—The government's new Pollution Control Act was given a rough ride by Opposition members during second reading in the legislature Friday.

The act sets up a new pollution control board with wide powers to set pollution standards and control policies throughout B.C.

The old board was primarily an administrative body to enforce pollution control under the direction of the cabinet.

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby Edmonds) said the principle of the bill leaves much to be desired.

"I am disappointed that the bill indicates the pollution control board will continue to be made up primarily of civil servants as it is now," Dowding said.

"We need an independent board with no subservience or suggestion of subservience to the government, with no civil service responsibility, or ministerial control."

He criticized the section of the bill that allows appeal of the board's rulings to the cabinet, as well as the B.C. Supreme Court.

"In the Supreme Court every citizen of the province has the right to attend a hearing, but the cabinet's proceedings are held in secrecy."

Without an independent board, conflicts between different government departments on any particular pollution situation will lead to the lack of impartiality. This, he said, was shown in the dispute over the Stellako River log drive.

The International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission, aided by the federal fisheries department, studied the 1965 Stellako drive and found it had done considerable damage to the river's valuable spawning areas. The commission recommended that no further drives be held.

Despite this, Resources Minister Williston allowed the drive to take place in 1966 and asked the B.C. Research Council to study its effect on salmon spawning. The council's report was tabled in the legislature last week.

"To say this report is of any use to anyone is nonsense," Dowding said.

"This is an example of two government departments trying to promote their different jurisdictions in the same problem."

## LEGISLATURE

He said the pollution control board should consist of knowledgeable and independent men to act as watchdogs for the people.

Opposition members criticized the bill for giving responsibility for air pollution control to the cabinet rather than the pollution control board.

Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP-Vancouver Burrard) said the government must end the conflict of interest which results from bringing pollution control under the minister in charge of resource management. The PCB should be under the minister of health, he said.

Williston said he would not argue whether the board should be part of the health department. But he added that other Opposition requests for a completely independent PCB "just can't be granted under our democratic system."

B.C. has resolved the problem of water pollution and is now working on a control program for air pollution. But all aspects of pollution control require continuous study, he said.

The government introduced the new act while the studies are in progress because the need for tighter controls is urgent. Williston added: "If the stand of the Opposition is that everything must be perfection before proceeding, then that is not the stand I am going to take."

## B.C. plea for extra \$2 million welfare

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C. wants Ottawa to provide an extra \$2 million this year under the Canada Assistance Plan, to cover the cost of welfare services for people who came here from other parts of Canada.

Welfare Minister Campbell signed an agreement Friday on behalf of the provincial government to participate in the plan.

But he said B.C. enters on the basis that a satisfactory formula will be arrived at to compensate the province for the cost of welfare services to outsiders who are flocking here.

The hope was set out in an addendum, also signed by Campbell, and attached to the formal document which was despatched to Ottawa for signature by Federal Health Minister Allan MacEachen.

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## Oil firm criticizes reforms

Canadian Press

VICTORIA—British-American Oil said Friday the adverse effect of recommendations made by the royal commission on gasoline prices is likely to outweigh any possible advantages implementation of the recommendations would gain for consumers.

In a brief to the legislature's special committee studying the commission's report, the company said it appears that the "implications of some of the measures proposed . . . do not appear to have been appreciated."

It said there were many instances where the company agreed with the objectives of the commission, but disagreed with the "practicality and perhaps legality" of the methods proposed.

The commission, in its report to the legislature last year, urged sweeping reforms of gasoline marketing in the province, including a ban on consignment selling, a five-year moratorium on service station construction, and stricter policing of the oil companies.

The legislature committee was set up after several MLAs said the government had failed to keep the oil companies in line and the companies themselves had failed to police their industry.

The B-A brief said the company no longer has any service stations in the province selling company-owned gas on consignment for a fixed commission per gallon.

But, said the brief, B-A could not agree with the commission's recommendation for banning consignment selling, which it described as the only legal method available for remaining competitive with other companies.

The company said the "five-year holiday" in service station construction would arrest the current trend toward fewer outlets by allowing many marginal inefficient stations to continue in business.

Such a moratorium would also be a hardship on residents of newly-developing areas, the company said.

Turning to the commission's proposal for uniform gasoline prices across the province, B-A said it is not in a position to implement the recommendation, since its dealers set their own prices.

## Debtors facing 'psychological war'

VICTORIA — Finance companies are allowed to wage psychological warfare on debtors in B.C., while the provincial government stands by, says Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East).

He told the legislature Friday a bill covering the activities of collection agents now before the House deals with only half the field of harassment now going on in this province.

"It only affects those collecting debts on behalf of others," Macdonald said. "Why doesn't it cover the finance companies collecting their own accounts?"

The NDP member said collection of bills has become a science. He added: "Agencies wage psychological warfare against debtors—they make it a war of nerves."

Letters sent to those who owe money build up from the mild to the frightening, and are calculated to drive a person in financial difficulties to the brink of nervous breakdown and sometimes beyond, Macdonald said.

"It's a kind of Chinese water torture," he told the House.

Macdonald said the letters sent to debtors sometimes contain untruthful threats that the wages of the person involved will be garnished immediately. The law says this can't be done, he added.

## Too many sessions the trouble

One of the legislature's oldest precedents was shattered Friday when the legislative press gallery was defeated by the politicians in an annual Strains and Sprains Trophy volleyball game.

A combination of poor refereeing and fatigue resulting from a week of late night sessions lost the press two games of a three-game contest.

A call by referee Art Burgess broke a 13-13 tie and allowed the legislators to take a 15-13 victory.

After filing a protest, the press stormed back to win the second game 15-12. The press allowed the legislators to take the final game.

## Bonner reads last SC bill

The last government bill of the session and two from Opposition MLAs were given first reading in the legislature Friday.

An omnibus bill introduced by Attorney-General Bonner as the House rose at 12:30 a.m. Friday contained a number of minor changes. The most important, Bonner said, is an amendment that would allow credit unions to develop, promote, establish, operate or maintain housing projects.

At the start of the afternoon sitting, Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP—Vancouver-Burrard) introduced amendments to the Hospital Insurance Act and Alan Macfarlane (L-Oak Bay) re-submitted a bill which would give citizens the right to take court action against the Crown.

## Gov't asked to plug security law loopholes

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The government's new securities legislation should be extended to cover companies which thrive on a legislative loophole between federal banking laws and provincial securities control, says Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver-Burrard).

Near-banks such as the Prudential Finance Company, an Ontario firm which recently went bankrupt, tried to give people the impression they are as financially sure as banks are, Berger told the legislature during second reading of the new securities act Friday.

He said Prudential, which took money in through savings deposits and lent it out on notes of up to 364 days, had defrauded the people who invested in it. An Ontario royal commission is now studying Prudential's collapse.

"This legislation should control that kind of a company," Berger said. "The same ingenuity Prudential used can also be used to defraud people in B.C."

Bonner said Prudential's failure was caused basically by borrowing in the short term and lending on the long term.

"It is not true that if we only legislate enough, all risk will be taken out of the market place. A chief characteristic of the market place is risk."

Bonner said B.C. already has sufficient legislation to protect people against fraud.

"The only problem is detection—we must be alert to who inhabits the market place, and what the consequences of their actions could be," he said.

## A report without answers . . .

The long-awaited B.C. Research Council report on last summer's Stellako River log drive is a classic in the art of nonstatement.

It was generally assumed the study would show what damage was done to the river's valuable sockeye salmon spawning areas.

This is exactly what the report does not show. Moreover, it gives little indication that the researchers even attempted to find this out.

There are four ways in which a log drive can harm a salmon river: log jams form, and the water rushes over and under them, gouging out the river's banks and bed; the log jams that remain in the river through the autumn present considerable barriers to salmon already exhausted from a journey of hundreds of miles; the gravel beds essential for spawning areas are dug up; and bark and wood fibres scraped from the logs remain in the water and gravel beds, using up essential oxygen and releasing poisonous carbon-dioxide as they decompose.

The report has answered few of the questions about these matters.

It admits log jams formed, but it doesn't say how many or how big they were. It says 10 per cent of the 107,000 logs released down stream remained on the river in permanent jams. It does say half the jams were on or directly adjacent to the 1966 spawning areas—where they would do maximum damage.

It agrees the river's banks were eroded, but the researchers find themselves unable to say how much erosion was caused by logs and log jams and how much by the normal water flow.

The Stellako researchers apparently spent most of their energies trying to discover if the wood debris left in the water by the drive harmed the development of the salmon eggs. So far as they went, they found no harm. But even here, in their major effort, their study leaves many questions unanswered.

The most serious criticism of the report, however, is that it gives no indication of how badly the gravel spawning beds were damaged by the drive.

Its only comment on this vital question is that "gravel beds, available for spawning, appeared adequate to accommodate the peak 1966 run."

Half the total gravel beds may conceivably have been destroyed by the drive. The report does not say. The other half could be wiped out by another drive.

The report does not point out that the average annual value of the Stellako sockeye catch was \$1,188,500 between 1952 and 1964. It does not say that the value of the 1966 drive to the 40 farmers who cut the logs was only \$200,000, and that only a few miles of logging road are needed to make the drive unnecessary.

Forests Minister Williston claims the report justified his decision to allow the 1966 log drive. This it does not do. It is perhaps hopeful that the minister says a decision on a log drive this year will depend on the attitude of federal authorities. They should oppose it now as they have in the past.

## For Samaritans, perhaps only a 'thank you' . . .

Good Samaritans don't show up very often. But when they do should they call a policeman first?

Yes. At least that is the suggestion of provincial legislation to compensate those injured while intervening to prevent public disturbance or the commission of a crime.

The new law was instigated by the one-man crusade of Vancouver fireman Allan Duplissie, severely injured off-duty last year when he aided a waitress being attacked in a cafe.

Although it is welcome because it recognizes the principle of com-

pensation for those injured while helping others, the law falls far short of expectations. Municipalities, not the province, must administer it—and pay compensation limited to \$5,000. And compensation is restricted to those injured while aiding a policeman or municipal officer.

In practice it means simply that others like Duplissie, who suffered disablement and financial loss through an act of unselfish courage, will be left nursing their wounds and their bills as before—unless a policeman happened to be around when they acted. Does this

really reflect B.C.'s thinking on the subject?

Clearly it is not everyone's. In commending three men who apprehended a criminal recently, County Court Judge Schultz said: "There is sometimes a tendency on the part of the public to think that crime is something that does not concern them. In a modern society police are needed to combat crime, but the individual also has an interest in crime and should support the war against crime which goes on continually in our midst."

The new law gives the judge's message only half-hearted backing.



Attacks 'Sacred' 'bungling'

# Power rates going up April 1 says Strachan

## Premier refuses to deny claims

By BOB McCONNELL  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C. Hydro power rates will go up throughout B.C. April 1, Opposition Leader Robert Strachan predicted in the legislature Monday night.

Despite opposition demands, Premier Bennett would not deny that the rates would go up and even defended the possible rate increase.

"There has always been some question of how much Hydro should pay from profits to expand and keep up to date its own system — not the Peace and the Columbia," Bennett said.

"We will save interest rates in the future if we use profits now."

But Bennett stuck to his earlier claim that the delivered cost of Peace and Columbia power in Vancouver would be within the 4.2 mills estimated by the National Energy Board's feasibility report on the Peace Project.

### FINAL READING

Strachan's prediction came during the third and final reading of a bill to increase B.C. Hydro's borrowing power by another \$500 million to \$1 billion.

He read from a newspaper article that quotes Hydro co-chairman Dr. Hugh Keenleyside as saying power rates will increase this spring, but not to the level of 1962, when Bennett launched his program of \$5 million rate reductions every year for 10 years.

"Power rates to consumers have been political in B.C.," Strachan said. "This legislation is due to bungling incompetence on the part of the minister of finance (Bennett)."

### DEATH KNELL

"This incompetence is reflected in the amount Hydro has to borrow and the interest rate it has to pay."

Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) said Bennett is in the deepest trouble today that he has been in since he came into office in 1952.

"You have blundered in this Columbia River deal, you have not predicted correctly on power rates — it will be the death knell of Social Credit," Barrett said.

The Financial Post in its latest issue predicts that B.C. Hydro rates are going up April 1, but doesn't say by how much.

## Fogging a dead horse...

It was foggy in the legislature Monday afternoon.

It started when Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell accused Alan Macfarlane (L.-Oak Bay) of fogging up the issue of regional hospital control in Greater Victoria.

Macfarlane replied in kind, and the mists grew so thick that Campbell wound up accusing him of "putting fog in the gears of the hospital issue."

Replied Macfarlane: "Who's foggy now, my friend? You're Senator Fogbank."

"I wouldn't be able to see myself in the mirror to shave in the morning if I'd put as much fog in the hospital as my friend has," Campbell retorted.

"You're fogging a dead horse," shouted Pat McGeer (L.-Point Grey). There the issue died.

'Sacred propaganda'

## 'Bad Samaritan' bill raked

The government's new Good Samaritan legislation is really bad Samaritan legislation. Opposition members told the legislature Monday.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) said the provincial government should set up a compensation fund or insurance plan for crime victims.

"Law enforcement is the responsibility of the attorney-general and the provincial government, even in municipalities," Dowding said. "Local law enforcement, through fines, gave \$1.3 million to the provincial government last year."

"Out of that, a few thousand should go to compensate people injured when fighting criminals, not only in the presence of a police officer but at the time when such action is needed—when a police officer is not present."

"Otherwise, this amendment is of no use, except as an item of Social Credit propaganda."

Other Opposition members said all crime victims should get compensation, not only those who are aiding officials.

The amendment to the Municipal Act allows municipalities at their discretion and out of their own funds, to pay up to \$5,000 for injury, death or property damage suffered while helping a policeman or other municipal official such as a fireman.

"I don't think any municipality in the province asked for this legislation," said Alan Macfarlane (L.-Oak Bay). "I don't know of any municipality that is happy to receive this power, or able to discharge it."

"The municipalities can't afford it. The government should at least share the cost. This is just an attempt by the government to pass off its responsibility onto the municipalities."

## Mileage rollback measure useless, claims Opposition

The government's new legislation to prevent used car dealers from rolling back mileage readings on cars is useless, Opposition members said Monday.

Under an amendment to the Motor Vehicles Act, a car dealer's business licence can be suspended or cancelled if the Crown can prove he intended to defraud his customers by rolling back mileage readings.

"The act of reducing the mileage reading on the speedometer can only be constructed as a fraudulent one," said Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds).

"The responsibility should fall on the person who has changed the reading to show the court it was not fraud. This section will be useless in court."

Don Phillips (SC—North Peace River) said car manufacturers should be required to seal the speedometer mechanism so it can be opened only by the manufacturer or the dealer. This would prevent people from changing mileage readings or disconnecting their speedometer for several thousand miles to mislead the used car dealer, he said.

Another amendment, which allows magistrates to find a person charged with careless driving guilty of a new charge based on testimony in court, was also criticized.

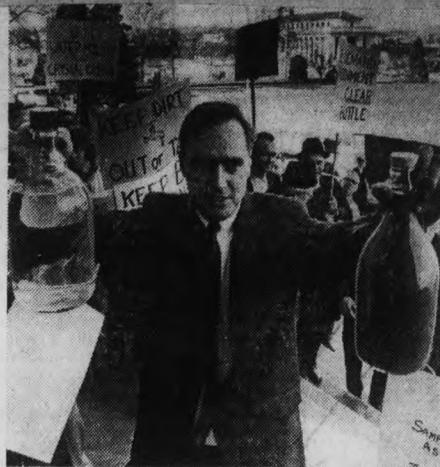
"This section is capable of extreme abuse," said Garde Gardom (L—Vancouver Point Grey). "It will lead to very sloppy prosecution in the complete abnegation of the rule that a person must know what he is charged with."

Alan Macfarlane (L—Oak Bay) said the amendment should be changed so a new charge must be laid and the case adjourned to give the accused time to obtain witnesses and prepare a new defence for the new charge.

Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) said the Motor Vehicles Act should provide penalties for people found driving without their seat belts attached. He also called for psychological testing of drivers' licence applicants to weed out those with sub-conscious suicidal tendencies that might lead to accidents.

Attorney-General Bonner said such testing is impractical because of a lack of psychiatrists and psychologists and inadequate testing methods.

If car dealers were forced to prove the innocence of their motive in changing speedometer all other sections of the act, readings, Bonner said, it would be contrary to the principle of all other sections of the act, which puts the burden of proof on the Crown.



Dr. Roger Mickle compares water, sludge.

## Sludge smudges stiff upper lip

By BOB McCONNELL  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The battle of Buttle Lake spread to the steps of the legislature Monday—and a messy fight it was.

Fifty residents of Campbell River, Alberni and Nanaimo came to Victoria to protest the leakage of tailings from the Western Mines Ltd. copper mine into Myra Creek and the lake.

They brought placards and a coffin containing several buckets of sludge gathered from the shores of the creek.

The placards read: "The provincial cabinet will soon be the only wilderness left in B.C." and "Is the price of affluence effluence?"

Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell, the MLA for the area, received a lesson in how pollution spreads when he shook hands with Larry Widen, president of the Campbell River Pollution Control Society.

Widen had just finished spreading the sludge on a sheet of plastic spread over the steps. The sludge spread to Campbell's hand, then his sleeve and finally to his upper lip.

Widen said seepage from the tailings pond at the mine has discolored Myra Creek and spread into Buttle Lake. Sludge from the pond has coated the banks of the creek and is half-an-inch deep on the lakeshore for several hundred yards on either side of the creek mouth.

He said Western Mines had concealed the damage by bulldozing dirt over the polluted lakeshore before an inspection tour by Mines Minister Brothers and Recreation Minister Kiernan last Saturday.

For 2½ months Western Mines has been dumping this muck in the lake without any permit to do so, Widen said. The delegation asked for an immediate cabinet order preventing Western Mines from allowing any tailings or sewage to flow into any waters emptying into Buttle Lake.

After examining the sludge, Campbell agreed the tailings pond is not working. But, he said: "If it is proved that the lake is being dangerously polluted, then something will have to be done. At the moment, there is no proof of this."



# 'You can't be trusted,' Strachan tells Campbell

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell has gone back on the original principles of his regional district concept, says Opposition Leader Strachan.

He led a number of Opposition members who attacked legislation revising the way in which regional districts originate and setting up a new regional hospital district system.

The original principles, Strachan said, were that regional districts should have no compulsory functions laid down by the government, and municipalities would be free to join or not join districts.

"Today we see the second step in some master plan the minister has developed," Strachan said. "He misled this House and the people of B.C. when this concept was introduced two years ago."

"I spoke then in support of regional districts on the basis of statements made by the min-

## LEGISLATURE

ister — statements he is now contradicting."

Regional districts are going to become major taxing bodies in B.C., Strachan said, but Campbell refuses to say what new functions he has in mind for them.

"Too often you've said one thing in the House and the legislation has said something else," Strachan told Campbell.

"You're trying to squeeze every individual in this province into some concept of your own. As far as I'm concerned, you can't be trusted to execute this kind of legislation."

Leo Nimsick (NDP—Kootenay) said the regional districts Campbell has already set up are far too large.

"You are almost vulcanizing B.C. into a new group of

provinces within a province," he said. "They are so large, contact within them is impossible. You are going to run into difficulty getting the co-operation from some municipalities within the districts."

He predicted regional districts would become a third level of government between the municipalities and the province.

Campbell replied: "It is somewhat incredible that some of the statements I have heard could be made after someone has read the legislation."

"The regional district board is the municipalities. The regional board does what the municipalities want it to do."

Several bills were involved in the debate. One allows the government to set boundaries for regional hospital districts throughout B.C., to which all municipalities must belong to receive government hospital funds.

# Mileage rollback measure useless, claims Opposition

The government's new legislation to prevent used car dealers from rolling back mileage readings on cars is useless, Opposition members said Monday.

Under an amendment to the Motor Vehicles Act, a car dealer's business licence can be suspended or cancelled if the Crown can prove he intended to defraud his customers by rolling back mileage readings.

"The act of reducing the mileage reading on the speedometer can only be constructed as a fraudulent one," said Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds).

"The responsibility should fall on the person who has changed the reading to show the court it was not fraud. This section will be useless in court."

Don Phillips (SC—North Peace River) said car manufacturers should be required to seal the speedometer mechanism so it can be opened only by the manufacturer or the dealer. This would prevent people from changing mileage readings or disconnecting their speedometer for several thousand miles to mislead the used car dealer, he said.

Another amendment, which allows magistrates to find a person charged with careless driving guilty of a new charge based on testimony in court, was also criticized.

"This section is capable of extreme abuse," said Garde Gardom (L—Vancouver Point Grey). "It will lead to very sloppy prosecution in the complete abnegation of the rule that a person must know what he is charged with."

Alan Macfarlane (L—Oak Bay) said the amendment

should be changed so a new charge must be laid and the case adjourned to give the accused time to obtain witnesses and prepare a new defence for the new charge.

Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) said the Motor Vehicles Act should provide penalties for people found driving without their seat belts attached. He also called for psychological testing of drivers' licence applicants to weed out those with sub-conscious suicidal tendencies that might lead to accidents.

Attorney-General Bonner said such testing is impractical because of a lack of psychiatrists and psychologists and inadequate testing methods.

If car dealers were forced to prove the innocence of their motive in changing speedometer all other sections of the act, readings, Bonner said, it would be contrary to the principle of all other sections of the act, which puts the burden of proof on the Crown.

## Misuse charge

## Bennett finally explains

Premier Bennett has finally explained his claim that municipalities in B.C. have been misusing their funds.

Bennett made the claim March 3 while explaining an amendment to the Municipalities Aid Act that earmarks the province's per capita grant to municipalities as being primarily for road and bridge construction.

Since then, opposition members have been badgering Bennett and Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell for refusing to clear the clouds of suspicion which the Opposition claims have been hanging over the heads of municipal leaders.

Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) demanded Monday that Campbell say whether Coquitlam was one of the municipalities that had been misusing funds.

Bennett stood up and said "Since it is holy week, I'll answer that question."

"No municipality has criminally misused funds, but they are aware that the per capita grant replaced a grant of one-third of the motor vehicle licence fees collected and was to be used for that purpose (road building)."

Bennett ignored Opposition demands that he apologize for the earlier statement.

# Rebels join attack

## Compensation functions hit

By IAN STREET  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A pair of maverick Socialists joined the Opposition Monday in an attack on the functions of the Workmen's Compensation Board.

Ernie LeCours (SC—Richmond) called the appeal board a "mill of injustice" and told the legislature the WCB has been allowed to become a power unto itself.

In one recent case, LeCours said, an unidentified member of the appeal board "flew off the handle and walked" out in the middle of a hearing.

"How can we get at the truth," LeCours asked, "when claimants are allowed to answer questions but cannot ask questions of the board?"

John Tisdalle (SC—Saanich) said he has letters complaining that persons appearing before the board are "cursed and damned."

"Surely it is not a case that everybody who goes before the board is a liar," Tisdalle said. "I detest reading these letters because they reprint the language used by the board. I wouldn't treat horses like that down on the farm."

"No wonder these people go away (from hearings before the WCB) in such a neurotic condition that members can hardly talk common sense into them later."

Tisdalle urged the government to consider the revised Workmen's Compensation Act at this session or, if necessary, call a special session later this year.

"We must realize we are dealing with people who are trying to live on very little money in a society that is flush with money," Tisdalle said.

He said: "If we don't deal

with the revised act, I would ask the minister to say to the board let's be very human in dealing with these people. They should be able to talk with the board man to man and not be treated like animals or seals on the St. Lawrence sealing grounds."

With indications that other government backbenchers might rally to the Opposition cause, Labor Minister Peterson moved quickly to force a vote.

Dr. H. R. McDiarmid (SC—Alberni), who pounded his desk when previous speakers criticized some aspects of the compensation system, was already on his feet waiting to be recognized by Speaker William Murray.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby Edmonds) drew the Speaker's attention to the clock, which showed seven minutes after the normal adjournment time of 6 p.m. The move would have meant a recess until 8 p.m. with the debate continuing then.

### VOTE IN FAVOR

But Peterson jumped quickly to his feet and said: "Since you wish to deny me the right to close this debate, I move second reading."

A division was called over NDP objection, and the House voted unanimously in favor of the principle of the bill containing interim amendments to the present Workmen's Compensation Act. The completely revised act, containing all but one of the recommendations of Mr. Justice Tysoe on workmen's compensation changes, is to be held over 12 months for study.

Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) said the steel gate installed to protect staff at the WCB office and the commissioner who is always on duty symbolized the wrongs in the present system of compensation.

The NDP member said there are reports of injured men being "bodily thrown out" of the WCB offices. Those who aren't

treated that roughly are shunted from office to office and are treated "not as human beings, but just another accident the board wants to have nothing to do with."

The government is prolonging the suffering of many injured workmen and their families by enacting a bill which only represents "minor tinkering" with the present inadequate legislation, Barrett said.

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault attacked the amendment as a "bare bones bill" which represents an only marginal advance in compensation procedures. He told the House all pensions should be tied to the cost of living index.

"I've written literally hundreds of letters to people telling them to hold on a little longer," Perrault said. "Now it's going to be difficult to write the letters that must be written, telling these people reform is still 12 months away."

Leo Nimsick (NDP—Kootenay) said the minimum monthly pension of \$150 a month for permanent total disability should be extended to those with permanent partial disability whose need is just as great.

"This bill is throwing crumbs to a man when he should be getting a loaf of bread," Nimsick said. "It's too little, too late."

Opposition Leader Strachan described the bill as a pitiful effort by the government to redress wrongs after 18 months of study of the Tysoe recommendations.

"If we must come back after Easter to consider the full revision of this act, then let us come back," Strachan said. "The premier or anyone else who has reservations in Hawaii can cancel them. I'm prepared to sit right through Easter if necessary."

Premier Bennett interjected he had no vacation reservations following the session.

Strachan added: "There is only one group in the province that has anything to gain from 12 months' delay in the approval of the full, revised Workmen's Compensation Act. That is the employers of B.C."

The Opposition leader explained later, after he had been taken to task a couple of times by other speakers, that he didn't wish to infer employers opposed the bill, only that lower rates of pensions meant an automatic saving to employers.



## Fighter controls over LSD

The provincial government has announced it wants to make everybody an LSD informer, and on Monday night the legislature's expert on the use of the drug claimed the problem is still substantially under-rated in B.C.

Health Minister Black told the House a bill controlling the unauthorized use of LSD and marijuana, introduced earlier this session, will be supported by complementary amendments to the Health Act.

The new regulations would require any person knowing of the whereabouts of LSD to report it immediately to a medical health officer or police.

The Health Act changes also include earlier provision that possession of LSD without a permit from the health department is an offence punishable by a fine of up to \$2,000, or six months' imprisonment, or both.

Meanwhile, Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Point Grey) told the House that published accounts of LSD usage in B.C. have all substantially underrated the problem, which he estimated involves "several hundred" known users.

At least 100 known users of LSD are on the campus of the University of B.C. and the university's medical officer has had to treat 14 students suffering from psychotic effects of the drug, McGeer said.

Two recent B.C. suicides are directly attributable to LSD, McGeer said. One was a youth who jumped off Burrard Bridge and could have done so accidentally while suffering from the characteristic space distortion effect of the drug.

McGeer, a neuro-psychologist engaged in brain research at UBC, said he was appalled by misinformation of teenagers on the effects of LSD. Several he discussed the drug with recently believed it was safe, non-addictive and impossible to detect. McGeer added: "They were wrong on all counts."

He described LSD as being most dangerous because it leads to suicide, sometimes to homicide, and produces psychotic effects which sometimes occur days after it has been taken.

"Lastly, and perhaps most tragic, is the addictive qualities of LSD," said McGeer.

"If I was to make a plea to high school students, I would say there is no way you can win by taking LSD. If you have a bad experience, it can lead to suicide and mental breakdown. If you have a good experience, it can lead to addiction which is every bit as hellish as heroin addiction."

McGeer said the "possessive" effect of LSD weakens with constant use, as does that of heroin, and consequently marijuana is used to re-create the LSD experience.

"That's why the use of marijuana has increased so rapidly," he said. "They go together."

Gordon Dowding (NDP — Burnaby-Edmonds) objected to McGeer giving out this information.

"I don't want a prescribed course being broadcast from this legislature on how to get more kicks," Dowding said.

The province should work together with the federal government, he said, to get strong uniform legislation across the country.

The LSD bill was given second reading — approval in principle.

McGeer urged the government to cut down the "LSD jungles" which exist in Vancouver. He said one spot where the drug can be obtained is outside the public library at Robson and Burrard. A number of shops in the Kitsilano area distribute the drug, he added, and teenagers claim they can attend LSD parties any weekend in Vancouver.

Besides the known existence of the drug on university campuses and in high schools in the Vancouver area, McGeer said, there have been outbreaks in Victoria, the Fraser Valley, the Okanagan, and "at least one other B.C. city" which authorities haven't yet officially confirmed.

## Who's flying where, when?

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A bill to require more detailed accounting of the use of provincial government aircraft was introduced in the legislature Monday by Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Point Grey).

It would require the provincial secretary to keep a public log listing all flights of government aircraft, the reasons for the flight, the names of all passengers and the reasons for their presence.

Log entries would have to be made within two weeks of any flight and the log and the operating costs of the aircraft would be tabled in the legislature at each session.

Opposition members have been claiming that cabinet members are misusing government planes, particularly Highways Minister Gagliardi's new jet. They have been unable to produce any proof of their claims.

Garde G a r d o m, McGeer's running-mate in Point Grey,

introduced three private member's bills.

One would raise the maximum social assistance payment for a deserted wife and family from \$390 to \$1,900 a month.

Gardom said later the present legislation does not take into account the number of children or the financial worth of the husband who has deserted his family.

A second bill would change the section in the Liquor Control Act that prescribes a minimum \$50 fine for anybody found with a bottle of liquor in an unlicensed restaurant, whether the bottle is open or not. Gardom's bill would make this an offence only if the bottle is there for the purpose of consumption.

Gardom's third bill would require insurance adjusters working for a company to pass an examination and be licensed, the same as independent adjusters.

Tuesday, March 21, 1967

## Secret formula in works

VICTORIA — Will there be tolls on the new Burrard Inlet crossing?

Never, says Premier Bennett. But there are indications he would like to be able to say, "Well, all right, since it seems nothing else is acceptable to the other parties . . ."

This would leave the premier open to political attack since he has made such a fetish about toll free bridges.

It would seem the government is caught in its own glue.

But, wait — the secret formula.

Premier Bennett swears he won't tell what it is until he meets Mayor Campbell Wednesday.

This has led to a great deal of speculation.

The premier's citing of the CPR and other members of the Project 200 group on Vancouver's waterfront, according to the Liberals, indicates he is simply trying to counteract the political effect of Ottawa's financing offer.

B.C. has been caught off-guard, the Liberals claim, and now is trying to win back an advantage.

In these circumstances, the argument goes, it doesn't matter how outrageous the proposed formula is because it is never intended to be implemented. What the premier really wants, the Liberals claim, is to be able to say, "There, I tried and nobody would co-operate."

Does this mean the government intends to do nothing about the new crossing — beyond attempting to stall Ottawa? Not likely, because obviously something must be done soon.

However, rejection of his formula could set up a situation in which tolls might be accepted as a way to help finance the new crossing without adding to the municipalities' debt load.

At this session there has been growing willingness among the MLAs most concerned to solve the financing problem through tolls.

Evan Wolfe, outspoken Soared backbencher from Vancouver Centre, favors tolls but adds the difficulty lies in compromise between

this and what he calls "the political philosophy of the province."

Allan Williams, Liberal from West Vancouver, says a cross section of his constituents have indicated they don't oppose a toll structure.

Premier Bennett, however, is stiff-necked when it comes to backing down on political issues.

His decision to invite Mayor Campbell, according to observers, may mean an attempt to shift the responsibility for putting tolls back on the Burrard Inlet crossing to the municipalities, specifically Vancouver.

In 1962 Bennett offered the Lions Gate bridge to Vancouver and the three North Shore municipalities as a gift. At the time he promised the government would also pay one-third of the cost of a new First Narrows crossing. The premier added, of course, it would be up to the municipalities to decide whether tolls would stay or be lifted along with those on the Second Narrows structure.

Nothing came of that offer but the premier may decide to try it once more on Campbell.

Supposing, for the sake of argument, tolls were put back on the Lions Gate span by local government. The revenue could run something less than \$2 million a year.

If B.C., in addition to handing over the old crossing, struck by its promise to put up \$27 million (roughly one-third of the costs of the new tunnel-bridge crossing) a workable formula might emerge.

The federal government, which has talked of a substantial outright grant, could put up a similar amount leaving \$27 to \$30 million outstanding as the local share.

A federal loan repayable over 50 years at 5½ per cent interest would require \$1.6 million annually to cover principal and interest. So no higher local taxes, and tolls but not provincial tolls. Nice work if Premier Bennett could swing it.



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1967

# Gov't ignores air pollution, claim MLAs

By IAN STREET  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The government was accused in the legislature Tuesday of watering down its pollution control legislation and ignoring air pollution.

The Opposition failed in an attempt to amend two sections of the Pollution Control Act. Debate on the bill was adjourned at the committee stage.

One opposition amendment dealt with the makeup of the Pollution Control Board, which Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby Edmonds) said should be composed entirely of people from outside the government service.

The other proposed a change in the definition of pollution to include air pollution as well as land and water pollution.

## GUMS FOR TEETH

Dowding said if the board tries to control air pollution, under the legislation as it stands, its orders would be quashed by the courts. He said: "It's obvious the government has no intention of using this act as an instrument to control air pollution."

Garde Gardom (L-Point Grey) said the bill was vague and badly drafted, and has "gums for teeth."

Resources Minister Williston told the House: "Lawyers across Canada have produced more paperwork and generally have been less effective than any other group on the issue of pollution control. The problems we face are terrific and will be tackled. But we need action rather than words."

Dr. Pat McGeer (L-Point Grey) said the government is ignoring air pollution, which he claimed is a far more serious threat to health than any other form of pollution.

## HAND TIED

Medical reports indicate dan-

ger in long-term exposure to low-level air pollution, which already exists in several B.C. centres, including Alberni, McGeer said. He said this condition can lead to cancer, emphysema and chronic bronchitis.

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault said the government was in effect establishing a new Pollution Control Board which has one hand tied behind its back because it cannot attack air pollution properly.

Both Dowding and Perrault said the only way B.C. can regain the lost public confidence in the board is to sever all connections between the board and the government.

Williston said that, by providing for salaries for board members in the new act, the government has left membership "wide open." He added: "I see no merit in a restricted covenant."

Randolph Harding (NDP-Regina) said the arguments put up by the government were "sheer nonsense" and said it is obvious B.C. has no intention of tackling air pollution.

"That, as far as I'm concerned, is legislative stupidity," Harding said.

Alex Macdonald (NDP-Vancouver East) said Vancouver is becoming a smog city and urged the government to impose strict air pollution controls now before the situation gets out of hand. For a start, he said, the government can halt the changeover from trolley buses to diesel buses in the Lower Mainland transit system.

Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell said the only workable approach to pollution generally involves all three levels of government. He said two regional districts already have pollution control as a function.

# Fewer die but more injured

The industrial accident rate in B.C. last year came within 240 of the all-time high of 95,562 reported in 1956.

The annual report of the Workmen's Compensation Board shows 95,322 injuries reported, 690 more than in 1965. But there were fewer deaths—216 compared with 253 the previous year.

The province's biggest industry, forest products, bore the brunt of the accident rate at 23.3 per cent. Other major industries sharing the load were general manufacturing (17.6 per cent); construction and allied trades (17.5) and trade and service (16.4).

More than 28,000 of the accidents resulted in the worker being off work more than three

days, the qualifying period for compensation benefits. Work days lost through injury were 1,172,968.

Nearly 35 per cent of the compensable accidents were caused by objects or materials hitting workers, nearly 20 per cent by falls and slips on the same level and more than 12 per cent by falls from one level to another.

Wednesday, March 22, 1967

# Bennett lauds fluoridation— but votes no

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier Bennett promised Tuesday night to recommend government action to promote fluoridation of water supplies. "I am a strong supporter of fluoridation," Bennett

told the legislature during debate on an amendment to the Municipal Act proposed by Dr. Pat McGeer (L — Vancouver Point Grey). "I will recommend that the department of education give more education on fluoridation. I will recommend fluoridation be placed before a committee of the legislature for study at the next session."

But Bennett and other government members defeated McGeer's amendment, which would have reduced the majority needed to pass a municipal fluoridation plebiscite from 60 to 50 per cent.

"A fifty-fifty basis is not good in an issue like this — if a community can pass something with a 50 per cent majority, it can turn around and repeal it with 50 per cent," Bennett said.

## HAD 80 PER CENT

"You can't enforce this until people are ready for it. You've got to build confidence and goodwill. When fluoridation was approved in my community (Kelowna) we didn't have any 60 per cent majority — we had 80 or 85 per cent."

"If you pass this amendment, people are going to believe the doctors are shoving fluoridation down the throats of the people of B.C."

Cyril Shelford (SC—Omineca) attacked the government policy. "I can't understand how anyone can argue that a minority of 40 per cent can dictate to a majority of 60 per cent," he said. "It's just not democratic."

Shelford said a report from Prince George showed that the number of children free of cavities went up from 2.9 per cent in 1956 to 12 per cent in 1962 as a result of fluoridation.

McGeer said B.C. is producing only seven new dentists a year, which is not enough to keep up with the expansion of population.

## 'ONLY ANSWER'

"Members from northern communities have said in the House that they can't possibly get the dentists that are needed in their areas," McGeer said. "Fluoridation is the only answer."

He said the government has muzzled its public health officials on the fluoridation issue in the past, and they should be freed to speak in favor of it.

Only 100,000 people in B.C. drink fluoridated water, he said, which puts the province ninth in Canada in terms of per capita fluoridation. Only Newfoundland has a worse record.

## ★ Harbors board passes

A bill to establish a B.C. Harbors Board, with borrowing power of \$25 million, was given third and final reading Tuesday in the legislature.

The bill will become law with royal assent at the end of the current session, expected late this week.

Attorney-General Bonner said previously that the bill would allow development of a "super-port" at Roberts Bank, 20 miles south of Vancouver.

NDP members joined Social Credit MLAs in giving clause-by-clause approval to the bill. The six-man Liberal group in the House opposed it.

Leo Nimsick (NDP — Kootenay) asked Bonner, as commercial transport minister, if the Crows Nest Coal Co. had agreed to ship Japan-bound coal through such a port.

Bonner said that negotiations for such a contract are still under way in Japan "and have not been concluded to my knowledge."

Nimsick asked if the super-port plan had any basis to justify development at this time.

"I have a qualified letter stating the intention of the Great Northern Railway," Bonner said. The provincial government last week gave approval to construction of a 70-mile spur line from Fernie, in eastern B.C., to the Great Northern route in Montana.

"If the railway route is approved, this would be part of the conditions of a grant," Bonner said.

Nimsick asked if the super-port development and establishment of the harbors board was "a result of negotiations with the CPR breaking down completely?"

Bonner answered: "Basically, yes."



# Socreds ride out compensation storm

By IAN STREET  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The Opposition now appears quite reconciled to a 12-month delay in approval of the new Workmen's Compensation Act.

The NDP, Liberals and a handful of Socreds have had their say in the legislature, castigating the government for abuses under the present compensation system.

But they haven't been able to budge the government from its determination to ride out the storm, taking whatever criticism it will generate in the months ahead.

Labor Minister Peterson defends the government's position. He points out the revised act, slated to be dealt with at the 1968 session, includes all but one of Mr. Justice Tysoe's recommendations and even goes further.

Instead of merely patching up the present Workmen's Compensation Act, he says, the government has brought in an entirely new bill that it can be proud of.

Why, if this is the case, asks the Opposition, doesn't it seek immediate approval of the changes? There are several important bills, just as complex, which are being dealt with on short notice at this session. The government's only answer is that this time it wants to be sure of getting good compensation legislation.

The intention, according to Peterson, is to ask the WCB to implement some of the major principles in the new legislation on a trial basis over the next year. This will serve to test them under conditions of actual use before becoming law.

The most important of these new principles, embodied in removal of two words "by accident" — from the present act, opens up a broad new field of compensation.

Opposition Leader Strachan

describes this departure as "lifting the cloud from the whole field of compensation" in B.C.

According to Peterson, the new act was drafted over a period of 18 months by a committee of representatives of the labor department, attorney general's department and the Workmen's Compensation Board.

He admits the committee was not unanimous in supporting all provisions in the bill. The government only received the final draft from the committee a couple of weeks ago and introduced it immediately in the legislature, Peterson adds.

Probably however, the government's reluctance to act hastily on this particular piece of new legislation is the matter of costs. Last year increased compensation benefits cost \$47.7 million, more than double the estimates.

The government provided \$10 million to be paid in four annual instalments to help meet the cost of the pension increases ordered in November, 1965.

WBC spokesmen claim the increase in pension benefits were the major reason for a \$17.7 million deficit in the board's operations last year. In an attempt to recoup this loss assessments on industry for 1967 range from 40 per cent to 100 per cent.

No wonder, in the circumstances, that the WBC is anxious to gain experience on new principles which will more readily available and presumably make pensions thus further boost costs to industry.

It's "likely that further amendments will be introduced at the 1968 session." The government says nothing at this stage, but one backbencher on the government side this week made a suggestion that curled a few political eyebrows, but may receive consideration — charge part of the cost directly to workmen.

## Bargaining

### 150 robbed of rights, charges NDP member

The government is forcing 150 employees of the B.C. Medical Plan to become civil servants to deny them bargaining rights says Alex Macdonald (NDP-Vancouver East).

He told the legislature Tuesday night it is incredible that employees of an agency like the B.C. Medical Plan should lose their rights to collective bargaining.

"This is an important matter, affecting the civil liberties of these employees," Macdonald said. "They chose to join the Office Workers' Union and applied to the Labor Relations Board for certification, only to be rejected because they were servants of the Crown."

"The courts upset this ruling and restored the employees' rights of free collective bargaining, which are now to be removed by the arrogant retroactive power of this government."

Health Minister Black assured the House the government has no intention of applying the civil service rule to employees of other private non-profit medical insurance plans in the province.

The legislature gave third and final reading to the medicare bill shortly before 11:30 p.m. Tuesday. It provides for setting up of a medical grants commission to meet requirements of the national medicare plan, due to begin July 1, 1968.

## 'Grapeshot' law falls under Opposition fire

Attorney-General Bonner bowed to Opposition MLAs Tuesday and withdrew a Motor Vehicles Act amendment to which they objected. But he said he would keep trying to find a legal formula to end sloppiness by prosecutors in using the careless driving charge under the existing act.

The amendment would have permitted a magistrate, after hearing evidence in a careless driving charge, to adjourn the case and lay another more specific charge on the basis of the evidence.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby Edmonds) said this would allow magistrates to check the whole Motor Vehicles Act after

the careless driving charge was laid "to see if there isn't something that can be pinned on the accused."

This reflects an attitude that anyone involved in an accident must be guilty of something, he said.

"It's straight grapeshot law," said Garde Gardom (L—Vancouver Point Grey). "If the first ball doesn't get you, the second pellet will." He said police use the careless driving section as a catch-all on the assumption they are bound to find grounds for another charge during the course of the trial.

Ernie LeCours (SC—Richmond) said the careless driving section is the prop of a lazy prosecution. "Instead of encouraging this, we should be protecting people against sloppy prosecutions," he said.

Bonner said the proposed amendment would parallel similar provisions in the Criminal Code. He agreed that careless driving charges are open to misuse and charges should be drawn up with precision.

"My department has been quite concerned with the careless manner in which this section has been applied from time to time," he said.

"I'm not anxious to press this amendment against objections that have been conscientiously taken, so I'll withdraw it."

After the section was dropped, the bill was passed. Among its other provisions:

- Auto dealers can lose their business licences if they are convicted of turning back mileage readings to mislead prospective car buyers.

- Television sets in cars must not be within view of the driver.

- Youths under 18 must have written authorization from a parent or guardian before they can register vehicles in their own name.

- Civic and highways department employees can remove parked vehicles that are interfering with snow clearing operations, without first obtaining police permission.



GARDE GARDOM

### New Orleans...

## Gaglardi forgets who flew south

By BOB McCONNELL

VICTORIA—The government's Lear jet flew the equivalent of 3½ times around the world between last June and the end of December.

Figures released Tuesday by Highways Minister Gaglardi show the plane flew 70,000 miles in B.C. and 19,000 miles outside the province.

It went to Edmonton, Calgary, Regina, Seattle, Portland, Wichita, Kansas, and New Orleans, Gaglardi replied to questions by Liberal Leader Ray Perrault. Names of passengers and reasons for trips were not recorded.

The cost of leasing the plane was \$41,408 for the seven months, and fuel cost \$17,975.

Gaglardi said later the trip to Wichita was for repairs at the Lear factory, and the trip to New Orleans was by a delegation from another government department. He could not recall what department it was and he was not on the trip, he said.

All other trips outside B.C. were by various government members for conferences and speaking engagements, he said.

Gaglardi said the figures bear out his claim that flying in the controversial jet is far cheaper than travelling by car. "The government has hired no extra pilots and installed no new facilities," he said. The only costs are lease and fuel, and these work out to much less than the 10 cents a mile estimated as the running cost of a car.

In reply to Opposition Leader Strachan, Gaglardi said the government has spent \$65,160 since 1958 to buy six aircraft other than the Lear jet, which costs \$5,915 a month to lease.

He said the government hires seven pilots whose salaries range from \$570 to \$860 a month.



# Bennett lifts gym 'freeze' as Opposition cries 'aha!'

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The freeze is off school gymnasium construction in B.C., Premier Bennett told the legislature Tuesday.

He said the government has sold a \$25 million bond issue in New York to allow it to lift the ban on construction of gyms and activity rooms that began in October.

A companion ban on all other school construction was lifted earlier when the government sold a similar \$25 million bond issue. School trustees throughout the province had complained bitterly about the delay in school building.

"This is an especially good day," Bennett told the House. "The budget speech in January has had a tremendous effect on the finances of the province."

"During the high-interest period, we had to take in several million dollars worth of parity bonds, but these are now out and we have been successful in raising an extra \$25 million at a favorable rate on the New York market."

Bennett's first mention of the word freeze was greeted with uproar on the Opposition side of the House. Opposition members claimed the government had consistently refused to acknowledge that a freeze on gymnasium construction existed.

Said Liberal Leader Perreault: "It is almost as though we are living in a never-never land. We heard during the entire session that there has been no freeze at all — now we discover there was no freeze until the thaw set in."

Education Minister Peterson, who got into trouble earlier in the session for saying that B.C. students are too pampered and should take more physical education outdoors, said the government had never denied the freeze.

"We denied there was ever any freeze in construction of new classrooms," Peterson said. "We did not deny that a freeze existed in gymnasium construction."

Peterson said outside the House that two major school projects in Vancouver — Sir Wilfred Grenfell and McKechnie elementary schools — had been held up briefly by the ban because gymnasiums are an integral part of their design.

But approval was given earlier for Grenfell to go ahead with a roughed-in gym-

nasium, Peterson said, and he gave the school board secret assurance several weeks ago that it could go ahead with McKechnie.

No overall school projects have been prevented from completion on schedule by the construction freeze, he said.

"Some activity rooms and gymnasiums may not be ready for the 1967-68 term opening in September, but no pupils will be without these facilities for more than a very short time."

All applications for gymnasium and activity room construction now pending will be approved immediately, he said. He could not say how many applications are pending or how much investment they represent, except that they will not begin to reach the \$25 million.

The bond issue is in 20-year sinking fund debentures worth \$25 million in U.S. funds, with an interest rate of 5 and seven-eighths per cent payable semi-annually. The bonds were discounted at \$99.25.

The government's decision came as the B.C. School Trustees' Association was planning to submit a brief next week to Peterson asking for an end to the construction freeze.

The brief was to have been based on a survey of 83 school boards in the province showing that 67 of them were awaiting approval of school gymnasiums, activity rooms and other miscellaneous school construction totalling more than \$5 million.

Included in the list were: six gymnasiums at \$726,000; 46 activity rooms at \$2.26 million, four gymnasium-auditoriums at \$653,000, two auditoriums at \$400,000, and maintenance facilities, a school board office and a cafeteria for an additional \$988,000.

In Vancouver, the reaction to Bennett's announcement was warm.

"I congratulate the government on lifting the freeze on school gymnasium and activity room construction," said Mrs. Betsy McDonald, chairman of the school board. "I am delighted. These gyms and rooms are essential to good education all over the province."

Mrs. McDonald said the decision will be an immediate advantage to Vancouver because it will permit a start on new buildings badly needed at the Brock annex, Maquinna annex and the Grenfell addition.

## Why higher power rates?

Since Premier Bennett's silence seems to give consent to predictions that B.C. Hydro rates will go up on April 1, British Columbians are curious about the rumor.

When the government took over the B.C. Electric Premier Bennett announced that lower rates would be possible. He said BCE was a monopoly, a cost-plus industry and that part of the cost was the big corporation tax it paid to Ottawa.

The premier kept his word. Since then the average cost of a kilowatt hour to a residential customer in Vancouver has been reduced in stages from 2.2 to 1.5 cents; in Kamloops and Prince George from 2.3 to 1.5 cents. Total reductions to consumers are now worth close to \$80 million.

Why should higher rates now be necessary? B.C. Hydro is a monopoly just like BCE was. Hydro doesn't pay corporation taxes to

Ottawa and is supposed to be operated on a non-profit basis.

Hydro now produces power for about five mills (half a cent) per kilowatt hour and sells it to customers for three times that much. The difference is the cost of distribution. Have distribution costs risen enough to warrant the increase?

There is nothing to suggest that increased cost of developing Columbia power would necessitate the boost. Even if inflation doubles the cost of electricity from that source it would still be cheaper than the present average cost of all Hydro's present power sources.

The Financial Post implies that perhaps the rate cuts were a political effort to popularize the BCE take-over and that rates shouldn't have been reduced in the first place. It quotes a one-time senior BCE official to the effect that the money should have been retained by Hydro to cover capital expansion that is needed now.

The provincial government's political opponents claim that the main problem is the expensive Peace River project. Mr. Bennett, of course, denies this. But his opponents claim that the only way to raise adequate money for the Peace River development in the New York money markets is to step up considerably the profits made by B.C. Hydro.

Thus the Peace project, they say, distorts the general financial structure of the publicly owned utility, which could get along on much lower profits if it did not have to develop the Peace.

So the electricity user can take his pick of the likeliest reason for higher power rates.

A political hangover? Need for capital funds to expand Hydro's existing system? Sugaring up Hydro profits to obtain cheaper funds in New York for the Peace?

Whatever the explanation, there is an interesting selection to choose from.

## Premier says \$140,000 earmarked for stadium

VICTORIA — The government will pay more than \$140,000 toward a proposed 10,000-seat junior sports stadium in Burnaby, Premier Bennett announced Tuesday.

In reply to a question from Herb Capozzi (SC-Vancouver Centre) the Premier said the government will pay one-third of the \$425,000 still to be raised for the \$500,000 project.

Bennett said the grant will come out of a \$25 million

school bond issue recently floated in New York.

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby-Edmonds) protested the sudden decision, which came minutes after Capozzi made the request and had passed around a picture of a model of the proposed stadium.

"Once again it is demonstrated how the government is run in B.C.," Dowding said. "There was an instant cabinet meeting on the floor of the House,

a picture was shown to a couple of cabinet ministers, and suddenly it is announced that the government will pay one-third of the cost of this project."

The stadium will be part of a recreational complex being developed at Central Park by the Vancouver Parks Board and the Burnaby Park Commission.

Other facilities will include tennis courts, a swimming pool, miniature golf course, and a baseball diamond.

The stadium will have an all-weather field, an olympic-size track and covered stands.

A committee has been working for four years to raise \$73,000 toward the stadium. Most of this came from exhibition games of the B.C. Lions football team. Capozzi said the committee intends to raise remaining funds from private interests.

High schools in Greater Vancouver will have first call on the stadium, followed by other teams of athletes aged 21 and under.

## Socred campaign costs put others in shade

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Social Credit spent over 2½ times as much as the combined opposition in last September's provincial election.

In the legislature Tuesday, Provincial Secretary Black filed the declared expenses of all political parties contesting the election.

Social Credit declared expenses of \$437,182; the NDP \$125,394; and the Liberals \$45,639. The Progressive Conservatives didn't file any return, and the Communist Party of Canada listed its expenses as \$2,121.

The riding in which the Socreds spent the most money was Alberni, where H. R. McDiarmid upset NDP incumbent John Squire.

McDiarmid's campaign cost \$13,029 compared with \$2,878 for Squire.

But in Vancouver Burrard where Tom Berger and Dr. Ray Parkinson won, the NDP spent \$3,780 while the Socreds declared \$1,726 expenses.

In Vancouver Point Grey where the government tried

desperately to defeat Liberals Dr. Pat McGeer and Garde Gardom, spending by Social Credit is listed as \$10,768.

Liberals in Point Grey elected both their candidates, knocking off Attorney General Bonner in the process in a campaign which cost a declared \$4,151. This was the highest single riding total for the Liberals.

In Vancouver Centre the successful Socreds, Evan Wolfe and Herb Capozzi, spent \$11,666, far more than any other party in the riding.

In Oak Bay, Liberal Alan Macfarlane spent \$7,834 against the \$8,500 declared by his unsuccessful Socred challenger, Dr. Charles Ennals.

The most expensive individual NDP campaign was in Coquitlam where Dave Barrett was elected at a declared cost of \$3,781.

In West Vancouver - Howe Sound, Allan Williams won for the Liberals with campaign expenses of \$5,531. The Socreds spent \$4,346 in this riding.



## MLAs on bad trip over LSD moves

The legislature got entangled in a web of LSD control legislation Tuesday—and emerged more confused than when it started.

At issue was an amendment to the Health Act, setting a maximum penalty of a \$2,000 fine and six months in jail for possession of the drug without approval of the provincial health officer.

This duplicates the new Proscribed Substances Act introduced earlier in the session, which also extends the penalty to possession of marijuana.

Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver Burrard) said a person could be charged twice with the same offence if both statutes are allowed to stand.

"I share in the government's desire to stamp out LSD, but this is an infringement of fundamental human rights we cannot allow," Berger said.

"Our entire system of law is directed to the premise that double jeopardy shall not exist. This legislation means double jeopardy."

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby Edmonds) said any lawyer could get his client off on an LSD charge if both statutes are passed.

He was interrupted by Allan Williams (L—West Vancouver-Howe Sound), who said no lawyer should take advantage of legal technicalities to allow LSD to flourish.

Dowding replied: "If the legis-

lature puts these two laws before the province and someone is charged under them, then any lawyer who has sworn his oath must protect his client in any way the law permits.

"If any lawyer doesn't do this, he shouldn't be allowed to practice."

"I want to see that the government's legislation is effective in preventing the dissemination of LSD throughout the province."

Dowding and Berger asked the government to kill the Proscribed Substances Act, which they claim is unconstitutional, because it conflicts with the federal government's right to make a criminal law, and leave LSD control under the Health Act.

Health Minister Black said he couldn't see what the fuss was about. "As a layman, it seems quite simple to me — if one law is good, two are twice as good."

Attorney-General Bonner said the discussion was probably academic because the federal government is preparing legislation outlawing LSD.

"We can leave these statutes on the books until the next session," he said. "If the federal government has acted satisfactorily by then, we can withdraw them."

The Health Act amendment was passed by the House, but third and final reading was postponed until today.

## New Democrats fight over mining measure

The New Democratic Party split during debate on an amendment to a proposed mining regulation act Tuesday in the legislature.

The debate within the party was greeted by loud desk-thumping from government benches, and Premier Bennett said at one stage: "I suggest the NDP caucus carry on in some other room."

The amendment, which eventually received House approval, would permit 17-year-olds to work underground in a mine if they are participating in an approved training program.

Leo Nimsick (NDP—Kootenay) started the squabble by labelling the amendment "a backward step" because the government "shouldn't try to induce lads to quit school to go underground to train for mines."

He said the youths would be "running errands and doing things done by adult miners who get full wages" and the minimum age for working in mines should remain at 18.

Frank Calder (NDP—Atlin)

disagreed. He said training is important because older, but inexperienced, miners are injured in accidents that could be prevented.

Dave Stupich (NDP—Nanaimo) charged that the government is "sending children back into the mines" and was joined by William Hartley (NDP—Yale-Lillooet) who said the government "is backing the mining promoters by trying to get child labor back in the mines."

Opposition Leader Strachan said the age should remain at 18 because "the more maturity in the individual, the more safe that mine will be."

Randolph Harding (NDP—Revelstoke-Slocan) said he supported the amendment because "training of any kind for any job is good."

The bill, which also provides for stiffer safety regulations in all mines except coal mines, passed clause-by-clause debate in committee stage. It is expected to receive final reading today.

## Premier rants, waves

By BOB McCONNELL  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier Bennett delivered a shouting, arm-waving denunciation of the Opposition parties in the legislature Wednesday night.

Bennett was defending Works Minister Chant after Opposition Leader Strachan introduced an amendment that would have reduced Chant's salary by \$1 — the traditional expression of non-confidence in a cabinet minister.

"We know the leader of the Opposition is in trouble in his own party," Bennett said. "He is trying to put up a false front."

"The socialists accuse us of having tired blood, but they don't have any blood at all. They're not even a milk and water party—they're a skim milk and water party."

"Throughout this session we have listened to insults across the floor day in and day out, because that's all they have to offer. They're all mixed up—they're all played out."

Bennett, whose remarks were constantly drowned out by desk thumping approval from his own backbenchers, and jeers and shouts from Opposition members, also got his licks in at the Liberals.

"The Liberal party is a has-been party—a party of the past, afraid of the past. They have no future."

Said Strachan: "The works minister exemplifies the arrogant attitude the government has displayed throughout this session. Like every other cabinet minister, he has consistently refused to enunciate policy or answer the Opposition's questions."

"He has squandered the money of the people by erecting buildings and leaving them unfinished. He has a very shabby record as minister of public works."

Liberal Leader Perrault said his party had planned to vote against the amendment, but

changed its mind after hearing Bennett's attack.

"The premier reminds me of a punch-drunk fighter who hears the bell ring and staggers out in the middle and says, 'I can lick any fighter in the house.'"

"He makes a foolish spectacle of himself. It is a sheer example of demagogery."

The amendment was defeated by 27 votes to 20.

During debate on Chant's estimates, members of both sides of the legislature complained of disgraceful and inadequate facilities for MLAs during legislative sessions.

### A DISGRACE

Said Cyril Shelford (SC — Omineca): "I want to appeal for better accommodation for members who have to travel 500 miles to get here."

"It's a disgrace in my opinion that we should have to lean in corridors talking to the people who come to see us."

Dudley Little (SC — Skeena) complained that Chant has been promising for six years that committee rooms would be renovated, but nothing has been done.

Bob Williams (NDP—Vancouver East) said: "I can only regard the quarters given to members of this legislature as an insult. I think we are treated in a disgusting manner."

He said his office consists of one table shared by 13 other NDP members for opening mail, writing letters, dictating statements and performing other routine duties.

### \$500,000 SPENT

Alan Williams (L—West Vancouver-Howe Sound) said civil servants are forced to work in inadequate facilities in the basement of the legislative buildings. Efficiency is much higher with good working areas for employees, he said.

Chant said a great deal of work has been done on a master plan for the capital area.

"In the last year we've spent over \$500,000 in acquiring old premises within the government precincts," Chant said.

The master plan for the area won't be made public at this time, he added.

Chant's departmental estimates of \$21.3 million were approved after three hours of debate.

### Home stretch

## Drive to end session

The first session of the 28th B.C. Legislature is in the home stretch.

Early today, MLAs appeared headed for a marathon sitting in a drive to end the session, which began Jan. 24, by this evening.

Among business still to be dealt with is the report of the special committee on gasoline pricing in B.C. It is expected to recommend legislation barring consignment sales and purchase agreements for periods of longer than five years.

Oil company representatives, appearing before the committee, said both practices had been stopped in the majority of cases to abide by recommendations of the Morrow royal commission.

After the completion of Recreation Minister Kiernan's estimates, slated for early this morning, the House still had to deal with estimates for the three new ministers without portfolio, the Public Utilities Commission, and pass the overall supply bill.

This afternoon the legislators will deal with public bills in the hands of private members and clear up a number of motions and resolutions pending on the order paper.

Lt.-Gov. George Pearkes is expected to be called into the House sometime this evening to give royal assent to the government legislative program and prorogue the session which has lasted nearly 8½ weeks.

### Near Quesnel

## \$45,000 for land in park

The government has decided to pay \$45,000 to acquire the last privately-owned land inside Bowron Lake Provincial Park, east of Quesnel.

The owner, Roy D. McKittrick, had asked considerably more for the 133 acres on Indian Point Lake.

He had obtained permission to sue the Crown and hired lawyers to represent him, but the case was settled out of court.

It is understood McKittrick and the government agreed on the \$45,000 price before a cabinet order authorizing its payment was drawn up.

### Strike blamed

## About that flight to New Orleans . . .

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The U.S. airlines strike was responsible for the government's new Lear jet flying to New Orleans last year, says Labor Minister Peterson.

The plane was used to fly a labor department delegation to a convention of the International Association of Government Labor Officials.

"We had arranged to fly on a commercial airline, but the strike came up and we had to take the jet," Peterson said Wednesday.

The trip to New Orleans had been disclosed Tuesday when Highways Minister Gagliardi replied in the legislature to a series of questions by Liberal Leader Perrault on the plane's operations. But he said outside the House he couldn't recall why the jet went to New Orleans.

Gagliardi said the plane flew about 89,000 miles from the time the government leased it in June until the end of the year. Lease cost for the period was \$41,408 and fuel amounted to \$17,975.

This works out to about 66 cents a mile, based on fuel and lease costs alone.

Gagliardi earlier claimed the jet cost only 30 cents a mile to operate.





By IAN STREET  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A careless stroke of the pen has Opposition Leader Strachan hopping mad.

It made spending by the NDP provincial office in last September's general election appear as \$125,394—instead of \$25,394—in official returns filed in the legislature.

Strachan's obvious discomfiture and loud complaints caused a lot of quiet merriment among members of the other parties.

Most of them frankly disbelieve the NDP's declared spending, but are grateful for any diversion that draws attention away from their own.

Close scrutiny of the answer to a written question shows the three major parties actually spent close to \$900,000 in the last election.

The politicians would like everyone to believe that central office spending includes the constituency expenses.

The Elections Act, under which returns are filed, however, says the two amounts are separate and therefore should be added together to get the total spending.

This means that Social Credit actually spent \$647,531; Liberals \$130,469; and the NDP, even with the \$100,000

error taken into account, spent \$115,990.

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault says he's tired of all the "self-righteous bleating" by the NDP over election expenses.

He claims the official opposition has far more resources to draw on than the Liberals, meaning organized labor, though for obvious reasons this isn't disclosed.

Untrue, says Strachan, and he is backed by NDP Provincial Secretary Clive Lytle who is directly responsible for the returns. Lytle says 90 per cent of the provincial party's election campaign expenses comes from constituency association donations, the rest from individuals.

The party secretary specifically denies the charge that B.C. Federation of Labor does a large amount of the NDP's election printing.

The labor body does put out some labor-slanted material, Lytle says, but he has the printers' bills, some still unpaid, which say this charge is unfounded.

According to Strachan, the provincial election budget was originally \$29,000 but some \$4,000 was lopped off in the final week of the campaign because funds didn't come in as fast as anticipated.

The mistake in election spending figures filed in the House was traced to Provincial Secretary Black's office.

There, it seems, a secretary misread one of the vertical strokes on a badly-formed dollar sign to add \$100,000 to the provincial office total.

Lytle admits sloppy draftsmanship. A corrected return will be filed.

The possibility that the government set out to deliberately create confusion on this question is bandied about by other parties but there is nothing to substantiate it.

A dominant impression that emerges is that all predictions on spending were too conservative.

Last fall, the Socreds, facing an aroused and critical group of constituency representatives, estimated government election spending around \$500,000—about \$150,000 short of the actual figure.

Even Social Credit's campaign spending in two-member ridings must be doubled with the result that Vancouver Centre emerges on top spot with \$23,332—ahead of Point Grey with \$21,536.

The Liberals and NDP continue to argue their combined provincial and constituency spending totals must overlap.

Clearly, all politicians are aware that election spending can boomerang, but none is willing to stand the risk of losing ground by cutting down on campaigning.

## Gift suggestions for forgetful airmen...

Opposition MLAs should pass the hat to buy Highways Minister Gaglardi two things he obviously needs badly. One is a school primer on arithmetic. The other is a log book for the minister's Lear jet.

Patently the minister's arithmetic is more than a little shaky. He released figures to the legislature showing his department's jet plane flew 89,000 miles during the last seven months of 1966. Cost was itemized at \$41,408 for the plane's rental and \$17,975 for fuel—a total of \$59,383.

Yet Mr. Gaglardi asserted when questioned six weeks ago that the cost of operating the jet is between

25 and 30 cents a mile, about double the cost of driving a car.

Anybody else's arithmetic suggests the cost of Mr. Gaglardi's jet works out at 66.7 cents a mile for fuel and rent.

Back to the arithmetic book, Philip!

He needs a log book too. When asked about why the plane had to fly to Kansas and New Orleans, Mr. Gaglardi was vague. He said the Kansas trip was for repairs at the Lear factory and the trip to New Orleans was by a delegation from another government department, the identity of which he could not at first recall.

Nobody seems to have asked if the latter jaunt was at Mardi Gras time, a question not altogether out of order in view of Mr. Gaglardi's plane visit to Calgary coincidental with the Stampede last July.

It should be obvious to the minister by now that he should not rely on his memory when the opposition puts him on the spot about his jet plane. He should have some crisp answers—times, people, places, mileages and so on.

A log book is a MUST for all good airmen. And particularly for forgetful airmen who are involved with the public's money.

## Mayor impressed

### BENNETT LAUDED

Mayor Campbell met Premier Bennett for the first time Wednesday and was greatly impressed.

"He was very gracious," said Campbell. "He certainly impressed me. I think he is trying to do something for Vancouver."

Campbell was the first city mayor in 10 years to meet privately with Bennett in his office in the legislative buildings. Other mayors have met with the premier, but there were other people present.

Campbell said he thought the city's relations with Victoria now were good.

Thursday, March 23, 1967

## Bank site termed eyesore

The proposed site of the Bank of B.C. building Wednesday was criticized as an eyesore by opposition MLAs.

Dr. Pat McGeer (L-Point Grey) said the downtown Vancouver site is a "gaping maw ugly enough to drive people to drink."

The block, bounded by Robson, Hornby, Smith and Howe Streets, remains a partially blacktopped parking lot with a single building on it—the government liquor store.

"The government is just a squatter in the city," McGeer told the legislature. "This is a poor vote of confidence in Vancouver. What has happened to the castle in the air that started out at 20 storeys and grew to 55 storeys?"

"That's just what it is — a big storey," said an opposition heckler.

Bob Williams (NDP-Vancouver East) said the bank building site is an eyesore and the provincial government ranks with the worst real estate operators in the Lower Mainland.

Public Works Minister Chant, whose estimates were being discussed, told the House delays in approval of the B.C. Bank charter have complicated preliminary planning of the proposed headquarters building.

"My department is only a caretaker of that area and I have no commitments to make on plans for a building," Chant said.

## Ban on bugging fails to win gov't support

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — An Opposition move to keep evidence gained by electronic eavesdropping out of the courts was defeated by the government Wednesday.

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby Edmonds) introduced an amendment to the Evidence Act which would have only allowed bugging evidence if a magistrate had sworn out a search warrant to authorize the bugging.

Dowding said electronic eavesdropping has even been used in the Vancouver city jail, where police in one instance bugged a conversation between an accused couple and a priest.

"Because of protests from the defence, the prosecutor decided not to use the evidence," Dowding said.

"But he did so because of the distasteful way it had been gathered, not because the method was illegal."

There is no need to wait for the report of the royal commission on the invasion of privacy before outlawing bugging, he told the legislature.

"It is time the government showed it will not accept the idea of electronic eavesdropping and the invasion of privacy."

He said his amendment would

eliminate 80 per cent of the bugging that goes on, without penalizing anyone.

Liberal Leader Perrault said Britain and many American states have laws against bugging, but they do not go far enough.

"What is the difference between planting a radio transmitter in someone's living room and putting a shorthand stenographer in a closet to eavesdrop?" he asked.

"The result is still a verbatim account of the conversation."

The government will have to consider the whole question of invasion of privacy before it can pass meaningful laws, Perrault added.

Attorney-General Bonner said Dowding's amendment would produce a fragmented approach to the problem of privacy invasion. He said the legislature should wait for the royal commission's report.



## Aid for Centennial Trail requested by Gardom

Provincial aid for the Centennial Hiking Trail through the Fraser Valley, and for construction of a youth hostel in Garibaldi Provincial Park, was requested in the legislature Wednesday night.

Garde Gardom (L—Vancouver Point Grey) said the only provincial assistance now available to the Centennial Hiking Trail, from Simon Fraser University to Manning Park, was \$400 from the B.C. Centennial committee. The sum will be spent to mark historical sections of the trail.

The federal government is giving approximately \$11,000 to the project, Gardom said, and B.C. should provide more assistance.

Recreation Minister Kiernan has been sympathetic to representations from the Canadian Youth Hostel Association, but has given the group no money. It has over 10,000 members in Canada, and four hostels and 2,000 members in B.C.

Gardom said the Centennial Trail is the first portion of a proposed walking, cycling and canoe route to eventually run from the Lower Mainland to the Okanagan.

He said the proposed 70-bed Garibaldi hostel should qualify for a one-third grant from the provincial government and B.C. should also advance a loan to cover a major portion of the remainder of the cost.

The assistance would be a good investment because the hostel is guaranteed full use from the outset, Gardom said.

Leo Nimsick (NDP—Kootenay) requested curbs on the use of helicopters in hunting to protect wildlife in the province.

Nimsick accused the government of being more interested in destroying parks for a quick profit from mining and logging than preserving them for future generations.

An example of this "destruction for the almighty dollar" is Buttle Lake, he said.

Nimsick suggested that Garibaldi park be turned into a national park to safeguard it for the future.

Jim Chabot (SC—Columbia River) made a plea for government interest in the use of Bugaboo Spires in the Kootenays, which he called a focal point for skiing enthusiasts from all over North America.

He said Province Editor Paddy Sherman, a noted mountain climber, and internationally-known skier Hans Gmoser were among leading supporters of this area.

## Park being spoiled, Barrett tells House

**Province Victoria Bureau**  
VICTORIA — Mining development in Tweedsmuir Park is going to make the Strathcona Park problem look like a minor one, says Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam).

He told the legislature Wednesday night that the government has approved 238 mining claims in Tweedsmuir in the last two years.

Two of these claims impinge on a nature conservancy area set up by the recreation department Feb. 27, Barrett said during discussion of Recreation Minister Kiernan's spending estimates.

In Strathcona, where Western Mines Ltd. is bringing a copper mine into production, the government claims they had to allow the mine to go ahead because the claims were registered before laws controlling mining in parks were passed, Barrett said.

"Exactly the opposite is true in Tweedsmuir Park, where Ashfork Mines Ltd. has the biggest group of the 238 claims," Barrett said.

"Almost all these claims were staked after the new Parks Act was introduced in 1965.

"If the minister of recreation in this province wants to allow mining in parks, then he

shouldn't hide behind a phony bill."

Barrett quoted from a brochure put out by Meteor Mining Ltd. which has 70 claims in the park. The brochure says access to the area was limited until June, 1966, when the government changed the rules to allow mining developers to build access roads.

Present NDP policy is to allow no mining exploration in parks, Barrett said.

"When I go to the next NDP policy convention I will try to get this changed so that all mining claims now in provincial parks will be cancelled," Barrett said.

Kiernan said in answer to Barrett's claims that Tweedsmuir is a class B park under the Parks Act, in which mining development is allowed if it does not destroy the recreational value of the park.

The minister said he did not believe the two claims made by Barrett actually impinged on the 600,000-acre conservancy area, in which no commercial development is allowed.

He added that if development took place underground, there could be no damage to the conservancy concept.

# Buddy can you spare \$739 million?

By BOB McCONNELL  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The first session of the twenty-eighth B.C. legislature ended Thursday night on a strong note of embarrassment.

After getting formal approval from Lieutenant-Governor Pearkes for 65 new bills, the government allowed the House to prorogue without any money for the coming year.

If it hadn't been for some quick thinking by Opposition Leader Strachan, Premier Bennett would have been stuck with a \$739.3 million April Fool's joke.

The lieutenant-governor formally adjourned the House at 8:40 p.m. and stepped down from the Speaker's podium to leave the chamber.

"Hey, wait a minute," stage-whispered Strachan, "What about the supply vote?"

The lieutenant-governor and his aides, Speaker William Murray and the entire House froze for one startled moment.

The aides retreated, Lieut. Gov. Pearkes returned to the chair and the supply bill, which provides the government with the money to carry out its programs for the coming year, was formally — if unconstitutionally — approved. See other legislature news on Page 11.

The bill should have followed in a list of new legislation given royal assent by the lieutenant-governor early in the prorogation ceremony.

Had its absence been overlooked, the legislature could have been required to reconvene after Easter to vote the government its money.

After the MLAs left the House for the year, Premier Bennett and the cabinet went to Government House to swear in Recreation and Conservation Minister Kiernan as minister of tourism.

It is the fourth portfolio Kiernan has held since 1952.

He earlier headed the agriculture and mines departments.

The House sat for 43 days during the session, four less than in 1966. There were 23 night sittings — the longest a marathon session that ended at 4:20 Thursday morning.

Despite the shorter session,

the government and the Opposition clashed more sharply than last year. There were over 50 divisions — formal standing votes — compared with only 23 in the 1966 session.

Among major legislation passed in the 1967 session were bills to:

- Protect consumers from unscrupulous sales practices, particularly by door-to-door salesmen.

- Provide a \$500 grant to first-time home buyers. The grant increases by \$25 a year for the next five years.

- Create a provincial harbors board with \$25 million spending authority to start work on a super-port at Roberts Bank near Tsawwassen.

- Create regional hospital districts throughout the province for joint development of hospitals by neighboring municipalities.

- Outlaw the use of marijuana and LSD without a permit from provincial health officials.

- Stop used car dealers from rolling back mileage readings on the cars they sell.

- Set up a new pollution control board with wide policy-making powers in pollution control.

- Revise securities control to put the small investors on a more even footing with company officials and other insiders.

- Tighten death duties laws to keep wealthy residents from escaping death taxes by investing in foreign countries.

One major piece of legislation which wasn't passed was a new workmen's compensation act incorporating the recommendations of the Tysoe royal commission.

The government introduced the new act, but held it over to the next session to allow detailed examination of the complex legislation.

## Shaughnessy bill

### Rich must wait

A private bill to extend the legislature's control over zoning in Shaughnessy Heights to 1984 died on the order paper.

Premier Bennett said the government wouldn't accept a bill for passage at this session because the need was not urgent. Present zoning regulations remain in force until 1969.

Bob Williams (NDP — Vancouver East) led an NDP attack on what he condemned as "special laws for the rich." He said zoning controls in Shaughnessy, like those in any other part of Vancouver, should rest with city council.

In Vancouver Ormonde Hall, of the Shaughnessy Heights Property Owners' Association, commented Friday night, "We are sorry the bill didn't make it this session, but we realize there is time enough yet."

## It's a record worth keeping . . .

It is sad to think that had Premier Bennett been Sir John A. Macdonald, Canada's Father of Confederation, we would not now know very much of our country's historic beginnings.

When the great Confederation debates began in Quebec in 1865 the government of the Province of Canada had no intention of recording them for posterity, any more than Premier Bennett intends now to introduce a Hansard to record speeches in the provincial legislature.

The arguments against a written record were almost identical with today's. It would cost too much. Long-winded Members would make verbal hay while the clerks toiled. One Member said: "We will be deluged with speeches that we would not otherwise have. The

Member for Brome, Christopher Dunkin, would speak at least 45 times."

Everyone laughed. But John Macdonald said if the House wanted the debates recorded, the government would see this was done. And it was.

Sir John's willingness to act served Canada well. Anyone who wishes to can today read every word of the five-week debate that created Canada. It is a historic record, a priceless documentation of the political circumstances and attitudes that prevailed at the birth of our nation.

Wouldn't a modern Hansard system perform the same function for B.C. as Canada enters her second century? A written record is permanent testimony not only of what is being said but what is

being done—and these are matters British Columbians of today and tomorrow have a right to know about.

There is also some chance that politicians speaking for the permanent record will rise to debating standards set by the Founding Fathers. They rose nobly to the occasion, delivering speeches of inspiring grandeur that contrast sharply with most of today's political speeches.

It may not be a popular thought in Victoria, but perhaps our venerable Founding Fathers can teach today's politicians a thing or two. Not the least of which is the fact that a political speech worth making is worth making well — and worth recording for those who have a special interest in what is being said.



## Private members' bills occupied dying minutes

The opposition had the floor in the final legislative sitting when the House spent Thursday discussing private members' bills and resolutions.

Twenty-two bills came up for second reading—approval in principle—and were defeated or ruled out of order.

They included bills to:

- Allow radio and television to broadcast live coverage of legislative debate. Introduced by Barrie Clark (L—North Vancouver-Seymour).

- Provide for a provincial university in the Okanagan. Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Vancouver Point Grey).

- Set up a commission to investigate the possibility of a government auto insurance scheme. Opposition Leader Strachan.

- Increase the minimum wage for both men and women to \$1.75. Rae Eddie (NDP—New Westminster).

- Appoint a commissioner of grievances or ombudsman to investigate complaints from individuals who feel they have been unfairly treated by the government. Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby Edmonds).

- Allow inmates in provincial jails to leave prison during the week to study, work, find a job or care for a family, returning to jail for weekends. Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam).

Herb Bruch (SC—Esquimalt) introduced a bill bringing the operations of the SPCA under a single statute. The bill was killed on a procedural objection by Cyril Shelford (SC—Omineca).

Private members' bills exist mainly as a way for opposition members to make their views known on a particular topic.

Most of the bills have no hope of being passed, since the government insists on having the sole right to initiate legislation.

## Gas price discussion blocked

The provincial government blocked a last-ditch attempt to revive discussion on the Morrow gasoline price report.

The NDP managed to raise the issue briefly during discussion of resolutions in the dying hours of the session.

It had the backing of Speaker William Murray who ruled that an amendment urging the government to bring the sale and distribution of gasoline under control of the Public Utilities Commission was in order.

But Premier Bennett challenged the Speaker's ruling and the challenge was upheld by a vote of 28 to 21 to end the discussion. Two Sacred MLAs — Cyril Shelford (Omineca) and Ernie Lecours (Richmond) — voted with the opposition.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) said the oil industry in B.C. is unquestionably a monopoly, overcharging the motoring public, and therefore should be brought under the PUC, not only to regulate prices, but to protect service station operators.

Earlier, Shelford failed in an attempt to get the house to adopt the report of the special committee which studied recommendations in the Morrow report.

The committee report said legislation should be passed, if necessary, to end consignment selling and supply agreements between dealers and company for more than five years' duration. It said another committee should be struck in 1969 to see whether these proposals have been adhered to.

Shelford said later the committee's report amounted to an apology to the oil companies for the royal commission inquiry and clear notice to Judge Murrow "That he didn't know what he was talking about."

## Sunday sports up to gov't

The legislative committee on municipal matters brought a controversial Sunday sports proposal before the House — by the back door.

The proposal would allow municipalities to hold a referendum to permit admission charges at Sunday sports.

Chairman Hunter Vogel (SC—

Langley) presented the committee's report on 15 other proposed municipal act recommendations. Then he presented an addendum to the report, recommending the House consider the Sunday sports proposal.

The report and addendum were received. Further action on the proposals is up to the government.

## Vietnam hots up legislature

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The verbal sniping grew hot and heavy when the legislature became embroiled in the Vietnam war Thursday.

It started when Frank Calder (NDP—Atlin) introduced a resolution to urge Ottawa to join UN Secretary-General U Thant and Pope Paul to bring about an immediate end to the U.S. bombing of North Vietnam.

"Canada cannot remain silent in the face of deliberate bombing of civilians," Calder said.

"The use of anti-personnel bombs and napalm has resulted in a barbaric war without equal in history."

Said Attorney-General Bonner: "This resolution is at least anti-American and at least incidentally hostile to the government of this country."

He said the government would support a resolution similar to the one passed in 1956, which urged Ottawa to work toward a peaceful settlement of the war.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) shouted: "How many children have been napalmed since you approved that resolution?"

"Don't make fatuous statements like that, my friend," Bonner replied. "Don't go around wearing your heart on your sleeve."

"Your party wasn't too eager to end

the Second World War, so don't try to lecture us about your desire for peace."

Education Minister Peterson said the resolution gives a very lopsided view of the war.

"If we are going to condemn a war we should condemn more than half a war," he said.

Pat McGeer (L—Vancouver Point Grey) said there is no question that the Communists are wrong in Vietnam.

"I regret that we have here a party that is prepared to condemn the government of Canada for its efforts to end the war and to declare that the Communists are right and the U.S. is wrong. I deplore that."

## Impressions of new MLAs

By IAN STREET  
Province Victoria Bureau

Who would remember King Harold if he hadn't been hit in the eye by an arrow?

Nobody, claims Herb Capozzi, who has been hit in the eye, verbally, more than anyone cares to remember at this session of the legislature.

But the freshman MLA for Vancouver Centre believes any publicity is good publicity for a politician, so he is not unhappy.

Some of the less flamboyant newcomers, however, are wondering whether they were wrong in keeping quiet for most of their first session.

It's unnerving for an untried MLA to go home at the weekend and be asked by his constituents, "what happened, don't you ever say anything in the legislature?"

Some will undoubtedly return next year determined to attract attention by adopting the kind of publicity-seeking tactics they see around them.

The 19 new MLAs have spent the past 8½ weeks under close scrutiny of their more experienced colleagues. Most admit their initial sense of strangeness and confusion has worn off, but few are happy with their freshman performance.

The fact that many newcomers on the government side have said little during the nearly nine weeks of this

session obviously doesn't bother Premier Bennett.

The premier offers this picture of a member with potential: observant, able to speak slowly and only when he has something to say, and with some fire in his belly.

Among the brightest of the new MLAs are the three whose views on the session are carried below. There are others, including Tom Berger, (NDP-Burrard), Bob Williams (NDP-Vancouver East) and despite his overworked talent for gratuitous insults Herb Capozzi (SC-Vancouver Centre).

Barrie Clark (L-North Vancouver-Seymour) and Ernie Hall (NDP-Surrey) have said little but manage to leave an impression they have potential and are biding their time.

Out of his quarter century of experience in the legislature, Premier Bennett looks at the Opposition newcomers and wishes there were more who would bide their time. He finds all new MLAs surer public speakers than the freshmen MLAs of his day. But inevitably they lack background and knowledge of legislature procedure, so his advice is to sit back, listen and learn.

The Opposition ignores him and so do some government backbenchers but when that happens the premier slaps them down. That's when Capozzi gets it in the eye.

## 'Stage where curtain never falls'

Evan Wolfe, S.C.

Before I took my seat, I had a pretty low opinion of the place. My impression was that most members lacked ability and merely occupied space.

This, I think, is a feeling still held by much of the public. It was reflected by people who asked me, "Why do you want to become an MLA? Those politicians haven't any ability. All they do is talk."

While my friends were right about the talking, they weren't right about the abilities of the individual MLAs.

I am impressed at how capable most members are, especially at cabinet level. In a world of yes men, it is refreshing to hear people who can say no. I believe our government is in very good hands.

I went into politics because this province has been good to me and I want to give something back. At the same time, I don't want to be wasting my time—I want some action on the problems that are facing the people in Vancouver-Centre and the Vancouver region.

These include a new First Narrows crossing, more low-cost housing, recreational facilities in senior citizens housing developments, pollution control and chronic hospitals.

I feel I have made some

progress. The government has approved four low-cost housing projects, which I think I had something to do with, three of them in Vancouver Centre.

To the new MLA the rapid fire debate and procedural niceties are confusing and intimidating. One feels he has been thrown onto a stage where he is constantly exposed and where the curtain never comes down.

The first impression was that too many people are talking too much. The Opposition seemed to be disrupting and harassing the government at every turn. Its only purpose seemed to be to obstruct. But I can see the importance of the Opposition role, for the members on the other side of the House have kept the government on its toes.

It strikes me that the legislature might save a lot of time if each member filed a report on his constituency matters at the beginning of the session. If there was anything a member wanted explained he could ask questions about the other reports.

This procedure would cut down tremendously on the talking time — and save more time for debate on essential matters such as departmental estimates and new legislation.



EVAN WOLFE



Saturday, March 25, 1967

## 'I must learn the rules of the game'

**Eileen Dailly, NDP**

As an MLA I'm supposed to be a political animal. But I keep wondering whether proceedings in the legislature are as meaningless as they seem.

It's a game. I can see that now, and I guess I'm going to have to learn some of the rules.

I'm annoyed when people call me the Lady MLA. I'm just a member, but perhaps as a woman I'm more practical, more anxious to get to the point and tidy things up.

This viewpoint probably comes out of 10 years spent in local government. There we approached the point of issue, tried to analyze it as best we could, then made our decision.

I'm getting so tired of members in the House speaking to the press gallery. If that is being a politician it's going to take me some time to get used to it. I find it difficult to reorient my thinking.

Too many members, it seems, just want to see their names in the paper. Instead I feel we in the Opposition should be trying to put across our ideas to the government — to change its viewpoint on important issues.

It often annoys me just to watch the government backbenchers. So many of their faces seem almost closed. They are so dedicated to the government that they're not even listening.

That is the whole point of our being here. I believe, we should be listening to everybody's ideas.

This is supposed to be democracy in action. It's a thrilling idea but I've found it doesn't often work out that way.

Watching the cabinet ministers I have a feeling this government has already been too long in office. There is an arrogance on the part of most ministers which members across the floor find most trying during estimates when we are seeking answers to the questions we raise.

Next year things will be different. I won't say I'll become nasty, but I'm going to be more aggressive in my pursuit of solutions.

There are people who say it is only natural that my party should have made education my responsibility. That's the sort of thing a woman can do. I can tell them that I have had an abiding interest in politics, both in labor and local government, for a number of years.

I came to Victoria as an MLA and I hope the people of Burnaby North didn't elect me as a lady MLA. What is a woman's point of view, anyway? I'm concerned with any problem that affects my constituents.



MRS. EILEEN DAILLY

Saturday, March 25, 1967

## 'Resist example of many veterans'

**Allan Williams, Lib.**

If I were allowed but one word to express my reaction to the legislature I would choose "startling."

My reaction reflects experience in municipal government. Generally speaking; at local level discussion is open, free, conducted in a spirit of harmonious co-operation and with a sense of responsible urgency to get the job done.

Regretfully, I find the legislature suffers by comparison and I believe political partisanship is the distinguishing influence. It should never be permitted to disappear from the provincial or national sphere but I feel it should not be encouraged at the local level.

As the member for West Vancouver-Howe Sound I find it unfortunate that "partisanship" has become so strong in our legislature as to dominate the process and detrimentally affect conduct of the people's business.

One must expect, and respect, both differences in opinion and some repetition. But I am startled to find that the intrusion of politics into deliberations in our legislature produces an atmosphere which tends to frustrate its purpose and the honest endeavor of most members.

My criticism is not restricted to those who support the government but includes members of the official Opposition.

It would be naive to expect procedures in the legislature to change without a change in

the government. But if the 19 new members will understand and respond to their role as legislators and resist the example of many veterans, there can be a substantial improvement in performance.

I am startled to find that government attitudes result in inefficient use of the time and energies of those members not in the cabinet. For example, the select standing committees are designed to bring important matters under the careful scrutiny of legislators.

Properly conducted, these committees afford the opportunity of hearing views of experienced persons who can contribute directly to the solution of problems and thus help guide members decide policy.

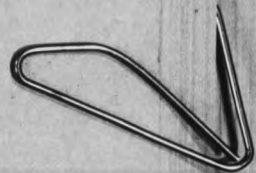
Yet, with rare and noteworthy exceptions, these committees do not meet — for the simple reason the government does not refer to them many important matters.

The failure to energize these committees creates the opportunity for politically inspired critical comment. Additionally, it leaves the members the alternative of being uninformed or ill-informed or susceptible to the slanted views of lobbyists and pressure groups.

In the final analysis, this failure encourages lengthy and sometimes acrimonious debate engendered partly from ignorance but largely from the need for inquiry into details when the time of the House might better be utilized in the broad discussion of policies.



ALLAN WILLIAMS





**M A R**

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# Maverick Socred LeCours Flays B.C. Police, Court

By IAIN HUNTER  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A stinging attack on allegedly incompetent and brutal elements in British Columbia's justice machinery was launched in the legislature Tuesday by Socred MLA Ernie LeCours.

In a 2½-hour address, the Richmond MLA charged police in the province with brutality and magistrates with incompetence.

He named one magistrate and cited several incidents in detail to back his allegations, and he accused the attorney-general's department of "whitewashing" the facts in one of the cases he mentioned.

LeCours said his attack was not intended as a blanket indictment of police and the courts.

But he said some magistrates, some policemen and some government officials should be disciplined, prosecuted or replaced because of their actions.

## 'FACT, HEARSAY'

Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, called LeCours' charges a mixture of fact, hearsay, opinions and conclusion.

He did not reply to accusations of incompetence by magistrates or police in specific instances, but denied his department whitewashed an investigation undertaken at the request of LeCours.

Bonner said, however, it was not his place to give direction to magistrates and admitted that some new police constables might be guilty of enforcing the law too strictly.

LeCours singled out Magistrate Hugh Ellis, who operates on circuit out of Cloverdale, as an example of what he termed unjust magistrates in the province.

"I have had a number of occasions to complain about the verdicts rendered in his court," LeCours said. Magistrate Ellis sits in Richmond, Ladner, White Rock and Cloverdale.

## 'AN EPIDEMIC'

"He moves about the area like an epidemic," said LeCours.

"If he'd stay out of Richmond it wouldn't be so bad, but I might come before him some day."

Magistrate Ellis today declined to reply to LeCours' charges.

"I don't think I can say anything that will be of assistance to you," he said when asked for comment.

The magistrate added, however, that the facts in two specific cases mentioned by LeCours were quite different from the way the MLA had presented them.

LeCours said many children who are hard to handle at school or at home, and who are bullies, are sent into the police force by their parents.

He cited a case of alleged brutality by Cloverdale RCMP officers in November, 1965, which he said has never been publicized.

LeCours said a youth who was feeling ill after a party was asleep on the front seat of his car when a constable tried to arouse him — an action which the MLA said was unnecessary.

The youth struggled with the policeman upon being awakened and reinforcements were called, he said.

The youth and his crippled mother were beaten with fists and police flashlights, said LeCours, and the youth was further assaulted in the Cloverdale police station while his hands were handcuffed behind him.

LeCours said the doctor who treated the crippled woman who was beaten advised the youth to plead guilty to assaulting the police officer because his mother was in no condition to take the further suffering that a court case would entail.

## STILL TREATED

The woman still is being treated for the injuries she received at the hands of the police, LeCours said, and the boy's face was unrecognizable after the beating he received.

Since that incident the boy has been harassed by the police until finally he left the country and fled to the U.S., but while he was away police raided his parents' house and ransacked it, LeCours said.

LeCours said the case he asked the attorney-general's department to investigate concerned a bridegroom whose car was in collision with a police cruiser near the Deas Island Thruway.

The bridegroom, who was returning with his bride from a wedding party, claimed the police cruiser ran into him from behind, but the police constable said the civilian vehicle backed into his car, said the MLA.

## 'SHIFT BLAME'

LeCours said the constable, who had been involved in an earlier accident, fabricated his story in order to shift the blame for the accident on the other driver, who was finally convicted of impaired driving.

An investigation by Bonner's department was a mass of irregularities and half-truths, LeCours said.

He said the constable involved should be charged with perjury.

Bonner later denied the MLA's assertions against the law enforcement officers in this case.

He said his department carried out a thorough investigation into the case — the investigation which LeCours said was a whitewash.

Bonner said the accused later said he had no complaint against the police officer and independent investigation by the highways department backed up the policeman's story.

But Bonner added that photographs taken by police at the scene of the accident did not turn out, and that pictures taken by the highways department were destroyed.

He did not elaborate on the circumstances of the destruction.

Speaking generally, Bonner said he does not regret that his job does not include the right to direct the courts.

He admitted that some young constables at first take the rule book too seriously. But as they gain experience they take a more realistic attitude toward minor infractions, he said.

"Petty, pinpricking prosecutions by overzealous policemen are not part of the role of any police force," said Bonner.

## 'HAND IN HAND'

LeCours said some magistrates and policemen go around hand in hand on court days all over the province.

He said no magistrate should consort with police or even talk to them unless the accused is present.

Another of the cases cited by LeCours to allege poor administration of justice in the province concerned Magistrate Ellis convicting a man of holding an illegal public assembly after the man taught a Sunday school class in his home.

(Magistrate Ellis said today the facts as presented by LeCours in this case and in the case accident involving the police car, which he also tried, were incorrect.)

LeCours also mentioned a case in Burns Lake where, he said, an Indian was convicted and sentenced to four years in the penitentiary although evidence was given improperly through an interpreter who was incompetent.

He said the magistrate refused to allow counsel for the accused, saying "the Indian affairs department has been all over this."

He said one magistrate has a record of 38 consecutive convictions being reversed in higher courts or lost by default because the Crown did not contest the appeal.

He also said he has intervened on a number of driving offence cases on behalf of the accused only to have the original charges replaced by more serious ones.



## Driving School Law 'In Works'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Graduation from a recognized driver-training school may soon become a prerequisite for a driver's licence in B.C., Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, said Tuesday.

"This possible policy is very much in the works," he told the legislature during debate on his departmental spending estimates.

"This may very well be the course we'll follow in this province."

The attorney-general made the comments after Liberal leader Ray Perrault called for fresh efforts to curb the soaring accident and death toll on provincial streets and highways.

Perrault said 78 people died in traffic accidents in B.C. during the first two months of this year, compared with 65 in the same period last year.

### 741 MAY DIE

At that rate, 741 persons could die on the roads this year, the Liberal leader said.

Perrault called for immediate introduction of compulsory impairment tests in a stepped-up campaign against drinking drivers, whom he blamed for the biggest percentage of vehicle accidents.

He also proposed a speed-up in the proposed government motor vehicle testing program; refresher driving courses for those with poor driving records; and establishment of a driver-training program to give proper instruction to young people.

Bonner, in reply, said the Motor Vehicles branch maintains a constant driver education program, in which literature is mailed regularly to licensed drivers in the province.

### ENFORCEMENT

And police carry out regular enforcement on the highways, he said.

Yet accidents keep occurring in the province, which is said to have the toughest driver program in Canada, said Bonner.

The conclusion, he said, is that safety does not lie entirely in government policies and programs.

"It is in the hands of the man behind the wheel, not in government policies," he said.

"An attitude of responsibility (on the part of drivers) is what we need."

Bonner said he finds it incomprehensible that people will spend \$2,000 and often much more for a car but won't invest 10 per cent of that amount for a proper driver-training course.

He said courses are offered by some "excellent" schools in the province.

## Bonner 'Shudders' At Cyclists

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, said Tuesday he shudders every time he sees a person "riding a two-ounce Honda at 45 miles per hour."

He told the legislature that, as an old hand at motorcycle riding, he is most concerned about the tight, sensitive steering on the machines.

Bonner, who rode a motorcycle while overseas during the Second World War, voiced his concern after receiving a petition calling for repeal of a provincial law requiring motorcyclists to wear safety helmets.

The petition was brought into the house by Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) on behalf of an estimated 2,000 motorcyclists.

Dowding said he does not necessarily support their argument, but he asked Bonner to consider the request.

The petition notes that Nova Scotia brought in a helmet law and later repealed it.

The attorney general's department here should find out why, Dowding said.

The MLA said the main objections to wearing helmets are that they restrict hearing, limit vision and create a false sense of security.

If motorcyclists have to wear helmets, why shouldn't people in cars be required to use seat belts? he asked.

"It scares me to death to see people riding on these two-ounce Hondas at 45 miles an hour," he said. "The steering is so tight and sensitive that a moment's inattention can have the handlebar spinning."

## House Sits Far Past Midnight

Sun Victoria bureau

VICTORIA — An Opposition attempt to adjourn the legislature at 12:25 a.m. today was squashed by the government's majority and the House sat almost another hour before wrapping up the longest day of the current session.

MLAs finally adjourned at 1:38 a.m. without approving the complete estimates of the attorney-general's department.

The late night sitting brought sharp criticism from opposition MLAs and a lone Socred, who voted against his party, adjourned on his own, and went home.

The adjournment motion was made by Alan Macfarlane (L—Oak Bay).

### DEFEATED 28-22

But it was defeated by a vote of 28 to 22, with Socred Dudley Little of Skeena standing with the NDP and Liberal opposition.

Little said he agreed with the opposition that the late sitting was ridiculous. He left the chamber and went home.

The government apparently was trying to force Attorney-General Robert Bonner's departmental spending estimates through the House before adjournment.

He was voted his salary shortly after midnight, but then began a division by division examination of his huge department.

It soon became obvious that the opposition, angered by the government's move, intended to debate through the night.

### FINALLY WEAKEN

In the face of this, the Socreds weakened and Resources Minister Ray Williston withdrew the vote.

Premier W. A. C. Bennett was not in the House. He opened the sitting at 2 p.m., then left the buildings with his wife and travelled to Vancouver.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) noticed that the clock had passed midnight and, when he spoke, he said his birthday had arrived.

## CODE CHANGES URGED

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government was asked in the legislature Tuesday to push for a change in federal laws on contraceptives and drugs.

Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP—Vancouver Burrard) said marijuana is not a narcotic.

He urged Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, to ask for separate federal legislation to control use of marijuana and LSD.

He pointed out that the use of LSD, which he termed a far more dangerous drug than marijuana, is not covered by legislation.

Dr. Parkinson said the province should press for clarification of the Criminal Code on the questions of sterilization and abortion.

# \$24.2 Million UBC Grant Foreseen

Peterson Gives Likely Outlay For Universities' Operations

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government is expected to give \$24.2 million to the University of B.C. in operating grants this year.

Simon Fraser University and the University of Victoria are expected to share \$20.7 million for operation.

The estimates were revealed Tuesday in a comparison of finance department figures released by the premier's office with figures cited earlier in the legislature by Education Minister Leslie Peterson, QC.

The education minister said in the house Feb. 15, during the budget debate, that Victoria would give a total of \$193 million to the City of Vancouver in the new fiscal year, beginning April 1.

## \$164.7 MILLION OUTLAY

But the statistics released Tuesday by Premier W. A. C. Bennett show the provincial monies going to the city will total \$164.7 million.

Peterson, questioned about the difference, said his figures included the estimated provincial revenue for UBC.

But this had been criticized by Vancouver's opposition party MLAs, who pointed out the university is not within the city, so the UBC figure was dropped from the latest total, he said.

Peterson confirmed that a comparison of his figures with those of the premier would reveal what the province expects to give the three universities for operating costs in the new fiscal year.

## BOARD DECIDES

But he stressed that the exact share for the three public universities of the total \$45

million allocated for operation is up to the universities' advisory grants board under Dean S. N. F. Chant.

Comparison of the two statements shows UBC is expected to receive a total of \$28.2 million in capital and operating grants.

Since the university is to receive \$4 million as a capital grant, the operating figure would be \$24.2 million.

In the current fiscal year, UBC got an operating grant of \$12.8 million, or just under half of the estimated total for the coming year.

Simon Fraser got \$2.3 million and UVIC \$3.2 million.

## OTHER SPENDING

Other estimated expenditures which, according to the premier's statement, show the city getting 22.3 per cent of the provincial budget, are these:

General purposes — \$1 million;

Primary, secondary, technical and vocational education — \$23.8 million;

Social assistance — \$20.4 million;

Highways and roads — \$7.2 million;

Hospital care — \$37.2 million; Municipal winter works program — \$113,000;

Senior citizens' homes and recreational centres — \$400,000;

Development and construction of housing projects — \$1.5 million;

Salaries of civil servants, travelling expenses and purchase of equipment and supplies for the government — \$73 million.

# Rent-Strike Law Urged By Berger

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A law that would require landlords to keep up home repairs or go without their rental revenue was proposed in the legislature Tuesday.

Lawyer Tom Berger (NDP — Vancouver-Burrard) said writing of a rent-strike law could be among the first tasks of a law reform commission, which he claimed is urgently needed to rewrite horse-and-buggy-age laws for a jet-age society.

He said a judge, two practising lawyers, a law professor and a layman should be appointed to such a commission to update laws.

## OUTMODED LAWS

Berger, speaking during debate on Attorney-General's department estimates, said outmoded laws can be found throughout B.C.'s statute books.

One, he said, is the Landlord and Tenant Act, copied word for word from an English statute enacted 250 years ago during the reign of Queen Anne.

Berger said modernizing the act would be a lengthy and difficult task.

But one change could be creation of a rent-strike law similar to those enacted in Britain in the early 1950s and in New York State last year, he said.

## PAY INTO COURT

Such a law would allow tenants to pay their rent into court if their landlord refused to keep up repairs, Berger said.

The tenants would have the right to urge the court to apply the money to repairs to meet decent accommodation standards.

"This would prevent deterioration of property and would inhibit the development of slums," said Berger.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, said the idea of a law reform group is not new.

It has been suggested by the Law Society of B.C., the B.C. section of the Canadian Bar Association and the University of B.C. law faculty, he said.

"But we are in a very considerable way already engaged in works that a law reform commission might be called on to do," he said.

# 'Contempt Action Gentle'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C. prefers to take the gentle, considerate approach in dealing with persons accused of contempt of court, Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, said Tuesday.

He made the statement after lawyer M.L.A. Tom Berger (NDP — Vancouver-Burrard) proposed a change in procedure to permit accused persons trial by judge and jury.

Berger, speaking during consideration of Bonner's departmental estimates, said the

Lenkurt Electric dispute was "a good example of the deficiency of contempt of court procedures."

(In the Lenkurt Electric dispute, four labor leaders were jailed for contempt. The charges arose out of demonstrations at the company's Burnaby plant which had been forbidden by two Supreme Court injunctions.)

(Charles Patrick Neale and Thomas Clarke were sentenced last Sept. 30 to six months; Arthur O'Keeffe was sentenced to four months, and Jeffrey James Power to three months.)

Berger said Bonner's department invokes inherent jurisdiction of the superior courts which automatically deprives those involved of trial by judge and jury.

This denial could be eliminated by using a section under the Criminal Code, he said.

Bonner said the code section, which provides a penalty of up to two years in jail, is a harsh way of dealing with those accused.



Wed., Mar. 1, 1967\*

## Bonner Says Charges Laid Over Hydro Deal in Nakusp

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Charges are being laid in connection with irregularities in B.C. Hydro operations in the Nakusp area, Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, told the legislature Tuesday.

Randolph Harding (NDP — Revelstoke-Slocan) asked for a statement by Bonner to stop the spread of rumors surrounding a civil action to recover \$34,000 lost in connection with work in the area.

Harding said two Cranbrook residents and four construction or contracting firms are named in the civil writ issued by Hydro.

An investigation was started into alleged mishandling of funds after Hydro official Gerald Mead was found to have committed suicide in Nakusp. The official left a suicide note.

The official was involved in relocation of families to be flooded out by power construction in the Arrow Lakes area.

Harding said the companies named in the writ are Arrow Contracting Ltd., S. and H. Contracting Ltd., Salem Excavating and Construction Ltd., and Curzon Construction Ltd.

Bonner said he is unaware of details of the civil action, but that his department found an investigation by RCMP was necessary.

This investigation is complete and charges are being laid at present, he said.

Harding said there are so many rumors flying around that Hydro officials in the area are under a cloud.

The public is entitled to a full explanation of the irregularities, he added.

### BRAATEN

## Handcuffing Probed

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, has ordered an inquiry into the handcuffing of union leader Orville Braaten after the unionist was sentenced to jail Feb. 22 for contempt of court.

Bonner said in the legislature Tuesday that he was alarmed by press reports of the incident.

Braaten, president of the Pulp and Paper Workers of Canada, was jailed for contempt of court after refusing to answer certain questions put to him before the Sargent royal commission into invasion of privacy.

The commission was set up after complaints that a convention of the Canadian union in the Ritz Hotel in Vancouver was bugged by the rival International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers last year.

Leo Nimsick (NDP — Kootenay) held up a newspaper photograph of Braaten being led, handcuffed, from the courtroom, and demanded an explanation from Bonner.

"Surely this wasn't necessary — to handcuff him — for just a small contempt of court as if he were a common criminal," Nimsick said.

Bonner said he ordered an inquiry, still under way, as soon as he saw reports of the handcuffing.

## B.C. to Get More Judges, Says Bonner

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government is paving the way for appointment of three more judges to bring the total number of trial judges in B.C. to 35, the legislature was told today.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, said B.C.'s Supreme Court Act will be amended at the current session to create vacancies for two additional Supreme Court judges.

Ottawa, which is responsible for appointing the judges, has not yet been approached, but the need for the extra judges has been established in talks between his department and the chief justice of the Supreme Court, Bonner said.

The two new positions will raise the total of Supreme Court judges to 17.

Bonner also told the House that an 18th county court judge will be appointed, to serve in the county of Westminster.

Bonner announced the increases after lawyer-MLA Alan Macfarlane (L—Oak Bay) asked if the government was considering a further extension of county court jurisdiction to help ease a mounting work load before the courts.

## Herb Defends Policemen

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Policemen are held in increasing disrespect because they have to waste their time on minor duties, Herb Capozzi (S.C.—Vancouver Centre) said in the legislature Tuesday.

Capozzi also accused critics of policemen of weakening the usefulness of law enforcement officers in society.

He was speaking after Ernie LeCours (S.C.—Richmond) levelled charges of incompetence and brutality at some of the province's policemen.

"The words 'cop' and 'fuzz' have become common words in our language," Capozzi said, "and this attitude is reflected in the attitude of our children."

Capozzi said one reason for increasing public disrespect is that police are required to give out parking tickets, a duty which brings resentment from the public.

## Pig in a Poke

No provincial matter more urgently requires carefully thought-out planning than hospital financing. Under former Health Minister Eric Martin, plant and service deteriorated to the point where a B.C. Hospitals' Association report branded B.C.'s five largest hospitals as obsolete and inadequate in many respects.

Many people must wait months to get into an operating room. The lack of chronic care facilities is a scandal. Frustration and dissatisfaction abound as hospital after hospital sees its plans for essential expansion die on the government's operating table.

It would be imagined, then, that before embarking on a revolutionary new hospital financing formula the government would know where it is going, and mark every inch of the route for municipalities and hospital boards.

That would be imagining too much. The government's scheme of creating a hospital financing authority to raise capital for hospital building in new regional districts has received second reading in the legislature — and if anybody anywhere knows what it's all about he isn't letting out a peep.

It was bad enough that the Opposition asked questions and received no answers, during the progress of the government bill. But when 150 municipal and hospital representatives ask questions and receive no answers, as they did at what was supposed to be a government briefing in Burnaby, the whole affair becomes preposterous. When the best the government can do is send along an executive assistant to jot down the questions and promise to go digging for the answers, it strongly suggests the new regional hospital financing formula is being played by ear.

The irony is that the opposition

parties, and hospital people, and those of the public who stop to think about such things, advocate the regional hospital district concept. It always has been recognized as unfair that a community is heavily taxed to build and maintain a major referral hospital that is used in large proportion by patients from communities who share little, or none, of the hospital cost burden.

But because the government won't or can't answer questions about the new financing authority, it is impossible to know whether this, or any other flaw in the present system, really is going to be corrected or merely perpetuated under new management.

If the government knows its own mind well enough to push the bill through two readings, it should have ready answers to the questions which will concern British Columbians most:

Will the new formula build more beds than the old, and quicker?

Will the government's contribution increase sufficiently to meet the dire need?

So little is known of the government's intentions that one cannot even indulge in the luxury of cynicism. Are the communities and their hospitals going to end up sorry that they ever heard of regional hospital districts? Is the new financing authority, headed by Premier Bennett and three of his colleagues, really a device to shift borrowing to still one more crown authority to minimize direct debt? Is the hospital-using public going to benefit?

No one can say, for no one — inside or outside the cabinet, as far as can be seen — seems to know what's going on.

We are being asked to buy a pig in a poke. And B.C.'s hospital construction failure is too tragic, for too many, for the government to keep the province in the dark.

## Another Tilt of the Mirrors

If your wife complains that you don't give her enough money for clothes, there's no problem.

Just tell her that in the future she is to consider clothing as a first charge on her housekeeping allowance.

If she points out that this will reduce the sum available for other expenses, ignore her. After all, you have met her clothing needs, haven't you?

So it is with Premier Bennett's slick new legislation earmarking the normal government grants to municipalities toward local administration expenses. Municipalities have been agitating for additional grants toward road construction within their boundaries.

Mr. Bennett's bill would make such construction a first charge against the administration money. If that means that there's less left to pay policemen or operate parks or run the health department, that's not Mr. Bennett's fault, is it? At least, the municipalities can no longer say they aren't getting money for roads.

Nor is it Mr. Bennett's worry that his feat of semantics could throw municipal budgeting out of whack. This arises from the fact that road construction is usually financed by bond issues repayable over 20 years or so. In future, says the premier, this will have to come out of funds now treated as current revenue and thrown into the common pot along with property taxes and other operating levies. So it may be necessary to increase

these annual levies by the amount of the road-building allotments.

In effect, this will force the municipalities into a pay-as-you-go policy for roads, by which the taxpayers in any given year will be obliged to pay during that year the full cost of additions to the street system for the benefit of generations to come.

But who, at Victoria, cares? Apparently the only consideration there is that the government shall be able to say, with spurious logic, that it is helping local communities with their street requirements.

Another curious feature of the logic of these new arrangements is that the local government grants are paid on a per capita basis but on a sliding scale. The smaller the municipality, the more it receives per capita. The bigger the city, the less it gets on the unit basis.

So, if this grant is primarily for roads, the assumption must be that it costs relatively less to supply the surface transportation needs of a thickly-populated metropolis such as Vancouver than to do the same for tiny villages.

This is patently false. That, however, should offer no cause for guilt to a man of the premier's talents. He is the man who, in the same speech, can make his home-owners' grant do triple duty as a Social Credit dividend for B.C. families, as a contribution to education, and as assistance to municipalities. It all depends on how he tilts his political mirrors.



# James K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—NDP Alex Macdonald of Vancouver East spoke in the legislature of Vancouver's most famous early-day character, Gassy Jack.

I think Macdonald's point was that the government so ignores the great city of Vancouver, making it a regular Cinderella, that the courthouse belongs to the Gassy Jack era, so outmoded it is, so overcrowded and uncomfortable for lawyers, police and public.

I've often heard of Gassy Jack, but don't know much about him, so I seized the opportunity presented by Macdonald to dig a bit in the Archives.

Capt. John Deighton was Gassy Jack's real name. Why he was called Gassy, I cannot learn. He was a politician of sorts, and perhaps he talked a lot.

The Mainland Guardian of New Westminster, June of 1875, reported Capt. Deighton's death, but did not refer to him as Gassy Jack.

"He was an original in his way, and his name became almost a household word with most of our citizens. Although uncouth occasionally in his language, he possessed a good heart, and was never niggardly with his gifts when he found an object for his generosity."

"Had fortune favored him in his early years with the blessing of a good education, he, we doubt not, would have been a valuable and useful citizen."

"He was but 45 years of age. He was a native of Hull, England, and followed the sea in his early years. When the gold fever broke out in this country he came here in 1858. He was the first and best pilot on the Fraser River. For some years he had been a licensed victualler at Burrard Inlet, and erected the building known as Deighton's Hotel, where he was celebrated for his good table and warm hospitality."

"Although opposed to many of his neighbors in politics, he always held his own in argument, and was looked up to as a sort of authority in such matters."

"With all his 'brusquerie' he was really a very affectionate and dutiful son. Whenever he spoke on the subject of his private affairs, his mother, who still lives in England, always held the chief place."

"The whole of his real and personal estate is devised to an illegitimate son, now about four years of age — but the will is missing."

An extraordinary obituary, this, about, apparently, a most unusual human being. As I read it I came to the conclusion The Mainland Guardian was not telling all it knew about Gassy Jack.

★ ★ ★

When oppositionists were slow in voting the premier's salary this session, Mr. Bennett said it didn't matter to him whether he was paid or not, since he doesn't have to depend on it.

No one doubts this; while I would not think the premier could be called really wealthy, I would think he's very comfortably off, and the \$28,000 a year he gets from the taxpayers is not much more to him than peanuts. Some peanuts, eh?

Be all that as it may, when the premier snorted he didn't care whether he got paid or not, he knew he would be, of course, for his supporters, who have the legislative majority, would see he was.

He also knew that if such a salary vote should be defeated, the government would also be defeated, right on the floor of the house, and there'd be an election within a month or so. That's the way the British parliamentary system works.

To defeat one cabinet minister in this fashion is to show lack of confidence in the government. The salary vote for a cabinet minister is part of high government policy, and to kill it is to kill the government.

The premier was just having his own brand of fun and games when he said it wasn't important that he be paid, not to him personally, maybe, but certainly to the life of his government.

★ ★ ★

Macdonald also tried valiantly this week to get Attorney-General Robert Bonner to promise to smarten up the beer parlors. Bonner is far too smart to make any promises, out loud in the legislature, at one of the behest of those carping socialists.

To Macdonald it's wrong beer parlor patrons have little else to do but guzzle. Macdonald wants them entertained, and he suspects there's no live entertainment because certain people in high places want the customers to drink every last ounce they can hold, so that profits in certain high places will soar.

For some strange, holier-than-thou reason the government frowns on piano bars, considering it sinful for a group to sit about and sing. The government looks upon singing as disorderly, bawdy conduct.

I have been in piano bars, and I saw far less drinking there than in many beer parlors. The people around the piano were so busy singing (and it was good singing, too) that they hadn't time for guzzling.

## B.C. NAMES ITS LAWYERS

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Two lawyers from the attorney-general's department will present B.C.'s argument for provincial ownership of offshore oil rights before the Supreme Court of Canada in Ottawa next week.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, said Tuesday the two are A. W. Hobbs, the department's general solicitor, and Mel Smith, Hobbs's assistant.

Bonner said the hearing, to decide whether B.C. or the federal government has exclusive jurisdiction of the rights, could last as long as two weeks. It is scheduled to start March 6.

## 'Harassment' Beef Sent Back

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Bar operators in Vancouver's East End have been told to turn to the city's police commission with complaints that police are harassing patrons.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, said he received a telegram from the group about three days ago outlining their complaint.

"It is a matter which initially should be of concern to the police commission," Bonner said.

## Here's Ripe Richter Recipe

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Agriculture Minister Frank Richter told the legislature that so far the only solution to British Columbia's startling problem appears to be to eat them.

The minister said one answer would be to send the birds to Australia in exchange for mynah birds. (This was first suggested in a Sun story last December.)

"They (Australians) regard the bird as a great delicacy," Richter said.

"We should sent starlings there for the Australians to eat and they could send their mynah birds (regarded as a pest in Australia) here, where they would die off for lack of natural food."

He added that his department is still trying to find ways to control the birds.

Richter said B.C. residents should perhaps settle for eating starlings.

"They make delicious pies," he said — "almost as good as Okanagan apple pies."

## Car Dealer Ethics Raised in House

Mussallem Says No New Laws Needed to Protect Auto Buyers

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Car dealers' ethics were discussed in the legislature Wednesday in debate leading to approval of the \$23 million spending estimates of Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC.

Haney garage owner and MLA George Mussallem (SC—Dewdney) said no new laws are needed to protect the public from shady car dealers because there are ample laws forbidding fraud.

He also said a law forbidding dealers from turning back mileage would be useless because mileage is a poor gauge for a person buying a vehicle.

"An odometer reading is of absolutely no use in deciding the condition of a car," he said.

"A car may have only 5,000 miles on the odometer but because it was driven without oil and over rough roads it could be a wreck."

### BETTER BUY

A car with 10,000 miles or more on the odometer could be a better buy than the one with only 5,000 miles, he said.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan suggested that true mileage could be recorded if motorists were required to state mileage of their vehicles every time they bought licence plates.

The mileage total could then be written into the vehicle registration and anyone purchasing the car later would know the true mileage, he said.

But Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver Burrard) said laws to protect consumers are needed.

"Dealers haven't policed themselves, so the house has no alternative but to lay down regulations to do it for them — for cars and all durable goods," he said.

Two MLAs called for regulations governing tire sales.

### LAW URGED

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby—Edmonds) urged passage of a law prohibiting sale of low-grade tires in the province.

He said tougher safety standards in the United States could mean tire manufacturers will dump poor grade tires into Canada.

Cyril Shelford (SC —

Omineca) said present methods of grading tires are confusing to the public.

There should be a simple one, two, three brand system so consumers know exactly what they are buying, he said.

Berger also complained that provincial movie censor Ray MacDonald has too much power.

And he suggested that the censor has far wider powers than he needs to prohibit showing of lewd and pornographic pictures.

### 'TIGHTEN CONTROL'

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) urged Bonner to get the securities branch to tighten control over provincial trust companies, claiming that one in particular, Commonwealth Trust Co., has become involved in risky interim financing.

He also said that an incident involving a home mortgage indicates there is a need for stricter scrutiny.

Macdonald said that in the case brought to his attention, a couple obtained a \$15,000 mortgage.

After making payments for four years they discovered the principal had not been reduced but had risen to \$18,000.

In the fine print was a cost-of-living clause which added \$300 to the principal as the cost of living went up every six months, he said.

"I say that's not a proper function of a trust company and when we charter these trust companies we should see that the public is protected," Macdonald said.

A. G. Duncan Crux, president of Commonwealth, said Macdonald has been misled into trying to hurt the only independent B.C. trust company.

He has made no attempt to check his facts to try and find the truth, Crux said.

"If he will come out from his legislative immunity we will be pleased to sue him and his sources for false information in the courts," he said.

## SAYS BENNETT

### Municipal Aid Change 'Reminder'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier W. A. C. Bennett said Wednesday a proposed amendment to the Municipalities Aid Act is just a reminder that per capita grants have always been intended to offset local street and road costs.

The amendment states that the money is to be earmarked first for roads in municipalities in the same way that the annual homeowner grant is to be applied first to local school taxes.

A bill containing the amendment was introduced in the legislature Tuesday.

The premier, in an interview, said the change in the Municipalities Aid Act will not affect local improvement bylaws for street purposes or any other local road programs.

He said that before the per capita grants program was introduced about 13 years ago, municipalities were given a share of the revenue from motor vehicle licences.

In 1954, Vancouver got about \$3 million, he said.

The return of the provincial revenue was earmarked for local street work, Bennett said.

This was also the intent when the system was changed to a per capita grants program, said the premier.

But over the years, with local officials changing, this had been forgotten.

Bennett said the amendment, about which he will say more when it comes up for second reading in the legislature, will make the purpose of the grants clear — and legal.

## Credit Union Licences Hit

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The legislature's committee on municipal matters was told Wednesday that B.C. credit unions should be exempt from municipal licensing regulations.

The B.C. Credit Union League said the unions are policed adequately by the attorney-general's department under the Credit Union Act.

The house committee has been asked by the Union of B.C. Municipalities for legislation allowing local governments to licence credit unions.

This would give municipalities the right to collect business tax from the credit unions.

League president R. J. McMaster told the committee that taxing credit unions under a licence arrangement for the purpose of bringing revenue to local government would be unfair as they make no money.

## MLAs Give Nod To Estimates

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The \$23 million estimates of the attorney-general's department and the commercial transport department's \$744,000 budget were approved by the legislature Wednesday after almost 13 hours of debate.

Both departments are headed by Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC.

Today, MLAs were scheduled to tackle the estimates of the education department, to be followed by the labor department.



## Bennett Willing 'To Help Ottawa'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — If Ottawa is so hard up it can't loan B.C. \$100 million, the province is prepared to lend the federal government that amount with no questions asked, Premier W. A. C. Bennett said Wednesday.

This was his reaction to a report that Federal Finance Minister Mitchell Sharp has sent him a telegram proposing creation of a technical committee to examine B.C.'s request for a loan.

Bennett refused to acknowledge receipt of a wire from Sharp, but he made it clear he will not have anything to do with a technical committee.

"When B.C. loaned \$100 million to Quebec there was no committee," said the premier. "It was handled between (former Quebec premier Jean) Lesage and myself — by the ministers directly."

"If the federal government is so hard up for money as this suggests, then B.C. might lend them \$100 million without a committee study," the premier added.

Bennett said Ottawa's reaction to his request proves that Coast-Capilano MP Jack Davis and provincial Liberals who last year said there was \$200 million available in Ottawa for B.C. were not correct.

## LEGISLATIVE SPRING HERE

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Spring burst in the legislature Wednesday.

Members, sitting at their daffodil-bedecked desks, listened to Vancouver centre Socred MLAs Herb Capozzi and Evan Wolfe read a proclamation by Vancouver Mayor Tom Campbell that the period March 1 to 11 has been designated a preview of spring.

The daffodils were supplied by the Greater Vancouver Visitors and Convention Bureau, Wolfe said, but added sheepishly that they were purchased from Saanich growers.

Spring doesn't come quite that early in Vancouver, he said.

## SUNDAY SPORT

### Pressure Denied by Campbell

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Campbell denied Wednesday that he forced a committee to withdraw a proposal for paid Sunday sports from a series of recommended changes in the Municipal Act.

But he admitted recommending that the idea should be scrapped, at least for the moment, because the controversial issue might block introduction of more important and needed changes in the law governing municipalities.

The issue arose at Wednesday's meeting of the legislature's municipal matters committee.

Barrie Clark (L—North Vancouver-Seymour) noted that the paid Sunday sport proposal, advocated by the Union of B.C. Municipalities, was not contained in the report of a special committee which travelled through the province discussing proposed changes in the Municipal Act.

(Only Sunday sports for which there is no admission charge are legally allowed in B.C., except in Vancouver, which operates under its own charter.)

## Court Code Rejected

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, rejected Wednesday a suggestion by opposition MLAs that he set out a code of uniform sentences for magistrates in the province to use as guidelines.

He said in the legislature that his position as attorney-general does not permit him to give direction to the courts.

"I can think of no formula, apart from a very rigid codification which would destroy court discretion, which would bring about uniform sentences for offences in the province," he said.

Randolph Harding (NDP-Revelstoke-Slocan) noted during debate on Bonner's departmental estimates that some magistrates are extremely severe in their fines while others are more lenient.

## MAGISTRATES

### Indians Get Pledge

VICTORIA (CP) — More persons of native origin may be appointed magistrates, Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, said Wednesday.

His comment came during departmental estimates when Frank Calder (NDP—Atlin) asked: "What is the government policy, if any, to the appointment of Indian magistrates?"

Bonner said two Indians were already serving as magistrates. More would be appointed as the need arose and qualified men became available, he said.

He asked Calder to give him any names of Indians the NDP member thought might make good magistrates.

Calder is the only Indian member of the legislature.

## HANDCUFFING CLARIFIED

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Handcuffs are only for prisoners who resist, Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, told the legislature Wednesday.

He said he will send a directive stating this to all sheriff's officers in B.C. He was replying to opposition MLAs who had asked about the handcuffing of union leader Orville Braaten on Feb. 22 at the royal commission on invasion of privacy.

If his department's investigation shows that Braaten offered no resistance, Bonner said, then the use of handcuffs was unwarranted.

# Black's Problems 'Overwhelming'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Freshman Health Minister Wesley Black said Wednesday he has been overwhelmed by problems in the mental health services.

He said his only immediate hope for solving the situation is

a complete reorganization of the department he took over in December.

"What else can I say?" asked Black when interviewed about

a new report of personnel problems at Riverview Mental Hospital at Essondale.

Black announced later he would meet today with representatives of the Psychiatric Nurses Association of B.C., the organization which launched the latest attack on the provincial government's mental hospital.

The association charged in a brief that patient neglect and poor working conditions has caused staff unrest and agitation.

The brief was made public Wednesday by the association because it claimed there had been no indication from the provincial government that the troubles would be remedied.

Black, the newly appointed health minister, was presented with the brief on Jan. 6.

He told association secretary Mrs. Faye Hartford in a telephone conversation Wednesday he felt he had answered the association's charges in the legislature earlier in the session.

When first questioned Wednesday, Black could not remember receiving the brief.

He said so many have been presented to him during his short term as health minister that he could not keep track of them.

But he checked through stacks of paper on his desk and finally located it.

"I can only say what I said in the House . . . I have to consider the whole situation," said the minister.

"I'm thinking of a complete reorganization. What else can I say?"

Black, asked if he felt reorganization of the department would solve the problems referred to by the psychiatric nurses, said:

"There certainly are some things in here that will just have

to be looked into. We're going to have to look into this."

The minister was asked which of the complaints he was referring to when he said some of the matters would have to be studied.

"It all bears looking into," he replied. "I won't belittle their brief in any way."

## MANY PROBLEMS

Black said one of his main problems is tackling the many problems that have been presented to him since taking over the health portfolio.

"First it was the psychiatrists and I put that fire out. Then it was the psychologists and I put that fire out. And now it's the psychiatric nurses," Black said.

Dr. Ray Parkinson, Vancouver Burrard MLA, disclosed last December that 30 psychiatrists at Riverview and Woodlands School in New Westminster were considering a mass resignation because of a lack of treatment facilities and staff working conditions.

Black later confirmed that there was dissatisfaction at Riverview because psychiatrists there face case loads beyond their capabilities.

## GIVEN PERMISSION

Dr. Ken Davies, head of the psychiatric section of the B.C. Medical Association, said Wednesday night the psychiatrists have been given permission by the government to work through the psychiatric section as their professional representative.

He said his section will receive copies this week of the psychiatrists' brief sent to Black last December.

Last week, five Riverview psychologists, the entire clinical psychology staff, handed in their resignations and were later fired after demanding that two supervisors be removed from their jobs.

On Tuesday, Black announced the firings had been rescinded. The psychologists withdrew their resignations and both sides agreed to let the provincial civil service commission arbitrate the dispute.

## 'PATIENTS NEGLECTED'

Among the psychiatric nurses' complaints were claims that

genuinely ill patients are being neglected while social parasites from Vancouver's Skid Road — addicts, drunks and prostitutes — are being provided with luxurious accommodation at Riverview.

The association also said graduate nurses are required to clean lavatories and wax floors and this is a flagrant waste of nursing staff.

Bathing facilities for patients are worse than would be provided for cattle on a farm, the association claimed.

The result is unrest and agitation among the staff, and deterioration of service, the brief stated.

Black said in the interview Wednesday he has been showered with problems requiring him to work long days — sometimes 20 hours a day — and he has been successful in solving a number of them.

Departmental reorganization will solve many more, he said.

## LACK OF LIAISON

The minister said one thing that appalled him was the lack of liaison between various branches of the mental health department.

He said he definitely intends to get the branches talking to one another.

Black said the reorganization of the department, a move he promised several weeks ago, will take place when a new deputy minister is appointed to succeed Dr. Alan Davidson who leaves at the end of the month for a federal post.

The minister had originally planned to appoint a successor before Davidson leaves, so the two could work together for a while.

But Black said Wednesday he probably won't make the appointment so soon because he doesn't want to rush into making an appointment.

Commenting on the nurses' brief, the NDP's Dr. Parkinson, who is a psychiatrist, said the complaints were legitimate.

"The frustration of the nursing staff arises from attempts to cope with treatment of the genuinely mentally ill while being confronted on the other hand with an overwhelming social rehabilitation problem," he said.

The MLA agreed with the nurses that Skid Road parasites are taking up space at Riverview.



# Harding Sees Resistance To Increased College Costs

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government can expect increasing resistance to its regional college policy unless costs are held down, an Interior MLA told the legislature Thursday.

Randolph Harding (NDP—Revelstoke-Slocan) said this would be unfortunate because the program is a good one and all areas should be provided with colleges.

But he said in his riding there is already dissatisfaction over financing of Selkirk College at Castlegar because the tax for the school is higher than residents expected.

Harding said when officials

were trying to sell the idea of a college there, they told residents the levy would be no more than one mill.

## TAXATION SOARS

Some areas were told the tax would be only about half a mill, he said.

But the cost this year is around three mills, he said.

Harding also said residents were told dormitories would be built for out-of-town students.

But they have not been erected and parents are required to pay out extra money for room and board for their children, he said.

Harding warned: "If regional costs get out of hand and tax-

payers feel increased costs are going to be put on their property, you're going to encounter increasing resistance to this policy."

## ASKS UNIVERSITY AID

The MLA also called for a system of equalization grants to help up-country students get to Lower Mainland universities.

He said they are entitled to this kind of help because parents have paid through taxation for the coast universities.

"We in the country have a tough time getting the extra \$600 or \$700 or \$800 a year to keep a child in university and I am asking for support from every member in this house, regardless of party," Harding said.

He received loud applause from opposition benches, and from Soereds Cyril Shelford of Omineca and James Chabot of Columbia riding.

Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver-Burrard) said later during debate on education department estimates that it is all very well to talk about mundane things like buildings and facilities.

But concern must also be shown over the direction of education, he said.

"We don't get an education just to increase the Gross National Product, to increase our wealth. We have to pursue excellence and at the same time happiness," he said.

# Police on Campus Rapped by MLA

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Education Minister Leslie Peterson, QC, was urged Thursday to put an end to RCMP investigations into campus political activities.

Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) called for Peterson to take action after telling the legislature that four RCMP investigators interrogated a student at Simon Fraser University for information about political activities of some faculty members.

Barrett referred to a report in the SFU student newspaper The Peak on Feb. 22, which said the officers approached the student on a university parking lot.

## STUDENT QUOTED

He did not name the student, but the article to which he referred quoted Peter Morley, a senior honors student and former B.C. Penitentiary guard, as saying he was questioned by four men he presumed to be RCMP men.

Morley was quoted in the paper as saying one of the men produced a badge.

He said the officer noted Morley had been a government employee and therefore had taken an oath of allegiance to the Queen.

Thus he was assumed to be a

trustworthy person who might be of some assistance to the police, he said.

Morley was further reported as saying the police informed him that SFU had a reputation as being a Communist-oriented university.

## NO CO-OPERATION

The student said he declined to co-operate with the officers.

Barrett said he was alarmed by the report.

"If the RCMP are doing this kind of thing, I would immediately ask the minister to stop it," he said.

"No matter how wrong a student may be in his theories he has a right to his opinion — that's the purpose of a university."

Peterson did not reply to his request that RCMP probes on campus be halted.

# Medicare Bill Seen

Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — A medicare bill will be introduced later in this session of the legislature. Premier W. A. C. Bennett said at a press conference today.

But he refused to divulge details of the bill, and would not even say if it is to be an amendment to the present B.C. Medical Plan Act or a new bill to replace the present plan.

"But of course if it is a medicare bill it must have in-

something to do with the plan," he said.

He declined to say whether the bill would be able to stand on its own, but his announcement of legislation this session suggests the B.C. bill will complement pending federal medicare legislation proposed to come into effect in July, 1968.

"Their plan (the federal government's medicare plan) might complement ours," said Bennett.

# Post-Easter Sitting Infuriates NDP

## Uproar Erupts in Legislature Over 'Threat' Made by Bennett

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier W. A. C. Bennett goaded opposition MLAs into uproar in the legislature Thursday by holding up the red flag of a post-Easter sitting.

New Democratic members became enraged at the premier's announcement that he intended the legislature to adjourn March 23 and resume sitting April 3 if the business before it was not completed.

The uproar which followed was the loudest and longest of the session so far — lasting almost 15 minutes.

During the crossfire of abuse and insults:

House supply committee chairman Herb Bruch adjourned the committee to ask Speaker William Murray to return to the chair and restore order.

Bruch threatened to "name" Leo Nimsick (NDP—Kootenay) for ignoring his orders to sit down. This would have forced Nimsick to leave the house.

Bruch himself was warned that his right to sit as chairman of the supply committee would be challenged if he was not fairer to opposition MLAs.

And the six Liberal MLAs walked out in disgust.

### DEBATE ADJOURNED

The end came at 1:30 a.m. today when Bennett announced he was willing to have the debate on estimates of Education Minister Leslie Peterson, QC, adjourned until 2 p.m. today.

Peterson's salary vote — \$27,750 — was finally passed after eight hours of debate at about 12:30 a.m.

But opposition MLAs showed they had many questions left to ask the minister about the province's educational system.

They left 19 of the 22 votes in the total \$193.3 million estimates for education still to be debated.

During Thursday's debate, the opposition criticized the minister over the status of separate schools in the province, the poor quality of physical education facilities and program, lack of educational research, lack of educational TV, and failures in the kindergarten, community college and sex education fields.

It was after the first of two divisions (standing votes by members) on opposition efforts to have the house adjourn that Bennett made his announcement about the post-Easter sitting.

Nimsick had asked that the house come out of committee of

supply, but this was defeated by 22 to 29, the Liberals voting with the NDP.

Bennett said his government was not in favor of late night sittings, but wanted to point out to members that it was his intention to ask for a week's Easter recess if the business of the house was not completed by March 23.

"This is a threat to this house," protested Nimsick. "We have been told that we are going to have to finish by the 23rd or else — and I think it's wrong."

Bennett said his statement was not a threat. He was only informing the house, he said.

Nimsick then launched into a tirade against the government, which he said was pursuing "legislation by exhaustion."

### ORDERS IGNORED

Bruch repeatedly ordered him to stick to the education minister's estimates, but Nimsick ignored him.

Finally Bruch ordered the NDP member to sit down and recognized George Mussallem (NDP—Dewdney) to speak in his place.

Still, Nimsick paid no attention to Bruch, who by now was on his feet shouting at him to obey his orders.

"I'll sit down if you don't throw that little hammer at me," Nimsick shouted back.

Bruch then turned to the Speaker, who calmly asked members to have a proper respect for their chairman. Then the Speaker turned the house back to Bruch, and again Nimsick was on his feet.

By now, all MLAs were shouting back and forth to one another from NDP and Secord benches, and the premier, obviously enjoying himself, shot barbs across the floor to keep the uproar going.

Randolph Harding (NDP—Revelstoke-Slocan) accused

Bruch of allowing Bennett to get away with improper statements while disciplining Nimsick only.

It was then that Bruch, his voice shaking with emotion, warned the two NDP members to sit down or he would "name"

## TO CHILDREN

# Act Seeks Reports On Cruelty

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government moved Thursday to curb cruelty to children by setting up channels for reporting evidence to the authorities.

A bill introduced in the legislature and given first reading requires all citizens to report cases of child abandonment, desertion and beatings.

But its main aim, said Welfare Minister Dan Campbell, is to place an onus on professional people who are constantly in contact with child cruelty cases to turn in offenders.

The bill, an amendment to the Protection of Children Act, states that persons must report information to a children's aid society or the provincial superintendent of child welfare "notwithstanding that the information is confidential or privileged."

The legislature was told several days ago that the number of child beating cases in the province is rising annually and several deaths occur each year.

"The act will make it mandatory that any occurrence of child abuses, neglect or abandonment be reported and will provide protection from legal suit to persons so reporting," the minister said in an interview.

"The basic philosophy of the bill is that this will largely touch itself down in professional areas — agencies and professional people who are constantly in contact with this kind of situation," he added.

Campbell said this would mainly include school teachers, medical doctors, hospital personnel and welfare officials.

"If a person knows about child abuse he either tells us or he doesn't. That's up to him," said Campbell. "But we've set up a protected channel for reporting."

# 'No Reason' To Hike Fee

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — University student fees need not go up in B.C. next September, Education Minister Leslie Peterson, QC, said in the legislature Thursday.

He was answering opposition MLAs who criticized as inadequate the \$45 million allocated in the provincial budget for university operating costs in the new fiscal year.

Eileen Dally (NDP—Burnaby North) said provincial grants to universities are not meeting the needs of the institutions, and asked Peterson if fees will be going up because of this.

Peterson replied that any decision to raise tuition fees next September will be made by the universities themselves.

"But I can see no reason why there should be any increase in tuition fees this year," he said.



Fri., Mar. 3, 1967

# Separate School Policy Attacked

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier W. A. C. Bennett defended B.C.'s public school policy against an attack led by one of his own backbenchers Thursday.

The premier was visibly angered when Herb Capozzi (SC—Vancouver Centre) accused the government of doing almost nothing for the 25,000 Roman Catholic school children in the province.

Capozzi's request that the government contribute something to B.C. separate schools was taken up by Dr. Pat McGeer (Lib. — Vancouver Point Grey).

He charged those who oppose public support for separate schools with "outright bigotry."

At these words Bennett jumped up to defend government policy as a matter of "high principle."

"I will stand or fall on this issue," he declared.

## SECOND BLAST

Capozzi's outburst on behalf of separate schools was the second blast of a double-barrelled attack on government policy Thursday.

Earlier in the debate on departmental estimates of Education Minister Leslie Peterson, QC, he said many physical education classes in B.C. schools are a waste of time.

"There are 25,000 students in B.C. on which the province spends almost nothing," he began.

He demanded to know how long the government could maintain the unequal difference between Roman Catholic pupils and those in public schools.

## 'ENCOURAGE THEM'

Capozzi said he was not asking for the "full education dollar" for separate schools.

"All I ask is that there should be some assistance in maintaining in separate schools the same standards everybody wants for their children."

People who want their children to receive some religious training in school should not be discouraged, but should be encouraged," he added.

"They shouldn't receive full costs — after all they are asking for special privileges.

"But surely the time is ripe for some sort of government grant as a form of recognition at least," Capozzi said.

"At present separate school pupils cannot even use public school buses," he complained.

"The public purse is there for public schools," called out Bob Williams (NDP—Vancouver East).

Bennett swiveled around in his chair to face Capozzi and banged his desk loudly in approval of the NDP member's remark. Nearly all Socred and New Democrat MLAs joined in the applause.

But Socred Dudley Little from Skeena, a few NDP backbenchers and all six Liberal members in the house remained silent.

## NOT RECENT

Peterson said that the one public school system is not a recent Socred policy, but one which has been followed since B.C. entered Confederation in 1871.

"Rather than follow a policy to separate and segregate people, we feel we should be moving in the other direction," the education minister said.

The government, he made clear, has no intention of changing its policy on a single public school system. Those who want private or separate schools are going to have to pay for it, he said.

McGeer pointed out that Peterson in his budget address drew particular attention to the fact that Notre Dame University in Nelson is receiving provincial financial support in the new fiscal year.

The reason the province is supporting it, he suggested, is that the federal government has been supporting it all along, but has now withdrawn from the operating cost field for post secondary education.

## GOOD POLICY

"Is it fair that a private parochial university receive public support and not private parochial schools in this province?" McGeer demanded.

"What would be wrong with giving a percentage of tuition fees for any youngster going to private schools directly to the parents," he asked.

This, he said, would be not only good social policy, but good financial policy as well.

The Liberal MLA said the government should give small grants to parents to encourage those who want to send their children to separate or private schools.

These children then would not be a full charge on the public purse, he said.

"There is nothing wrong with public support of parochial elementary and secondary schools provided those schools have the same adequate standards of instruction as our public schools," McGeer said.

"And anyone who suggests

otherwise is guilty of outright bigotry," he shouted across to the government benches.

Bennett's cheeks flamed with anger and he shot to his feet.

"As far as government policy is concerned," he retorted "this is not a question of finance but of high principle."

"All around the world today the question is integration or segregation," the premier added.

He stated that differences of opinion at all levels result "because people don't sit together."

He pointed out that an integrated school system in B.C. is the result of opposition, not to Roman Catholics, but to Anglicans who wanted the Church of England to be the state church in B.C. when the province was joining Confederation.

But British people in the Crown colony themselves said no to this idea, he added.

"It is easy to stay silent on this issue, but this is a matter of great policy and as long as I am premier, I for one will stand or fall on this issue," the premier said.

## NOT POLITICAL

Opposition leader Robert Strachan said that the issue of separate schools should not be a political issue.

"Speaking for all the members of my party," he said, "we have always felt that the public school system is best."

But he said that some years ago the question of religion and schools was an election issue, and "one political party" had said it would support the Roman Catholic church over separate schools.

"Not the party I lead," snapped Bennett.

Barrie Clark (Lib.—North Vancouver-Seymour) called for the rescinding of Section 62 of the Public Schools Act which bars clergymen from serving as teachers, school superintendents or trustees in the province.

This, he said, is unfair because only members of the "recognized" denominations are barred from serving, and because it often prevents the most qualified people in remoter areas of the province from taking part in the education of local children.

Peterson said the act will be amended this session to allow non-practising clergymen to teach in the province and practising and retired clergymen to sit on school boards.

## PRODS GOV'T

# Perrault Pushes Educational TV

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government should act at once to establish an educational television network, Liberal leader Ray Perrault told the legislature Thursday.

He proposed setting up studios at the University of B.C. and a microwave link between UBC, Simon Fraser University and the University of Victoria, from which programs would be telecast on a regular TV channel.

Later, it could be extended to other educational institutions, Perrault said.

### ONTARIO PROJECT

The Liberal leader noted that Ontario is currently budgeting \$3.2 million to establish an educational TV system.

Fifty educators are now working full-time preparing programs and about 400 programs will be ready when the station goes on the air later this year, he said.

Alberta also is looking into such a network, said Perrault.

He cited as an example of how successful TV teaching is, the case of Station KCTS in Seattle.

It went on the air in 1954 with a grant of \$150,000, serving the Seattle area, he said, and now covers most of Washington State on an annual operating budget of \$360,000.

### AID TO ALL AGES

He said a teaching network in B.C. would be a valuable aid to all ages, from kindergarten through to adults, who could take evening classes in front of a TV set.

Perrault said millions of dollars are spent building universities and this is largely wasted because the institutions are closed five months of the year.

Also speaking during debate on education department estimates, Dave Barrett (NDP-Coquitlam) agreed that costly universities are being wasted because they do not operate to full capacity all year.

He said the UBC year—from September to May—is an archaic term that goes back to the early days of the agricultural economy when students got off in the spring to work the land and returned after harvest in the fall.

He advocated a change to the quarter system, in which the full calendar year is divided into four, three-month terms.

This system is used at Western Washington College at Bellingham and permits students to obtain a degree faster while others can drop out from time to time to earn enough money to complete courses, he said.

Barrett said it has been shown in United States research studies that, by increasing staff by 10 per cent, student population can be boosted by 30 per cent.

# 'Fort Shaughnessy' Walls Unbreached

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The legislature's private bills committee will recommend extension of the Shaughnessy Heights Building Restrictions Act for another 25 years beyond its 1969 expiry date, it was learned Thursday.

The bill which would grant the extension was one of six private bills discussed at an in-camera meeting of the committee.

The Sun learned later that all six bills will be recommended to the legislature for approval.

The Shaughnessy Heights Act limits use of properties in the area as single family dwellings.

Application for extension of the Act was made by the Shaughnessy Heights Property Owners Association, which under the legislation has the authority to enforce the Act's provisions.

This, in effect, gives the property owners control over zoning in the area, and prevents the city from exercising its zoning powers there.

It was learned that the bill just squeaked through the committee by a vote of seven to six.

Extensive debate over the bill is expected when it reaches the floor of the legislature.

The other five bills discussed by the committee Thursday are:

An amendment to the Vancouver charter that would remove the limitation on assessment increase for general purposes in any one year to five per cent of land improvements in that year;

A City of Victoria bill to replace the present six-per-cent penalty on non-payment of taxes by a 10-per-cent penalty;

An act to incorporate the Western Pentecostal Bible Col-

lege in North Vancouver with degree-granting status;

An act to convert the York-shire Savings and Loan Association into a company to allow it more freedom in investment;

An act to drop the words "and cost" from the name of the Society of Industrial and Cost Accountants of B.C. to make it conform with the titles of societies in other provinces.



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## THE PETERSON PROGRAM: Kids? Let Them Do Push-Ups

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C. school children don't need gymnasiums for physical education classes, according to Education Minister Leslie Peterson, QC.

Let them do push-ups on their desks, let them go for a run in the rain, he told the legislature Thursday.

But Soerred backbencher and former football executive Herb Capozzi doesn't think this is good enough.

Not even physical education classes held in school gyms are good enough, he told the house.

"The program is not complete. The exercise period is not worthwhile. The majority of physical education classes in our schools are a waste of time and would be better spent in academic exercises," Capozzi charged.

How, he asked, can 30 to 40 youngsters be put through a proper exercise period in 45 minutes?

He said they must sweat, and they must have showers to use afterwards, to get any benefit from the program.

"Any one of those students up there," he said pointing to the public gallery where a number of school pupils sat, "can tell you that the present program is a complete waste of time in many cases."

He said physical education should be taught after the end of the academic school day from 3 to 5 p.m. — not by volunteer organizations, but under school supervision.

Capozzi, who runs a health club in Vancouver, said schools should become the centre of community sports activities as well.

"It is ridiculous that the majority of our gymnasiums sit idle two months in the summer," he said.

He also called for an approved training system for schools, with standards of physical fitness set by the province, whereby students would be given awards and badges of merit for meeting different standards.

Capozzi said high schools in the province are doing an excellent job in some team sports such as basketball.

"But in the main area of personal, individual physical fitness we are not doing a proper job," he said.

Peterson replied he realizes there is room for improvement in the schools' physical education program and in the standard of physical fitness of pupils.

"But this is not because of a lack of facilities," he said.

Peterson has been under attack for his ruling that sports facilities are non-essential aspects of school construction.

In announcing Feb. 10 that a four-month government freeze on school construction had been lifted, Peterson stressed money would not immediately be made available for gymnasiums and activity rooms.

The minister told the legislature Thursday there should be more leadership at the community level in organizing physical activities for youngsters.

And he said children could be doing more out-of-doors than they are doing at present.

He said they should be sent on runs — even in the rain.

He told MLAs that he and a number of other members ran for a mile in the rain Wednesday morning as part of a physical fitness program.

"We have a tendency to pamper our children," he added.

He also said more could be done in the way of physical education in the classroom.

An exercise program has been designed for students in schools where there are no gymnasiums, he told the house.

Several opposition MLAs asked him for a demonstration but the minister would only say that one of the exercises involves the student putting his feet on the desk and doing pushups.

Allan Williams (L. — West Vancouver - Howe Sound) said high schools in his area do not have proper recreation facilities for the number of students.

He suggested that school districts should be allowed to acquire land for playing fields apart from school property. He said there is one West Vancouver school which transports its students to a playing field by bus.

Enlargement of this policy would allow playing field and recreation complexes to be built by school districts and municipalities on a joint basis.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault said it is a sad day when B.C. children have to do exercises at their desks.

"B.C. is the only province that excludes physical training facilities and recreational buildings from its education program and this is in absolute conflict with development of programs across Canada," he said.

Perrault said studies have shown that mental efficiency is related to physical exercise. Surely when B.C. has a \$76 million surplus it can afford to spend money for student recreation, he said.

"Let the thaw in school construction extend to recreation facilities — swimming pools, track, and equipment for gyms," Perrault said.

Alex Macdonald (NDP — Vancouver East) accused the government of providing a "bush-league budget" for education.

He told the house the Ontario government will pay \$161 million for operating grants to higher education in 1967-68 compared to this province's \$45 million operating grant to universities.

This works out to \$47.20 per capita in Ontario for higher education and \$28.50 in B.C., he said.

# Bennett Attacked For Slur on Cities

## Charges Misuse Of Road Grants

By IAIN HUNTER  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier W. A. C. Bennett was accused Friday of casting a shadow on the conduct of municipal officials all over the province.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan demanded that the premier either start official action on, or withdraw, a charge he made in the legislature that municipalities "misuse funds."

Bennett's remark came at the end of a debate on second reading of a bill to amend the Municipalities' Aid Act.

"They (municipalities) are misusing their funds. They've caught themselves in their own glue," Bennett said.

In the house, the premier ignored Strachan's demand that he follow up his charge or withdraw it publicly.

The bill requires municipalities give top priority to construction or repair of streets and roads before using provincial per capita grant money for other services.

### 'SPITE LEGISLATION'

Robert Williams (NDP—Vancouver East) called the bill "spite legislation" because it means that municipalities — especially Vancouver — have to pay for their roads out of annual revenue instead of being able to borrow for the projects.

Strachan called it a "propaganda bill" — another example of Soered "half-baked legislation."

Alan Macfarlane (Lib.—Oak Bay) said the act will tie the hands of municipalities.

Williams moved adjournment of the debate to allow members to examine the bill more closely, but his motion was voted down in a standing vote of 23 to 21, the Liberals and NDP voting together.

The bill was given second reading (approval in principle) by a second standing vote of 31 to 21.

Bennett said the bill only clarified an already-existing requirement on the per capita grants to municipalities.

### 'MEANT FOR ROADS'

The money always was meant to be used for roads first, he said.

"Not one dollar is taken away from Vancouver or any other municipality," said the premier.

He added that every municipality keeps every nickel it collects on its own and 54 per cent of what the province collects as well. Earlier Friday he

ment and B.C. municipalities. There obviously is no contact whatsoever between Vancouver and the provincial government, he added.

He urged amendment of the bill so that the per capita grant can be applied to city borrowings for road improvement and construction.

"Time after time we have seen half-baked legislation come into the house which creates turmoil and chaos, and they (the government) come in later and ask us to amend the legislation," Strachan said.

"The bill will not do municipalities one bit of good, and it is politically motivated — aimed primarily at the city of Vancouver, I suspect," said Macfarlane.

He said Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Campbell is not the minister for, but the minister against municipalities.

"It is difficult to talk about the principle of this bill because it is unprincipled," he said. "It is an attempt by the province to convince the municipal taxpayers that the cause of their troubles is the municipal leaders and not the provincial government."

Macfarlane said it is significant that the bill was not introduced by the municipal affairs minister.

"It comes directly from the minister of finance (Bennett)," he added.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault said the bill is one of the most disreputable proposals put before the house for some time.

He said that the province, in negotiating with Ottawa, asks for special treatment as the fastest-growing province in Canada.

### TUNE CHANGES

"But when it comes to municipalities all we get is semantic gymnastics," he said.

Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) gave his interpretation of

the Soered government position:

"Blame Ottawa for the big problems, blame the municipalities for the small problems, and we'll come out smelling like a rose in the middle."

Pat McGeer (L.—Vancouver-Point Grey) said silence by the six Soered Vancouver MLAs signified a "sell-out to Social Credit speeches."

He withdrew the remark after being called to order by Speaker William Murray.

McGeer suggested that municipalities should be given one-third of sales tax and one-third of gasoline tax collected to ensure that the road requirements could be met.

He said the municipalities get 52 per cent of what the province collects.

"The premier has made serious allegations against some municipalities without identifying them," Strachan said after second reading to the bill was completed.

He demanded that the premier identify the municipalities he was referring to.

The premier, however, ignored his charge and moved the legislature pass on to the next bill for consideration.

### REPEATS CHARGE

Outside the house Strachan issued a statement repeating his charge.

"His statements cast a shadow on every municipal official in the province," the Opposition leader said.

"The premier has a clear public duty to name the municipalities which have misused their funds so others will know they are cleared, or withdraw the statement and say it is not true."

"He has a further public duty under the Municipal Act to see that the department of municipal affairs move immediately into the municipality where funds are misused so that people will know and so that the department can take action to

further correct the situation," Strachan said.

Williams suggested that the effect of the bill could be different from the intention of the government in passing it.

### HALTS BORROWING

"Vancouver, he pointed out, has in the past borrowed money for its roads (a city hall report Thursday said the city planned to borrow \$1.5 million this year) but will no longer be able to do so under the terms of the bill."

"We face the prospect in Vancouver of a more than two mill increase if this (road costs) goes on the operating grant end (of city financing)," he said.

"This could endanger the whole future of roadworks (including the proposed \$10 million Georgia Viaduct), he added."

Williams, a former alderman, said taxes will increase if the bill is passed. (A city hall estimate is that it will cost the average Vancouver taxpayer another \$9 a year.)

He said he hoped the government will reconsider the bill before it is passed.

(But earlier Friday Bennett said the bill will not be withdrawn, although Mayor Tom Campbell predicted Thursday that it would.)

### LACK OF CONTACT

Williams said the bill is one of the countless examples of lack of contact between the govern-



# Alberta, B.C. Socreds Clash Over Tax-Haven Policies

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — People who try to escape paying death taxes by investing in corporations in tax-free places such as the Bahamas are practising a form of thievery, Premier W. A. C. Bennett said Friday.

The premier said he is opposed to creating a tax haven in B.C.

No one has a moral right to try to avoid paying legitimate taxes, he said.

"As long as I'm premier and minister of finance, I'll never advocate those kind of policies," Bennett said.

The remark came in the B.C. legislature during debate on a bill to amend the province's succession duties law.

The B.C. premier's stand represents a clear clash with that of Alberta's Social Credit premier, Ernest Manning.

## ALBERTA PLANS

Earlier, the legislature was told by Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver-Burrard) that the Social Credit government in Alberta has announced it plans to eliminate provincial estate taxes and go even farther to reimburse those affected by federal death duties.

"This is going to make Alberta the Bahamas of the north," said Berger.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) said the move in the Prairie province means Alberta is breaking the ranks of the 10 provinces and making it more difficult for other provinces to impose just levies.

## SECOND READING

"You should emphatically repudiate the attempt by Manning to make Alberta a tax haven like the Bahamas and Bermuda because it hurts the revenue position of all Canada," he told Bennett.

"We are in office to do what we think is best for the people," replied the premier. "We do not follow any narrow party line — our only line is what is good for the people."

The bill amending the Succession Duty Act was finally given second reading — approval in principle — by a vote of 43 to six.

The NDP and Socreds joined in support of the measure against the opposition of the six Liberals in the house.

Alan Macfarlane (Lib. — Oak Bay) said his party could not support the bill because it is "messy and sneaky."

He claimed the legislation was hastily drafted and thus requires extensive revision to correct inadequacies.

He urged the government, unsuccessfully, to withdraw the bill and team up with the federal government to establish a uniform, Canada-wide estate tax law.

Macfarlane said the bill holds out hope for exemptions when there really are none at all.

The increase in the home exemption to \$35,000 from \$20,000 is negated by the fact that there is no joint tenancy provision, he said.

## NOT TAXABLE

Under the present law, he said, a \$35,000 house would put half of the home value with the wife. It would not be taxable on the death of the husband.

Thus the husband's share would be completely covered by the present \$20,000 exemption.

"Now (in the new legislation) the whole amount of the family home held in joint tenancy will fall into the husband's estate on his death," he said.

Macfarlane also claimed the bill discriminated against apartment dwellers and people who choose to invest their assets in other than life insurance and property.

## 'BAD BUSINESS'

And it is unfair because it does not take into account the size of a family. It simply provides a single exemption for a wife and dependents, he said.

Macfarlane also said the bill would set up a system of double

taxation in B.C. and discourage capital investment in the province by outsiders.

"If you want to give British Columbia a reputation around the world for injustice and just plain bad business then pass this legislation," the lawyer-MLA said.

Trade and Industry Minister Ralph Loffmark said the bill only tries to implement principles accepted in a number of other countries.

He said the section of the bill aimed at nabbing tax evaders by bringing their foreign investment into their estates is "eminently sound" because it is based on the principle of giving first taxing opportunities to jurisdictions in which the properties are held.

## 'FAIR STARTS'

Macdonald said big estates should be taxed. It is not fair that great wealth should be passed on from generation to generation so that children in rich families don't have to work for their place in life.

"I subscribe to the principle of fair starts in life for all children," he said.

Macdonald said the Liberals are against the bill because they represent big business and the urban rich and believe in special privileges.

Premier Bennett said the bill, which attempts to plug loopholes through which the rich can escape death taxes, is not intended to hurt anybody.

About 95 per cent of the population is expected to benefit from the measure through higher estate exemptions.

"It is only to assure that those who try to avoid payment of legitimate taxes and hire expensive lawyers and accountants are placed in the same position as other taxpayers," Bennett said.

"Those who try to avoid legitimate taxes are indulging in a method of thievery," he added.

## Bennett Advises: 'Settle Cemp Deal'

**Sun Victoria Bureau**  
VICTORIA — Premier W. A. C. Bennett says if Vancouver Mayor Tom Campbell is worried about money he should get cracking on the stalled Super-block development.

"You tell Campbell that if he is worried about revenue, to get that Cemp deal going," Bennett told reporters at a press conference Friday.

The city so far has been

unable to come to terms with Eaton's and Cemp Investments on their proposal of a \$75 million office and shopping complex on Blocks 42 and 52.

Bennett also said Campbell was "wrong, as usual," when he said he was confident Bennett would withdraw a bill to amend the Municipalities Aid Act.

The amendment dictates that the city must spend its \$6 million per capita grant from the province on roads.

This, say city finance experts, will force Vancouver to cancel its plan to borrow \$1.5 million for new roadworks this year and charge it to its capital account.

Bennett said the city can still borrow to raise money for its other services.

"They always had to use the money first for construction and paving of streets and roads," he said. "This just sets things out clearly."

### B.C. CHILDREN

## 'Emotional Neglect' Aid Urged

**Sun Victoria Bureau**

VICTORIA — The provincial government should accept responsibility for protection of emotionally and socially neglected children in B.C., the legislature was told Friday.

Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP—Vancouver-Burrard) made the statement during debate on a bill to amend the Protection of Children Act.

Social Welfare Minister Dan Campbell said the bill is designed to acquaint the public and professional groups, such as doctors and social workers, with the "battered baby" problem.

The bill also provides that all cases of abused or neglected children be handled through the social welfare department, and makes mandatory the reporting of such cases to authorities, Campbell said.

Dr. Parkinson, a psychiatrist, welcoming the bill said: "There is a far wider area — children who are emotionally or socially abused — which is in need of attention."

He asked the government to extend the act as soon as possible to cover these cases.

The bill received second reading — approval in principle.

Commenting on the legislation Friday, Dr. P. G. Ashmore, president of the Vancouver Medical Association said it does not conflict with medical ethics, but reporting such cases will help prevent them from recurring.

### BY PREMIER

## Arts Body Rejected

**Sun Victoria Bureau**

VICTORIA — Premier W. A. C. Bennett Friday rejected opposition demands for an independent council to administer B.C.'s \$5 million centennial cultural fund.

"The finance minister (Bennett) will act on the advice of all the people of B.C.," he told the legislature.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East), during debate before the bill setting up the fund was given third and final reading, demanded the independent council.

"Ottawa has taken patronage and politics out of the arts (with the Canada Council) and you're putting it in again," he charged.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault said the suspicion will be that whoever approaches the premier first will get the money.

## 'IT'S EASY,' SAYS BENNETT

**Sun Victoria Bureau**

VICTORIA — If B.C. can afford to lend \$100 million to Ottawa, why did Premier W. A. C. Bennett ask the federal government to lend B.C. \$100 million?

"It's easy," the premier told a press conference Friday. "We want the money for B.C. Hydro, not for the province, which has plenty."

Bennett had said earlier that if Ottawa was so hard up it could not lend B.C. \$100 million for power development BC. would lend that amount to the federal government with no questions asked.



## Bonner Off Today For Vanier Rites

Attorney-General to Ottawa  
As Province's Representative

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, will pay British Columbia's last respects to the late Gov.-Gen. Georges P. Vanier in Ottawa Wednesday.

The attorney-general is flying to the capital today to attend the governor-general's funeral on Wednesday.

The B.C. legislature will not adjourn that day, as some other provincial houses will, nor will a school holiday be authorized.

But all B.C. schools have been urged to hold remembrance services on Wednesday morning and members of the legislature plan to attend a special service at St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Cathedral at 11 a.m.

The legislature and public galleries stood in a minute's silence at the start of Monday's sitting to express regret at the loss of the governor-general.

### MOURNED BY ALL

A motion put by Premier W. A. C. Bennett described the governor-general's death as a loss to the cause of brotherhood in the nation and throughout the world.

The premier said Gen. Vanier's death will be mourned everywhere "by all those people who love freedom, respect the democratic process, cherish international goodwill, esteem tolerance and understanding within and without the nation, foster family relationships, and sanctify individual liberties of word, thought and worship above all else."

"His career will stand, for this and later generations of Canadians, as a model for all those who aspire to serve their God, their country, and their own high personal standards with dignity and devotion," Bennett said.

### ABIDING FAITH

The premier paid tribute to the governor-general's desire for a united and understanding Canada and described him as a great force for unity.

"I am sure that as an old soldier and statesman he would prefer that the legislature carry on instead of adjourning for a period of mourning," said Bennett.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan said the governor-general had a deep understanding and abiding faith, and was a man who was both friendly and had many friends.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault described Gen. Vanier as a symbol of unity, understanding and compassion.

Education Minister Leslie Peterson, QC, said all schools are being requested to hold remembrance services.

A program suggested by the minister would include the singing of O Canada, two minutes of silence, a short memorial by the principal or invited speaker on the life of the governor-general, an appropriate hymn, and God Save The Queen.

There will not be a school holiday in B.C. as there was when U.S. President John F. Kennedy was assassinated.

## B.C. Shortage Of Nurses Denied

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A woman cabinet minister Monday denied a charge that B.C. has an acute shortage of nurses.

Mrs. Pat Jordan, minister without portfolio and a professional nurse, said it is not true that there is a shortage of either graduate or registered nurses, although there is some concern that they could be better utilized.

Mrs. Jordan was replying in the legislature to William Hartley (NDP—Yale-Lillooet).

The opposition MLA said the stipend for nurses in training does not provide much inducement to girls.

He said the amount is only \$300 over three years, and should be raised to \$1 a day, or a total of \$1,095.

Hartley also said hospitals abuse the training program. If a student nurse fails one course in the final year she cannot rewrite the exam for three months. During that time the girl works in the hospital for next to nothing, he said.

Mrs. Jordan said strict standards of education are essential.

She added that nurses who fail take only a slight reduction in salary in the period leading to re-examination.

## Peterson Defends Advisory Board

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Education Minister Leslie Peterson, QC, Monday turned down a proposal to establish an independent commission to advise on university finances.

He told the legislature that the advisory board now set up is truly independent.

The issue was raised by Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP—Vancouver-Burrard) who said the advisory board is not really independent because it is not disconnected from the civil service.

The Universities Act authorizes the education minister to appoint the chairman and a number of representatives equal to the total number of representatives appointed by the three public universities.

"What we need is an independent commission away from the civil service atmosphere, no matter how good this atmosphere is," Dr. Parkinson said.

Then there would not be complaints like those from University of B.C. president Dr. John B. Macdonald that university grants were not being

distributed according to the needs of the institutions, he said.

Peterson said the advisory board only makes recommendations to the government, although in the past two years these have been accepted.

"I see no reason why we should not do so again this year," he added.

"It is independent, however, in the true sense of the word because each of the three universities is free to appoint its own representatives to it," said the minister.

## MLA Fingers Silent Committee

VICTORIA — A veteran of seven years in the B.C. legislature complained Monday that not once during his years as an MLA has the health, education and welfare committee met.

Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) said the committee could save the legislature a lot of time spent examining education department estimates if it were activated to go over spending appropriations.

## Caught in Whose Glue?

Mayor Campbell has shown restraint in his reaction to Premier Bennett's indiscriminate allegation that municipalities are misusing their funds and have "caught themselves in their own glue."

He can afford to. Of all municipalities slandered broadcast by the premier while he was manipulating the per capita grant to look like road aid, Vancouver has least cause to accord the charge the dignity of reply. Vancouver's road program is in the glue, all right, but it's of Mr. Bennett's making.

But how can the premier's statement impugning every municipality in the province be taken seriously when, in the next breath, he said the per capita grant always was meant to be used for roads first?

It isn't and it never was. The per capita grant was a sop given to municipalities when the Social Credit government deprived them of their one per cent share of the Social Services and Municipal Aid tax — the one per cent earmarked for the municipalities for general purposes. Why, as late as his budget speech last month, Mr. Bennett said, not once but several times, that the per capita grant was "unconditional."

If Vancouver has misused funds intended for roads — and isn't this what Mr. Bennett's slur must mean? — the elimination of the per capita grant from the picture leaves only the province's matching grant for capital improvement to major roads to play around with.

This is when the implication of Mr. Bennett's statement approaches the ludicrous, if not scandalous. For this year the matching grant will bestow on Vancouver a princely sum slightly less than \$360,000. How any misuse could be made

of this sum, which doesn't begin to meet the city's most dire needs, is something we'll have to see to believe.

So will the tax and freeway experts who year in and year out have urged the Bennett government to be fair to the city's road-users.

How can Premier Bennett dare utter such absurdities when, only last June, a nationwide urban transportation report prepared for the Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities showed that Vancouver is the worst off of all major Canadian cities? And why? Because of the inadequate assistance it gets from the provincial government.

The report — noting in passing that the Ontario government pays 50 per cent of all Toronto road building costs — called the matching grant "purely nominal assistance." And so it is, and until it becomes adequate, no amount of priority shuffling in Victoria nor gratuitous slander from the premier will build the throughways Vancouver must have to prosper, if not survive.

It is no consolation that Premier Bennett is not alone in failing to solve what Peter Newman, after his cross-Canada interviews with provincial premiers, called the gut issue of this country today — the festering problems of our urban society.

If all of our premiers maintain themselves in power through the support they can muster among rural electorates, as Mr. Newman said, the study of the mayors and municipalities federation suggests that Premier Bennett does so more devastatingly than most.

This is the tragedy that is greater by far than any offence Mr. Bennett gives when he sneers at municipalities being caught in their own glue.

## Out-of-Town Students' Aid Sparks Clash in Legislature

Sun Victoria Bureau  
VICTORIA — Education Minister Leslie Peterson, Q.C., and Alan Macfarlane (Lib. — Oak Bay) clashed in the legislature Monday over the amount of aid out-of-town students wanting to attend universities should receive.

Macfarlane accused Peterson of giving students the run-around over aid available to them.

The minister ticked off Macfarlane for trying to lecture to him and for distorting government policy.

Macfarlane started off the exchange by sending a \$50 cheque across the floor to the government benches to start an equalization grant fund.

The money, he said, was a donation from University of Victoria students and was half the honorarium paid the university's student president.

He said the students hope the money will be used to set up a fund to provide sufficient grants

to enable students in rural areas to attend universities.

Then the Liberal MLA quoted Peterson as saying there is a \$300 maximum on provincial bursaries for students and asked him to outline what further assistance would be made available.

Peterson denied he said \$300 was the maximum bursary figure. He had said \$350 to \$400 is the top limit, he insisted.

He said students should learn what assistance is available through their school counsellors, rather than through statements made in the house.

"I'm not going to have the minister of education say I'm not entitled to ask questions in this house," Macfarlane shot back. "I don't want the run-around. There has been enough double talk already."

"And I'm not going to be lectured to by the learned member for Oak Bay," shouted Peterson. "He's misquoted me already."

He said the distance a student

lives from university will be taken into consideration for bursary applications, but closer to an equalization grant system he would not go.

"The Liberals talk with forked tongue," he added. "We have no further policy to announce."

"You have no policy," Macfarlane snapped.

Finally, Peterson said that \$400 is the maximum bursary assistance available to students "but I don't want to mislead (students) by saying that everyone can get the \$400 by merely applying."

Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP — Vancouver-Burrard) said artists being trained in high schools won't be qualified to teach art because they are being weaned from academics courses necessary for a teaching certificate under present "streaming" in the schools.

Peterson replied that there has always been a shortage of specialists in some teaching fields.



Tues., Mar. 7, 1967

## Subsidized B.C. Histories Suggested by Bennett

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier W. A. C. Bennett on Monday urged the education department to consider subsidizing the writing of histories of the province.

The history of B.C. is so wonderful and so complex that it can't be put in one book, he told the legislature.

The premier was replying during debate on the estimate of Education Minister Leslie Peterson, QC, to criticism by Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver Burrard) that there are no adequate B.C. history textbooks in schools in the province.

"There should be texts to remind our youngsters that it isn't the politicians who talk so much today who built the province, but the thousands who went before them," Berger said.

He called for emphasis on explorers, prospectors and the contributions of the native Indians.

Berger said subsidization of the writing of B.C. history should be followed if necessary.

Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP—Vancouver Burrard) said that one elementary history textbook lumps together Canadian, U.S. and British history and devotes only one-and-a-half pages to the War of 1812 — a major turning point in Canadian history.

Peterson said there is less emphasis in teaching today on the textbook and that students are encouraged to make more use of reserve material.

He added that all school libraries contain a history of B.C. written in 1958 by University of B.C. Prof. Margaret Ormsby.

Bennett said he has seen a history of agriculture on Salt-spring Island now being written and other areas should undertake similar projects.

"I would hope that in this centennial year some regions will produce their own histories — even if we have to subsidize them," he said.

Dr. Parkinson also made a plea for free textbooks in schools.

Peterson replied that B.C.'s textbook rental system is admired by other provinces. This provides free texts for students up to Grade 6; rentals of \$4.50 from Grades 7 to 9; and \$5 from Grades 10 to 13.

### GRENFELL PLEA

## Peterson Rejects Gym Plan

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Education Minister Leslie Peterson, QC, rejected a plea Monday by 1,320 parents for approval of a school expansion project in southeast Vancouver because the plans included a gymnasium.

The minister turned thumbs down on the request petitioned by parents for the Sir Wilfred Grenfell School project shortly before the legislature approved education department spending of \$193.3 million for the fiscal year starting April 1.

The petition urging the minister to let the project go ahead according to plan, but with only a roughed-in gym until more money is available, was brought to the floor of the house by Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East).

Macdonald warned that unless the project is allowed to go ahead immediately the already overcrowded school will have to go on a shift system in September.

The MLA charged that Peterson, by not approving the plans with a gym, is really telling local authorities to go back to the drawing board.

This will mean a delay of many months, he said.

Peterson said Vancouver school officials have known since last October that gymnasiums would not be okayed in schools and the Grenfell School planners have had ample time to make changes.

He also said that his officials have been in touch with Vancouver School Board officials who assured them there are no plans at present for a shift system in city schools.

## Standardize All Schools

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Liberal leader Ray Perrault said in the legislature Monday that all private and separate schools in the province should be subject to government standards of testing and review.

"It is terribly important at this time in our development that all youngsters who graduate from our schools are assured of the highest possible standards," he said.

He called for new legislation to ensure closer government supervision of curriculum and examinations in private and religious schools in the province.

Education Minister Leslie Peterson, QC, however, said his department never would make mandatory the implementation of the latest methods and standards of education in non-public schools.

These methods and means of testing are available to private schools who ask for them, he said.

## Berger Seeks Recompense For Guard

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Lawyer Tom Berger (NDP — Vancouver Burrard) said Monday he has gone to bat for penitentiary guard Frank Newton in an attempt to get compensation for him.

Berger said in an interview he is using his position as an MLA, not as a lawyer, to try to help the guard, who lost both hands when a booby-trapped Christmas package exploded in his home last December.

Newton has applied to the federal government employees' compensation scheme for compensation.

The scheme is administered by the provincial Workmen's Compensation Board.

However, before Newton is entitled to compensation from the scheme it must be established that his injuries arose out of his employment at the federal penitentiary in New Westminster.

## More Aid Hinted

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The student per-capita grant to the Catholic-operated Notre Dame University at Nelson may go up by \$100 in the coming fiscal year, Education Minister Leslie Peterson, QC, said Monday.

He told the legislature, in reply to a question from Leo Nimsick (NDP — Kootenay), that the exact amount of the grant is not yet known, but it could jump from \$300 per student to \$400.

Nimsick asked what the Interior university could expect to receive now that Ottawa has decided to drop out of university grants and return more money to the province, which assumes the responsibility.

The MLA complained that the budget shows appropriations for the three public universities but Notre Dame is not listed separately. Instead it is lumped in with district colleges and other post-secondary institutions.

Peterson said the amount for Notre Dame cannot be determined until it is known how much the federal government will pay to the university in this final year of a shared-grant program.

"But we would anticipate our grant for the coming year would be \$400," he said.

# James K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—Enchantingly disgraceful legislative scenes are often lashed about at the midnight hour. This is the witching time when oppositionists press for adjournment, and the government, being the boss, won't go for it.

These uproars, entertaining as they are, could easily be obviated but for the rule of politics which predominates in this house.

All the legislature has to do is bring in a rule that adjournment must come at 11 p.m., as the afternoon sitting must be adjourned at 6 p.m.

The government won't be doing this because it enjoys the power of forcing the legislature to sit all night if it wants, if it deems the opposition should be punished for talking too much earlier in the day.

Therefore, the government does not want a mandatory 11 p.m. adjournment.



NESBITT

The opposition doesn't really want it. If there should be an 11 p.m. adjournment the opposition couldn't create midnight turmoil, hoping thereby to get the sympathy—and the votes—of the public.

"Legislation by exhaustion," cry oppositionists, pretending they're dropping in their tracks.

Then they proceed to add to the exhaustion by whipping up a fierce battle about adjournment. Pent-up political emotions fly about all over the place.

This is what exhausts MLAs, not quiet, orderly business. Perhaps, however, they deliberately stir up fuss by way of relieving boredom.

If MLAs didn't like it the way it is now, they could do something about it — 11 p.m. adjournment, as in Ottawa.

What this legislature needs is a committee to streamline the rules.

★ ★ ★

Mrs. Joyce Bloom, of Joyce's Cafe at Parksville, writes to say that SC Herb Capozzi of Vancouver-Centre hasn't eaten there, or he'd not be doing all that talking about what he calls the awful apple-pie in most B.C. restaurants.

"Our apple pies are really good," writes enterprising Mrs. Bloom. "Our lemon pies melt in your mouth, made from real lemons and eggs, with flaky pie crust."

"We even make omelettes. Our customers get exactly what they ask for on their plates. Tell Mr. Capozzi to come and see us sometime."

"Because one grape in the bunch is rotten it isn't necessarily so the whole bunch is. We use our own home-grown apples."

Mr. Capozzi, I'm told, is reaping a rich harvest from his legislative apple-pie squawk. He gets at least one pie a day from outraged cooks.

He treats his cronies to apple pie in the legislative restaurant. All the pies sent him are truly wonderful, says Mr. Capozzi.

I'm pining for a pie made with real lemons. Why can't Mr. Capozzi complain aloud in the legislature about lemon pies?

★ ★ ★

MLAs went on a his'ory kick the other day. They decided British Columbia schoolchildren know practically nothing about our past.

This is true enough. A 10-minute a day B.C. history lesson would do the trick.

Premier W. A. C. Bennett waxed patriotic and poetic to say we have a wonderful and most complex history, and he had just made a great discovery — that B.C.'s first apples were grown on Salt-spring Island (where he has a hideaway), and not in the Okanagan (where he has a home as permanent as any mortal can have.).

I don't know how the premier knows for sure. I suppose somebody on Salt-spring told him and, without asking for proof, the premier accepted the story and bruited it abroad.

I must admit it would be difficult to prove, but I would think that before the Salt-spring settlement apples were

growing at Fort St. James or in Fort Victoria.

NDP Tom Berger of Vancouver Centre did his best to get a promise from Education Minister Leslie Peterson that B.C. history from here on in would be taught in our schools.

Mr. Peterson would make no such promise. He said a difficulty is a shortage of historical material.

Where on earth has Mr. Peterson been? Has he never been into the Provincial Archives where historical material is bulging the walls?

★ ★ ★

An example of the repetition in the legislature is this: On Mr. Peterson's salary vote, oppositionists asked him if university fees would be going up again this year.

Mr. Peterson said university authorities decide this, but that in view of this year's provincial budget he would not think there'd be any need for an increase.

A few days later, NDP David Barrett of Coquitlam asked Mr. Peterson if university fees would be going up again this year.

Mr. Peterson said university authorities decide this, but that in view of this year's provincial budget he would not think there'd be any need for an increase.

It might be good if cabinet ministers have their replies printed and handed out to MLAs. This might stop them from asking the same old question over and over and over again.



## B.C. Labor Board A 'Monstrosity'

**Sun Victoria Bureau**  
VICTORIA — B.C.'s Labor Relations Board was described Tuesday as a legal monstrosity that should be tamed.

Changes in the board's make up, to free it from government control, were called for by New Democratic labor critic Rae Eddie of New Westminster and Lawyer Alex Macdonald (NDP — Vancouver East).

Eddie said the LRB should be reconstituted as a full-time board, representative of labor and management and without civil servants among the membership.

A new labor code setting out improved conciliation procedures and negotiation services should be drafted and placed in the LRB's hands to administer, he said.

The LRB should also give reasons for its decisions, Eddie said. Macdonald agreed.

"A board that doesn't give reasons for judgments affecting individuals and unions is a legal monstrosity that must be stopped," he said.

Labor and management can't tell where they are going if the board won't give reasons for its decisions, said Macdonald.

He said the LRB should be independent of government like the labor relations board in Ontario.

"My information is that there is no difference," replied Labor Minister Leslie Peterson, QC. "The chairman in Ontario is a civil servant as are other members. This is a common pattern throughout Canada."

(Chairman of the B.C. board is Deputy Labor Minister Bill Sands).

Peterson also said the LRB is a full-time body inasmuch as it meets every week and sits as long as there are matters to be dealt with.

BY PETERSON

## Over-Work Denied

**Sun Victoria Bureau**

VICTORIA — Leslie Peterson, QC, denied in the legislature Tuesday that he is over-worked.

He will not ask to be relieved of either his education or labor portfolios, he added.

Peterson was answering criticism during debate on the labor department estimates that he cannot give proper attention to either the education or labor departments because he is minister of both.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan called him a "half-a-day-a-week labor minister."

Randolph Harding (NDP — Revelstoke-Slocan), Rae Eddie (NDP — New Westminster) and Eileen Dailly (NDP — Burnaby North) all called on the minister to give up one of the portfolios.

"I didn't apply for either job to begin with," replied Peterson, "but I want to assure the house that I will continue to do my best in both portfolios as long as I have them."

He said that other provinces in Canada have labor ministers who have another department, and said the education and labor departments in B.C. have benefited from increased co-operation and integration under his administration.

## B.C. Gov't Support Of Unions Urged

**Sun Victoria Bureau**  
VICTORIA — The provincial government Tuesday was urged to encourage trade unionism in B.C. instead of pursuing anti-union policies.

Tom Berger (NDP — Vancouver-Burrard) said in the legislature that only in this way will B.C. be able to enjoy the industrial peace experienced in Sweden.

The key to Sweden's strike-free record, he said lies in the fact that 97 per cent of its workers belong to trade unions, compared to less than 50 per cent in this province.

Berger urged the government to warn Mr. Justice Nathan Nemetz, who will go to Sweden this fall as a one-man commissioner to study the labor management picture there, to pay attention to the heavy trade union enrolment.

"Instead of placing barriers in the way of collective action by employees in our low-wage industries and occupations, we ought to encourage collective organization and collective bargaining for these employees," he said.

He said that unorganized workers, such as waitresses, clerks, and bank and insurance company employees are subsidizing their employers.

"For them, housing is necessarily inadequate, food prices soar beyond their budget and job security is unknown," Berger said.

He said present anti-union policies mean that two classes of working men and women are being produced in B.C. — those who belong to powerful unions and those working for sub-standard wages under sub-standard conditions.

## MPs Hail Ned DeBeck, 84

**Sun Victoria Bureau**  
VICTORIA — A man who retired from two careers and then took up a third 18 years ago as clerk of the B.C. legislature was honored by all MLAs Tuesday — his 84th birthday.

Ned DeBeck, an active, white-haired, pipe smoker who enjoys a sip of brandy, was lauded in speeches in the house by Premier W. A. C. Bennett, NDP Opposition leader Robert Strachan, and Liberal leader Ray Perrault.

Municipal Affairs Minister

Dan Campbell inducted DeBeck into the exclusive Loyal Order of the Whale's Tooth, an honor that had been bestowed by citizens of northern Vancouver Island on only six other persons.

DeBeck, who is one of three honorary members of the B.C. Legislative Press Gallery, retired from a distinguished law career in 1937 to become the province's superintendent of brokers.

He was superannuated from that post in 1943 and a year later was appointed clerk of the legislature.

"It isn't the number of seasons that count, it's how young you are from the neck up," said the premier in a tribute to DeBeck.

"He has shown us how to stay young by taking an interest in public affairs and in service to the country."

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## Injunctions Study 'Interests' Gov't

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Labor Minister Leslie Peterson, QC, told the legislature Tuesday the government is vitally interested in studies in the province and elsewhere on the use of injunctions in labor disputes.

He made the comment after Alex Macdonald (NDP — Vancouver East) asked if the government intended to introduce legislation changing and limiting the use of the court orders in labor matters.

Peterson said injunctions are being studied in B.C. by the labor-management committee he appointed and will be examined at a special conference in Vancouver on May 19.

In Ontario, a commission headed by Mr. Justice Ivan Rand is also making an in-depth study of the use of injunctions, he said.

"We are vitally interested in studies taking place here and elsewhere in Canada," Peterson said.

Macdonald said it is a shame that the government always requires studies before taking action.

"Will more men go to jail before the studies are over?" he asked. "To me it's a case of legislative action being long overdue."

Peterson said he would look into Macdonald's charge that a woman civil servant had been denied protection under the Maternity Protection Act, passed by the legislature last year.

The act provides that pregnant women be given a six-week holiday from their employment before and after birth.

"I suggest to the minister there have been infractions of this act and that mothers have sought the protection of this act

and been denied by the labor department and, if this is so, passage of the law was just an empty gesture," the lawyer-MLA said.

## Women Workers Barred From Pits

### International Labor Code Halts B.C. Gov't Plans

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The international labor code has frustrated plans of the provincial government to allow women to work underground.

Therefore, women won't be able to go down into B.C. mines to work as technicians after all.

The legislature's mining and railway committee was told Tuesday the international labor code restricts the conditions under which females are allowed to go underground.

The code, drawn up in 1935 by the International Labor Organization, a League of Nations body, was adopted by Canada last year. The ILO has continued to operate under the U.N.

(B.C. chief mining inspector W. J. Peck said today that the province would not want to go against a code adopted by the federal government.)

The committee amended a bill which would have allowed women computer operators and other technicians to work in underground offices and laboratory centres.

The bill had been introduced in the House by Mines Minister Donald Brothers.

Under terms of the amendment, all women, except those in managerial positions not requiring manual work, those in health or welfare services, and students and occasional visitors, will be barred from underground mining locations.

The provincial labor department drew the attention of the mines department to the international regulations after the bill was drafted, Peck told the committee.

Committee chairman James Chabot (SC — Columbia River) will get in touch with mine operators and union officials to ask for submissions on the new bill which would overhaul the safety and working regulations of the mining industry in the province.

Submissions must be in by March 17.

## Permits Uncounted

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Labor Minister Leslie Peterson, QC, said Tuesday the provincial government does not keep a record of the number of overtime permits granted by the Industrial Relations Board.

NDP Opposition leader Robert Strachan, who asked for the information, said he found that "rather strange."

"How do you know it affects

the economy then?" asked Gordon Dowding (NDP — Burnaby-Edmonds).

Peterson explained that it is difficult to keep a total of the number of permits because they are issued through a number of offices.

"It would be a difficult thing to give you an accurate figure," he told Strachan.

However, he told the legislature that there has been a reduction in the amount of overtime worked since the government proclaimed an overtime ban last fall.

Peterson said there had been no stoppage of overtime work on the Peace River power project but stoppages had occurred on private projects.

He said overtime on the Columbia River Treaty projects was authorized by permit up to the end of last year and he could not say what the situation is now.



# Work Injury Act Pledged

## New Compensation Law Ready by Next Week

By IAN MacALPINE  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A completely new Workmen's Compensation Act will be introduced in the legislature early next week, Labor Minister Leslie Peterson, QC, announced Tuesday.

This was the minister's reply to a stinging attack by Leo Nimsick (NDP-Kootenay) and to a promise by Liberal leader Ray Perrault to keep the legislature in session until action is pledged.

Nimsick accused the government of subjecting accident victims to poverty.

Peterson said he had planned to bring in amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act at the current session, but officials became so involved with changes it was decided to write an entirely new statute.

### NO DELAY

The minister said he expects to receive the completed bill before the end of the week and will introduce it for first reading early next week.

"There will be no delay on my part to bring this important legislation before the house," Peterson said.

His announcement prompted several MLAs to give their views on compensation for injured workmen and their dependents as the house began consideration of the labor department's \$7.5 million spending estimates.

The estimates were approved after 7½ hours of debate and the legislature adjourned at 11:45 p.m.

The subject of workmen's compensation was raised by Perrault when he urged Peterson to act on recommendations of the Tysoe royal commission, which reported to the government in the fall of 1965.

### NOT A THREAT

"If we do not have action we don't care when this house prorogues," said Perrault. "We are going to stay here until something is done for workmen's compensation."

"It is not a threat," the Liberal leader added, "but we want action."

Nimsick followed, charging that the government, by delaying action on the Tysoe recommendations for higher compensation benefits, is denying families of accident victims dignity and enough money for proper food and clothing.

"This province, I dare say, spent over \$200,000 for this report only to be pigeon-holed," he said.

Nimsick added that interim compensation increases approved last year were picayune.

### \$122 A MONTH

"A widow that lost a breadwinner in an industrial accident gets only \$122.04 a month," he shouted into his desk microphone. "I ask the minister and all members over there (on the government side) if they think

that is right and just."

Nimsick also complained that workers on disability pensions for many years have never received an increase to take the rising cost of living into account.

Changes approved a year ago put a cost of living clause into pensions from 1964 on but there was no change in pensions approved before that, he said.

"It's depressing enough to go through life disabled and then to have to live on a pauper's income and that's exactly what they are doing today."

### WORK INTERRUPTED

Peterson reminded MLAs that the work of the royal commission inquiry into workmen's compensation was interrupted by the death of Chief Justice A. C. DesBrisay, in December, 1963. He was the first commissioner.

This was a delay for which the government could not be held responsible.

But by bringing in increased benefits on the basis of an interim report by Mr. Justice C. W. Tysoe the government had acted with dispatch, he said.

Instead of condemning the government, MLAs should commend it, said the minister.

Cyril Shelford (SC—Omineca) welcomed the minister's announcement about a new compensation act.

He said he hoped it would provide an adequate appeal section so that accident victims with problems can appeal their cases.

### NECK BROKEN

He cited one case in which a workman broke his neck twice in separate accidents but has no chance of compensation dating from the time of the first accident. Shelford said the first accident weakened the man's neck and therefore in part contributed to the severity of the second.

He suggested that one of the three women ministers without portfolio look into cases like these where there is obvious injustice.

Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver—Burrard) pointed out that the present Workmen's Compensation Board is rejecting three times as many claims today as it did in 1954 before William Eades was appointed chairman.

He repeated the demand he made during last year provincial election campaign for the chairman's resignation.

Berger said the new Act should contain the following provisions:

Full coverage for farmers and fishermen.

Payment for all hernia claims because of the difficulty of diagnosing the time the disease began.

Adjustment of compensation to the rising cost of living.

Establishment of a uniform standard of proof in claims. He said workmen should be given the benefit of doubt instead of having to prove that their claims are genuine.

Release by the WCB of reasons for rejection of claims, including medical reports unless forbidden by the physician.

Berger cited a number of cases in which claimants were turned down on the basis of medical reports which were never revealed to them.

This means, he said, that workmen have to appear before the board of review in appealing their claims without knowing the case they have to fight.

He said one Nanaimo worker, who contracted dermatitis (a skin disease) while working at shipyards during the Second World War, applied for compensation in the late 1950s.

A Victoria physician supported his appeal after rejection by the WCB, with a certificate showing the man had in fact just cause for his claim.

However, Berger said, the board withheld the certificate and turned down the appeal although it was bound by the doctor's certificate to grant the claim.

"This board has got to go," Berger said.

Berger also charged a miner's body was kept on ice for 19 days while board officials searched for a medical opinion to back their claim that his death was not caused by silicosis.

At the same time the board suppressed a medical report which showed silicosis was the cause of death, he said.

"We need an ombudsman to go through cases like these like a dose of salts and find out what's wrong," said Berger.

He asked that an appeal board be set up, preferably dominated by lay people rather than lawyers and doctors as at present.

Ernie LeCours (SC—Richmond) agreed that medical doctors should not dominate the WCB appeal board.

### DELAY RAPPED

Dave Stupich (NDP—Nanaimo) joined with Nimsick in saying that legislation as important as workmen's compensation should have been brought in earlier in the session so interested groups would have time to study it and make suggestions before the final legislation was passed.

Herb Capozzi (SC—Vancouver—Centre) said just as many unjust claims are paid as legitimate ones are refused.

He said rejection of many claims is warranted and this is protection for legitimate claimants because the funds are not abused.

## Boast By NDP Deflated

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Liberal leader Ray Perrault knocked the wind out of NDP sails in the legislature Tuesday in a brief capitalist-versus-socialist encounter.

The NDP's labor critic, Rae Eddie, sparked the situation during consideration of labor department estimates when he said B.C. could learn much from Sweden about labor-management relations.

Eddie said he was pleased by the announcement by Labor Minister Leslie Peterson, QC, that Mr. Justice Nathan Nemetz would go to Sweden this summer to study labor matters there for the provincial government.

He said the judge will find that high wages prevail, there is extremely low annual loss of working time, and good relations exist between labor and management with very little interference by the state.

Eddie was joined by Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) in applauding the Nemetz assignment.

### NEW HORIZON

In Sweden a new horizon in the field of labor relations has been attained, said Macdonald.

"This has been a democratic socialist government for about 25 years and there the accent has changed to partnership and co-operation — away from strife," said the lawyer-MLA.

"We in the NDP are affiliated with the Social Democrats and we are proud that our colleagues, though they speak a different language and live far away, are doing this," he said. He commended the Nemetz study.

But he quickly deflated the NDP claim.

### OTHERS GET CREDIT

Referring to an article in a report from the Swedish Institute, which he said he received from Stockholm, the Liberal leader said the "great labor reform legislation," according

to the story, was brought in in 1928 by a non-socialist majority in parliament.

"It was brought in against the violent opposition of the unions," Perrault said, "but after the Act came into operation socialist opinion changed and the legislation was gradually accepted."

Perrault said he brought up the subject to show that "non-socialist parties are concerned about labor relations in this province and throughout the world."

It is amazing that in a time when men are sending rockets to Mars and the moon they are using caveman methods in labor relations and bludgeoning each other over the head, he said.

### URGES REFORMS

He called for reforms in the machinery for resolving disputes, starting with elimination of conciliation boards.

"The present system of conciliation boards should be abolished. They are an archaic, inflexible holdover from B.C.'s contentious past and serve only to lock labor and management into inflexible positions and the conciliation board report becomes a strike weapon," he said.

Perrault said the government should recruit about six top-notch mediators and pay them \$25,000 or \$30,000 a year to help eliminate misunderstanding between labor and management.

"We have hard-working and diligent conciliation officers in B.C. but it is impossible to believe that some of them are paid less than the workers whose wage complaints they are called upon to discuss and review," Perrault said.

Peterson later replied to Perrault's suggestions, saying the department has tried unsuccessfully to hire mediators.

"The key is training them and there is really no school other than in-service training," the minister said.

## HEALTH BOARD DUTY TRANSFER PLANNED

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The provincial government Tuesday introduced a measure that will clear the way for transferring the duties of metro health boards in Vancouver and Victoria to regional districts.

A bill to amend the Health Act was introduced in the legislature by Health Minister Wesley Black and given first reading.

The bill gives the cabinet power to authorize the transfers.



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## Cowichan Miners Assured Back Pay

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Nearly \$40,000 in back wages owing 145 employees of Cowichan Copper Co. of Jordan River will be paid in full by April 30, the legislature was told Tuesday.

Labor Minister Leslie Peterson, QC, told the House that \$15,000 was paid after the Industrial Relations Board obtained an order seizing shipments of copper ore.

Another \$5,000 was to be paid to the men Tuesday, he said, with a further \$10,000 promised by March 31.

Peterson said Aetna Investment Corporation of Toronto, which re-financed Cowichan Copper, has given the government a written guarantee that the balance of the wages owing the men will be paid by the end of next month.

In most cases the money owing represents the August, 1966, pay cheques of workers.

But the minister's statements did not satisfy Leo Nimsick (NDP — Kootenay) who called for the shutting down of the mine until all wages are paid.

He also demanded to know what steps the government is

taking to ensure workmen at the mine are not left without pay in future.

He said the company had made \$300,000 for its shareholders by financing Cowichan Copper and that 65 men are now working at the mine without guarantee that Aetna will pay their wages.

"I am not going to accept the irresponsible criticism of the member from Kootenay," said Peterson. "I am not going to accept his claim to represent the workers."

## Hydro Ousts Defaulters

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — "Fly-by-night" operators have been shooed off B.C. Hydro clearing projects, Labor Minister Leslie Peterson, QC, said in the legislature Tuesday.

He said Hydro now requires contractors to accept responsibility for paying workers if the sub-contractors default.

He was answering a demand by Randolph Harding (NDP—Revelstoke-Slocan) that the government stop the issuing of worthless cheques to sub-contractors' employees in his riding.

He indicated some \$80,000 has been lost in wages to workmen on Hydro projects.

This has already been taken care of for all future contracts, Peterson said, adding that some of the work on clearing projects appears to have been done by "fly-by-night" operators.

# LSD ADVOCATES HIT 'Fire Them, Says McGeer 'Terrifying Drug' Scored by Doctor

By IAN MacALPINE  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Liberal MLA Dr. Pat McGeer demanded Wednesday that university professors and school teachers who condone the use of the "terrifying drug" LSD be immediately fired from their jobs.

In a biting speech in the legislature, the Vancouver-Point Grey member and University of B.C. brain researcher also demanded that the provincial government introduce immediate legislation to ban misuse of the drug.

And, he said in an interview later, university and school students caught using LSD should be immediately suspended from classes.

"LSD is a universally terrifying drug and I am alarmed by its spread into Vancouver high schools," he said.

"Fifty pounds of it is sufficient to produce mental illness in everybody in North America. This is how powerful it is."

Outside the legislature, Dr. McGeer said in an interview that use of the hallucinatory drug has reached epidemic proportions in Vancouver and is spreading like a disease.

## 30 STUDENTS

(Vancouver police reported Friday that at least 30 students from four Vancouver high schools have used LSD.)

Dr. McGeer told the legislature it is time for all responsible people to speak out.

"We should fire every professor and teacher at every institution in North America who encourages the public to use this dangerous agent and that includes those in B.C.," he said.

"We need legislation as soon as possible to outlaw possession, handling, use or distribution of LSD without a permit. And if we can't get federal legislation, we should do something provincially in the next week or so."

Dr. McGeer said that contrary to the opinions of pseudo-experts, LSD does not expand the mind but shrinks it and interferes with chemical processes of the brain.

## USED RESPONSIBLY

Speaking during debate on health department estimates, he said LSD had been used responsibly by doctors and researchers for 20 years until Harvard professor Dr. Timothy Leary began to misuse it and encouraged others to follow.

Health Minister Wesley Black said his department is greatly concerned about use of LSD and marijuana and pamphlets are being prepared for distribution to students to outline the dangers.

Dr. James A. Taylor, deputy health minister, said later the pamphlets are being prepared

but will not be distributed for a few weeks.

"This must be dealt with promptly. It's becoming an epidemic and it's like a disease — one person uses it and another is encouraged to," Dr. McGeer said in the interview.

## 'NO DELAY'

"There is no need for a delay of weeks in getting the information to the schools. Our UBC laboratory will gladly co-operate with the health department to provide material and information for the schools."

Dr. McGeer said the government could pass legislation within a week under the School, University or Health Acts.

"It would be better if federal laws were brought in but the problem is here and now," he said.

He said that if there were any conflict with federal jurisdiction it could be ironed out later.

"This is an evil thing and now it is creeping down into our high schools. University and high school students should be suspended immediately if they use LSD," Dr. McGeer said.

He said it was pointless for his party to introduce legislation because the government would either defeat it or hold it off until the end of the legislature.

## FEDERAL LEVEL

Health Minister Black said in the house that Dr. McGeer "didn't minimize the problem at all."

But Black added legislation should be on a federal level since 54 per cent of B.C.'s drug addicts come here already addicted from other parts of Canada.

"We should interest ourselves and interest ourselves at once but let us also regard the broad narcotic problem, particularly heroin," Black said.

"The federal minister of health should take a look at the problem."

Black said he visited Ottawa recently with officials of the Narcotic Addiction Foundation of B.C. and had indications the whole drug problem was under

review at the federal level.

Meanwhile, he said, his department was making the latest information on drugs available to the public school system and the public.

But he added that care should be taken in how this information is used.

## 'BE GUARDED'

"Let us be guarded in what we say to these impressionable young people," he said.

Black said all MLAs could help meet the challenge of drugs.

"It is a problem that cannot be swept under the rug and will not go away by itself," he said.

"Surely here's a problem that should cut across political lines — we can forget this political nonsense to deal with this kind of a problem."

Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, said Monday he was surprised at reports of Vancouver students using LSD.

Bonner said it was obvious stricter controls are needed on the drug but said it was still "problematical" to what extent high school students are using it.

Sgt. Don Bellamy of the Vancouver police youth preventive squad has reported more than 30 local high school students have used it.

He said boys and girls as young as 13 or 14 are experimenting with the drug for kicks.

## 'LITTLE POWER'

Sgt. Bellamy said police have little power to control the possession and use of LSD among juveniles except by making arrests under the Juvenile Delinquents Act.

(LSD is now controlled under the federal Food and Drug Act which makes it an offence to sell LSD or possess it for sale).

A 16-year-old high school student at Oliver was convicted for selling LSD, the first such conviction involving a juvenile in B.C.

Vancouver School Board has stepped up an educational program to warn students of the dangers of using LSD and marijuana.

Special counsellors and nurses are being trained to detect young people affected by the drugs.

The police force has stepped up its efforts against use of LSD and marijuana including training of police officers to recognize the distinctive odor of burning marijuana.

LSD is odorless and cannot be detected by this method but police officers are being given special lectures on what to watch for in drug investigations.



# MLA Slams Gov't On Health Service

## Parkinson Cites Financial Plight of VON in Attack

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The financial plight of the Vancouver branch of the Victorian Order of Nurses was raised in the legislature Wednesday by an MLA who predicted the Socred government would fall unless it starts doing more for people.

"If you think roads and dams are going to win you elections anymore you've got another thing coming," said Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP — Vancouver - Burrard).

"Attitudes are changing. I can tell from my mail in recent months," he said.

Parkinson accused Premier and Finance Minister W. A. C. Bennett of bleeding the VON white by starving the volunteer agency of needed finances.

The MLA quoted a news report carried Tuesday in the Sun in which Dr. Nairn D. Knott, outgoing president of the Vancouver VON, blamed Bennett personally for the branch's desperate financial situation.

### 'NO AGITATOR'

"He is an extremely respected physician and he can't be accused of having sympathies to our party," said Parkinson. "This man is by no means an agitator or activist."

Dr. Parkinson referred to statements by Dr. Knott that Bennett has been derelict in his responsibilities to help the VON provide health services.

Other Dr. Knott quotes read to MLAs were:

"This fear of big brother is an odious and numbing thing reminiscent of past political times. But tonight I spell it out crystal clear. Our problem has been the provincial government."

"This sort of criticism is found throughout the entire health field," said Dr. Parkinson.

The VON is a voluntary agency providing health services that should be handled by the government and it is being ignored by the government, Dr. Parkinson charged.

Dr. Parkinson, speaking during health department esti-

mates, said the VON was planning to expand its home-care services in Vancouver with a model program.

This would be an investment in people, a more efficient and more appropriate way of handling outpatient care and rehabilitation, the MLA said.

Dr. Parkinson said it was unfortunate that Bennett was not in the house to hear of the VON's plight.

Health Minister Wesley Black said he was not aware the Vancouver branch was in financial trouble.

(Dr. Knott said the VON organization has no immediate way to make up a two-year deficit of about \$15,000.

(In addition, he said, the branch has used up \$15,000 of a \$20,000 capital fund which was not meant to be used as operating capital.)

Black said he would give every consideration to a request for funds from the agency.

### ANNUAL GRANT

The minister said the Vancouver VON gets a \$30,000 annual grant from the government through the provincial secretary's department plus \$6,000 from the health department.

"They are presently asking for \$25,500 for their home-care program in the City of Vancouver," said Black, adding:

"I'll have to consider that to try to help them if I possibly can because I am aware of the worthwhileness of their program."

The premier, interviewed later outside the house, said he will gladly look into Dr. Knott's complaints.

"There is no more worthwhile organization in B.C.," said Bennett. "The VON is one of the best organizations in the province."

# Cancer Operation Delays Charged

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A doctor - MLA claimed Wednesday that cancer victims are being forced to delay operations because of an acute shortage of hospital beds on the Lower Mainland.

Speaking in the legislature during health department estimates, Dr. Pat McGeer (L. — Vancouver - Point Grey) said 7,934 persons are on an elective surgery list waiting to get into only 3,894 beds of all kinds.

Dr. McGeer said all male surgery was cancelled Tuesday at Royal Columbian Hospital in New Westminster because of a bed shortage.

### FOUR POSTPONEMENTS

A man suffering from cancer has had an operation postponed four times in two months because of the bed problem.

And another patient at Vancouver General Hospital was kept in the emergency ward from Feb. 1 to March 2 because there was no room in regular wards, the MLA said.

Dr. McGeer said there are 3,083 persons waiting to get into 879 beds in the three New Westminster area hospitals; 733 vying for 280 beds in Lions Gate Hospital; and 450 waiting to get into 243 beds in Burnaby General Hospital.

The list at Richmond Hospital contains 313 names for 132 beds, and at VGH's Centennial Pavilion, where there are 520 beds, the waiting list has 919 names.

At St. Paul's Hospital there is a waiting list of 756 for 530 beds, Dr. McGeer said.

### BLACK ANSWERS

The MLA asked Health Minister Wesley Black to declare the government's plans to remedy the situation.

The minister replied that local hospital boards are autonomous.

"They advise us on their needs and to the best of my knowledge we haven't turned any away in this critical area of need," he said.

However, there have been problems at the local level, the minister said.

"They are not getting the type of co-operation from architects and planners that they need and not the full support from the voters for the finances to be raised," said Black.

However, Black said approval for 2,522 beds on the Lower Mainland has been given by B.C. Hospital Insurance Service, "some of recent date."

Liberal leader Ray Perrault also criticized the government for the severe lack of hospital accommodation in the province.

"We can create all the regional districts we want but the one question that still remains open is the provision for hospital bed expansion," he said.

Perrault said many municipalities have not the necessary funds to take up their share of the costs for local hospitals.

## KIDNEY-MACHINE NEEDED

# Price-Tag on Life, Says Perrault

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A medical panel in B.C. decides who is to live and who is to die among people suffering from kidney failure, the legislature was told Wednesday.

The case of an ailing West Vancouver man who said he will have to pay \$17,500 to stay alive because he cannot use the artificial kidney machine at Vancouver General Hospital was cited by Liberal leader Ray Perrault.

There is a price tag on the life of those with the disease, Perrault said.

"Apparently there is a panel in B.C. that decides who is to live and who is to die," Perrault said.

The discussion came during debate on estimates of Health Minister Wesley Black.

Perrault said the government should dip into its surplus to provide more money to end a shortage of kidney machines in B.C. that is resulting in the early death of some citizens.

(Existence of the committee referred to by Perrault was first revealed in December, 1964, by Sun medical reporter Arnie Myers.

(The anonymous, six-member committee makes the final decision on which patients will be given repeated artificial kidney treatments under a program at Vancouver General Hospital.)

Although Perrault did not disclose the identity of the West Vancouver man during the debate, he said later outside the house that the man

was Elmer M. Ehlert, of 1370 Clyde.

Perrault said Ehlert agreed that his name could be made public.

Black told the legislature that facilities are being expanded at Vancouver General Hospital to provide treatment for up to 30 patients. The Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria is to get facilities for the treatment of two more.

Perrault said the limited facilities at Vancouver means that people with kidney failures often have to go elsewhere for periodic treatment.

Discussing the life-or-death committee, Perrault said:

"It must be a pretty tragic thing to have to tell a man that you're sorry but he's getting on in years and you'll have to give someone else access to the machine that keeps him alive."

Perrault told the legislature that Ehlert turned to the University of Washington to ask for access to its kidney machine.

Ehlert said later: "I was informed that I would need \$17,500 in advance to pay for the treatment and that's just impossible for me."

Perrault said: "If he can put up \$17,500 he lives. If he can't raise the money, presumably he dies."

"We should have no situation where a man has to pass out of this life simply because the equipment is not available or because it is too expensive."

Ehlert is currently receiving another form of treatment. This form is as effective as the kidney machine, a doctor told The Sun, but is somewhat more inconvenient for the patient.

## B.C. Hunger Relief Fund Still in Bank

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver Burrard) challenged the provincial government Wednesday to release \$50,000 which was earmarked for world hunger relief in 1960, but which has been lying in a bank ever since.

Berger said in the legislature the money should be sent to UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) along with \$420 donated by the public after a government appeal at that time, and a further \$420 as matching contribution from the province.

"It is a disgrace if the premier doesn't send this money off tonight", he said.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby Edmonds) said the then external affairs minister Howard Green had asked the province to help care for a number of Hong Kong refugees in 1960 as an act of compassion.

But Premier W. A. C. Bennett instead declared the province would set up its own world relief fund, Dowding said.

## CHRONIC ILL

# 'Callow Neglect' Charged

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government was attacked in the legislature Wednesday for its "callous neglect" of the chronically ill.

And opposition MLAs called during debate on estimates of Health Minister Wesley Black for the government to take over all private hospitals supplying chronic care in the province.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) said there are less than 200 new chronic care beds in the province since former health minister Eric Martin announced \$1 a day extended care in the province in November, 1965.

"We have an absolutely scandalous situation still," he said.

He said the government, instead of creating new beds for chronic care in hospitals, is simply reclassifying existing beds for social welfare cases as chronic care beds.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault agreed.

"There is no more important problem in the province today than the problem of people who have to pay for chronic care and are having their life savings wiped out because of the callous neglect of this government in implementing a promise made in 1965," he said.

## McGeer Bill Seeks Fourth University

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A Liberal MLA introduced a bill in the legislature Wednesday which would set up the fourth full-fledged public university in the province.

Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Point Grey) introduced the bill as an amendment to the Universities' Act to establish an "Okanagan university."

Earlier this session Dr. McGeer condemned present proposals of the government to establish a regional college in the Okanagan and he said the are needs a full degree-granting university.

Outside the house Wednesday he said in an interview the two-year regional college for the area proposed by the government was a "Mickey Mouse" college.

A plebiscite for setting up the college was turned down by

Okanagan ratepayers last Dec. 10.

The plebiscite was for construction of an \$8 million college across Okanagan Lake from Kelowna.

It needed a 60-per-cent majority, but most residents of Vernon and the northern section of the valley were opposed.

(Since then Education Minister Leslie Petersen, QC, has met with the mayors of Penticton, Kelowna and Vernon in efforts to get another vote.)

Dr. McGeer's bill would give an Okanagan university the same status as the three present public universities in the province — University of B.C., University of Victoria and Simon Fraser University.



# Vote Change Seen For Fluoridation

## B.C. Health Minister Suggests Gov't Likely to Take Stand

By IAN MacALPINE  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Freshman Health Minister Wesley Black refused Wednesday to commit himself on the fluoridation issue, following in the footsteps of his predecessor, Eric Martin.

But the minister hinted the government may take a stand on the controversial matter soon by bringing in amendments to the Municipal Act.

Black did not give details, but the amendment presumably will change a section that now requires a 60 per cent favorable vote to approve municipal fluoridation bylaws to a simple majority provision.

The Union of B.C. Municipalities has urged such a change to make it easier to vote on fluoridation.

Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Vancouver-Point Grey) challenged Black to take a stand on the issue after he and Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP—Vancouver-Burrard) attested to the worth of fluorides in preventing tooth decay.

### 'FACE PROBLEM'

"It's about time this government faced this problem," said Dr. Parkinson. "I know it has not faced it. The previous minister (Martin) even prevented his officials from discussing it."

Dr. Parkinson, a psychiatrist, suggested the government has been avoiding the issue because it might be disadvantageous politically.

But he urged the government to act on the UBCM request permitting a 51 per cent vote to bring in fluoridation and, perhaps, to go even farther.

"I would hope we could get

away from even votes and decide it on logical and rational grounds," he said.

Dr. McGeer, a brain researcher, said 1966 was another bad year for fluoridation in B.C. because only two communities got 60-per-cent votes to bring in the health measure.

### 'LAST BASTION'

Unless the government takes a stand in support of fluoridation B.C. will be the last bastion of the "health crackpot" in North America, he said.

Dr. McGeer said fluoridation has been endorsed by the health ministers of Canada and Britain, Dr. Benjamin Spock, U.S. President Lyndon Johnson, U.S. Senator Robert F. Kennedy, and former president Dwight Eisenhower.

Numerous professional health agencies have also approved the use of fluoridation, he said.

"So it is quite a safe thing for the government to do," he said.

"The minister and the government have been conspicuously silent on the subject of fluoridation and I am wondering if the minister of health would be prepared today to publicly endorse fluoridation — and the premier and other ministers of the Crown endorse fluoridation," Dr. McGeer added.

"You will have to wait for amendments to the Municipal Act," said Black. "I make no commitment."

## 'TOO MANY AGENCIES'

# Aid Setup Rapped

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C. has too many do-good organizations, the legislature was told Wednesday.

Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP—Vancouver-Burrard) said there are so many groups set up to look after the health and welfare of people that their services in many cases are overlapping.

It is time the health department did something about these conflicting agencies, Dr. Parkinson said.

"It's just about time there was a reorganization," he added.

Dr. Parkinson said the government should provide some kind of incentives to remedy the situation.

"Cut off their grants," suggested Herb Capozzi (SC—Vancouver-Centre).

"They do a fine job in the area they are responsible for and they are good people," Dr. Parkinson said. "But they have built up in a vertical way. There is no communication between them."

"How a patient can find his

way in this jungle of complex health and welfare agencies is beyond me," the MLA said.

## INJUNCTIONS

# Debate Set In City

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial labor department will commemorate its 50th anniversary by holding a one-day conference on the use of injunctions in labor disputes and the effects of technological change on labor relations.

Labor Minister Leslie Peterson, QC, told the legislature Tuesday the conference will be held in Hotel Vancouver on May 19.

Former B.C. labor ministers and present ministers in Canada have been invited to attend, Peterson said.

Among those expected is Senator J. W. de B. Farris, who served as the province's first labor minister from 1917 to April 11, 1922.

Peterson said University of B.C.—law professor Ray Herbert will chair the panel on injunctions.

## FARM MACHINE BILL REJECTED

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A private members' bill requiring farm equipment dealers to stock a 10-year supply of parts for new machinery was defeated within 30 seconds of its introduction Wednesday.

William Hartley (NDP—Yale-Lillooet) had moved that his bill be referred to the legislature's private bills committee.

Agriculture Minister Frank Richter explained later that the government rejected the motion because a federal royal commission on farm machinery is to hold hearings in B.C. this month.

## Dowding Holds Pollution 'Health Department Worry'

**Sun Victoria Bureau**  
VICTORIA — Pollution is primarily a health problem and should be a responsibility of the health department, not the water resources branch, Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) told the legislature Wednesday.

Dowding, speaking during consideration of health department estimates, said it is strange that the Buttle Lake pollution case is being handled under the resources department,

yet pollution of oyster beds in coastal waters is under the health department's jurisdiction.

"This I think is a breakdown in a vital area of responsibility of this department," he said.

Because pollution is a health problem it should be handled by the health department, he said.

"Can you imagine the Vancouver Metro health board allowing a mining company to put a camp in Garibaldi if it happened to flow down into the

Capilano watershed?" he asked. "There would be a lynching."

Dowding said the health department should have taken action in the Buttle Lake case, which involves the dumping of tailings into the lake by a mining company.

The mining company, Western Mines Ltd., was given the right to work the Buttle Lake property.

The firm was authorized by the Pollution Control Board to pipe tailings to the bottom of the lake. But, early this year, the PCB permit was ruled invalid in the B.C. Court of Appeals.

The court ruled the board should not have denied the Greater Campbell River Water District the opportunity to support its objections with material and technical evidence.

Since the permit to dump tailings into the lake was declared void, the mining company has been dumping tailings in a holding pond on land.

However, there has been evidence that this waste has overflowed into Myra Creek which flows into the lake.

Late last month PCB chairman Arthur Paget announced there will be a public hearing on the pollution controversy.

The Campbell River Water Board has been asked to present its evidence to the Pollution Control Board. After that is done, a date will be set for the public hearing.

But in Victoria Wednesday, Dowding said the health department has never concerned itself with the Buttle Lake problem because it has not been declared a watershed.

"I hope the minister (of health) will take on the prime responsibility for this situation in Buttle Lake," Dowding said.

## Medicare Scope Black's Secret

**Sun Victoria Bureau**  
VICTORIA — Opposition MLAs pressed Health Minister Wesley Black in the legislature Wednesday to say whether a pending medicare bill will bring private, non-profit medical plans under public authority.

But Black replied during debate on his department's estimates:

"You will have to be the judge of that when the bill comes down."

Alex Macdonald (NDP — Vancouver East) said that British Columbia does not qualify for about \$20 million in annual assistance under federal medicare legislation because medical plans in the province are not under public authority.

Not even the government-sponsored B.C. Medical Plan qualifies, because it is run by a private society jointly set up by the medical profession and the government, he said.

### PUBLIC AUTHORITY

Liberal leader Ray Perrault asked if Black has been told by Ottawa that private, non-profit plans such as MSA and CU and C must be "brought within the ambit of a public authority" to qualify under the national plan, which is to come into operation before July, 1968.

"I don't recall a specific letter but that certainly has been discussed by the federal government," said Black.

He said the B.C. medicare bill will be before the house by the end of this week or the beginning of next week.

Macdonald charged that the

province is getting ready for another "wrist twisting" bout with Ottawa over medicare.

"Are you going to try to break this plan or qualify B.C. for it?" he asked.

Black only said that the government of B.C. is anxious to co-operate with Ottawa.

"Believe me, that is what we have tried to do," he said.

### EVERY PERSON

Opposition leader Robert Strachan and Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP — Vancouver Burrard) said that any medicare plan in B.C. must cover every person without any financial barriers and include prescription drugs, dental care for every child and ambulance service.

Strachan said the record of the government on health matters "if not one of colossal failure, is at least one of never enough."

Dr. Parkinson criticized Black for taking a negative attitude toward allowing civil servants to express their views.

Problems of the department "are shrouded in clouds of civil service fog," he said.

And Perrault accused Black of carrying the "fog" into the legislature by refusing to answer questions.

"We weren't sent to this house to be greeted by silence," Perrault said. "I didn't come here to be fobbed off by Weak-Nelly excuses."



## Job Applicants to Suggest Mental Health Schemes

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Applicants for the position of deputy mental health minister have been asked to submit blueprints for reorganization of the department, Health Minister Wesley Black disclosed in the legislature Wednesday.

Black reiterated, during heavy opposition criticism, that he plans to completely overhaul the department.

But he indicated the changes will have to await the appointment of a deputy to succeed Dr. A. E. Davidson, who leaves at the end of this month for a job with the federal government in Ottawa.

Black discussed the plan during debate leading to approval of public health department spending estimates totalling \$11.4 million.

### SEVERAL INTERESTED

He told MLAs that several leading psychiatrists in the province have expressed an interest in the deputy minister's post.

He said that he has asked them to submit plans for a complete reorganization of the whole department with their applications.

Black also said that a layman will be appointed to a new position of assistant deputy minister.

"I have been assured of the co-operation of various medical and mental health groups in reorganizing the department but I am not so naive as to believe we are going to get all the

professional groups to think along the same lines," he said.

During close questioning by psychiatrist-MLA Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP—Vancouver-Burrard), Black also said his department is in favor of building smaller centres for care of the mentally ill to replace the massive Riverview hospital complex in Coquitlam.

### RIVERVIEW ISSUE

Parkinson had urged decentralization to reduce the number of patients at Riverview.

Black said, however, that public feeling is forcing the government to keep spending money to improve existing facilities at Riverview.

Though buildings there will be phased out gradually as promised a number of years ago, some will have to remain for some time, he said.

The minister blamed a story in The Sun on Tuesday for increasing the government's difficulties.

(A Sun reporter-photographer team visited Riverview Monday and found some overcrowding and lack of some facilities but that the hospital was clean and generally well-run.)

"You see the damage that's done when this sort of thing (the newspaper report) happens," said Black. "Nobody said anything was bad but you don't have to be a student of propaganda to see how this works."

### 'PUBLIC PRESSURE'

"No matter what we say (about the need to build new decentralized facilities) the pub-

lic pressures will be put on us to put modern conditions there (at Riverview)," he added.

But Black said The Sun team was allowed to tour the hospital "because we have nothing to hide."

Dr. Parkinson had warned the minister that it is a mistake "to pour more money in there" when smaller 60-bed mental health units can be built for \$250,000.

Earlier, Dr. Parkinson blasted the Social Credit government's health policies.

He accused them of piecemeal, patchwork methods.

"This government really does not plan for such services to people but is running from hole to hole to halt the pressure from behind but never looking over the top to see where the pressure is from," he said.

"Life really can be better in B.C. but I don't think it will be under this present government. This government has hardening of the arteries."

In a lengthy debate, Dr. Parkinson also urged Black to call on outside professionals for advice on how to reorganize the mental health department.

And he urged the government to go beyond the normal cost-sharing arrangements for hospitals to help Vancouver General Hospital change its role to a major referral centre for "exotic and more difficult" medical problems.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 1967

# 'Educate Like Mad' on LSD Says Simon Fraser President But Don't Make Martyrs, He Adds

By AL SHEEHAN

The president of Simon Fraser University said Thursday a major education program is needed to fight misuse of drugs such as LSD.

"We have a problem and if we have any confidence in our ability as educators we should tackle the problem through education," Dr. Patrick McTaggart-Cowan said in a statement.

"We must educate like mad, moving a tremendous amount of information into the hands of people who use drugs or who might use drugs," he said.

He said he was not only referring to the hallucinatory drug LSD but also to drugs such as marijuana which are prohibited under the Narcotics Control Act.

McTaggart-Cowan commented after Liberal MLA Dr. Pat McGeer demanded Wednesday in the legislature that university professors and school teachers who condone the use of the "terrifying drug" LSD be immediately fired from their jobs.

## IMPERFECT WAY

Dr. McGeer, a Vancouver-Point Grey member and University of B.C. brain researcher, also demanded that the provincial government introduce immediate legislation to ban misuse of LSD.

And he said in an interview that university and school students caught using LSD should be immediately suspended from classes.

McTaggart-Cowan declined to comment specifically on Dr. McGeer's speech, but he said:

"Certain punishments have been found an imperfect way of dealing with problems, and sometimes you can make a fool into a hero and a martyr by the wrong kind of punishment."

He also said it is time to stop the practice of singling out students in connection with LSD and marijuana.

"We must stop knocking the students. This is not just a university or school problem," he said.

"We must look hard at the much larger number of adults who are being arrested on drug charges — and not mentioned in the newspapers."

## 'HALF-COCKED'

University of B.C. president Dr. John B. Macdonald, referring to Dr. McGeer's statement, said:

"He is speaking of a hypothetical situation. No one at UBC has advocated the use of it (LSD). I don't think I wish to comment."

Dr. Robert Stewart, president of the UBC Faculty Association, said Dr. McGeer's statement appeared to be "a little bit half-cocked."

"The question that worries me is the old academic freedom," he said.

"A university professor has as much right to say what is on his mind as anybody as long as his comments are within the law..."

"One gets the impression that there is a widespread public feeling that professors have advocated the use of LSD but I know of no case where this has actually happened."

Dr. Conrad Schwarz, consultant psychiatrist for student health services at UBC, said:

"I certainly agree that any university professor, teacher or person in a responsible position who condones illicit use of LSD

is showing extreme irresponsibility, ignorance of the effects and properties of the drug and at best is naive.

## PUBLICITY GOOD

"The publicity around LSD at the moment can do nothing but good in informing people about the clear dangers of this drug."

Sergeant Don Bellamy of the Vancouver police department disclosed last Friday that at least 30 students from four Vancouver schools have used LSD.

Bellamy, a member of the youth preventive squad, said police have little power to control the possession and use of LSD among juveniles except by making arrests under the Juvenile Delinquents Act.

The federal Food and Drug Act makes it an offence to sell LSD or possess it for sale.

## 'WRONG WAY'

Dr. James Tyhurst, of UBC's faculty of medicine, said Thursday night that police and school authorities are attacking the LSD problem in the wrong way.

"LSD is a symptom. They should look towards what's causing it," he said during a discussion period following a UBC extension department lecture at the university.

He said expelling a student from school, or giving someone a criminal record for using LSD, is not the answer.



Fri., Mar. 10, 1967

# Buyers Get Protection

## Borrowers Also Benefit By Proposed B.C. Law

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The provincial government's promised consumer protection bill was introduced in the legislature Thursday.

The bill, brought in by Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, will require disclosure of borrowing costs in all credit transactions, including mortgages, in terms of dollars and annual interest percentage.

It also provides for a three-day cooling off period on off-premise contracts, so buyers pressured into a purchase can cancel out, and for cancellation of contracts filled with unsatisfactory goods.

To back up the legislation, fines up to \$25,000 are provided for offending corporations and up to \$2,000 and one year in jail for persons, including company directors and officers.

### OTHERS HAVE IT

"The whole bill is very much in line with legislation in other provinces, particularly Ontario and Nova Scotia," Bonner explained later.

But he said its overall approach is probably somewhat softer than similar legislation elsewhere because it incorporates and broadens the Contract Relief Act so that victims of harsh contracts can themselves seek relief through the courts.

"If people feel themselves hard done by and they don't act under that section, I don't know what can be done for them other than setting up a big-brother administration," said Bonner.

The Consumer Protection Act is to be brought into effect by cabinet proclamation, probably in September.

Bonner said this will give national companies time to make necessary adjustments, although he noted that many companies already conduct business in a way that complies with the new regulations.

### TO END GIMMICKS

The attorney-general said the

purpose of the credit disclosure section is to eliminate gimmicks in merchandising.

"It gives new meaning to the phrase 'Let the buyer beware' by making credit as a commodity readily comparable anywhere in the province," he said.

But Bonner said he doubts that disclosure of actual credit costs will scare off consumers because when they want, they buy. But it will give them proper warning, he said.

He said federally-chartered banks and finance companies might be able to escape compliance with the laws on constitutional grounds but said he hopes they will comply.

"I expect the finance companies will work closely because they have done so in Nova Scotia," he said, adding:

"From the standpoint of public relations there is a great deal to be said for the credit business saying they are disclosing interest according to provincial law."

The cooling-off period on sales contracts applies to executory contracts, which are described in the bill as sales over \$50 for products not delivered or paid for in full when contracts are signed.

Buyers will be able to rescind such contracts within three days by mail or otherwise, without giving a reason.

Contracts can also be rescinded up to a year later if all goods in the contract are not supplied within 30 days of a specified delivery date or within up to 120 days if a delivery date is not specified.

When a buyer rescinds a contract, he must return the goods and the seller has 15 days within which to refund any money paid.

## B.C. to Give 'Progressive' Library Aid

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Provincial Secretary Wesley Black said in the legislature Thursday that the Vainstein report on B.C. library services will be implemented on a progressive basis.

But opposition members said provincial grants for B.C. libraries should be at least doubled.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault and Fred Vuillamy (NDP—Burnaby Willingdon) said the province should boost its grants to \$700,000 for libraries from \$350,000 as was recommended by the report of library expert Rose Vainstein.

The report proposed that the province pay 20 per cent of library costs, exclusive of construction grants, instead of the present seven per cent.

Perrault said that Ontario this fiscal year is to spend \$5 million on libraries.

"Libraries are not just fusty buildings where books are kept," he said. "A library really is a living thing."

There will be no amendment to the Public Libraries Act this session, Black said.

## 'Can't Stop Young Smokers'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Anti-smoking education will not stop teenagers from smoking, Premier W. A. C. Bennett said in the legislature Thursday.

Only their own moral standards can save people from succumbing to cancer and other diseases as a result of smoking, the premier said.

He observed that "all sorts of educated people," including doctors, smoke.

"Sometimes I think that it isn't a good thing to educate people against these habits because they must just want to try them," he said.

"If you haven't got moral standards against drinking, smoking and the other vices, all the education in the world won't do any good."

Bennett assured the house, however, that anti-smoking education programs will continue in B.C. schools.

Dr. Pat McGeer (Liberal—Vancouver-Point Grey) criticized the federal government for not fulfilling its duty to deal

with the national smoking hazard.

The provincial government, he said, should concentrate on discouraging youngsters from taking up the habit. He pointed out that most new smokers are between the ages of nine and 16.

## MONEY THE ROOT OF HOUSE SQUABBLE

# Charges Fly Over Campaign Funds

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A combined NDP-Liberal attack on the size and use of Social Credit Party campaign funds erupted into a fierce shouting battle between the two opposing parties in the legislature early today.

The clash occurred during examination of an \$85,284 appropriation for the provincial electoral office, a branch of Provincial Secretary Wesley Black's department.

After lashing the Socreds, they turned on one another with similar accusations.

Alex Macdonald (NDP — Vancouver-East), urging reforms that would include a limit of perhaps 10 cents per voter for election campaign contributions, charged the Socreds collect lavish sums from businesses in B.C. to fight elections.

"They spent so much in the last election they were choking on it," he said.

The MLA said the public eventually got the idea it was being brainwashed.

Macdonald said Socreds claim they don't know where the money comes from and "this is a corrupting influence on life in B.C."

He said the Socred party refused to open its books to the recent federal commission on election expenses.

"The only political party that opened its books from the time of the CCF in 1933 to the NDP of today was the CCF and NDP," he said.

"The other parties should be ashamed of their appearances before that committee."

Liberal leader Ray Perrault agreed with Macdonald that there should be limits on campaign funds.

"Parties that have access to the largest amounts of money are placed in a preferred position," he said, adding: "Social Credit has the most ruthless and efficient fund raising system of any party in history."

Perrault charged that the Socreds exact huge tributes from resource industries. He said businessmen have told him of approaches made by

Socred collectors seeking a share of industry profits.

But the Liberal leader said the New Democratic Party did not set a shining example when the NDP's forebear, the CCF, was in power in Saskatchewan.

He charged that E. V. Stinson, a CCF candidate who stepped down for Tommy Douglas in 1944 and was appointed provincial purchasing commissioner, dunned business for campaign funds.

"Say it outside the house and you'll be sued for slander," shouted Macdonald, jumping to his feet. "Say it outside."

"A typical Liberal smear tactic," shouted Ran Harding (NDP—Revelstoke-Slocan).

"What about Williamson?" asked Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam).

He was referring to Al Williamson, former Socred publicist, who testified at his forgery trial about Socred fund-raising information.

"The CCF in Saskatchewan never opened a campaign book and never initiated any electoral reform in 15 years," said Perrault. "So we don't have to be lectured in this house."

NDP opposition leader Robert Strachan joined the fray with an attack on Perrault.

"He was just trying to divert public attention away from the sorry record of the Liberal party in this province and across the country and of the Socred party because they are all the same people," Strachan said.

The NDP leader said all of the CCF's funds in Saskatchewan were raised by the 35,000 party members. Some farmers put up \$500 each, he said.

"And in this province this money comes from the members of the NDP and no other source and I challenge the Liberal party to open its books and let the light shine in," Strachan said.

"Put up or shut up," he challenged.

Strachan said the Socreds are afraid to divulge the

amount of their election expenses.

After each provincial election he puts a question on the order paper asking how much the Socreds spent but it is never answered until the day the house prorogues, Strachan said.

In the 1963 election, the Socreds stated expenses as \$292,000 against the NDP's \$49,417, the Liberals' \$57,915, and the Tories' \$33,000, he said.

Strachan said the parties are required by law to declare their expenses to the chief electoral officer 60 days after an election.

The expenses for the election last fall were in four months ago, yet the government has not yet answered a question about them placed on the order paper at the opening of the legislature seven weeks ago, the NDP leader said.

"They've got a guilty conscience about campaign funds," he said.

During the debate, several

MLAs urged reforms, including revised voters' lists.

Frank Calder (NDP — Atlin) said 18-year-olds should be able to vote in provincial elections.

Ernie LeCours (SC — Richmond) said voters lists could be done away with if all eligible voters were issued voters cards to be shown when individuals presented themselves at the polls.

Leo Nimsick (NDP — Kootenay) complained that the government advertised extensively on United States television channels in the last election.

He said this should not be allowed.

Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP — Vancouver — Burrard) said provision should be made for election officials to take ballot boxes around to patients in small chronic care hospitals.

He estimated about 900 elderly patients in his riding were denied a vote last fall because they could not get to a poll.

## BILL PROPOSES NURSE COURSE

VICTORIA — Legislation was introduced Thursday to let regional colleges and technology institutes offer two-year courses for registered nurses.

Would-be nurses now are required to be 18 years old and have a university entrance requirement.

## PULP FIRM LEASES SITE

VICTORIA — The provincial government decided Thursday to lease or sell a 600-acre riverside tract of Crown land in the Interior for a pulp mill site.

The cabinet granted Canal Development Limited a 10-year lease on the property along the Kootenay River near Skookumchuck.



# Woman Spurns Doctors, Held

LeCours Cites Riverview Patient Whose Religion Brings Impasse

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A woman has been incarcerated for 26 months in Riverview mental hospital although she never had a psychiatric examination before being declared insane, the legislature was told Thursday.

Ernie LeCours (SC — Richmond) said the woman's religious beliefs will not allow her to be examined by psychiatrists.

But she has no hope for appeal without such an examination.

"She has been presumed insane," charged LeCours. "She is without funds, without friends and has been refused legal aid."

"I don't believe we have the right to deny her just treatment because of her religious beliefs," he added.

Health Minister Wesley Black, whose estimates were being debated when LeCours brought up the case, said he has known about the woman for some time.

"We will look into the case immediately," he said. "We know about this one. Perhaps we will have her examined by an outside psychiatrist."

LeCours read part of a letter which he said the woman wrote to Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, on March 2.

The letter, he said, had to be smuggled out of Riverview.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) asked Black if it is policy of Riverview authorities to destroy letters from patients to MLAs and lawyers, because he has heard that this happens.

"There is no censorship," Black replied.

The letter reminded Bonner that he had promised to look into the woman's case in May, 1966. It said that he had told her in July, 1966, that the case had been reviewed and that "this department intends to do nothing further."

"There is a vast difference between investigating all aspects of my case and merely receiving a report from this hospital, especially since the authorities here have not been honest in my case," the letter read.

"The strongest argument advanced today is that I can't be proven sane without an examination, but I was proven insane without an examination."

"My happy and healthy children were ordered removed from me without true cause and suffered for the first time in their lives as a result."

"Lawyers refused to defend me in court and I was forced to defend myself. The Court of Appeal refused to hear me until such time as I was prepared to presume my insanity until the contrary was proven by examination, even though there was no evidence of irrational or irresponsible behavior on my part."

"I was imprisoned for five months at Oakalla prison, followed by extended imprisonment in this institution, a total period of 31 months that I've been deprived of my liberty without a trial."

## Mental Health Act Revision Pledged

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Health Minister Wesley Black pledged Thursday that the Mental Health Act will be revised next year.

He told the Legislature that a bill to amend the act will be presented to the next session of the house.

His promise came after Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP — Vancouver Burrard) hammered at the minister for assurances that the wishes of outside mental health agencies will be considered in the reorganization of the Mental Health Department.

(Black said Wednesday that there will be a top-to-bottom reorganization of the department after the appointment of a new deputy minister for mental health.)

### 'APPOINT EXPERTS'

Dr. Parkinson on Thursday argued that reorganization should not take place until Black has appointed a continuing committee of outside experts in the mental health field, instead of the proposed three-man board of civil servants.

The MLA-psychiatrist also said the minister should call a conference so all professional groups and others connected with mental health treatment in B.C. can suggest priorities.

"I'm not going to run my department along the lines of the epistle according to Parkinson," Black retorted.

Black said that although he is not opposed to a continuing committee made up of representatives of doctors, social workers, university personnel and others connected with mental health, he alone will decide policy.

### 'CANNOT ABDICATE'

"The government cannot abdicate its responsibilities to third and fourth parties," he said.

The exchange between Black and Dr. Parkinson came shortly before the last of the health department estimates (totalling \$145.5 million) were passed.

Opposition MLAs, and a Sacred backbencher, criticized

Black for the government's handling of emotionally disturbed children in B.C.

"I am disappointed that the minister expresses some hesitancy regarding emotionally disturbed children in this province," said Ernie LeCours (SC—Richmond).

"Apparently he doesn't intend to do too much for them this year, next year or the year after that. And I am wondering if it is because he can't afford to or because he doesn't care," LeCours added.

Black had said the provision of treatment and facilities for emotionally disturbed children "is an extremely expensive area."

### 'CAN'T DO IT'

"I don't want the public to be misled into thinking I'm going to develop in two or three years a full-blown treatment centre program for these children. I just can't do it," he added.

But he did say that he will give some thought to the appointment of an ombudsman or "friend of children" as requested by Dr. Parkinson and the Canadian Mental Health Association.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) urged Black to ensure that mental patients come under a comprehensive medicare scheme.

He said the minister must make a decision now so that mental patients can be treated like any other kind of patients to benefit from federal medicare legislation, due to take effect before July, 1968.

Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Vancouver-Point Grey) called for 24-hour psychiatric service for jails in B.C.'s major cities.

He said he was told by Vancouver jail officials that there were five psychiatric patients in the city lock-up one day recently because there are not enough beds at Riverview.

"We've had a number of suicides at the city jail," he told the house, "and these people are not criminals but mentally ill."

# Province Approves Pay for Trustees

## Changes in Act Also Permit Clergymen on School Boards

By IAN MacALPINE  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The provincial government bowed to pressure Thursday and decided to allow payment of annual indemnities to school trustees throughout B.C.

The provision permitting boards to pay themselves up to a maximum of \$2,000, at local expense, is one of the main changes in a bill containing a series of amendments to the Public Schools Act.

The bill, given first reading, will also let clergymen sit on school boards, ensure public access to all school board minutes, reimburse trustees for legal costs, and give boards authority to grant leaves of absence with pay to teachers upgrading their qualifications.

And it sets up provisions for broadening representation on regional college boards and a varying mill rate for capital expenses so that areas farthest from the colleges will pay the least.

The indemnity section is the result of requests from trustees, said Education Minister Leslie Peterson, Q.C.

Peterson said there are about 500 trustees in B.C.

The indemnity provision sets out a scale of payment for trustees according to pupil enrolment, he said.

### \$300 STIPEND

Trustees in districts with up to 3,000 students would be entitled to a \$300 stipend.

From 3,001 to 5,000 students the indemnity would be \$500, rising to \$700 in districts with between 5,001 and 7,000 pupils.

Between 7,001 and 11,000 students, the indemnity would be \$1,100, and between 11,000 and 15,000, it would be \$1,500.

The maximum amount of \$2,000 would be paid to trustees in districts with more than 15,000 students.

Non - practising clergymen will be permitted to teach in public schools, serve as school superintendents or be eligible for the position of superintendent of education.

But any clergyman, practising or not, will be able to serve on school boards.

### CONFLICT FEARED

Peterson said the change to allow clergymen positions in the public school system is a result of meetings with all major faiths.

Practising clergymen are not permitted to teach, however, because of the possible conflict that could arise with parents, he said.

The minister said there have been instances where people have been denied a look at school board minutes.

An amendment to the Act will require boards to open their books, but they can charge up to 50 cents for the service.

Trustees who become involved in legal actions through their public duties will be reimbursed by school districts for any costs incurred, Peterson said.

## Wider Power For Local Gov'ts Backed

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The legislature's municipal affairs committee Thursday showed it is in favor of giving local municipal councils power to extend services without a mandate from ratepayers.

Committee chairman Hunter Vogel (SC—Langley) said MLAs voiced support for a Union of B.C. Municipalities committee report recommending wider power to local governments.

A three-man study committee has toured the province to collect data as a basis for recommendations to revise the Municipal Act.

The proposal supported by the house committee Thursday calls for municipalities to undertake programs for extension of water, sewer and drainage systems, roads, sidewalks and curbs by vote of council.

### NO 'EUNUCHS'

## Exchange Fruitful

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Herb Capozzi (SC — Vancouver Centre) has changed his mind about the opposition in the legislature.

Several weeks ago he called opposition MLAs "political eunuchs."

On Thursday he called them fruits.

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault was listing a number of defeated CCF candidates in Saskatchewan who later received government jobs.

"By their fruits ye shall know them," quoted Perrault.

"And there are the fruits on that side of the house," quipped Capozzi.

Gordon Dowding (NDP — Burnaby - Edmonds) later complained about the "scurrilous remarks."

"He called us a bunch of fruits," he shouted. This was an insult to all opposition MLAs, he said.

## Black Hints More Guards

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The guarding of mental patients at Riverview mental hospital is to be improved, Health Minister Wesley Black indicated in the legislature Thursday.

He agreed, under questioning from Opposition leader Robert Strachan, that present security of patients is not good enough.

Strachan said only five guards patrol the grounds of the hospital where nearly 3,000 patients enjoy privileges entitling them to wander in the open.

One patient, he said, wandered off the grounds three times. He was recovered twice by police using a tracking dog but the third time he was found in woods near Maillardville a number of days after his escape, and was pronounced dead on arrival at hospital.



# Hail Bill on LSD

## Educators, Police

### Bonner Readies

### Drug Control Law

By AL SHEEHAN

A bill to outlaw the misuse of LSD will be introduced in the B.C. legislature, probably next week, Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, announced Friday.

The proposed legislation was immediately hailed by leading educators, civic officials, and police, who have publicly condemned the hallucinatory drug and pressed for laws to control it.

Bonner said in Victoria that a simple bill containing a prohibitory section intended to control use of LSD and other "dangerous drugs" is being drafted.

He said the bill will define approved uses of LSD and other drugs, and post penalties for their misuse.

"There is a complicating factor in the matter of federal jurisdiction in this area, but I think we can get around it," Bonner said.

#### NEXT WEEK

He refused to give further details, saying he would wait until the bill is introduced in the house, probably next week.

Bonner said the government began drafting the bill before it learned that Alberta is taking similar measures against improper use of LSD and other drugs.

The Alberta bill will make it illegal to manufacture, sell or possess the drug, except for

#### School board action, page 10

research, and provides penalties of from \$100 or 15 days in jail to \$1,000 or 90 days for violations.

Bonner's announcement came after researcher Dr. Pat McGeer, Liberal MLA for Vancouver-Point Grey, and Simon Fraser University president Dr. Patrick McTaggart-Cowan, and others called for immediate action to halt the spread of LSD.

#### 'DESPERATELY NEEDED'

Vancouver police reported last week that at least 30 students from four Vancouver schools have used LSD.

Dr. McGeer said the legislation is desperately needed and "it could and should become law" at the current session of the legislature.

"I consider that we have an emergency on our hands," he said Friday.

He said he was prepared to introduce his own bill against LSD and other drugs in the legislature next week.

"I gave notice that I would do this probably on Tuesday, but if the government is prepared to go ahead I will withhold my bill," he said.

He said the legislation he proposes is similar to the Alberta legislation.

#### 'MANUFACTURE, SALE'

"The bill would prohibit the manufacture, use, distribution or sale of LSD or other hallucinogenic drugs as defined by the minister of health," Dr. McGeer said.

On Wednesday, Dr. McGeer demanded that university pro-

fessors and school teachers who condone the use of the "terrifying drug" LSD be immediately fired from their jobs.

In a biting speech in the legislature, he also demanded that the provincial government introduce immediate legislation to ban misuse of the drug.

He said later in an interview that university and school students caught using LSD should be immediately suspended from classes.

"LSD is a universally terrifying drug and I am alarmed by its spread into Vancouver high schools," Dr. McGeer said.

#### 'EXPERTS AGREE'

He said medical experts concur on the dangers of the drug in causing mental illness.

Dr. McTaggart-Cowan, who called Thursday for a full-scale education program to fight misuse of drugs such as LSD, said Friday he was delighted to hear of the proposed legislation.

"Let's go out and educate those people who use drugs or might be considering using them," he said.

"We must not forget that for every student who uses LSD there is an adult who is providing the drug."

"There is enough evidence from competent research scientists to put LSD and marijuana and other drugs in their right perspective."

"The way to combat these problems is to give out the cold, hard facts. Nobody goes out and takes strychnine because they know it will kill them."

#### POLICE DISCLOSURE

The current outcry against LSD began following the disclosure last Friday by Sgt. Don Bellamy of the Vancouver police force that at least 30 students from four Vancouver schools have used LSD.

The member of the force's youth preventive squad said boys and girls 13 and 14 are experimenting with the drug for kicks.

He pointed out that police have little power to control the possession and use of LSD among juveniles except under the Juvenile Delinquents Act.

The federal Food and Drug Act makes it an offence to sell LSD or possess it for sale.

Police then announced they had stepped up their fight against the use of LSD and the Vancouver school board announ-

ced an educational program to warn students of the dangers of LSD and marijuana.

#### 'PLEASANT SURPRISE'

Both groups welcomed the proposed LSD legislation Friday and were joined by others who have spoken out against the drug.

Acting Deputy Police Chief James Mundie said the proposed legislation came as a pleasant surprise.

"It is certainly a step in the right direction," he said. "But we feel it (LSD) should be placed under the control of the Narcotics Control Act."

He said the proposed penalties for misuse of LSD should cut down its use by young people.

"It is certainly going to be a help for young people who don't realize the dangers," he said. "It will give us (the police) the assistance we need in controlling the drug."

#### SUPPLIERS NOT NAMED

Police have also complained that prosecutions of LSD traffickers under the federal Food and Drug Act are difficult because students have so far not identified the adult suppliers involved.

Dr. Ray Parkinson, a psychiatrist who is NDP-MLA for Vancouver-Burrard, said he welcomed the legislation and added LSD should not come under the Narcotics Control Act.

"The big danger is to put LSD in the same bracket as heroin because to treat it this way is ridiculous," he said.

"First, it is not a narcotic. It's not addicting, but it does have habit-forming tendencies and I consider it in the range of a poison like arsenic."

"It is a danger to people who use it without direction, therefore it has to be controlled."

Dr. Parkinson said the proposed legislation must have an open end to cover other drugs.

#### TREATMENT URGED

"It's important that regulations of the act can be changed quickly as new drugs appear," he said.

He said merely to put controls on LSD is insufficient because there has to be treatment.

"When people turn to LSD they are emotionally ill," he said. "There should be a provision in the act for magistrates to have the authority to permit treatment instead of a manda-

tory jail sentence."

People should not be forced into a mental hospital to take the treatment, he said. They should be able to get it as out- and in-patients.

Any legal use of LSD must be only at a university research centre, Dr. Parkinson said.

"No one should be allowed to use it for profit, even for treatment," he said.

Dr. Hugh R. Williams, clinical director of the B.C. Narcotic Addiction Foundation, said he favored stiff penalties for trafficking in LSD.

"Whether I favor penalties for possession of the drug is another question," he said.

"I would like to know what kind of penalties will be proposed before commenting upon that."

However, Dr. Williams emphasized tight controls are needed over the use of LSD.

"If you remove the LSD trafficker, then the problem is largely solved," he said.

Vancouver school board chairman Mrs. Betsy McDonald said: "There's no question that we do need controls over the use of LSD. I'm afraid it has been too easy for some young people to obtain it."

But, she added, stronger penalties are needed for those who sell the drug.

(Vancouver school superintendent Dr. Robert F. Sharp said Wednesday students caught trafficking in LSD face expulsion from school.)

Mrs. McDonald said the proposed penalties for misuse of LSD should go a long way towards eliminating its use by teen-agers.

However, she cautioned against making possession or use of LSD a criminal offence.

#### ADVICE NEEDED

"I think young people who get involved with LSD are very immature and must be counselled," she said.

"I wouldn't necessarily wish to see them given a criminal record so early in life."

She said she didn't think making possession of marijuana or heroin a criminal offence has really helped control drug addiction.

"I think the approach which gives psychiatric help to drug addicts has done a lot more good than merely placing them in jail," she added.

## James K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—Dr. Ray Parkinson of Burrard and Dr. Pat McGeer of Point Grey should know what they're talking about when they call for province-wide fluoridation of drinking water, so that children's teeth may be improved.

Their pleas for this fall on deaf ears, for the government is a bit of a crank where fluoridations' concerned. Perhaps it's afraid of losing the votes of those people who, sure they know more than medical doctors, dentists and health scientists, scream out in pain against a needed public health measure.

If we don't soon get fluoridation, observed Dr. McGeer, British Columbia will become the last bastion of health crackpots in all of North America.

This government permits pockets of this and pockets of that, evidently believing that what is good in one place might be bad and dangerous in another place. I cannot figure out this kind of reasoning.

Some places in the province, on local approval, have fluoridation.

Vancouver city has compulsory testing of cars, the rest of the province has not.

Vancouver has Sunday movies, the rest of the province has not.

This idea of the public voting on so technical a matter as fluoridation is sheer nonsense and hypocrisy.

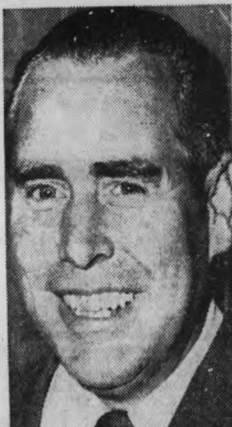
★ ★ ★

Whenever Dr. Parkinson rises to talk, Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi moans. Dr. Parkinson is developing into quite a talker, and Rev. and Hon. Phil can't stand legislative talkers, especially when they're on the opposite side of the house.

It must be said Dr. Parkinson is becoming noted for making long legislative speeches on the slightest provocation. He evidently believes this is the only weapon he has with which to beat the government over the head.

Premier Bennett says oppositionists have now taken to making far too long speeches when the house is engaged in voting money for the public service.

"It's strange how some people become intoxicated with the sound of their own voices," muttered the premier the other day as an opposition-



DR. RAY PARKINSON  
... quite a talker

ist's roar went on and on, even filling the corridors.

The premier, however, might have mentioned one of his own men, Ernie LeCours of Richmond, who made a two-hour speech when the attorney-general's expenditures were being discussed. Mr. LeCours even out-talked Dr. Parkinson.

★ ★ ★

One day I wrote that New Democrats Tom Berger and Bob Williams took daffodils off their desks and stuffed them in waste buckets.

Comes a letter from G. M. Webster, 2873 West Forty-third, Vancouver: "We were so horrified by this desecration and destruction of beautiful flowers that I rang up the local NDP office, and was told by the person who answered the telephone that this had not happened."

"She said that she was in the house on that particular day, and the only flowers on the desks were those on the premier's, and the women members, and round the microphones, and that no one had thrown any flowers away."

They did so. With my own eyes I saw Messrs. Berger and Williams take daffodils off their microphones, and throw them away, and they haven't denied it.

## Bill Curbs Vexatious Law Suits

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Court-happy individuals who make nuisances of themselves with frivolous or vexatious suits will have their wings clipped by a new law brought into the legislature Friday.

The bill, given first reading, is an amendment to the Supreme Court Act that will require such litigants to obtain permission from the court to proceed with suits.

The legislation says any person will be able to apply to a court to have such a person restricted so they cannot sue anyone for anything without prior permission of a court to ensure it is not of a frivolous or vexatious intent.

The bill also creates two new vacancies for Supreme Court judges, raising the total number to 17. B.C. has yet to approach Ottawa to make the appointments.

An amendment to the Civil Service Superannuation Act, introduced by Provincial Secretary Wesley Black, would make benefits payable to a dependent other than just the widow of a civil servant.



## MLA Claims City Gets Dogpatch Road Treatment

By IAN MacALPINE  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government was accused Friday of giving Vancouver Dogpatch treatment on road assistance.

The charge came from Bob Williams (NDP — Vancouver-East), one of several opposition MLAs demanding to know how Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi establishes highway priorities.

Gaglardi said projects go ahead on the basis of traffic density and the need for opening up new areas.

"He says density is a factor and yet the dense areas are not getting priority treatment," Williams reported.

"Parts of the province get straight Dogpatch treatment. You are giving Vancouver Dogpatch treatment," the MLA said.

### QUESTION ASKED

"If you say density of traffic is a factor, why are you giving only \$360,000 to the city of Vancouver?" asked Williams.

"Seven-point-two million," Gaglardi replied.

"That bill is not through the house and the municipalities have told you what they think about that," Williams retorted, referring to a bill that earmarks provincial per capita grants to municipalities for road work.

Premier W. A. C. Bennett jumped into the debate and rapped the city MLA.

### ROAD THEOREM

"Men of vision like Sir John A. Macdonald built a railroad across the land," said the premier. "If he had listened to the city slickers there would have been no Canada at all. It takes vision, my friend."

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault said the Social Credit government apparently builds roads according to a theorem which was given to him during the Cariboo byelection last fall.

"The number of miles of highways built in each constituency bears a direct proportion to the number of Social Credit votes cast at the preceding election, the mileage being multiplied by two in the case of a cabinet minister," he said.

Perrault noted that Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, promised to have potholed Cariboo roads repaired if voters elected him.

"So there is something to this Social Credit roadbuilding theorem," he said.

### FRASER CROSSING

Ernie LeCours (SC-Richmond) said another crossing is needed over the Fraser River between Richmond and Vancouver and he is certain tenders will be called in 1968 for a proposed new Fraser Street span.

NDP Opposition Leader Robert Strachan accused Gaglardi of discrimination in allotting his \$193 million budget to roads around the province.

He said the government has committed itself to spending \$2 million to \$3 million on a road from Gold River, a new instant town on the West Coast of Vancouver Island where a pulp mill is being built.

### 'DISCRIMINATION'

But 10 times the amount of traffic travels the Lake Cowichan road in his riding than will travel over the Gold River road, and will bring in 10 times the amount of wealth to the province.

"Your priorities are all wrong.

I accuse you of discrimination against ridings not represented by Social Credit members," Strachan said. "You should hang your head in shame."

Gaglardi admitted that his answers to the opposition leader's request for a commitment to improve the Cowichan Lake road were unsatisfactory.

But he said he cannot commit himself until his estimates are passed on individual projects. He said education, welfare and other social requirements have priority over highways this year.

"I'm the low man on the totem pole and getting lower," he said.

## Making the Buyer Beware

The provincial government deserves a pat on the head for introducing consumer protection legislation, although we must add the qualification "at last."

The action is especially brave on the part of Attorney-General Robert Bonner, who in 1962 dismissed the whole idea of state protective laws as "political window dressing." We certainly hope this one isn't. The government can prove it by speediest possible cabinet proclamation of the legislation, which Mr. Bonner says will be delayed only to give national companies preparation time.

Although several other provinces are ahead of us, it took the nudge of the federal Senate-Commons committee to awaken the government to the public's cry for guidance in the mysterious world of half-truths and fine-print contracts.

The B.C. bill follows closely the recommendations of the federal committee, which are expected to be the basis of legislation in Parliament, and of a bill already before the U.S. Congress. It calls for full disclosure of interest rates and credit charges: It also provides a three-day cooling-off period during which contract purchasers can cancel out. In addition it gives the courts greater powers to revise harsh and unjust contracts.

The penalties appear stiff enough to discourage flagrant defiance, but it is to be hoped that policing and enforcement will be adequate to ensure uniform compliance. Mr. Bonner says he wants to stop short of creating a Big Brother state, but he must still make clear that the law is to be obeyed.

The results should be far-reaching and beneficial. It will probably come as quite a shock to many consumers to find out exactly how much that refrigerator or automobile is costing them, but they should save money by the knowledge. Gougers and gyppers will have to toe the line or face loss of business. High pressure and door-to-door salesmen will have to tread warily.

All this is possible, however, only if the buyer is completely aware of what he should beware. The consumer still must assess the information which the law discloses to him. He must still make sure he's getting his money's worth from his friendly neighborhood vacuum cleaner salesman. It is still the consumer who must take the initiative in complaining to the courts and seeking redress.

In order to make these decisions the consumer must be informed. This will require the utmost and widest public relations campaign by the government, as sponsor of the laws.

# Bridge in 5 Years 'If Cities Help'

## Gaglardi Vows New Crossing, But Cost-Sharing Comes First

By IAIN HUNTER  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Vancouver and North Shore residents will be able to use a new First Narrows crossing in five years if they co-operate, Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi said Friday.

All that's needed to get the tunnel-bridge crossing operating by then is approval of the municipalities concerned on cost sharing for an engineering study, he told the legislature.

In the meantime, Gaglardi said, his department is studying a proposal for one-way traffic on both the Lions Gate and Second Narrows bridges.

Provision of larger parking areas on the North Shore to tie in with increased bus service across the narrows also is being worked on, the minister told the House.

### DEMAND ANSWER

North Shore and Vancouver opposition MLAs hammered at Gaglardi for a statement on plans for the second First Narrows crossing during debate on estimates of his department.

The debate became more heated as it neared and then passed the customary 6 p.m. adjournment time.

It was the first Friday night sitting of the session.

But after six hours of debate, MLAs finally passed the \$103.9 million estimates of the department.

Tom Berger (NDP-Vancouver Burrard) charged the government has no intention of building the crossing, and he challenged Gaglardi to say so.

"For God's sake, tell us," he said, "so that we can make plans. You'll be here for three years, but not after that and we've got to start planning for when we take over," the NDP member said.

"Why won't you put them (North Shore residents) out of their misery?" he demanded.

Berger noted that Gaglardi, in his 75-page budget speech, devoted only three lines — 20 words — to the second crossing which should be of top priority.

### ONE PRIORITY

Gaglardi later in the debate said the crossing is not of first priority "but is one of the top

priorities."

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault told the government the crossing is a provincial responsibility.

He said there should be a Metro Highways and Crossing Authority, supported by provincial money, to deal with all traffic problems in the Vancouver area.

The province should allocate a proportion of taxes, excluding property taxes, to this authority for construction of roads and bridges in the area.

But it was Garde Gardom (L.—Vancouver-Point Grey) who finally got some answers from Gaglardi.

"Have you accepted responsibility for the construction of the crossing?" he asked the minister. Gaglardi said the government realizes it must "take a lead" in its construction, and that municipalities know what part they have to play.

"Is the crossing being given number one priority?" Gardom pressed Gaglardi. Not number

one priority, the minister replied, but it is one of the top.

"When will it be operating?" the Point Grey lawyer asked.

Gaglardi at first said he could not give an answer to that question. But Gardom kept up his cross-examination.

### AGREEMENT NEAR

Finally the minister said that although the province and municipalities have not been able so far to reach agreement on financing the bridge, he believed agreement is coming on sharing the cost of the necessary engineering study.

"If they (the municipalities) put me in a position to start the engineering immediately, then it would be five years (until the crossing is ready)," Gaglardi said.

Gardom also asked him when citizens could expect a rapid transit and underground system in the Lower Mainland.

Gaglardi replied this will not

be possible for 20 years, in his estimation.

"People are not as interested today in rapid transit as they once were," he said. "Rapid transit is receding (in popularity)."

Herb Capozzi (SC — Vancouver Centre) urged the government to extend parking areas on the North Shore so commuters could leave their cars and take the bus to Vancouver.

### ONE-WAY IDEA

Gaglardi said this already is being studied and a one-way traffic proposal for both existing bridges also is being considered.

Another Sacred backbencher, Tom Bate from Vancouver South, asked the minister for a progress report on the new Fraser Street bridge to Twigg Island.

Gaglardi said the federal government, which at first said the new span had to be 80 feet above the high water, recently said it need only be 40 feet above the high tide mark. This has resulted in the department revising its plans for the bridge.

Gardom then read a letter from the Vancouver Real Estate Board which warned that a bridge that low will turn the North Arm of the river into a "narrow passageway."

Industrial areas upstream from the bridge will be starved of service by larger vessels, and property values and therefore tax revenues will drop, the letter said.

### CAN GO HIGHER

Gaglardi replied that although the province prefers a lower span because it would be cheaper, it can be built higher if necessary.

North Shore Liberal MLAs Allan Williams (West Vancouver-Howe Sound) and Barrie Clark (North Vancouver-Seymour) pressed the highways minister for a commitment on widening and straightening the Upper Levels Highway.

Gaglardi said no work on the highway is anticipated this year.



Sat., Mar. 11, 1967

## City Leaders Hail No-Vote Proposal

A proposal to allow councils to extend sewer and other services without a ratepayers' vote was welcomed Friday by several municipal spokesmen.

The move was recommended by the legislature's municipal affairs committee Thursday and was proposed originally by the Union of B.C. Municipalities.

"When people vote for a council they give it the privilege of doing certain things for them," said Burnaby Reeve Alan Emmott.

"The public wants council to get on with the job and there's no need for another vote in such matters."

Reeve Alex Forst of West Vancouver said a council should have the right to borrow money for essential services when they are needed.

He said the provincial government will still control municipal borrowing and prevent

irresponsible borrowing by a council.

Reeve Ron Andrews of the District of North Vancouver called the proposal a step in the right direction.

He said extension of essential services such as sewer and water should not be stymied by vocal minorities who can apply pressure and vote them down on a bylaw vote.

The proposal called for municipalities to undertake programs for extension of water, sewer and drainage systems, roads, sidewalks and curbs by vote of council.

## New Law Crimps Stock 'Insiders'

### Securities Disclosure Rules To Make 'Profiteers' Liable

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A new and tougher B.C. Securities Act, designed to clip the wings of senior company officials who use inside information about their company to make a stock market profit, was introduced in the legislature Friday.

The legislation would give company shareholders indirect access to any profits made in this way.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, introduced the 78-page bill, patterned largely after Ontario's year-old security laws.

It also deals with takeover bids, proxies and proxy solicitation, financial disclosure and improved standards of financial reporting in prospectuses.

#### NEW COMMISSION

And it provides for creation of a five-member securities commission separate from the superintendent of brokers, who now serves as chairman of a three-member commission.

Bonner, interviewed later, said the insider trading provision is among the most significant features of the bill.

It is aimed at preventing company top brass from using advance knowledge to profit before shareholders know what is happening.

An insider is defined as any director or senior officer (the five highest-paid people in a company) or any person who owns directly or indirectly equity shares of a corporation carrying more than 10 per cent of the voting rights.

The bill states that insiders must notify the commission within 10 days after the end of the month of their direct or indirect beneficial ownership of capital securities of the corporation, or face a fine of up to \$1,000.

This information would be open to public scrutiny so that shareholders could keep tabs on the insiders.

#### EQUAL FOOTING

Bonner said this requirement is intended to put the small shareholders on a more equal footing with company officials as far as company news is concerned.

"It takes the club atmosphere out of some stock market deals and at the same time puts more people into the club," he said.

Insiders would also be liable to the company for any profits they make privately in trading shares of the corporation by reason of confidential information available to them and not to others.

Bonner said this means the company could claim profits made in this way and sue an insider for the money.

While the legislation calls for sharing corporate knowledge, Bonner said individuals must pay attention to their own investments.

"If we're going to have responsible business we've got to have involved shareholders," he said.

"There is a tendency on the part of too many shareholders to be market psychologists instead of active investors," he said, adding: "This is not investment—this is the psychology of the crap table."

Bonner said the standards of financial reporting in prospectuses will be generally improved and greater responsibility placed on auditors in making financial statements.

Take-over bids would be regulated and specified information would be required for the use of shareholders in the event of a take-over bid.

Bonner said sections dealing with proxies and proxy solicitations would make specific provisions that solicitations be accompanied by information to enable shareholders to be better informed on the voting powers they are asked to delegate.

Sections dealing with takeover bids, proxies, insider trading and financial disclosure (making detailed financial statements available to the public) apply only to extra-provincial corporations, Bonner said.

Complementary legislation containing similar requirements for B.C. companies will be brought in next week, he said.

Penalties for infractions are fines up to \$2,000 and/or a year in jail for individuals and fines up to \$25,000 for corporations.

The corporate penalty maximum is unchanged from the present act, but the top fine for individuals under the new laws has been dropped from \$25,000 and the maximum length of jail term doubled from six months.

Bonner said the new act looks to the future in legislating business ethics.

"The Vancouver Stock Exchange is becoming one of the most important on the North American continent and this machinery will see it through quite a period of development," he said.

The attorney-general said the government probably won't rush into using all new provisions. They will be proclaimed at different times by the cabinet.

For example, he said that perhaps only three of the five commission members will be appointed initially.

Bonner also told reporters the government plans to complete presentation of its legislation agenda on Monday.

About 12 bills, virtually the balance of the program, are being readied for introduction, he said.

These include a new Workmen's Compensation Act, a bill establishing regional districts for hospital purposes, pollution control measures and a medicare bill.

MLAs are racing the calendar to wind up the session before Good Friday, March 24.

MONDAY, MARCH 13, 1967

**FOR REMARKS**

## **Capozzi On Carpet**

**Sun Victoria Bureau**

VICTORIA — Social Credit backbencher Herb Capozzi has received a lecture on parliamentary manners from Speaker William Murray, it was learned here today.

Capozzi quipped in the legislature Thursday that opposition MLAs are fruits.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby Edmonds) said at that time he would introduce a motion of censure against the Vancouver-Centre Socred for the insult.

Dowding said today he has received satisfaction following a meeting between Capozzi and the speaker in the speaker's office. Dowding has now decided not to introduce the censure motion.

The speaker would not comment on the meeting, but it is understood Capozzi apologized for his remark.

Capozzi has thrown a number of barbs across the floor of the house during the session which have got him in trouble with opposition members. He has called NDP members political eunuchs.



# Avalanche of Bills Hits House

## 19 Measures

## Swamp MLAs

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—MLAs were inundated Monday by an avalanche of legislation.

Nineteen bills, including many major programs and changes, were given first reading in the house.

Two more bills, to create regional hospital districts and a new workmen's compensation law, were expected to be introduced today, virtually wrapping up the government's legislative agenda.

### Crown Port Planned

Among the bills introduced Monday are ones that will:

Set up a Crown corporation to establish and run a super-cargo port at Roberts Bank, in the Tsawwassen area.

Outlaw use of LSD and marijuana without government permission.

Set up a medical services commission and plan under which national medicare would operate in B.C.

Make mileage rollbacking on used cars illegal and result in suspension or cancellation of a dealer's licence for monkeying with odometers.

Reorganize the province's pollution program under a director so that water, air and soil throughout the entire province are brought under regulations.

Require notaries public to establish a fund of at least

### More on House, Pages 8, 9, 14

\$50,000 to compensate victims of misappropriation.

Give the cabinet power to issue licences to remove logs from Crown foreshore and beaches.

### Raise Court Jurisdiction

Raise the jurisdiction of the province's small debts court from \$200 to \$500.

Remove the present ceiling on indemnities for elected municipal officials, and allow payment of stipends to members of the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District and the Greater Vancouver Water District.

Permit water districts in Greater Vancouver, Victoria, Nanaimo, and Campbell River

to fluoridate water supplies if voted for by 60 per cent of electors.

Limit to one year the period within which a person can start an action against a chiropractor for alleged negligence or malpractice.

MLAs were hoping for a March 23 session ending but some legislators said the heavy agenda of bills could prevent an early prorogation and force an adjournment over the Easter holiday to April 3.

## GERMAN VISIT BRANDED DISASTER

# 'Gadfly' Loffmark Peppered

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Trade and Industry Minister Ralph Loffmark was accused of being a gadfly Monday, and was raked over the coals for his actions during a European jaunt late last year.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) charged the minister failed to keep a number of business appointments in Germany last December, damaging German-British Columbia relations.

"His (Loffmark's) visit was more a disaster than a benefit," Dowding said in the legislature.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault charged B.C. is forever sending cabinet ministers abroad on "public relations jaunts," but few technical people make significant fact-finding missions.

The uproar in the house came during discussion of Loffmark's departmental estimates, and saw several opposition members take verbal swipes at the minister.

During the debate, Loffmark announced the government is working with international concerns to establish a multi-million-dollar iron and steel industry in B.C.

He said the government is studying establishment of an industrial research park on University of B.C. Endowment Lands.

And he said two results of cabinet trips abroad — particularly the jaunt to Japan in May, 1965 — were establishment of a Japanese-Canadian wire-mill near Vancouver and a \$60 million Japanese pulp mill at Skookumchuk.

Early in the debate, Dowding demanded to know why Loffmark had failed to keep appointments last year with a number of leading German business and industrial firms in that country.

Dowding said the minister's failure to keep appointments damaged relations and caused embarrassment to Canadian trade counsellors who arranged the meetings.

He accused Loffmark of "landing like a gadfly in Rome and Germany," and of accomplishing little for B.C.'s economic future.

Dowding read a letter from an international agent in Stuttgart who had arranged meetings for Loffmark.

The agent listed a number of his clients who were anxious to see the minister, and included a comment from one

whose meeting with Loffmark was cancelled:

"If you would not have announced the visit of Mr. Loffmark, it would have been better. But now, much of the confidence in you and B.C. has been spoiled," said the client, an official of the Stuttgart Chamber of Commerce.

Loffmark replied he had spent most of his time talking to "high speed" steel manufacturers in Germany and Rome.

He said he was not able to keep all his appointments because he was called back early to Victoria for swearing-in ceremonies of the new cabinet.

"But I intend to go back again," he said.

Loffmark denied that ministerial trips are good only for public relations, and said much good comes of them.

He also stated that many technical people go abroad on industry-seeking journeys.

Perrault said the government should be making every effort to drum up trade abroad because B.C. and Canada are running up against tough world competition.

"The greatest fallacy of the day," he said, "is that customers are lining up at the door of Canada and B.C."

Perrault called for trade missions "loaded to the gunwales with technical people," establishment of industrial development offices in various parts of the province, and creation of a B.C. economic council.

Before his \$2 million department budget was approved, Loffmark said his department is examining combines legislation to see how inadequacies can be remedied.

Outside the house, he said his remarks about a new steel and iron industry were primarily a reference to production in the province of ferro-alloy, which would be used in steel manufacture.

"The problem has never been one of production of these alloys in B.C.," he said, "but one of finding adequate markets."

Loffmark said he could not yet report a firm undertaking by any companies he talked to, but added that talks are still in progress.

## Gov't Aims To Seize Free Logs

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government will be allowed to seize marked logs adrift on foreshores or high and dry on beaches under terms of a bill introduced in the legislature Monday.

The bill, an amendment to the Forest Act, also empowers the government to sell the logs it seizes to licensed beachcombers for removal and resale.

At present a company stamp on a log gives the company control over it even if it breaks loose from a boom and anyone who attempts to salvage it is liable to prosecution.

The legislature's forestry committee this session has been studying the feasibility of setting up a commercial clearing system for beaches and coastal waters.

### 'MODEST' SIZE

During debate on forestry department estimates Monday, Opposition MLAs criticized the modest size of the forestry budget (\$22.6 million) which they said should be doubled.

And Randolph Harding (NDP—Revelstoke-Slocan) accused the government of losing the battle of reforestation in the province.

The charges came before Forestry Minister Ray Williston received house approval for his \$17,500 salary.

Harding said forest production has risen 84 per cent in the past 10 years and Crown revenues have jumped by 100 per cent.

The 1957 report of the Sloan royal commission on forest resources said that 50,000 acres of land should be reforested every year, the NDP MLA said.

"But only 32,000 acres have been reforested since then," he charged.

### FULL-TIME MINISTER

Cyril Shelford (SC—Omineca), who also is chairman of the legislature's forestry and fisheries committee, said Williston should not hold both the forestry and lands and water resources portfolios. There should be a full-time forestry minister, he said.

Williston said the government has planted every tree produced in provincial nurseries and that his department is aiming at producing 75 million new trees a year for the next 10 years.

Dave Stupich (NDP—Nanaimo) criticized the government for the drop in forestry research spending in B.C. since 1957 — from \$156,000 to \$143,000 in 1967-68, according to current estimates.

Opposition leader Robert Stachan blamed the government for allowing the export of unfinished logs, stockpiled during the anticipation of a forest strike in 1966 which was averted.



Tues., Mar. 14, 1967

## UNDER NEW CONTROL BOARD

# Plants to Need Pollution Permit

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Mills and other industrial operations near built-up areas will have to have a new kind of licence before beginning production — a permit from the pollution control director.

A new board with sweeping powers and a full-time director are to be set up under terms of a bill introduced in the legislature Monday.

It will no longer be composed entirely of civil servants.

For the first time the board will have jurisdiction over pollution of air and soil, as well as water.

Its jurisdiction will cover the entire province, not just specified areas as at present.

### PENALTIES TOO

The board also is given powers to levy penalties.

These penalties are to be decided by the board itself, but Resources Minister Ray Williston, who introduced the bill, indicated outside the house that fines are no longer considered adequate.

"These penalties most likely will be in the form of 'cease and desist' orders (forcing the source of pollution to close down operations)," Williston said.

The minister said the legislation will make it "axiomatic" that in built-up areas a permit will be a condition of operation for industrial plants.

"We don't intend to go after every little outhouse in the bush," he said, "but we think this bill will give us the necessary powers to control major sources (of pollution)."

Williston noted that the bill reflects a lesson the government has learned from the Buttle Lake pollution controversy.

The new director of pollution control, who assumes the administrative duties of the present board, is empowered to issue an interim permit.

This would give the applicant authority to proceed with operations under certain conditions set by the director to relieve any condition or threat of pollution.

A final permit would be issued once these conditions are met. The board is to decide what time limit shall be set on the duration of provisional permits.

(The issuing of a permit to Western Mines Ltd., allowing the company to dump mine tailings into Buttle Lake, was criticized on grounds that insufficient studies had been made on possible pollution as a result of its operations. Issuance of provisional permits will give time to assess the effect of operations before the companies receive the final go-ahead).

The director also has power to decide whether to hold public hearings.

### FINAL APPEAL

The new pollution control board, under the legislation, becomes a purely advisory and semi-judicial board, surrendering all its administrative functions to the full-time director.

The bill does not set out the number of board members, but Williston said it will be as small as is feasible to carry out its widespread duties. Anywhere from five to nine members could sit on the board, he suggested.

Unsuccessful applicants for permits or those forced to close down operations on orders of board field engineers may appeal to the pollution control director and from there to the board itself.

A final appeal may be made either to the provincial cabinet or the B.C. Supreme Court, the choice being up to the applicant.

Powers of the new board include determination of what qualities and properties of water constitute pollution, and the setting up of standards of effluent which may be discharged into waters.

The board also may appoint advisory or technical committees for specific instances of pollution.

### INDEMNITIES

The legislation allows the government to pay indemnities to board members, especially necessary if representatives from outside the civil service are to sit on the board.

Williston said that until the staff and knowledge of the new board are built up the cabinet will continue to refer to it specific tasks.

The board, he stressed, is to co-ordinate pollution control in the province, now conducted on a piecemeal basis.

The health department likely will continue to do most of the testing for air pollution, and the

agriculture department remain primarily concerned with soil pollution. But from now on the board will oversee all anti-pollution measures to ensure there is no duplication, Williston said.

He also indicated the board will refer many projects to outside bodies such as the B.C. Research Council.

Williston said it is not expected the board will immediately launch a number of studies of known or suspected pollution problems in the province.

Specific problems may be referred to the board by applicants through the municipal affairs department or through himself as chairman of the cabinet's committee on pollution, he said.

"We haven't got a panacea for everyone's ills," Williston said, "but for the first time we can spend money to find out instances of pollution, and co-ordinate its prevention."

As there is no money for the new board provided in current estimates, Williston added, its operation will be supported out of consolidated revenue in the first year of its operation.

The bill reserves the right for the cabinet to divide the province into pollution control districts for administrative purposes.

### REPEALS ACT

The new legislation also repeals the existing Pollution Control Act.

The cabinet Monday gave approval for the hiring of seven new staff members for the pollution control board as provided for in the estimates.

The civil service commission now will seek applicants for the posts of three engineers, two technicians, an analyst and a clerk-typist.

## FLUORIDATION

# Bill Alters Vote

VICTORIA — A bill to let regional districts and water districts fluoridate water supplies if the action is approved by a 60 per cent vote was introduced in the legislature Monday.

Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell introduced the bill as an amendment to the Municipalities Enabling and Validating Act.

As the law stands now fluoridation must be approved by a 60

per cent vote in each municipality of a water or regional district and it is up to the municipalities to take the initiative in putting plebiscites before electors.

The change would keep the same voter margin, but will bring all electors in a district in on the vote if the plebiscite is put by a regional district or water districts in Greater Vancouver, Victoria & Nanaimo and Campbell River.

Tues., Mar. 14, 1967

## Coal Export Hopes Tied to Superport

By DUNC HOLMES  
Sun Business Writer

Crows Nest Industries Ltd. hopes to ship two million tons of coal annually to Japan through a superport at Roberts Bank.

The coal would be brought to the proposed port by a new rail link.

In Victoria Monday the provincial government introduced legislation to set up a \$25 million authority to develop the port.

The rapid developments of a proposal to build a port at Roberts Bank is not a squeeze play to force Canadian Pacific Railway to lower its freight rates, a Crows Nest Industries spokesman said today.

"At this stage, it's gone beyond that," said an officer of the company. "It isn't a squeeze play."

Crows Nest would be the first customer at a new Roberts Bank port.

It is now exporting 400,000 tons of coal a year, brought from Natal to the coast by the CPR.

In the new plan, the company would build a 77-mile railway south from Natal to join the Great Northern Railway at Eureka, Mon.

From there the coal would come west to Everett, then north by GNR to a takeoff point eight miles south of the Deas Island tunnel for the final leg to Roberts Bank.

Crows Nest said it is prepared to spend \$40 million in such a transport system.

The Crows Nest officer said that in the most recent talks with CPR, that company's freight offer was still \$1 more a ton than for the alternate routing.

"Crows Nest has been negotiating urgently since the beginning of 1965," he said, "and has not been able to get an indication of a low enough rate to make a deal possible."

"Pressure has been building

up, and if Japan can't get its coal here, it will go elsewhere."

The officer said the provincial government is expected to issue a railway charter for the company to build its new line to join with Great Northern, and Crows Nest has already made a commitment to use Roberts Bank.

The company spokesman said the Great Northern-Roberts Bank proposal, "will enable us to ship at a competitive world price to Japan."

"Previous attempts to increase coal exports have been thwarted by the inability of Canadian Pacific Railway to give us a lower freight rate."

He said that including costs of the new railway, the freight charged by Great Northern and loading charges at Roberts Bank, Crows Nest will still operate at a considerably lower rate than was offered by the CPR.

W. R. Prentice, executive vice-president of Crows Nest, will leave for Japan Wednesday for talks which could lead to an \$85 million, 10-year export order for coal.

An officer said no deal is expected to be signed at this time, but the Roberts Bank move almost assures success for a long-term sale.

"Already there are indications the Japanese steel mills will be willing to pay a premium price for the Crows Nest-type coal," he said, "which is especially suited to the blend necessary for steel production."

No senior officers of Canadian Pacific Railway were available today to comment on the Roberts Bank developments.

## MLAs Urge Capozzi Quit

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Opposition MLAs demanded Monday that Herb Capozzi (SC—Vancouver-Centre) resign as chairman of the legislature's special committee appointed to study the Morrow report on gasoline prices.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) and Opposition leader Robert Strachan accused Capozzi of being a "spokesman for the big oil companies" and therefore unfit to sit on the committee.

The heated demand for his resignation came after Capozzi took issue with an earlier criticism by Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver-Burrard) about four gas stations being located on one street corner.

Capozzi said the stations would not establish there if it was not economically feasible.

As Capozzi tried to defend himself Premier W. A. C. Bennett motioned him to sit down, saying: "Leave it alone, leave it go."

## Tie-In Medicare Proposed in Bill

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Legislation expected to enable national medicare to fit hand-in-glove with existing private health plans in B.C. was introduced in the legislature Monday by Health Minister Wesley Black.

The bill will give the cabinet extensive powers to set up a medical services commission of up to three members: set standards of care; fix uniform premiums; and handle financial arrangements between government and private operators.

The scheme will be voluntary.

It is a proclamation bill, meaning it will not come into effect until ordered by the cabinet.

This will likely occur over a period of time before the proposed national health scheme is brought in on July 1, 1968.

A spokesman said the government would prefer to go into national medicare with existing private plans, such as CU&C and MSA and company-operated

plans such as that run by the B.C. Telephone Co.

But under the medical commission these could be amalgamated if the federal government requires it.

Premier W. A. C. Bennett said outside the legislature that he hopes the bill will meet federal requirements and thus qualify for grants from Ottawa.

But if it does not, B.C. is prepared to consider changes to make the scheme comply.

The medical services commission is to establish an accounting system for all plans designated as agencies under national medicare.

The comptroller-general will audit the books because public monies will be involved.

The cabinet can rule on licensing of carriers — prepaid medical insurance plans — and set a maximum of medical costs to be assumed by the carriers.

The medical plan must cover 90 per cent of the population initially and 95 per cent by 1971.



# Gaglardi Opposes Span Toll Setup

## Minister Spurns Campbell Plan To Finance Third Crossing

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi said Monday he is opposed to Mayor Tom Campbell's plan to set up a Lower Mainland toll authority to raise revenue for building another Burrard Inlet crossing.

Campbell said the authority could re-impose tolls on the Lions Gate and Second Narrows crossings to pay for a third crossing.

"We can't put tolls on the bridges," said Gaglardi.

"There has to be free transportation across there."

"We won't put any tolls on anything that we have to do with it as a government."

Gaglardi said he plans to meet with area municipalities as soon as the legislature prorogues, to discuss bridge arrangements.

"There's no use talking about other means at this stage," he said.

### 'MUST BE A WAY'

"Failing every other avenue of attack, and failing the federal government helping out, there must be a way, for this project cannot be stopped. It must proceed and I am sure we'll find that way," Gaglardi said.

However, six out of eight Vancouver aldermen contacted Monday by The Sun said re-imposition of tolls is perhaps the only method through which municipalities can finance a new crossing.

They said municipalities cannot hope to raise their share of the cost of a new crossing through ordinary tax revenues.

"Mayor Campbell's suggestion has some merit if a new crossing is to be built," said Ald. Earle Adams.

Along with Aldermen Ernie Broome and Ed Sweeney, Adams said Vancouver taxpayers would likely reject any money bylaw aimed at financing a new crossing.

### NOT A HOPE

"There's not a hope in Hades of taxpayers passing a bylaw whereby we would have to contribute between \$10 and \$20 million for a new crossing," Broome said.

"I don't like the idea of tolls but if the provincial government won't contribute its proper share, then I think tolls are the only way of paying for it."

Sweeney said tolls are perhaps the only fair way to pay for a new crossing if the provincial government refuses to pay for the crossing by itself.

"It would be fair in the sense that the people who use it would pay for it," Sweeney said.

"But I still feel the provincial government should accept the fact that a new crossing would be an inter-municipal highway,

and thus the responsibility of the provincial government."

Ald. Halford Wilson, who said he is normally opposed to toll charges, said he could support the reimposition of tolls for a limited period of time.

Along with other aldermen, Ald. Peter Graham said the provincial government should pay almost the total cost of the crossing.

"But if the only way we can get the money to build the crossing is through reimposing tolls, then it has to be done," he said.

Ald. Hugh Bird, heading a council committee studying methods of financing a new crossing, said he would support reimposition of tolls only if it were absolutely necessary.

"But I think it is up to the federal and provincial governments to contribute the far greater share of the cost of the crossing and approaches," Bird said.

### NO ADDED TAXES

"And I am quite confident that we will not have to add any taxes to homeowners to pay for the crossing."

Ald. Harry Rankin was the only one to come out flatly against reimposition of tolls.

"I don't think it is a very practical proposal," Rankin said.

"I believe the entire project should be paid for by the federal and provincial governments. It is their responsibility."

Ald. Reg Atherton declined comment until he has an opportunity to discuss the matter with Mayor Campbell.

Earlier Monday, the North Shore's three municipal leaders reacted favorably to Campbell's proposal.

North Vancouver City Mayor Carrie Cates said it might be the only way to get the federal and provincial governments together on building a new crossing.

West Vancouver Reeve Alex Forst said public opinion seems to be growing in favor of tolls as the only means of getting a new crossing.

Reeve Ron Andrews of the District of North Vancouver said the proposal was most interesting and similar to what his council had been talking about.

Reeve Alan Emmott of Burnaby was the only municipal leader flatly opposed to the idea of reimposing tolls.

## LSD

# Drug Bill Introduced In House

By IAN MacALPINE  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A bill aimed at halting general use of LSD and marijuana was given first reading in the legislature Monday.

The measure, called an Act Respecting Proscribed Substances, makes possession of the drugs without a permit from the provincial health officer an offence.

The maximum penalty is a \$2,000 fine and six months in jail.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, promised the legislation on Friday after the use of LSD by students was discussed in the legislature.

He said a simple bill would be brought in to deal with the problem.

The legislation introduced by Health Minister Wesley Black contains only four short paragraphs.

Though it deals only with LSD and marijuana, the bill gives the provincial cabinet power to add other substances to the list.

Debate on the bill will not take place until it is brought before the house for approval in principle.

But it brought immediate reaction from one lawyer-MLA outside the house.

Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver-Burrard) said the legislation is unconstitutional because it deals with criminal law, a matter within federal jurisdiction.

He said the bill implies that a person can possess marijuana with a permit from the provincial health officer, yet the federal Narcotic Control Act forbids it entirely.

# Diking 'Escalated' To \$30 Million

Williston Says Fraser Valley  
Needs Flood Control Project

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A proposed \$5 million dike rehabilitation program in the Fraser Valley has escalated to a \$30 million flood and drainage control project, Resources Minister Ray Williston disclosed today.

Talks between B.C. and federal officials are scheduled for May 1 in Ottawa to work out a cost-sharing arrangement for the project that would extend into the Fraser delta almost to the Gulf of Georgia, he informed the legislature.

Williston revealed the plans, which he said were recommended by a team of federal and provincial technical experts, after two opposition members sharply criticized the government for inaction on valley dike rehabilitation.

Both Liberal leader Ray Perrault, who led the attack, and Dave Barrett (NDP-Coquitlam) blasted the Socred government for blaming Ottawa for not coming through with financial assistance.

## FINAL SPARK

The debate put a final spark of life in tired MLs, who adjourned at 1:18 a.m. after a nine-hour sitting.

It began when Perrault said he wanted to draw public attention to the government's March snow survey bulletin, issued earlier in the day, which expressed the concern of water resources department officials over a possible spring flood threat.

The Liberal leader noted that the federal-provincial Fraser River Board recommended in 1963 a \$400-million flood control system on the Fraser River and its tributaries.

Besides this, there was a recommendation to heighten dikes in the Fraser Valley, he said.

## 'NO ACTION'

"In July, 1964, the premier stated in Prince George that the federal government would be asked to share in the flood control project on the upper reaches of the river to produce two million horsepower and protect the most expensive real estate in all of Canada," he said.

"And in 1967 there has been no action on the Fraser River Board report with the most disturbing snowpack conditions in years," Perrault added.

"This government has broken faith with the Fraser Valley — the area that produces 90 per cent of the agricultural wealth of the province."

"He's quite right," said Barrett.

Williston said the province has been prevented from carrying out the \$5 million dike rehabilitation program because B.C. cannot get a financial commitment from Ottawa.

B.C. has spent about \$1 million improving some dikes, he said, but Ottawa is only considering financial help.

There has been no assurance of federal participation in the \$30 million scheme, but it is hoped this can be worked out, Williston said.

## 'RIDICULOUS'

Perrault said it was ridiculous for the government to complain about no federal funds for a \$5 million project when it will have about \$130 million in its surplus account by the end of this year.

And he said that federal participation is "clearly available" if B.C. would approach Ottawa properly for it.

Barrett said it is too late now to prevent spring flooding.

If flooding does occur in the valley this year, the blame will lie entirely with the provincial government, he said.

"You've had that report since 1963 and you've done nothing," he said.

The issue is expected to be raised again later today when MLAs begin an item-by-item examination of Williston's departmental spendings.

The house voted the minister his salary of \$17,500 before adjourning for the night.

# Mileage Cheats Could Be Barred

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Legislation outlawing the practice of rolling back mileage on automobiles was introduced in the legislature Monday.

The legislation, promised by Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, after articles in The Sun revealed speedometers had been tampered with in some Vancouver used car outlets, means dealers found guilty of the practice could lose their business licences.

The Sun disclosures quoted one automobile mechanic as saying he made his living by turning back mileage for 15 used car dealers.

The Sun was also given affidavits by auto salesmen who swore they saw this mechanic turning back mileage on several occasions at a city car dealer's premises.

The government bill, given first reading, also will require persons under 18 years of age to provide written approval from parents or guardians before being able to register as owners of vehicles.

And the bill also states television sets are to be legally allowed in cars in B.C. — but not in the front seat compartment or anywhere else visible to the driver when he is operating the vehicle.

# GOOD SAMARITAN FUND GOAL OF NEW BILL

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—B.C. municipalities will soon be able to establish Good Samaritan funds to award compensation up to \$5,000 for injury and damage sustained by persons aiding police and other municipal officials.

Authority to set up the compensation system at local expense is contained in a bill that will make a number of amendments in the Municipal Act. The bill was given first reading in the legislature Monday.

Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Campbell explained that the provision is being written into the act to give municipalities an opportunity to follow Vancouver's lead.



# Superport Planned Under B.C. Bill

**Sun Victoria Bureau**  
VICTORIA — Plans for a new Crown corporation with a \$25 million budget to establish a deep-water harbor for super-cargo ships at Roberts Bank, near Tsawwassen, were revealed Monday by the provincial government.

The corporation, to be called the B.C. Harbors Board, is proposed in a bill given first reading in the legislature after it was introduced by Commercial Transport Minister Robert Bonner, Q.C.

Bonner said later, in an interview outside the House, that the move is an attempt to save B.C. coal exports to Japan for B.C. ports rather than let the business go to Seattle.

The proposed facilities, which he described as an industrial harbor estate in which leased acreage will be served by trackage and docks, would also be able to handle other low cost, high tonnage exports like potash, sulphur and liquefied petroleum gas.

"This bill follows some months of detailed discussions in which our original notion of Roberts Bank received startling, favorable response," the minister added.

## PURPOSES OF BOARD

The port authority will be established by proclamation by the provincial cabinet, probably several months from now.

Bonner said the government intends to hold talks with federal authorities and some private concerns, which may become involved in a joint harbor project, before further steps are taken.

"The board is established for the purpose of developing or encouraging the development of harbor facilities in the province, to provide access to and from

such harbor facilities and to assist and promote the industrial development of the province in conjunction with harbor development," the bill states.

It will be able to borrow up to \$25 million and may purchase or lease real and personal property.

It is expected the Roberts Bank project will involve extensive reclamation to create a series of large acreage sites for industry.

## FEDERAL DISCUSSIONS

Trade and Industry Minister Ralph Loffmark, speaking later during consideration of his department's spending estimates, said the government is discussing with the National Harbors Board the operation of the Robert Bank superport as a joint project.

NHB Chairman Howard Mann was here several weeks ago to meet with Loffmark and Bonner. They agreed upon and discussed the need for more port facilities on the Lower Mainland.

Hunter Vogel (SC-Langley) called on the provincial government to consider establishment of a railway complex to serve the new port.

# Socred 'Patronage' Hit by Opposition

**Sun Victoria Bureau**  
VICTORIA — Opposition MLAs charged in the legislature Monday that the government fills civil service posts on a patronage basis.

Dave Barrett (NDP-Coquitlam) listed a number of civil servants who were appointed after running as Socred candidates or after working on behalf of the party.

He also charged there is a "double standard" for civil servants who wish to run for a seat in the legislature, depending upon which party they belong to.

Said Opposition leader Robert Strachan: "There is no doubt that this government has the sorriest record of any government this province has had in regards to political patronage."

Barrett listed the number of appointments during debate before the \$31.5 million estimates of the provincial secretary's department were passed.

Among those he named were: Lyle Wicks, a former Socred labor minister, appointed to the Public Utilities Commission;

## FORMER MLA

Charles Parker, former MLA, now an employee of the lands department;

E. B. Merrick, defeated Social Credit candidate in the Kamloops riding, appointed superintendent of the Kamloops extension of Woodlands School;

W. J. Smith, former campaign manager for Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi, appointed superintendent of public works at Kamloops;

Hugh Sherriff, defeated Soc-

red candidate, appointed to the toll bridge authority;

And A. G. Webb, former Victoria Chamber of Commerce secretary, now public works deputy minister.

Works Minister W. N. Chant rose, red-faced, to defend his deputy.

"My deputy never had anything to do with the Social Credit party before his appointment or now," he said.

Barrett said he had not said Webb had Socred party connections, but only that he was appointed over the heads of other candidates.

## 'HACKS APPOINTED'

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby Edmonds) accused the government of circumventing the Civil Service Commission in some of its appointments.

"It passes orders in council to have its political hacks appointed," he charged.

"It has to get around the commission because the commission has to have certain standards."

Barrett gave his own case as an example of a double standard on civil service resignations for political reasons.

He was fired, he said, from his job as government personnel officer six months before his nomination convention.

But, he said, Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston was not fired until after his nomination.

Williston replied that he had been fired from his job as school inspector before his nomination convention, but could not say how long before the convention he was fired.

# Regional Hospitals Scheme Spreads Costs Across B.C.

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The government introduced its new regional hospital plan in the legislature Tuesday.

The legislation will allow for division of the province into regional hospital districts, takeover of private hospitals by the districts and a sharing of hospital debts by all parts of the province.

The new system, Premier W. A. C. Bennett said outside the house, will enable the tripling of current spending on hospital construction in B.C. to a record \$50 million or more a year.

The Regional Hospital Dis-

tricts Bill will give the provincial cabinet power to set up boundaries for between 25 and 30 regional districts for hospital financing.

Bennett indicated the necessary cabinet orders will be issued soon after the end of the current session of the legislature, expected just before Easter weekend.

Under the terms of the bill, no municipality will be able to opt out of the regional hospital plan. Every component of the districts will be required to share in the financing of approved hospital projects.

Each district will have its regional hospital board, over and above the individual boards for hospitals within the district.

"These regions will be set up arbitrarily, just as the school districts were set up on the recommendations of the Cameron Report in 1946," said Bennett.

He added that there will be no opting out because this could bring down the whole system "but before a hospital is built a bylaw will be put to the voters in the region as it is now for schools."

Private hospitals, requiring no bylaw for public monies, will still be able to use the existing formula under which the government pays 50 per cent of costs. The federal share under this formula is \$2,000 per bed, or about 6 per cent.

Health Minister Wesley Black, who introduced the bill, said outside the house that the existing debt for hospitals within districts will be spread over the whole region.

Costs for individual projects will be shared within the district the same way, he added.

The new cost-sharing formula also will apply to any purchase by a region of existing private or religious hospitals within the district.

These institutions then could come under the dollar-a-day chronic care program, Bennett said, or could be used as acute public hospitals.

Regional hospital boards are given powers to acquire, construct and operate all hospital facilities within their jurisdiction and handle financial arrangements for these purposes.

Assessments for regional districts are to be based on school tax rolls and the owner-electors lists used in school bylaw votes will be used for hospital bylaws as well.

## GOING FEDERAL?

### Strachan Shift Seen By Socred

By SCOTT HONEYMAN  
Sun Staff Reporter

NANAIMO — The president of the B.C. Social Credit League predicted here Tuesday night that New Democratic Party leader Robert Strachan will soon leave provincial politics to run federally.

George Driediger told a Social Credit constituency association meeting that Strachan is being forced out of provincial politics by New Democratic Party MLAs, backed by labor leaders.

The opposition leader has expressed a desire to run federally, he said.

Driediger said union leaders are backing Tom Berger, MLA for Vancouver-Burrard, as Strachan's successor.

"You are going to see Bob run here federally in the next federal election," said Driediger.

This, he said, would mean the retirement of aging incumbent Colin Cameron.

In Victoria, Strachan called Driediger's speech a lot of nonsense.

Driediger predicted other NDP members of the legislature — he named Kaslo-Slocan MLA Randolph Harding and Nanaimo MLA Dave Stupich as possibilities — will also enter federal politics.

During his speech, the Socred president charged that an MLA-labor "goon squad" threatened a municipal official who supported Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, in the Cariboo byelection.

Driediger refused to name the man, but said he required police protection during the campaign, in which Bonner defeated NDP candidate Hartley Dent.

Driediger told the association that Dent had apologized for the tactics used and said he had no part of it.

He also charged many teachers in the Cariboo had booked off sick to campaign for the NDP and man election headquarters.

## MLA URGES LAKE PARK

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Burnaby Lake should be preserved and properly developed as a regional park, Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby Edmonds) said in the legislature Tuesday.

Dowding said the lake is a beautiful spot that should be looked after, but it is gradually losing its appeal because of its use under the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District.

He said park development could be undertaken under the Canada-B.C. Joint Development Act.

## INSURANCE BILL READ

VICTORIA (CP) — The B.C. Legislature Tuesday gave first reading to an opposition bill to "empower the government of B.C. to engage in the business of automobile accident insurance."

The bill was introduced by Opposition leader Robert Strachan but has little chance of receiving the required three readings and royal assent. A provincial royal commission on automobile insurance has not yet made its report.



# Gov't Delays New Deal For Disabled

## Opposition Scores One Year Holdup in Bill

By IAIN HUNTER  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Labor Minister Leslie Peterson's promised new deal for disabled workmen will not become law for another year.

A bill to implement all but one of the recommendations of the Tysoe royal commission report on workmen's compensation was introduced in the legislature Tuesday.

But it will not be dealt with by the house until the next session, 12 months away.

### TIME TO CONSIDER

In the meantime, however, Peterson introduced an interim amendment to the present legislation, to come into effect April 1 of this year, which will give greater coverage for disabled workers until the new bill is passed.

The year-long delay for the new bill, Peterson said, will give opposition MLAs time to consider its implications and the government time to receive representations from interested groups.

The bill, which was given first reading in the house:

Provides for compensation for injury arising from and in the course of employment, instead of limiting compensation to disability from a specific accident on the job;

Spreads coverage to include volunteer as well as paid workers;

And throws on the Workmen's Compensation Board the onus to disprove the applicant's claim, instead of requiring the applicant to prove that his disability arose from conditions of his employment.

### CAUGHT OFF-GUARD

Opposition MLAs, caught off guard by the one-year delay in the bill, objected that there is not enough time left this session to examine the new legislation fully.

But Peterson took the wind out of opposition sails by pointing out that they have a full 12 months to examine the bill before it becomes law.

"This complete rewriting of the Workmen's Compensation Act obviously is to be delayed another 12 months," Opposition leader Robert Strachan said.

"After the government has had the (Tysoe) report for 18 months, there is no reason why it should be delayed any longer.

"This is a clear sign that the government has slowed down almost to a full stop."

### DELAY RAPPED

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) said the legislation could have been introduced four or five weeks earlier.

(But Peterson said outside the house he did not receive the final draft until this week.)

Liberal leader Ray Perrault chastised the government for delaying the legislation.

"This is not keeping faith with the members of this house and it's not keeping faith with the workers in the province," he said.

The interim amendment to the present act goes even further than the recommendations of Mr. Justice Charles W. Tysoe in November, 1965.

The amendment, intended to become law at the end of this session, establishes a minimum compensation for totally disabled workmen of \$150 a month.

Under present legislation, compensation for totally disabled workers, calculated on average earnings, gives benefits as low as \$81.60 a month, Peterson said.

Average earnings still will be taken into account, but payments now may not be lower than \$150 a month, he said.

Peterson said this provision dovetails with increasing benefits set out for certain injured workmen and dependants as a result of a cabinet order-in-council in November, 1965, when the Tysoe report was brought down.

The interim amendment also authorizes the board retroactively to provide compensation for disabilities resulting from employment in compressed air conditions in the province.

This extends compensation for caisson disease or "the bends."

### 'ACCIDENT DELETED'

The amendment, Peterson explained outside the house, resulted from injuries to workmen on the Highbury tunnel project in the Point Grey area about five years ago.

A main provision of the proposed new Workmen's Compensation Act, along lines recommended by the Tysoe report, deletes the words "by accident" from numerous sections.

"The test will be whether the workman's disability was work-caused instead of having to relate it to some instantaneous and obvious mishap," Peterson said.

The bill also provides that where the personal injury or disease is superimposed on an already existing disability, the effect of the injury on the prior disability shall be taken into consideration.

The definition of "workman" is revised to include volunteer workers.

Peterson said this is to give guidance to the board in deciding to what occupations the act shall be extended.

Workmen in the coal and metal mining industries are to be compensated for disability due to silicosis, a lung disease, if they were exposed to silica-containing dust in the province three years prior to disablement, or less if exposure occurred only in B.C.

## Canal Advocated

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A 74-year-old plan for a canal linking Burrard Inlet with the Pitt River should be resurrected to solve the harbor needs and flood problems of the Lower Mainland, the legislature was told Tuesday.

Dave Barrett (NDP — Coquitlam) urged fresh consideration of the scheme, which was first proposed by Fraser Valley residents in a petition to the legislature before the turn of the century.

Barrett raised the subject during examination of the \$7.8 million spending estimates of the water resources department.

Barrett said the scheme would not mean relocating any major developments, would facilitate harbor development in the Port Moody area, and could funnel off some of the Fraser River flow to prevent flooding.

"Although it seemed like a pipe dream 74 years ago, about five years ago the head of the National Harbors Board said the plan was only 25 years away from becoming a reality," said Barrett.

Outside the house Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, said it is doubtful that the project would be economically sound.

# Flood Measures Decision 'Soon'

Williston to Wait Two Weeks For Report on Likely Runoff

By IAN MacALPINE  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C. will decide within a couple of weeks whether to mobilize men and equipment in the face of a major flood threat, Resources Minister Ray Williston told the legislature Tuesday.

The minister said the decision will be made on the basis of snow measurements throughout the province and a forecast of the expected June runoff.

His statement in the house was a reply to MLAs who have asked several times recently what action is being taken by the government as a result of flood warnings contained in snow reports issued by the water resources department.

Dave Barrett (NDP — Coquitlam) and Liberal leader Ray Perrault both pressed a number of times for information about the government's plans.

Williston said there are record mountain snow packs in many areas now, but it is too early to know what the runoff will be like.

## BEWARE SYSTEM

There have been heavy snow packs in previous years, too, but a gradual spring warming trend brought the melt down without any trouble, he said.

"This early in the year we are victims of our own records system," he said.

He added, however: "The alert is out and a general form of attack is proceeding. But we have to work quietly so as not to alarm everybody. On the other hand, if the danger is there, there has to be a co-ordinated program ready."

Williston said the inspector of dikes, the highways department, civil defence, the agriculture department, and Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, will be brought together to map out a flood fighting plan in the Fraser Valley if the threat continues.

The diking inspector, highways department and civil defence would provide equipment and sandbagging, Bonner's department would arrange for

prisoners in the valley to man the dikes, and the agriculture department would give advice on which are the main trouble areas, he said.

## NAME BOSS

Barrett said Williston should name a boss to oversee the operation. He should be authorized to work with the Canada Manpower Centre to line up people for dike-watching duty, the MLA suggested.

During the debate on Williston's \$33.2 million departmental spending estimates, approved before the house adjourned at 11:15 p.m., MLAs were also told the federal government has turned down a cost-sharing proposal for flood control projects in the Squamish area.

Williston told Allan Williams (Lib. — West Vancouver-Howe Sound), who expressed concern over flood dangers in the Squamish and Chekamus valleys, that Ottawa is calling for a much more elaborate and costly installation than the province feels is warranted.

He said the matter will be discussed in May, when he meets in Ottawa with Jean Luc Pepin, federal minister of mines and technical surveys.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan was told that it will take between four and six months to prepare recommendations for flood control measures in the Cowichan Valley on Vancouver Island.

Strachan urged swift action after showing the house a series of newspaper pictures of last fall's flooding in the Duncan area.

Williston said some data has been assembled but said it will take up to half a year to determine what should be done.

"It will be flooded again by that time," said Strachan.

## BY CONSULTANT

# Hasty Laws On Health, Pensions Hit

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The province was warned Tuesday to move slowly into the field of pension, health and welfare plan legislation.

Professional consultant Vernon L. Hembling told the legislature's labor committee that hasty legislation, a result of political action forced by pressure groups, has been introduced in the U.S. "before all the ramifications and effects had been fully explored."

Hembling made a voluntary appearance before the committee to express his views.

In another brief, the Amalgamated Construction Association of B.C. called for legislation to ensure equal representation of employee and employer groups on private plan boards.

The brief also urged prohibition of any employers' association or union fulfilling the role of administrator for the employer, and compulsory disclosure to government of details and funding of the plans.

The International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers presented a brief calling for making age 60 the compulsory retirement age instead of 65, and establishment of a pension commission to act as an appeal board to adjudicate disputes over operation of plans.

# Buttle Lake Protest Set

An anti-pollution demonstration will be staged at 12:30 p.m. Monday on the steps of the Legislative Buildings in Victoria.

It is being organized by the executive committee of the Campbell River Pollution Control Society, which claims Western Mines Ltd. operations are polluting Buttle Lake.

The group has requested a meeting Monday with Premier W. A. C. Bennett to outline its views.



Wed., Mar. 15, 1967

## James K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—The legislature now has so much before it that it'll take a miracle to have prorogation the day before Good Friday, as everyone wants. Likely it will be done, since MLAs have reached the stage where they can hardly stand the sound of even their own voices, and that's saying something.

This week the government brought in so much legislation the oppositionists felt swamped and stifled. They reeled back, muttering cynicisms, feeling this government has become so arrogant, so autocratic that it tramples over the people's duly elected representatives, sneering at the voters who elected it.

For shame, for shame, Mr. Speaker. Ah, the day will come — and this ruthless government will be pitched out! Ah, happy day for the oppositionists!

As bill after bill rolled in, the premier looked most complacent (some people would say smug) for the more there's new legislation, last-minute legislation, the more the premier considers his is a government that really gets things done; everything Social Credit does redounding to the public good, or so the premier has convinced himself, and in such convictions he is most firm, never faltering.

It fell to NDP David Barrett of Coquitlam, or at least he took it upon himself, to complain aloud about all the last-minute legislation, as if this were something new. Indeed it is not; it always has been thus, and always will be, politics being politics. Governments like to surprise and confound oppositionists.

Mr. Barrett said the government should be ashamed at what he called this unseemly last-minute rush. If he had thought of it, he'd have said it's a negation of democracy, a fancy phrase beloved of those opposed to governments.

Much of this last-minute legislation, said Mr. Barrett, should have been brought in weeks ago; he was just getting ready to shout when chairman Herbert Bruch told him to stay with the matter under debate — the civil service.

To Mr. Barrett and his socialist and Liberal colleagues, this Bennett government is a terrible boss to its thousands of workers — cruel, pompous, selfish, crude, rude, generally callous, sweating the workers, grinding them down, almost spitting on them, and they all the time cringing in fear and shaking everytime they see a cabinet minister stalking the corridors.

Civil servants in British Columbia, said Mr. Barrett, warming up to his subject, are treated by this government like neglected children, abused and cuffed about all over the place.

Mr. Barrett cried and cried for all those downtrodden folk who must work for the government—sacrificing their dignity — or starve and freeze their bones in their nakedness.

Well, all I can say is most civil servants don't have it so bad. They have a security most other workers do not have. Their fringe benefits are pretty handsome.

★★★  
The premier was making one of his spectacular extemporaneous speeches this week, loud of voice, arms waving, emotions quivering, eyes cast up to the populace in the public galleries, hoping

they would consider him the greatest — their one and only champion.

This gave NDP Bob Williams of Vancouver East a pain, and he pooh-poohed and sniped, and uttered remarks, by way of tripping up the premier.

The premier, however, as you all well know by now, is not easily tripped up and so he said new members like Mr. Williams, who are always talking (the premier said yapping) last only one legislative term and then, fed up with their long-windedness and pop-off mouthings, the voters pitch them out, and that's the last heard of them.

Hearing the premier talk this way, NDP Randolph Harding of Revelstoke-Slocan, here these nearly 22 years, looked coldly across the floor and said: "That's the end of Capozzi."

Mr. C., you understand, is making a name for himself as a snickerer from Social Credit backbenches, like Esquimalt's Mr. Bruch used to be, before being raised to the dignity of deputy Speaker.

Actually, Mr. Capozzi is fairly good at such sniping, that's why oppositionists can't stand him and seek to freeze him into scared silence. I'd say he doesn't freeze easily.

★★★  
After the premier has pounded one of his entrancing, all-of-a-sudden oratorical outbursts, reaping keen enjoyment the while, he usually bounces right out of the house. I find him fascinating to watch, he's so proud of him-

self, and he knows he has as Liberal leader Ray Perrault is given to saying, mesmerized everyone, which is just what the premier delights in doing.

By rushing right out, the premier leaves while the light is full upon him. His absence

makes opposition rebuttal difficult. Opposition leader Strachan finds this Bennett technique extremely irritating and frustrating.

There was Mr. Strachan the other day, getting ready to pin back the premier's political ears, but he couldn't very well, and admitted it, because the premier wasn't there.

Attorney-general Robert Bonner was, however, and so he said Mr. Strachan is becoming nothing more or less than a common scold, which promoted a socialist backbencher to say the attorney-general is becoming nothing but a common failure.

## Dumping Branded Contempt of Court

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Western Mines Ltd. is in contempt of court because it is continuing to dump mine tailings after a court voided permits authorizing the disposal, a lawyer-MLA told the legislature Tuesday.

"When union leaders are in contempt of court they are sent to jail," said Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby Edmonds).

He made the statements as MLAs raised the Buttle Lake pollution issue in the house during consideration of Resource Minister Ray Williston's departmental estimates.

Dowding said the court revoked permits granted to Western Mines when the Campbell River Water District appealed the case.

But since then the company has been dumping wastes into a pond that seeps into a creek that discharges into Buttle Lake, he said.

"Western Mines is in contempt of court," he said.

Dowding claimed the mining company should be required to prove that disposal of tailings is not polluting the lake instead of requiring the water district to prove it is.

He called for postponement of new hearings on the issue until a new Pollution Control Board is created under legislation before the house.

Ernie Hall (NDP-Surrey) said the government should "come clean" on the Buttle Lake matter.

# REEVE RAPS BENNETT 'Build Bridges, Not Empires!'

Sun Staff Reporter

**NORTH VANCOUVER** — Reeve Ron Andrews of North Vancouver District today called on Premier Bennett to stop fighting with Ottawa and start thinking about the people he governs.

Andrews charged in an interview that Bennett is more interested in his grandiose empire - building plans than the down-to-earth needs of the people.

Andrews said Bennett's speedy rejection of the federal government's offer to finance a new Burrard Inlet crossing is a prime example of the premier's desire to go it alone without the help of the national government.

At the same time he said, the premier keeps demanding a substantial contribution from Greater Vancouver municipalities which haven't got the financial resources to participate in multi-million dollar highway projects.

"Bennett," added the reeve, "is so busy with his empire and fighting with Ottawa that he doesn't even answer telegrams from municipal leaders. We are too small for him."

Andrews said he wired Bennett almost two weeks ago asking for clarification of his charge in the legislature that the municipalities are misusing their funds.

"I wanted to know if his indictment included North Vancouver district but I haven't been given the courtesy of even a route

acknowledgment of my wire," Andrews protested.

"It is ridiculous for the premier to keep referring to the municipalities paying their fair share of the bridge. The municipalities are not set up to participate in multi-million dollar crossings, thruways, expressways, superways or national highways or whatever you want to call them.

"Bennett should get off this pitch right away. In effect he is asking the home owner to help build the crossing out of the property taxes he pays to the municipalities," Andrews said.

"The property tax is meant to keep up services within a municipality and that is all."

Andrews said the Ottawa proposal for financing the crossing "makes some sense but all Bennett does is laugh his head off in Victoria. At least he says he is laughing his head off."

"It is a crying shame the premier is fighting with the federal government. Every move he makes points to empire building at home but the people are getting caught in the squeeze between Victoria and Ottawa."

Concluded the reeve: "If Bennett wants to make B.C. into an empire he shouldn't be asking Ottawa for anything. He should go ahead and build the crossing himself."

Asked if he planned a protest to Victoria, Andrews said: "What can I do but holler. This is all terribly frustrating."

## Bennett Request Branded 'Phoney'

Sun Victoria Bureau

**VICTORIA** — Premier W. A. C. Bennett's telegram to Ottawa for a \$100-million loan for power development was a phoney request, Liberal leader Ray Perrault claimed Tuesday.

Perrault was referring in the legislature to a wire Bennett sent to Ottawa several days ago seeking the loan after he was challenged in the house to make an approach for funds.

Finance Minister Mitchell Sharp replied to Bennett by wire, saying a technical committee should be set up to study the request and determine what justification exists for such a loan.

Perrault said Bennett has never acknowledged the reply from Sharp.

### READ TELEGRAM

So the Liberal leader read a copy of the telegram sent to the premier by the federal minister.

It said, in part: "Federal government does not normally

provide funds to finance provincial power agencies, but has participated only in particular projects under special circumstances.

### 'GLAD TO CONSIDER'

"If you feel that there are special circumstances in B.C. Hydro's situation now which require and justify a departure from the normal practice of province power agencies financing their own programs and warrant some federal participation, I shall be glad to consider the circumstances of a properly documented case concerning a specific project and to arrange discussions here with your representative on both the financial and technical aspects of such a proposal."

After reading the wire, Perrault said: "He (the premier) got an answer all right, but he's too ashamed to answer it."

"It was a phoney request for assistance and it disgraced this province."

## Salmon Eggs Unharmed by Log Drive

Sun Victoria Bureau

**VICTORIA** — A B.C. Research Council study of the Stellako River log drive in June, 1966, revealed no immediate damage to maturing salmon eggs in the area of the drive.

But the report of the six-month study, tabled in the legislature Tuesday, said it was insufficient to determine long range effects of the log drive on continued salmon reproduction.

And it added that no attempt has been made to determine the effect of log driving on trout or bottom-dwelling fish food organisms.

Resources Minister Ray Wiliston, who tabled the report, ordered the drives on the river last year in defiance of a federal fisheries department order.

"Within the time limits imposed by the project, the BCRC can demonstrate no detrimental effect of the 1966 log drive on the survival of embryonic sockeye salmon up to the eyed stage," the report said.

But, it added, time limitations and experimental difficulties precluded examination of the effect of the drive on emerging salmon fry. It also prevented calculating subsequent effects on the adult salmon population developing from the 1966 run.

## James K. NESBITT

**VICTORIA** — "Civil Service Act to effectively end the patronage evil — political influence will not be tolerated."

So sang out a Sun headline during the legislative session of 1917 — 50 years ago.

Yet this week in the legislature, Perrault Liberals and Strachan socialists rose up in their wrath to say the Bennett government has swamped the civil service with Social Credit patronage.

Nonsense, utter nonsense, snorted the premier. Why, said he indignantly, how ridiculous, what silly talk, when, before Social Credit — and he remembers it well — one had to be a good Liberal or Conservative to get a government job.

(Well, all I can say is that I've been around here long enough to see Liberals, Conservatives and Social Crediters get government plums.)



Thur., Mar. 16, 1967

# Bennett Pours Cold Water On Ottawa's Bridge Offer

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier W. A. C. Bennett virtually turned down Wednesday a federal government offer to help finance a new Burrard Inlet crossing with a grant-and-loan plan.

Bennett told the legislature he is not interested in borrowing from the federal government for the project.

In fact, he said, the provincial government would lend money to Ottawa if the national government cannot find the cash to pay its share as an outright grant.

## UPROAR IN HOUSE

The federal-provincial crossing controversy touched off an uproar in the legislature after the federal offer had been disclosed in Vancouver earlier Wednesday by Labor Minister Jack Nicholson.

Provincial Liberal leader Ray Perrault touched off the flurry by pressing the Bennett government on the urgency of accepting the federal offer.

Later, Perrault demanded in an interview that Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi resign because of his arrogant response to the federal offer.

In Kamloops, earlier in the day, Gaglardi had said: "If this is one of those political gimmick deals between Ottawa and Ray Perrault, it's just a joke."

Said Perrault in the interview: "Any cabinet minister who makes that kind of irresponsible remark in answer to an offer that means millions in tax savings for B.C. can perform no further useful purpose. Gaglardi's manner is arrogant and flippant and he should resign his portfolio."

Nicholson said the federal government would provide a substantial direct grant and guaranteed low-cost, long-term loan to finance the crossing. (Provincial and municipal technical experts recently recommended a bridge-tunnel project off Brockton Point).

In Ottawa, sources said the government is considering a grant of about one-third of the total cost, or approximately \$30 million.

## 50-YEAR LOAN

The remainder would take the form of a loan repayable over probably 50 years.

In the legislature, Bennett said the province is committed to a \$27 million grant for the bridge-tunnel.

"I always said we have this commitment," he told MLAs.

"And I'll put it (the federal offer) the other way: If the federal government can't put up its share of the money we'll put up our \$27 million and loan them the rest to make up the difference at current rates of interest."

(If the estimated \$82 million cost of the crossing is correct, this means Ottawa has been asked for a \$55 million grant).

## 'USE GAS TAX'

The house was filled with uproar when Perrault rose to press on the government the urgency of accepting the federal offer.

"Taking one cent per gallon from the gas tax over the next 10 years would provide the whole local share of the financing for the bridge," Perrault said, while Socred MLAs roared disbelief.

"The time has come for this government to end all the delays and stop its political confusion," he said. "I urge that the minister (Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Campbell whose estimates were being debated) get behind this federal plan."

"It's an insult," shouted Gaglardi, referring to the federal offer.

Perrault refused to leave the subject even though Campbell protested it had nothing to do with his department and house supply committee chairman James Chabot (SC-Columbia River) called him out of order.

"I challenge your ruling, Mr. Chairman," shouted Perrault.

"This is a vital matter to people in my constituency. In my own riding (North Vancouver-Capilano) it would require a seven mill tax increase to finance the local share (if the federal offer is rejected)."

## 'PENNY-PINCHING'

"This government has followed a penny-pinching policy for too many years on the matter of a new crossing," he added. "It's time to turn to a penny-giving policy."

He said the government "for years" has used the motor vehicle and gasoline tax in the Lower Mainland as "a great milk cow" and the provincial Liberal members have never objected.

"But now the time has come to turn some of this money over to providing a new crossing," he said.

Perrault said outside the house that the combined federal-provincial grants under Nicholson's formula will leave a total share for local municipalities of some \$35 million. Spread over 10 years at 5½ per cent interest this amount can be met by a one cent per gallon gasoline levy over the same period, he said.

There is no need to ask the local municipalities to accept any further cost for the crossing, he told the house.

## PLEDGE REPEATED

Outside the house, Bennett repeated the province is prepared to keep its promise to build a parallel crossing at Lions Gate, bank to bank, at a cost of \$27 million. But because local municipalities don't seem to favor this idea, he said, the \$27 million cash grant can go toward any kind of crossing to link the North Shore with Vancouver.

But there must be no tolls, he added.

"There are no ifs, ands or buts," said Bennett. "It's as clear cut as that. There isn't any news in it because it's been said by this government a thousand times before."

Reporters observed that he had offered earlier this month to lend Ottawa \$100 million — the sum which he had originally asked to borrow from the federal government for hydro projects.

This offer was to call Ottawa's bluff, Bennett said.

"And we called their bluff on this (the second First Narrows crossing) a long time ago," he added.

Gaglardi earlier Wednesday had called the federal offer a "joke" and a "saddle-back deal."

He criticized Nicholson for making a public announcement of the federal offer before making it officially to the provincial government.

## RAPS OTTAWA

He also accused Ottawa of lending back to the people of B.C. their own money — part of the \$900 million the federal government takes from B.C. in revenue every year.

Bennett made his criticisms in the house after jumping to the defence of the federal Liberal government which the NDP opposition was criticizing for the lapsing this year of the roads-to-resources program.

The premier said it was a Diefenbaker Conservative administration program anyway, and was "foolish."

Prince Edward Island, he said, got the same grant as B.C. (\$7.5 million) for roadbuilding to resource areas although "there's not even a foot of gravel in P.E.I."

Perrault said in his interview that Ottawa had no statutory obligation to contribute to the crossing and the offer was a result of months of work by B.C.'s Liberal MLAs and MPs.

"This was the provincial government's bargaining job but it was too busy playing politics and Gaglardi's insults are all we have heard."

## OFFER CLEAR

He said Ottawa's offer of support is clear, hard and non-political.

"If the provincial government refuses to negotiate this it will be guilty of one of the grossest derelictions of duty in the history of B.C.," he said.

"It will be a criminal act for the provincial government to extend its phoney vendetta against Ottawa in this and the full cost of B.C. separatism will be shown."

## Privacy Probe Invades Privacy, MLA Charges

**Sun Victoria Bureau**  
VICTORIA — The legislature was told Wednesday that the Sargent royal commission on invasion of privacy has itself invaded the privacy of unions.

"This commission has lost the confidence of the people in B.C.," said Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East).

The lack of confidence in the probe is a result of its investigating matters beyond its terms of reference, he said.

Macdonald urged the legislature to pass his bill to ensure privacy without waiting for the outcome of the inquiry.

### CALLED TO ORDER

He managed to get in some criticism of the royal commission before being called to order by Speaker William Murray.

But his bill, along with two other private members' bills, was shelved indefinitely without receiving approval in principle.

This probably means they will not come up this session and will die when the House prorogues.

The two other bills adjourned were:

One by Ernie LeCours (SC — Richmond) to amend the Inferior Courts Practitioners Act to allow laymen to appear in courts to argue on behalf of an accused.

And one by Dave Barrett (NDP — Coquitlam) to require a standard measure for comparative pricing of foods, household goods and staples not sold in bulk.

### SPEED URGED

Macdonald said he is aware the bugging commission "in some of its deliberations inadvertently touches on privacy."

But he said no time should be lost by waiting for a report from the commission before passing needed legislation.

He added that in some cases the line of questioning at the hearing disregards a decision of a B.C. Supreme Court judge.

(Mr. Justice Peter Seaton, in ruling that union leader Orville Braaten, jailed for contempt of court at the hearing, should be

freed, criticized royal commissioner Judge R. A. Sargent for taking the inquiry beyond its terms of reference.)

### SPEAKER INTERVENES

Macdonald said Mr. Justice Seaton had accused the commissioner, a retired County Court judge, of invading the privacy of unions themselves.

The Speaker, however, ordered the NDP member to stick to debate on his bill and leave the commission out of it.

Macdonald said the right to be left alone is recognized in many other countries of the world, but not in B.C.

Even Brigitte Bardot, he said, was able to successfully prosecute news photographers for invading her privacy on the French Riviera.

LeCours, speaking on his bill to amend the Inferior Courts Practitioners Act, said laymen should be allowed to appear on behalf of accused who cannot afford lawyers' fees or who are incapable of explaining themselves in court.

### 'CLOSED SHOP'

He said too many people plead guilty to crimes they have not committed to save the expense of lawyers' fees, and that often two solicitors from the same office appear in the same courtroom on opposite sides of a case.

This is a "closed shop on justice," he said.

NDP lawyers Gordon Dowding (Burnaby-Edmonds) and Tom Berger (Vancouver Burrard) the province are capable of giving justice to accused people who argue their cases on their own behalf.

He referred to previous statements by LeCours in the legislature that indicated the self-appointed ombudsman was a "jinx" in some of the cases he intervened in.

supported LeCours's bill, but it was opposed by Oak Bay Liberal lawyer Alan Macfarlane.

"To open the doors of our courts to unqualified people who set themselves up as authorities where they are not is neither necessary nor desirable," Macfarlane said.

He said magistrates serving in

## Cabinet OKs Roberts Bank Rail Financing

**Sun Victoria Bureau**  
VICTORIA — The provincial cabinet has approved financial arrangements for a proposed railroad over which eastern B.C. coal would be shipped through the United States to a new harbor at Roberts Bank.

An order in council okaying the financial structure of the 77-mile line tying in with the Great Northern Railway in Montana was passed Wednesday.

Still to be approved, however, is the route of the railway from the Fernie area into Montana.

Crowsnest Industries Ltd. sought authority to build the line after the company was unable to come to terms with the Canadian Pacific Railway for a favorable rate on coal shipments via the CPR to Vancouver.

The government had held the application in abeyance while Commercial Transport Minister Robert Bonner, QC, tried to mediate differences between the firms in an attempt to save the coal export business for B.C.

Meetings here failed to come up with a compromise and the coal company continued planning for the spur line into the U.S.

In the meantime, however, the government moved to set up a deep-water super cargo port near Tsawwassen to handle loading of the coal, which is to be routed back into B.C. from the U.S. line.

## COMPENSATION PLEA:

### 'Pass Act Now'

**Sun Victoria Bureau**  
VICTORIA — The New Democratic Party opposition called Wednesday for immediate action on a proposed new Workmen's Compensation Act and said the legislature should continue sitting after Easter to see it through.

This was decided by the NDP caucus shortly before the house sat and was announced in a press release by NDP leader Robert Strachan.

The action followed introduction of the work injury bill in the house Tuesday and Labor Minister Leslie Peterson's announcement that it will not be passed until next year.

Peterson said the legislation is complex and should be carefully studied by MLAs and others before it is enacted.

Strachan's statement said his party demands that the bill be proceeded with at the current session.

"The people of B.C. have been waiting since 1961 for improvements to the Workmen's Compensation Act and the government is derelict in its duty if it doesn't proceed with this legislation as soon as possible," he said.

He said there has been a period of 18 months in which to assess the Tysoe royal commission report on which the legislation is based.

"There is no reason why we

cannot return after an Easter adjournment, during which the members will be able to again consult with their constituents, ready to debate and pass a new Workmen's Compensation Act which is so desperately needed," Strachan said.

## MINING FIRMS 'RAP REPORT'

**Sun Victoria Bureau**  
VICTORIA — It will be a bleak day in B.C. if recommendations by the Carter tax commission to do away with mining incentives become law, according to mining companies in the province.

Mines Minister Donald Brothers told the legislature Wednesday this is the opinion of several companies which have written to him since the findings were made public.

He said he has not read the report and will not comment on its possible impact until he has studied it.



## MLA Urges Gov't To Improve Bowl

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — An MLA said Tuesday the provincial government should take over development of Cypress Bowl in West Vancouver and establish a public recreation area.

Failing such a move, the area should at least be taken away from a group now authorized to establish a recreation centre and given to someone who will do something, said Dave Barrett (NDP-Coquitlam).

"The people of the Lower Mainland are desperately crying for new recreation areas," he said.

"If the government won't develop Cypress Bowl, let's find some promoters who will put down cash and proceed with honest development under a master plan laid down by the parks branch."

### 'NOTHING DONE'

Barrett said the group now in charge of the area has let two years go by without doing anything.

A firm called Alpine Outdoor Recreation Resources Ltd. plans to develop the area as a \$10 million winter recreation centre.

West Vancouver municipal council has authorized leasing of 22.5 acres for the site and has granted the company permission to build a 4½-mile tote road from Cypress Park.

Arthur Boyd, planning director for Alpine Resources, said last August that construction on his firm's project will start this spring.

The bowl lies between Black and Strachan Mountains and Hollyburn Ridge, about seven miles northwest of Fifteenth and the Upper Levels Highway in West Vancouver.

Barrett said a firm called Alpine Sand and Gravel Co. was incorporated to remove gravel from the bowl during the two-year period in which he said recreational development of the area has been stalled.

### 'SORDID CHAPTER'

"This is a sordid chapter in the development of parks and recreation areas in the Lower Mainland," he said.

Barrett said the province paid \$3 million for the land originally, and he asked Resources

Minister Ray Williston if he would declare the bowl a provincial park.

"We will not declare unilaterally a park within a municipal area," the minister replied. "We have never done it, nor will we ever do it."

Barrett suggested the minister write to West Vancouver municipality to ask officials there if they have any objection to the government declaring Cypress Bowl a park.

But Williston said he would not do so.

## Nimsick Demands Probe Into Mining

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Leo Nimsick (NDP-Kootenay) called Wednesday for a royal commission into the B.C. mining industry.

He told the legislature during debate on the estimates of Mines Minister Donald Brothers's department that mining promoters are more interested in mining small stock holders than ore bodies.

Brothers, however, rejected the demand for a royal commission.

"I can see no need for it in this industry," he said. "I think it (the industry) is carrying on very well."

"When you get only \$6 million from an industry worth \$300 million and only spend \$5 million of that to open it up, there's something wrong," Nimsick said.

(He was referring to the nearly \$6 million in current estimates representing total returns to the province from hardrock mining licences, taxes and royalties. Total revenue from provincial mines production is estimated at \$300 million while total current estimated expenditure for the mines department is \$5 million.)

### 'EVERYTHING ELSE'

"We're not getting the returns from this industry that we should be getting," added Nimsick.

He said he proposed a royal commission investigation of the industry because commissions are investigating nearly everything else in the province.

The commission, he said, should look into every aspect of the mining field from the time the investor puts in his money to the final production stage.

Particular areas for study would include the status of the miner today, working conditions in mines, the question of

whether B.C. ore should be exported and the extent of high-grading of ore in the industry, Nimsick said.

There should be more protection for the small-scale investor, and more investment should reach the miner himself, he added.

At present, he charged, only 18 cents out of every dollar invested in mining stocks is spent on production or exploration.

### RETURNS COMPARED

The Kootenay MLA also said the petroleum and natural gas industry receives only \$316,748 under current departmental estimates, compared to returns of \$34 million in royalties and lease money to the province during 1966 from these fields.

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby-Edmonds) urged Brothers to take steps to ban mining in all provincial parks. At present only Class A parks are banned to any type of exploitation.

"Surely there is not that rush to develop our resources that our parks can't be left inviolate for future generations," he said.

Brothers replied that restrictions on mining operations in Class B parks were increased last year, preventing operations within half a mile of lakes and rivers.

The minister said he has no intention of prohibiting staking of claims in all parks.

## PREMIER DEFENDS URBAN GRANTS

# Attack From City Socred Brings Bennett to His Feet

By IAN MacALPINE  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier W. A. C. Bennett took over from his minister of municipal affairs in the legislature early today to defend his government from criticism by a Socred backbencher.

Evan Wolfe (SC—Vancouver Centre) rapped his own party for giving Vancouver a poor shake on sharing of provincial revenues.

During debate on municipal affairs estimates totalling \$73.6 million, finally approved at 1:15 a.m., Wolfe wondered aloud why per capita grants diminish as population grows larger.

He supported a City of Vancouver report of 1965 which argued that the grants should increase according to population because of the greater variety of services that large cities must provide.

### RESIDENTS PAY

Wolfe said Vancouver gets 93 per cent of its revenue from taxpayers in the city and another 6½ per cent in provincial grants.

But other municipalities raise 85 per cent locally and get 14 per cent from Victoria, he said.

"So the question is, if you haven't already guessed, Mr. Minister, why do we persist in using this form of per capita grants in larger areas?" Wolfe asked.

The freshman MLA was accorded thunderous desk-thumping by opposition MLAs as he took his seat to await a reply from Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Campbell.

But before Campbell could rise the premier sprang to his feet and declared: "This proves beyond a shadow of a doubt the great freedom of speech in Social Credit."

The premier, who has often been accused of directing the views of Socred MLAs, was almost drowned out by laughter from New Democratic and Liberal MLAs.

### WAVES ARMS

He shouted and waved his arms as he defended the per capita grants system as the best formula for aiding municipalities.

"The per capita grants system benefits the City of Vancouver more than any municipality or any city in British Columbia," he said.

"That's because it has more people," Bob Williams (NDP—Vancouver East) interjected.

But Bennett said the grant is based on street and road requirements and Vancouver, because it has a greater concentration of people within its limits, gets more use from its roads on a per capita basis.

Some municipalities with much smaller populations have great road distances, he said.

"But if members want to do

away with per capita grants and give a percentage of services we'll give it favorable consideration," Bennett snapped.

Williams, the NDP's municipal affairs critic, said the grants system is stacked against Vancouver.

"And I am very pleased that at least some members on that side (the government side) have the courage to stand up and say so," he said.

### MORE SERVICES

Williams said the government, by diminishing the amount of the per capita grant as populations rise, does not recognize the need for more services in a large urban centre.

Bennett observed that several Vancouver mayors who were foes of the Socred administration later became supporters.

He named the late Fred Hume, Tom Alsbury and Bill Rathie as mayors who became friendly with the government and he added, "Vancouver has a good mayor now."

Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Vancouver-Point Grey) joined the debate by accusing the government of "Scrooging" Vancouver ever since it took office in 1952.

"And whenever a mayor supported this government it was their downfall and it will be the downfall of the present mayor if he becomes a friend of this government," Dr. McGeer said.

## Make It a Double-Header

Something is desperately awry in a democratic legislative process which permits important public business to flash in a blur of express speed through the legislature in order to accommodate a preordained timetable.

All governments to a greater or lesser extent push for the quickest completion of their legislative business. But none pushes so flagrantly as that of Premier W. A. C. Bennett. And no example is more expressive than that of this year's session at Victoria.

Having decided that the session must end before Easter, the government has precipitated an avalanche of bills upon MLAs already bleary-eyed from three-a-week night sittings, morning committee duty and seven weeks of slogging through throne speech, budget and estimates.

In the past week the government has dropped virtually its entire legislative program, at least the most significant and progressive part of it, into the laps of the weary legislators. Of the 59 bills introduced during the first seven weeks of the session, no less than 25 came during the last four days of that period.

This particular government should have learned already the pitfalls of haste—whether it be in drafting or passing new laws—after a series of reversals in the courts. The terms of assuming public responsibility for electric power are just one example of perpetual rehash to comply with propriety.

But to expect anyone to thoroughly appreciate, assess and debate the 1967

program within the final week of the legislature is not only ridiculous but asking for trouble later.

Unless we are to accept that our provincial government operates entirely upon whim and expediency, there must be a better way.

Of course there is. Ottawa has used it. B.C. has even dabbled. Important or complex legislation that requires the most thorough examination and review can either be introduced as early as possible in the session at which it is to be enacted, or it can be introduced, but suspended until a later session for action. This is what Mr. Bennett's government is doing with the Workmen's Compensation Act, although it deserves little credit, since the legislation which follows the blueprint of a royal commission report received in November, 1965, could have been put before the House a year ago for consideration this year.

In many cases, however, it is arguable that a year's delay would be impractical or unfair. Therefore the simple solution is to have two sessions or one session broken by a recess. Fiscal matters and introduction of complex legislation would occupy the first, legislative debate and action the second.

The government can and should give not only MLAs, but the public, too, a fair break this year by calling an Easter recess. If it is unwilling to do this, the only conclusion to be drawn is that it doesn't want anyone to know too much or to say too much about what it is doing.



Thur., Mar. 16, 1967

## Oil Firm Claims Public Protected

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The public interest in gasoline prices is amply protected, and legislation for this purpose is neither required nor justified, Imperial Oil said Wednesday.

The company made its point in a 17-page submission to the legislature's special committee on gasoline price structure.

The committee grew out of the royal commission findings of Judge C. W. Morrow, who was appointed to investigate the gasoline price structure in B.C. when it was charged in some quarters that gas prices were too high.

### HANDS-OFF POLICY

In supporting its proposal for a hands-off policy on new legislation, Imperial said, "the commissioner has specifically declared that most of the kinds of intervention which have been sought in some quarters would not be in the public interest and should not be adopted."

The company, in its submission, broke down the commissioner's recommendations, saying that on some, "Imperial believes adequate action has already been taken."

It said Morrow recommended that where a supplier finances a deal on condition that the dealer buy exclusively from him during the period of the loan, the dealer should be free to pay off the loan and withdraw from the exclusive supply arrangement at any time after five years.

### STEPS TAKEN

"Imperial entirely agrees with the commissioner and has taken steps to apply this policy to all its loan agreements with dealers across Canada," the submission said.

On consignment selling, and a recommendation that it be withdrawn, Imperial said all but 12 dealers in B.C. now have withdrawn from the arrangement, and the company has no desire to see such arrangements re-instituted.

The company said in regard to a proposal for a construction "rest" in new stations, that "Imperial believes its normal business practices fully meet the commissioner's intent."

### UNIFORM MARK-UP

Of Morrow's suggestion that dealer mark-up through the province should be about the same, the company said a mandatory uniform mark-up for the whole province likely would be unfairly low for some dealers and unfairly high for many motorists.

## Regional Hospital Financing Hailed

### Municipal Leaders Approve Bill to Meet Bed Shortage

Hospital and municipal leaders said Wednesday they welcome the provincial government's new regional hospital legislation as a major step toward solving an acute bed shortage problem.

All of those questioned by The Sun agreed the lack of beds, resulting in long waiting lists for elective surgery, is critical.

The bill, introduced in the legislature Tuesday, will give the provincial cabinet power to set up boundaries for 25 to 30 regional districts for hospital financing.

Under the terms of the bill, every municipality in the districts will be required to share in the financing of approved hospital projects.

### TRIPLED SPENDING

Premier W. A. C. Bennett said the plan will enable the tripling of current spending on hospital construction in the province to a record \$50 million or more a year.

"This is one of the best pieces of social legislation to be introduced," said Burnaby General Hospital board chairman Harold Atchison.

He said the results would not be immediately evident but that once the lag was overcome the province would have the facilities its people are entitled to have.

Burnaby Councillor Joe Corsbie said equalizing of hospital costs is the type of legislation Burnaby has been urging for some time.

"We are very much in favor of the regional approach," said Corsbie, the municipal council's finance chairman.

Ross Wilson board chairman at Vancouver General Hospital, said any plan that increases the

funds available for medical care is welcome.

### GIFFORD APPROVES

"I look with favor upon it," said New Westminster Mayor J. Stuart Gifford.

"Municipalities will together share the expenditures instead of one municipality carrying the burden."

Dr. Phil Ashmore, president of the Vancouver Medical Association, said:

"There is an acute shortage of beds and an enormous waiting list for elective surgery. Any situation that can increase the number of beds in this community would be desirable as far as we are concerned."

### RIGHT TRACK

Dorwin Baird, president of the Lions Gate Hospital society in North Vancouver, said the provincial government is on the right track with the proposed legislation.

"But I think it would be unworkable to lump Greater Vancouver all into one district," said Baird. "Burrard Inlet is a natural boundary for this purpose."

Victoria's Mayor Hugh Stephen had similar views.

"I'm all in favor of the plan," he said. "It's the only way to tackle the problem of getting additional facilities."

"However, I don't know yet what the regional district board will do. I would resent having our area extended without them consulting us."

# Municipalities Urged to Merge

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Campbell suggested Wednesday that several Lower Mainland communities amalgamate into larger municipal districts to improve local government.

He told the legislature during examination of his department's \$73.6 million estimates that North Vancouver City and District should be joined.

So should Coquitlam, Coquitlam District, Port Moody, Fraser Mills and Ioco; Abbotsford, Sumas and Matsqui; and Mission City and District, Campbell said.

"I am not for wholesale amalgamation, but I am for making viable units through regional districts," the minister said.

## NECESSARY FUNCTIONS

Campbell said the municipal unit can no longer perform all necessary functions, so municipalities should be prepared to group together to provide individual services as the needs arise.

"Until people in these municipalities understand that they must co-operate, they are going to find that they are frustrated in provision of transit, hospitals, housing, family court and welfare services," the minister said.

"At the moment," he added, "a parochial cancer in this province is preventing local government from doing what it should do."

Campbell spoke after two opposition MLAs asked him to dispel fear among municipal leaders that new regional districts will become vehicles for dumping more responsibilities onto local governments.

## 'APPROACH SENSIBLE'

Bob Williams (NDP—Vancouver East) said a regional approach to problems is sensible but the technique could be discredited if a variety of services are labelled regional problems and are dumped onto

regional authorities.

Barrie Clark (L—North Vancouver—Seymour) called on Campbell to declare the government's long-term plan for regional districts.

He said there is suspicion among municipal officials that they will be stuck for providing more and more services.

Campbell told the MLAs that it is up to the local areas to initiate regional functions.

Williams, the NDP's municipal affairs critic, also outlined a seven-point program for solving what he termed a housing crisis in B.C.

His plan included appointment of full-time ministers of housing and urban affairs by both Ottawa and Victoria; an accelerated program of public housing; use of technical know-how to mass-produce homes; long-term, low-interest loans to enable more people to buy homes; incentives for home improvement; location of satellite towns near main centres; and development of publicly-owned land to break the land cost spiral.

Williams also said something should be done to provide proper housing for single persons and suggested a 100-bed hostel in Vancouver's East End.

The MLA, a professional town planner, also urged steps to counter land speculators, including a capital gains tax and a pool of public land for housing developments.

He also said the government should put an end to "tax-dodge towns."

These are small towns adjacent to larger centres which contain big industries required to pay only low taxes while using the services of the nearby centre, he said.

Williams named Tadanac, Fraser Mills, Ioco, and Cache Creek as examples.

Williams said the provincial government is not sufficiently aware of the problems facing cities.

# Copper Smelter For B.C. 'Likely'

## Mines Minister Tells House Ore Bodies Encourage Hope

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Establishment of at least one copper smelter in British Columbia seems assured, Mines Minister Donald Brothers told the legislature Wednesday.

He was replying to questions from Frank Calder (NDP—Atlin) during consideration of his department's \$5 million spending estimates for the year beginning April 1.

They were approved after three hours of debate.

Brothers also disclosed there is new interest in the Groundhog coal field in northwestern B.C. which could lead to mining of coking coal for industry.

## HOPES FOR AID

And there is new hope that Ottawa will soften its no-more-money attitude on the Stewart-Cassiar resources road, he said.

He said federal Resources Minister Jean-Luc Pepin is showing interest in the project, on which \$2.7 million will be spent this year, including the last \$126,500 of a \$7.5 million federal contribution.

Brothers said copper smelters

must depend on large uncommitted ore bodies.

These exist in the Highland Valley and in the Stikine area, he said.

The minister said a smelter in the Highland Valley seems assured "in the normal course of events."

This will probably also be a year of decision for the Kennecott company in the Stikine area, he said.

## COAL LICENCES

The minister said the Coastal Coal Company, of Vancouver, has been issued 21 coal licences within the past month in the big Groundhog field.

Another firm has also made inquiries, Brothers said.

"So Mr. Member, I think you'll see some action in Groundhog," he added.



FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1967

## Campbell Announces Plans To Overhaul B.C. Welfare

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Freshman Social Welfare Minister Dan Campbell outlined in the legislature Thursday his plans to overhaul the provincial welfare program.

He announced a three-pronged program to eliminate overlapping by government and volunteer welfare agencies in Vancouver, White Rock and Greater Victoria as a regional unit.

He said he also plans:

Establishment of central registries in communities to provide jobs from baby-sitting to lawn-mowing for people on welfare;

Re-evaluation of services for the aged in the province, including the possibility of a subsidy to keep old people in their own homes;

Approval of a pilot project (in Saanich) to spread low-income and welfare families more evenly among communities through a housing subsidy;

### FIRST JOBS

To sign B.C. up for inclusion in the Canada Assistance Plan, making the province eligible for 50-per-cent federal grants for a wide selection of welfare programs.

Campbell's overhaul of welfare services in the province provides two women cabinet ministers with their first big jobs.

Grace McCarthy (SC—Vancouver-Little Mountain) will head the reorganization of welfare services in Vancouver.

Iso bel Dawson (SC—Mackenzie) will lead a team to evaluate priorities under the department's division for the aged.

"We will never successfully declare war on welfare problems in this province unless we secure total community involvement," Campbell claimed in announcing the three-community programs.

These programs are designed to end any overlapping of welfare services, and may be extended to the whole province, he said.

Mrs. McCarthy said of the Vancouver project outside the house:

"I want to see action — actual plans and implementation at the family level."

### ALREADY TRIED

This already has been tried in her own riding, she said, where two social workers were estab-

lished in a building at Thirty-third and Main near a housing development.

This pilot project, to coordinate all welfare services in the district on a "self-help" basis, is nearing the end of its three-year tryout, she said.

She said she cannot say yet whether any existing agencies in the city will be eliminated.

"But there certainly will not be any new ones established," she added.

Campbell said in the house that provincial social workers will be released to take part in the reorganization projects, but Mrs. McCarthy was unable to say whether the plans will result in the release of more provincial money for welfare programs.

Campbell announced that Robert Wenman (SC—Delta) will be in charge of coordination of welfare services in White Rock — picked as a typical smaller B.C. community for the pilot project.

And the minister said the government will begin an examination of the possibility of "regionalizing" welfare services in the Greater Victoria area.

### REGIONAL STUDY

Campbell said welfare agencies there are presently "fragmentized," and that the regional study should be undertaken before Esquimalt and Oak Bay set up their own welfare departments.

He said municipalities will not be forced to set up central registries to find small jobs for people on welfare, but will be encouraged to.

And he agreed to look into a subsidy for the aged which would allow them to keep their own homes instead of having to move into smaller apartments or other housing units.

Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) had urged he set up a subsidy for this purpose.

The minister said the province has given approval to Saanich municipality to allocate 50 older homes to house low-income families, or those on welfare, as a pilot project.

The houses will be spread throughout the municipality, he said.

## Gov't Accused Of Subsidizing Sin

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government was accused Thursday of subsidizing sin.

Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) said in the legislature that two people on welfare can get more money from the government by living common-law than they can as a married couple.

He said during debate on the estimates of Social Welfare Minister Dan Campbell that a married couple on welfare gets \$125 a month from the province.

But if they live common law, they each get the single welfare grant of \$75, or \$150 a month, he said.

### 'SWINGING WAY'

"Living common law is the swinging way of getting welfare in this province," he charged. "This is this government's immoral policy of subsidizing sin."

His remarks were greeted with applause from NDP members and from Socred backbencher John Tisdalle of Saanich.

Barrett gave other examples

of what he called injustice under present welfare policies in B.C.

A mother who is on welfare, he said, has her son's rent (if he pays it) deducted from her welfare allowance. But if she takes in a boarder who is not a member of the family, the rent is not deducted from her monthly cheque.

### AMOUNT DEDUCTED

A man who is the head of a welfare family with four children gets \$225 a month but is punished when he tries to get off welfare by taking vocational training, Barrett said.

He said the \$75 the man gets for taking the training is deducted from the family's allowance and his medical card is withdrawn.

Barrett also urged the government to employ case aides to handle new cases before they became serious.

The aides should take over families as soon as they come on welfare as a preventive policy, leaving the social worker to deal with problem cases, he said.

# 'Pet Program Gets Welfare Funds'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Liberal leader Ray Perrault charged in the legislature Thursday the B.C. government will use millions of dollars in federal welfare funds for one of its "pet programs."

The Liberal leader made the accusation during 5½ hours of the most turbulent debate in the current session of the legislature.

Twice during the debate on government welfare policies, New Democrat Leo Nimsick of Kootenay was threatened with expulsion, once when he called the Social Credit government a "chicken coop" administration.

## DEMAND BOOST

Opposition M.L.A.s attacked new Welfare Minister Dan Campbell from all sides. They demanded he announce a boost in welfare payments from about \$8.5 million more in federal assistance.

Perrault charged the money available to B.C. under the Canada Assistance Plan will be put into one of the province's "pet programs," and added:

"The millions available from Ottawa under this plan are not intended to permit the province to escape its justifiable responsibilities. The money must be spent on extending benefits to more deserving people."

Nimsick said the government "is a chicken coop administration" because it keeps welfare payments so low that many recipients are forced to live in chicken coops and hovels.

He repeatedly pressed Campbell to announce an increase in social allowances but the minister replied: "I have no announcement to make at this time, for the eighth time."

"I've been in the house a long time and this is the first time

"Sin Cheaper," P. 13

I've seen a minister refuse to show sympathy in a case like this," said Nimsick.

"You can yak, yak, yak all you want," said Campbell. "That's the only answer you're going to get."

Said Nimsick: "You haven't got an ounce of human kindness in your body."

The Opposition also accused Premier W. A. C. Bennett of breaking election promises to raise welfare payments; alleged federal welfare money would be diverted into power projects, and accused Campbell of playing politics with human misery.

## \$72 MILLION

In the end, Campbell's welfare department estimates were approved with 27 government M.L.A.s lining up against 20 from the Opposition. Campbell's department got \$72.5 million to spend for the fiscal year beginning March 31.

It was the first time that Campbell had piloted the welfare budget through the house. He assumed the portfolio only last December from Provincial

Secretary Wesley Black when Black also took on the health post.

Campbell is also minister of municipal affairs.

The opposition's attack was led by Nimsick, who assailed the government for paying only \$75 a month to widows on welfare, \$125 to a mother with one child and \$150 a month for a mother and two children.

## OUSTER THREAT

Herb Bruch (S.C.-Esquimalt), chairman of the committee on departmental estimates, first warned Nimsick not to lecture the minister and, when the MLA persisted, he shouted that he would "name" Nimsick and have him removed.

Later, when Nimsick called Campbell a "lousy minister" and alleged Bennett had instructed Social Credit backbenchers to keep quiet during the debate, the chairman threatened again to expel him for making personal attacks.

Nimsick said old age pensioners receive substantially more than welfare recipients and insisted such discrepancies should not exist. He launched into an impassioned plea for more money for welfare families.

"This question is so serious that every member should be on his feet fighting for an increase in the \$75 for single people and \$125 for a couple," he said.

## 'FIGHT TO LAST'

"I'm going to fight to the last and I want something done now," shouted Nimsick.

All too often, welfare recipients approach their M.L.A.s with tears in their eyes, seeking help, he said.

"I am crying for these people because they can't come here themselves," Nimsick said.

Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) said it is impossible for welfare recipients to live on present payments.

He challenged Campbell to try keeping his family on \$200 a month.

"Put yourself in that position," said Barrett. "Could you live on it? I don't think so."

Barrett said the province could add \$1 to payments for only 40 cents because Ottawa pays half of welfare payments and local areas 10 per cent.

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"If this government is too hard up and cheap to put up a 40-cent dollar then it rests on your head," he said.

Campbell replied that the federal government will only share to a maximum of \$135 for a single person.

"There is no ceiling other than that set by the provincial government," Barrett snapped. "That's not true," said Premier Bennett.

Barrett then read from a Hansard report in which the federal government said it would share up to any level set by a provincial government.

But Campbell stood firm on his claim that Ottawa imposes a ceiling beyond which the national government will not share welfare costs.

He challenged the opposition to send a telegram to Ottawa to check it out.

"Put up or shut up," he challenged.

"It is the opposition that challenges the government, the government should not be challenging the opposition," said Dr. Pat McGeer (Lib. — Vancouver — Point Grey).

#### 'NAME CEILING'

"You name your ceiling and say you'll have to withdraw it if the federal government won't share," McGeer suggested.

"We negotiated on that basis and have gone as far as the federal government is willing to go," replied Campbell.

He was referring to the new Canada Assistance Plan, under which B.C. is expected to get an extra \$8.5 million a year to enrich welfare programs.

Earlier in the debate the minister said he had only one reservation about the plan — that there is no recognition of the fact that B.C. has the highest immigration rate of any province.

"Many of these people add to our welfare costs and I feel the plan should reflect this," he said.

Campbell said federal Welfare Minister Alan MacEachen has an open mind on that aspect of the plan and that the province and Ottawa are discussing the situation now.

#### 'PHONE OTTAWA'

Campbell said Liberal leader Perrault should phone Ottawa "and put in a good word for B.C."

"It's a wonder any govern-

ment would want to help B.C.," Perrault retorted.

He accused Campbell of vilification of the plan, which he said is one of the best pieces of legislation in Canada's history.

"I demand you retract your ridiculous statements against the welfare minister in Ottawa," he shouted.

Campbell angrily denied having criticized MacEachen or the assistance plan.

Bennett said there is a joker in the national plan because it sets a ceiling on aid. B.C. will raise its payments if Ottawa will do the same, he said.

Ernie LeCours (SC—Richmond) said he is "rather ashamed" of the welfare payments because many people can't get by on them.

"Some of them are in ill health and have to go out begging for clothing because they can't afford to buy it," he said.

#### \$10 FOR \$4

LeCours said a \$10 a month boost in welfare payments would only cost the provincial government \$4 because of the federal and municipal grants.

"Surely that is the least this government can do," he said.

Barrett said he believes the government does intend to announce increased welfare payments but is saving the announcement for later to tie it in with a new cabinet appointment.

He did not elaborate, but said: "It will be purely for politics."

"I'm not going to give up this battle for these people because it is too important," said Nimsick, pressing for an announcement from Campbell.

"I want this question (will the government raise welfare payments?) answered now," he added.

"I said I have no announcement to make," Campbell replied.

#### CASE FOR PEOPLE

Bob Williams (NDP—Vancouver East) commented:

"I think we have heard today the case for these people and the despair they share put forward as best it can and I am proud to be associated with the member for Kootenay."

"Nothing that has happened at this session has disturbed me more than that there is nothing definite going to be done to raise welfare allowances," said Fred Vulliamy (NDP—Burnaby Willingdon).

"There are many low income families living in unbelievable squalor with disastrous effects on family life," he said.

Chairman Bruch interrupted Vulliamy by pounding his gavel to quiet conversation among

Soured backbenchers.

Tom Berger (NDP — Vancouver Burrard) said the whole tenor of the debate indicates a need for a social security system in B.C. instead of a patchwork approach to welfare.

#### GUARANTEED WAGE

"A guaranteed annual wage is coming in Canada and we don't have to wait for Ottawa. We can start it," said Berger.

He urged Campbell to accept Nimsick's proposal to raise allowances so those people now at the bottom of the social ladder could be moved up.

"We are asking the minister to enlist in the war on poverty," he said.

"Poverty is humiliating, degrading and demoralizing and years from now when the dams you are building fall into rubble you will be remembered as the government in the most affluent province in Canada that put children and whole families to bed hungry, and that is a greater indictment against this government than anything it has done in the last 15 years."

#### SPEAK OUT

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) said government members should speak out for higher allowances.

"All we have to do is convince the minister," he added.

"To be on social allowance in this province is almost the taking away of civil rights," said Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP—Vancouver Burrard).

"If there is a conscience in this government I hope it will be exercised tonight."

He said \$75 is a ridiculously low allowance for a single person on welfare.

"I spend more than \$75 a month on my car," he said.

Barrett suggested the extra federal money will go into power development projects.

Perrault said the provincial government will have an accumulated surplus of \$130 million at the end of this month, plus the extra federal welfare money.

"The point is there should be no second or third class citizens in B.C. regardless of need. People should be treated equitably," the Liberal leader said.

Ran Harding (NDP — Revelstoke - Slocan) quoted a press report in which the premier announced just two weeks before last fall's election that welfare payments would be raised.

NDP leader Robert Strachan, who earlier urged the government to take over all city-administered welfare departments, said that for the sake of \$2 or \$3 a month the government is separating welfare children from their better-off neighbors.

## BID FAILS

### New Bill On Disabled Put Off

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Opposition MLAs lost by five votes early today in an attempt to have the new Workmen's Compensation Act dealt with at this session.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan, after completion of debate on estimates of Social Welfare Minister Dan Campbell, moved that the bill be placed on the order of the day for second reading at a future sitting.

Labor Minister Leslie Peterson, QC, introduced the bill Tuesday, but did not make the necessary motion for its getting second reading — approval in principle — this session.

This means that the bill will not be dealt with until next year.

In the meantime, however, he introduced an interim amendment to the present Workmen's Compensation Act, giving greater coverage for disabled workers until the new bill becomes law.

Earlier this week, the New Democratic Party caucus declared NDP members are prepared to come back for a sitting of the house after Easter to pass the new legislation because of its vital importance.

Today's motion to enable this to be done was defeated, however, by a vote of 21 to 26, with the Liberal MLAs voting with the NDP group.

The new bill includes measures to provide compensation for injury arising in the regular course of work instead of in a specific accident, spreads coverage to include volunteer workers, and throws on the workmen's Compensation Board the onus to disprove applicant's claims.

### House to Sit Up to Eve Of Holiday

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier W. A. C. Bennett indicated Thursday he is going to keep members of the legislature at work until the last day before the Easter weekend.

But he has left himself such a tight schedule that there is increasing speculation the house may have to reconvene during the second week of April.

Bennett told reporters that MLAs will be debating new legislation Monday and Tuesday of next week.

The house will not move on to debate estimates of public Works Minister W. N. Chant until Wednesday and will not get to the estimates of Recreation Minister Ken Kiernan until Thursday afternoon, he said.

Opposition members will undoubtedly have a lot to say about pollution of Buttle Lake and mining in parks during discussion of Kiernan's estimates.

The premier said he thinks the house will adjourn late Thursday night or early Good Friday morning.

If opposition members balk at having to rush through Kiernan's estimates and the last bills they may find themselves back in the chamber after Easter.

### No Women In Mines

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A new code of mining regulations for B.C. has cleared the legislature's mining committee virtually unscathed and will be recommended to the house sometime next week, chairman Jim Chabot (SC — Columbia River) said Thursday.

The code is contained in a massive bill brought into the legislature earlier by Mines Minister Donald Brothers and referred to the committee for further examination.

Chabot said the only major change will be in a section that would have permitted women to work underground at non dangerous jobs.

This has been amended because there was a prior agreement under rules of the International Labor Organization that allow women to go underground for inspection purposes only.



Fri., Mar. 17, 1967

## James K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—The NDP's David Barrett of Coquitlam gets irritated every time he goes shopping in supermarkets. He has confessed in the legislature that the prices baffle him because they're always being changed.

The same article is cheaper in one store than in another; Mr. Barrett thinks the government should do something to standardize prices.

The way it is now, in Mr. Barrett's view, it's enough to drive the poor, helpless shoppers bats.

Unless there is such standardization, said Mr. Barrett, suddenly casting caution to the breeze, there should be a law that forbids husbands to go shopping with their wives.

Mr. Barrett seemed to me to be intimating women don't mind these flip-flop changing prices as much as the men.

I suppose this is because the men must fork out the money.

★ ★ ★

Now, do you know what happened when Mr. Barrett said there should be a law to forbid husbands shopping with their wives?

All the male MLAs pounded their desks in the wildest, almost hysterical enthusiasm.

Even the premier pounded, though I can't imagine him pushing a cart around a supermarket.

Yes, the men cried "hear, hear" and thus encouraged Mr. Barrett to go after a law that would keep husbands out of supermarkets.

I've long suspected men hate pushing carts through supermarkets, acting as flunkies for ladies.

Next time you're in a supermarket just observe the males' sour faces, and also the radiant, determined female faces.

The average woman shopper seems more content if she has a man in tow, silently doing her every bidding, asking no questions, making no suggestions, only doing what he's told.

Judging from the way the male MLAs applauded the kicking-over-the-traces of Mr. Barrett, I'd say they agree with me.

Rare is the man who likes shopping, and, if he must, he'd rather be on his own.

He wouldn't have to listen to the little woman say "put it back," if he should choose to indulge his fancy on some exotic article for which he himself would pay.

★ ★ ★

Men are not too fond of togetherness in supermarkets, by the looks on their faces, though it takes a brave man to admit it.

The MLAs did, but then they operate under legislative immunity.



ISABEL DAWSON  
... seemed to glare

I wish you could have seen the joy on their faces when Mr. Barrett spoke up.

Only two of the female MLAs were present during this courageous foray on Mr. Barrett's part — Mesdames Eileen Dailly and Isabel Dawson.

I can't swear to it, but it seemed to me they glared in rage, as if they'd like to tear that impudent Mr. Barrett limb from limb.

I've just had a horrible thought — perhaps the royal commission enquiring into the status of women will recommend a law that says every woman shopper must be accompanied by a man, husband or otherwise.

I'm afraid the only way many women want their status improved is by lowering the status of men.

★ ★ ★

Frank Calder (NDP—Atlin) and Mines Minister Donald Brothers had a long and cozy conversation the other day about mines and things like that.

It lasted at least half an hour.

It was a matter important enough, no doubt, though only Messrs. Calder and Brothers paid any attention.

Not one other MLA listened.

It was all so cozy it was just as if Mr. Calder and Mr. Brothers were sitting in their club.

I often think matters that use up so much of the legislature's time could just as easily, and certainly more efficiently, be taken up in cabinet minister's offices — though opposition members often say they have a

terrible time getting into ministerial offices.

It said here last week the government should enforce fluoridation of drinking water in all parts of the province, and stop the nonsense of allowing municipalities to hold their own plebiscites on whether or not children's teeth should be preserved.

Promptly came a letter from R. H. Archibald, Clinton:

"Fluoride is a poison. Surely the body is absorbing enough poison through insecticides without deliberately adding more; there are doctors who warn against use of fluoride, but you neglect to mention this.

"If a person wants to take fluoride, there is nothing to stop him from buying a bottle at the nearest drug store, and taking it. To advocate the compulsory use of fluoride smacks of communism—"

★ ★ ★

The NDP's Leo Nimsick of Kootenay doesn't often praise the Bennett government, which he thinks is the worst in history.

Mr. Nimsick used to think that of the old coalition of Liberals and Conservatives, but it's evident that, to him, the Social Credit government is even worse.

Therefore, Mines Minister Donald Brothers nearly fell flat onto the floor when he heard words of praise from Mr. Nimsick, who said the annual report of the department of mines is the best of all government reports.

"You can almost find anything you want in it," said Mr. Nimsick, and, needless to say, Mr. Brothers looked mighty pleased.

# Opposition Raps New Pollution Bill

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Opposition members attacked the new anti-pollution program of the provincial government Friday.

After whipping through second reading (approval in principle) of 17 bills, NDP and Liberal members of the legislature became locked in debate on the province's new pollution control bill.

Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) said the bill still leaves too much power to the cabinet in the matter of pollution.

Leo Nimsick (NDP—Kootenay) demanded that a permit from the new Pollution Control Board be made a first necessary step for any company beginning operations.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) called for a different board, independent of government responsibility, and for placing the matter of pollution under the health department instead of the water resources department.

## WANTS ASSURANCE

And Allan Macfarlane (L—Oak Bay) called for action by the government to prove that it intends to take a fresh look at the pollution problem in B.C.

"There are no real teeth in this bill," Barrett charged.

Nimsick said the board should ensure that anti-pollution is the first consideration of any mining or logging company before it begins operations which might cause pollution.

"If this was done in the case of Buttle Lake, we wouldn't have had all this trouble," he said.

(He was referring to the furor over alleged pollution of the lake from which Campbell River draws its water supply, by Western Mines Ltd., which was granted a permit from the board to dump mine tailings in the lake.)

(The letter was later disal-

lowed by a decision of the B.C. Appeal Court.)

## HITS FISH REPORT

Dowding, also was critical of the B.C. Research Council's report on the effects of log driving last summer on spawning of salmon in the Stellako River.

The report, which found no adverse effects on salmon eggs in the river because of the log drives, contradicted one by the International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission, he said.

The commission report found that gravel beds where spawning takes place were uprooted by the drives.

"Here we have one report saying the drivers have an effect on the salmon fisheries, and another department (water resources) which has an interest in log drives, trying desperately to prove they haven't," said Dowding.

Williston said what department the board is under does not matter, and said it cannot be completely independent.

He said that under the democratic system of government, any board which makes decision affecting the spending of public money must be responsible to government.

## 'OUT OF CONTEXT'

# Phil Denies Span Offer Called Joke

Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi denied Friday that he called the federal government offer to help finance a new First Narrows crossing a "joke," or an "insult."

"I used those words, but they were taken out of context," Gaglardi said in a telephone interview from Kamloops.

"When I used the word 'joke,' I was referring to the fact it (the offer) was announced to the press and radio before we were aware of it.

"That's not the proper way to make this kind of announcement."

Referring to his use of the word, "insult," Gaglardi said he was only referring to the proposed federal loan in the grant-and-loan plan.

"What I said was that a loan would be an insult since we would be using our own money and then be charged interest for it," Gaglardi said.

"Never did I said that the federal offer was a joke and an insult."

In Kamloops Wednesday, Gaglardi was quoted as saying: "If this is one of those political gimmick deals between Ottawa and Ray Perrault (the B.C. Liberal leader), it's just a joke."

## SOCRED URGES:

# 'Probe Pollution'

VICTORIA (CP) — The cabinet should investigate pollution of the sea by the Crofton Pulp Mill south of Nanaimo, John Tisdalle, (SC — Saanich and The Islands) told the B.C. legislature Friday.

"The Crofton mill, although a great asset to the community, has created a hazard on the beaches," he said during debate on second reading of a new pollution control bill.

The mill is preparing to extend its facilities and dump even more waste (chemical) into the water, Tisdalle said.

He questioned the benefit of such industries to the provincial economy.

"The pollution had cost heavily in the shellfish destroyed and ruined some shellfishermen," he said.

Persons whose oyster leases had been damaged or destroyed shouldn't have to go through long litigation involving expensive and numerous biological and chemical experts to prove their claim.

"I urge the cabinet to study this problem under the act," Tisdalle said.



# Wait-See Urged On Harbor Plan

By IAN MacALPINE  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The Liberal opposition in the B.C. legislature Friday voted against a provincial government plan to set up a harbors board to develop more deep-water dock facilities on the Lower Mainland.

The vote was 46 to 5 on approval in principle of a bill that will create the board as a Crown corporation. The NDP opposition voted with the government.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault told the house his party favors port expansion, and both Liberal and Conservative federal governments in the last 25 years should, perhaps, have moved faster to improve facilities on the Pacific coast.

"We think it is of the utmost importance that we have port facilities for super cargo ships," he said.

But there must be planning by both federal and provincial governments, he said.

And B.C. should wait to see how much Ottawa will pay towards port expansion before saddling B.C. taxpayers with a \$25 million debt that might be borne by the national government, he said.

"We don't want either the federal government or the provincial government doing a spectacular solo on this," Perrault said.

He urged the government to withdraw the bill so that federal and provincial governments could work together on a co-operative approach.

If by next year there is no help coming from Ottawa, bring in the legislation then, he suggested.

But Perrault said Ottawa is doing something about the plan to develop a port for super cargo ships at Roberts Bank, near Tsawwassen.

He revealed that the federal government is spending \$75,000 for a feasibility study being

carried out by the Swan Wooster engineering firm.

Perrault said the report will be completed in about four months.

"We are only too anxious at all times to co-operate with the federal government," Premier W. A. C. Bennett replied.

The premier, who would be fiscal agent for the harbors authority, said he had a telephone talk with Transport Minister Jack Pickersgill last November when the National Harbors Board extended its jurisdiction into the Tsawwassen area.

He called it a happy talk and said the federal minister has agreed to take another look at B.C.'s requests for federal grants for the Crown-owned Pacific Great Eastern railway and the Second Narrows Bridge in Vancouver.

Returning to the Roberts Bank proposal, Bennett said his government will be glad to have Ottawa share part of the expenditure.

# B.C. Joins Plan With Reservations

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Welfare Minister Dan Campbell signed B.C. into the Canada Assistance Plan agreement on Friday.

But he did so with reservations which could mean trouble ahead for provision of some welfare services in the province.

Campbell said during signing ceremonies that the province has reservations about the agreement because it contains provisions for unilateral withdrawal at any time by the federal government, and because it does not recognize that B.C. has the highest number of immigrants of any province.

He said the number of welfare immigrants is estimated to cost the province about \$2 million a year.

The province therefore attached an addendum to the agreement accepting it on the basis "that it is hoped a satisfactory net in-migration formula will be reached" between the two governments.

This would recognize "that net in-migration adversely affects the financial position of the province of B.C. in the issuance of assistance and welfare services to persons in need."

In a covering letter to federal Health and Welfare Minister Alan MacEachen, Campbell noted that the federal minister had made reference to a "portability grant" to B.C. to cover these cases. The reference was made in a letter from MacEachen to Premier W. A. C. Bennett on Feb. 20.

But in the letter, the federal minister also indicated he considered the extra expense to the province from welfare immi-

grants a small matter, and that the portability grant would be implemented only if it is administratively easy to do so.

Campbell said Friday's signing, which covers only the first part of the plan dealing with general assistance and welfare services, has effect until March, 1969, subject to a one-year notice of withdrawal.

He indicated that other parts of the plan, relating to Indian welfare and "work activity projects" (to prepare welfare recipients for return to employment) are still to be discussed with Ottawa.

Campbell denied allegations by Liberal leader Ray Perrault in the legislature earlier this week that some of the federal money under the plan could be diverted by the province to power projects.

"This reference is nothing more nor less than public mischief," said Campbell. "Not one thin dime will be diverted to B.C. Hydro."

The minister called the plan a good plan and one that will result in a complete "new look" in provincial welfare.

Under the plan, Ottawa will pay 50 per cent of the cost for a wide range of welfare services. Campbell said the provincial share will be 40 per cent and the municipal share 10 per cent in most cases.

The plan draws together a number of existing welfare plans shared with the provinces by Ottawa.

# Opposition Blasts 'Half-Way' Laws

By IAN MacALPINE

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Three major bills which place stricter controls over collection agents, securities traders, and fast-talking salesmen are good but not good enough, opposition MLAs claimed Friday in the legislature.

But the measures all won unanimous support on second reading — approval in principle — during a day devoted entirely to lawmaking.

The bills in question are those that establish a new Consumers Protection Act, a Securities Act and an act respecting collection agents.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) complained the bill to take some of the harshness out of debt collecting doesn't go far enough to solve the problem.

"It is half-way legislation," he said.

## ONLY AGENCIES

The MLA, a lawyer, said it covers only agencies which collect bills for clients but does not affect finance companies which do their own collecting.

Macdonald said these are the companies involved in harassment and intimidation of people through a "war of nerves" technique.

Macdonald urged Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, to amend the bill to encompass finance companies.

Bonner replied that the companies referred to by Macdonald do not come under provincial regulations, so the province cannot legislate on them as with collection agents, who are provincially licensed.

Macdonald also claimed consumer protection legislation only goes half way to meeting the need.

He said a three-day cooling-off period on contracts entered into with door-to-door salesmen is a good move. But it doesn't apply to on-premise cash sales, nor does it apply to food purchases.

"It isn't by any means a full charter of rights for consumers," Macdonald said.

## NOT MENTIONED

"Phoney advertising, misleading packaging and sales gimmickry are not mentioned," he said.

Alan Macfarlane (L-Oak Bay) agreed with Macdonald that the legislation does not go far enough.

And Leo Nimsick (NDP-Kootenay) said the cooling-off period on contracts should be seven days rather than only three.

Lots of men work away from home during the week and they would not have time to review contracts entered into by their wives within three days of the contract signing, he said.

Allan Williams (L-West Vancouver-Howe Sound) complained that health spas and dance schools, which he said are causing a lot of trouble in some communities, are not covered by the

proposed act, nor are mail-order frauds.

Bonner was caught up by an opposition MLA when he said the new securities legislation is designed to "cover the waterfront."

Tom Berger (NDP-Vancouver Burrard) said the bill does not plug all the holes.

## HOLES IN BILL

"One of the problems in securities legislation not covered

in this bill is the problem that arose in Ontario when Prudential Finance Company went belly-up, leaving a number of investors stranded on the beach because it didn't cover the waterfront," said Berger.

"The Prudential problem could arise in this province because there is a hole through which a finance company could drive through a coach and four," he added.

"This bill is good legislation but it should have gone farther to encompass the kind of legislation necessary if we are going to deal with the same ingenuity to defraud the public as in Ontario," said Berger.

Bonner, in reply, said legislation cannot succeed where common business sense fails.

"You can never legislate business judgment into a private corporation. The market's chief characteristic is risk and we shouldn't hesitate in saying this," he said.

Williams said the securities provision dealing with insider trading is not adequate.

He was referring to the section which requires company officials owning 10 per cent of shares to notify the Securities Commission of their transactions.

## DOUBTS ACTION

Williams doubted that anyone wanting to take advantage of advance information to benefit by investment would let himself get into the position of being an "insider," as defined by the act.

A new plea for action on the Clyne royal commission on expropriation proceedings was issued by NDP Opposition leader Robert Strachan during debate on a bill to amend the Pipe Lines Act.

Garde Gardom (L—Vancouver-Point Grey) said a bill that extends the jurisdiction in Small Debts Courts from a ceiling of \$200 to \$500 should be boosted even further — to \$1,000.

Among the 18 bills approved in principle and referred to committee for clause-by-clause examination was one amending the Public Schools Act.

One main change in the act will allow school boards to pay themselves annual indemnities.

MLAs also gave second reading to an amendment to the Notaries Act, which will require notaries public to establish a fund of at least \$50,000 to compensate persons who suffer loss as a result of wrongdoing.



# James K. NESBITT

VICTORIA — Miss Elsie Arland of Cloverdale gives me her theory about the topless ladies in the legislative ceiling, mentioned here last week as one of the mysteries of the legislative buildings.

Miss Arland writes: "Wouldn't the nude ladies be 'High-born maidens' of the Salish tribe, whose people lived in British Columbia. The 'high-born' among these people pressed back the skull to get a profile similar to the Grecian."

"I remember seeing a picture of a beautiful Indian 'princess' with such a deformed forehead. The skirt would be a skirt of cedar bark. Would the nudes represent the classic 12 muses?"

Well, the ladies don't look Indian to me, though their skirts could be made of cedar bark. As to the 12 muses—there are 36 topless ladies high up in the ceiling.

I really think they're nothing more than the figment of some now unknown artist of nearly 70 years ago.

★ ★ ★  
Former Vancouverite Frank O. Myles, now living in San Francisco, is annoyed because S. C. Dudley Little of Skeena was critical about British Columbia House in San Francisco's bustling Market Street.

Mr. Little had been down there recently and what he saw displeased him, so he expressed his displeasure in the legislature. He called it a shabby place and likened it to a bachelor's bedroom, such a room, in Mr. Little's view, being untidy and unkempt.

Mr. Myles says Mr. Little doesn't know what he's talking about. He said there's not one word of truth in anything Mr. Little said about British Columbia House in San Francisco.

"It would be difficult," writes Mr. Myles, "to find a man like Mr. Newton Steacey who would dedicate so much time and enthusiasm to promoting trade and tourism on behalf of British Columbia. This British Columbia House does a terrific job for British Columbia."

Several bachelors have written to say their bedrooms are not untidy and unkempt, as Mr. Little said they are. The bachelors feel Mr. Little insulted them.

It was really a small matter, bachelor bedrooms and British Columbia House in San Francisco, but you see what hot water Mr. Little got himself into by talking about them.

★ ★ ★  
NDP David Barrett of Coquitlam was heard to say as he marched into the legislative chamber: "I shall be calm and constructive."

As it turned out he was anything but calm. As he contemplated the way the government administers social welfare he nearly blew up, and he talked and talked, upon deaf ears I would say. The government is going to administer social welfare the way it sees fit, not the way the oppositionists say it should be done.

Whether Mr. Barrett was constructive or not I cannot say; that is a matter of political opinion. Oppositionists, very proud of him, said he certainly was constructive, so constructive he made the government boiling mad.

Government supporters said Mr. Barrett was destructive, or tried to be, but failed. Yes, to government supporters Mr. Barrett is a hopeless flop, and talks only because he likes the sound of his own voice.

Mr. Barrett in his calm and innocent way promoted one of the finest shouting matches of the 1967 session.

It was truly something to behold: NDP Leo Nimsick of Kootenay and Social Credit committee-of-the-whole chairman Herbert Bruch of Esquimalt yelled at each other. Mr. Barrett got them going and then sat back and enjoyed the battle.

★ ★ ★  
Mr. Nimsick stood and roared at Mr. Bruch who stood and roared at Mr. Nimsick. They pointed their fingers at each other. It was spine-tingling stuff. The galleries loved it, those few who were there. It's always the way — packed galleries and no uproar. Empty galleries and uproar. Do MLAs arrange it this way so the public won't be shocked?

Well, anyway, there were moments when I expected Messrs. Nimsick and Bruch to be at each other's throats.

I decided Mr. Bruch has the louder voice. There were times I thought he'd blow sky high but he managed to control himself, though rage was coursing through his every fibre.

Mr. Nimsick, in the going-on 20 years he has been here, has never been known for silence. He's quite inexhaustible. No one is going to shush him and get away with it, not even his very own leader.

As Mr. Nimsick shouted away, S.S. Herb Capozzi of Vancouver Centre asked in his penetrating voice: "How's the snow in Kootenay?" In the hubbub Mr. Nimsick did not hear, or if he did he refused to be diverted from his course of hammering Social Welfare Minister Dan Campbell.

The crack about the snow in Kootenay was in reference to a hoary old legend around here that Mr. Nimsick keeps the legislature sitting until there's none of the white stuff left in his home territory, preferring the green lawns, the sea breezes, spring flowers and blossom trees of Victoria. Who can blame him?

And now comes the final drive. The bets now are that it'll be all over this time next week.

MONDAY, MARCH 20, 1967

## Money for the Mind

The provincial legislature recently launched the good ship Culture upon British Columbia waters and if the occasion didn't merit a champagne ceremony, at least it deserved a bash of Kelowna red.

The vessel — it might be termed an icebreaker — slid quietly through third and final reading as Bill 11, loaded with a cargo of \$5 million.

Every good wish should accompany the Centennial Culture Fund. But while the potential passenger list is long and eager, there are initial reservations to be overcome.

First is the duration of the \$5 million which the government is putting into the fund at March 31. The bill disclosed that only the annual interest from investment of this fund will be granted to cultural activities. At five per cent, this would be \$250,000 the first year — which won't be 1967 since the money can't earn interest in advance. How long will the \$5 million last? Will it be boosted? And how will it be invested? In B.C. Hydro?

Second, how and to whom will the grants be distributed? Will they be more,

or less, than previous assistance which came from an annual appropriation — \$650,000 last year for "grants, etc." to the provincial secretary.

Some justifiable doubts and fears already have been expressed over the administration of the fund. B.C.'s "minister of culture", it turns out, will be none other than Hon. W. A. C. Bennett. This brought the immediate suggestion from Vancouver East MLA Alex Macdonald that the government was in danger of promoting culture on a patronage basis. And Liberal leader Ray Perrault feared that whoever "got to" the premier first would gobble up the grants.

Without diminishing faith in the intellectual judgment of Mr. Bennett, it does seem that he has taken upon himself yet another difficult burden to add to the taxing and complex role he already plays in the public affairs of our province.

The logical move, which he can still make is to appoint an impartial commissioner or commission with time for assessing and awarding culture money. Mr. Bennett has enough to worry about.



# PETERSON BRAKES HOUSE REVOLT OVER DELAY

## MLAs Flail Socreds for Work-Injury Bill

By IAN MacALPINE  
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A Steamrolling move by MLAs of all parties to keep the legislature in session beyond Easter to enact better workmen's compensation laws was braked to a sudden stop Monday by Labor Minister Leslie Peterson, Q.C.

Peterson jumped to his feet as a Socred backbencher sought recognition to speak, and moved a second reading of an interim bill to give totally disabled workmen a minimum of \$150 a month.

The minister thus ended almost an hour of debate during which Opposition and Socred MLAs pleaded for a fairer deal for victims of on-the-job accidents.

During the growing revolt, both Peterson and the government were blasted for delaying introduction of new compensation laws already drafted and before the house.

And the Workmen's Compensation Board came under attack for the way it treats claimants.

Ernie LeCours (S.C. Richmond) called the board "a mill of injustice."

John Tisdalle (S.C. Saanich-The Islands) said injured workmen with justifiable claims are being cursed and damned by the WCB.

And Dave Barrett (NDP-Coquitlam) said the situation is so bad that the board has erected a steel gate and hired a commissionaire at its Vancouver office to keep claimants away from the staff.

In all, 10 MLAs urged the government to act quickly to bring in reforms and to sit beyond the holiday, if necessary, to do so.

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby-Edmonds) said MLAs should cancel planned vacations and not try to prorogue the house by Thursday.

The attack began when Bill 71, an amendment to the Workmen's Compensation Act, came up for second reading.

MLAs described the interim measure as pitiful, minimal, shameful, and a bare-bones attempt to help accident victims.

They called on the govern-

ment to proceed at once with Bill 69, a new work injury act incorporating the major recommendations of the Tysoe royal commission, which spent four years probing compensation procedures in B.C.

But Peterson told the house when he introduced the full bill several days ago that it would not be passed until the 1968 session because he wanted interested parties to have time to study it.

"This is throwing crumbs to a man when he should be getting a loaf of bread," said Leo Nimsick (NDP-Kootenay), who began the attack.

"I don't like to see them getting a dirty deal like they are getting in this bill," said Nimsick.

"Bring in the new act. Come back after Easter if necessary. This is far too important to those people in need."

Ran Harding (NDP-Revelstoke-Slocan) said it has been six years since the royal commission began and still nothing has been done to improve work injury laws.

"This report has been sitting in your office for over a year and you and your staff have had ample time to bring a bill down at the start of this session and get it out to labor groups and other interested parties," he said.

Tom Berger (NDP-Vancouver-Burrard) referred to the Tysoe report and cited the case of a man who, after getting a \$140 monthly pension for nine years, suddenly had it cut in half.

He noted that a Supreme Court judge found this to be unduly harsh and suggested the WCB should have used some compassion.

Berger said the judge found that the WCB used "neither its heart nor its head."

"It's time to substitute humanity for technical practicality and compassion for indifference," Berger said.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault followed Berger with an appeal to proceed with the full compensation bill.

"A crisis exists in thousands of homes in British Columbia as far as workmen's compensation is concerned," said the

Liberal leader.

"I am prepared to come back after Easter to make sure of self-respecting and comprehensive workmen's compensation laws on the books in this province."

Barrett said dealing with compensation cases is the most frustrating experience an MLA can go through.

He told the house about a man who visited his home on Sunday to tell the MLA about his compensation worries.

The man had a crippled arm, the result of a job mishap, and had been suddenly notified by the WCB last January that his compensation benefits had ended, Barrett said.

Barrett said no reason was given, so the man went to the WCB to find out why.

Once there, a commissionaire ordered him to sit down, said the MLA. Later, the man was shuttled from desk to desk and never did get the information he sought, he said.

"Something is desperately wrong with this whole situation," said Barrett.

"The board has to hire a commissionaire and put up a steel gate to protect the staff from the people and something is wrong when this happens."

If the legislature does not act at this session on the full bill, "I think we should be thoroughly ashamed of ourselves after getting all this information," Barrett said.

LeCours, an outspoken Socred backbencher, said the present compensation act is inadequate and he said he is concerned about the attitude of the WCB to claimants.

He recalled a case in which a man appearing before the WCB's appeal section was allowed to answer questions but not to ask any.

"It's a mill of injustice because there are lots of restrictions on claimants but none on themselves," he said.

Tisdalle, the Saanich Socred, reminded the government it is dealing with people.

He said many justifiable compensation claims are not getting the attention they should.

Tisdalle said he had be-

lieved MLAs would be asked at the current session to deal with a new compensation act, rather than amendments.

That they are not will work a terrible hardship on people who should be getting a better deal, he said.

"If we are not going to deal with the other bill then I urge the minister to use his authority to tell the board over there to be human," he said.

Tisdalle said he has received a number of letters from persons who have had unsuccessful dealings with the WCB and who report being subjected to abusive language.

"Surely it's not a case that everybody who goes before the board is a liar," he said.

He said he detests reading the letters because they contain the language used by WCB officials.

"I've never talked to horses on the farm like that," he said.

Tisdalle said the WCB apparently treats some claimants like they were animals or "seals on the St. Lawrence sealing grounds."

Opposition leader Robert Strachan called the interim amending bill "a pitiful effort" on Peterson's part.

The NDP leader said MLAs should return after Easter to pass the full bill.

Strachan said the only persons who would gain by a year's delay would be the employers, because continuation of present contributions for a year would save them money.

Several Socred backbenchers pounded their desks during the debate as gestures of support.

One of them, Dr. H. R. McDiarmid, of Alberni, rose to speak just as Dowding drew Speaker William Murray's attention to the time — 6:07 p.m., seven minutes past normal adjournment time.

Before Dr. McDiarmid could be recognized, Peterson stood.

"Since you wish to deny me the right to close this debate, I move second reading," he declared.

His move cut off further debate.

The interim bill was given unanimous approval in principle.

## USERS FACE DEATH, ADDICTION, LAWMAKERS HEAR

# Gov't to Draft LSD Informers

**Sun Victoria Bureau**  
VICTORIA — New Health Act amendments will make it an offence not to notify police or medical authorities of LSD in any premises or anyone's possession.

Health Minister Wesley Black said Monday in the legislature the amendments will be introduced in the next few days to support a bill controlling use of LSD and marijuana.

The new legislation will require anyone knowing of the presence of LSD in any premises or in anyone's possession to inform police or medical authorities.

The move to clamp down even harder on the galloping epidemic of LSD and marijuana use came during debate on proposals to amend the Health Act to provide fines of up to \$2,000 or six months imprisonment, or both, for illegal possession of LSD.

A stern warning against the use of LSD was given during the hearing by Point Grey Liberal MLA Dr. Pat McGeer.

He said young people using the drug face death or an addiction problem as hellish as that of a heroin addict's.

Dr. McGeer, a brain researcher, in a speech to an unusually hushed house, said the use of LSD is widespread in the province and is responsible for increased use of marijuana.

Hundreds of people in B.C. use LSD, he said, and the drug is readily available in certain areas of Vancouver.

Dr. McGeer said at least 100 of the users are on the University of B.C. campus and 14 UBC students suffering psychotic effects of the drug have been treated by university health officers during this session.

He also said two recent suicides in B.C. were directly attributable to the use of LSD.

"I know of no responsible scientist anywhere in the world who recommends or even condones the use of the drug," Dr. McGeer told the legislature.

"If you have a bad experience, it can lead to suicide and mental breakdown. If you have a good experience, it can lead to addiction which is every bit as hellish as heroin addiction.

"If I were to make a plea to high school students, I would say there is no way you can win taking LSD," said Dr. McGeer.

All MLAs joined in support of firm measures to control the spreading use of LSD among young people in the province.

Every MLA who spoke during second reading of the bill to make it an offence to possess marijuana or LSD underlined the urgency of the problem.

Only Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver Burrard) expressed doubt about the efficacy of the proposed legislation.

Passing the bill will not stop use of LSD, he said.

"It is not enough to appeal to pain, fear or guilt in people. The government will regret it if this legislation leads to a cops and robbers game," Berger warned.

He said there should be provisions made for education against use of the drug and treatment of anyone who does use it.

Dr. McGeer said he was horrified by the misinformation about LSD he heard from teenagers whom he talked to in Vancouver about the drug.

They think it is safe, non-addictive and impossible to detect, he told the house.

"They are wrong on all three counts," he stated.

He said the staff of his laboratory at the University of B.C. has examined the effects of LSD and is aware of the dangers.

He said one of the suicides he referred to was a youth who jumped off Burrard Street bridge.

The youth probably was experiencing a distortion of his sense of space, a typical effect of the drug, which would have made the distance from the bridge deck to the water seem like only a foot or two, said Dr. McGeer.

A Toronto composer who committed suicide last weekend also had taken LSD, and his death sparked urgent debate in the House of Commons, he said.

Homicidal tendencies may develop in individuals who take the drug, added Dr. McGeer.

The subject becomes suspicious of those around him, terrified, and may try to kill to protect himself from imaginary harm.

Mental distortions caused by LSD may recur many days after the drug has been taken, he warned.

He cited the case of a youth who suddenly had a recurrence of these effects while driving a car.

Dr. McGeer said it is easy for a person to have an overdose of the drug because, while only a few micrograms are needed to produce effects, it is never certain how much is contained in a sugar cube or other vehicles used for the drug.

He also warned people who think the drug cannot be detected that it is relatively simple to detect one-millionth of a gram of LSD scientifically.

Dr. McGeer said he hopes the legislation will help cut down the number of LSD jungles in Vancouver and elsewhere in the province.

He said the drug can be purchased in such Vancouver locations as outside the Public Library on Robson and in a number of Kitsilano shops.

Teen-agers can go on to an LSD party any day of the week in Vancouver," he stated.

"What is needed is the emergence of law to cut down on these parties and the recurring number of high school students being attracted to this cult."

He said the drug also is used in Victoria, the Fraser Valley, Okanagan Valley and one other B.C. city which has not yet been identified by its authorities.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby Edmonds) objected to the amount of publicity being given LSD.

"I don't want a prescribed course being broadcast from this legislature on how to get more kicks," he said.

He urged the provincial and federal governments to work closely to get uniform legislation controlling the drug across Canada.

The LSD bill was one of 13 government bills to receive second reading — approval in principle — at Monday's sitting.

In an interview later, outside the house, Dr. McGeer said experiments in the United States suggesting that LSD can disturb the mechanism of heredity must be pursued.

He said the most baffling effect of LSD is the spontaneous recurrence of psychotic episodes, days or even weeks after the drug is ingested.

"Another baffling effect is the prolonged psychotic episode which persists far beyond the time when the drug would be expected to remain in the body," he said.

## GOV'T ATTACKED OVER 'GOOD SAMARITAN' BILL

**Sun Victoria Bureau**

VICTORIA—The provincial government was accused in the legislature Monday of trying to slough off its responsibility to the municipalities through its "Good Samaritan" legislation.

"I don't think any municipality in this province asked for this legislation," said Alan MacFarlane (Lib.—Oak Bay) during debate before giving second reading — approval in principle — to a bill to amend the Municipal Act.

He said municipalities cannot afford to set up a fund — the bill says up to \$5,000 — to compensate for injury, death or property damage to those who come to the aid of policemen or municipal officials.



Tues., Mar. 21, 1967

# Hydro Rates Under Review

## Price Announcement To Be Made March 31

B.C. Hydro board of directors will announce March 31 whether its rates will go up, down or remain unchanged, co-chairman Dr. Gordon Shrum said today.

Shrum disclosed the date for an announcement, while commenting on predictions that rates will go up, effective April 1.

Shrum indicated Hydro directors will make their final decision at a meeting scheduled for March 30. He declined, in an interview with The Sun, to say which way he personally felt the rates should go.

Predictions that the way will be up were made in the Financial Post business newspaper of Toronto and in the legislature Monday by Opposition leader Robert Strachan.

In Victoria interviews today, Recreation and Conservation Minister Ken Kiernan and Resources Minister Ray Williston, both Hydro directors, would not comment directly on a rate boost, but warned of rising Hydro costs.

Kiernan said it was "fantastic" that Hydro has lowered its rates when everything the authority buys has been going up.

He said "electricity is the only mass consumption commodity that has been bucking the cost spiral. Sooner or later we are going to reach a vanishing point because there is no way to reduce costs."

The whole field of costs, profits and rates will be reviewed at the March 30 meeting, he said.

Williston said Hydro is caught in a cost squeeze in addition to the Peace and Columbia projects.

"I'll be frank", added Willis-

ton. "On top of all the Peace and Columbia expansion, costs are posing a very difficult burden and this is where it is causing a squeeze on the finances now."

Both ministers said the public doesn't seem to realize the ordinary capital costs of Hydro are going up rapidly.

Any rate changes would be announced for Hydro's fiscal year beginning March 31.

**'REVERSE TREND'**  
The Post reviewed Hydro reductions since 1962 which it said have saved B.C. consumers \$80 million.

### WOULDN'T DENY

In the legislature, Premier Bennett would not deny the rates would go up and even appeared to be defending a rate increase.

He said "there has always been some question of how much Hydro should pay from profits to expand and keep up to date its own system — not the Peace and the Columbia."

"We will save interest rates in the future if we use profits now," he added.

Bennett also maintained his earlier claim that the delivered cost of Peace and Columbia power in Vancouver will be within the 4.2 mills estimated by the National Energy Board's feasibility report on the Peace project.

### DOESN'T SET

Bennett, answering Strachan inside the legislature and talking to reporters outside the chambers, stressed that he does not personally set power rates.

Strachan charged that "power rates to consumers have been political in B.C." He was speaking to legislation to increase the Hydro's borrowing power by \$500 million to \$1 billion.

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Both ministers said the public doesn't seem to realize the ordinary capital costs of Hydro are going up rapidly.

Any rate changes would be announced for Hydro's fiscal year beginning March 31.

### 'REVERSE TREND'

The Post reviewed Hydro reductions since 1962 which it said have saved B.C. consumers \$80 million.

"On April 1," the newspaper added, "the trend will almost certainly be reversed."

Strachan made his prediction in the legislature while reading the March 18 Financial Post article quoting Dr. Hugh Keenleyside of Victoria, the other Hydro co-chairman.

The Post quoted Keenleyside as saying: "The rates will not go all the way back to the earlier level though."

### DENIAL

On Monday, Keenleyside denied, he made such a statement.

Keenleyside told The Sun: "We are always examining our position. It might be that with rising costs it would be necessary at some stage to increase our rates, but it would be considered."

He said the Hydro directors have considered the feasibility of increasing and decreasing rates "almost every time we have met."

But he added that "no announcement is likely to be made for the present."

### ANNUAL CUTS

Keenleyside said Hydro rate cuts instituted in 1962 are saving

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## HEIRS TO GET \$63,000

**Sun Victoria Bureau**  
VICTORIA — The heirs of a pioneer family that began operating a coal mine in the Peace River country at the turn of the century are to be paid \$63,000 in compensation for flooding of their claims.

A bill authorizing the payment was approved in principle Monday in the legislature.

About 160 acres of land to be flooded behind the Peace River dam will be turned over to the government in exchange for the money to be paid to the Neil Gething estate.

# Campbell, Bennett Lashed Over Bill

## Roadwork Grants Scheme Hit As 'Political Manoeuvring'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Vancouver's Mayor Tom Campbell and the Bennett government came under fire in the legislature for different reasons Monday over a bill that earmarks per capita grants to municipalities for roadwork.

Campbell was criticized for not speaking out against the measure, which two MLAs said would cost the average Vancouver homeowner \$9 a year.

The government was blasted for political manoeuvring at the expense of local taxpayers.

The NDP and Liberal opposition members joined together in opposing the bill on third and final reading, but the government's majority pushed it through 29 to 21.

The bill, an amendment to the Municipalities Aid Act, was one of 20 bills given final reading by MLAs on Monday.

Among the others were bills that will boost B.C. Hydro authority's borrowing ceiling to \$1 billion; amendments to the Succession Duty Act that will raise exemptions and attempt to block tax escapists; the home-buyer's grant of \$500; create a hospitals financing authority; set up consumers protection laws; and provide an official channel for reporting child cruelty cases.

### UNNECESSARY

Former Vancouver alderman Bob Williams (NDP—Vancouver East) charged that the roadwork grants bill was unnecessary and Premier W. A. C. Bennett, its sponsor, had given no logical explanation for it.

Williams said the bill will cost city homeowners \$9 a year and will tie the hands of municipal authorities unnecessarily.

"This bill reveals the contempt this government has for

municipalities," said Williams.

Dr. Pat McGeer (Lib.—Vancouver-Point Grey) said he agreed with Williams.

"It's clumsy, transparent propaganda," said Dr. McGeer, adding: "I'm disappointed the Vancouver mayor has not seen fit to support Vancouver MLAs on this."

### 'REPREHENSIBLE'

Liberal leader Ray Perrault called the bill reprehensible.

He said Bennett boasted two or three times in his last budget speech that grants to municipalities were unconditional.

"So you must never accuse any municipal government of misusing funds when you yourself say over and over that they are unconditional," said Perrault, referring to Bennett's earlier charge in the legislature regarding municipal use of funds.

"What we have here is primarily a propaganda bill," said Perrault. "It is unworthy of support and we will not vote for it."

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby Edmonds) said it is ridiculous to tie the grants to roadwork.

The amount of the grants is based on population and there cannot be an equitable comparison between population and miles of roads, he said.

Dave Stupich (NDP—Nanaimo) said the legislation is "one further encroachment on municipal councils."

## BONNER RENEGES

# Amendment Picked To Pieces

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Attorney General Robert Bonner, QC, said Monday he intends to alter an amendment to the Motor Vehicles Act that was picked to pieces in the legislature by lawyer MLAs.

The amendment, given second reading along with a series of changes in the act, would give magistrates power to drop driving without due care and attention charges, after hearing the evidence, and substitute a more specific charge.

"This is an infringement of the prerogative of the Crown," said Gordon Dowding (NDP — Burnaby Edmonds), a Vancouver lawyer.

"If the Crown can't lay a charge properly it shouldn't have another crack at it after hearing the evidence.

"I don't think this invasion of rights of trial should be allowed."

Alan Macfarlane (Lib.-Oak Bay), also a lawyer, agreed with Dowding.

He called for an amendment that would give a person so accused the right to an adjournment so he could properly defend himself on a new count.

Lawyer Garde Gardom (Lib.—Vancouver-Point Grey) said the present amendment would be capable of extreme abuse and would make for sloppy prosecution practices.

"This is a complete abrogation of the rule that a person know what he is charged with," said Gardom, adding: "It's giving far more powers to the prosecutor under this section than those to which they are entitled."

Bonner said he would have departmental officials look into the complaints. Later, outside the house, he said an amendment to the amendment is being drafted.

# Regional District Plan 'Misleading'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Opposition Leader Robert Strachan charged Monday that regional districts are designed to become major taxing bodies usurping the powers of municipalities.

Strachan also accused Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Campbell of misleading the people of B.C. over the establishment of such districts.

The NDP leader said during debate on a bill to amend the Municipal Act that the new legislation is the second step in a master plan by the government.

"He (Campbell) misled this House and the people of B.C. two years ago when this concept

was introduced," Strachan said.

"He knew at that time that this legislation was intended."

Regional districts, he added, are obviously to become major taxing bodies in the province.

He said that he supported the regional district concept at first on the basis of what Campbell has said about it.

But he said he has since discovered that under the new legislation, the right of municipalities to opt out of the regional districts has gone.

Campbell replied that there is no opting out because the municipalities first have to opt in or whatever functions the districts themselves want to undertake.



# Mental Screening Urged for Drivers

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C. should require motorists to submit to psychological tests in a bid to reduce accidents caused by drivers committing suicide, the legislature was told Monday.

Dave Barrett (NDP-Coquitlam) also urged legislation requiring auto manufacturers to include safety features on cars destined for sale in this province.

He spoke during debate on second reading of a bill to amend the Motor Vehicles Act.

The MLA said there is evidence an increasing number of accidents are caused by persons committing suicide.

"There should be a minimum psychological examination to see if disturbed people are getting behind the wheel of cars," he said.

## 'NOT REALISTIC'

Dr. H. R. McDiarmid (SC-Alberni) said the idea is not realistic because there are not enough psychologists around to run such a program.

He also said psychotic people are often able to hide themselves so that the exams would catch perhaps only one person in 2,000.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, said he understands

that psychological testing can be a haphazard guide.

And unless a way could be found to administer such tests with relatively untrained personnel it would be difficult to operate, he said.

"I'm not rejecting the idea. I have an open mind on the subject. But there is some bafflement as to how to carry it off," Bonner said.

## 'NICE GESTURE'

An amendment making odometer tampering illegal was termed "a nice gesture but worthless" by lawyer Gordon Dowding (NDP — Burnaby-Edmonds).

He said the way the amendment is written it is necessary to prove that people who turn back mileage did so to mislead a prospective car buyer.

Garde Gardom (Lib. — Vancouver-Point Grey) said it also will be necessary to prove that a person is in fact a prospective buyer.

Don Phillips (SC — South Peace River) said car manufacturers should seal odometers so they cannot be tampered with.

This would protect both the public and car dealers, he said.

## PUBLIC LOG URGED

# Flights Queried

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Dr. Pat McGeer (Lib.—Vancouver-Point Grey) wants to know where, how far, how long and with whom the government flies, and why.

Monday he introduced a bill in the legislature to force the government to tell him.

His private member's bill requires the provincial secretary to keep a public log of all flights by government aircraft.

The log would list reasons for the flight, the names of all passengers, and why they are being carried on government planes. Log entries would be made within two weeks of each flight and the log, with operating costs of each aircraft, would be tabled at each session of the legislature.

There are a number of ques-

tions on the order paper, still unanswered, about flights of highways department aircraft and Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi has been closely questioned about the operating costs of his Lear jet.

The second Point Grey member, Liberal Garde Gardom, also introduced three private member's bills to raise the maximum social assistance payment for a deserted wife and family from \$300 to \$1,000 a month, to allow persons to have a bottle of liquor in an unlicensed restaurant as long as they are not drinking from it, and to require an examination for insurance adjusters working for companies (as is already required of independent adjusters.)

# We'll Help, Bennett Promises Junior Stadium Fund Raisers

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier W. A. C. Bennett promised Tuesday to help finance a 10,000-seat junior amateur sports stadium in Central Park on the Vancouver-Burnaby boundary.

The premier made the surprise announcement in the legislature after being prodded by Social Credit backbencher Herb Capozzi, former general manager of the B.C. Lions football club.

Bennett promised his government will put up \$1 for every \$2 of the \$425,000 still needed by the Sun-sponsored fund-raising Junior Amateur Sports Stadium Society, headed by Sun managing editor Erwin Swangard.

Bennett's pledge was seen by MLAs as an assurance that the \$425,000 needed for the \$500,000 project will be found. Nearly \$75,000 has been raised to date.

Members of all parties cited the need for facilities to raise athletic standards of young people and praised the society's role in establishing the recreational complex.

The stadium will be the key facility in an ambitious and all-embracing complex being developed as a joint project of the Vancouver Park Board and the Burnaby Park and Recreation Commission.

Three members from each board make up the Central Park Committee, which decided last fall to go ahead with phase one of the project with about \$70,000 it received from the fund raising society.

The government's decision was greeted enthusiastically by Swangard and Paul Seifner, chairman of the Central Park Committee.

Said Swangard: "As chairman of the Junior Amateur Sports Stadium fund raising committee I would like to tell Premier Bennett how delighted we are over the government's gesture and also thank the members of all parties for their support."

"We are sure that this grant will give the stadium fund campaign and the project itself the momentum required to see this sorely needed facility finished and ready for use, we hope, early in 1968."

Said Seifner: "As chairman of the Central Park Committee I welcome the announcement by Premier Bennett to assist in the building of the stadium."

"This should be a great encouragement to citizens in general as well as public bodies to become more seriously involved in the current effort of a small group to build a junior stadium in Central Park."

The first sod on the stadium site was turned in a ceremony last Nov. 23.

## PHASE ONE

Phase one of the project is construction of an all-weather field suitable for all field sports except baseball.

Capozzi, MLA for Vancouver-Centre, challenged the government in the legislature to pay one-third of the remaining cost of the project.

Almost before he sat down, Bennett was on his feet to accept the challenge.

MLAs on both sides of the house gave unanimous praise to the Junior Amateur Sports Stadium Society, which has been working for nearly five years to develop the stadium as centerpiece for an all-embracing recreational complex at Central Park.

Other facilities being developed or already completed in the complex as a joint Vancouver Parks Board and Burnaby Park and Recreation Commission project include tennis courts, a swimming pool, a miniature golf course, a baseball diamond and picnic grounds.

## ALL-PURPOSE

The stadium itself will include an all-purpose field for all field sports but baseball, an ultra-modern Olympic-size track, and two covered stands flanking the field, each to hold 5,000 spectators.

There will also be dressing rooms and other athletic training facilities in the complex.

First priority for use of the stadium will go to Greater Vancouver high schools.

Teams of junior athletes (usually up to 21 years of age) will have second call.

Track and field organizations, amateur sport organizations and others will be allowed use of the facilities if they do not conflict with those of higher priority.

Capozzi, before asking the government for funds to help build the stadium, criticized the present quality of instructors for school sports.

## STANDARDS NEEDED

"There is a need for a degree of competence in track and other sports of competition between schools," he said, calling for the setting of standards for school sports instructors.

The stadium, he said, will provide a place for improving athletic standards of students in the Lower Mainland area.

He added that the project has the support of school boards in Richmond, New Westminster, Burnaby, North Vancouver City, North Vancouver District, West Vancouver and Vancouver.

All amateur and professional sports organizations in Greater Vancouver also support the stadium project, he said.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault said that his party "enthusiastically and wholeheartedly" supports the establishment of the stadium.

"We welcome today's announcement by the premier that the provincial government will make a one-third grant to finance construction," he said later outside the house.

"Let us hope that this action will provide the impetus to other levels of government and other sections of the community to provide the balance of the money."

Perrault called the specifications of the stadium impressive and exciting.

"Not only will a wide range of

facilities be provided, but Erwin Swangard and his committee have demonstrated how this great new recreational complex will provide healthy, positive advantages for thousands of young people and the general public," he said.

He added that the stadium will make a fine centennial project and should be provided without delay.

"There are no political battle-lines on this issue," he said.

Dr. Pat McGeer (L — Vancouver-Point Grey) said the provincial grant will make the stadium a reality.

## NEED PROVED

He said that the problems of unrest in universities and the spread of enthusiasm for use of such drugs as LSD by young people show the need to stress wholesome, responsible activities for youth in future.

"I hope that industry and private individuals will show they realize the urgency for this kind of facility as well," he added.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) said the provincial grant is long overdue.

"Compared with other countries, including Russia, we have been neglecting physical fitness in our school systems," he said.

Gordon Downing (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) protested the decision to help finance the stadium as a demonstration of how the B.C. government is run.

"There was an instant cabinet meeting on the floor of the House, a picture was shown to a couple of cabinet ministers and suddenly it is announced the government will pay one-third the cost of this project," he said.

He said Vancouver cannot call itself a major city until it has provided a stadium for its high school students.

The stadium site is situated on the northwest corner of Central Park, about 200 feet south of Kingsway and 100 feet east of Boundary Road.

## REVENUE

Capozzi said all revenue derived from use of the stadium will be used only for maintenance or improvement of the stadium and facilities.

He said the nearly \$75,000 in the stadium fund to date was raised principally by events sponsored jointly by such organizations as the B.C. Lions, the White Rock Players, and the Pacific National Exhibition on one hand and The Sun on the other.

He said the B.C. Lions alone raised about \$50,000 over the past four years from the team's pre-season games.

Another \$4,000 was contributed by Greater Vancouver secondary and separate schools, he said.

Besides Swangard, other officers of the Junior Amateur Sports Stadium Society are Al McEachern, treasurer and legal adviser; Jack Diamond, Frank Bain, Harry Tucker, Ken Campbell, Fred Dietrich, R. S. Milne, and Al McLellan.



# Opposition Raises Air Pollution Cry

## New Legislative Controls 'Cover Only Soil, Water'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Opposition MLAs charged Tuesday the provincial government is tackling the three-pronged pollution problem with only a two-pronged solution.

The accusation was made during examination of a bill to revise the Pollution Control Act.

The government says the legislation beefs up pollution laws and gives the board control over water, air and soil pollution.

But the critics claimed the bill is poorly drafted and does not include air pollution.

They also criticized the government for not setting up the Pollution Control Board independent of government control.

"The statute has gums for teeth," declared Garde Garcom (L-Vancouver Point Grey).

### 'STUPIDITY'

"As far as I'm concerned, this is legislative stupidity," said Ran Harding (NDP—Revelstoke-Slocan).

"It must be obvious to everyone that the government has no intention of doing anything about air pollution," added Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby Edmonds).

Two NDP amendments to the bill, aimed at removing their causes for criticism, were defeated before debate was adjourned.

Dowding said an independent Pollution Control Board was needed to restore public confidence in the board following the Buttle Lake pollution hassle in which PCB permits were invalidated by the court.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault agreed.

### 'GOVERNMENT WHIMS'

"Failure to make the board independent means a suspicion will remain that the board is a body responsive to government whims," he said.

But chairman Herb Bruch

(SC—Esquimalt) ruled the amendment out of order because it would involve spending.

His ruling was upheld by a vote of 30 to 21.

Ernie Hall (NDP—Surrey) sought to add the word "air" to the definition of pollution, but this, too, was defeated.

Gardom said that without addition of the word "air" the bill would leave the PCB powerless in air pollution cases.

The MLA said the bill is vague anyway.

Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Vancouver-Point Grey) said air pollution is a serious problem in Vancouver and the Alberni Valley.

It causes deaths in some larger cities, he said.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) said Vancouver is becoming a "smog city."

### PROBLEM WORSE

And the problem is becoming worse, he said with B.C. Hydro switching from trolley to diesel buses.

"If we are not to become a smog-infested province we have to do something now," said Macdonald.

Allan Williams (L—West Vancouver-Howe Sound) also said that by excluding air from the new act, the problem is only being attacked with a two-pronged approach.

Resources Minister Ray Williston answered the criticisms by saying the new Pollution Control Act provides for non-government members on the PCB.

Williston said the government does intend to move against air pollution, but wants to do so carefully.

# James K. NESBITT

VICTORIA — With any luck at all, and providing no political monkey wrenches are thrown, your MLAs sometime Thursday, probably very late, should hear the magic, time-honored words:

"It is His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor's will and pleasure that the legislative assembly be prorogued until it shall please the lieutenant-governor to summon the same for dispatch of business, and this provincial legislative assembly is hereby prorogued accordingly."

These words, when they come booming out from Provincial Secretary Wesley Black, will mean the 1967 session is all over. MLAs can go home and have a short rest before they get back into the business of making sure their political fences are in good repair, for — one never knows — with our premier, there could be an election at any minute.

How long ago Jan. 25, when it all started in New Westminster, seems today. It feels as if this session had been going on forever.

It will be a sad prorogation really, for it will mark the last appearance in the legislative chamber as lieutenant-governor of Gen. George Pearkes, unless he can be persuaded to stay at Government House another few years, which everyone would like him to do.

In October it will be seven years since he moved into the gubernatorial mansion, besting in this regard the six-year term of Sir Henri Joly de Lotbiniere, 1900-06.

★ ★ ★

The premier, feeling genial, went visiting in the legislature one day this week, while the NDP's Leo Nimsick of Kootenay was howling his head off about what are to him the bitter inhumanities and injustices of the Workmen's Compensation Act.

The premier had half an hour joshing with his back bench supporters, giving them of his wisdom; then he walked across the floor and sat among the Liberals and took their minds and ears off poor Mr. Nimsick.

The Liberals appeared delighted to have the premier among them, but long ago they gave up hope, if they had any, that Mr. Bennett might see the error of his ways, desert Social Credit and become a Liberal.

The premier returned to his own seat in due course; he did not go visiting the Strachan socialists.

# Socred Victory Cost \$437,182

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The Social Credit party spent 250 per cent more than the total spent by all opposition parties in last fall's provincial election.

The Socreds, in information tabled Tuesday in the legislature, listed expenses of \$437,182 in the campaign that led to their re-election on Sept. 12.

The NDP official Opposition declared expenses of \$125,394, the Liberals \$45,639, and Communist Party \$2,121.

The Conservative Party, which fielded only a handful of candidates, did not file a return.

Provincial Secretary Wesley Black, the minister responsible for the provincial Election Act, filed the expenses.

A breakdown of spending by constituency showed that Dr. H. R. McDiarmid, the Socred freshman who upset New Demo-

crat John Squire in Alberni, was the biggest spender.

His campaign cost \$13,029, compared to Squire's \$2,878.

In Vancouver-Point Grey, where the Liberals knocked off Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, the victors listed expenses of \$4,151. Social Credit spent \$10,768 in the riding.

Herb Capozzi and Evan Wolfe, both freshmen Socreds, spent \$11,666 in Vancouver Centre, substantially more than their opponents.

Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) was his party's biggest spender with expenses of \$3,781.

In the close-fought Oak Bay contest, Liberal Alan Macfarlane spent \$7,834 to Socred Dr. Charles Ennals's \$8,500. Macfarlane retained the seat against Ennals's second try.

## U.S. Railway Backs Gov't on Harbor

**Sun Victoria Bureau**  
VICTORIA — The provincial government has received solid backing from the U.S.-owned Great Northern Railway for development of a multi-million dollar harbor to handle super-cargo ships on the Lower Mainland.

Commercial Transport Minister Robert Bonner, QC, produced a letter from Great Northern's vice-president, R. W. Downing, after telling the legislature Tuesday that the railway has given unqualified support to the plan.

Downing's letter says the proposal to develop Roberts Bank, near Tsawwassen, as a super-port, means that Fernie coal will not have to be shipped to Japan through a U.S. port.

It adds: "We believe that the proposed plans for Roberts Bank are feasible and necessary to provide an economical facility which will give the products of British Columbia a competitive advantage in reaching world markets."

### 'WOULD BE PLEASED'

"Great Northern would be pleased to participate in development of the port project."

The letter says that provided Crowsnest Industries Ltd. builds its proposed 77-mile rail line from the Fernie coal mines to the Canada-U.S. border near Eureka, Montana, Great Northern is prepared to join in moving the coal to the proposed Roberts Bank port.

The provincial government has already approved the finan-

cial structure of the rail line but has yet to okay the right of way.

Downing's letter went on: "Originally, we had considered ship loading in the United States since no suitable facilities were accessible to us in Canada, but with the development of plans for Roberts Bank we believe that this coal can move through Roberts Bank. We are no longer giving any consideration to movement through a U.S. port."

### RATE NEGOTIATED

He said Great Northern has negotiated "a compensatory and satisfactory" rate with Crowsnest on the basis that the unit train will be loaded and unloaded expeditiously.

"As part of the overall plan we expect the port to be constructed with suitable unloading and stockpiling facilities," he said.

Downing says it is his understanding that the province will build a railroad as part of the project from a connection with Great Northern near Colebrook.

The rate quoted to Crowsnest is on the basis that Great Northern's unit train will operate intact to the unloading site at Roberts Bank.

"We would provide the locomotives and crews through to destination over the port railroad with payment of rental for use of the connection between Colebrook and Roberts Bank at a reasonable rate considering the total tonnage anticipated," Downing said.

## Fluoridation Supported By Bennett

### But Don't Force Acceptance, Says Premier

**Sun Victoria Bureau**

VICTORIA — Premier W. A. C. Bennett lined up with fluoridationists Tuesday night.

And he announced in the legislature that he will recommend schools in the province educate children about the benefit to teeth resulting from placing fluorides in water supplies.

"I am a strong supporter of fluoridation," he said during debate on a Liberal amendment to the Municipal Act to allow fluoridation referendums to pass on a 50 per cent vote.

"I will recommend the department of education give more education on fluoridation," he added.

The premier also said he will recommend the topic be placed before a committee of the legislature for study at the next session.

But he said that fluoridation "should not be shoved down people's throats" and supported the existing 60 per cent majority needed for referendums on the subject to pass. The amendment was defeated.

Bennett said education campaigns are the key to obtaining public acceptance of fluoridation. He said that his home town of Kelowna approved it by an 85-per-cent margin after continued educational efforts.

Dr. Pat McGeer (L-Vancouver Point Grey), who moved the amendment, said he was sure the premier's remarks will encourage many people to approve fluoridation.

## 'Double Jeopardy' For Drug Users

### MLA Claims LSD Legislation Infringes Basic Human Rights

**Sun Victoria Bureau**

VICTORIA—Provincial legislation to control the use of LSD places offenders in double jeopardy and is an infringement of fundamental human rights, Tom Berger (NDP-Vancouver Burrard) charged Tuesday in the legislature.

He was criticizing the existence of two pieces of government legislation, both providing penalties for possession of LSD.

"I share the government's desire to stamp out LSD," said Berger.

But double jeopardy will result from the existence of the two pieces of legislation, he warned.

An amendment to the Health Act would set up a maximum fine of \$2,000, six months in jail or both for possession of the hallucinatory drug without approval of the provincial health officer.

A Proscribed Substances Act bill introduced earlier, provides the same maximum penalty for possession of LSD or marijuana.

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby-Edmonds) said the proscribed substances bill is beyond the provincial legisla-

ture's competence because it infringes federal responsibility for criminal law, and that a charge under it could be dismissed in a court of law.

He urged the government to stick to curbing the LSD epidemic through the Health Act amendment, which he said is the proper place for such legislation.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, said both pieces of provincial legislation may be unnecessary as the federal government is preparing its own legislation to outlaw the drug.

The House passed the Health Act amendment through committee stage, but postponed the bill for third and final reading.

The Proscribed Substances Bill, however, was both passed through committee and given final reading.



## Gym Freeze Off, Bennett Reveals

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The big freeze is off, the spring thaw has set in, and school gymnasiums and activity rooms will be busting out all over, Premier W. A. C. Bennett said Tuesday.

He told the legislature the government is in such great financial shape that it can lift the ban imposed in October on construction of non-essential school facilities.

"This is an especially good day," the premier beamed across the floor of the house. "The budget speech in January had a tremendous effect on the finances of the province."

He said that, in addition to a \$25 million bond issue for essential classrooms floated in January, another \$25 million has been raised on the New York market.

"The freeze," he announced, "is completely off."

"What freeze?" shouted opposition MLAs. They said the

premier had never before admitted there was a ban on school construction.

"It is almost as though we are living in a never-never land," exclaimed leader Ray Perrault.

"We heard all this session that there was no freeze at all. Now we discover there was no freeze until the thaw set in."

Education Minister Leslie Peterson, QC, protested that the government always has acknowledged there was a freeze on gymnasiums.

Outside the house, Peterson said two major Vancouver school projects — Sir Wilfred Grenfell and Dr. H. N. MacCorkindale elementary schools — will now be able to go ahead.

But Peterson added that the province gave the go-ahead for the Grenfell project with a roughed-in gym. The school board also was given an indication a few weeks ago that it could go ahead with the MacCorkindale school, he said.

He said no school projects have been delayed, but some activity rooms and gymnasiums may not be ready for the opening of the 1967-68 school year.

A B.C. School Trustees' Association survey shows that 67 of B.C.'s 83 school boards are awaiting approval of gymnasiums, activity rooms and other miscellaneous school construction totalling more than \$5 million.

Included are six gymnasiums at \$726,000, 46 activity rooms at \$2.26 million, four gymnasium-auditoriums at \$653,000, two auditoriums at \$400,000 and a school board office and a cafeteria for \$988,000.

## MLAs OBJECT

### Gov't Drops Change in Driving Law

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, bowed Tuesday to objections and dropped a proposed Motor Vehicles Act change that would have allowed magistrates to substitute charges after hearing evidence on careless driving counts.

He told the legislature that since MLAs were not satisfied with the change he would withdraw it and give the matter further study.

The amendment to the act would have permitted a magistrate, after hearing all the evidence in a careless driving case, to direct the laying of a more specific charge.

"It would provide a net for the police," said Garde Gardom (L—Vancouver Point Grey). "This is straight grapeshot law."

Allan Williams (L—West Vancouver-Howe Sound) said that if the police can't decide if an infraction has occurred they shouldn't lay any charge at all.

Four other sections of the bill were passed.

They provide for: Loss of an auto dealer's business licence if convicted of turning back mileage readings to mislead prospective car buyers; installation of television sets in cars as long as they are not within the view of the driver; written authorization of a parent or guardian before a youth under 18 can register a motor vehicle in his own name; removal by civic and highways department workers of parked cars without police permission if the vehicles impede snow clearing operations.

## Phil's Jet Gets Around And Around

Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — Phil Gaglardi's executive jet flew the equivalent of 3½ times around the world during the first seven months of its government travels, the legislature learned Tuesday.

It cost taxpayers nearly \$60,000 for Gaglardi to operate the jet from June through December, travelling 70,000 miles inside B.C. and 19,000 miles outside the province to such places as New Orleans, Wichita and Regina.

The plane carried government officials to speaking engagements and other functions.

Gaglardi disclosed the information in the legislature in answer to questions from NDP leader Robert Strachan and Liberal leader Ray Perrault.

The government leases the jet for \$5,915 a month.

Gaglardi estimated the lease cost during the seven-month period at \$41,408 and the fuel bill at \$17,975.

While Gaglardi was able to produce several figures on mileage and operating costs, he said he could not recall who travelled on the jet.

But the minister said the jet is always used for government business.

On the trip to New Orleans, for example, the jet was used by labor department officials, he said.

The trip to Wichita was to return the aircraft to the factory so a door that flew open in flight at Vancouver International Airport could be repaired, he said.

Gaglardi said the jet also has been to Seattle, Edmonton, Calgary and Portland.

## BENNETT SHOUTS

House Erupts  
In Chant Fight

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier W. A. C. Bennett stood up in the legislature Wednesday, waved his arms and shouted in defence of his works minister.

Bennett bitterly attacked the Opposition New Democratic and Liberal parties after NDP leader Bob Strachan moved a motion of non-confidence in William Chant, the works minister.

The motion, calling for a \$1.00 reduction in Chant's salary, is a traditional expression of non-confidence in a cabinet minister.

The motion was defeated 27-20 after Bennett stood up and, shouting and waving his arms, alleged that Strachan is in trouble in his own party.

## 'NO BLOOD'

"The socialists accuse us of having tired blood, but they don't have any blood at all," declared Bennett as the house burst into a noisy uproar of desk-pounding, jeering and catcalls.

"They're not even a milk and water party," Bennett went on. "They're a skim milk and water party."

"Throughout this session we have listened to insults across the floor day in and day out because that's all they have to offer," Bennett said. "They're all mixed up — they're all played out."

Bennett's remarks were partly drowned out by the desk-thumping of his Social Credit backbenchers. Opposition members jeered and shouted back across the floor.

Turning to the Liberals, Bennett called them a "has-been party."

"They are a party of the past and afraid of the past," Bennett shouted. "They have no future."

## ESTIMATES PASSED

Strachan introduced the non-confidence motion before the legislature approved the \$21.3-million estimates for the public works department.

The NDP leader said he was inviting the house to speak freely on the incompetence of the department's minister and his shabby record.

Said Strachan: "The works minister exemplifies the arrogant attitude the government has displayed throughout this session."

"Like every other cabinet

minister, he has consistently refused to enunciate policy or answer the Opposition's questions.

"He has squandered the money of the people of B.C. by erecting buildings and leaving them unfinished."

Debate on the department's estimates lasted 4½ hours.

Opposition MLAs attacked Chant for non-action in providing courthouses and other public buildings in their ridings.

Strachan said the government has been in office too long and is not prepared to meet the needs of the people or live up to its responsibilities.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault called the premier a punch-drunk fighter.

"He stands up when he hears the bell and goes to the centre of the ring and shouts, 'I can lick any man in the house,'" he said.

Cyril Shelford (SC-Omineca) criticized MLAs' facilities in the legislature which come under the works department.

"It is a disgrace that constituents have to travel hundreds of miles and have to lean against a wall in the corridor to talk to their members," he said.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby Edmonds) said the legislature chamber was set up for use by the legislature and not for government offices.

Chant replied that when the new provincial museum building is finished this fall, members will be able to use facilities of the old museum, including a 600-seat auditorium.

Dr. Pat McGeer (L-Point Grey) asked if the government has a master plan for development of the provincial government buildings complex in Victoria.

He criticized the government for allowing motels with their neon lights to spring up near the buildings to mar "this incomparable spot."

Chant said there is a master plan, but refused to disclose the nature of it.

Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver Burrard) complained that it is easy to find the premier's name on the New Vancouver courthouse fountain but not that of the sculptor.

This, he said, is a Socred attempt to misinform posterity.

## NEW FIGURES

\$1 Million  
Spent on  
B.C. Votes

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Politicians spent almost \$1 million to woo voters in last fall's provincial general election, it was revealed Wednesday.

Social Credit was the biggest spender, at \$647,531.

The Liberals declared expenses of \$130,469, the NDP \$115,990, Conservatives \$2,737, Independents \$1,404 and Communists \$2,741.

The figures, which correct a statement of election expenses filed in the legislature Tuesday, were provided by Provincial Secretary Wesley Black.

Black is the minister responsible for the Provincial Elections Act.

The information was sought by Opposition leader Robert Strachan.

The parties' central committees gave these figures of campaign costs:

Socreds \$437,182; NDP \$25,394; Liberals \$45,639; Communists \$2,121; and Conservatives, no return filed.

But on top of these expenses were the constituency costs of the candidates.

In Vancouver Centre, Socreds Herb Capozzi and Evan Wolfe each spent \$11,666, as opposed to the \$1,305 spent by each of the NDP candidates.

The Socreds captured the seat.

The Socred candidates in Vancouver-Point Grey each spent \$10,768, compared to the Liberals' \$4,151. The Liberals won.

The lowest expenditures were recorded in Omineca, where Socred Cyril Shelford spent \$941 and his NDP opponent spent \$121.

## ON MATHS PROBLEM

## Gov't Stays Mum

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A simple mathematics problem posed in the legislature Wednesday by an opposition MLA went unanswered by government MLAs.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby Edmonds) said a bill before the house authorized appointment of 17 cabinet ministers but only 14 could be paid a salary.

Yet the legislature was being asked to vote salaries for 16 ministers.

Dowding noted the discrepancy during debate on the \$28,500 estimates for the office of the three women cabinet ministers without portfolio.

They are to be paid \$6,000 each.

Dowding also suggested that the government is about to appoint a 17th minister to bring cabinet strength to that authorized in the bill.

But Premier W. A. C. Bennett replied that it is only a rumor.

SITE OF B.C. BANK  
TERMED 'GAPING MAW'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The site of the proposed Bank of B.C. headquarters building in downtown Vancouver was described in the legislature Wednesday as North America's biggest and ugliest liquor store parking lot.

"It's a gaping maw ugly enough to drive people to drink," said Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Vancouver-Point Grey), during debate on the public works department's \$21.3 million spending estimates.



# New Mining Claims Invade Nature Area, MLA Charges

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government, constantly criticized for allowing resource development inside parks, has granted 238 mining claims in Tweedsmuir Park in the last two years, the legislature was told Wednesday.

Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) told the legislature that Meteor Mining Co. of Vancouver, has 70 claims in the Tesla Mountain area of the park — 46 of which were issued in 1965 and 1966 on the written permission of Recreation and Conservation Minister Ken Kiernan.

Two of these claims, he said, extend into so-called nature conservancy area — sections of parkland that are supposed to be inviolate.

The last of these claims were staked on Jan. 5, 1967, only three weeks before the opening of the current session, Barrett said.

"The sorry story of Strathcona Park is being repeated in Tweedsmuir," the NDP member said.

He said that Kiernan in the past has claimed that Strathcona mining claims were established before the present Parks Act was passed two years ago.

Barrett quoted a Meteor prospectus which says that in June, 1966, provincial government regulations were changed to open the area up to logging, and an airstrip was authorized.

"We are in favor of mining development in this province," said Barrett, "but let's leave the two per cent of our land that are our parks inviolate."

Garde Gardom (L) — Vancouver-Point Grey) called on the government to give its support

towards construction of a Garibaldi youth hostel.

He said a 70-bed \$125,000 hostel is planned for Garibaldi by the B.C. Youth Hostels Association, which has so far raised \$20,000.

But, said Gardom, the province has not contributed anything to the society.

He called on the provincial government to extend its one-third financing formula — as extended to the junior amateur sports stadium in the Greater Vancouver area — and to tender financing at reasonable rates for the balance.

(Premier W. A. C. Bennett promised Tuesday that the provincial government will put up \$1 for every \$2 of the \$425,000 still needed by the Sun-sponsored fund-raising Junior Amateur Sports Stadium Society).

(So far the society has raised \$75,000 towards the \$500,000 stadium, which is scheduled for completion in Central Park next year).

Liberal leader Ray Perrault asked Kiernan to explain why the provincial government has dealt evasively with repeated federal offers to develop Garibaldi Park as a national park.

Kiernan did not answer.

During the debate on Kiernan's estimates Frank Calder (NDP—Atlin) urged appointment of a fisheries minister in B.C.

And Herb Capozzi (SC—Vancouver Centre) said the government should consider helping to provide lighting of parks so their hours of use could be lengthened.

The departmental estimates of \$5.1 million were finally approved at 3:10 a.m., after five hours of debate.

## Budget Gets Okay

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A marathon sitting of the legislature ended at 4:20 a.m. today after MLAs approved the last of the government's \$739.4 million budget for the fiscal year starting April 1.

Lt.-Gov. George Pearkes is expected to give royal assent to

During the brief debate, Leo Nimsick (NDP — Kootenay) urged more expense money for rural MLAs who have to cover huge ridings.

They also approved the \$1.9 million estimates of the new travel industry department, the \$21.3 million budget of the public works department, and the \$28,500 budget for the three women ministers-without-portfolio.

More Legislature News  
Pages 10, 11

almost 80 bills and prorogue the house about 8:30 p.m. today.

The session began Jan. 24.

The last estimates approved by members were their own indemnities of \$8,000 each.

The \$605,684 appropriation was passed in just three minutes.

Mum

# Gasoline Probe Report Shelved

## Committee Suggests Checking Later on Consignment Sales

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A legislative committee examining the Morrow royal commission report on gasoline prices today recommended virtually no action on the commission's findings.

However, the report said another committee should be struck to see that two proposals of the Morrow royal commission — to end consignment selling (sales with a guaranteed mark-up) and supply agreements between dealer and company for more than five years — have been adhered to.

But a motion for adoption of the committee recommendations, made by Cyril Shelford (SC-Omineca) was denied by the house. Thus the government is not bound to act on either the committee's proposals or the Morrow report.

Failure of the committee's report to get house acceptance brought charges outside the legislature that the government throttled discussion on gas prices.

### NDP MOVE FAILS

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East), a member of the committee, was also denied leave to table a minority report signed by four of 14 committee members.

The minority report released to reporters outside the house urged the government to bring the province's petroleum industry under control of the Public Utilities Commission.

The PUC would have power to set maximum dealer tankwagon prices and mark-ups and set fair contractual relations between

gas suppliers and individual service station operators.

The minority report also said the government should set up a publicly - owned pilot operation using Crown - owned crude oil, a public refinery and distribution system to service stations to encourage lower costs.

### 'MONOPOLY' IGNORED

"The majority report fails completely to deal with monopoly prices in this industry and does not deal with more than a small part of the recommendations of Judge Morrow," said Macdonald in an interview.

Alan Macfarlane (L — Oak Bay) also said outside the house that the majority report, which he supported, "does not represent what went on in the committee."

He told reporters the committee had agreed to recommend legislation to prevent oil companies reintroducing consignment selling and to limit the tie between supplier and retailer on loan agreements to five years.

The committee majority report recommended only that legislation be enacted if necessary and that a committee be struck to study the effects of marketing changes on gas prices and particularly the effect of company - owned outlets on the consumer price.

# Bugging Evidence Motion Defeated

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — An Opposition amendment to prevent results of electronic eavesdropping from being admissible in a court of law was defeated in the legislature Wednesday.

Gordon Dowding, (NDP — Burnaby Edmonds) introduced his proposal as an amendment to a government-sponsored revision of the Evidence Act.

His amendment was to prevent use of evidence obtained through electronic eavesdropping unless authorized by warrant from a justice of the peace or magistrate.

Dowding cited the case of a couple detained in the Vancouver Public Safety Building and whose conversation with a priest was bugged by police.

### 'DISTASTEFUL'

He said the Crown prosecutor refused to use the evidence because of the distasteful way in which it was obtained.

Dowding called for an end to "this stealthy and distasteful" practice and said his amendment would remove 80 per cent

of the reasons for electronic snooping because it would not be admissible as evidence.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner, QC, replied that because of the present sitting of the Sargent royal commission on invasion of privacy, the province should not rush into such legislation.

### DEFEATED

Dowding's amendment was defeated 22 to 29, the Liberals voting with the NDP.

An amendment to the Family and Children's Court Act introduced by Dave Barrett (NDP — Coquitlam) would have required that no child be committed to a training-school without a complete psychological and physical examination, and that each child released from training school benefit from after-care supervision.

Bonner said this would involve expenditure of public money — only government bills may do so — and house supply committee chairman Herb Bruch ruled the amendment out of order.



## The Session and After

Haste was a hallmark of the session of the provincial legislature just ended after an exhausting dash to beat the clock to Easter, but dullness never was.

Right from the unprecedented opening ceremonies at New Westminster, when the Opposition had the temerity to demand that the whole session go on record through adoption of a Hansard, it was obviously not a normal, quiet post-election gathering.

This impression was maintained through many sensations, some startling, such as the outburst of neo-separatism from the cabinet benches, some pleasant, like the colorful, legislative program of the government, some shocking such as the go-it-alone port plan. The major issues were education, pollution, consumer affairs and the resumption of hostilities between Victoria and Ottawa.

The session was notable for the debut of many new MLAs after last fall's election. Some were particularly impressive, such as New Democrat Tom Berger and Socreds Evan Wolfe and Herb Capozzi, though all three for different reasons.

Premier W. A. C. Bennett deserves credit for a masterful budget, dripping with excess revenues, and for holding the tax line while others quailed before inflation. His record is less enviable, however, with regard to universities,

which he cheated out of extra funds intended by Ottawa to reach them through a new tax-sharing arrangement. And toward municipalities he displayed not only lack of generosity but the insolent accusation of misusing funds.

The most unusual thing about the session, though, was the government legislative program. It is probably true to say that in 15 years there has never been such eye-appealing and constructive legislation. It included the Consumer Protection Act, the attempt to control LSD and marijuana, the home-buyer grant, the new Pollution Control Act, the regional district hospital financing scheme, the culture fund, the new Securities Act, the idea of compensation for victims of crime.

The significance of this program is that it is recognition of public opinion and public pressure. This is probably largely due to the government's failure to win a more decisive majority in the election.

There are some who doubt, with reason, that the teeth put into the statute books this session will really bite. If this is the case the government, perhaps, isn't frightened enough. But it must now prove the doubtful to be wrong and that these new laws can be effective.

## Committee Urges Paid Sunday Sports

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The legislature's municipal committee moved beyond its terms of reference Thursday and recommended that municipalities be allowed to legalize paid Sunday sport and entertainment.

The proposal, brought in to the legislature as an addition to a report on proposed Municipal Act amendments, was made against the wishes of Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Campbell.

A recommendation to permit paid Sunday activities was dropped from a series of proposals before they were placed before the committee several weeks ago.

Municipal officials, who drafted the changes, said Campbell had suggested the question of Sunday sports be dealt with later in another manner.

### AFTER REFERENDUMS

But the proposal laid before the legislature by committee chairman Hunter Vogel (SC—Langley) said councils should be empowered, after a favorable referendum, to permit an admission fee to be charged for sporting events and other types of entertainment on Sunday afternoons.

Other recommendations were: To authorize councils to borrow money without direct consent of electors for water, sewerage and drainage systems, road and sidewalk projects and park acquisitions;

To require all councils to operate from capital programs of not less than five years;

And to set a 60-per-cent approval for passage of any bylaw requiring electors' consent.

The committee's report was read and received by the house.

### TASK UNFINISHED

The labor committee, set up to investigate employee health, welfare and pension plans, was unable to complete its assignment.

Chairman Ernie LeCours (SC—Richmond) filed a report Thursday which said representatives of five companies appeared before the committee, which also received information from other provinces.

"It is clear that the study of health and welfare and pension plans in this province is a very involved subject which will require further study," LeCours said.

"Therefore, the committee is not in a position to complete its work during this session."

He said the committee should be set up next year to continue its study.

## MLAs CRUSH ANIMAL BILL

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Cyril Shelford (SC — Omineca) and a small band of other MLAs combined in the legislature Thursday to kill a bill intended to clarify the powers of the SPCA.

Shelford objected to a provision which he said would allow SPCA officers to seize "apparently ownerless" cattle on a range so that "everybody would have a good steak or two."

He also objected to a clause giving officers of the society power to force entry onto property where they suspect an animal is being mistreated.

### PETERSON SAYS:

## Phil's Jet 'Only Way To Fly'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Labor department officials flew to a convention in New Orleans last year in Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi's jet because it was the only way to fly, Labor Minister Leslie Peterson, QC, said Thursday.

He said last year's air strike in the U.S. disrupted arrangements for department officials to fly by commercial airline to a convention of the International Association of Government Labor Officials.

The New Orleans trip was one of several places visited by the Lear jet last year, according to a list tabled by Gaglardi in the legislature Tuesday in answer to an opposition question.

In the house on Thursday, a private bill introduced by Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Vancouver-Point Grey) to require publication of an aircraft log for all government planes was defeated.

Dr. McGeer said the bill would help refresh Gaglardi's memory, if nothing else.

The minister has said that he cannot remember where the jet has gone and who were its passengers.

William Hartley (NDP—Yale-Lillooet) noted that the minister's figures on cost of the jet worked out to 66 cents per mile.

"That means, if the jet is travelling at 1,000 miles an hour," Hartley said, "that it costs \$660 an hour to keep the plane in the air."

## STRACHAN SUPPLIES VITAL HINT

## It Was \$740-Million Oversight

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government's chief critic saved it Thursday from becoming 1967's biggest April Fool.

But for Opposition leader Robert Strachan, Premier W. A. C. Bennett would have been left without any money for the fiscal year beginning April 1.

It was Strachan who detected the absence of the supply bill — giving the government power to spend its record \$739.4-million budget — from legislation approved by Lt.-Gov. George Pearkes at the prorogation of B.C.'s 28th legislature.

Lt.-Gov. Pearkes was on his way out of the house at 8:45 p.m. after giving royal assent to 65 bills when Strachan jumped to his feet.

"Wait a minute," he said. "What about the supply vote?"

There was a moment of embarrassed silence and then, with chuckles all around, the lieutenant-governor returned to the speaker's chair and assented to the spending bill.

Strachan said today he was checking through the journals of the house as Pearkes approved the various bills.

When the lieutenant-governor came to the end, the New Democratic Party leader still hadn't checked off the supply bill.

"I didn't know what to do," Strachan said. "But the lieutenant-governor was walking away and it was something that had to be done."

Strachan said he believes the assent to the bill was constitutional even though it came after prorogation.

But he said he hadn't considered the possibility that a new session of the legislature — with an extra sessional indemnity for each member — might have been necessary if it had not been for his quick thinking.

Otherwise, the house ended without incident after sitting for 43 days, four less than last year.

There were 23 night sittings, one less than a year ago, for a total of 66 afternoon and night sittings, five less than in 1966.

The lieutenant-governor assented to 61 public bills and five private bills during his 15-minute prorogation ceremony.

At the 1966 session, he approved 77 government and 17 private bills.

There was considerably more conflict during the session just ended, as shown by the number of divisions on important votes.

Members stood to be counted on approximately 50 votes this year, compared to 28 last year.

This was attributed by a number of MLAs to the election of 19 new members to the house in last fall's general election and the fact that it was the first occasion to debate policy declared prior to the election.

Another factor was the growing tension toward the end of the session because of the pressure to wind up before the early Easter holiday.

Among the most important legislation passed were bills setting up a Consumer Protection Act, a regional hospital financing authority and companion legislation to set up regional hospital districts, and creation of a harbors board to develop a superport at Roberts Bank.

The house also passed a bill outlawing use of LSD and marijuana without a permit from the provincial health officer, and an amendment to the Motor Vehicles Act that makes it an offence to turn back mileage on used cars to fool prospective buyers.

There was also a Pollution Control Act which placed air, water and soil pollution under a revitalized Pollution Control Board and new acts placing greater control over securities trading and wealthy residents who might try to escape death duties by investing in foreign countries.

A home acquisition grant capitalized by \$25 million was established to help citizens buy their first homes, together with a \$5-million cultural assistance fund and a \$5-million crop insurance fund.

After the house prorogued at 8:45 p.m., cabinet members went immediately to Government House, where Recreation and Conservation Minister Ken Kiernan was sworn in as minister of the new travel industry department.

In the dying hours of the legislature Thursday, MLAs rushed through a number of private members' bills and resolutions, all of which were squelched by the government majority.

One of the first to go was a bill introduced by Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Vancouver-Point Grey) to provide the administrative structure for a proposed fourth public university in the Okanagan.

Speaker William Murray ruled the bill was out of order because it involved the spending of public money, which only government bills can do.

The speaker also ruled out of order a bill introduced by Strachan to allow the government to establish an automobile insurance agency.

It too, would have meant spending government money.

Ruled out of order for the same reason were:

A bill by Barrie Clark (L—North Vancouver-Seymour) to allow broadcasting and televising of legislative proceedings;

A bill to establish a royal commission, proposed by Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East), to investigate the possibility of setting up a sickness and accident injury benefit plan;

A bill introduced by Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP—Vancouver Burrard) to bring chronic care under B.C. Hospital Insurance Service and one by Rae Eddie (NDP—New Westminster) to bring a ambulance service under BCHIS.

Another bill introduced by Macdonald to prevent invasion of privacy by electronic eavesdropping was defeated by a standing vote of 30 to 22, the Liberals voting with the NDP.

Also defeated by standing vote were:

A bill by Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) to establish weekend jails for people convicted of minor offences. Barrett's bill was supported by Socred rebel Ernie LeCours, of Richmond;

A bill by William Hartley (NDP—Yale-Lillooet) requiring farm machinery and equipment dealers to provide spare parts for machinery for up to 10 years following sale of each machine;

Another bill by Barrett to require standard display of prices for groceries, household goods and staples not normally sold in bulk.

## Girls Get Second Best, NDP Charges

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The three women cabinet ministers are examples of the provincial government's discrimination against females, Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby Edmonds) charged in the legislature Thursday.

He pointed out during debate on a private member's bill to amend the Fair Employment Practices Act to prevent discrimination on the basis of sex, that the women ministers without portfolio get salaries of only \$6,000 each.

Other cabinet ministers are paid \$17,500.

"This government has established one standard for men and another standard for women in this province," Dowding said during debate on the bill introduced earlier by Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East.)

Macdonald asked Labor-Education Minister Leslie Peterson, QC, how many women school principals there are in B.C.

Peterson replied that there are "several" but that his department does not keep such records.

The minister also said that passing such legislation would remove special privileges ensured for women workers by other statutes.

## Shaughnessy Bill Dies

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A private bill to extend to 1984 the legislature's control over zoning in Shaughnessy Heights died on the order paper Thursday.

Premier W. A. C. Bennett said the bill could not be accepted for passage at this session because the need was not urgent.

It would have extended the Shaughnessy Heights Building Restrictions Act for another 25 years beyond its 1969 expiry date.

The act limits use of properties in the area as single family dwellings. The extension was sought by the Shaughnessy Heights Property Owners Association.



# James K. NESBITT

VICTORIA — MLAs don't like their sessional accommodation in the Legislative Buildings.

They don't think it's grand enough to suit the dignity of MLAs.

They feel cramped and spied upon, as if their shoulders are being constantly peered over. They feel they are unable to keep any secrets unto themselves, that there's always some nosy soul poking into their affairs and those of their constituents.

In other words, they all want private offices and while they don't say so out loud they'd probably like private secretaries, too.

I guess what it's eventually leading up to is a brand new legislative wing. Certainly the legislative chamber itself is bulging now, what with 55 members, when, but for political reasons 45 could more effectively do the job of governing the people.

I can't say I feel too sorry for the MLAs. There are private places where they can go to see constituents and write their personal letters.

I don't think too many constituents are here from far-away places anyway. Tourists call on their MLA, and he chats with them, and buys them a meal in the legislative restaurant.

★ ★ ★

To hear MLAs talk you'd think the whole 55 of them are all bunched together in one room breathing down one another's necks, hands in each other's pockets. That's just not so — far from it.

The 15 cabinet ministers have their own offices, except the three ladies who must share. Mr. Speaker has his private suite. The government whip and the deputy speaker share an office.

That leaves 15 Social Crediters to share one enormous room with picture windows looking to mountains, hills and rose gardens. I can never see any evidence of overcrowding there.

There are 16 Strachan socialists, including one lady, who has her own office.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan has his own, leaving 14 NDP backbenchers to share one room, which isn't small though they do sit shoulder-to-shoulder around a common table.

There are six Liberals. Leader Ray Perrault has his own room — pokey it is, true — and the Liberal common room isn't exactly swanky, but I wouldn't think anyone suffers too much.

It often seems to me many MLAs, especially on the socialist side, want to make their legislative jobs full-time. Some would like two sessions a year with two indemnities, no doubt.

MLAs are always complaining about the pressures of their work, how it's taking more and more of their time. A little less talking would solve this problem, but that's not the way many of them want it solved.



DAVID BARRETT  
... "never invited"

Social Credit Dudley Little of Skeena thinks the government neglects the Legislative Buildings, which it does to a very great extent.

Mr. Little instanced the Cedar Committee Room — a beautiful room, but allowed to grow and remain somewhat shabby.

All it needs, said Mr. Little, is some elbow grease and polish to bring the fine wood back to its once elegant state.

★ ★ ★

Do you know what NDP Bob Williams of Vancouver East called our proud Legislative Square?

He called it a mess, and there's something to what he said. Legislative Square has a Queen Anne front and a Mary Ann behind.

Mr. Williams has been pained by the conglomeration of government buildings scattered around all over the place but well out of sight of the tourists.

Several old houses are government offices, an old drill hall houses the motor vehicle branch, and jammed it is.

The so-called temporary buildings, there 20 years or more, are flimsy and anything but beautiful, laughing their heads off at the handsome south facade on the main block with its square and fountain.

Mr. Williams came to the

## Vietnam Bill Shot Down

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A resolution urging the Canadian government to work towards ending U.S. bombing in North Vietnam was defeated in the legislature Thursday.

It was introduced by Frank Calder (NDP-Atlin) who commented: "Canada cannot remain silent in the face of deliberate bombing of civilians."

The resolution urged Ottawa to join UN Secretary-General U Thant and Pope Paul in efforts to bring about an immediate end to the U.S. bombing of North Vietnam.

Attorney General Robert Bonner described the resolution as anti-American and hostile to the Canadian government.

He said the government would support a resolution similar to the one passed last year which urged Ottawa to work towards a peaceful settlement of the war.

conclusion that Vancouver city aldermen have better quarters than MLAs in this proud capital, and, for shame, Vancouver isn't nearly as rich as British Columbia.

To Mr. Williams, backbench MLAs have to put up with quarters he termed both disgusting and insulting, which is a bit extreme. Indeed, I'd say it's considerably wild.

While he was about it, Mr. Williams said there are far too many lobbyists lounging in legislative corridors. In this he has a good point.

★ ★ ★

NDP David Barrett of Coquitlam, in the session's dying hours, confessed to a great personal hurt.

Whenever there's an official opening in his riding of a public building, road or bridge, cried Mr. Barrett, he's never invited to sit on the platform with the VIPs, most of whom apparently, if we're to believe Mr. Barrett, are Social Crediters.

I'm beginning to believe the story that if there's a Social Credit government 'do' somewhere, the MLA for the district isn't invited if he's Liberal or socialist, but the defeated Social Credit candidate is.

It's strange, I can only think the powers that be invite defeated candidates by way of keeping them in the public eye and so grooming them for the next election.

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## James K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—"Be it resolved that this legislative assembly urge the federal government to use its position as a member of the International Joint Commission, in conjunction with the efforts of U Thant, secretary-general of the United Nations, lay and church leaders, including the World Council of Churches, and His Holiness Pope Paul VI, to bring about an immediate cessation of bombing in North Vietnam so that negotiations can proceed between the United States, the government of North Vietnam, the government of South Vietnam, and the National Liberation Front for a settlement based upon the Geneva accords of 1954."

This was a resolution from the NDP's Frank Calder and Atlin, debated in the legislature in the session's dying hours, as it was giving its last 1967 gasp just before the arrival of the lieutenant-governor to prorogue. It was a resolution that put all blame on the United States.

The resolution brought forth heat, white heat. It was a battle between the Strachan socialists, who always appear to me to be anti-American, and Liberals and Social Crediters, who refuse to let down Canada's best friend and closest neighbor, the United States.

They know Uncle Sam is making valiant efforts to keep Canada safe from foreign aggression.

The socialists want to see Uncle Sam humiliated and degraded. The premier glowered at the socialists, cried out for shame, for shame—and so say many Canadians, Mr. Premier.

It was easy to see the premier, in this, looks upon the socialists as traitors to the cause of freedom.

Attorney-general Bonner said the Calder resolution was anti-American and hostile to the government of Canada.

Needless to say, and fortunately for our good name, the socialist resolution was soundly trounced, even though NDP Mrs. Eileen Dailly of Burnaby North explained it was not anti-American, only anti-war.

I can never fathom the reason for New Democratic Party dislike of the United States, except that it won't toe the Commie line and socialists there get nowhere.

★ ★ ★

Premier Bennett is bound to be flooded with poison-pen letters, now that he has come out openly in favor of fluoridation of drinking water, so that young people's teeth may be preserved, and their general health improved thereby.

The premier made a big step forward, after years of ignoring this vital issue.

He did show some courage, but he should not rest until water is fluoridated in every part of the province.

In time fluoridation will be everywhere like chlorination and pasteurization.

These latter two caused hysterics at one time, now they're accepted, and practically no one would want to live without them.

I sometimes wonder how our university students find time to learn from their books, they're that busy staging sit-downs, speak-ins, and sit-ins, and boycotts, camping for hours outside the locked doors of board rooms—and things like that.

They're so busy worrying about the faculties, and passing resolutions opposing just about everything, that it's a mercy to me any of them get their degrees.

Or are these oh-so-busy students the ones who eventually get dropped because they fall down on their work? I don't know—but I'd like to.



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## From Government

# B.C. Citizens 'Unprotected'

New laws are needed to protect B.C.'s citizens from the bureaucratic actions of provincial government boards and agencies, the legislature was told Tuesday.

Tom Berger (NDP, Vancouver Burrard) said the only way the people can be guaranteed fair treatment from such bodies as the Pollution Control Board and many others is "if we put it in the statutes."

"I think it is time we made the regulators subject to regulation," he told the House during the second day of debate on Attorney-General Bonner's salary vote.

## FIVE POINTS

Mr. Berger said the bureaucratic immunity of the many government boards which hold sway over people's lives could be ended through legislation which would require:

- Notification of people whose rights are likely to be infringed by passage of a regulation.
- Disclosure of evidence submitted to the board.
- Handing down of reasons for any decision made.
- That citizens have the right to representation by themselves or by legal counsel.
- That persons affected by decisions of such boards would have the right of appeal to the courts on points of law.

"We have a vast proliferation of government boards and agencies that regulate our lives," he said.

## ONLY MEANS

"But the only means we have of challenging the decisions of these boards and agencies is by a complicated system of what are called prerogative writs.

"The writs should be abolished and replaced by a standard form of motion that could be brought before the courts in any case where a citizen wanted to challenge the decision of an administrative tribunal."

The attorney-general replied that "the opportunity of a person affected to appear before a board is made apparent in practice."

Mr. Bonner said many statutes had been passed "in the light of special circumstances which have arisen." He told the House that "the principles of uniformity are one thing and the principles of practical procedure are another."

"Archaic laws, long since outmoded by modern social and economic conditions, can be found throughout our statute books. For instance, the Landlord and Tenant Act in our province is copied word for word from an English statute that was enacted in the reign of Queen Anne, in the 18th century," said Mr. Berger.

He added B.C. should have a rent-strike law which would allow tenants to pay their rent into court if their landlord refused to keep up repairs.

## 'APPROPRIATE'

Mr. Bonner replied that the "B.C. section of the Canadian Bar Association might be acknowledged as the appropriate author" of the recommendation for the reform commission.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault told B.C. legislators Tuesday the centennial theme for the province should be "Comin' Through the Rye," in his debate on the attorney-general's estimates.

"The people of B.C. imbibed 30,000,000 gallons of liquor and beer, not to mention the moonshine, last year," he said.

He compared the \$2,000,000 spent on alcohol and tobacco in the province last year with the other expenditures, including the fact it was "40 times as much as was spent on free tuition."

## 'TIMOROUS STEP'

The government has taken a "timorous first step" in its driver-testing program, he said, but is still parsimonious in not taking more dramatic steps to control the property damage from highway accidents which ran to \$85,000,000 last year.

Attorney-General Bonner said Tuesday in the legislature some charges will be laid in connection with irregularities in B.C. Hydro construction in the Nakusp area.

Mr. Bonner was replying briefly to estimates debate questioning by Randolph Harding (NDP-Revelstoke-Slocan) regarding a civil writ issued by the Nakusp Hydro office against two individuals and four companies working in that area.

"There has been the necessity for an investigation by the RCMP and charges are being laid," he said.

# Braaten Finds Defender

Attorney-General Bonner said Tuesday he will look into the reason why pulp union leader Orville Braaten was led away to jail wearing handcuffs, for contempt of the royal commission on invasion of privacy by refusing to answer questions.

He was replying in the legislature to a complaint by Leo Nimsick (NDP, Kootenay) that it was unnecessary for the union official to have been treated "as if he were a common criminal."

## MAKING INQUIRIES

"That is a point well taken. We're making inquiries into it," the attorney-general said.

Mr. Nimsick held up the front page of a Vancouver newspaper which had a three-column photograph of a sheriff's officer leading Mr. Braaten away by handcuffs.

"Just imagine what that does to his family, his children," Mr. Nimsick said. "It embitters people against the law. It embitters them against the police force."

## CHEAPER TO PAY

Mr. Nimsick also said many innocent people plead guilty to minor offences because it is cheaper to pay a \$10 fine than give up a day's pay to appear in court.

The NDP member urged some compensation for loss of wages by people who contest their charges and are found not guilty.

Mr. Bonner conceded that "sometimes with young constables the book is adhered to rather rigidly."

## REMOTE AREAS

But constables with experience, particularly those by themselves in remote areas, "soon develop an attitude toward enforcement which is more in keeping with what I think you have in mind."

"You ought not to plead guilty if you're not guilty, you ought not hesitate to go to court or to speak up in court if charges have been sloppily handled," he said.



## MLA Roasts Law Methods

# Faith Shredded in Courts

A Sacred backbencher lashed out strongly Tuesday at the B.C. attorney-general's office, magistrates, and policemen who are shattering the faith of people in British justice.

"Many people who go into court with a sense of faith in what we call British justice come out badly shattered," Ernie LeCours (SC — Richmond) told the House, whom he asked to serve as his "jury."

"If you seek redress from the office of the attorney-general you will get pretty thin treatment," he said.

### 'SKUNK' TREATMENT

He lashed out at the "incredible evidence that people are being convicted on."

Although he admitted he was treated respectfully, if evasively, by the attorney-general's office, he said, "Sometimes it is the type of respect you would give a skunk at a garden party."

He accused the attorney-general of being "fine as Mr. Bennett's first lieutenant," but questioned his ability to do "the job he is supposed to be doing."

"If you have rights and are not prepared to fight for them, what is the use of having them?" Mr. LeCours said.

### INTO POLICE

He said he knew "boys unmanageable at home or in school, or who were insufferable bullies, whose parents put them into the police force."

Specifically, he accused an RCMP constable, whom he did not name, of fabricating a charge of impaired driving against a man whose vehicle he had run into with his police car. Mr. LeCours said the constable did it because he had had an accident only a month previously. The constable, Mr. LeCours said, charged the man with backing into him and made it stick in court.

### PERJURY CHARGE

Mr. LeCours termed Attorney-General Bonner's investigation report on this incident a "mass of irregularities and untruths." He said he had urged a charge of perjury be laid against the RCMP constable, and the investigating inspector had asked him (LeCours) "Are you a lawyer, or just a citizen?"

In another case, he said, "a man was provoked into assaulting a policeman, and was labelled a hood." A young man had been asleep in the passenger seat of his car, he said, and had been aroused by a police-

man, then charged with assault when he lashed out at the officer.

During his two-hour tirade against administration of the law in the lower courts, and law enforcement, he cited an instance of a man who had been tried with an offence alleged to have been committed Sept. 5, and had been forced to spend \$500 and suffer much inconvenience to himself and defence witnesses before the "frivolous charge" was dismissed the following Jan. 4.

"There should be some way to sue the Crown over the laying of such a charge," he said, amid applause.

By way of remedy, he suggested:

- Considerably stricter selection of law enforcement officers, and investigation of their backgrounds.

- Classification of magistrates as to ability, and dismissal in the evidence of proven incompetence.

- Prohibition of a magistrate consorting with a prosecutor, without the presence of the accused.

- Better scheduling of cases in magistrate's court to avoid undue loss of time for the accused.

- Abatement of inequities in sentences issued by magistrates.

- Legal aid, freely given through the attorney-general's department, as the right of the accused.

The attorney-general later told the House it was very difficult to reply to "assertions of mixed fact, hearsay, opinion and conclusions."

But he read excerpts from a detailed investigation into the alleged police car accident which did not substantiate Mr. LeCours' charge.

Mr. Bonner said he therefore had to take issue with the member's suggestion that this case had been "whitewashed."

## Legislature Roundup

# Dog Tag Price to Double

Dog licence fees will be doubled in unorganized territory in an effort to cut down on the number of farm animals killed by stray dogs.

A bill to amend the Sheep Protection Act which was introduced and given first reading in the legislature Tuesday, will require payment of a \$2 fee for male and spayed females \$4 for females and \$20 (kennel) for five or more dogs.

Agriculture Minister Richter said outside the House the bill is expected to have "a restraining effect against people having more dogs than they can look after."

### FUND REPLENISHER

The increased revenue will also supplement the fund which is used for payments of losses in sheep, poultry, rabbits, pheasants and goats killed by stray dogs, whose owners cannot be identified for compensation purposes he said.

Not all Canadians are as enlightened as B.C. on the question of penal reform Attorney-General Bonner said Monday.

He made the comment after

Dave Barrett (NDP, Coquitlam), a social worker, called for drastic reforms in the B.C. corrections system.

### DAILY COST

Mr. Barrett urged a pre-trial parole system, whereby a person accused of a relatively minor offence would remain working and functioning in his local community.

"It costs \$8.50 a day to keep a man in Oakalla" Mr. Barrett said. "I don't think the taxpayers should have to bear this cost while the man could be out earning his own living."

★ ★ ★

The government-owned Pacific Great Eastern Railway has received \$2,478,500 in construction subsidies from Ottawa and wants \$17,337,000 more, Premier Bennett advised the legislature Tuesday.

★ ★ ★

The provincial government spent \$20,100 on the distribution of 60,000 extra copies of B.C.'s 1966-67 budget.

Premier Bennett tabled this information in the legislature Tuesday, in reply to questions on the order papers from Opposition Leader Robert Strachan.

★ ★ ★

## Late Hour Sends MLA From House

Skeena Sacred Dudley Little voted with the NDP and Liberals in the legislature early today, but lost when a motion to adjourn was beaten 28-22. Mr. Little then went home, saying: "I think a quarter to one is late enough."

The House passed Attorney-General Bonner's office budget at 12:21 a.m. after 10½ hours of debate. The sitting ended at 1:38 with the rest of his department's budget barely scratched.



## Liquor Laws

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL was apparently not in his best form the other day — meaning his usual cautious self — during discussion of liquor laws which his department administers. Or perhaps it was simply that the truth will out notwithstanding.

At any rate, in rebuttal in the House of criticism of the present system and the suggestion that the rules governing the consumption of alcoholic beverages should be liberalised to promote "more sensible drinking," Mr. Bonner is quoted as saying that "B.C. has no monopoly on nonsense as far as liquor laws are concerned."

That may be true enough, but two wrongs never make a right, and this was an admission that B.C.'s liquor laws are nonsensical. If this in the opinion of the attorney-general be so, it is surprising he doesn't do something about them.

Mr. Bonner said further that the B.C. Liquor Act is based on the philosophy that the serving of liquor should be tied in with the provision of meals and accommodation for travellers. That may be an admirable concept, but in relation to beer parlors—the point raised by an Opposition member—there is scant evidence that the patrons of these establishments are interested in or take advantage of such forms of public service. In the main they are customers whose sole object is to consume the beverages available to them in these parlors.

The suggestion was that entertainment should be permitted in beer parlors in order to make them places where there was other interest than the "guzzling" which present conditions invite. If one adds to this the serving in greater measure of food, then the likelihood is that the parlors would not be primarily drinking saloons. It seems reasonable to believe these changes would promote the "more sensible" drinking suggested by creating an improved social atmosphere.

But the underlying principle of the B.C. Liquor Act, according to the attorney-general, has enabled provincial travel agencies to boast of facilities comparable to any to be found in North America. The complaints voiced by many visitors to B.C. on the subject of provincial liquor laws would not seem to support any such claim.

## Economics Delays Ladysmith Prison

The delay in drawing up plans for the proposed Saltair jail between Ladysmith and Chemainus has a lot to do with economics, Attorney-General Bonner told the legislature Wednesday.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan had wanted to know what the plans were for the "on again, off again" announcements which seemed to be tied in with elections and other financial effects.

Mr. Bonner said the government was studying ways in which B.C.'s prison population could be reduced, and that in the meantime it didn't want to spend the \$14,000 per inmate which is normally required for construction of a standard jail.

He said he hoped the new structure could be built at a much lower unit cost, and that while "the basic commitment to disengage from Colquitz still stands, how to do it is a matter of study."

## Car Dealers' Charge

## Gasoline Price Report Ignored

The B.C. Automotive Retailers Association said Wednesday that oil companies have ignored recommendations of the Morrow Report on gasoline prices.

The association made its statement in a brief to the legislature's special committee established to examine the report tabled in the legislature last year.

"If there is a specific desire on the part of the government of British Columbia to do something about the specific recommendations . . . then it is obvious that some sort of legislative directive will be imperative," the brief said.

Among the recommendations of Judge Charles Morrow was a five-year moratorium on gasoline service station construction and reductions in gasoline prices.

The association's brief said, however, that it did not favor government price control.

## Brief Hits Riverview

# Mental Health Shift Promised to House

Health Minister Black reiterated Wednesday, in the face of another flareup on the mental health front, he intends to reorganize the whole mental health setup in B.C.

He was commenting outside the legislature on a complaint by the Psychiatric Nurses' Association of B.C. that Riverview Mental Hospital offered luxurious accommodation for Skid Road parasites and neglected the genuinely sick.

### ACTION DEMANDED

The charge was contained in a brief sent to the minister Jan. 6. The association said only a short acknowledgment was received from the minister.

"We believe the situation is deteriorating daily and no concrete action is being taken," Faye Hartford, association secretary, said in Vancouver.

### JUST PART

Mr. Black said the association's brief contained some things which "just have to be looked after." But he would not elaborate.

"We're taking a look at the reorganization of the whole mental health operation. Now, what else can I say? This is just part of the whole thing," the minister said.

### FLAGRANT WASTE

The association brief, released to the press Wednesday, said there was a flagrant waste of nursing staff because graduate nurses were forced to clean lavatories and wax floors.

It said bathing facilities for patients were worse than those provided for cattle on a farm.

"This method is not working to the benefit of the genuinely psychotic patient," the brief said.

### 'LUXURIOUS'

"It is, though, providing luxurious accommodation for the social parasites of Vancouver's Skid Road."

The health minister later announced that a meeting had been arranged with two representatives of the Psychiatric Nurses' Association in his office at 9 a.m. today.

## Bonner on Courts:

# Guidelines Too Destructive

Attorney-General Bonner told the legislature Wednesday it would be impossible to lay down a code of uniform sentences for magistrates' courts in B.C. without destroying an important function of the court.

He was replying to a question from Randolph Harding (NDP, Revelstoke-Slocan) who wanted to know if a set of guidelines could be laid down for more uniform sentencing.

Mr. Harding said during debate on a \$10,000 vote for a magistrates' conference that he had noticed some magistrates were "extremely severe" while others were lenient.

### 'NO FORMULA'

"I can think of no formula ... apart from a very rigid codification which would destroy court discretion," that could accomplish this purpose, Mr. Bonner replied.

Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) asked for a levying of court fines for such offences as impaired driving according to ability to pay.

A high fine "in one case is ruination to the family of the accused, and in another just a tap on the wrist," he told the House.

### 'FIT ACCUSED'

"Let's make punishment equal by making the fines unequal. Punishment should not fit the crime but fit the accused."

There's nothing illegal about having a drinking lounge in a police station, Mr. Bonner told the legislature Wednesday.

Leo Nimsick (NDP, Kootenay) asked during debate on a vote of \$4,567,580 for policing by the RCMP, "Is it legal for police departments to have lounges where drinks are served?"

### 'KNOW OF TWO'

"I know of two in various stages of operations in the province," the attorney-general replied.

Mr. Bonner later said outside the House he was referring specifically to RCMP messes near Victoria and in Vancouver.

Asked whether the Victoria police station had a lounge where drinks were served, he said, "I'm not aware of any permanent mess anywhere."

Meanwhile, the B.C. legislature approved estimates of the attorney-general's department

totalling \$23,049,774 after three days of debate. Also approved were estimates totalling \$744,028 for Mr. Bonner's Commercial Transport Department.

### MORE JUDGES

Mr. Bonner said Tuesday that B.C.'s Supreme Court would have two additional judges and that pamphlets would be distributed this month to warn Vancouver Islanders of the pending roadside breathalyser tests for drinking drivers.

He also said that teen-agers may soon be required to have a certificate of driving before they will be granted a licence.

The government is now considering the question, he said, of requiring the 16-to-21-year-olds to produce proof of instruction "from a qualified person or a qualified driver school."

Mr. Bonner said he would bring down legislation at this session to "create two more vacancies on the bench" of the Supreme Court. There are now 15.

The roadside breathalyser tests for drinking drivers will begin April 1. Mr. Bonner said about 300,000 pamphlets will be distributed through the mail and in other ways to Vancouver Islanders this month. The two-page pamphlet explains the program under which a policeman may suspend a driver's licence for 24 hours if he suspects the driver has more than .08 per cent alcohol in his blood.



## Capozzi Bid Rebuffed

# One School System Best—Bennett

The Social Credit government is prepared to stand or fall on the issue of one public school system in the province, with no grants to other systems.

Premier Bennett said so in the legislature Thursday, after H. P. Capozzi (SC—Vancouver Centre) had made a plea for some grants to be made to Catholic schools in the province.

"It is very easy to stay silent on this issue," the premier said, "but I will stand or fall by it."

### GENERAL APPLAUSE

Applause on all sides of the House supported his opinion.

Speaking in the debate on education estimates Mr. Capozzi said he did not think pupils attending separate schools should have full grants.

"After all, they are requesting certain privileges, but they are entitled to some form of grant."

He said he realized he would be faced with bigots who would not agree.

### SAME ONES

The people who were trying to bring religious training into schools were the same people who were in the first groups coming out to Canada from the old country.

"In the world and it exists today, we are going to need more than people teaching morality," he told the House.

### THEIR IDEA

The premier said in the early days in B.C. there had been an endeavor to set up an Anglican Church school system, as there was in England, but the English people themselves had said they wanted one free public school system.

There was, he added, more goodwill between Catholic and non-Catholic in B.C. than in other places with separate systems.

"Rather than a move to segregate and separate people," said Education Minister Peterson, "the move should be in the other direction. I would hope this would lead to the disappearance of all except the public school system."

Anyone who wanted it could have their children educated by private means.

"It should be made very clear that we don't contemplate any change in public policy in this respect."

Support for the premier came

from an unexpected source — Opposition Leader Robert Strachan. He said he was speaking for his party, which had always felt the public school system was the only one for which the government should be responsible.

"This shouldn't be a political matter. It is provincial policy on schools," he said.

### FROM EXPERIENCE

John Tisdalle (SC—Saanich and the Islands) said it had been his experience that when anyone used the term bigots, they were speaking from first-hand experience, and were probably bigots themselves.

His remarks drew Mr. Capozzi to his feet on a point of personal privilege, but Mr. Tisdalle said he had not been referring to his colleague.

## Minister Says Desks Will Do If School Without Gym

Gymnasiums are not as important as classrooms and there is no reason why students cannot do exercises at their desks, Education Minister Leslie Peterson told the legislature Thursday.

He said he is in favor of gymnasiums but that if they are not available there is nothing to prevent school boards from having larger playing fields and sending children out to run in the rain.

Mr. Peterson told the House that he and some other cabinet ministers ran a mile in

the rain Wednesday morning.

A special form of exercises has also been designed which is suitable to the classroom and can be done at the desks, he added.

Opposition members immediately called for a demonstration.

The minister replied: "You put your feet up on your desk and do push-ups." But he did not demonstrate the technique. He merely said that these exercises were not isometric (playing one muscle against another) in nature.

We have a tendency to pamper our children," he said.

"I feel there is room for a great deal of improvement in our physical education program and the fitness of our students but it is not because of a lack of facilities.

"I am one who regards gymnasiums and activity rooms as desirable and in many ways essential, but when the choice has to be made between them and school desks, the desks must take priority," Mr. Peterson said.

# Vocational School Site Under Study

A site at Colquitz and Wilkinson Road is being studied for Victoria's long-promised vocational school.

Education Minister Peterson said in the legislature Thursday that the public works department was looking at a new site for the vocational school. The proposed site at Burnside and the Trans-Canada Highway will be used by B.C. Hydro for an equipment yard, unless it can find a site in a different part of Saanich.

## SEWER PROBLEM

He said there was good prospects of the site at Colquitz and Wilkinson being accepted for the school, although there was a sewer problem which would have to be cleared up.

If the site was used, workshops would be the first buildings erected.

John Tisdalle (SC, Saanich and the Islands) had asked the minister if a new site was being recommended.

## HYDRO FIRST

He pointed out that until B.C. Hydro could make satisfactory arrangements for a new site, the vocational school couldn't be started.

"Saanich municipality has made it difficult, putting impediments and obstacles to pre-

vent them getting the zoning they need."

Earlier Thursday, the Southern Vancouver Island School Trustees' Association had appealed for support from all MLAs to get work started on the badly needed vocational school.

A brief from the four school districts of Greater Victoria, Saanich, Sooke and the Gulf Islands, said they were "frustrated and discouraged."

"It is almost four years since we began to present our case."

## SEVERAL MEETINGS

"The first public meeting was held on May 2, 1963. Over three years meetings have been held with the minister of education, the deputy minister of education and the director of vocational education."

"None has ever shown any opposition to a school here. Indeed, assurances have been given that immediate action was forthcoming. But we still have no sign of a proper vocational school for this populous part of the province."

## ENOUGH NOW

A survey of senior high school students shows "there are enough students available to fill a vocational training school immediately," says the brief.

"The four school districts...

with 40,000 pupils in their schools, surely justify consideration equal to districts half their size," the brief says.

## TRAINING NEEDED

"We know there are many young people here who did not complete secondary schooling and need job training. The retraining and up-grading of adults is as important here as elsewhere."

The brief points to 846 students in nine high schools who replied to a survey this winter saying they would attend a vocational school after graduation if one was available.

There are about 130 students now taking provincial vocational training in Victoria in several makeshift quarters. Space for another 120 will be ready this spring with the opening of the renovated Begg Building at Yates and Quadra.

## PARTIAL PROGRAM

The new facilities in the Begg Building will offer training in electronics, office machine repair and computer programming.

The trustees' brief terms the Begg Building facilities "inadequate."

"The district cannot be served by a partial program in makeshift buildings," says the brief.

## Stupich Upholds College

Nanaimo MLA David Stupich told the legislature Thursday night the department of education should play a bigger role in the establishment of regional colleges throughout B.C.

He told the House during Education Minister Peterson's salary vote debate that the department cannot absolve itself of this responsibility by merely saying "the local people should settle all their differences."

The NDP member also said that, "from a socialist point of view the aim of the educational system should be the ultimate development of the individual."

He said equalization grants for students who have to travel some distance to attend university "should not be handed out on a means test basis" and that the NDP looks forward to the day when fees will be abolished.

## 'No Reason For Hike In Tuition'

Education Minister Peterson can see no reason for an increase in university fees this year, he told the legislature during debate of education department estimates, Thursday.

Replying to a question from A. B. MacDonald (NDP—Vancouver East) he said the question of fees was entirely in the hands of the autonomous bodies which governed the universities.

"However," he said, "there is no reason why there should be an increase in tuition fees in the province this year."

## Station For Islands?

Liberal leader Ray Perrault asked the government Thursday night to build an educational television station with a transmitter in the Gulf Islands which could reach 80 per cent of the province's population.

He said the station should be built at the University of B.C. and be connected by microwave to the University of Victoria and Simon Fraser University, for program pickups.

The Liberal leader said the province of Ontario will spend nearly \$3,200,000 during the current fiscal year to get into the educational TV field, and that educational TV station KCTS at the University of Washington has an operating budget of only \$360,000 per year.

While places such as these are bringing everything from kindergarten classes to adult education into the homes, B.C. is "spending millions building educational structures which are closed five and six months a year."

"If the government is not going to take action this year, by all means let's have it included in the Speech from the Throne next year."



Friday, March 3, 1967

## Education Policies Attacked At Highest, Lowest Levels

Opposition attacks on the government's education policy Thursday, centred around the failure to provide equalization grants for out-of-town students at university, and at the other end of the scale, the lack of kindergartens in many provincial school districts.

Rural taxpayers were not getting a fair share of educational opportunities, opposition members said during debate of education estimates in the legislature.

David Barrett, (NDP Coquitlam) suggested that teachers in the rural areas should be given extra pay.

Children should have the benefit of experienced teachers, not just young inexperienced teachers who had been forced to go to the rural areas to teach.

### ASSISTANCE NEEDED

Some rural areas needed assistance from the government, and they should be able to attract the services of the best trained teachers.

Mr. Barrett criticized what he called "the archaic system" of having universities open only from September to May, and asked to investigation of the quarter system, which made full asked for investigation of the round.

### NO EQUALITY

Alex MacDonald (NDP Vancouver East) said there was no equality of opportunity, as long as only a privileged few could afford to attend university.

He said in Vancouver's Point Grey area, 80 per cent of eligible students attended university, whereas only 20 per cent

went on from Vancouver East. He asked for grants on the basis of need.

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Resources Minister Williston has announced a new formula for stumpage prices will be introduced on all new timber sale licences and any licences which come up for renewal.

He said the stumpage rate will fluctuate with every \$5 change in the average price of logs on the Coast and lumber in the Interior, and that this will be subject to revision every two years.

The old system of stumpage rates was based on a 15-per-cent fluctuation in price, and it was reviewed only once every five years.

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A bill which will require all citizens to report cases of child abandonment, desertion and ill treatment to the authorities was brought into the legislature by the government Thursday.

The bill, which was introduced and given first reading, also provides that any report of child mistreatment will be treated as "confidential or privileged" information.

Welfare Minister Campbell said the measure was aimed at such professional people as school teachers, doctors, hospital personnel and welfare officials who are in a position to notice child cruelty cases.

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The Public Schools Act is to be amended later this year to allow clergymen to become school trustees.

Education Minister Peterson said the section would be amended to allow members of the clergy to serve as school trustees.

They would still not be allowed to teach, "although they are always eligible when they are no longer practising, if they have the necessary qualifications."

## Complaints Made

Health Minister Black said Thursday a delegation from the Psychiatric Nurses' Association of B.C. had agreed to submit complaints about Riverview Mental Hospital to a special departmental committee.

The minister said after a 2½-hour meeting with the delegates that "they spoke freely and so

did I. They said they had a fair hearing and they appeared to be satisfied."

Mr. Black said he advised the delegation he would set up a four-man departmental committee to replace deputy mental health minister Dr. Alan Davidson, who is resigning to take up a federal post on April 1.

This committee will be responsible for administration of the mental health department until a new deputy minister is named.

### KEY COMPLAINTS

The Psychiatric Nurses' Association had complained that graduate nurses were forced to clean lavatories and wax floors at Riverview Mental Hospital and that bathing facilities for patients there were worse than those provided for cattle on a farm.

Mr. Black said he told the delegation that one of the first jobs of the new committee would be to meet with them about the complaint.

Friday, March 3, 1967

## NDP Accuses Bennett

# APRIL SITTING 'THREATENED'

By JACK FRY  
Legislative Reporter

Premier Bennett sparked the noisiest shouting match of the current session Thursday night by informing the legislature the session will be continued after the Easter holidays if its business is not completed by then.

Trouble started at 11:35 p.m., when Leo Nimsick (NDP, Kootenay) moved an adjournment of debate on Education Minister Leslie Peterson's salary vote, which came before the House earlier the same day.

The motion was defeated by a vote of 29 to 22, with the Liberals supporting the NDP.

### TO APRIL 3

Premier Bennett then advised the House that "it isn't the wish of the government to have late night sittings . . . but when we come to Thursday the 23rd it is the present plan of the speaker (Premier) to adjourn to April 3."

He explained that four MLAs had asked him when the session will end, because of business affairs they must attend to. He said he hoped an adjournment over the Easter holidays will not be necessary.

The shouting erupted shortly thereafter and carried on for 15 minutes until midnight, when Speaker William Murray stepped in to restore order.

### REFUSED TO SIT

Mr. Nimsick, who protested the premier's warning that the

session might be extended, refused to sit down when he was ruled out of order by deputy speaker Herbert Bruch (SC, Esquimalt) for not sticking to the subject of Mr. Peterson's salary vote.

The NDP member said he construed the premier's action as "a half-threat."

"No, this is just for the information of the House," Mr. Bennett replied.

"This is a threat to the House that we are going to have a week's holiday then come back, then I say that's wrong," Mr. Nimsick said.

Mr. Bruch pounded his gavel, then jumped up to order the NDP member to be seated.

Mr. Bruch left the chair and Mr. Murray stepped in to restore order. Mr. Bruch then returned to the chair.

### DEMANDS FAIR PLAY

Randolph Harding (NDP, Revelstoke-Slocan) demanded "fair play in this House."

He told Mr. Bruch: "If this continues we are going to put a motion on the order paper challenging your right to sit in this House."

"You can't threaten the chairman," retorted Premier Bennett. Mr. Harding termed the deputy speaker's conduct a "distasteful show of partisanship."

### WALK OUT

The Liberal members of the House walked out in disgust during the hassle.

A short while later, another NDP motion for adjournment was defeated by a vote of 28 to 22. Mr. Peterson's salary vote was passed shortly before 1 a.m. and the House adjourned at 1:15.



# Who'll Pay Culture Cash? NDP for Independents, Bennett for Broad Base

B.C. needs an independent group like the Canada Council to allocate awards from the proposed centennial cultural fund, opposition members told the B.C. legislature Friday.

Their comments came during third and final reading of a bill to establish a centennial cultural fund of \$5,000,000. The sum will be invested and interest used to promote cultural activities among B.C. residents. The bill stipulates that the awards will be made by the minister of finance.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) said the fund should be administered by an independent arts council, as in the case of the Canada Council.

"The Ottawa government has taken patronage and politics out of the arts and here you are putting it in," Mr. Macdonald said. "The premier doesn't trust the artistic people of the province to administer their own affairs."

Liberal leader Ray Perrault said the fund shouldn't be confined to certain groups. "Let's make sure the Peace River, Okanagan and Kootenay districts get some of this money."

## BROADLY BASED

Premier Bennett, who as finance minister will administer the fund, said the government intends to keep the fund as broadly based as possible and would be glad to get the advice of arts groups, MLAs, civil servants and others.

A number of other bills received third reading, including:

- Attorney-General Bonner's bill to amend the parents' maintenance act, which would enable cases to be heard by a judge of the family and children's court rather than by a police magistrate.

- An act to amend the Colored Gasoline Tax Act, introduced by Finance Minister Bennett, which would provide for easier enforcement of regulations and decrease abuses by colored-gasoline users. Colored gasoline is given much-reduced tax preference and is primarily used by farmers for farm equipment and engines.

- An act to amend the Pacific Great Eastern Construction Loan Act, which increases the authorized borrowing power of the PGE by \$25,000,000 to a total of \$190,000,000.

- And an act to establish a Crop Insurance Stabilization Fund, permitting the government to establish a \$5,000,000 fund to back a tree-fruit crop insurance scheme.

A bill that will raise the tax-free ceiling on provincial duties also received second reading.

## Exercise Class 'Waste of Time'

High school students today are not in as good physical condition as a dozen MLAs from either side of the House, Herbert Capozzi (SC, Vancouver Centre) said during debate of education estimates in the legislature Thursday.

He questioned the necessity of physical training during school hours.

"The school should provide leadership for physical activity in the community, but it should be after school hours," he said.

He had understood physical activity to mean some form of exercise which would exert a student, but it appeared to be just a pleasant diversion during the day.

## WASTE OF TIME

"Physical exercise classes in the schools are a waste of time," he declared. "We are not getting full use from our facilities. We should combine our gymnasiums, swimming pools, etc., so that the whole community would benefit."

Robert Williams (NDP, Van-

couver East) hammered the government's policy of building classrooms but not gymnasiums.

"This is all very well in Victoria or Vancouver where the winter is mild and they can have physical exercise outside, but there are areas of the province where they cannot get outside in the winter."

Failure to provide facilities was an admission of government mismanagement, he said.

## Medicare Bill Due 'In This Session'

Premier Bennett said Friday some form of a medicare bill will be introduced by the government during the current session.

He told reporters it would not be an amendment to the B.C. Medical Plan but he refused to divulge the nature of the legislation.

There was speculation the new bill will put all private insurance plans for paying doctors' bills under government supervision.

The premier's only reply was, "I have no comment on that."

# Some Misusing Funds—Bennett MUNICIPALITIES 'CAUGHT IN OWN GLUE'

By JACK FRY  
Legislative Reporter

Premier Bennett accused some of B.C.'s municipalities Friday of misusing the funds at their disposal.

He told the legislature, "municipalities keep every nickel they collect themselves, and in addition they get 54 per cent of the money we collect."

"They have been misusing funds — they've caught themselves in their own glue."

## CHALLENGE PASSED

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan challenged the premier to identify the alleged offenders for "casting a cloud over every municipality," but Mr. Bennett remained silent.

The flareup occurred during debate on an amendment to the Municipalities Aid Act which will require municipalities to apply provincial per capita grants to road construction and maintenance, ahead of other municipal projects.

The government encountered so many objections from the NDP and Liberal benches that Premier Bennett finally called for a division to push the bill through second reading, which is approval in principle, by a vote of 31 to 21.

## 'SPITE LEGISLATION'

An earlier motion by Robert Williams (NDP, 2nd Vancouver East) for adjournment of the debate was defeated by a vote of 29 to 21.

Mr. Williams told the House the government bill was "spite legislation" aimed at Vancouver and that ratepayers there would be faced with a two-mill tax increase because Vancouver finances its road costs by debentures.

Mr. Strachan said the amendment was nothing more than "a propaganda bill" and that the effect it will have on all of B.C.'s municipalities is of greater importance than the

fact the government keeps bringing in "half-baked legislation" which creates turmoil and court cases.

## 'INTERFERING'

The NDP leader said the government's "bad fiscal policy is interfering with the autonomous rights of the municipalities" to spend their per-capita grants as they see fit.

Alan Macfarlane (L. Oak Bay) said "nobody could support a phoney piece of legislation like this." He said it was a "politically motivated" measure which "comes directly from the minister of finance as a result of his anger with the city of Vancouver, who are asking for a fair share" from the government.

"Every municipal leader in Greater Victoria tells me this act is for political purposes and will be a detriment to them in the proper operation of municipal affairs."

## 'MINISTER AGAINST'

The Oak Bay member accused Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell of being "the minister against the municipalities" and asked why the amendment was not put before the legislature's municipal affairs committee for study before being brought into the House.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault said "this shoddy little bill" offers "not a cent more assistance from the provincial government."

The treatment which this government is giving the municipalities is something which could be expected back in the dark ages, Mr. Perrault continued.

## 'INSULT TO UBCM'

"It's an insult to the Union of B.C. Municipalities and the municipalities of B.C. This government has turned its back on the municipalities and it further insults their intelligence."

David Barrett (NDP, Coquitlam) told the House, "what this bill does is threaten the whole democratic fabric around the

purpose of municipalities. This is the thin end of the wedge for complete political domination over the municipalities."

Patrick McGeer (L. Vancouver-Point Grey) called for some Soerod backbenchers to stand up against the bill and for some reason for its presence to be explained.

## 'SELF-EVIDENT'

"It doesn't need explanation. It's self-evident," Waldo Skilings (SC, Victoria) interjected.

"That's right, it's self-evident political tripe," Mr. McGeer snapped. "It's a political sellout by six (Soerod) members for Vancouver."

Speaker William Murray asked Mr. McGeer to withdraw the term "sellout" because "it's impugning improper motives" to the members referred to.

## WASTING TIME

Leo Nimsock (NDP, Kootenay) accused the government of wanting to "make sure that for every nickel granted to the municipalities your government will get credit for it — it's nothing but spite legislation."

Allan Williams (L. Vancouver-Howe Sound) asked, "why are we wasting our time in this House dealing with a meaningless bill when we should be dealing with legislation to increase aid to municipalities?"

Barrie Clar, (L. North Vancouver-Seymour) said it is now evident the government "has no intention of listening to the complaints and problems" of the municipalities.

## 'DONE IT AGAIN'

"You've done it again," he said, "and once again this government will see its municipal affairs minister stand before the UBCM and receive no respect because he hasn't referred (the bill) to them."

Premier Bennett accused the opposition of trying to throw "sand and dust" in the voters' eyes. He said the government "always treats the municipalities more generously" every year and that "this is a very fair deal indeed."



## 'Great Force for Unity'

# Legislature Pays Tribute To 'Simple Man of Faith'

By JACK FRY  
Legislative Reporter

British Columbia's 55-member legislature stood in silence for one minute Monday in solemn tribute to the memory of Canada's Governor-General George Vanier, who died Sunday.

When the House sat at 2 p.m., a grim-faced Premier Bennett rose and asked the House to "go on record as expressing its deepest regret" about the loss of the 78-year-old Canadian who had been head of state since 1959.

He asked Speaker William Murray to convey to Mme. Vanier, her sons and daughter, "the sincere sympathy of the members of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia and the people of the province."

All three political leaders in the House paid tribute to the Canadian leader, and these proceedings set the pace for the windup of the education department estimates, in what can probably be considered as the quietest sitting of the current session.

Flags on all provincial government buildings were lowered to half mast and will remain in that position through Wednesday, the day of the funeral.

It was decided, however, that there would be no adjournment of the legislature and no school holiday.

Education Minister Peterson said outside the House that schools throughout the province had been asked to hold appropriate ceremonies Wednesday morning.

Premier Bennett told the House, "I am sure that as an old soldier and statesman Governor-General Vanier would prefer that the legislature carry on instead of adjourning for a period of mourning."

"A public memorial service will be held in St. Andrew's Cathedral, in Victoria, on Wednesday at 11 a.m., and I know that all members will pay their personal respects at that time."

Mr. Bennett said the governor-general was "a simple man really, but one with deep personal faith and humility, great courage and a desire to serve."

"As a Canadian he was a great force for unity. He was the second native-born governor-general and the first French-speaking."

The premier recalled that Gen. Vanier had said Canada's two races "go forward hand-in-hand to make Canada a great country, hand-in-hand also with Canadians of every origin, irrespective of race or creed."

Loss to Canada of this distinguished Canadian and noble head of state will be mourned, not only in the province of British Columbia and the nation of Canada, but throughout the world by all those people who love Freedom, respect and democratic process, cherish international goodwill, esteem tolerance and understanding within and without the nation, foster family relationships, and sanctify individual liberties of

word, thought and worship above all else.

"Governor-General Vanier did all of these things, and by his example on the field of battle, at the conference table and in his private life, inspired others to do likewise."

"His career will stand, for this and later generations of Canadians, as a model for all those who aspire to serve their God, their country and their own high personal standards with dignity and devotion," the premier said.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said, "It came as a shock to all of us yesterday to realize this outstanding Canadian had passed from this life."

"I met him only once, and I was impressed with his warm personality, deep understanding and abiding faith," the NDP leader told the House.

"All of his life, the overriding factor in his attitude was the fact he was a friendly man... he came of the good earth of Canada and had a passionate belief in the future of Canada."

"Today, Mr. Speaker, we mourn a great Canadian," Mr. Strachan concluded.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault said the governor-general "had a noble spirit at a time in history when all sorts of human values seem to be gurgling down the drain," and that he "rose above all that was cheap and tawdry."

He said Gen. Vanier was "a Canadian in every sense of the word," that he had a "passionate dedication to Confederation and national unity... and we shall mourn his passing."

## At the Legislature

# B.C. History Books May Be Subsidized

Premier Bennett told the legislature Monday the government might consider subsidizing the publication of some B.C. history books.

He said he would like to see "certain areas in the province" to print history books, "even if we might have to subsidize them a little."

David Barrett (NDP, Coquitlam) asked Education Minister Peterson during debate on \$66,553,976 for post-secondary education whether RCMP are interrogating university students.

Mr. Peterson replied B.C.'s universities were self-governing bodies which could decide for themselves whether RCMP were welcome and that he had no intention of interfering unless the universities came to him for assistance.

The minister said in reply to another question there was "no need for increase in tuition fees."

He said his attitude about equalization grants for out-of-town students attending university was that distance and costs "will be taken into consideration by the committee" in determining the amount to be paid in bursaries, up to a maximum of \$350 to \$400.

Forty-one new job openings in the health department were approved by the provincial cabinet Monday.

A cabinet order showed that as of last Wednesday, hirings were authorized for 25 more employees for Riverview Mental Hospital, 13 for Woodlands School for handicapped children and three for the B.C. Hospital

## Insurance Service.

It is a disgrace that the chief inspector of schools in B.C. receives a lower salary than many of the district supervisors he inspects, Liberal leader Perrault told the legislature.

And the district supervisors in many cases get less than the school principals they are responsible for, Mr. Perrault said.

Reports of an acute shortage of nurses in British Columbia are not true, Minister Without Portfolio Patricia Jordan told the legislature.

"There is no acute shortage of graduate or registered nurses in B.C.," Mrs. Jordan said during debate on education department estimates. "There is some concern that we could better utilize our nurses."

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1967

## Better Deal for Workers

# ACCIDENT ACT ENTIRELY NEW

By GEORGE INGLIS

An entirely new Workmen's Compensation Act will be presented to this session, Labor Minister Peterson announced Tuesday. The news was greeted with tongue-in-cheek enthusiasm by legislators.

Mr. Peterson, in answer to criticism

of the act by members of the House, said his department intended "not only amendments to the act, but an entirely new act for this session."

"This is good news. I shudder when I get a compensation case," said Cyril Shelford (SC, Omineca).

"In four years, I have never won a case against the Workmen's Compensation Board."

Thomas Berger (NDP — Vancouver Burrard), was more skeptical, saying a change in the board members was needed, as well as a new act.

David Stupich (NDP — Nanaimo) criticized the tardiness in presentation of the proposed new act, saying, "It is unfortunate no real indication has been given so late in the session of what is contained in this important piece of legislation."

### JUMPED UPON

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan jumped on a suggestion by Herbert Capozzi (SC — Vancouver Centre) that the members should all welcome this new legislation.

"Is he suggesting we all accept the legislation blind, as he is going to?" Mr. Strachan asked.

In answer to a slight storm of byplay, he said Mr. Capozzi could "shout all he wants; we have had experience with this government's laws."

### PART-TIME MAN

Premier Bennett's appearance, in the waning hours of the afternoon session, sparked the repartee and nettled Mr. Strachan, who classified the government as "committed to failure in labor legislation," and "content to have a part-time minister of labor, half a day a week."

Other Strachanisms as saying the government "jumps from crisis to crisis, then wields a big stick," and is a "government of the management" were categorized by Premier Bennett in a

loud aside as "cheap political chatter."

### THEY AGREE

Mainly, however, the members on both sides of the House seemed to be in accord with the recommendations of Mr. Berger:

- Extend compensation coverage to agricultural workers and fishermen;
  - Eliminate the three-day waiting period for claim settlement;
  - Pay all hernia claims (since the selectivity of hernia causes is so exacting);
  - Adjust compensation amounts to the cost of living;
  - Bring compensation pensions issued before existing rates up to present standards;
  - Set a uniform standard of proof, giving "workmen the benefit of the doubt";
  - Grant a fair and open hearing of all cases, with no suppression of testimony;
  - Release medical reports to claimants, except in cases where doctors recommend suppression for psychological reasons;
  - Disclose reasons for decisions;
  - Establish satisfactory appeal procedure.
- Several members on both sides of the House agreed with Mr. Berger that the present board should be discharged, and most of them cited instances backing up their charges that claims have been handled ineptly, causing personal hardship to claimants.

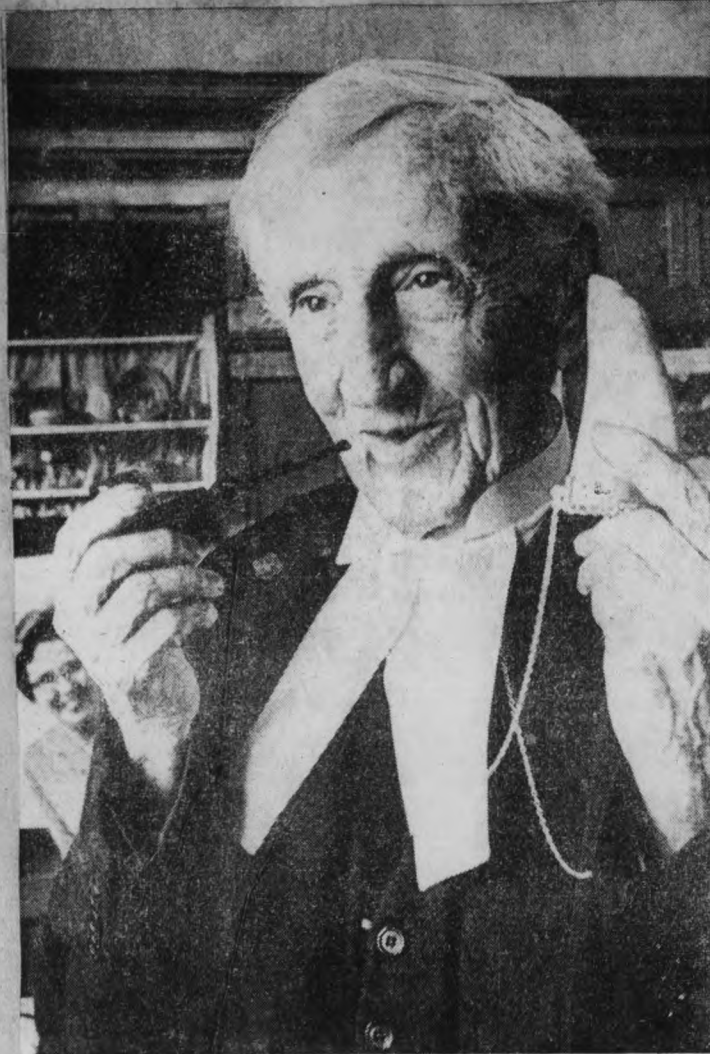
## Province Raising Office Minimum

British Columbia Tuesday announced a new minimum wage scale for 150,000 office workers in the province.

Labor Minister Pearson said the minimum rate of \$1 an hour for the office workers will be boosted to \$1.10 on May 1 and to \$1.25 on Nov. 1.

The new rate will apply to such workers as accountants, office attendants, cashiers, clerks, draughtsmen, switchboard operators and typists.





—Jim Ryan

*New member of Loyal Order of Whale's Tooth*

## ***MLAs Honor House Clerk On Birthday***

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, E. K. "Ned" DeBeck, was king of the castle Tuesday, on his 84th birthday.

He was praised in the House, made a member of the Loyal Order of the Whale's Tooth and given a birthday cake in the legislative dining room.

Premier Bennett told the House, "It isn't the number of seasons that count, it's how young you are from the neck up."

★ ★ ★

He said he wanted to tell Mr. DeBeck "how pleased we are to see you look so well, so cheerful, in spite of everything you have to put up with here."

Mr. DeBeck entered government service July 1, 1937, as superintendent of brokers, and was superannuated in 1948. He became clerk of the House in 1949.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said, "We all agree he is an outstanding personage in the House. I don't believe he's 84—I think he's 38, like another well-known personality."

★ ★ ★

Liberal leader Ray Perrault told the House Mr. DeBeck "adds dignity and stature to the House, with a sense of humor."

Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell then presented the clerk with a whale's tooth mounted on a gold chain, saying Mr. DeBeck was one of seven who have been made members of this rare order from northern Vancouver Island.

★ ★ ★

Speaker William Murray and Paul Neilson, chef and caterer in the legislative dining room, later presented a birthday cake to Mr. DeBeck.

Mr. DeBeck, an honorary member of the legislative press gallery, was also given a card and a gift by this group.

# Guns Signal Vanier Tribute Services Scheduled, Offices Closed

Victoria will pay its respects to the late Governor-General George Vanier today with special memorial services and a 21-gun salute.

Most federal government offices will be closed this morning, but provincial offices will remain open all day. Premier Bennett said Monday in the legislature that the old soldier and statesman would have preferred that members of the House carry on with public business.

★ ★ ★

Most MLAs will attend a memorial service at 11 a.m. in St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Cathedral. Premier Bennett suggested Tuesday that, wherever practical, British Columbians should observe a two-minute silence at 11 a.m.

The wickets at the main post office will be closed from 11 a.m. till noon, but other services will remain normal. The customs office will remain open all day but all government offices in the Federal Building will be closed in the morning and will re-open after their regular lunch hour. This also applies to HMC Dockyard, Manpower and Immigration department and the Income Tax department at Vancouver and Pandora and the Unemployment Insurance office.

★ ★ ★

Attorney-General Robert Bonner will represent the B.C. government at the funeral in

the two chapels at 11 a.m.

★ ★ ★

All armed forces officers on duty will wear black armbands during the official mourning period which extends until Sunday. Many Scouts will wear mourning bands during the same period.

Books of condolence have been placed in the rotunda of the legislative buildings and Government House for signatures of private citizens. One of the first to sign was 83-year-old Mrs. Roderick MacKenzie of 675 Niagara.

★ ★ ★

There will be live coverage of the governor-general's funeral today over CBC radio and TV, starting at 6:45 a.m. Pacific Standard Time. At 7 a.m., the coffin will be carried from the Senate chamber by pallbearers.

At 7:15 a.m. the funeral cortege leaves Parliament Hill and the 78-round salute begins. At 8 a.m. the state funeral will begin in the Roman Catholic Basilica on Sussex Drive.

★ ★ ★

At 9:45 a.m. the motorcade leaves the Basilica for the Ottawa railway station. At 10 a.m., it arrives at the station and there will be a 21-gun royal salute. At 10:30 a.m., a special train will depart for Quebec City. At 7 a.m. Thursday, the funeral in Quebec City will be broadcast.

Ottawa today. Premier Bennett will represent the province at the memorial service here. Lieutenant-Governor George Pearkes will represent the Queen here, and civic, municipal, religious and service leaders will also attend.

Four gun crews of the 5th (B.C.) Field Battery, Royal Canadian Artillery, will fire the 21-gun salute at Work Point at 11 a.m. today just as the services at St. Andrew's Cathedral is getting under way.

The service will take the form of a concelebrated mass to be conducted by Monsignor M. T. O'Connell, chancellor and vicar general of the Victoria diocese. The eulogy will be delivered by Very Rev. W. H. Bulloch, rector of the cathedral.

Anglican Archbishop Harold Sexton, Rev. Dr. Samuel Parsons, president of the Greater Victoria Council of Churches, and other Protestant clergy will attend the service.

Roman Catholic Bishop Remi De Roo is in Ottawa for the funeral of Gen. Vanier.

There will be three Protestant and three Roman Catholic memorial services for members of the armed forces at Naden Chapel, Belmont Park and Canadian Officers School, Venture, all at 11 a.m.

At Work Point, the First Battalion, Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, will hold Protestant and Catholic services in



—Jim Ryan

Mrs. Roderick MacKenzie signs condolence book at legislature.



## Good Work Cited in Sweden

# B.C. Rapped as Foe of Unions

Thomas Berger (NDP, Vancouver-Burrard) flung a challenge at the B.C. government Tuesday to "look at trade unions as instruments of social engineering," in his remarks on the department of labor estimates.

"In spite of attempts by this government to emasculate them (the trade unions) as a political force in the province," he said, "they are a part of the system of checks and balances that prevents any group in the province, whether it be a political party, the business community, or the trade unions themselves, getting a stranglehold on the machinery of government."

Mr. Berger said Chief Justice Nathan Nemetz, who is slated to take a trip to Sweden this summer to study labor-management relations, would find unions are "a salutary countervailing force" there.

He said 97 per cent of the people working in Sweden were in unions, and there was year-round consultation between labor and management.

By contrast, he said, "we are developing two distinct classes of working men and women in this province."

"We have on the one hand the men and women who belong to powerful trade unions. They are able, through collective bargaining, to achieve wages and working conditions that provide, by and large, a good living for themselves and their families."

"On the other hand, there are thousands of men and women in the province who are working for substandard wages and under substandard working conditions."

Mr. Berger closed his remarks with some recommendations for improvements in government-labor relations:

- Allow unions seeking certification to count as members those signed over a six-month period (at present, only those paid up at time of application are counted);

- Permit service industries to sign small units, rather than the whole organization.

- Police stringently the intimidation by employers of workers seeking to organize.

David Barrett (NDP-Coquitlam) said the employer who "treated his employees with almost contempt" was the B.C. government itself.

In his rebuttal of some of the members' remarks, Labor Minister Peterson said government subscribed "to the point of view to keep both parties talking, strengthening the possibility of reaching a settlement without strife."

He said there was a "full-time Labor Relations Board, to the extent it is required."

This board "will continue in session for as long as there are matters to come before them."

A \$9,094 office vote for Labor Minister Peterson was passed by the legislation at 11:30 p.m. Tuesday after seven hours of debate.

Before the vote was finally passed, Mr. Peterson told the House, in reply to questioning by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan, that no overtime work permit has been issued since December on the Columbia River power project, although he did not know how much overtime was being worked there.

The B.C. department of labor will celebrate its 50th anniversary with a one-day conference May 19 in the Hotel Vancouver, Labor Minister Peterson told the House Tuesday.

A highlight of the conference, Mr. Peterson said, will be the morning discussion of the use of injunctions in labor disputes.

Premier Bennett declined to comment Tuesday about a telegram protesting his comment in the legislature last week that some municipalities were misusing their revenues.

Mayor H. J. Gardner of Williams Lake, president of the Union of B.C. Municipalities, sent the premier a telegram requesting that he either name the municipalities or retract the statement.

## To Regional District Bill Lays Out Health Shift

A bill which will give the provincial government power to transfer Greater Victoria metropolitan board of health duties to the regional district was introduced in the legislature Tuesday.

The House gave first reading to the measure, considered a pilot project in public health administration in British Columbia. It was introduced by Health Minister Black and would be an amendment to the Health Act.

It will give the provincial cabinet power to bring about the change, "whereupon the jurisdiction of the metropolitan board of health shall cease and be conferred upon the regional district."

"And the regulations may further provide that the regional district shall exercise the powers and duties of local boards of health within its jurisdiction."

★ ★ ★

Reeve R. Gordon Lee of Central Saanich, chairman of the Greater Victoria Metropolitan Board of Health, said he wasn't certain what would happen next but he expected the transfer of authority would occur after adoption of a bill by the legislature.

Another clause was included in the bill to clarify health regulations in connection with buildings which are an integral part of tent camps and trailer camps.

Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell later said outside the House that civic leaders in Greater Victoria have been asking for the transfer of metro health board functions to the regional district, but that this would not be possible without the amendment.

He said unorganized territory on the outskirts of Greater Victoria "would be in it, too," because the outlying areas are already represented on the metro health board.

Reeve Lee said it was possible an advisory board would be set up within the framework of the regional district to recommend public health policies.

An advisory board was necessary, he suggested, because turning all public health administration over to the regional board would result in an excessive work load.

The advisory board would make recommendations to the regional district, which would have the final say in setting policy.

★ ★ ★

The regional board, which soon may also have jurisdiction over hospital financing, will set the assessments for public health programs.

It had been suggested earlier that cost-sharing be equalized. Urban members of the present metropolitan board now pay about \$2 per capita while rural members pay between 30 and 40 cents.

## Cowichan Copper Employees

# Mine Wages Paid Up Soon

By JACK FRY

Legislative Reporter

Labor Minister Peterson assured the legislature Tuesday night that 145 Cowichan Copper Company employees who were owed nearly \$40,000 in back wages and holiday pay will be paid in full by April 30.

He told the House \$15,000 had been paid in return for release of copper concentrates which had been seized, that "today we received a further \$5,000, and we were advised an additional \$10,000 will be paid on March 31 and the balance on April 30."

He was replying to Leo Nimsick (NDP, Kootenay) who wanted to know how they can hire 65 men now "if they haven't paid back wages" and "what's to happen if the company shuts down tomorrow and leaves 65 men without pay?"

### NOT DESIRABLE

The minister said "presumably it would be possible to take further action now which would put the company out of business" but that this would not be a desirable thing to do.

He said of the current employees of the company's mine at Jordan River that "security is much better at the moment than it was before."

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said a private mortgage company is charging Cowichan Copper 18 per cent for a loan of \$50,000.

### 'AT LOW END'

"That's an estimate of the company, isn't it? That's the estimate of the business world — they say this loan is worth 18 per cent."

The NDP leader said Aetna Investment Corporation Ltd., which advanced money to Cowichan Copper "walked through here with \$350,000 clear. They skim off \$350,000, then the workers who do the work have to wait."

He told the House, "it always seems to be the worker who is at the lower end of the totem pole."

Mr. Peterson said the Industrial Relations Board acted quickly on this matter and that he failed to see how his department could have taken any other action than it did without jeopardizing the future operations of the mine.

"I suggest this is the best arrangement which can be arrived at," he added.



# Would Vanier 'Want Us to Work?' Legislative Tempers Flare At NDP Medicare Demand

By JACK FRY  
Legislative Reporter

Tempers flared in the legislature Wednesday when the NDP pressed the government without success for some assurance that B.C.'s proposed medicare bill will qualify this province for federal financial aid.

The NDP had been jabbing away at the government all day with taunts that the NDP would form a government here within three years, when Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) launched an attack on medicare.

## NIGHT SITTING

The situation deteriorated shortly before the dinner hour when Premier Bennett, who has been pressing for completion of the session before Easter, called for a night sitting.

"Would the governor-general have wanted us to work to-night?" Leo Nimsick (NDP, Kootenay) called from across the floor.

"He served many nights in the field of battle, my friend," the premier retorted.

## MORE COMMENT

"You sure showed a lot of respect for him today," Mr. Nimsick fired back.

"He wasn't mixed up with Commies, either," snapped Mr. Bennett.

Mr. Macdonald wanted to know, during debate on Health Minister Black's estimates, whether the minister intended to bring in legislation which would align B.C. with Ottawa's requirements, to be eligible for an estimated \$20,000,000 a year in grants.

Mr. Black replied, "You'll have to judge that and debate that at the time the act comes down."

Mr. Macdonald said that, from such an answer, "we can only assume there will be another year of wrist-twisting to try to get Ottawa to alter their plan to suit his wishes, and I say that would be deplorable."

The minister then said B.C. "will attempt to co-operate with the federal government," and he expected another federal-provincial conference would be held on medicare matters.

## IN HOUSE SOON

But he refused to discuss B.C.'s medicare bill until it reaches the House late this week or early next week.

Patrick McGeer (L, Vancouver-Point Grey) and Liberal leader Perreault joined in an at-

tempt to extract information from Mr. Black a statement on the government's stand on fluoridation, Mr. McGeer calling B.C. "the last bastion of health crackpots in North America."

However, the minister would not comment.

When the two asked that the majority required for fluoridation referendums be lowered to 50 per cent from 60, Mr. Black said amendments are proposed to the Municipal Act but did not indicate their nature.

Mr. Perreault got some reaction when he blasted the recently-appointed minister for not answering questions.

"We weren't sent here to be greeted by silence," said the Liberal leader. "I didn't come here to be fobbed off by these Weak Nelly excuses."

He wanted to know how many extended-care hospital beds are under the dollar-a-day scheme and Mr. Black said 1,352 either in operation or under construction.

## KIDNEY MACHINES

He asked what's being done about getting more kidney machines and Mr. Black said the government is taking the B.C. Medical Association's advice and "no request has been turned down."

Mr. Macdonald rejoined the fight later with a demand that the government take over all chronic care in B.C.

"We have an absolutely scandalous situation still in chronic hospital care in B.C.," he said. "There are practically no new beds."

He said a 1965 program to increase the number of chronic care beds provided under dollar-a-day resulted in a paper figure of 200 new beds, which were simply social welfare beds reclassified.

Outside the House, Mr. Strachan charged the premier is "trying to intimidate and bulldoze" MLAs into hurrying the people's business through the legislature.

## UNTIL MARCH 19

He said the session is "almost 10 days ahead of the work" done last year. Health estimates were passed on the 55th day last year, which gives this session until March 19.

To Mr. Bennett's claim that the NDP is "abusing rules of the House and talking too long," Mr. Strachan said his party will "make whatever statements have to be made and ask whatever questions should be asked."

## To Legislature

# Pacifists Come Back

About 50 pacifists who paraded to the Legislative Buildings Wednesday morning to urge an end to the Vietnamese war found nobody to present their case to.

Most of the MLAs were at St. Andrew's Cathedral attending a memorial service for Governor-General George Vanier.

Lawrence Gardner, secretary of the B.C. Peace Council, said most of the marchers were from the Lower Mainland and didn't know the politicians would be at the cathedral.

The pacifists disbanded and came back to the buildings later to present their views to individual MLAs.

A Peace Council brief urged the provincial government to ask Ottawa to suggest the United States stop bombing North Vietnam. It also urged a halt in the shipment of Canadian war materials to the U.S.

## What's to Do?

# Aid Fund Sits In Bank

What is the government going to do with \$420.82 in people's money which was supposed to have gone to a children's relief fund nearly seven years ago?

The question was asked in the legislature Wednesday night by Tom Berger, NDP member for Vancouver Burrard.

He said Premier Bennett announced the fund on April 21, 1960. At that time, he pledged a \$50,000 donation by the provincial government to UNICEF.

In addition to the straight gift, the government was to match each dollar up to \$475,000 donated by the public.

"It is a disgrace to this House and this province if the premier doesn't send the \$50,000, the \$420.82, plus a matching \$420.82, to UNICEF tonight," said Mr. Berger.

He said the money had been sitting in a bank account while countless children had starved.

## Students, Public

# Warnings Prepared On LSD

The provincial government is going to distribute among school children and the general public pamphlets warning of the hazards of LSD.

The announcement was made in the legislature Wednesday by Health Minister Black, who said the use of the psychedelic drug and marijuana had become an issue of "great concern."

The Vancouver school board is planning a campaign against the growing use of LSD among students in that city. Last week, Victoria police reported finding four young people in a dazed condition, apparently from LSD doses.

Dr. Elizabeth Patriarche, medical officer for the Greater

Victoria School District, said Wednesday that she has not heard of any LSD users in the school population here.

"There have been some rumors — just whispers — but nothing substantial at all," said Dr. Patriarche.

A. J. Longmore, assistant district superintendent, said the school administration is maintaining close liaison with Dr. J. L. M. Whitbread, senior medical health officer.

### 'EPIDEMIC'

"We shall issue the literature as soon as it can be developed," said Mr. Black. "This is something in which we will interest ourselves at once."

Dr. Patrick McGeer (L — Vancouver Point Grey), who is a neurological researcher, said the incidence of LSD users had reached "epidemic proportions" in high schools.

It all started with Dr. Timothy Leary, fired from Harvard University for advocating the drug, "and I say we should fire every teacher in North America who recommends to the public that they use this dangerous agent," added Dr. McGeer.

### LAW NEEDED

"This includes the public institutions of British Columbia."

Dr. McGeer said B.C. needed a law to make possession or distribution of LSD an offence. The drug was like a disease, it spread like a disease, and "we should quarantine the people who use it."

The pseudo-experts say LSD "expands" the mind, said Dr. McGeer, but scientists have established that the opposite reaction occurs.

## Minister Clipped

The Social Credit member from Alberni surprised Health Minister Black Wednesday.

Dr. H. R. McDiarmid said he couldn't find in the estimates of the health department any provision for air pollution measurement and control steps promised earlier by the government.

Air pollution was "a very pressing problem" and he had expected there would be provision in the estimates for laboratories and testing equipment, he said.

Mr. Black said it would come under the estimates of the lands, forests and water resources department.

But several members piped up that it wasn't what had been promised — the air pollution division was to have been set up within the health department.



## Man's Choice: Find \$17,000 Or Die Early

By JOHN MATTERS

A West Vancouver man with a kidney disease has the choice of finding \$17,000 or dying prematurely.

His case was brought to the legislature Wednesday by Liberal Leader Ray Perrault during debate of health department estimates. It was an illustration, said Mr. Perrault, of the desperate situations which arise from insufficient kidney, or hemodialysis, machines in this province.

The man needs the money to go to the University of Washington in Seattle, for training in home hemodialysis treatments and purchase of the necessary equipment. The machine would cost about \$10,000.

### COULDN'T GO BACK

Until two years ago, he was regularly having the poisons filtered out of his bloodstream at the kidney machine unit at Vancouver General Hospital.

He was sent to another hospital, but the effectiveness of the treatments decreased. When he wanted to go back to VGH, he was told that he was "too old" by a board which decides who should get on the machines.

His only alternative was to

get on the home treatment plan, for which training can be obtained only at the University of Washington.

### SEEKING HELP

The man said Wednesday night that he is trying to obtain government assistance for the Seattle trip. In the meantime, he is taking peritoneal dialysis, a 20-times-a-week treatment which is keeping him from working.

## Local Level Blamed For Hospital Crisis

Many problems in new hospital construction begin at the local level, Health Minister Black said Wednesday.

During the debate in the legislature of his department's estimates, he said plans had been delayed because hospital boards didn't get co-operation from architects or local jurisdictions.

B.C. Hospital Insurance Service was often erroneously the "whipping boy" in hospital construction problems, but "I'm trying to cut down the red tape," said the minister.

### CRITICISM

Mr. Black was the object of a barrage of criticism from Liberal leader Ray Perrault, who wanted to know what the government was going to do about the long waiting lists for elective surgery.

A case was cited of a Vancouver woman who had to wait

16 months before her gall bladder could be removed.

"The basic problem is finance," said Mr. Perrault. "Until we come to grips with this problem, we won't solve any hospital problems."

### 'UTTER FAILURE'

He also charged the government's announcement that it would provide extended care on a \$1-a-day basis was an "utter failure."

An announcement by former Health Minister Martin in 1965

that such care would be provided to patients at \$1 a day was "a great propaganda effort by this Social Credit government."

Mr. Perrault wanted to know how many people had enjoyed those benefits since 1965. He said he knew of a woman whose stay in a private hospital was costing her more than \$200 a month.

## Black Denies Health Report on Buttle

Health Minister Black denied Wednesday night that any report on the effects of mining activities at Buttle Lake was ever prepared by the public health engineer's department.

He told the legislature in reply to a series of questions by David Barrett (NDP — Coquitlam) that the Pollution Control Board did not ask the department of health for any such report and that, while an engineer was in the area, he did not submit any report on possible pollution of the lake.

Mr. Barrett then told the minister, "I have every reason to believe the answers given you may be inadvertently incorrect." He received a verbal assurance that Mr. Black would look deeper into the matter and "tell you what I know about it."

Gordon Dowding (NDP — Burnaby-Edmonds) said a report from the health engineering department is mandatory under the Public Health Act and that if none was prepared the government was derelict in its duty.

The situation described by the health minister was "incredible, illegal and it's deplorable."

FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 1967

## Consumer Help on Way

# NEW BILL DEMANDS DETAILS OF DEALS

By JACK FRY  
Legislative Reporter

A bill to protect consumers from high-pressure door-to-door salesmen and outline their rights on business deals was introduced in the legislature Thursday by Attorney-General Bonner.

The Consumer Protection Act, given first reading by the House, will provide a three-day "cooling-off" period for people to back out of contracts signed with door-to-door salesmen.

It will require full disclosure of interest charges, both in cash value and nominal percentage rates, from all sectors of the credit field, including mortgage firms and department stores.

The attorney-general said outside the House, "I would anticipate that finance companies will give full disclosure" as well.

### 'SOME DEBATE'

But he said there could be "some debate" as to whether banks, which come under federal jurisdiction, could be required to comply with the provincial statute.

The old Contracts Relief Act is incorporated into the new bill and expanded to allow courts, without the need for formal motion, to examine any contract which a consumer feels is too harsh and to make adjustments which were allowed under the old legislation.

### SIMON LEGREE

This portion of the bill also provides that "a Simon Legree-

type seizure (for default of payments by the buyer) can be attacked" in the courts, Mr. Bonner said.

Individuals and corporation officials who are convicted of violations of the new act can face a maximum penalty of a \$2,000 fine or a year of imprisonment, or both.

Corporations convicted of offences under the act can be fined a maximum of \$25,000.

The Consumer Protection Act is a proclamation bill which can be brought into effect step-by-step after being given final approval and royal assent.

The contracts relief portion could come into effect shortly after the end of the current session, but regulations for interest rate disclosure are not likely to be proclaimed until September, so that national firms will have time to adjust, he said.

The portion of the bill which relates to the activities of door-to-door salesmen states that a buyer can rescind an "executory" contract for subsequent delivery of goods or services "not later than the third day after the date on which the copy of the contract was received."

If the purchased item is not delivered within 30 days of the specified delivery date, the customer has one year from the date of delivery of the contract to rescind the order.

And if no delivery date is specified, the buyer has 120 days from the time of the signing of the contract to change his mind.

The notice that a buyer wants to rescind a contract can be delivered "by mail or otherwise," including telephone or telegram.



## More Bills, Amendments

# Collectors Facing Tougher Controls

Stiffer regulations governing collection agents are called for in a bill given first reading in the legislature Thursday night.

The bill, introduced by Attorney-General Bonner, would provide for more stringent controls over such agents and their employees.

### OTHER BILLS

As the minister of transport, Mr. Bonner also introduced two other bills. The first calls for amendments to the Industrial Transportation Act to provide right-of-way rules for intersections of industrial roads, and makes full provision of stops at railway crossings.

The second, to amend the Pipelines Act, would provide a broader application of the present act. It also stipulates that "a company shall not allow materials in transit by pipeline to pollute any water in the province . . ."

Mr. Bonner also introduced an amendment to the Department of Commercial Transport Act, which will eliminate duplicate licensing of small trailers.

Health Minister Black introduced an amendment to the Registered Nurses Act, broadening the definition of a school of nursing to include nursing programs conducted by institutions

such as regional colleges and institutes of technology. It also allows the cabinet to govern the hours of duty of student nurses. Mr. Black also brought in an

amendment to the Royal Inland Hospitals Act, which will revise the original act of 1896 regarding membership, procedure and other administrative matters.

## Minister Chided

# MLA Underlines Nurse Shortage

British Columbia has a distinct shortage of trained nurses, William Hartley (NDP Yale Lillooet) told legislators Thursday in the closing hours of

"The minister should check her facts first," he said, producing the current copy of The Canadian Nurse to substantiate his statements.

### MORE HERE

The magazine's classified ads, he said, showed there are as many ads for nurses required in B.C. as in the provinces of Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba combined.

Of even greater concern, he said, is the "brain drain" to the south, where nurses from the province are being lured by higher wages.

Salaries in the nursing profession in B.C. have to be raised, he said, if the province is to have adequate supplies of nurses.

### LOWER AGE?

David Stupich (NDP — Nanaimo) said he felt one way to increase the number of girls taking up nursing was to lower the arbitrary minimum age of 18 for girls entering nursing training.

Health Minister Wesley Black said this limit was imposed by the schools themselves.

In answer to a question by Leo Nimsick (NDP Kootenay), Mr. Black said he did not feel there was any shortage of nurses in the province.



Hartley

debate on health services and hospital insurance.

Mr. Hartley levelled his remarks across the House at Minister without Portfolio Patricia Jordan, who "yesterday rushed out of the House to issue a press release saying there was a surplus of nurses in the province."

# 'Propaganda' Under Fire

Provincial election procedures and libraries were the subjects of some debate in debate on the provincial secretary's estimates, but the humble \$10 item for the Queen's Printer made the most furor.

The premier's budget speech, "a great propaganda exercise at the people's expense," was one of the costly items in the estimate, Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby-Edmonds) said. He drew cries of "out of order" when he said the money spent on the budget speech

could have been used for a Hansard which would contain the speech.

"The first member from Vancouver Centre is the man who doesn't want a Hansard," he said, "because it would print his scurrilous remarks."

Asked about the scurrilous remarks, Mr. Dowding said of Herbert Capozzi (SC, Vancouver Centre), "He called the opposition a bunch of fruits."

"I intend to file a motion of censure tomorrow," he added. Mr. Capozzi denied having made the remark.

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault castigated the "mounds and mounds of political slogans on the public ferry ... a Social Credit propaganda effort."

"It is unethical for any government to engage in this misuse of public funds," he said, calling it use of "taxpayer funds to clog the aisles of B.C. government ferries with this blatant propaganda."

Provincial Secretary Wesley Black said he didn't know the answer to these matters.

F. J. Vulliamy (NDP, Burnaby-Willingdon) attacked the Elections Act on several points:

- Registration was outmoded, left a lot of people off the lists, and put some on who should have been deleted.

- Campaign funds — "The attitude of the Social Credit party on this makes a mockery of democracy ... a giant slush fund." He said it was "dishonest to make pious claims of ignorance of source of funds."

- Campaign expenditures — "Without limits, democracy may be distorted ... One of these days the public is going to get wise and reject the buying of votes."

- Liquor outlets — "I fail to see the justification for closing on an election day."

Provincial grants for library services should be at least doubled, opposition members told Provincial Secretary Black.

Liberal Leader Perrault and Mr. Vulliamy said the province should increase the grants from \$350,000 to \$700,000.

This is in line with recommendations of the report released last year on the province's library system by Rose Vainstein. She said provincial participation should be increased from seven to 20 per cent exclusive of construction grants.

## But Punchline Stolen

# Black Lashes 'Headline-Makers'

The press came in for some spirited comment by Health Minister Black Thursday afternoon in the closing hours of the debate on the health services and hospital insurance estimates.

In ringing tones, Mr. Black condemned members who "duck into the House for three minutes to make headlines."

These members, he said, "run down to the press room to make sure they got it right."

Mr. Black also said, "you only have to look up at the press gallery to see if something important is coming up."

By way of rebuttal, Opposition Leader Robert Strachan hurled a few charges in the cabinet's direction, saying, "Every member of this cabinet is to blame for the condition of the province."

Liberal leader Ray Perrault said, "We have had 15 years of gobbledegook on these serious issues ... I could write a textbook of excuses offered by the ministers, and I could give a speech on some of the cliches."

### 'TRY ME'

In a heated interchange between Mr. Black and the Liberal leader, Mr. Black said, "Try me on for size."

He added, "If somebody else didn't write a brief or a letter, you wouldn't have had an important idea in 20 years."

To add insult to injury, when the minister tried to tell a joke, Alan McFarlane (L, Oak Bay) stepped in and gave the punchline.

In answer to many questions, Mr. Black managed to evade giving direct answers on most questions levelled at him.

He did, however, say he and the attorney-general were discussing the order-in-council incarceration of patients in mental hospitals.

"Sometimes some of these magistrates are very ill-advised in making the committals," he said.

He assured Mrs. E. E. Dailly, (NDP, Burnaby) his department

was discussing the problem of arranging for girls to be accepted into the Burnaby mental health centre.

Mrs. Dailly said mothers with wayward girls now have to have them committed to Willingdon School for Girls.

Mr. Black also said his department was working on

group homes for handicapped and retarded children, and was discussing a mental care centre for Victoria in connection with Royal Jubilee Hospital.

The members passed the health and hospital insurance estimates of \$145,536,199 at 6:15 p.m., after about 12 hours of debate.



Friday, March 10, 1967

## Education Secondary To Moral Level In Smoking War

Premier Bennett said Thursday that moral standards, not education, were the best deterrents in the war against smoking and drinking, during the debate on the health services and hospital insurance estimates.

"Why, some of the most highly educated people, who know all about the harmful affects, smoke and drink just the same," the premier said.

He was answering remarks addressed to Health Minister Black by Patrick McGeer (L. Vancouver Point Grey) on the fact that terminal smokers were being supported by hospital insurance and yet the govern-

ment was doing nothing to educate people against smoking.

Dr. McGeer challenged the "hypocrisy of government and its reluctance to take firm public measures against smoking."

The federal government is shirking, he said, and the provincial government should take a hand in the "war against smoking."

He said lung cancer, emphysema and coronary attacks are killing more people than are killed on the highways.

"And more are killed on the highways each year than were killed in the last war," he said.

"This is why I say we are losing the war against smoking."

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1967

# INVESTORS TO GET SECURITY SHIELD

## Market Rules Coming

By JACK FRY  
Legislative Reporter

A new Securities Act which is expected to bring greater stability to the B.C. investment field was introduced in the legislature Friday by Attorney-General Robert Bonner.

The House gave first reading to the bill, which establishes regulations over take-over bids, proxies and proxy solicitation, "insider" trading and financial disclosure for outside corporations which are registered in B.C.

The House was advised that complementary legislation will be brought in to make these requirements applicable to B.C. corporations.

### HIGHER STANDARDS

The new bill brought in by the attorney-general also contains revisions for higher standards of reporting in prospectuses which are prepared to attract public investment.

The investment industry in Victoria seemed generally pleased about plans to tighten up the securities act.

A spokesman for the industry said he had not seen the terms of the act but "if it attempts to protect the man in the street in his speculations it will certainly be welcomed by most of us."

### MOVE WELCOMED

He welcomed any move which would enforce "insiders" to give prompt reports on trading of their own holdings. Insiders are company directors and others privy to company information.

"This has been enforced rigorously in the U.S. for many years, and it has long been a bone of contention in Canada that similar laws have not been adopted here long before this," he said.

### MANPOWER NEEDED

He also agreed with Mr. Bonner that the matter of making deals with other companies without full disclosure to shareholders was requiring tighter

legislation.

"We only hope that Mr. Bonner's department will have sufficient manpower to put the bite into the new act," he added. "At present the securities department is hopelessly understaffed for the big job it should be doing."

Mr. Bonner said outside the House that "the Vancouver stock exchange is becoming one of the most important on the North American continent, and this machinery will see it through quite a period of development."

### ETHICS ESTABLISHED

The government in effect is "legislating business ethics" which corporations will have to live up to in order to protect their business reputations, he said.

But the attorney-general stressed that the measures now before the House cannot provide complete protection to people who do not pay careful attention to where their money is invested.

"If we're going to have responsible business we've got to have involved shareholders," he said.

### IN THEN OUT

"There is a tendency on the part of too many shareholders to be market psychologists instead of active investors," who plunge in and out of the market without knowing what they are doing.

"This is not investment—this is the psychology of the crap table. There is a limit beyond which governments cannot be effective in protecting shareholders," the attorney-general said.

### INSIDE POLICING

A highlight of the 80-page bill, which will become law only by proclamation of the lieutenant-governor, will be the policing of inside trading, a technique in which senior officials of a company are able to profit by buying or selling shares on the basis of information in their possession.

"This type of legislation seeks to minimize profiteering of company officers by private knowledge and place all shareholders, whether corporate officials or private shareholders, on a more equal position so far as the affairs of the company is concerned," Mr. Bonner said.

### QUICK REPORT

An insider who benefits from ownership of capital securities of a corporation will be required to file a report with the Securities Commission "within

10 days after the end of the month in which that day occurs."

Failure to comply can bring a fine of up to \$1,000, upon summary conviction.

The attorney-general said this "takes the club atmosphere out of some stock market deals and

puts more people in the club."

The Securities Act will also establish two levels of administration in the Securities Commission.

At present, William Irwin, superintendent of brokers, is also chairman of the three-man Securities Commission. But under this bill the commission would be a separate body which could be eventually enlarged to five members.

### SUBJECT TO REVIEW

Mr. Irwin would then assume most of the commission's administrative functions, and his decisions would be subject to review by the commission and the B.C. Court of Appeal.

Decisions of the commission itself would also be subject to B.C. Court of Appeal rulings.

Other major proposals of the new bill, patterned after the Ontario Securities Act of 1966 to bring more uniformity in securities legislation across Canada, include:

- Financial disclosures — Corporate annual reports will have to be filed with the commission on an annual comparative basis, including the amount of sales or gross revenue and a statement of source and application of funds, and making the information available to the public.

- Prospectuses — Standards of financial reporting will be improved and greater responsibility placed upon auditors about financial statements contained in prospectuses.

- Takeover bids — The takeover of large blocks of shares by another company will be regulated, and specific information will be required for the use of the shareholders.

- Proxy solicitation — Solicitation will have to be accompanied by information which will enable shareholders in the company to better inform themselves about the voting powers they are delegating.



## Gagliardi Overspent

# Culture Help Slows Roads

The B.C. government's emphasis on humanities has put a crimp in Highways Minister Gagliardi's road-building hopes, he told the legislature Friday.

The government had allocated more of its money this year for education, welfare and mental health services, he said.

"I'm low man on the totem pole and I'm getting lower all the time," the minister said.

### ROAD PROGRAMS

His remarks came during debate on his department's estimates of \$103,929,529 as opposition members asked repeated questions about road programs.

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby-Edmonds) said the highways department budget is up \$8,000,000 compared with last year.

"My problems are up \$50,000,000," Mr. Gagliardi retorted.

He said he agreed with opposition members that a vigorous program developing roads and communications was the basis upon which all other services, including education, depended.

### NOTHING FOR ANYTHING

"But if the government had done what we've been asked to do for education, health and welfare there'd be no money for anything else."

The \$100,000,000 in the department's 1967-68 estimates is already spoken for. "I've overspent this year by \$5,000,000 and I'm over committed for \$13,000,000."

Tom Berger (NDP, Vancouver-Burrard) tangled with Mr. Gagliardi when he charged the government with offering "airy-fairy" proposals for highways instead of taking a positive approach.

### 'PIE IN THE SKY'

He said the minister was talking "pie in the sky" when he called for paving of the Alaska Highway.

"There are other projects that need to be developed first," Mr. Berger said.

"Why aren't you talking about a system of priorities instead of pie in the sky and the Alaska Highway?"

### AGAINST BILLBOARDS

Mr. Berger also called for government measures against billboards, air pollution by motor vehicles, highway noise and highway mishaps, and said there should be one department of transport to take over duties now shared by the highways, attorney-general's, commercial transport and premier's departments.

This one department could administer an integrated B.C. transport policy which would include highways, B.C. ferries, the PGE and air routes.

Mr. Gagliardi said Mr. Berger's hour and 15-minute speech had wasted the legislature's time. He said Mr. Berger was ignorant of regulations already on the books and what statistics were readily available. He called Mr. Berger a propaganda artist.

"Lay off the political speeches and let's get on with the job," the highways minister said.

He said his statement on the need for a B.C.-federal government-U.S. shared program to pave the Alaska Highway had not been foolish.

### MILLIONS SEEN

Such a paving program would open up vast new areas of B.C. resources and bring millions of dollars to the tourist industry.

Attorney-General Bonner introduced a bill to amend the supreme court act to increase from 15 to 16 the number of Supreme Court judges allowed.

Provincial Secretary Black introduced two bills, the first a constitutional amendment to allow a minister of travel industry as outlined in the throne speech, and the second to amend the Civil Service Superannuation Act, which would among other things make benefits payable to a dependent other than just the widow of a deceased civil servant.

## LSD Bill Due For B.C.

The provincial government plans to bring in during the current legislature session a bill to control the hallucinatory drug LSD.

Attorney-General Bonner said Friday the bill will be comparatively simple and the intention is to set out approved uses of LSD and other drugs—and set penalties for their misuse.

He declined to give any details.

## Many Answers Hung Up On Gagliardi Aircraft

The opposition failed Friday to get all the answers they sought on provincial government aircraft.

Dave Barrett (NDP, Coquitlam) complained during debate on highways department estimates that Highways Minister Gagliardi had failed to reply to Opposition leader Strachan's questions on the daily order paper since the session began in January on the operations of the aircraft.

### ALL OVER WEST

"We spend half a million dollars to buy you a personal airplane," Mr. Barrett said. "There's accusations and rumors flying that this jet has been seen all over western Canada."

"It's pretty obvious there's been a purposeful delay in answering these questions," Mr. Barrett said.

Mr. Gagliardi said all of the questions involved had not yet been answered by his departmental personnel.

### NONE CONSERVANT

"When the answers are available they'll be put before the House," the minister added.

In reply to specific questions, Mr. Gagliardi told Mr. Barrett no aircraft had been used for other than government business. No aircraft had been converted to jet propulsion.

Other questions:

● What was the type and cost of each aircraft and when was it purchased or leased?

● What was the total maintenance cost for each aircraft in each relevant year since 1958?

● What are the details as to destination and passengers carried recorded in the flight logs for each aircraft for every relevant year? If passengers' names are not entered in the flight logs, who were the passengers on each recorded flight?

● During the relevant years were any aircraft chartered by the department? What was the annual cost of such charters?

*Secret of Loffmark's Silence*

# Threat of Fine Seals Lips

Opposition members in the legislature are wondering how Trade and Commerce Minister Ralph Loffmark and Mines Minister Donald Brothers have managed to keep out of the line of fire during the current session.

Both men used to sound off quite frequently in the House and Mr. Loffmark in particular was noted for his John Foster Dulles-like, foot-in-mouth comments which reverberated along wire service circuits from coast to coast.

The secret, I am told, is that it costs Mr. Loffmark \$2 every time he opens his mouth in an across-the-floor debate.

The trade and commerce minister made a three-way bet with the mines minister and Patricia Jordan, minister without portfolio, in which any one of the three who gets involved in an unnecessary

hassle with the opposition has to pay \$1 to each of the other two.

Apparently it is an effective system because none of these ministers has been in serious difficulty so far, and Premier Bennett admits he doesn't like government members to be too quick on the draw.

The premier was telling some reporters the other day this is one of the best

legislatures he has seen in his long political career.

He said he has been studying all the new Soerod, NDP and Liberal members in the House and came to the conclusion they are more sure of expressing their points of view than members of previous legislatures.

He said he felt "this legislature would compare favorably

with any legislature in Canada."

The best members, he believes, are those who listen carefully to what is being said and have a good attendance record and who are not quick to speak — but who speak with reservation and "yet with some fire" when they have something to say.

From the ground rules outlined by the premier, it can be seen that Herb Capozzi (SC — Vancouver Centre), former general manager of the B.C. Lions football team and son of a personal friend of Mr. Bennett, is jeopardizing his chances for political advancement by being too eager to speak.

If Mr. Capozzi has his eye set on higher things I would suggest he try to get in on the Loffmark, Brothers, Mrs. Jordan arrangement.

★ ★ ★  
**CAPITAL  
REPORT**

By JACK FRY

★ ★ ★





TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 1967

# LSD BAN. POLLUTION GUARDS HEAD 19-BILL LIST IN HOUSE

## Victoria to Get Harbors Board

By JACK FRY, Legislative Reporter

Possession of LSD or marijuana without a written permit from the provincial health officer will bring maximum penalties of a \$2,000 fine or six months' imprisonment following legislation introduced by the provincial government Monday.

A new Pollution Control Act extending Pollution Control Board responsibilities over air and soil, as well as water, was also given first reading Monday night.

In all, 19 bills were introduced, including measures to cancel licences of automobile dealers who turn back speedometers; to bring B.C. into line for future federal medicare payments without upsetting existing private medical plans and to allow fluoridation of water by approval of 60 per cent of the total voters in a water district, rather than just one municipality.

## Port for 'Super' Ships

A bill was put forward calling for the establishment of a Crown agency to develop an industrial complex and deepsea port for "super" ships at Roberts Bank, near Tsawwassen.

The bill calls for a three to seven-man B.C. Harbors Board, based in Victoria, which will be allowed to borrow up to \$25,000,000 for port development.

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Legislation to outlaw possession of marijuana and the hallucinatory drug LSD provided that the provincial health branch would decide which institutions and what researchers, if any, will have access to such substances. (See also Page 7.)

The legislation was promised by Attorney-General Bonner last week following an outcry against the spread in the use of such drugs downward from the university level to high school children.

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Sunday, however, student leaders of three universities warned that any legislation would only promote the use of the drugs by persons rebelling against authority.

The outcry followed reports from Vancouver police that at least 30 high school youngsters had used LSD and the report from the Okanagan that an Oliver high school boy was convicted of selling the drug.

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Under federal food and drug act provisions it is illegal only to sell the drug. There was no legislation banning its possession or use.

- Provisions were made under which Saanich could establish uniform charges for sewer rates, as the first step toward eventual participation in a regional district sewer development.

- Removal of limits is provided on the indemnity paid to elected civic officials.

- Municipal councils are to be given the power to award up to \$5,000 compensation to a person who suffers property loss or injury while assisting police or municipal officials in the execution of their duties.

Resources Minister Williston said the Pollution Control Board would become a "top-level advisory board" responsible for policy and regulations about air, soil and water pollution throughout the province.

### INTERIM PERMITS

It will be administered by a director of pollution control and will probably be expanded to include a non-government representative from the medical field and someone who is familiar with municipal sewage problems, he said.

Continued on Page 2

The board will issue interim permits in cases such as the Western Mines operation in Strathcona Park, to be replaced after a given period of time by final permits if anti-pollution installations are proven to be effective.

Mr. Williston said that because of "limited knowledge" in the fields of air and soil pollution, the assigning of specific areas of study such as the air pollution problem in the Alberni Valley will be initiated in the beginning through directives from the cabinet to the Pollution Control Board.

#### PASSED ON

The board, as a co-ordinating agency, will then pass the directive on to the provincial health board or other agency to carry out the task.

"There will be an appeal from the decision of the director to the PCB, and a second appeal from the PCB — either to the lieutenant-governor-in-council (cabinet) or to the Supreme Court — and the person making the appeal has the choice," Mr. Williston said.

The bill gives the director "all powers necessary for carrying out the intent of this act." These include the right to determine what qualities and properties of water shall constitute a polluted condition and to determine his own corrective procedure. Engineers are given the right at any time to enter onto or into any land or premises to inspect, regulate, close or lock any works or premises, and to order any repair, alteration, removal or addition of any works deemed necessary.

#### CROWN RESPONSIBLE

Attorney-General Bonner, who introduced the B.C. Harbors Board Act, said the Crown corporations would be responsible for assembling land for an "industrial harbor estate" at Robert Bank near Tsawwassen.

The Crown corporation would also be responsible for leasing sites in the industrial estate to firms which deal in such low-cost, high-tonnage exports as coal, potash, sulphur, oil and liquefied natural gas, he said.

Premier Bennett, as B.C.'s finance minister, will be the fiscal agent for the provincial harbors board, Mr. Bonner said.

that to date there had been "no indication the federal government will do anything at the (Roberts Bank) port."

#### HEAD OFFICE

Head office of the new harbors board will be in Victoria.

The attorney-general also brought in some amendments to the Motor Vehicle Act, in which it will be an offence for anyone to alter an odometer, or cause an odometer to be altered, in an attempt to mislead a prospective buyer about the mileage a vehicle has travelled.

The bill states that "a dealer found guilty ... is deemed to give cause for the suspension or cancellation of a licence ..."

#### COMMISSION

The Medical Services Act brought down by Health Minister Black calls for the appointment of a paid medical services commission which will be responsible for the administration and operation of a voluntary medical care insurance plan for B.C. residents.

The commission is to designate agencies which will carry out specified medical care insurance responsibilities, and is to be in charge of staff, said Mr. Black, for the B.C. Medical Plan and the Government Employees' Medical Services, which are to be brought into the B.C. civil service.

#### "STATUS QUO"

One section of the bill provides that the lieutenant-governor-in-council "may by regulation establish a voluntary medical services plan for the province" regarding premium rates and operation "which will in all respects qualify and enable the province to receive payment of contributions by Canada towards the cost of medical services."

Asked outside the House whether this bill would give the government the power to take over existing private medical plans in B.C., the minister replied: "I suppose it does, all right, but there's no intention — we want to maintain the status quo."

Mr. Black explained that the government hoped this legislation would qualify B.C. for federal medicare payments without the need for B.C. to actually take over the private medical plans.

But he declined to comment when asked whether the government would take them over if Ottawa demands that as a prerequisite to federal assistance.

#### HIGHLIGHT

A highlight among several outstanding amendments to the Municipal Act is a section wherein individual areas will no longer be allowed to opt out of the regional hospital district function.

Mr. Campbell explained that a 60-per-cent total "yes" vote throughout the district is all that will be required for passage and participation in any other proposed function.

Another amendment will wipe out the old ceiling under which mayors and reeves received from \$500 to \$7,500 a year and aldermen and councillors from \$200 to \$2,500 a year indemnities on a population basis.

#### MAY BE HIGHER

There will be nothing preventing a council, say, from voting its reeve \$20,000 a year and its councillors \$18,000 a year, because the bill simply states that councils will be allowed to set their own annual indemnities.

Fluoridation of water supplies will be permissible through a 60-per-cent "yes" vote from the total number of votes cast by valid ballot in any water district, according to an amendment to the Municipalities Enabling and Validating Act.

#### OWNER CHANGE

The same amendment approves the Victoria-Saanich, Elk-Beaver Lake transfer, and provides for establishment of a uniform sewer rate in Saanich if the money bylaw financing scheme is approved three-fifths of the owner-electors affected.

Another amendment to the Motor Vehicle Act prohibits registration and licensing of a motor vehicle to anyone under the age of 18 without signed parents' or guardians' consent. The under-age car owner can have his vehicle licensed without parental consent if he proves he is self-supporting or is married.

Other bills would double the jurisdiction of small debt courts to \$500 from \$250, and increase the number of County Court judgeships to 17 from 15.



## At the Buildings

# B.C. Backs Alloy Plant On Multi-Nation Basis

The provincial government is attempting to encourage a joint Italian, British and German venture to produce in B.C. alloys involved in steel and iron manufacture, Industrial Development Minister Loffmark told the legislature Monday.

The minister said outside the House the proposed development would produce the alloys in British Columbia for export to the parent European companies.

No direct government participation in the scheme is planned, he said, but his department is trying to "induce" the companies to establish in B.C.

### "DISASTER"

He made the statement after Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby-Edmonds) said the minister's trip to Europe last December "was more of a disaster" than a trade mission.

Mr. Loffmark also told the House his department is studying the inadequacies in existing legislation against combines.

He said the existing legislation is "less than inadequate."

### IN DEBATE

His comments came during debate on his departmental estimates when Mr. Dowding said B.C. should have more effective anti combines legislation to prevent combines getting "empire privileges" and to protect the public from price-fixing, lack of competition, and the lack of standards of products.

★ ★ ★

Opposition MLAs charged the government with political patronage and mistreatment in operation of the B.C. Civil Service.

### APPROVAL WON

The accusations came during debate on Provincial Secretary Black's estimates of \$31,524,760 which won approval after being deferred from last week.

Dave Barrett (NDP, Coquitlam) said the government employees are not permitted to use a check-off system for payment of association dues but such a

system got approval when it same employees purchased government bonds.

Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) said civil servants' appeal to the B.C. civil service commission "is an appeal of the employees to their own employers — there's no collective bargaining."

Premier Bennett interjected, "We consider the civil service in British Columbia the best civil service in Canada."

The premier said Mr. Macdonald's statement that the civil service commission is not independent was a straight falsehood.

★ ★ ★

Conservation officials said they are concerned record snowpacks now on B.C. mountains might cause some spring flooding. Spokesmen said March snow depth surveys disclosed the highest measurements on record on main stems of the Columbia and Fraser Rivers, about 25 per cent greater than 1941-66 average.

★ ★ ★

The provincial government's fish and wildlife branch urged the government to include wildlife in its B.C. resources priorities.

The branch, in a brief to the legislature's forestry and fisheries committee, said there is no need in most cases to allocate extensive areas of Crown land for the sole use of grazing wildlife.

But it said wildlife must be considered as a prime resource in setting up a system of land use on an integrated basis for forest, livestock and wildlife production.

Tuesday, March 14, 1967

## Precipitates Murder, Suicide'

# Brain Researcher- MLA Flays LSD

Doses of LSD can precipitate murder and suicide, brain researcher Dr. Patrick McGeer said Monday.

The Liberal MLA for Vancouver Point Grey made the observation after it was reported some university and high school students in Victoria had been using the hallucinogenic drug.

He said the problems with the drug have been "underestimated."

Dr. McGeer said there is documentation of a man taking LSD, then committing suicide. The same depression from this "terrifying experience" also could lead to homicide, he said.

Dr. McGeer, who directs a brain and behavior laboratory in the University of British Columbia's faculty of medicine, said there was also the problem of LSD producing a recurring psychosis.

"A person could take it one day, then have a recurrence of his experience three or four days later."

The drug also could produce a type of addiction by which the user becomes psychologically dependent on it, he said.

As for its long-range effects, said Dr. McGeer, there is only evidence that it interferes with brain processes. It is an antagonist of a hormone involved in the transfer of nerve impulses.

"We also know that it impairs intellectual performance, but we do not know how long this could last," he added.

Dr. McGeer said he would support the anti-LSD bill introduced in the legislature Monday, but it should have come as an amendment to the Health Act, which would have entrenched it as something under provincial jurisdiction.

He said outside the House that possession of Marijuana "is a violation of the Criminal Code of Canada because it is classed as a narcotic and there have been a number of convictions and sentences in the past year."

"It's already adequately covered by federal legislation and it's fooling to include it (in Health Minister Black's bill) because it raises the question of propriety of the provincial act."

Tom Berger (NDP — Vancouver Burrard) said, "Obviously (the bill) is unconstitutional because it is nothing more or less than criminal law and only the federal Parliament has power in Canada to enact criminal law."



**Opposition Furious**

# Compensation Overhaul Off for Year

Labor Minister Peterson has delayed a major overhaul of the Workmen's Compensation Act until next year's session of the legislature.

The House gave first reading Tuesday to a 57-page rewrite of the act which contains most of the recommendations of the 451-page Tysoe royal commission — but Mr. Peterson said second reading will not be asked until next year.

In the meantime, the minister brought in an amendment to the existing Workmen's Compensation Act which will boost minimum monthly payments for totally disabled workmen from around the \$100 mark to \$150, and provide compensation for a few workmen who suffered the bends while working on the Highbury tunnel in Vancouver.

**INCENSED**

Opposition members were incensed when they learned that the report submitted to the government by Mr. Justice Charles Tysoe on Nov. 26, 1965, and tabled in the legislature Jan. 27, 1966, will not be brought into effect for another year.

The protests began when Alex Macdonald (NDP — Vancouver East) asked Mr. Peterson why a bill of such importance was brought down so late in the session and 1½ years after the commissioner brought down his report.

The labor minister replied that the members would be given "ample time to study the bill" and that in the meantime he was bringing in certain amendments which would benefit compensation recipients.

**'CLEAR SIGN'**

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan told the House that "after having had this report for 18 months there is absolutely no reason why they should delay it another 12 months."

"It's a clear sign this government has slowed down almost to a stop," the NDP leader said.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault said there could be no excuse for not bringing down this legislation, which was needed in

B.C. today. "This is not keeping faith with the members of this House, and it's not keeping faith with those on workmen's compensation," he said.

**DELAYED PROVISIONS**

The bill which is being held over provides for compensation payments for personal injuries arising out of and in the course of the employment, without being restricted to disabilities caused by specific accidents on the job.

Another highlight is that "where the personal injury or disease is superimposed on an already existing disability, compensation shall be allowed only for such proportion of the disability that exists following the personal injury or disease as may reasonably be attributed to such personal injury or disease."

"The measure of the disability attributable to such personal injury or disease shall ... be the amount of the difference between the workman's disability before and disability after the occurrence of the personal injury or disease."

Mr. Peterson said, "I am asking the Workmen's Compensation Board to endeavor to apply some of the new principles of the legislation during the coming year and report any weaknesses there may be."

He said he intended to give an opportunity to all who would be affected by the legislation to study its impact and "give us recommendations" between now and the next session.

**ALL BUT ONE**

The labor minister said all of the Tysoe recommendations had been accepted in the new bill except a provision for special compensation for radiation injuries.

He said the board could only compensate for the proportion of radiation injuries which might occur in B.C., and that this would be negligible.

## Flooding Report Readied

A report will be ready in four to six months on solutions to the Cowichan Valley flooding problems, Resources Minister Williston told the legislature Tuesday night.

"Most of the data has been collected but it hasn't been collated so that specific projects could be recommended," he said in reply to a question from Opposition Leader Robert Strachan.

Mr. Williston also suggested that groups in the Cowichan Valley apply for flood control projects under the federal-provincial ARDA plan.

## Little Chance for NDP

The legislature Tuesday gave first reading to an opposition bill to "empower the government of B.C. to engage in the business of automobile accident insurance."

The bill was introduced by Opposition leader Strachan and has little chance of receiving the required three readings and royal assent.

## Chiropractors, Museum Among Flood of Bills

The flood of bills poured into the legislature Monday by the government included 11 of a minor nature. Their details:

- An act to amend the Companies Act, primarily aimed at making provisions similar to the Securities Act introduced last week effective over B.C. registered companies.

- Amendments to the Municipalities Enabling and Validating Act, providing a number of municipal requests for interim or special statutory authority for specific acts or needs for municipal councils;

- Amendments to the Forest Act, which would allow the provincial government to declare forfeit to the Crown marked or unmarked timber littering foreshores or beaches, for disposal;

- An act to amend the Notaries Act, which would allow a public compensation act to be established to pay compensation for misdeeds of any notary public;

- Amendments to the Land Registry Act, which among other things eases some registration procedures and codes where electronic data processing is used;

- Amendments to the Execution Act which would require registration of a judgment against a specific parcel of land before judgment would be formed against the land;

- An act respecting accumulations which would bring B.C. legislation into uniformity with similar legislation in England and Ontario;

- Amendments to the Chiropractic Act, which would allow competent chiropractors to qualify for use of X-ray facilities;

- A provincial Museum Act

which would permit officials to charge admission for special exhibits at the B.C. Museum in Victoria;

- Amendment to the Greater Vancouver Water District Act which would increase to \$30 from \$15 the maximum indemnity per meeting payable

to each member of the Vancouver Water Board;

- And an amendment to the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Act which similarly increases from \$15 to \$30 the maximum indemnity paid per meeting to board members.

### Stellako Research Shows

## Log Drive Not That Bad

The B.C. Research Council can't make up its mind on the long-term effects of the controversial Stellako River log drives.

The report of the scientists was filed in the legislature Tuesday by Resources Minister Williston, who ordered the drives on the Central B.C. river last summer.

The minister's order clashed with one from the federal fisheries department, which said the drives would disturb salmon spawning beds and dump bark into the water, an event which would yield deadly chemical products.

But the experts in BCRC's division of applied biology said they could find no harmful effects on unhatched salmon. And they couldn't say what would happen to the fish during later developmental stages.

#### NOT DANGEROUS

The biologists said 20 per cent of the suspended solids measured in the water were bark and wood fibres, substances which were found in the gravel beds during and after the salmon spawned.

In addition, they found that levels of oxygen were sufficient to support life and carbon dioxide had not reached dangerous concentrations.

The last paragraph of the nine-page report said:

"On the basis of this study, it is not possible to state what may be the long-term effects on salmon reproduction of log driving on the Stellako River."

#### FEWER JAMS

Many of the complaints about the drives were that log jams would disturb spawning areas.

On this point, BCRC scientists said:

"Although controlled release of logs resulted in log jams during the 1966 log drive than during the drive the preceding year, log jams cannot be avoided during driving ...

"Half of those jams which did form during the 1966 drive were on or directly adjacent to 1966 spawning areas."



# Mine Probe Demanded By Nimsick

An opposition member of the legislature Wednesday demanded a royal commission into the B.C. mining industry.

Leo Nimsick (NDP, Kootenay) made the demand during debate on Mines Minister Brothers' departmental estimates. The estimates, totalling \$5,029,140, were approved after three hours' debate.

Mr. Nimsick said mining promoters are more interested in mining the small stockholders than in mining ore bodies. The public was not getting sufficient returns from the mining industry. Only 18 cents of every dollar invested in mining stocks ever got to the mine or exploration program.

## BIG RETURN

Mr. Nimsick said the petroleum and natural gas industry, which received only \$316,748 of Mr. Brothers' departmental estimates, returned \$34,000,000 in royalties and lease money to the provincial coffers during 1966.

With the total provincial mines production estimated at \$300,000,000 last year, net revenue to the provincial public purse from mines totalled only \$6,000,000 and \$5,000,000 had to be returned to the operation of mines department to encourage development of the industry.

Mines Minister Brothers said he had no intention of setting up a royal commission in mining industry.

## 'SOMETHING WRONG'

"I think it is carrying on very well today," the minister said.

"When you get only \$6,000,000 from an industry worth \$300,000,000 and you're spending \$5,000,000 of that to open it up, there's something wrong," Mr. Nimsick said. "We're not getting the returns from this industry we should be getting."

Mr. Nimsick said B.C. has had a royal commission investigation of all other major provincial resources, including forestry.

A royal commission could investigate every aspect of

mining from the investor's dollar to final production.

It would look into the status of the modern miner, his working conditions whether B.C. ore should be exported and "whether there's too much high-grading of this non-replenishable resource."

## 'MINING PUBLIC'

Much more could be done to protect small investors and see that a greater proportion of the investment got to the miner, he said.

"Are the promoters more interested in mining the public than the ore-body?"

He praised the recent Carr commission for criticising the three-year tax exemption period given to new mines. Companies were abusing it by "creaming" the resource.

## NOT NECESSARY

Cominco Ltd. was operating tax-free at Pine Point, yet had been allowed to close down its Hudson's Bay mine near Salmo.

"I understand they're making \$1,000,000 a week on Pine Point ore," Mr. Nimsick said. Endako is making \$1,000,000 a month out of 250 men, the NDP member said.

The tax-free period was not necessary, he said. The companies say they need it to overcome the uncertainties of initial production.

"When production starts they have the ore body blocked out and they know to the last nickel what they can get out of it," he said.

## PERCENTAGE

should initiate a new mining development scheme which would see that "when a mine goes into production the people of B.C. would receive a percentage of the common stock."

Dean Smith (SC—North Peace River) told Mr. Nimsick "you want to bet on a horse after it's run the race."

By Bennett

# Ottawa Hailed, Flailed

Primer Bennett defended, then ridiculed, the federal government in the legislature Wednesday.

It began when Randolph Harding (NDP — Revelstoke-Slocan) asked during passage of the mines department's \$5,029,140 estimates whether Mines Minister Brothers and Liberal leader Ray Perrault would consider asking Ottawa for an extension of the federal-provincial roads-to-resources cost-sharing program.

Premier Bennett informed the House the Liberals were "not to blame for the foolish formula" which had been brought in by the previous Conservative government.

B.C. didn't get a fair break under the old formula in which Ottawa shared the cost of building \$7,500,000 worth of roads in each province, to open new areas to resource development, he said.

## NO GRAVEL

In Prince Edward Island, for example, "which hasn't even got a foot of gravel, they were pouring streets and alleyways," said Mr. Bennett, adding that one resident there had a sign in front of his house stating: "Please don't pave my lawn."

Mr. Perrault beamed with pleasure. "I think this is a significant occasion when the premier is rushing to the defence of the Liberal government."

He said he agreed with the premier the roads-to-resources was "a politically-loaded program," and that Canada needs a new national roads program and a second Trans-Canada Highway.

Mr. Bennett told the House Canada needs a national highway program similar to that of the United States.

The Liberal leader then switched the subject to Labor Minister Nicholson's offer Wednesday to give B.C. a grant and a long-term loan toward construction of an \$82,000,000 tunnel-bridge crossing of the First Narrows in Vancouver.

## HE'S PREPARED

"Is the premier prepared to accept the federal bridge offer?" Mr. Perrault asked hopefully.

But the premier retorted he would turn the offer around — he would see B.C. gave \$27,000,000 toward the cost of the bridge and then loan Ottawa the money it might need for its share of the cost and "we'll loan them the money at national market prices."

The Liberal leader sat and scowled.

# Link Via U.S. Angers CPR Coal Bypass Approved

By JACK FRY  
Legislative Reporter

The provincial government has given a go-ahead for Crows Nest Industries Ltd. to bypass the Canadian Pacific Railway in the movement of coal from southeastern B.C. to the coast for shipment to Japan.

CPR president Ian Sinclair immediately fired off a telegram to Commercial Transport Minister Bonner objecting to the province's action.

Crows Nest want to build a 77-mile railway spur line to connect the mines at Natal with the Great Northern Railway at Eureka, Montana.

## TO ROBERTS BANK

Coal would then move from the mines through the United States and back into British Columbia for shipment to Japan from the proposed super port at Roberts Bank, near Tsawwassen.

It is understood the provincial cabinet earlier this week approved the financial structure of the proposed railway company which will link up with the Great Northern.

But the order will not be made public until today, after it has been signed by the lieutenant-governor.

## FURTHER ORDER

It is also understood that a further cabinet order will be required for formal approval of the proposed spur line route, and that the department of commercial transport is awaiting more details before proceeding further with the company's application.

Meanwhile, it was also learned that W. R. Prentice, executive vice-president of Crows Nest Industries, flew to Japan Wednesday to complete contract negotiations with the Japanese for a major shipment.

The government action was taken in conjunction with announced plans for establishment of a new B.C. Harbors Board, which will be given power to borrow up to \$25,000,000 for development of a huge industrial complex and port for super cargo ships on the Lower Mainland.

## BIG EXPORT

This will eliminate the need, informants say, for the Great

Northern Railway to carry out its plans for construction of a new port north of Everett, through a Washington State port authority.

A usually reliable source within the government told the Colonist Wednesday that a total Canadian export of 7,000,000 tons of coal per year is at stake

in the new deal, after production has been given several years to reach a peak.

"It is a Western Canadian coal opportunity presented by very rapid expansion of Japanese steel capacity," the informant said.

Crows Nest, unable to reach a freight rate agreement with the CPR for moving the coal to Vancouver, applied about a year

ago to Commercial Transport Minister Bonner for permission to build the spur line to connect with the American railway.

At that time the company said it could sell 2,000,000 or more tons a year to Japanese interests.

The CPR president said the railway "must continue to object" to B.C. granting authority for the building of a railway to the U.S. border for the purpose of moving coal by a United States railway.

He said the CPR has the shortest route from Crows Nest to any Canadian port, "including Roberts Bank."

## 'ADVERSE AFFECT'

"Would suggest that coupling U.C.-controlled Crows Nest Industries with an American railroad will adversely effect favorable consideration by the federal government to assist the orderly development of the export coal market based in the Kootenays," Mr. Sinclair said.

"... If your government authorizes building of a railway to divert Canadian coal to a U.S. railway, the result will be to deprive Canadian transportation workers and Canadian suppliers of railway equipment and Canadian industries and merchants providing support to transportation through Canada of millions of dollar annually."

Mr. Sinclair suggested a conference of interested persons, including a representative of the Dominion Coal Board.

Copies of his telegram were sent to Mines Minister Pepin and Transport Minister Pickersgill.

# Flood Alert Sounded

Resources Minister Williston said Tuesday night the "alert is out" for possible flooding in the Fraser Valley this spring.

And he promised that several government departments plus Civil Defence will swing into action at the first sign of danger from a heavy runoff.

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Earlier this week, the Water Resources Branch reported unusually heavy snowpacks on the upper reaches of the river. The severity of the runoff, however, depends on how rapidly the snow is melted by spring and summer sunshine.

Mr. Williston, speaking during

the debate on his department's estimates, said people concerned with Fraser Valley flooding were "working quietly" and they did not want to alarm those living in the area.

He said plans were being drawn up to provide sandbags and all the needed equipment to control floodwaters. The depart-

ments of water resources, municipal affairs and agriculture are involved in the planning.

David Barrett, (NDP, Coquitlam) said the last time there was flooding in the Fraser Valley, "We had all the equipment but no one to co-ordinate the effort."



# Bugging Bill Sitting On Socreds' Shelf

A bill which would guarantee people the right of privacy from wiretaps and electronic "bugging" devices was quietly shelved in the legislature Wednesday.

The bill brought in by Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) was one of three public bills brought in by private members, which received the same treatment.

The government simply adjourned debate on the bills when they came up for second reading (approval in principle) in the House. There was no indication when the government is likely to bring them up for debate again.

## NEW CAPSULE

Speaking on his bill, Mr. Macdonald said the latest electronic device on the market is a "detector capsule" which when swallowed unknowingly by the victim transmits everything he says for the next 24-hour period.

He told the House private detectives tap telephones while searching for divorce evidence, and asked, "What can this lead to in the way of blackmail? What can this lead to in the way of human beings becoming afraid to express their thoughts?"

Before the bill was pigeonholed, it was supported by Liberal leader Perrault, who passed along the information

that about "5,000 telephones in Washington, D.C., are bugged — not by Russians but by U.S. officials spying on each other."

Another measure which was held up in the second reading stage was a bill from Ernie LeCours (SC, Richmond) which would allow laymen to appear in court on behalf of the accused.

## RURAL AREAS

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby-Edmonds) said everyone in B.C. should have the benefit of "proper legal advice," but he urged support of the Socred backbencher's bill because there are many rural areas of the province where there is a shortage of lawyers.

Some communities might have only two lawyers, in which one is the magistrate and the other is the prosecutor, and "that leaves no one to represent the litigant," Mr. Dowding said.

Alan Macfarlane (L, Oak Bay) opposed the bill, on the grounds that "a man's case is not presented any more strongly by having an unqualified person speaking for him" than if he presented it as best he could to the magistrate.

"Such a bill would open the door to having crackpots who view themselves as Philadelphia lawyers," and such a step would be "neither necessary nor desirable," he said.

Tom Berger (NDP, Vanco-

ver Burrard) told the House there is no shortage of lawyers in big cities, but there are isolated areas of the province which are still like the frontier and where "the inarticulate defendant simply doesn't have the ability to tell his side of the story."

The third bill was one from David Barrett (NDP, Coquitlam) calling for the price per ounce to be marked on all foods, groceries and household goods which are packaged in odd-sized containers, so people can figure how much they are being asked to pay for these products.

## New Democrat Trying Ambulance, Wage Bills

Six new bills from opposition members and one from a Social Credit MLA were introduced and given first reading in the legislature Wednesday. Opposition bills rarely if ever get passed.

Rae Eddie (NDP, New Westminster) submitted three bills which would bring ambulance operation under B.C. Hospital Insurance Service coverage, and \$1.75-an-hour minimum wages for men and women in all occupations throughout the province.

Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) brought in one bill which would provide for a study of a Swedish system in which people are able to draw weekly indemnities during periods of sickness.

He brought in another bill which would add the word "sex" to the race, color and religion clauses of the Fair Employment Practices Act, so there could be no discrimination for sex.

David Barnett (NDP, Coquitlam) introduced a rehabilitation of prisoners bill which would allow prisoners to serve their terms on weekends and return to their places of work during the week.

Herbert Bruch (SC, Esquimalt) brought in an act respecting the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, which consolidates several existing measures and clarifies the powers and duties of the society and its members.

## Compensation Debate Urged After Easter

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan proposed Wednesday

that the legislature come back after the Easter holidays to debate the new Workmen's Compensation Act which Labor Minister Peterson says will not be passed until next year.

"The people of B.C. have been waiting since 1961 for improvements to the Workmen's Compensation Act and the government is derelict in its duty if it doesn't proceed with this legislation as soon as possible," he said.

## 'NO REASON'

"Everyone in the province, including the MLAs, has had 18 months in which to assess the Tysoe royal commission report

on which this compensation legislation is based.

"There is no reason why we cannot return after an Easter adjournment, during which the members will be able to again consult with their constituents, ready to debate and pass a new Workmen's Compensation Act which is so desperately needed."

## Road Priority Promised

Crews will be working this year on every unfinished segment of the Stewart-Cassiar Road, Mines Minister Brothers told the legislature Wednesday.

The statement came in reply to questions from Frank Calder (NDP — Atlin) during debate

on mines department estimates. Workmen and equipment were both hampered by the short working season possible in the northwestern B.C. region, Mr. Brothers said.

Work had not proceeded as fast as he had hoped, he said.

# Welfare Region B.C. Idea

By JACK FRY  
Legislative Reporter

Social Welfare Minister Campbell told the legislature Thursday he will examine the possibility of putting Greater Victoria's welfare services on a regional basis, to eliminate fragmentation of services among the municipalities.

He also announced that Saanich has been given approval to purchase 50 existing houses scattered throughout the municipality for rental to low-income families, particularly those on social welfare.

The minister also said, while outlining to the House his plans for overhauling the department which he took over last December, that he hoped to eliminate the overlapping of public and private welfare agencies in Greater Victoria, Vancouver and White Rock.

## OVERLAPPING

He agreed with opposition claims that there is an overlapping of services, even among government departments, which creates confusion and prevents the public from getting the best value for its tax dollars.

But the minister contended that "you are never going to be able to successfully declare war on welfare problems unless you bring in community involvement."

For this reason, he said, total inventories of welfare facilities are to be drawn up in three pilot areas: White Rock, a typical small community, Vancouver, which will be divided into eight community areas, and Greater Victoria, which is unique because of the great fragmentation which occurs in such a small region.

## PROJECT HEADS

Grace McCarthy (SC, Vancouver Little Mountain) will head the Vancouver project, Robert Wenman (SC, Delta) will co ordinate the White Rock work and Isabel Dawson (SC, Mackenzie) leads a team in the evaluation of services in the department's division for the aged, he told the House.

He did not name the leader of the Victoria project, but said outside the House that it would be done by the social welfare department.

Mr. Campbell praised the housing project brought forward by Saanich and told the House, "I think they are on the right

track, and we will help them where we can."

He said the possibility of a subsidy to help the elderly live in their own homes would be considered, and that communities would be urged to draw up registries to help people on welfare find such part-time jobs as babysitting and mowing lawns.

The welfare minister said the Canada Assistance Plan, which offers 50 per cent federal participation in a wide group of welfare programs, will be officially signed today.

But in reply to opposition demands for increases in social assistance rates, Mr. Campbell reiterated several times that the government had "no announcement to make."

Leo Nimsick, the firebrand NDP member from Kootenay, was nearly turfed out of the legislature during a shouting match later with Herbert Bruch, chairman of the estimates committee.

The veteran NDP member had risen to ask the government to raise its social assistance maximum payments from \$75 a month for single persons and \$150 for married couples to be more in line with old-age pensioner payments of \$165 a month for singles and \$210 a month for couples.

But he made a tactical error of telling the House no Social MLAs had criticized the government's welfare policies because all the backbenchers had been "muzzled."

Herb Capozzi (SC — Vancouver Centre) jumped to his feet to challenge the insinuation which he said had been cast on the integrity of the Social backbenchers.

Mr. Bruch, deputy speaker of the House, repeatedly asked Mr. Nimsick to withdraw the "muzzling" comment, but the Kootenay member, with his face beet-red with emotion, remained on his feet, refusing to give way.

Mr. Bruch then stood up and engaged in a shouting match with Mr. Nimsick, all the while pounding his little ceremonial

gavel as though it were a sledgehammer, threatening to "name the member," which would mean ejection from the House for the remainder of the sitting.

Mr. Nimsick eventually withdrew the remark, then continued to ask what became of the "age for the humanities" which Premier Bennett had promised during the September election campaign.

He engaged in another verbal scuffle with the chairman, then noted with an astonished look on his face that in the confusion Welfare Minister Campbell had left the House.

Mr. Campbell quietly slipped back into the House, and Ernie McCours (SC — Richmond) said it's "quite impossible" for a widow living alone as a welfare recipient, in a house her husband started to buy before he passed away, to pay all of her bills from the \$75 allotment.





# Campbell Clams Up 'Misuse' Backing Missing

Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell refused to explain Wednesday night how any of B.C.'s municipalities misused their funds, as Premier Bennett recently told the House they had been doing.

The opposition hammered away at the minister until 12:25 a.m. Thursday before passing his \$42,720 office estimates and moving on to other votes in the municipal affairs department.

## ASSURANCE WANTED

Alan Macfarlane (L — Oak Bay) called upon Mr. Campbell to give some assurance that regional districts will not be called upon to pay the cost of running the public transit system.

The Oak Bay Liberal also wanted to know the department's plans for construction of a sewage system in the capital region district, whether the water board's work would become a function of the regional district and whether highways would also become a regional function.

The minister started to reply but lost the floor to David Stupich (NDP — Nanaimo), who moved an adjournment of the debate shortly after midnight. Absent members were called back into the House and the motion was defeated by a vote of 29 to 21.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault said he had been approached by councillors from his area (North Vancouver-Capilano) "who are very upset about the statement of the premier" that some municipalities had been misusing funds and were caught in their own glue by a government bill which earmarks per capita grants for road purposes.

Together with the other members of the House, I ask the minister to tell us what is his philosophy about the municipalities. And if he lacks the courage to stand up he should resign his chair," Mr. Perrault said.

## 'SICK SEAGULL'

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan wanted Mr. Campbell to answer, "Does the minister know of any municipality in the province of B.C. which has misused any of its funds in the past 12 months, and does the minister know of any municipality that's caught in its own glue?"

Premier Bennett accused the opposition of conducting a filibuster, and Waldo Skillings (SC — Victoria) told Mr. Strachan, "You remind me of a sick seagull."

The municipal affairs minister calmly weathered the storm until his office and salary vote were passed. The total municipal affairs department estimates of \$73,591,626 were passed by 1:15 a.m. when the House adjourned until the 2 p.m. sitting.

# Superport Criticism Hurts Coal — Bonner

Criticisms of provincial "superport" plans have seriously jeopardized critical Canadian coal sales negotiations now under way in Japan, Attorney-General Bonner said Friday.

Meanwhile in Vancouver, an official of Crows Nest Industries took CPR President Ian Sinclair to task for his claims that a Crows Nest plan to ship coal to the Canadian West Coast on an American railway would be illegal.

W. R. Prentice, executive vice-president of the Fernie com-

pany, made the remarks in a telephone interview from Tokyo where he is negotiating a \$260,000 export coal deal with officials of the Japanese coal industry.

Mr. Bonner's comments came during debate on second reading in the legislature of a bill establishing a provincial harbors authority. The authority would be used initially to spur development of "superport" facilities at Roberts Bank, 20 miles south of Vancouver.

The bill received second reading, or approval in principle, by

a vote of 46-to-5, the 16 NDP opposition members voting with the Social Credit government. The five Liberal MLAs present voted against the bill.

The Roberts Bank plan was based on a profile placing Japan's annual coal consumption at 27,000,000 tons "7,000,000 tons of which will be supplied by British Columbia and Alberta," Mr. Bonner said.

## ULTIMATE AIM

"That's the ultimate target," the attorney-general told the house.

"Contacts are currently under negotiation in Japan," Mr. Bonner said. W. R. Prentice, executive vice-president of Crows Nest Industries Ltd., of Fernie, B.C. is in Tokyo discussing a contract with Japanese coal industrial officials calling for the export of 2,000,000 tons of coal a year to Japan.

Mr. Bonner, also commercial transport minister, said suggestions that establishment of such a port authority is beyond the jurisdiction of the provincial government had raised speculation in Japan "that British Columbia can not provide an exit."

## CONFUSION

"This has thrown a great deal of confusion on negotiations," Mr. Bonner said.

"It has seriously jeopardized these negotiations."

Mr. Bonner said the Roberts Bank development, the provincial harbors board the future of Fernie and the mining industry in eastern B.C. are linked together.

Mr. Sinclair said earlier this week there are legal and economic barriers to the coal company's plans to ship over a Great Northern Railway line through the U.S. to a proposed new superport at Roberts Bank, 20 miles south of here.

## CONFIDENT

Mr. Prentice said his company is completely confident there are no legal obstacles preventing shipment via the American railway.

"The economy of the whole Crowsnest area is dependent upon our industry," said Mr. Prentice. "This may be our one chance to secure millions of additional export dollars for the good of the Crowsnest area, British Columbia and Canada."

★ ★ ★

## Minimum Wages Increased

A new minimum wage order governing the hotel and catering industry has been issued by the Board of Industrial Relations, Labor Minister Peterson announced Friday.

The order establishes the minimum wage of \$1.10 an hour from May 1 and \$1.25 an hour effective Nov. 1.

The order replaces current hotel and catering minimum wages of \$1 per hour and less during the first three months of employment. It also provides for overtime of time and one-half for hours worked in excess of eight in one day and forty in one week.

Mr. Peterson said the order affects about 25,000 employees in B.C.



## Federal-Provincial Project

# Welfare Plan Signed

By JACK FRY  
Legislative Reporter

The new Canada Assistance Plan for a comprehensive federal-provincial general assistance program for welfare services was formally signed Friday by Welfare Minister Campbell.

The new plan will provide for the first time ever for federal sharing in the costs for maintenance of dependent children and medical services and drugs for people on social assistance. These expenditures, which will amount to an estimated \$8,235,000 and \$5,450,000 respec-

tively during the new fiscal year starting April 1, were borne entirely by the province in the past.

The Canada Assistance Plan will also replace a patchwork of old federal-provincial cost sharing agreements with a single framework for a new approach to public assistance.

Ottawa is expected to contribute about \$25,000,000 of the more than \$60,000,000 which will be spent under this plan.

Welfare Minister Campbell welcomed the new scheme, but with two notable exceptions, as he placed his signature to the document which is to be returned to National Health and Welfare Minister Allan MacEachen.

### TROUBLE AHEAD

"The first reservation we have," he said, hinting there may be trouble ahead, is that the Canada Assistance Plan will be good only until March, 1969, with an escape clause that Ottawa could withdraw upon one year's notice.

The minister also said the plan does not provide for the influx of new immigrants who may end up on the welfare roles of this province.

Accordingly, Mr. Campbell attached an addendum to the document which will be sent to Ottawa, that "this agreement is accepted on the basis that it is hoped a satisfactory net immigration formula will be reached between" Ottawa and B.C.

### FURTHER STEPS

The possibility that further negotiations can be carried out on a welfare portability clause was contained in a letter from Mr. MacEachen to Premier Bennett last month. The current imbalance of migration could cost B.C. about \$2,000,000 per year.

The old federal-provincial 50-50 cost sharing Unemployment Assistance Act will be incorporated into the broader Canada Assistance Plan, and federal child welfare payments will be retroactive to April 1, 1966.

### GOOD TYPE

"We consider this a good type of federal-provincial sharing program and we welcome the opportunity to co-operate with the federal government," Mr. Campbell said.

But he labelled an earlier charge by Liberal leader Ray Perrault that the cash inflow from Ottawa might be diverted into B.C. Hydro power projects as "nothing but a public mischief."

## At the Legislature

# MLAs Approve Consumer Bill

The government's bill for a consumer protection act received second reading, approval in principle, from all sides of the legislature Friday, but not before individual MLAs had voiced some criticisms.

Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver-East) said, "The legislation should be supported because it goes at least half way."

Mr. Macdonald said no provision was made to ensure truthful advertising, legitimate packaging or protection against sales gimmickry.

### DOOR POINT

Alan Macfarlane (L, Oak Bay) said no direct provision was made in the proposed act to cancel contracts involving "door-to-door service salesmen."

Attorney-General Bonner said this category was not directly named in an attempt to give some degree of uniformity with legislation in other provinces. Amendments might be brought in later.

★ ★ ★

The cabinet should investigate pollution of the sea by the Crofton pulp mill south of Nanaimo, John Tisdalle, (SC, Saanich and the Islands) told the B.C. legislature Friday.

"The Crofton mill, although a great asset to the community, has created a hazard on the beaches," he said during debate on second reading of a new pollution control bill.

The mill is preparing to extend its facilities "and dump even more waste liquor (chemical) into the water," he said.

He questioned the benefit of

Premier Bennett said he will invite Vancouver Mayor Tom Campbell to Victoria early next week to discuss a new means of financing a \$100,000,000 second crossing of the First Narrows to Vancouver's north shore.

SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 1967

## SPCA Bill 'Ambiguous' Charge Cat Protectors

Members of the Cats Protection League of Victoria are unhappy about a bill to reconstitute the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, which was introduced without notice Wednesday by Herbert Bruch (SC, Esquimalt).

"It is the same bill as last year. Only the number has been changed. We still protest the things we protested last year," a spokesman for the cats' protective group said.

"I take exception to Mr. Bruch's statement that 'The dissension appears to have been cleared up'" the spokesman said.

### CHIEF BEEF

The chief objection stems from the portion of the bill permitting the SPCA "to sell or dispose of an animal brought under its custody, provided three days' notice is given to the owner, if known."

"In part, we object to the term 'dispose of,'" the spokesman said, "as being ambiguous and not excluding the possibility that an unscrupulous agent could turn an animal over to experimenters."





# Bennett Didn't Mean Any Criminal Misuse

Premier Bennett Monday qualified his suggestion that some B.C. municipalities are misusing their funds.

"No municipalities have criminally misused their funds," the premier told the legislature after opposition members pressed for a statement.

Three weeks ago the premier said "some (municipalities) misuse their funds . . . they've caught themselves in their own glue."

The statement came during debate on a Municipal Act amendment that requires municipalities to give top priority to road programs when they receive their provincial per capita grants.

Monday the premier said, "They know the grant replaced the one-third of the motor vehicle licence fees and that was to be used for that purpose."

Transport Minister Bonner has received a telegram from CPR president Ian Sinclair asking the government to mediate a conference with Crows Nest Industries Ltd., but will defer any decision pending further information.

The railway hopes the conference will avert the necessity for Crows Nest to build a 77-mile spur line to ship its coal to the coast on the U.S.-owned Great Northern railway. Mr.

## Buildings Report

Bonner said he won't decide until he gets definite information from Japan "as to what is going on" in current coal contract talks with Crows Nest officials.

The government misled the people of British Columbia two years ago when the concept of regional districts was first presented, Opposition leader Robert Strachan told the legislature.

"You have misled this House and the people of British Columbia," Mr. Strachan told Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell during debate on second reading of a bill giving the cabinet power to redefine regional district boundaries to conform with those of hospital districts where this is deemed desirable.

Mr. Strachan said municipalities were first told they could decide if they wanted to be in a regional district and what functions it could provide.

### SECOND READING

The bill received second reading, or approval in principle, Mr. Strachan suggested the

minister had planned to establish hospital districts, throughout the province in 1965 when the concept of regional districts evolved.

"You are trying to press and squeeze the people of the province into some concept of your own," he told the minister. "It is obvious that in the future you will give the regional districts more statutory functions."

### DRIVING TESTS

Psychiatric examinations should be included in driving tests because many accidents are caused by motorists' psychological problems, Dave Barrett (NDP Coquitlam) told the legislature.

He said during debate on second reading of a bill to amend the Motor Vehicles Act many drivers use their cars as "weapons of self destruction" and, in addition to killing themselves, take the lives of safe drivers.

## Socreds Join Compensation Push

# PRESSURE MOUNTS FOR EXTRA SITTING

By JACK FRY, Legislative Reporter

Two Social Credit backbenchers joined the NDP and Liberals in a revolt in the legislature Monday against another year's delay in bringing down major changes in the Workmen's Compensation Act.

And while a third Socred back-

bencher tried unsuccessfully to catch the eye of Speaker William Murray, Labor Minister Peterson moved swiftly to quell the flareup which could have put the government in an awkward position had it gotten out of hand.

The minister moved second reading (approval in principle) of a minor Workmen's Compensation Act amendment — forcing unanimous support from all quarters, including those members who felt more should have been done.

One of the rebels was John Tisdalle (SC, Saanich and the Islands) who said the members should come back after Easter, or later, to push through a new Workmen's Compensation Act which Mr. Peterson said will be put on ice for another year even though it has already been given first reading during the current session.

### BETTER DEAL

"There are some people who should be given a better deal. We should realize we're talking about people. I plead very earnestly for the case of these people," Mr. Tisdalle told the House.

And if the government refuses to bring in the legislation the labor minister should at least tell the Workmen's Compensation Board "to try to be human" and stop treating applicants as though they are liars who can be "damned and cursed."

"It's no wonder they go away neurotic," when WCB members try to get them into a corner and use detestable language on them, said Mr. Tisdalle.

### 'SHOULD BE TAPED'

Ernie LeCours (SC, Richmond) told the House, "It sounds to me as if (the WCB) is a mill of injustice because they have a lot of restraints on the claimants and none on themselves."

Not one member could deny

that the present act was inadequate, he said, adding he thought all WCB interviews should be taped so the labor minister "can know what goes on down there."

When H. R. McDiarmid (SC, Alberni) tried to get the floor, Mr. Peterson rose to speak.

### DIVISION ALLOWED

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby-Edmonds) called the Speaker's attention to the fact it was shortly after 6 p.m., the normal quitting time, and the labor minister snapped, "Since you deny me the right to speak, I move second reading."

Mr. Dowding protested that, under House standing order No. 3, the Speaker was supposed to leave the chair and return to the House at 8 p.m.

But the Speaker allowed the government a division (standing vote) on Mr. Peterson's motion — effectively stemming the mounting pressure which might have forced the government to take a second look at the postponement.

### 'BARE BONES BILL'

Earlier in the debate, Liberal leader Ray Perrault called the minor amendment before the House a "bare bones bill" which offered "only a slight improvement on the status quo."

Thousands of workmen in B.C. are affected by workmen's compensation, but the present legislation "isn't going to put any more soup bones on the tables" of these people, he said.

"We're failing in workmen's compensation, and I for one am willing to come back after

Easter to make sure we have a self-respecting and satisfactory Workmen's Compensation Act on the books of this province," the Liberal leader said.

### 'PITIFUL EFFORT'

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said the minister of labor had "let the workers of B.C. down" by his "pitiful effort" on compensation adjustments which were needed years ago.

Anyone who has a reservation for a flight to Bermuda after the session should cancel it, because the members should come back after Easter and put the new bill through, he said.

Mr. Dowding likened the government to a statue in a park which holds a sword high in a wave of gallantry but makes no forward advance.

Leo Nimsick (NDP — Kootenay) said the government is "throwing a crumb to a man when he should be getting a loaf of bread," and that is nothing more than "a slap in the face" to workmen who need compensation.

"This is utterly and absolutely disgraceful," said Randolph Harding (NDP — Revelstoke-Slocan). "This shows you are carrying too big a load (dual portfolio of labor and education), and this is hurting people who desperately need assistance."

David Barrett (NDP — Coquitlam) appealed to the Socred backbenchers to "get up and fight for a better act," before Mr. LeCours and Mr. Tisdalle entered the debate.



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1967

## Drug Hit in Two Bills

# LSD Informing Compulsory

By JACK FRY  
Legislative Reporter

Not only possession of LSD but failure to report its presence would make British Columbians liable to fines following amendment of the Health Act Tuesday.

And to make doubly sure the hallucinogenic drug is outlawed completely in the province, the government is processing two bills on the same subject.

A Health Act amendment establishing maximum penalties of a \$2,000 fine and six months in jail for possession of LSD without a provincial health approval passed the committee stage but was not given final reading.

It duplicated a new Proscribed Substances Act — introduced earlier — which provided the same penalties for possession of either LSD or marijuana

without a provincial health permit. This bill has already been given second reading by the House.

The amended Health Act will read "for the protection of the public health within the province any person knowing of the presence of lysergic acid diethylamide, commonly known as LSD, in any premises or in the possession of any person shall report the matter at once to a medical health officer or a police officer."

Failure to do so could bring a fine of up to \$500 under the B.C. Summary Convictions Act.

The opposition claimed the fluke of dual legislation came about after it pointed out on the floor of the House that the ruling rightfully belonged under the Health Act, where it stood a better chance of being enforced. Health Minister Wesley Black

couldn't understand what the opposition was complaining about. "As a layman I can't honestly see what harm it would cause to have the two statutes."

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby-Edmonds) urged the government to scrap the Proscribed Substances Act. "For heaven's sake legislate where you're safe but don't go into an area which is the jurisdiction of Parliament," he said.

Allan Williams (L, Vancouver-Howe Sound) said, "Our aim is to stamp out the use of this drug LSD in the province and if we have to have 10 statutes, let's have them."

Attorney-General Robert Bonner said the federal government is preparing legislation which will outlaw LSD and that B.C. "can leave these statutes on the book until the next session. If the federal government has acted satisfactorily by them, we can withdraw them."

## I'm for Fluorides Bennett Says

Premier Bennett said Tuesday he will recommend government action to promote fluoridation of B.C. water supplies.

"I am a strong supporter of fluoridation," the premier told the House during debate on a Liberal amendment that would allow fluoridation referendums to pass on a 50 per cent majority.

"I will recommend the department of education give more education on fluoridation," he said. "I will recommend fluoridation be placed before a committee of the legislature for study at the next session."

However, the House defeated the amendment after Mr. Bennett said, "If people can introduce something like this on a 50 per cent majority they can turn around and repeal it on a 60 per cent majority just as easily."

## ... For the Gander

PREMIER BENNETT has given an explanation of sorts for his remark of three weeks ago that so incensed many of the province's municipal leaders, namely that some municipalities misuse their funds and have been caught in their own glue.

Tardily the premier has told the legislature that "no municipalities have criminally misused their funds." They know, he says, that the province's population-based grant replaced a share of motor vehicle licence fees and was to be used for road programs.

The implication is that to spend less than the grant on roads is misuse, no matter the municipalities' other needs.

How strange that the same reasoning does not apply—in Mr. Bennett's view—to the two-fifths of the sales tax that was intended to be devoted to hospitals.

## Driving Charge Change

# Government Backs Down

Criticism from both sides of the House forced the government to make an on-the-floor amendment to a government bill in the legislature Tuesday.

The opposition vigorously attacked a proposed amendment to the Motor Vehicle Act which would have inserted the words "the justice may convict for an offence under this act disclosed by the evidence taken at the trial in substitution for a conviction under this section (Section 138 of the Motor Vehicle Act)."

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby Edmonds) said the change would entitle a judge to hear a case and make a change in a charge under the act to suit the evidence he had heard.

Allan Williams (L, West Vancouver-Howe Sound) said it was a "catch-all" amendment.

Ernie Lecours (SC, Richmond) said the careless driving section "makes no allowance for human error."

"We should be trying to protect the public a bit more," Mr. Lecours said.

### NO IMPROVEMENT

Attorney-General Bonner said the intention had been to improve the act. But because of the criticisms the section concerned would be withdrawn.

"It's obvious from this discussion here we're not improving it," Mr. Bonner said.

However, other amendments to the act, including provisions prohibiting television receivers in the front seats of cars, and a new regulation which would prevent persons under 18 from owning cars without parental consent, received third and final reading.

## In the House

# Socreds Hail NDP Split

New Democratic Party ranks split in the legislature Tuesday during debate on an amendment to a proposed mining regulation act.

The debate within the party was greeted by loud desk-thumping from the government side and Premier Bennett said: "I suggest the NDP caucus carry on in some other room."

The amendment, eventually approved, will allow 17-year-olds to work underground in a mine if they are in an approved training program. Leo Nimsiek, Dave Stupich, Robert Strachan and William Hartley attacked the use of "children" in mines but Frank Calder and Randolph Harding supported the training idea.

★ ★ ★

Social Credit outspent the NDP by more than 3-1 in the provincial election last Sept. 12, Provincial Secretary Black said.

The Socreds declared election expenses of \$437,183, the NDP \$125,395, Liberals \$45,640 and the Communist party \$2,121. Social Credit spent its largest amount in Alberni, where \$13,029 helped H. R. McDiarmid unseat NDP veteran John Squire, who spent \$2,873. The NDP high was the \$3,781 of victorious David Barrett in Coquitlam and the Liberal top was \$7,834 for Alan Macfarlane in Oak Bay against \$8,500 for Socred Charles Ennals.

## Gyms

# 'Thaw' Brings Action

The Greater Victoria School Board moved swiftly Tuesday to take advantage of the end of the ban on construction of school gymnasiums and activity rooms.

Board chairman Peter Bunn said arrangements are being made to add an activity room on Newton elementary school, and a gym at Christie Point elementary-junior secondary. Both schools will be started this spring.

Premier Bennett announced in the legislature Tuesday the six-month freeze on construction of school auditoriums and gymnasiums has been lifted.

### FAVORABLE RATE

"Today we were able to raise \$25,000,000 at favorable rates on the New York market and I am happy to announce that the freeze is completely off," he said.

He also said, in reply to a request from Herb Capozzi (SC, Vancouver Centre), that the government is willing to share one-third of the remaining \$425,000 yet to be raised in order to build an all-weather outdoor sports stadium in New Westminster.

Mr. Capozzi said a committee had already raised \$75,000 which would be needed to build a "junior stadium" for high schools in Greater Vancouver and would be willing to raise two-thirds of the remainder if the provincial government would put up the rest.

### AMAZEMENT

Liberal leader Ray Perrault rose to comment, with some amazement. "It's almost as if we are living in a never-never land. We're told through the whole session there was no freeze at all, and now it seems there was no freeze until the thaw set in."

Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) welcomed the lifting of the freeze and said it showed the opposition had been so forceful that some of its ideas were "seeping in" on government action.

But Premier Bennett replied the NDP had been doing such a good job as opposition that the "people are going to see you remain in opposition for a long time."

Education Minister Peterson said the Liberal leader was "confused" about the freeze. The total ban on gymnasium and auditorium construction had been in effect since last October, while a priority system was being used on classroom construction which had no freeze, he said.



THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1967

## Wild Words Spice Works Estimates

By JACK FRY  
Legislative Reporter

Like the bright splutter of a candle about to burn out, the provincial legislature flared into a bitter shouting match Wednesday before the current session was expected to prorogue.

The issue: a motion by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan that Public Works Minister William Chant's salary and office expenditures vote should be trimmed by \$1, from \$29,325 to \$29,324.

It was virtually a motion of "complete lack of confidence" in the minister for his refusal to enunciate policy or answer questions during the debate which had taken up three hours of the House's time.

### LEFT UNFINISHED

The NDP leader charged that Mr. Chant had "squandered the money of the people" of British Columbia by starting buildings such as the provincial museum and the Duncan courthouse and then leaving them unfinished.

"Obviously the government is not prepared to move to meet the needs of the people of B.C." It has been in office so long it forgot its responsibility and suffers from tired blood, Mr. Strachan told the House.

Premier Bennett roared in to attack his antagonist, Mr. Strachan, he said, had used "the oldest political trick" in trying

to remove \$1 from the minister's salary.

"We know the leader of the opposition is in trouble (a leadership fight) in his own party. He tries to put up a false front like the front of a building," he stormed.

### ALL CORNERS

About this time, the shouting premier was drowned out by a hubbub of shouting and bickering from all corners of the House.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault said, "It's obvious you're covering up something in the department of public works" and that the premier has resorted to the "crudest kind of political tactic."

The premier had acted, he said, "like a punch-drunk punk in the middle of a ring," shouting he "can lick any man, but he's going to end up like Zora Folley did this evening."

The Liberals had intended to vote with the government against Mr. Strachan's resolution, but after seeing the premier's performance they changed their minds and "we're going to support the motion," Mr. Perrault said.

A division, or standing vote, was called at 9:04 p.m., and the non-confidence motion was defeated by 27 to 20. The rest of the public works department estimates totalling \$21,338,901 passed shortly thereafter.

### But NDP Motion Loses

## Socred Manipulation Charged

The government is trying to wipe out a defeat in the courts by making 150 employees of the B.C. Medical Plan become civil servants, the legislature was told Tuesday night.

Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) said the Labor Relations Board rejected the employees' application for certification as a local of the Office Workers Union and the courts subsequently "upset this ruling and restored the employees' rights of free collective bargaining which are now to be removed."

### TELLS HOUSE

Mr. Macdonald later told the House, after being prompted by a comment from Attorney-General Bonner, that, "Yes, I did take the case on behalf of the employees of the B.C. Medical Plan."

A motion by Mr. Macdonald that a portion of the medicare

plan bill which would classify B.C. Medical Plan employees as civil servants be stricken from the bill was defeated by a vote of 30 to 21.

Health Minister Black said the government has no intention of bringing other non-profit medical insurance plan employees in as civil servants.

In the wake of a torrent of opposition demands for a more fuller explanation of how Ottawa's medicare payments will be spent next year, Premier Bennett assured the House that "it'll all be used for medical care."

Liberal leader Ray Perrault warned, however, that the government must publish its medicare regulations and "be more specific" before it will receive approval from Ottawa.

The medicare bill was then given final reading.

## Barrett Wants to Belong

# MLA 'Can't Make It'

A professional social worker told the legislature Wednesday he really, desperately, wants to belong and be accepted into his peer group but just can't seem to make it.

Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam), the social worker, asked during debate on Works Minister Chant's departmental estimates, "How are the priorities established as to who gets invitations to sit on the platforms at public opening ceremonies?"

### WHAT ORDER?

Mr. Barrett said he had recently been paying more attention to advertisements "saying 'even your best friends won't tell you.'"

"What kind of political odor have I got that I can't seem to get up on the public platform at any public openings?"

At one ceremony, Mr. Barrett said, he was left standing in a mud puddle outside "but even the Social Credit federal candidate got up there."

"I've never once been asked

to share the platform," Mr. Barrett said.

### PERRAULT COMMENT

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault interjected, "You've got a rejection psychosis."

Invitations to such openings are marked RSVP but should be marked persona non grata when sent to opposition MLAs, Mr. Barrett said.

"It's embarrassing for me to have to explain why the government won't ask an opposition MLA to participate in the opening," the NDP member said.

### SMALL POLITICS

"I think it is small politics," he said, "when people of an area elect a member that member has a right to be at a public opening."

Works Minister Chant said it was not purposeful discrimination as such.

"It's simply that only the best people are invited," Mr. Chant added.

## House Needs Fixing

Members on both sides of the B.C. legislature Wednesday complained of "disgraceful and inadequate" facilities provided the peoples' representatives during legislative sessions.

The comments were touched off by Cyril Shelford (SC, Omineca) during debate on Works Minister Chant's departmental estimates totalling \$21,338,901.

"I do want to appeal for better accommodation for members that have to travel 500 miles to get here," Mr. Shelford said.

"Members have to meet their constituents in corridors," he said.

"It's a disgrace in my opinion that we should have to lean in corridors talking to the people who come to see us," Mr. Shelford said.

Dudley Little (SC, Skeena) said Works Minister Chant had been promising him for six years committee rooms would be fixed up.





# Prorogation Premature House Forgets To Pick Up Tab

By JACK FRY  
Legislative Reporter

It was like amateur night at the Legislative Buildings Thursday night when an embarrassed provincial government found it had prorogued the first session of the 28th Legislative Assembly without bothering to pass the all-important supply vote.

The government forgot to get the approval of Lieutenant-Governor Pearkes for departmental expenditures totalling \$739,380,917 during the fiscal year from April 1 to March 31, 1968.

Mr. Pearkes read the highlights of the government's new legislation and told the members, "I now relieve you of your legislative duties and I trust Divine Providence will accompany you to your respective homes."

Provincial Secretary Black, announced at 8:45 p.m. that the House was prorogued.

## 'SUPPLY BILL'

The lieutenant-governor's aides stepped forward, Mr. Pearkes left his chair and members on both sides of the floor rose in their places.

When they started to move down the long red carpet toward the door, Opposition Leader Robert Strachan, with an anxious look on his face, called out, "The supply bill!"

The entourage stopped dead in its tracks. An awkward silence filled the chamber, and suddenly the government realized something had been missed.

## SAT DOWN

Premier Bennett sat down and Mr. Pearkes went back to his chair, the enabling bill was pushed through, and it was all over for another year.

MLAs and reporters showered reams of shredded bills and teletype tape into the air and as the members started out, Mr. Strachan called out, "Royal assent to a bill after the House has prorogued!"

## MINISTER SWORN

In a brief ceremony at Government House a short while later, Recreation and Conservation Minister Kiernan was sworn in to the dual portfolio of Travel Industry Minister.

Some MLAs took off for

Hawai, but all three political leaders said there would be no vacation for them.

The premier will stay in Victoria for the weekend and go to the Okanagan on Tuesday. He is scheduled to open Selkirk College at Castlegar April 1, be in the Fraser Valley several days later and return to Victoria shortly thereafter.

Mr. Strachan plans to spend a quiet weekend at his home at Cedar, south of Nanaimo.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault said he would just take four days off work to work in the rose garden at his North Vancouver home and then pay his first visit in a year to Buttle Lake in Strathcona Park.

Perhaps the most important of the 61 public bills passed during the 43 afternoon and 23 night sittings since the legislature opened in New Westminster Jan. 24, were the ones relating to the regional district concept of hospital financing.

But just as important, for many taxpayers, is the new home-acquisition grant.

It provides that anyone who bought a house on or after April 1, 1966, and has been a resident of B.C. for not less than one year prior to the date of the deal, can obtain a \$500 grant if he certifies that he intends to live in the house for not less than five years.

The amount of the grant offered is scaled upward from \$500 until March 31, 1968, to \$625 for those who claim it in the fiscal year ending March 31, 1972.

But from the amount of these grants is to be deducted the total of any monies which might have been paid to the new owner in the form of the provincial home-owner grant.

And anyone who does not live five years in a home for which he has received the \$500 grant, has to either repay the grant or obtain a new certificate.

Anyone who attempts to defraud the government on a home acquisition grant is liable up to summary conviction to a maximum fine of \$500 for the first offence and \$1,000 for any subsequent offence.

## Women's Status Questioned

# Too Many Ministers to Pay?

The status of three women cabinet ministers was questioned Thursday when an opposition member pointed out an apparent flaw in government legislation.

Gordon Dowding (NDP — Burnaby-Edmonds) told the legislature shortly before 4 a.m. during debate of a \$28,500 salary and office expenses vote for the women, that there was no mention of them in a bill which defined the membership of the B.C. Executive Council.

★ ★ ★

An amendment to the Constitution Act took into consideration the recent cabinet shuffles concerning the health, welfare and travel industry portfolios, but made no mention of any ministers without portfolio being represented on the Executive Council, he said.

Furthermore, despite the fact that Premier Bennett has 15 members in his cabinet — including the three ministers without portfolio, Patricia Jordan, Grace McCarthy and Isabel Dawson — the Constitution Act amendment states that not more than 14 members of the Executive Council shall receive any salary, Mr. Dowding pointed out.

The issue arose when Eileen Dailly (NDP — Burnaby North) the lone woman member on the opposition side of the House, wanted to know what duties and responsibilities the three women ministers would have in return for their \$6,000 salaries and total travel expenses of \$7,500.

Mr. Bennett tried to avert the questioning by replying that all three women were "very modest." But the opposition demanded a fuller explanation before passing the vote.

After explanations by the women of their proposed duties, the House passed the women's salary votes at 3:48 a.m.

★ ★ ★

Four opposition bills were defeated Thursday before they could get second reading and a fourth by a Soered was not permitted to go to committee after second reading.

Failing to receive second reading were:

- A bill from David Barrett (NDP — Coquitlam) that would have jail inmates serving their sentences on weekends only;

- Two minimum wage bills by Rae Eddie (NDP — New Westminster) which would have guaranteed \$1.75 for men and women;

- A bill by North Vancouver Liberal Barrie Clark that would permit televising and broadcasting of legislative debates.

Soered Herbert Bruch (Esquimalt) had his bill that would have allowed SPCA to enter private property where neglect or ill treatment of animals was suspected, killed after second reading.

## B.C. Jet Strike Solution

Labor Minister Peterson said Wednesday the government's Lear jet aircraft was used to fly a B.C. government delegation to a labor conference in New Orleans last year.

"We had arranged to fly on a commercial airline but the (U.S. airline) strike came up and we had to take the jet," said Mr. Peterson.

Highways Minister Gaglardi Tuesday said he could not recall why the jet was flown to New Orleans.



# Morrow Report Watered Down

The legislature committee that reviewed the Morrow Report on gasoline prices recommended that consignment arrangements between oil companies and service stations be terminated immediately.

The report, tabled in the legislature Thursday, suggested "effective legislation if necessary" to enforce the recommendation, but ignored most of the royal commission proposals.

## MORATORIUM

Among the 1966 recommendations of Judge Charles Morrow were a five-year moratorium on service station construction, a cut in gasoline prices and withdrawal of consignment agreements.

A motion for adoption of the

committee's report introduced by Cyril Shelford (SC, Omineca) who sparked the commission three years ago, was disallowed by the government.

## 'LIKE APOLOGY'

Mr. Shelford said he was "disturbed and disappointed" at the report, which he added looked like an apology to the oil companies for having allowed the Morrow commission in the first place.

Mr. Shelford and Ernie Lecours (SC, Richmond) voted with the opposition later Thursday when Premier Bennett forced a vote overruling a Speaker's ruling. It would have allowed debate of a plan to include gasoline and propane gas under provincial controls, but was defeated 28-21.

**M A R**

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# 'Be My Jury' Pleads Thwarted SC Rebel

By JOHN MIKA  
Legislative Reporter

A maverick Social Credit backbencher Tuesday appealed to "this jury" of his MLA peers because both Attorney-General Robert Bonner and Premier Bennett had turned deaf ears to his complaints against some magistrates and policemen.

Within the immunity of the legislature, Ernie LeCours (SC—Richmond) laid a searing indictment against police brutality, magisterial incompetence and collusion between the two "to trample on the rights of the little man."

Mr. LeCours said his attack was not directed at all policemen or all magistrates.

He named only one of his targets — Magistrate Hugh Ellis of Cloverdale who travels a circuit and was a target of Mr. LeCours' in a speech to the legislature two years ago when he first clashed with Mr. Bonner.

"Unfortunately this magistrate moves around (to hold trials) from White Rock, to Cloverdale, Ladner and Richmond so he has become a sort of epidemic in that area," said Mr. LeCours. "I hope I never have to appear before him."

He later said lawyers and others had nicknamed Magistrate Ellis "No Hesitation" because he always starts out "I have no hesitation in finding you guilty."

Mr. LeCours said he complained about 13 cases to Mr. Bonner "and all I have had is one whitewash and nothing else on the others."

"A couple of years ago I said there must be quite a few lumps under his rug but I think now there must be a hole under it."

"If you seek redress through the office of the attorney-general it's pretty hard to get."

Waldo Skillings, Soerod whip, began heckling Mr. LeCours with cries of "be fair" and "you've said enough" but some of the self-styled ombudsman's criticisms drew scatterings of applause from the opposition.

## NO ALTERNATIVE

"I have gone to innumerable times to the attorney-general and I have gone to the premier and advised him I wasn't happy with the results I was getting so I have no alternative but to come to this house and ask you to be my jury," he told the MLAs.

Mr. LeCours, who makes a habit of attending magistrates' courts and has presented a private bill to make it possible for laymen to appear as advocates for friends, spent two hours outlining 13 instances which he claimed were miscarriages of justice or police brutality.

## MIXED FACT

"It is quite difficult to cope with assertions of mixed fact, hearsay and conclusions," Mr. Bonner said in his reply.

He dealt with only one case in detail and this was to deny that he had "whitewashed" it.

Mr. LeCours had claimed that an RCMP constable should have been charged with perjury when he claimed in court that an accused had backed his car into the police car. The occupants of the car swore the constable had rammed into them from behind.

Mr. Bonner said the incident had been thoroughly investigated and "I most categorically disagree with the assertions made against the police or the courts in this particular connection."

Mr. LeCours said he saw nothing wrong with the statements by John Tisdalle (SC—Saanich-The Islands) that police applicants should be better screened.

"I know of some cases of young men who, because they were unmanageable at home, or couldn't manage at school or because they were bullies, they were put into the police force by their parents," said Mr. LeCours.

"I don't say all police are bullies but some are."

## "HAND IN HAND"

In other general observations he said:

"In many magistrates courts the magistrate and the local police go around hand in hand the day long. They have coffee together between sittings and have chats in the magistrate's office."

"Unless the accused is present at the time, the magistrate should not under any circumstances consort with a prosecutor, be he a lawyer or a police prosecutor."

Mr. LeCours cited one case in which he claimed "during the adjournment the magistrate consulted with the police officer what sentence he should impose. It's happened before."

## "STICK TOGETHER"

Mr. LeCours said when police push a citizen around, it is extremely difficult to identify him because "they stick together and won't tell you who was driving that car that time."

"I think it should be required for a police officer to be wearing a number and name tag in a prominent place because on many occasions a policeman will assault a man or otherwise abuse him and then refuse to give his name."

Mr. LeCours claimed "police officers who know the law, quite often violate the law to carry out their duties knowing the fact that the person quite often doesn't know they are infringing on his rights."

Mr. LeCours said some magistrates won't listen to defence pleas, particularly if they conflict with police accounts on the basis that "the police don't come here to commit perjury."

He said according to a four-year-old report one lawyer in a rural part of B.C. appealed 38 consecutive convictions in the local magistrate's court and had won every one.

Surely to goodness there must have been something wrong with such a magistrate and it's the responsibility of the attorney-general to remove such incompetent persons."

He said senior magistrates should give classes in procedure to "those not so good" and argued that too many "office lawyers" with insufficient experience of trial procedures were appointed as magistrates.

## NO RESPECT

Mr. LeCours also condemned both magistrates and police for summoning whole groups of people to "appear at 9:30 a.m. so that some are still there at 4 p.m. waiting to have their cases called—they have no respect whatsoever for peoples time and time is money."

This loss of wages is one of the reasons so many persons prefer to plead guilty and pay a fine even if they feel it is unjust, he said.

Mr. LeCours, later in the day, said Mr. Bonner had "dismissed in one sweeping sentence" his specific complaints and he offered to donate \$50 to the Handicapped Children's fund for each of his charges that was proved wrong.

## Criminal Charges Being Laid

Attorney-General Bonner told the legislature Tuesday that criminal charges are being laid in connection with an RCMP investigation of irregularities at the B.C. Hydro and Power Authority office in Nakusp.

Mr. Bonner made the statement in reply to a question by Randolph Harding (NDP—Revelstoke-Slocan) who said Hydro has launched a civil suit against four individuals and two companies in the Nakusp area for recovery of \$34,405.

He named the individuals as Thomas Salanski and Harold Hinch of Cranbrook and the companies as Arrow Contracting, S and H Contracting, Salem Excavating and Construction and Curzon Construction Ltd.

The Kootenay town is located in the area where clearing and other work is being carried out in connection with flooding for the Columbia River power project.

## UPDATE STATUTES

# Law Reform Group Urged

An opposition lawyer-MLA Tuesday called for creation of a provincial Law Reform Commission and suggested it could draft a "rent-strike law" and simplify the methods for hauling government agencies into court.

Tom Berger (NDP-Vancouver-Burrard) said in the legislature that such a commission is needed to sift the statutes and law cases for archaic and anomalous legal situations which have become outdated by changes in society.

An instance he cited is the present Landlord and Tenant Act in the provincial statutes "which is copied word for word from an English statute that was enacted in the reign of Queen Anne in the 18th century."

## 250 YEARS AGO

The English law was intended to apply to an agricultural society "that existed in another country 250 years ago and it is absurd to try to apply it in the urban, industrial mobile society that we have in B.C. today," he said.

Mr. Berger said this act could well be studied by a Law Reform Commission for recommendations to the government on legislative updating.

He suggested one way it could be changed would be to introduce a "rent-strike" clause which would "allow tenants to pay their rent into court if their landlord refused to keep up repairs."

This would enable tenants to take action against slum landlords while protecting the rights of legitimate landlords, he claimed. The sum would be applied to repairs unless the landlord showed his premises were not substandard.

## RENT-STRIKE LAW

Mr. Berger noted that a "rent-strike law" was adopted in Britain about a decade ago under a Conservative government and New York State adopted one last year under a Republican administration.

Mr. Berger also said today's vast proliferation of government boards and agencies which regulated so much of society can only be challenged in the courts through a complicated and ancient system of "prerogative writs ... surrounded by procedural encumbrances and esoteric jargon."

He said this results in a "guessing game" to decide which writ should be used for a particular challenge and if the



BERGER  
... end 'guessing game'

wrong choice is made the case is thrown out on entirely technical grounds that have nothing to do with the merits of the matter.

"The writs themselves should be abolished and replaced by a standard form of motion that could be brought before the courts in any case where a citizen wanted to challenge the decision of an administrative tribunal," he said.

A standard motion could be drafted by a reform commission, he said.

## UPDATING LEGISLATION

Mr. Berger argued such a commission also could look into methods of updating consumer credit legislation and the multiplicity of statutes relating to family matters.

He proposed the commission consist of two practising lawyers, a law professor and a layman—the latter "necessary if for no other reason than to compel the other members of the commission to make themselves and the law clear to him."

He said Great Britain established a law reform committee in 1934 and enlarged it in 1952. New York State's law reform commission has recommended 330 bills in the past 30 years and 245 of these have been accepted.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner said a proposal to form a law reform advisory committee by the B.C. Law Society, B.C. section of Canadian Bar Association and UBC law faculty is under study.

## TOTAL OF 17

# B.C. to Enlarge Supreme Court

The provincial government will move at this session towards increasing the Supreme Court of B.C. bench by two judges to a total of 17.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner Tuesday told MLAs he will bring down legislation to "create two more vacancies on the bench."

However, the federal government must appoint and pay the \$26,000 salaries of the new judges and its agreement is needed.

Mr. Bonner said formal notification of the province's intention has not been forwarded to Ottawa yet.

He said the number of country court judges was boosted last week when Judge Frank Wilson of Chilliwack was sworn in and the federal

government has agreed to appoint an additional country court judge for the Vancouver-Westminster area which would raise the total to 18 in the province.

County court judges are paid \$19,000 a year.

Mr. Bonner revealed the expansion in answer to questions by Alan Macfarlane (L-Oak Bay) who said the waiting list for trials in Victoria means the earliest date available now is next January.

Mr. Macfarlane had proposed a "complet re-organization of the courts" combining the present Supreme and county court benches into a single trial division.

Mr. Bonner said he had proposed the same step several years ago "but it was not universally praised by the courts in private discussion."

However, he added, he still felt the idea had merit.



## MLAs WARBLE AT LATEST SITTING YET

Singing for Their  
BreakfastBy JOHN MIKA  
Legislative Reporter

The legislature slugged it out until 1:40 a.m. today the latest sitting of the current session.

MLAs had become so tired of the grind through the attorney-general department's estimates that when Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) mentioned at 1 a.m. it was his birthday, they burst into a spontaneous round of "Happy Birthday".

Deputy-speaker Herbert Bruch whacked the gavel and shouted for order but was not able to stop the chorus.

The legislature took almost 11 hours—beginning Monday afternoon to pass Attorney-General Robert Bonner's salary vote. But the government side indicated it wanted to continue through all 43 votes in the department, totalling slightly more than \$23 million, before rising.

A motion to adjourn at 12:42 a.m. by the Opposition was defeated on a formal division 28 to 22 with only Dudley Little (SC—Skeena) on the government side voting in favor of a halt. (He then went home.)

"When we are dealing with the administration of justice it is absolutely shocking any responsible minister would insist that we sit at this hour," roared Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver Burrard) as debate resumed.

Mr. Bruch declared him out of order on the grounds he had cast a reflection on a vote of the house.

But Leo Nimsick (NDP—Kootenay) protested that "he's not reflecting on the vote. He's reflecting only on the time. It's 12:42 a.m. and we have a committee meeting at 9:30 a.m. that we're supposed to attend."

## PREMIER AWAY

Resources Minister Ray Willis, acting house leader, agreed to adjournment an hour later after only 16 of the attorney-general's 43 separate estimates had been approved.

He was acting on Premier Bennett's behalf. The premier left the House 15 minutes after it began its afternoon sitting Tuesday and never returned.

There was no explanation given for his absence, but it was rumored he had gone to Vancouver for the day.

## LICENCE FEES TO BE DOUBLED

Wandering Dogs  
to Be Protected

No one will be able to shoot a dog in unorganized territory merely because it has no licence tag under a bill introduced in the legislature Tuesday by Agriculture Minister Frank Richter.

The bill would amend the Sheep Protection Act by repealing the present Sec. 4 which says: "It is lawful for any person to kill" any dog not licensed or any dog, off his owner's property and not wearing a collar with a dog tag.

However, Sec. 5 would remain in force permitting "any person to kill any dog in the act of pursuing and worrying or destroying any sheep, goat or poultry elsewhere than on the land belonging to the owner of the dog."

The amendment also would double licence fees in unorganized areas to \$2 for male or spayed female dogs, \$4 for female dogs and \$20 for five or more dogs belonging to one owner.

Both Sides to Abide  
By Hearing Findings

The dispute between five psychologists and administrators at Riverview Mental Hospital near New Westminster has been referred to the Civil Service Commission, Health Minister Black said Tuesday.

In a statement issued after a meeting with the psychologists, Mr. Black said the five psychologists will be on leave with pay while the commission conducts a hearing.

Debate in the British Columbia legislature was delayed last Thursday when Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Vancouver Point Grey) introduced the dispute into the House as a "matter of great public urgency."

Opposition MLAs said the psychologists couldn't be replaced. No further debate was allowed after Mr. Black promised to conduct a personal investigation into the dispute.

The five psychologists handed

in their resignations giving 30 days notice early in February but were fired the following day. They protested intolerable working conditions.

Mr. Black said both sides agreed Monday to abide by the findings of the Civil Service Commission.

The five psychologists have been temporarily replaced at Riverview by other qualified persons. Whether the replacement remained temporary or whether it would be made permanent would depend on the commission's findings, the minister said.

Meanwhile the five psychologists concerned had agreed to withdraw unconditionally the submissions they made Feb. 7 with their resignations and the administration would withdraw the letters in which the hospital accepted the resignations, he said.

## 300,000 ROADSIDE SUSPENSION PRIMERS

# It's All in the Pamphlets

Some 300,000 pamphlets will be mailed and distributed in other ways to Vancouver Islanders during March to prepare them for the April 1 start of the roadside suspension program.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner made the announcement in the legislature Tuesday night.

The small two-page pamphlet explains the program under which a policeman can suspend on-the-spot for 24 hours the driver's licence of a person

he suspects of having more than .08 per cent alcohol in the blood.

It also includes such warnings as:

After two drinks your chances of an accident are doubled when compared with drivers who have had nothing to drink.

"After four drinks your chances are seven times as great.

"After six drinks your chances of an accident are 25 times as great."

## Gas Retailers Demand Action

The B.C. Automotive Retailers Association charged today that oil companies have done nothing to implement any recommendations of the Morrow Report on gasoline prices.

The association made its charge in a brief to a legislative committee appointed to examine the report tabled in the legislature last year.

The brief said: "If there is a specific desire on the part of the government of British Columbia to do something about the specific recommendations . . . then it is obvious that some sort of legislative directive will be imperative."

The association said, how-

ever, that it was not asking for government price control. Such measures were not required.

The brief called for a set refinery price for gasoline, immediate divesting by oil companies of any existing company-operated service stations, and prevention of conversion of lesseed stations into company-operated outlets run by company employees on a commission basis.

The association said there has been no apparent slowdown in the building of service stations despite the Morrow Report's recommendation that such construction be curtailed for five years.

## Braaten Handcuffing Investigated by A-G

The attorney-general's department will look into the handcuffing of Orville Braaten, president of the Pulp and Paper Workers of Canada, when he was taken to jail last week for contempt of the bugging commission.

The complaint was made in the legislature Tuesday by Leo Nimsick (NDP — Kootenay) who said it was unnecessary for the union leader to have been treated "as if he were a common criminal."

Attorney-General Bonner replied: "That is a point well

taken. We're making inquiries into it."

Mr. Nimsick held up a Vancouver newspaper showing a three-column photograph of an officer leading Mr. Braaten away in handcuffs after he refused to answer certain questions at the royal commission.

"Just imagine what that does to his family, his children," said the MLA.

"It embitters people against the law. It embitters them against the police force."



## A-G STUDIES PLAN

# Teenagers May Need Driving 'Diplomas'

Teen-agers may soon have to produce a certificate from a recognized driving school before they can obtain their first driver licence.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner raised this possibility in

the legislature Tuesday night.

He told MLAs it is not government policy to require tax-supported public schools to teach students how to drive and he did not see why youths who pay at least \$500 for "a beaten up heap" can't spend about 10 per cent on driving lessons from a commercial driving school.

He said the government now is considering the desirability of requiring new licence applicants to show proof they have received instruction "from a qualified person or a qualified driver school."

### "IN THE WORKS"

"This possible policy is very much in the works," he said. "This may very well be the course we'll follow in this province."

Outside the legislature, he said the proposal would apply to the 16 to 21-year-old group.

It currently is under study by the education department and the motor vehicle branch to see if a uniform driving curriculum could be laid down for commercial schools.

"But not all areas of the province are served by recognized driving schools and it would be a matter for government decision whether it would be desirable to invoke this on a regional basis," he said.

## MILEAGE TAMPERING TO BE OUTLAWED

Legislation to prohibit tampering with mileage meters on automobiles will be introduced at this session, Attorney-General Robert Bonner told the legislature early this morning.

"Yes, there will be legislation on it," he replied in answer to a question by Garde Gardom (L—Vancouver Point Grey).

Mr. Gardom was referring to reports earlier this year that the mileage indicators have been turned back on some used cars for sale.

## EVERYONE OUT OF STEP BUT B.C. ON CAR CODE

Even some of British Columbia's best efforts fail to blend into the Confederation ideal, Attorney-General Robert Bonner admitted Tuesday.

All Canadian provinces formulated a uniform motor vehicles code which would make regulations the same from sea to sea, he told the legislature.

"We adopted the uniform statute a few years ago and we were the only province to do so."

"Consequently we were the least uniform of all."

## 'MDs Pressured By Drug Squad'

The British Columbia legislature Wednesday approved Attorney-General Bonner's estimates after a long and sometimes heated debate that lasted three days.

The estimates included \$23,049,774 for the attorney-general's department and \$744,028 for the commercial transport department. Today the house was to tackle Education Minister Peterson's estimates.

During Wednesday's debate, Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP—Vancouver-Burrard) complained that physicians who prescribe narcotics to drug addicts under treatment are subjected to "subtle pressures" from RCMP drug squads.

He asked Mr. Bonner "to make it clear to the drug squads that doctors have the right to treat addicts not just in the hospital but on the street."

The attorney-general said he sympathized with the member's complaint but it should be referred to Ottawa because narcotics enforcement is under federal jurisdiction.

In replying to charges of unfair police treatment of accused persons that were raised in a nine-hour sitting Tuesday, Mr. Bonner said his department will issue instructions to sheriff's officers not to use handcuffs unless they are necessary.

Opposition members had asked why they were used on Orville Braaten, a union official accused of contempt of the Sargent royal commission investigating privacy invasion.

David Stupich (NDP—Nanaimo) said the commission has

forced many witnesses to hire expensive lawyers to protect themselves.

"These people are not charged with anything and there's no suggestion that they may be charged with anything," he said.

He also stated he was not satisfied with the attorney-general's statement that once a commission has started hearings it could not be terminated until it has completed its report.

Mr. Bonner said it is theoretically possible to terminate the commission but highly undesirable.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) said that trust companies should be policed by the B.C. Securities Commission and criticized Commonwealth Trust Co. for raising money from the public and engaging in mortgages.

This was "as dangerous a speculation as you can have," he said.

Prior to Wednesday's sitting the legislature's special committee appointed to study the Morrow Report on gasoline prices was told that a "legislative directive" is needed to implement the report's recommendations.

The statement was contained in a brief by the B.C. Automotive Retailers Association which charged the oil companies have ignored the report that was tabled at the last session of the legislature.

## MORE INDIAN MAGISTRATES CONSIDERED

More persons of native origin may be appointed magistrates, Attorney-General Bonner said Wednesday.

His comment came during departmental estimates when Frank Calder (NDP—Atlin) asked "what is the government policy, if any, to the appointment of Indian magistrates?"

Mr. Bonner said there were already two Indians serving as magistrates.

More would be appointed as the need arose and qualified men became available, he said. He asked Mr. Calder to give him any names of Indians the NDP member thought might make a good magistrate.

## Too Much Said, or Too Little

**N**O ASPECT OF COMMUNITY life is of more concern to Canadians than the conduct of their courts and the fairness of their police operations. Suggestions of incompetence or injustice in either arm of law enforcement raise immediate demands for investigation and, if required, redress.

Hence it is that the charges of a Social Credit member of the legislature, Mr. Ernest LeCours, regarding alleged brutality and unfairness by police, and lack of ability and efficiency by certain magistrates, cannot be allowed to remain unanswered.

The charges are of a seriousness that demands a detailed study by the attorney-general's department and a full disclosure of all the facts. If Mr. LeCours is correct in his allegations—and they apparently apply only to certain mainland areas—then reform is certainly called for. If an impartial study does not bear out the charges, then in justice to the named and unnamed persons involved their vindication should be made public.

Unofficial collusion between magistrates and police, bullying by police officers, difficulty in identifying police accusers, constant reversals of magisterial judgments, and gross disregard for the convenience of persons involved in court cases—these are among Mr. LeCours' complaints, and he affirms that he can produce proof of his charges.

He claims that he has not been able to obtain a satisfactory reaction from the premier or the attorney-general, and obviously the matter cannot be left in this unsatisfactory state. The public cannot be left in ignorance of the true situation now that such doubts have been formally raised by a member of the legislature, and the courts and police forces concerned cannot be left under a cloud of serious accusation.

In view of Mr. LeCours' statement in the legislature, the attorney-general should act immediately to remove unmerited suspicion from public services which the people of this province normally hold in high repute, or to correct any situation where shortcomings may be proven.



## ABILITY TO PAY

Sliding Scale  
Urged in Fines

An opposition speaker in the legislature Wednesday made a plea for punishments that fit the offender and not the offence.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) suggested that fines for such offences as impaired driving should be based on ability to pay.

He said a heavy fine may be "just a tap on the wrist" for one person but can mean "ruination to the family" in the case of another offender.

Another New Democrat, Randolph Harding (MLA for Revelstoke-Slocan) suggested a set of guidelines to bring about more uniform punishments for offenders.

Mr. Harding said some magistrates are very severe in punishing an offence while others take a lenient approach. He said there should be a code to guide magistrates in imposing punishment.

But Attorney-General Robert Bonner rejected the idea. He said it would be impossible to create guidelines without destroying the flexibility of the courts.

Mr. Bonner stated, "I can think of no formula ... apart from a very rigid codification which would destroy court discretion."

Campbell Denies  
Pressure Charge

Barrie Clark (L—North Vancouver-Seymour) charged Wednesday that Municipal Affairs Minister Campbell pressured a commission into dropping a Sunday sport recommendation.

Mr. Clark said the pressure was exerted on a commission, which included president H. J. Gardner of the Union of B.C. Municipalities and two civil servants, seeking local opinion about UBCM proposals for changes in the Municipal Act.

The commission toured the province recently.

Mr. Campbell told the legislature's committee on municipal matters that he had recommended the commission's report not include a change in the Municipal Act permitting admission fees to be charged at Sunday sports events. But he denied he had exerted any pressure on the commission.

Present regulations allow only a silver collection in municipalities outside Vancouver.

Bonner Defends Drink  
Near Police Station

Attorney-General Robert Bonner told the legislature Wednesday there is nothing wrong in having a drinking lounge in a police station.

He made the statement in reply to a question from Leo Nimsick (NDP—Kootenay).

Mr. Bonner said he knew of two such lounges "in various

stages of operations" in the province. He later said outside the House that he was referring to RCMP messes near Victoria and in Vancouver.

Asked if there is a lounge in Victoria city police station where drinks are served, the attorney-general replied, "I'm not aware of any permanent mess anywhere."

## B.C. Power for Alaskans? Can Be Done Says Bennett



GOVERNOR HICKEL and PREMIER BENNETT  
... mutual admiration

Alaska may become a customer of B.C. Hydro when Peace River power comes on stream.

This was indicated Thursday by Walter J. Hickel, Alaska's new governor, after he met informally with Premier Bennett.

The question of a tie-in between B.C.'s grid and the Alaska power system was discussed by the two leaders at a luncheon meeting at the Union Club.

The matter will be formally negotiated later this year at a conference between B.C. and Alaska representatives.

### CHEAPER RATES

Governor Hickel said his state wants power at cheaper rates than are available in Alaska and also needs additional power for industrial development.

Premier Bennett said he can see no reason why this province cannot sell power to its northern neighbor. He said it would be possible to link the B.C. grid into the Alaska system.

The meeting between the two men was more than friendly.

Governor Hickel said after Premier Bennett is "a great man; a challenger; a driver. His record shows he knows how to get things accomplished. He is our kind of guy."

And the premier brought Governor Hickel back to the legislature after lunch and introduced him on the floor of the House.

### TRUCK LAW

Governor Hickel also indicated that he has "reason to believe" there will be changes to the U.S. Jones Act that will enable truckers from the continental United States to use B.C. Ferries for shipments to Alaska. At present the Jones Act forbids the use of foreign carriers for shipments within the U.S.

The governor emphasized that Alaska will not grant B.C. a corridor through the Alaska Panhandle but he said the state has no objection to granting B.C. access to tidewater. He suggested that B.C. could build a road to the state border which would link with a connection on the Alaska side.

## Seven MLAs Turn Out To See Film

Only seven of the 55 members of the Legislative Assembly turned out to see a traffic safety film in the legislative committee room Thursday.

The showing was held especially for MLAs during the dinner hour between the afternoon and night sittings of the House.

Rev. Eugene Harder, a Departure Bay Baptist minister, representing the Nanaimo Citizens' Highway Safety Committee, sponsors of the film, said he was disappointed at the small attendance.

"We feel the highway slaughter can be stopped by a program of education, enforcement and engineering," he stated.

The film shown was entitled "Mechanized Death," a color and sound film made by the Ohio State Patrol.

## COLLEGE FEE HIKE DOUBTED FOR B.C.

Education Minister Peterson said Thursday he doubts there will be an increase in university fees this year.

In reply to a question from Alex Macdonald (NDP-Vancouver East) during debate on his estimates the minister said that fees are entirely in the control of university governing bodies.

"However, there is no reason why there would be an increase in tuition fees in the province this year," he said.



## FOR EDUCATION

## B.C. Budget 'Bush-League'

By GLEN ALLEN

Two Liberal MLAs and a lady NDPer spent the better part of Thursday afternoon drilling verbal potshots at Education Minister Leslie Peterson and his departmental estimates.

But the minister, if he didn't field all that was thrown his way, still kept his purse-strings drawn tight.

Pat McGeer (L—Vancouver-Point Grey) told the House the difference between B.C. and other provinces in commitments to higher education was unbelievable.

He called the B.C. education budget "bush-league" and said it ranked in expenditure-per-capita with Georgia, Alabama and Oklahoma.

## HALF BUDGET

"We're in their league," said Dr. McGeer.

He said the province of Ontario spent nearly half its budget on education, much more than this province.

Where Alberta put out \$2,370 a head on the provincial level for education, B.C.'s expenditure was only \$1,665.

He said on capital costs Ontario spends 20 times as much as B.C. with only three times the student population.

"Alberta is putting up five times as much and they have only three-quarters the population we have," he said.

## 'NIGGARDLY POLICIES'

Dr. McGeer charged "the consequences of these niggardly policies "will be felt especially hard in rural areas."

Referring particularly to areas in B.C. where there had been plans laid for regional colleges he said "it was rubbing salt in the wound when people have to send youngsters to the coast to university."

"They pay taxes for construction in their own area, then they pay to send children to the coast, then they pay room and board when they get there."

He said that even in those U.S. states spending a like amount per capital for education "there are more institutions closer to their homes."

Calling rural students "disadvantaged," Dr. McGeer quoted a University of Victoria Alma Mater Society study which showed that twice as many high school students from the city area head for university after they graduate.

## REGIONAL COLLEGE

Not for the first time this session, Dr. McGeer brought up a regional college for the Okanagan Valley "the first place we need to diversify."

"It is time for the minister of education to give us leadership," he said.

Alan Macfarlane (L—Oak

Bay) said equalization (for out-of-town students) bursaries of \$350 are "not meaningful."

He said the minister is not accepting "the responsibility which government must assume to equalize opportunity."

"It has been proven an out-of-town student is going to spend \$800-\$1,200 more than other students."

He also asked Mr. Peterson whether the amount budgeted for universities this year would be enough to preclude student fee increases, whether nurses-in-training should be given the same scholarships as university students, and if nurse training programs might be reduced from three to two years.

## CHALLENGE

Eileen Dailly (NDP—Burnaby North) said Mr. Peterson's budget did not cope with the challenge of revolution in education.

She said the department's estimates fell short in four specific areas: higher salaries for school board superintendents; need for a strong well-staffed research organization; spending for educational television; and the need for integration of kindergartens into the basic school system of the province.

Mrs. Dailly said more and more areas in the provinces were in for higher costs for community colleges.

"These colleges," she said, "should be financed as universities are financed, with no direct reliance on local taxpayers."

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) said money is at the root of at least one higher education dilemma.

He said 80 per cent of high-school graduates in the wealthy Point Grey area of Vancouver went on to university while only 20 per cent of graduates in less privileged areas enrolled in university.

## FIGURES WRONG

Answering his critics, speaker by speaker, Mr. Peterson said the charge that other provinces spent more on education than B.C. is wrong. Figures for the other provinces included other departments of government, he said.

"If my mathematics are correct it is still true that the greatest increase has been in B.C."

"And in 1963 there was only one university with degree-granting powers. Now there are two others."

He said nurses-in-training are given bursaries if not scholarships.

The British Columbia Institute of Technology, according to his information, was to offer a two-year nursing course.

## 'That' Subject Sends Premier Out of House

It was from the sublime to the something else when Liberal MLA Dr. Pat McGeer took the floor of the legislature from Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver-Burrard) near midnight Thursday.

Mr. Berger, who dwelt for a rather ethereal 20 minutes on the aims of education, said the object of education was "not simply to increase the gross national product."

"It is to pursue excellence and to pursue happiness."

## TALK ABOUT SEX

Dr. McGeer following in the already six-hour old debate on the education minister's departmental estimates rose and told the house he wanted to talk about sex.

The premier smiled and left the chamber.

Dr. McGeer said: Well I certainly flushed him out of the house.

"I hope it won't startle the handsome minister of education."

"We want Berger back," said Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Campbell.

"From Hamburger to sex," said another SoCred.

"I don't think the minister of education is responsible for sex in the universities," said Tom Bate (SC—Vancouver South).

## 'YOU NEVER KNOW'

Replied Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) "Yoy never know what he's up to."

Dr. McGeer said students in B.C. were "Fantastically ill-informed" on sex.

He called for sex education in early grad's of all schools throughout the province.

"I don't think the males of the house should take this lying down," he said.

## APRIL SITTING?

## House Erupts Over 'Threat'

By DESMOND BILL

The legislature broke into bedlam just before midnight Thursday after Premier Bennett "threatened" to continue the session after Easter if business is not finished by then.

Deputy Speaker Herbert Bruch, white-faced and visibly shaken, lost control over the proceedings and had to call in Speaker William Murray to restore order.

But seconds after the Speaker calmed down the house, and Mr. Bruch again took the chair, the uproar broke out even more violently.

It all started when Leo Nimsick, the peppery New Democrat member for Kootenay, moved an adjournment of debate on Education Minister Peterson's estimates which had started seven hours earlier.

## EXHAUSTED

The motion was defeated 29-22. The Liberals supported the NDP. The opposition claimed it was "legislation by exhaustion."

Premier Bennett at this point told the house "it isn't the wish of this government to have late night sittings . . . but when we come to Thursday the 23rd it is the present plan to adjourn to April 3."

Mr. Nimsick accused the premier of threatening the house.

He was called to order by Mr. Bruch who said Mr. Nimsick must confine remarks to the education estimates before the house.

## OUT OF ORDER

But Mr. Nimsick insisted on referring again to what he called the premier's threat and argued that Mr. Bruch should have called the premier out of order for his statement.

Mr. Bruch told Mr. Nimsick to sit down. Mr. Nimsick argued back. The Social Credit members banged on their desks. Opposition Leader Robert Strachan shouted over the din at the chairman, "He (Mr. Nimsick) hasn't spoken all day."

All the while Mr. Bruch was hammering his gavel and shouting, increasingly loudly, at Mr. Nimsick to sit down. Finally the Speaker was called and he quietly told members they must obey the orders of Mr. Bruch.

## STARTS AGAIN

Members fell silent. Mr.

Bruch resumed the chair, and then, ignoring Mr. Nimsick, called on another member to speak.

And that was when bedlam broke loose.

The premier and Mr. Nimsick yelled across the floor at one another but nobody heard what they said because the New Democrats were shouting and the Socials were banging on their desks.

Finally Randolph Harding (NDP—Revelstoke-Slocan) got the floor on a point of order.

"We've had enough trouble here tonight. Let's be sensible. Let's have fair play. If you are going to continue to discriminate against us we're going to challenge you as chairman," he told the deputy speaker.

## 'SIT DOWN'

Mr. Nimsick then got up again. When he tried to speak, Mr. Bruch also stood up and shouted at him repeatedly, "Sit down."

Mr. Harding, bent over his desk and quivering with anger, again berated Mr. Bruch.

"If you insist (on refusing to allow Mr. Nimsick to speak) we'll put a motion that you be removed as deputy chairman."

Premier Bennett shouted across the floor "You can't threaten the chairman."

Finally, Mr. Nimsick gave way under the threat of Mr. Bruch to name him — that is, expel him from the house. George Mussallem (SC—Dewdney) then rose. He said that "in view of the heat generated" he would immediately sit down.

## APPLAUSE

Mr. Bruch then called on Mr. Nimsick to speak, to prolonged applause from all of the house.

Mr. Nimsick began, "This is legislation by exhaustion. This is how we deal with education in this house."

He then went on to make a plea for equalization grants for out-of-town university students, for more aid to Notre Dame University, and for driver training in the schools.

The house finally rose, after several other speakers were heard, at 1:15 this morning.

## Medicare Bill Due In House

## Premier Dodges Giving Details

A major medicare bill will be brought before the current session of the legislature, Premier Bennett hinted today.

He dodged reporters' questions at a press conference this morning after letting slip the fact that legislation still to come includes a medicare bill.

Before declining all further comment, the premier indicated that it will not be an amendment of the B.C. Medical Plan.

He refused to say whether the new bill will put all private insurance plans for paying doctors' bills under supervision of the government.

"I have no comment on that," he said.

This would fulfill one of the main requirements of the federal national medicare plan due to go into effect next year but Mr. Bennett repeatedly refused to say whether his bill is intended to complement the federal legislation.

## 'COMPLEMENT OURS'

"Their (legislation) might complement ours," he said.

"We've got one (medicare plan), they haven't," he said.

He said the B.C. bill will have "quite a few paragraphs" but would not reveal when it will be introduced.

Mr. Bennett mentioned the bill while complaining that the opposition MLAs were holding up the legislature with "long-winded speeches during the estimates."

He said this could result in the session going past Easter in which case he would call a one-week recess "to give everyone time to rest."

## EDUCATIONAL TV BID

The B.C. Department of Education has asked the Federal Department of Transport and the Board of Broadcast Governors to reserve channels for educational television broadcasting, Education Minister Peterson told the legislature Thursday.



# No Grants to RC Schools, Bennett Tells Legislature

Premier Bennett Thursday angrily rejected a suggestion that the government give some financial support to Roman Catholic schools.

He told the legislature he is prepared to stand or fall on the issue.

And Education Minister Leslie Peterson said he hopes separate schools will eventually disappear from British Columbia.

The matter was raised by Herb Capozzi (SC—Vancouver Centre) and taken up by Pat McGeer (L—Vancouver Point Grey).

Mr. Capozzi asked "how long the difference can be maintained in treatment of Catholic and public schools."

He said the ecumenical spirit has created better relations between religious groups and now is the time for a change in government policy towards Catholic schools.

## NOT 'FULL DOLLAR'

Mr. Capozzi said he did not ask for "the full dollar" for Catholic schools because they do seek special privileges. "But surely they deserve some government recognition."

He was interrupted by Robert Williams (NDP—Vancouver East) who called out: "The public purse is there for public schools."

This brought loud desk-banging in support with Premier Bennett applauding loudest and longest.

Education Minister Peterson said ecumenism should not result "in a move to segregate and separate but should go in the opposite direction." His rebuttal brought loud applause from Social Credit members.

The minister said he hopes Catholic schools will eventually disappear. He made it clear that the government will only "sponsor, support and maintain one school system — the public system."

He said he did not want any

uncertainty to develop on this matter.

Mr. McGeer pointed out that Notre Dame University, a Catholic-sponsored institution, now receives some government grants and asked, "Is it fair that a private parochial university receive public support and not private parochial schools?"

The Liberal member argued there is nothing wrong with public support of parochial schools provided they maintain adequate standards of instruction.

"And anyone who suggests otherwise is guilty of outright bigotry."

The remark brought Premier Bennett to his feet.

"As far as government policy is concerned this is not a question of finance but of high principle," the premier said.

"All around the world today the question is integration or segregation. But government policy should be to get people together and not to separate them."

## 'GREAT POLICY'

"It is easy to stay silent on this matter. But this is a matter of great policy and, as long as I am premier, I will stand or fall on this issue."

The premier said that the public school system in B.C. is the result, not of opposition to Roman Catholics, but of opposition to Anglicans.

He recalled that when the province entered Confederation the Anglicans wanted their church to be the established state church in the province but this idea was rejected by the British people of the colony.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said that, speaking for his party, "we have always felt that the public school system is best." But he said separate schools should not be a political issue.

## Wilkinson, Colquitz Site for New School?

Education Minister Leslie Peterson disclosed Thursday a vocational school may be built on property at Colquitz and Wilkinson roads in Saanich.

The minister's reference to the long-awaited school came after statements in the House by colleague John Tisdalle (SC-Saanich and the Islands) and shortly after a strongly-worded statement was circulated to all members by Victoria-area school board officials.

The statement from the chairmen of five school boards, said there are more than 800 graduating high school students who want vocational school facilities next fall.

The statement was signed by Peter Bunn of the Greater Victoria school board, Mrs. Norah Lindsay of the rural Saanich school board, John Bartanus of the Sooke school board, L. J. Armstrong of the Gulf Islands school board and Les Karagianis of the South Vancouver Island School Trustees' Association. It said, "a vocational school is essential for the post-secondary education of our non-academic graduates."

### 846 STUDENTS

"A survey conducted in the school districts of Greater Victoria, Saanich and Sooke recently revealed that there are 846 students who desire vocational training at the end of the current school term."

The brief went on to say there are another 786 graduating students who have no plans, 666 who intend to go to work, and 1,688 bound for university.

"If these figures create any

kind of a pattern they certainly have indicated there are enough students available to fill a vocational school immediately."

"But," said the co-signers, "we still have no sign of a proper vocational school for this populous part of the province." The brief termed the facilities at the Begg Building here "limited" and "inadequate."

Sooke chairman Bartanus, spokesman for the group, said in an interview school trustees for the capital districts have been urging government for four years for a vocational training school.

He said that while the provincial director of technical education had announced a \$4 million facility to be built at Burnside and Tillicum last year, "nothing has been done."

"The site is not even acquired," said Mr. Bartanus.

### SEWER PROBLEM

Later in the House, Mr. Peterson said there is "a good prospect" of another site on government property in the Colquitz area being substituted for the Burnside-Tillicum acreage.

He said however, it presented "a sewer problem."

Mr. Tisdalle had earlier told the House he had "put all the pressure I could bring to bear" on the building of a local vocational school.

He suggested a 300-acre property near Colquitz and Wilkinson Road might be considered by the government because of the "obstacle in zoning" holding up work at the site first proposed.

## Universities 'Archaic'

British Columbia universities are archaic because they do not operate on the quarter system, Dave Barrett (NDP-Coquitlam) said in the Legislature Thursday.

He said if universities operated all year with three-month courses they would have to increase staff by 10 per cent "but they would increase student capacity by 30 per cent."

The September to May term "is geared to an agriculture economy" so students can be free for summer harvesting jobs, Mr. Barrett said.

"But today they either go in hock to the federal government for student loans or go out en masse to compete for summer jobs."

The quarter system would eliminate the job competition which is "ten times stiffer for female students," he said.



# Bennett Challenged To Back Charges

By ROGER STONEBANKS

Premier Bennett was challenged today to name names in his accusations against municipalities in B.C.

The invitation was extended by Victoria Mayor Hugh Stephen and Saanich Reeve Hugh Curtis.

Referring to municipalities, the premier said Friday in the legislature:

"They have been misusing funds — they've caught themselves in their own glue."

Mayor Stephen replied: "It is a shame municipalities should be made the target of this kind of criticism. It is unfounded. He should name them and not condemn all municipalities."

## DEMAND NAMES

Reeve Curtis said: "I hope it was a rash statement made in the heat of debate. If it wasn't, the people in organized jurisdictions — cities, municipalities, towns — have every right to demand elaboration and named instances where money was misused."

"It demands a complete explanation or retraction. It is perhaps the most serious charge in years and the fact it comes from the premier can't be taken lightly."

"If the premier has specific proof I am sure local taxpayers and councils would welcome such specifics."

Oak Bay Reeve Allan Cox said he doesn't think the premier's comment is worthy of comment.

## 'RIDICULOUS'

"It is patently ridiculous," said Reeve Cox.

The premier's comment came during debate on an amendment to the Municipalities Aid Act which will require municipalities to apply provincial per capita grants to road construction and maintenance, ahead of other projects.

(Grants to municipalities this year include \$967,756 for Saanich, \$939,728 for Victoria, \$332,736 for Oak Bay and \$260,704 for Esquimalt.)

The proposed change, which received second reading in the legislature Friday, was also attacked by Mayor Stephen and Reeve Curtis.

"There is absolutely no purpose or reason in it at all," said Mayor Stephen.

"The per capita grant was given to municipalities in exchange for certain shares in revenues they surrendered with no strings attached. Now the premier has attached strings to the grant."

"I can only conclude it was done for talking purposes. It merely means the premier can take the whole of the per capita grant and say: Look at the money I'm giving to roads."

The mayor said it is "thoroughly disheartening" when municipalities have a perpetual shortage of revenues to "find the few sources of revenue from the province becoming made the medium for political argument."

"There is not one municipality this morning that is not profoundly discouraged."

Reeve Curtis said the amendment has not been carefully thought through as far as municipalities are concerned.

"It will permit the government to say: We're paying for your roads."

"These rather drastic changes are coming with increasing frequency and they don't appear to have been worked out in the usual way, with the department of municipal affairs."

Historically, he added, the per capita grants have been considered the municipal share of the provincial treasury "without strings".

Reeve Cox of Oak Bay said he wrote Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Campbell Friday to learn the purpose of the legislation so he can pass the information on to his council Monday night.

## 'Required' To Report Child Cruelty

Doctors and social workers — as well as ordinary citizens — will soon be required to report all instances they know of child cruelty or neglect.

This is the effect of a bill given first reading in the legislature Thursday.

The bill, which will amend the Protection of Children Act, requires all citizens to report cases of child abandonment, neglect and beatings to the authorities.

But one of its key provisions will place special responsibility for this duty on professional people. It states they must report cases even if it is the result of confidential or privileged information.

Welfare Minister Dan Campbell said the legislation will provide protection from legal action for persons reporting. He said this will give protection to such persons as teachers, doctors and welfare officials who often are the ones who come into contact with cases of neglect.

"We are making it a professional responsibility to report, an individual professional responsibility."

But, he pointed out, there is no penalty in the bill for failure to report.

## 'Bill Should Cover Emotional Neglect'

A new law to give more protection to children won the endorsement of a doctor MLA Friday but he said it did not go far enough.

Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP — Vancouver Burrard), a psychiatrist, said proposed amendments to the Protection of Children Act will help prevent physical neglect of children.

The changes make it mandatory for all citizens to report cases of neglect or abuse of children and gives them protection from legal suit for reporting such cases.

However, said Dr. Parkinson when the bill was given second reading in the legislature, the amendments do not tackle the problem caused

by the emotional neglect of children. He said there are more children emotionally battered than physically battered.

The bill now will go to committee for detailed study.

## 'Method of Thievery' If Death Tax Ended

Premier Bennett Friday declined an NDP call that he repudiate Premier Manning of Alberta as a Social Credit leader — but he did give him a symbolic slap in the face over his succession duty policy.

Mr. Bennett was urged by Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) to repudiate Mr. Manning as a Socred because of the Alberta order to attract more wealthy persons to the prairie province.

Mr. Macdonald said it was reprehensible that Alberta would "break ranks with the other provinces" and make it more difficult for all to levy just duties.

"You should emphatically repudiate the attempt by (Mr.) Manning to make Alberta a tax haven like the Bahamas and Bermuda because it hurts the revenue position of all Canada," he said.

### SAW MISERY

Premier Bennett said he had recently been in the Bahamas which most people would consider a paradise because it has no income, land or death taxes, but, alongside the hundreds of wealthy tax-dodging paper-holding companies, he had seen misery among the ordinary people there.

"I've been to these wealthy places there but there's an expression in the Bahamas — 'just go over the hill,'" he said.

"Well, just go over the hill in Nassau and you'll see the results and the misery of these kinds of policies.

"I want to say that as long as I am premier and finance minister, I'll never advocate those kinds of policies.

"I do not believe that anyone ... has any moral right to try to avoid legitimate taxes levied by their legislature. That's just a method of thievery in my books."

The exchange came during



MANNING  
... slap from Bennett

discussion of a bill to raise succession duty exemptions from \$10,000 to \$25,000 on insurance policies and family homes from \$20,000 to \$35,000.

The NDP joined the Socreds to swamp the Liberals 43 to 6 in a vote approving the principle of the bill.

One of the clauses included measures aimed at taxing the B.C. holdings of firms set up in the Bahamas in order to escape succession duties here.

Alan Macfarlane (L—Oak Bay) speaking for his party which opposed the bill, said he was glad to see the effort to discourage creation of "the Bahamas companies by British Columbians" but he feared the clause would discourage foreign investors in the province.

## Peterson Recipe: Exercise Outside

School children should take their exercise outdoors when gymnasiums are not available, Education Minister Peterson told the B.C. legislature Thursday.

His comment came in reply to Eileen Dailly (NDP—Burnaby North) who complained that gymnasiums and activity rooms are being sacrificed to build new classrooms in schools throughout the province.

Mr. Peterson said he is a keen advocate of physical education.

"However if a choice need be made between gymnasiums and classrooms or activity rooms, there is no question as to where the priority is," the minister said.

Such a choice would be only temporary until local districts caught up with a backlog of needed classrooms, he said. Temporarily it was a question of money.

"We can build six classrooms for every activity room," he said. "We can build eight classrooms for every gymnasium."

"When it comes to a question of priority I think that everyone will agree emphasis should be placed on classrooms."

"We can do much more exercising outdoors," Mr. Peterson said. "We don't do nearly enough outdoors in our schools. We have a tendency to pamper our children."

Bob Williams (NDP—Vancouver East) said it was nonsense to believe that children could exercise outdoors in schools throughout B.C. all year round. The cabinet had been in Victoria too long, he said.

## What Price Innocence?

MR. LEO NIMSICK HAS brought to the attention of the legislature a practice which should cause general public concern.

He says that many innocent people plead guilty to minor offences because it is cheaper to pay a \$10 fine than give up a day's pay to appear in court.

The question of innocence, of course, is a matter for a court to decide. There is little doubt, however, that some persons decline to defend themselves against charges

of an inconsequential nature because they are not prepared to forego a day's work as well as subject themselves to the inconvenience of going to court.

Perhaps a solution for the problem posed for them could be found in provisions for sittings of a night court with sessions which would not conflict with their regular hours on the job. If they can establish their innocence, they should not suffer financially more than if they had been fined for guilt.



## 'Thumbscrew Legislation'

By DESMOND BILL

Premier Bennett told the legislature Friday that some municipalities have been misusing funds supplied by the province.

He made the statement in defending an amendment to the Municipalities Aid Act.

The change in the act has the effect of earmarking the government's per capita grants to the municipalities for road repair and construction. Up to now they have been included in general revenue.

Opposition speakers claimed the change is opposed by all the municipal leaders of Greater Victoria and Vancouver.

But the Premier answered objections by saying "They (the municipalities) have been caught in their own glue."

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said the premier's charge "cast a cloud" on all municipalities and he should identify the ones that have misused funds. But the premier ignored Mr. Strachan's request.

Opposition speakers tore into the amendment when the bill came up for second reading (approval in principle) in the legislature.

They called it "a propaganda bill; shoddy little bill; political tripe; thumbscrew legislation; phoney."

And they also charged it will mean an increase in the mill rate for Victoria and Vancouver.

R. A. Williams (NDP-Vancouver East) said road work now is a capital cost that municipalities finance through borrowing. But per capita grants are included in the operating funds of municipalities.

He said that if the government insists on earmarking the per capita grants for roads it will force the municipalities to finance this work out of operating funds. The effect of this will be to raise taxes in order to get the money formerly obtained by capital borrowing, he charged.

Opposition Leader Strachan said that by forcing municipalities to use the grants for roads the government is interfering with municipal autonomy.

Alan Macfarlane (Lib.-Oak Bay) said that in the past few years the municipalities have had to use the per capita grants for many purposes and the government is going to "tie their hands" if it insists they be used for roads only.

He said he had asked municipal leaders in Greater Victoria what they think of

the change "and not one supports this act. The first they saw of it was when I sent them a copy. Why was this amendment not discussed with municipal representatives?"

Mr. Macfarlane said the change in the act "comes directly from the premier as a result of his anger with the City of Vancouver for asking more help to build roads and bridges."

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault said the change will do nothing to help municipalities and only adds up to "semantic gymnastics."

David Barrett (NDP-Coquitlam) said that by "telling the municipalities what to do" with the per capita grants the government was threatening their freedom. He sarcastically asked Premier Bennett, "Do we have to have Big Daddy there telling them how their allowance is to be spent?"

Dr. Pat McGeer (Lib.-Vancouver-Point Grey) taunted the Social Credit members from Vancouver to speak up on the change which, he said, will mean an increase of two mills in that city's tax. "I want to hear from them," he said. But they kept silent.

Defending his amendment, Premier Bennett described the opposition criticism as "political chatter."

He turned on Mr. Macfarlane, calling him "the twisting member for Oak Bay. Twist, twist, twist — and he knows it too."

### TWISTING MEMBER

Mr. Macfarlane asked Speaker William Murray to force the premier to withdraw his remarks. Before the Speaker could rule on the request, Premier Bennett repeated, "The twisting member for Oak Bay."

Speaker Murray said he would not ask for a withdrawal "as long as there is no personal attack on a member."

Premier Bennett told the Opposition, "You're a bunch of wild men and you don't believe what you're saying. . . . We treat the municipalities more generously every year. . . . We give the municipalities 54 per cent of all the revenues we collect."

He said the original purpose of giving per capita grants was to finance roads, and added, "They (the municipalities) misuse funds. They have been caught in their own glue."

The House divided on the motion to give the bill second reading and the government won 31 to 21. The bill will now go to committee for detailed study.

## Liberal Proposes Island Transmitter

An educational TV station with a transmitter in the Gulf Islands that would reach 80 per cent of B.C. should be built by the government, Liberal leader Ray Perrault said in the legislature Thursday.

He said the station should be built at UBC and connected by micro-wave to the University of Victoria and Simon Fraser for program pickups.

## Gov't Prodded On Colleges

The education department should play a bigger role in establishment of regional colleges, Nanaimo MLA David Stupich told the legislature Thursday.

He said the department cannot absolve itself of this responsibility by merely saying "the local people should settle all their differences."

## Premier Says He's Serious Offering Ottawa a Loan

Premier Bennett Friday told a press conference he is serious in offering to lend \$100 million to the federal government.

Then he slammed the Liberal administration as "the worst government we've had since Confederation. They've been there too long."

Mr. Bennett claimed reports of a Sharp-Gordon row in the federal cabinet shows "a house divided cannot stand" but he wouldn't speculate about the possibility of an early election nor would he say whether he would campaign against the federal Liberals again as he did in 1965.

Mr. Bennett said there was no anomaly between his offer to lend Ottawa \$100 million this week and his request last week for \$100 million from Ottawa.

"Jack Davis (L.-Coast Capilano) and Liberal Leader Ray Perrault said there's \$300 mil-

lion waiting there (Ottawa) to be picked up," he recalled.

"They (Liberals) said they had the money and they criticized me for not asking for it."

That was the reason for seeking the loan, he claimed.

But Ottawa's response that a joint committee would have to study the request showed they didn't have the money, Mr. Bennett suggested, and just as B.C. had loaned \$100 million "to Quebec Province for national unity so we would be willing to loan the same to Ottawa for national unity."

He said such a loan would "be B.C. money, not (B.C.) Hydro money."

Asked why, if the province has so much available, it doesn't loan the money directly to B.C. Hydro, Mr. Bennett repeated he was trying to demonstrate that Ottawa was "bluffing" with suggestions that he has failed to obtain all the help he could.

## 'Politics Put Into Culture'

Premier Bennett Friday was accused of putting "politics and patronage" into distribution of cultural grants instead of following the federal Canada Council example.

The charge came during the only debate when eight bills were given first reading — the first group to complete the journey through the legislative mill towards royal assent.

The debate broke out during clause-by-clause consideration of legislation to establish the \$5 million Centennial Cultural Fund which will produce about \$250,000 annually in interest for distribution as grants.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) aimed his fire at the bill's stipulation that only Premier Bennett, as minister of finance, will decide how the money is paid out.

### ARTS COUNCIL

He said the government should establish an independent arts council to make the grants, as the federal government did by creating the Canada Council.

"The Canada Council took politics and patronage out of the arts and you're putting them in," Mr. Macdonald charged. He said Mr. Bennett did not trust persons involved in the arts.

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault said the premier's decision to keep personal control of the grants "opens them to political influence or the suggestion of political influence — that is that those who are closest to the government will be the prime recipients."

### CULTURE VULTURES

He said an independent

advisory body should decide on distribution of the grants to make sure they go to various endeavors in all parts of the province and not just the "predatory culture vultures in our society."

He said a "half-dozen larger organizations in B.C. are licking their chops and saying we're in the clover now" but the government should ensure that small groups and individuals in the Interior and north benefit from the fund as well as major societies in the metropolitan areas.

Mr. Bennett said he would seek the advice of private citizens and a committee of civil servants but he insisted that direct control of the fund remain "with the government which has the responsibility."

Also given third reading were bills:

Raising the homeowner grant by \$10 to \$120; establishing a \$5 million stabilization fund for the new crop insurance program; increasing the Pacific Great Eastern Railway's borrowing ceiling from \$165 million to \$190 million; approving the physical survey of the province's northern boundary;

Changing jurisdictions so that family courts instead of police magistrates can hear cases under the Parents' Maintenance Act; adding certain civil servants to those authorized to collect gasoline taxes; updating the wording and procedures to improve administration of the Colored Gasoline Tax Act which applies to farm vehicles primarily.

Given second reading without a division was a bill to establish a hospital financing authority for floating construction loans on a regional basis.



**LIMIT FAR OFF?**

# Mill Growth At Kamloops Cheers MLA

By AB KENT  
Times Business Editor

Fears of over-capacity in the northwestern pulp industry appear to be ended, legislative forestry chairman Cyril Shelford said at the weekend.

Commenting Sunday on a tour of western Washington operations of the Weyerhaeuser Co. by his forestry committee, Mr. Shelford said there are plans to quadruple the capacity of Kamloops Pulp and Paper Co. Ltd. mill.

Weyerhaeuser, which owns 51 per cent of the operation, began feasibility studies on mill expansion even before the plant was finished in 1965.

Mr. Shelford said the announcement was made by Weyerhaeuser vice-president of wood manufacturing, F. Lowry Wyatt, of Tacoma.

**TWO YEARS**

The Kamloops mill has a current capacity of 250 tons per day and would expand "within two years" to 1,000 tons of pulp product a day.

The B.C. portion of the pulp industry has been cautious in the last 12-18 months about softening of the world pulp market, a situation which now seems to have passed.

Mr. Shelford and a dozen members of his legislative committee spent Saturday and Sunday as guests of Weyerhaeuser to see how intensive forest management is carried out in the vicinity of its Clemmons tree farm area.

**IMPRESSED**

Mr. Shelford said he was impressed by the amount of research the Weyerhaeuser company is doing — both in the field and at laboratories in Centralia — and by the way in which alder has become a valuable crop tree instead of a weed.

He said the application of alder to the woods industry will be important to B.C. in about two years. It is being cut for both lumber and pulp in Washington.

**WASTE AREAS**

"We have too many waste acres now," he said, referring to areas where alder can be raised.

Mr. Shelford said the trip was particularly successful from the point of view of "getting together with other people and discussing problems so that when we run into them we will know the cheapest way to overcome them."

## Members Named To Special Health Committee

The names of members of a special departmental committee to help reorganize the mental health services were announced Friday by Health Minister Wesley Black.

Chairman will be Dr. F. G. Tucker, deputy director of B.C.'s Mental Health Services.

Other members are Dr. G. R. F. Elliot, deputy provincial health officer; J. W. Mainguay, director of hospital consultation, and Alex Porteous, one of Mr. Black's administrative assistants.

Mr. Black said he deplored efforts by some persons to portray the province's mental health services "as being in a mess."

"They are not in a mess," he said.

"We have problems coming to the fore and the whole department is suffering as a result of these," he said, but added that the department "has an excellent staff."

## Premier Bennett and the Municipalities

A LITTLE SERIOUS THOUGHT should convince Mr. Bennett and his colleagues that Friday's attack by the opposition on one measure dealing with municipalities was more than a political sally. This was an instance in which the smoldering fire of municipal resentment against provincial government treatment broke into open flame in the legislature. The fire was temporarily smothered by a Social Credit majority responsive to the premier's command, but more outbreaks undoubtedly will occur.

The flare-up revealed an area of conflict which has been spreading for years and will continue to spread until authoritative spokesmen for the government and the municipalities sit down around the table and work co-operatively on the establishment of better provincial-municipal relations—principally in the field of finance.

Mr. Bennett levelled charges at municipalities without specifying them, alleging misuse of funds. Already municipal leaders are challenging him to name places and provide details of such a serious accusation. As Reeve Curtis of Saanich says, the charge "demands complete explanation or retraction".

The weakness of the premier's overall position, of course, lies in the government's consistent refusal to enter into discussions with the municipalities on the whole problem of their financial relations. The local councils object to the manner in which pressure is exerted on their resources by the senior government, at the same time that the burden is increasing on the homeowner.

The municipalities have presented a case and the province has failed to meet it. That case largely concerns the transfer of increasing service costs to municipalities which depend so heavily for revenue on real estate taxation—a very narrow base from which to meet the requirements of today's sophisticated society.

The premier and his cabinet members never tire in their crusade against Ottawa for more generous financial treatment. Yet they set a poor example in their rejection of municipal appeals. What is needed is a thorough joint study of provincial-municipal financial arrangements—and not vote-seeking palliatives such as the homeowners' grant or well-publicized handouts to prospective house builders.

## MACFARLANE TACKLES PETERSON EQUALIZATION GRANTS SOUGHT

# Bursary Limit Brings Heated Clash

By JOHN MIKA  
Legislative Reporter

Education Minister Leslie Peterson and Alan Macfarlane (L-Oak Bay) Monday traded heated accusations of misrepresentation over the government's aid to out-of-town university students.

The clash broke out during an otherwise subdued sitting of the legislature that began with tributes to the late governor-general.

It saw the two personal friends lock into an acrimonious verbal duel which brought angry red flushes to both their faces after a quiet opening.

### CAMPAIGNING

Mr. Macfarlane commended University of Victoria students who have been campaigning for equalization grants for out-of-town students and also urging rural high school students to enter university.

He sent a \$50 cheque across the floor of the legislature as a donation "on a purely non-partisan basis" from the Uvic student council to start off what it hoped would become a government fund to provide equalization grants.

Mr. Macfarlane explained the cheque was half the normal honorarium the student council provides its president. The other half was donated to the council's campaigning of encouraging rural high school graduates to continue their education.

The battle began when Mr. Macfarlane said the students need accurate information when advising high school audiences of what government assistance will be available to them.

### BURSARIES

Claiming that a \$300 maximum on provincial bursaries outlined last week by Mr. Peterson could not be considered an equalization grant policy, Mr. Macfarlane asked the minister to outline what further assistance would be made available.

Mr. Peterson denied he had said \$300 was the maximum and added that high school students should get their information from their schools or counsellors.

"This (school advice and government application forms) is the information that our students should rely upon and not, with all respect, the statements of the honorable member or of the other students," Mr. Peterson snapped.

"I don't want the run-

around . . . to be told to ask the high school principals or to look at the application forms," retorted Mr. Macfarlane angrily. "It's high time the minister told this House what the policy is. There's been enough double-talk."

"I'm not going to be lectured to by the member for Oak Bay," stormed back Mr. Peterson as the two became locked in a running battle of interjections.

"It just shows how futile it would be for schools to rely on his (Mr. Macfarlane's) statements. I never said \$300 was a maximum, that's what he says."

"We want to know what you say—you said \$300," shouted Mr. Macfarlane.

### NO SUCH THING

"I said no such thing—I said \$350 or \$400," shouted Mr. Peterson. "The Liberals talk with forked tongues . . . we have no further policy to announce."

"You have no policy," shouted Mr. Macfarlane.

During a briefly calm interlude, Mr. Peterson said the government takes into consideration the extra needs of an out-of-town student in awarding the size of a bursary.

### NO SUCH THING

He said there would be administrative difficulties in establishing a separate equalization grant programs so the bursary plan would be used to help meet the situation.

"But with a maximum of \$300," snapped Mr. Macfarlane.

### NO SUCH THING

"I said no such thing," shouted Mr. Peterson again. "I said \$350 to \$400."

"You said no such thing," shouted Mr. Macfarlane.

"Don't you wish you had a Hansard now," an NDP member called to Mr. Peterson.

"Don't you know how it works in Ottawa? If they don't like it (Hansard passage) they just change it," Mr. Peterson answered.

### RESTORES CALM

Leo Nimsick (NDP—Kootenay) restored calm to the house with a question whether the minister was "making it definite now that \$400 is the maximum bursary assistance."

"Yes, but I don't want to mislead (by suggesting) that everyone can get the \$400 merely by applying," replied Mr. Peterson.

## Hoary Old Story 'Refuted'

NDP Leader Robert Strachan seized on two items at the very end of the education department's \$193.3 million estimates Monday to spear the government with its own figures.

He recalled that the premier had derided his earlier complaints that school purpose assessments had increased on rural land in his area as much as 56 per cent.

Then he pointed to a \$33.5 million recovery from rural district taxes itemized in Education Minister Leslie Peterson's votes, up from \$26.9 million, collected by the government last year.

"So the rural taxation program is going to pay an additional \$6.6 million towards schools because of this tremendous increase in assessment on the land," he said.

Mr. Strachan also pointed out that the \$15.8 million used to service school debts represents "an increase of \$2.8 million out of current revenues for debt."

"This refutes the hoary old story about those self-liquidating debts and no taxes being raised to pay debts."



## BUSINESS VIEWS

Efficiency Seen  
At WeyerhaeuserBy AB KENT  
Business Editor

How the profit motive and the hot breath of the tax assessor combine to make the forest industry more efficient was seen at the weekend by a group of B.C. legislators on a foreign junket.

The group was Cyril Sheldford's forestry committee, accompanied by four reporters, who were shown some of the Weyerhaeuser company's integrated holdings in western Washington state.

Although beset by many of the same problems plaguing the forest industry here at home, Weyerhaeuser is able to take what seems a more stimulated approach because the company owns all of its Washington lands, part of a total 3.7 million acres to which it has title in the U.S.

Whether or not the company has trees on the land it must shell out taxes varying with current value, and therefore the more productive the land, the more it is able to return profits and tax money.

Perhaps because B.C. companies have limited proprietary interest in forest lands they do not engage so intensely in forest exploitation.

At the risk of oversimplifying the tax picture, B.C. companies for the most part pay taxes when they cut a tree, and as for sustained yield, or regeneration as the Americans call it, they are prodded by legislation before motivation.

Granted, there is more interest in re-planting harvested areas of B.C. today than ever before, and some of the privately-owned lands—such as the E and N land grant of Pacific Logging Co. Ltd.—are being managed to produce eventually successive crops of timber.

The cut-and-get-out philosophy has gone. There is more awareness that the forest is a depletable resource, even though a casual look around B.C. might suggest inexhaustible wood lands.

\* \* \*

A visitor to the Chehalis



KENT

Valley-Gray's Harbor area of western Washington gets the opposite impression. He sees where huge fir trees have been taken out in the last 200 years, leaving weedy marshes and acre after acre of scrub alder and vine maple, with only the occasional stand of mature timber or patches of second growth conifer trees.

That is what happened as a result of cutting without replanting. Nature takes over with the crop most likely to survive, and it is not necessarily the same one harvested by man.

Weyerhaeuser recognized this problem 30 years ago and claims the first tree farm in the U.S. Its older planted areas today look like fine green lawns bearing trees of regular size and development that will be ready for harvest in another 30 years.

With regeneration by Weyerhaeuser goes a wide range of work in the fields of production and silviculture research, conservation, fire control, wildlife and game studies, access maintenance and other duties which in B.C. would be more typical of government responsibility.

Ownership seems to spur full productivity, whereas if timber land is government-owned there is less freedom to utilize in the most profitable way.

\* \* \*

In B.C. today there are about 126.5 million acres of crown forest land of a total 126.7 million acres.

The crown-granted forest land covers about 6.6 million acres, which may be logged in any way the owner sees fit.

Of the public land, about 85 million acres are in sustained yield units and tree farm licences, where the operator must conform to specified forest management practices, including reforestation.

These requirements have come about only in the last 10 years in recognition that the forest should be a perpetual resource and public heritage.

If there has been inefficiency in the B.C. forest industry, probably it is first attributable to wasteful logging in the first 100 years.

Now it may be in the interests of keeping the largest part of the woods resource for the people rather than letting it pass into private ownership, and hence its joint development by government and the industry.

## PREMIER AGREES

Grants Urged  
For Local  
History Books

Premier Bennett Monday joined opposition MLAs in urging the education department to subsidize publication of history books on various aspects of B.C.

"It's impossible to put all the history of B.C. into one book, it's so colorful and complex," he said.

"B.C. has a great history and I feel some emphasis should be made on what has been said here today but I hope that in this Centennial Year, some regions would produce their own histories — even though we might have to subsidize them a little bit."

The premier was referring to appeals by Tom Berger and Dr. Ray Parkinson, both NDP MLAs for Vancouver-Burrard and Liberal Leader Ray Perrault, for a regular policy of subsidizing the publication of history books suitable for school libraries.

## NOT ENOUGH

Mr. Berger said there are not enough such books in the schools now and a "whole carload" should be produced to imbue students with pride and self-knowledge.

"I believe very strongly that there should be a whole series of books on the history of our province made available and if that means the department subsidizing such publications, it should do so," Mr. Bergersaid.

Mr. Perrault, pointing out April 17 is the 50th anniversary of the franchise being extended to women in B.C., said an out-of-print volume entitled "Pioneer Women of Vancouver Island" should be re-issued on the anniversary as an example of the type of colorful history book that should be encouraged by the department.

"The young ladies of our school system should know what a fantastic heritage they have," said Mr. Perrault.

## OTHER HISTORIES

Mr. Bennett observed that only last weekend he had read a manuscript for a history of agriculture on Saltspring Island and he understood that other histories of the Island are planned.

This type of history should be encouraged, he said.

Dr. Parkinson said school texts on Canadian history are sadly lacking in content — pointing out one he read devoted only a page and a half "including a large picture" on the War of 1812 which was a major turning point in the nation's development.

He also criticized the policy of renting text books instead of providing them free as "they did in my days."

Education Minister Leslie Peterson made no commitment to undertake a history book subsidization policy but he defended the text rental system as being admired by other provinces.

## TEXTBOOKS

He said textbooks are free between Grades 1 to 6, rent for \$4.50 a year from Grades 7 to 9 and \$5 annually from Grades 10 to 13.

"Although you're only paying \$5 rental, you are getting \$20 to \$50 worth of books," he said.

Robert Williams (NDP—Vancouver East) said paperback texts should be used because they would be cheap enough to provide free "so the students could retain them and mark them up and they would be more useful learning instruments as a result."

However, Mr. Peterson said this idea had been explored and found unsatisfactory.

"The costs are not as different as one would think between paperback and hardcover books and some of the paperbacks might not even last one year," he said.

## NEXT WEEK, SAYS PETERSON

## 'Entirely New' Act Due on Compensation

By GLEN ALLEN

Labor Minister Leslie Peterson Tuesday promised Opposition critics an "entirely new" Workmen's Compensation Act will be tabled in the Legislature next week.

"The department intends not only amendments to the act, but an entirely new act, for this session," he said.

His statement came in answer to one of several Liberal and NDP members speaking to labor department estimates of \$7,518,000.

Leo Nimsick (NDP—Kootenay) had charged Mr. Peterson's department — he doubles as labor and education minister — with delay in formulating a new act. The royal commission on compensation had been struck in 1961, he pointed out.

"I am going to insist on an answer," said Mr. Nimsick.

"What is going to be in that Compensation Act?"

He said that Mr. Peterson could have made available some kind of preliminary report some time ago.

Mr. Nimsick said that time had passed by many of the people in B.C. dependent on compensation payments.

"We're sitting pretty good," he said. "We get an indemnity at the end of the session. It's pretty easy to forget."

He said those who suffered by "pecayune increases" in WCB payments were widows, children and those injured years ago.

Mr. Nimsick said where "a breadwinner is killed in an industrial accident, there is only \$122.04 for the widow."

He said senior citizens are now guaranteed \$140 monthly by the two senior governments.

"Is that right or just?"

He termed a two per cent rise since 1964 in pensions for those injured in accidents, "a slap in the face."

"These men were injured in industries making millions of dollars profit."

The official opposition's "shadow" labor minister Rae Eddie (New Westminster) attacked all phases of government involvement in labor disputes, particularly labor injunctions which are "thrown around most freely."

**"USED AS LEVER"**

"We see injunctions used as a lever to upset the delicate balance between the parties in the favor of the employer."

"The result can only be frustration and hard feelings."

Mr. Eddie also called for a full-time Labor Relations

Mr. Berger said the present three-man board should resign. He said that in the decade since the present chairman J. E. Eades had been appointed in 1954, the ratio of rejected claims had trebled.

"That means something is wrong," Mr. Berger said.

He added the new act should require the board to disclose the sources of its information to claimants who have been rejected and should establish the rule that any doubt about claims should be resolved in favor of the injured workman or his survivors.

Mr. Berger also urged Mr. Peterson to include agricultural workers and fishermen under the benefit provisions of the promised legislation.

**APPEAL SYSTEM**

Two Social Credit backbenchers also demanded that a satisfactory appeal system be introduced to review rejections by the WCB.

"There must be some place where people can appeal," Cyril Shelford (SC — Omineca) emphasized.

"I shudder now when I get a compensation case (complaint) because I don't feel good about writing back 'sorry, but there's nothing much I can do for you,'" he said.

"There certainly has to be something better in the new act that comes before this House."

Ernie Le Cours (SC—Richmond) said a separate board of appeal is required and "it should not be dominated by the medical profession . . . because there might be some reluctance to admit the medical profession has not solved the (injury) problem."

**MORE STOPPAGES**

Answering his critics, Mr. Peterson said: "I differ somewhat with the suggestion that parties should have the right to strike or lock-out at any stage."

"This would create more work stoppage than ever."

"I subscribe to the point of view that as long as you can keep parties talking, there is a chance to settle without a work stoppage."

He agreed the status of conciliation officers should be raised.

"But," he said, "these people can't be found anywhere."

He said a vigorous in-service type training is already established within the labor department.

Board," representative of labor, management and the general public.

"There should be no civil servants as members."

He said such a board would take labor injunctions out of the hands of the courts and "would not issue such orders without a full hearing based on sworn testimony subject to cross-examination."

Mr. Eddie said the need for an overhaul of labor statutes was illustrated by the "peculiar phenomenon last year of a strike and a lockout going on at the same time between the same employers and the same union."

**LITTLE CHANGE**

"We are still using the old set of legislation and procedures which were concocted during the Second World War. They have not changed materially since."

"Strike or lockout votes should be in order at any stage of negotiation proceedings," he said.

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault said the department's system of conciliation should be abolished.

"It serves only to lock management and labor into inflexible positions, and itself becomes a strike issue," he said.

Mr. Perrault called for a "top-level, blue-ribbon mediation service."

But he said mediation officers would have to be better treated than they are now, that is, "getting less than the workers coming to them."

He said the services of qualified mediation officers would be inexpensive at \$25,000 or \$30,000 a year.

**OMBUDSMAN**

Tom Berger (NDP — Vancouver-Burrard) told the House the Workmen's Compensation Board needs an ombudsman "with the right to go through files like a dose of salts and find out what's going on there."

Mr. Berger said the board "ought to be compelled to give reasons for their decisions and make more adequate provision for appeal."

KS

textbooks are free grades 1 to 6, rent for or from Grades 7 to 9 usually from Grades 10

if you're only paying you are getting \$20 to of books," he said. Williams (NDP—East) said papers should be used they would be cheap provide free "so the could retain them and m up and they would useful learning instru- a result."

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## Back Wages for Miners Promised by April 30

Back wages totalling almost \$40,000 owed 145 miners by Cowichan Copper, of Jordan River, will be paid by the end of April, Labor Minister Leslie Peterson, told the Legislature Tuesday.

He said \$15,000 was paid on account when the Industrial Relations Board obtained an order seizing some ore, and another \$5,000 was received for the men Tuesday.

Aetna Investment Corporation of Toronto, which re-financed Cowichan Copper, also has guaranteed that another \$10,000 will be paid by March 31 and the balance within a month of that.

However, Leo Nimsick (NDP—Kootenay) said Aetna "made \$300,000 for its shareholders" by financing Cowichan Copper and the mine "should be shut down until these men are paid their wages".

He claimed that 65 men now are working at the reopened mine and there is no guarantee that Aetna will pay their wages if the previous workers are still not fully paid.

Mr. Peterson called Mr. Nimsick's remarks "irresponsible" and not to be given weight because the men involved have not asked for shutting down the mine.

He said the Industrial Relations Board has obtained the promise of full payment of the back wages faster than the men themselves could have done through legal action and at no cost to them for legal fees.

Randolph Harding (NDP—Revelstoke-Slocan) said that "workers in my area lost double that (\$40,000) amount in NSF cheques from sub-contractors on clearing work for the Columbia River project".

He called for better protection for workmen to ensure their wages are paid.

Mr. Peterson replied that B.C. Hydro will hold prime contractors responsible in the future for payment of wages to (sub-contractor) employees.

He said the IRB had found that with certain fly-by-night sub-contractors efforts to recover workmen's wages "was like wringing blood from a stone".

## USE OF INJUNCTIONS CONFERENCE TOPIC

A conference on labor-management relations will be held May 19 at the Hotel Vancouver to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Provincial Department of Labor.

The conference was announced Tuesday in the Legislature by Labor Minister Peterson during debate on his department estimates.

All living former provincial labor ministers will be invited, Mr. Peterson said.

The conference will include two panel discussions chaired by independent chairmen and including both labor and management representatives.

The morning topic will be on the use of court injunctions in labor disputes and the afternoon topic will be on the implications of technological change in labor relations.

## HARD, DRAB ARGUMENTS

### 'It's One Man's Opinion'

An afternoon of hard, drab argument on labor department estimates was marked by an hour of cocktail party chatter when Opposition Leader Robert Strachan took the floor Tuesday.

Jibes were tossed back and forth across the House floor after Herb Capozzi (SC—Vancouver Centre) defended the Workmen's Compensation Board against falsely laid claims.

Mr. Capozzi had said opposition members would be satisfied with new Workmen's Compensation Board legislation.

"How does that member know it's good legislation?" asked Mr. Strachan. "Has he seen it?"

"No! No! It's one man's opinion," said Premier Bennett.

"If he has seen it, it should be tabled before the House rises," said Mr. Strachan.

Deputy Speaker Herb Bruch held back a tide of government and opposition comments with hammers of the chairman's gavel, not with notable success.

Mr. Strachan went on to charge the government with "jumping from crisis to crisis in the field of labor relations like a mountain goat."

"What got your goat?" asked a Socred member.

"I'll tell you," answered Mr. Strachan. "The complete inability to recognize what is wrong with the complete labor-management picture in this province."

"This is a government more concerned with the bankbooks of employers than employees," said Mr. Strachan.

"That's cheap political chat," said Mr. Bennett.

Mr. Strachan said Mr. Peterson is "a half-a-day-a-week minister."



DeBECK, SPEAKER WILLIAM MURRAY WITH WHALE'S TOOTH

## Distinguished Servant Of House Honored

The legislature Tuesday took time out to wish its clerk a happy 84th birthday.

Praise showered on E. K. (Ned) DeBeck from Premier Bennett, Opposition Leader Robert Strachan and Liberal Leader Ray Perrault.

The popular white-thatched clerk who keeps the house business in running order and is the right hand man to Speaker William Murray has held the post since 1948.

Mr. DeBeck's unfailing patience and knowledge of procedure "has been an inspiration to me as premier," said Mr. Bennett.

"I'm sure that I speak not only for all sides but for all the people of this province when I say to you, sir, how pleased we are to see you looking so well and cheerful in spite of all that goes on here," he said to general applause.

Mr. Strachan said that visitors to the legislature ask more questions about Mr.

DeBeck, who wears a black robe and uses a ball-pointed quill pen, than they do about any MLAs.

"He is more than a distinguished servant of this house," said Mr. Perrault. "He has become a revered institution."

While all MLAs drummed prolonged applause, Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Campbell draped a sterling silver chain and whale's tooth over Mr. DeBeck's shoulders to induct him as the seventh member of North Vancouver Island's "Loyal Order of the Whale's Tooth".



BARRETT

... bargaining rights

## Government 'Sets Poor Example'

Dave Barrett (NDP-Coquitlam) said Tuesday the provincial government set an example for poor treatment of workers by industry.

Mr. Barrett said the government shows "utter disregard" for its own employees.

Mr. Barrett said the government has treated civil servants with "contempt" in not allowing them bargaining rights.

"And," said Mr. Barrett, "when the government does not treat its own employees with respect how can it expect industry to look on its own employees with respect?"

Mr. Barrett said because of the government inflexibility in this regard and the consequent turnover of staff, the taxpayer has had to pay for the losses.



CAMPBELL

... public health role

## FIRST STEP FOR CONTROL BY REGION

Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Campbell said a bill introduced in the legislature Tuesday would make it possible to make public health a function of the Greater Victoria regional district.

He was commenting on an amendment to the Health Act which would empower the provincial cabinet to pass a regulation to "authorize the assumption of the exercise of the powers and duties of a metropolitan board of health by a regional district ... whereupon the jurisdiction of the (health board) shall cease and be conferred upon the regional district ..."



## Fair Sex Won't Go Underground

Women won't be allowed to work underground as mining technicians after all.

The International Labor Code severely restricts the conditions under which females are allowed to go underground, the legislature's mining and railway committee learned Tuesday.

The proposal to allow female employees below ground for the first time in B.C. history was amended in the committee at the mines department request to comply with the Convention of the International Labor Organization to which Canada is a signatory.

Mines Minister Donald Brothers earlier had explained the new system would allow female computer operators and other technicians to work below ground under carefully supervised conditions in an office or laboratory-type of environment.

But the new amendment will bar all females from underground activities under the I.L.O. Convention except those in managerial positions not involving manual work, females involved in health or welfare services, students and occasional visits by above-ground female employees for non-manual purposes.

Chief mining inspector W. J.

Peck, who suggested the original change after visiting mining operations in Sweden, told the committee that the provincial labor department brought the ILO requirements to his attention after the bill was drafted.

Committee chairman James Chabot was authorized by the committee to contact mine operators and union officials to request submission of their views on the 68-page bill which would completely overhaul the safety and working regulations for the mining industry.

Deadline for the submissions is March 17.

### MINISTER ADMITS ACTION

## Check Columbia Overtime

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan Tuesday suggested that overtime is being worked regularly on the Columbia River project without a department of labor permit.

"I didn't say it—nor do I intend to say it," Labor Minister Leslie Peterson said with a broad smile.

However, under further questioning by Mr. Strachan, he admitted that the department has begun checking the Columbia construction work to see if overtime is a regular feature.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) asked if legislation to restrict ex parte injunctions in labor matters would be introduced at this session but Mr. Peterson said the matter is under study both in B.C. and other provinces.

"I just wonder if more men will go to jail while these things are studied," snapped Mr. Macdonald. "The minister admits on one hand there is a problem and on the other he says we need more study—what we need is legislation."

The legislature adopted the \$7.5 million labor department vote after 7½ hours of grilling Mr. Peterson.

## Thousands in B.C. Working For 'Sub-Standard' Wages

Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver Burrard) told the legislature that if the labor department

wants to emulate the industrial peace and prosperity in Sweden it must encourage trade unionism.

Mr. Berger said 97 per cent of all Swedish workers are members of trade unions and obtain the benefits of collective bargaining as compared with less than 50 per cent in B.C.

He said a new look is needed at the social and economic function of the trade union movement because "it provides a salutary countervailing force to what otherwise would be unrestrained corporate economic power."

He said it is in the organized work forces that productivity has increased so that collective bargaining, far from ruining some industries, has improved them.

But present anti-union policies mean "we are developing two

distinct classes of working men and women in this province," said Mr. Berger.

"We have on the one hand the men and women who belong to powerful trade unions. They are able, through collective bargaining, to achieve wages and working conditions that provide a good living for themselves and their families.

"On the other hand, there are thousands of men and women in the province who are working for substandard wages and under substandard working conditions."

Their penalties are poor housing, little job security and constant difficulty with soaring prices.

"Instead of placing barriers in the way of collective action by employees in our low-wage industries and occupations, we ought to encourage collective organization and collective bargaining for these employees."

## 'Department Can't Dictate To RCMP

The department of education cannot dictate to RCMP and other police organizations on university campuses, Education Minister Peterson told the legislature Monday.

His comment came during debate on department of education estimates when Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) said he is disturbed over an incident at Simon Fraser University last week when four unidentified police officers questioned a student as to the political activities and beliefs of his associates.

Did Mr. Peterson approve of such police actions? Mr. Barrett asked.

"Our universities in this province are autonomous, self-governing institutions," Mr. Peterson said. "It is not for the education department to say who can question the students, who cannot question the students, who can come to campus and who cannot come to campus," Mr. Peterson said.

Mr. Barrett should direct his complaint to authorities at the university.

## Semester Plan Urged For UBC

The department of education should force the University of B.C. to adopt the tri-semester system, George Mussallem (SC—Dewdney) said Monday.

The comment came during debate on education department spending estimates in the legislature.

UBC officials should be told "to get off their chairs," Mr. Mussallem said. Operating only seven months a year is wasteful.

"The system has tended to cause young men and women to loaf," the Social Credit member said. Then at the end of the year 1,000 students are put in one room and told to write an examination upon which depends their year's work.

Education Minister Peterson said he was in sympathy with Mr. Mussallem's desire for full use of facilities. But, said the minister, universities use their facilities beyond the seven months usually acknowledged by the public.

How best use can be achieved "is a matter for the universities themselves to determine," Mr. Peterson said.

## Shortage Of Nurses Denied

Reports of an acute shortage of nurses in British Columbia are not true, minister without portfolio Pat Jordan told the B.C. legislature Monday.

"There is no acute shortage of graduate or registered nurses in B.C.," Mrs. Jordan said during debate on education department estimates. "There is some concern that we could better utilize our nurses."

Mrs. Jordan, a professional nurse, made the comments in reply to William Hartley (NDP—Yale-Lillooet) who had complained that nurses in training received only \$300 over a three-year period.

"We should raise this stipend from \$300 to \$1,095, which is a dollar a day," Mr. Hartley said. "These girls work hard and study hard."



THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 1967

# 4,129 on Lists At Hospitals; 8-Month Wait

## Minister Lays Blame On Boards, City Officials

By PETE LOUDON

Victorians are now waiting as long as eight months to get into hospital.

The bed shortage is so acute that 4,129 people are now waiting admission to the district's two acute hospitals, Royal Jubilee and St. Joseph's. Bookings extend to November.

Of these, 225 are in need of urgent hospital care and if facilities were available they would be admitted immediately.

Those waiting emergent admission are given a higher priority than those requiring treatment classed as elective. But even these cases face a wait of three to four weeks at Jubilee Hospital, 10 days at St. Joseph's.

One year ago all rush cases were being admitted after a wait of only 10 days.

The situation was revealed by the two hospitals today following a discussion on the hospital crisis in the B.C. Legislature Wednesday.

### SITUATION GENERAL

Liberal speakers in the debate on Health Minister W. D. Black's estimates said the situation is general in B.C. They said even patients with cancer are being kept waiting for surgery.

Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Vancouver-Point Grey) said 7,932 people are waiting for hospital beds on the lower mainland. But there are only 3,894 beds.

Mr. Black said that B.C. Hospital Insurance and his department "always seemed to wind up as the whipping boy." But he said local hospital boards and municipal officials must share the blame.

"If some of these local jurisdictions had put up some of this money three years ago, they would not be faced with some of these problems today," he stated.

### \$2,000 A BED

(For new hospital construction the federal government provides \$2,000 a bed. The province provides grants equal to 50 per cent of the cost and the local areas are required to raise the balance.)

Hospital officials here were reluctant to allocate blame for the situation. But it is a fact that in December, 1965, the capital region voted down a \$13 million hospital addition program that would have boosted home taxes by an estimated two mills. Opponents said the province should pay more.

At the present time district hospitals have joined with municipal officials in conducting a survey to determine whether acute or chronic case beds are most needed and to recommend locations. Major new construction still appears to be years in the offing.

### PROBLEMS

Royal Jubilee administrator George Masters today demonstrated some of the problems of his hospital where the waiting list now tops 3,000.

The children's wing is presently empty of beds while necessary renovations are completed. The children will move back there Friday, releasing a 17-bed ward on the fourth floor.

Then renovations will begin on a large ward on first floor south. On completion of this work the beds now in a condemned annex for infectious diseases will be moved there. But it will mean no gain in bed space.

Another hospital official pointed out that it would be impossible now to place beds in corridors or other emergency spaces. "Beds are only part of the problem," he said.

### AT CAPACITY

Each patient must be serviced by treatment and diagnostic facilities which are already operating to capacity with exception of X-ray, a new department able to handle a greater volume. At St. Joseph's Hospital X-ray is choked with patients but a new lab is capable of an expanded work load.

The Jubilee kitchens and laundry are working to capacity also.

Jubilee has appointed a doctor specifically to examine all admissions to make certain that those with the highest priority of need are being admitted. Everything is being done to accommodate the maximum number of patients within the scope of existing facilities. This is also true of St. Joseph's, where the current waiting list contains 1,129 names, officials state.

# JUBILEE HOSPITAL TO GET EQUIPMENT ANNOUNCEMENT MADE IN HOUSE

## Money Decides Life, Death With Kidney Machine—Perrault

Scarcity of artificial kidney machines in the province is condemning some citizens to death and forcing a group of British Columbians to select the victims, the legislature was told Wednesday.

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault said the government should dip into its surplus to provide more of the machines needed to keep some persons alive by periodic treatment.

"Apparently there is a panel in B.C. that decides who will live and who will die," he said.

"It must be a pretty tough decision to say 'sorry, mister, you're getting on in years and we'll have to give someone else access to the machine that keeps you alive.'"

He said he had met an elderly man who had been given just this message and now he was negotiating with the University of Washington to have access to one of their machines.

But as an alien, he had to make heavy down payments

and guarantee further payments to the university hospital in Seattle.

"If he can put up \$17,500 he lives," said Mr. Perrault. "And if he can't raise the money, presumably he dies."

He told Health Minister Wesley Black that the govern-

ment should buy more of the machines for B.C. hospitals. resources available to this province, we shouldn't have the situation of a man perhaps passing from this life simply because we haven't enough equipment or it's too expensive," the Liberal leader said.

Health Minister Wesley Black said that 30 persons can be treated by the machine in Vancouver and revealed that "Royal Jubilee hospital is beginning over here" with a machine to treat two persons.

## AHEAD OF SCHEDULE, SAYS STRACHAN

### NDP, Socreds Clash on Speed-Up

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan and Premier Bennett Wednesday weren't satisfied tangling inside the legislature, they stepped outside separately to take verbal swings at each other's tactics.

Premier Bennett made a statement attacking the NDP for a "political tirade all afternoon" in violation of House rules governing scrutiny of estimates.

Referring to a 90-minute speech by Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP—Vancouver-Burrard) leading off debate on the health department estimates earlier in the day, the premier claimed there was a deliberate effort under way to delay the business of the House.

Mr. Strachan cracked back with a statement accusing the premier of "trying to intimidate and bulldoze the members of the legislature into doing the people's business hurriedly."

He pointed out that health department estimates last year were not completed until the 55th sitting day of the 1966 session and the current session is 10 days ahead of this pace now.

"If we complete the health minister's estimates by March 19 we'll be exactly in the same position we were last year," said Mr. Strachan.

"It's our intention ... to make whatever statements have to be made, to ask whatever questions should be asked. 'We don't feel the premier should be setting any deadlines on discussion of the people's business and we don't think he should expect this important business to be discussed and decided upon after midnight.'"

Debate in the legislature went through eight hours as the MLAs sat through their first Wednesday night and the first time this session they've stayed up two nights running.

Premier Bennett moved the adjournment at midnight, only 25 minutes after the government side had defeated an adjournment motion by Mr. Strachan.

Before they rose, the MLAs had passed only the \$11.5 million appropriation for the public health department, leaving the rest of the \$145.5 million estimates in the hospital service and mental health departments for consideration today and tonight.

## FULL PROGRAM

### Okanagan University Advocated

A fourth full-fledged public university was proposed in a private bill introduced in the legislature Wednesday by Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Vancouver-Point Grey).

The bill would establish a degree-granting Okanagan University instead of the present "Mickey Mouse" two-year regional college proposed by the government, Dr. McGeer said outside the house.

He said last year's failure to obtain agreement from the nine Okanagan school districts on the site of a regional college pointed up the inadequacy of the government plan.

"We should be starting a university every two years at this province's present rate of growth," he said.

## PLANS ASKED FOR SHAKE-UP

Applicants for the deputy mental health minister's vacancy are being asked to submit plans for reorganizing the department with their applications, Health Minister Black told the legislature Wednesday night.

He was replying to opposition MLAs who had asked for more detailed plans of the announced reorganization of the health department branch.

Mr. Black said the new deputy who will replace Alan Davidson, who leaves the department for a federal government post at the end of this month, will be a psychiatrist.

The minister added that he hoped the deputy minister's assistant will be a layman.



THURS., MARCH 9, 1967

COMING UNDER PUBLIC CONTROL?

## Black Silent on Future of MSA Plans

By JOHN MIKA  
Times Legislature Reporter

Health Minister Wesley Black Wednesday refused to confirm or deny that the government will bring in legislation to put the B.C. Medical Plan, MSA, CU and C and other private non-profit medicare plans under a public authority.

He said a medicare bill will be introduced "very quickly — and that means if not toward the end of this week then early in the next."

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver-East) demanded an indication whether it would qualify the province for sharing in the national medicare plan by putting all existing medicare schemes under a single government agency.

"You will have to be the judge of that when it (the bill) comes down," Mr. Black replied.

Earlier, Liberal Leader Ray Perrault asked if Mr. Black had received a letter from Ottawa within the past month saying that existing private, non-profit plans such as MSA and CU and C must be "brought within the ambit of a public authority?"

"I don't recall a specific letter but that certainly has been discussed by the federal government," replied Mr. Black.

In answer to another question, he said "somewhere between 90 and 95 per cent" of British Columbians are covered by some form of medical insurance.

Mr. Macdonald said that the federal government legislation provides that a national medicare plan will be in operation as early as this year and by the summer of next year at the latest yet B.C. has taken no steps to qualify for the approximately \$20 million annual assistance.

He said even the government-sponsored B.C. Medical Plan does not qualify as a public

medicare program because it is run by a private society jointly set up by the medical profession and the government.

"This is the most important question before this session," he said. "Beyond a shadow of a doubt, B.C. doesn't qualify now for sharing in the federal plan."

He said Mr. Black's refusal to state positively that the coming legislation will qualify B.C. indicates "he doesn't intend to qualify this province and this government is planning another year of wrist-twisting with the national government."

"Are you going to try to break this (national medicare) plan or qualify B.C. for it?" he demanded.

Mr. Black said he could not reveal pending legislation but he emphasized that "we have said over and over again that what we want to do is co-operate with the federal government — and believe me that is what we have tried to do."

Dr. H. R. McDiarmid (SC—Alberni) the house's only general practitioner, said that the first thing the government should do with federal medicare contributions is provide "some form of help for those who face excessive drug bills."

"This matter deserves the next attention of this government now that the medical services are covered for about 95 per cent of the population."

He said he was not advocating entirely free prescription drugs because the U.D. state medicine scheme had shown this would produce abuses.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said the government's medicare bill must ensure prescription drugs, dental care for children, and ambulance services are included as well as a guarantee that "every person in the province will be covered without financial barriers of any kind."

"No excuse will suffice to avoid the desperate need for these four principles in any medicare bill brought before this house," said Mr. Strachan.

## Fire All LSD Professors, Demands MLA Brain Expert

By JOHN MIKA

Times Legislative Reporter

Any teacher or professor advocating students take a "trip" with the psychedelic drug LSD should be sent packing, a university research scientist told the legislature Wednesday.

"We should fire every professor and teacher at every institution in North America who encourages the public to use this dangerous agent and that includes those in B.C.," said Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Vancouver-Point Grey).

Dr. McGeer, involved in brain research at the University of B.C., also called for urgent legislation to control the use of the drug.

Health Minister Wesley Black said pamphlets are being prepared by his department for distribution to school students outlining the dangers of the drugs and every parent should take an interest "at once" in the problem.

Dr. McGeer said LSD can be "a pleasure in small doses but large doses terrify."

"Fifty pounds of it is sufficient to produce mental illness for everyone in North America, it's that powerful," Dr. McGeer said. "It's been thought of for use in chemical warfare."

He said that contrary to the opinion of pseudo experts, LSD shrinks the mind rather than expands it.

"The individual themselves are deluded into thinking they perform better. There are scientific studies available to prove that people do not perform better," he said.

Dr. McGeer said the urgent need of legislation to stop the use of LSD was underlined

recently with the arrest of school children acting strangely under its influence while walking along a downtown street in Victoria.

"The big step to be taken is legislation to discourage handling and use of this drug," Dr. McGeer said.

Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP—Vancouver-Burrard), a psychiatrist, said he understood that B.C. has asked Ottawa for legislation to control LSD but he urged it be handled in a separate act rather than being lumped in with the narcotics legislation on heroin.

Mr. Black nodded silent agreement.

## Health Report on Buttle?

Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) said in the legislature Wednesday he has "every reason to believe" a health department report was prepared on possible pollution of Buttle Lake.

"I have every reason to believe that a report was prepared because I have information that an inspector was in the area," he said during debate on health department estimates. "He was seen there."

Prior to the session, Pollution Control Board permits to allow Western Mines to dump tailings into the lake in Strathcona Park on Vancouver Island were ruled invalid by the B.C. Appeal Court.

Health Minister Black said there never was a report prepared on the effects of mining at the lake nor was a report solicited from his department by the Pollution Control Board.

He said there was an engineer in the area but no report on possible pollution of the lake was presented. It was not necessary because the lake is not a designated watershed area.

Mr. Barrett told the minister his information "may be inadvertently incorrect" and asked him to "double check the answers."

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) said the situation described by the minister was "incredible, illegal and it's deplorable."

He said inspection of the area is mandatory under the Public Health Act because there is a mining camp at the lake.

The health department should

take on prime jurisdiction of "This minister is not getting pollution control because "the his toe within a mile of Buttle primary concern in pollution Lake and it is time he tried the control is health," he said. water to see how it is."



## CONSUMER ACT

# 'COOLING OFF' PERIOD SET IN NEW BILL

By JOHN MIKA  
Legislative Reporter

Sharp teeth are included in legislation to protect consumers introduced Thursday in the Legislature by Attorney-General Robert Bonner.

The bill would require full disclosure of interest rates in dollars and percentage terms for all credit transactions, whether instalment purchases, mortgages or standard loans.

It also would clamp down on high-pressure tactics in door-to-door selling by providing a three-day "cooling off" period during which the purchaser could cancel the deal without giving any reason.

Penalties for violation of the requirements would go as high as one year in jail or a \$2,000 fine for an individual and up to \$25,000 for a corporation.

## SECURITIES ACT

Mr. Bonner was expected to follow up with introduction of a new Securities Act bill today for tighter control of stock transactions and more disclosure of information to shareholders.

The consumer protection legislation would be implemented at the discretion of the cabinet by a proclamation and this can be expected about September, Mr. Bonner explained to reporters.

He said the delay is needed to give national companies time to make the necessary changes in their operating practices.

## REPEALS OLD ACT

The bill also repeals the present Contracts Relief Act and reconstitutes broader provisions so that anyone can sue in court for re-opening of a signed contract to change or cancel harsh or unconscionable clauses including excessive borrowing charges.

"The whole bill is very much in line with other provinces, particularly Ontario and Nova Scotia," Mr. Bonner said.

He added it is not quite as tough as the legislation in other provinces because of the inclusion of the contracts relief provisions so persons can go to court.

"If people feel themselves hard done by and they don't act under that section, I don't know what can be done for them other than setting up a big - brother administration," said Mr. Bonner.

The attorney-general said the credit cost disclosure is intended to eliminate gimmicky in merchandising.

## NEW MEANING

"It gives new meaning to the phrase 'let the buyer beware' by making credit as a commodity readily comparable anywhere in the province," he said.

Private persons lending sums for interest would have to abide by the requirement as well as companies.

But federally-chartered banks and finance companies will not have to comply with this provision although Mr. Bonner said he expected them to do so — as they have in Nova Scotia — for public relations reasons.

The bill would require all credit transactions to disclose to the borrower or buyer "a clear statement in writing showing":

The dollar amount of the loan or price of the goods and the value of a trade-in;

The cost of borrowing expressed as one sum in dollars and cents and also itemized;

The percentage that the cost of borrowings bears to the sum ... expressed as an annual rate applied to the unpaid balance of the obligation ...

The basis upon which additional charges are to be made in the event of default."

The bill also sets out disclosure requirements for "variable credit" conditions, return of a "proportionate allowance" of borrowing charges to both parties in event of a debt being paid up before schedule.

And advertisements of loans must disclose the full borrowing costs.

The cooling-off period on off-premises purchases applies to "executory contracts" described in the bill as sales over \$50 for products not delivered or paid for in full when the contracts are signed.

Buyers will be able to rescind such contracts within three days by mail or otherwise without giving a reason.

Contracts can also be rescinded up to a year later if all goods in the contract are not supplied within 30 days of a specified delivery date or up to 120 days if a delivery date is not specified.

## RETURN GOODS

When a buyer rescinds a contract he must return the goods and the seller has 15 days within which to refund any money paid.

The courts, under the contract relief section, also will be able to "relieve" against an inequitable exercise of legal rights by the seller or avoidable loss to either party."

Also given first reading was a bill to control collection agencies and their employees more stringently.

Called the Collection Agents Act, 1967, it would repeal the present Collection Agents Licensing Act.

Among its innovations is appointment of an inspector of collection agencies who would report to the attorney-general.

## Pay Up to \$2,000 For Trustees Gets Warm Welcome

Proposed legislation that will allow school trustees to vote themselves a salary was welcomed today by Greater Victoria school board chairman Peter Bunn.

School trustees will for the first time be allowed a salary of up to \$2,000 a year in some cases under a bill introduced in the legislature Thursday.

"I feel that some payment to school trustees is a good thing. They do put in a lot of time at quite a financial loss," Mr. Bunn said.

But, he added, the decision on what payment should be made "will require some careful thought. We don't want to get ourselves in a situation where we have people running for school board just because it means \$2,000 a year."

### 'LITTLE AFRAID'

"So far we have been fortunate in having a group of pretty dedicated people on our school boards.

"I wouldn't want to see it any other way and I'm just a little afraid that if the payments to trustees went too high we might see our boards filled with people who are more interested in the money than they are in education."

Mrs. Nora Lindsay, chairman of Saanich school board, and John Bartanus, chairman of Sooke school board, were not available for comment.

Education Minister Leslie Peterson said it was introduced at the request of school trustees.

### NO HELP

As with municipal council salaries, trustees would have to vote the money for themselves and it would come from local tax payers, not government grants.

Trustees in districts with up to 3,000 students will be able to receive an indemnity of up to \$300; up to 5,000 students it will be \$500; up to 7,000 students \$700; up to 11,000 students \$1,100; up to 15,000 students \$1,500, and more than 15,000 students would raise the maximum to \$2,000.

Other changes proposed in the Public Schools Act will enable clergymen to serve as school

trustees and require school boards to open their minutes to anyone asking to see them.

Any clergyman will be able to serve on a school board but only non-practising clergymen will be permitted to teach in public schools, serve as school superintendents or be eligible for the superintendent of education post.

Mr. Peterson said these changes are proposed as a result of consultations with all major religious faiths.

He also said the school board minutes will have to be disclosed by law because some cases have occurred of trustees refusing to open their books. But the change will permit the board to charge up to 50 cents for the viewing.

Trustees who become involved in legal actions through their positions will be reimbursed from the board for their costs.

In future, boards will be able to continue pay for teachers on leaves of absence but the cabinet must approve such pay for periods longer than six months.



McGEER

... against smoking

## Ottawa to Blame For Losing 'War'

A Liberal MLA Thursday criticized the federal government for not moving against the danger posed by smoking.

"We're still losing the war on smoking," Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Vancouver-Point Grey) told the legislature during debate on health department estimates.

"I place the majority —of the blame on the federal government," Dr. McGeer said. "The federal government isn't fulfilling its obligations, particularly to the teen-agers."

Diseases related to smoking kill more British Columbians each year than are killed on

B.C. highways, he said. And more B.C. residents are killed each year on highways than lost their lives in the Second World War.

He credited the provincial government for banning cigarette advertising on B.C. Hydro buses and proclaiming a Non-Smokers' Day in B.C.

Dr. McGeer called for more measures to prevent teen-agers from taking up the habit.

"If we get them past 16 years there's a very good chance they'll reject it the rest of their lives," he said.

Premier Bennett said education isn't a solution. It was force of habit which victimized even "men in public life, brilliant men, I can't understand it."

"If a person doesn't have the moral standards against smoking and drinking and other vices all the education in the world won't do any good."



## CENSURE OF MLA THREATENED

Herb Capozzi (SC—Vancouver Centre) jumped into trouble again in the Legislature Thursday night and may face an Opposition motion of censure today.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) threatened the rarely-used procedure after Mr. Capozzi referred to opposition MLAs as "fruits."

The word frequently is used as a colloquialism for homosexuals. In an earlier debate, Mr. Capozzi had described opposition MLAs as "political eunuchs."

### BIBLICAL QUOTATION

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault set up Thursday's exchange during a debate on election campaign expenses when he quoted the biblical expression "by their fruits ye shall know them."

"And there are the fruits on that side of the house," shouted Mr. Capozzi.

Mr. Dowding complained about the "scurrilous remarks" and told the house he would bring in a motion of censure.

"He called us a bunch of fruits," he cried, contending it was meant as an insult.

"Name the insult or sit down," Mr. Capozzi called back.

## No Charge If Private Ward Needed

Patients should not be charged more for private or semi-private hospital wards if such wards are needed for their treatment, Health Minister Black said Thursday.

He made the statement in the legislature during debate on health department estimates in reply to Leo Nimsick (NDP—Kootenay) who said that the Kimberley Hospital repeatedly billed patients excessively for such wards.

"They're carrying out a policy of charging everybody for private or semi-private rooms," Mr. Nimsick said.

Mr. Black said, "I'd just have to go after them on that basis."

Opposition Leader Strachan said the problem isn't confined to Kimberley.

"There's increasing numbers of these complaints coming in," Mr. Strachan said.

Under the B.C. Hospital Insurance service no charge above the normal dollar-a-day should be made for such private or semi-private facilities if those facilities are required as part of the treatment or recovery, Mr. Black said. The physician who desires private or semi-private facilities for his patient must give the hospital an adequate reason.

"He can't just arbitrarily say that patient A gets a private room and give no reason at all," the minister said.

## CD ROLE CHANGING: MINISTER

The provincial civil defence organization is just paying lip service, Herb Capozzi (SC—Vancouver Centre) told the legislature Thursday.

He said the organization is "something we do not believe in at this time."

Fred Vulliamy (NDP—Burnaby-Willington) said there is no point in spending the \$750,000 provided for in estimates for the program "because if there is a war there is no defence."

"Is it an employment agency for Social Credit members or what is it?" he asked Provincial Secretary Black.

Mr. Capozzi said the money should be spent more for search and rescue and training of personnel to carry out these duties.

"That's exactly what we are doing," retorted Mr. Black.

## Two-Year Course For Nursing Introduced

A bill to clear the way for the first two-year nursing training courses in the province was introduced in the legislature Thursday.

It would permit regional colleges and technology institutes to offer two-year courses for registered nurses.

Graduates of academic-technical programs in secondary schools could enrol in the courses which would be set up with standards recommended by the B.C. Registered Nurses' Association.

At present, nursing trainees must be 18 years old and have a university entrance requirement and can only enrol in three-year courses in hospital schools or a five-year course at the University of B.C.

## SECURITIES BILL INTRODUCED

# Stock, Bond Holders Get Some Protection

By JOHN MIKA

Times Legislative Reporter

Attorney-General Robert Bonner Friday introduced a bill aimed at giving the province's 200,000 stock-and-bond-holders an even break on information affecting their investments and to outlaw some sharp practices.

"It takes the club atmosphere out of some stock market deals and at the same time puts more people into the club," he said outside the legislature.

Mr. Bonner made good his pre-session promise to bring in the new Securities Act but indicated that it is "questionable" he will follow through with complementary legislation to the federal government's proposed deposit insurance requirement for trust and finance companies.

"It is questionable that it will be required here," he said of the latter. "The matter is being studied."

The 78-page securities bill affects only extra-provincial companies but complementary legislation covering B.C.-incorporated companies will be introduced as an amendment to the Companies Act Monday when some 10 other bills are expected.

The new securities bill is intended to "legislate business ethics" by setting up regulations for full disclosure of financial affairs by companies and stock trading by "insiders", systemizing take-over bids and proxy solicitation.

The bill provides the same penalties for violations proposed in the consumer protection bill—a maximum fine of \$2,000 and a year in jail for individuals and a \$25,000 fine for corporations.

The present Securities Act also provides a maximum fine of \$25,000 for a company but the maximum for individuals is \$25,000 in fines or six months in jail.

## FIVE MEMBERS

The new bill also separates the securities administration into an office and a commission of up to five members who will oversee the work of securities superintendent William Irwin as an internal appeal board, with access to the B.C. Appeal Court in cases of dispute.

Mr. Irwin currently is chairman of the present three-man securities commission as well as being superintendent.

The split of functions formalizes the current practice followed by Mr. Irwin in absenting himself whenever the commission hears an appeal from his decisions as superintendent, said Mr. Bonner.

The new legislation is modeled on an Ontario Act adopted last year and being copied this year by Alberta as well.

It is a proclamation bill enabling, Mr. Bonner said, the cabinet to put various parts of the new provisions into force as the need arises to "minimize inconsistencies between major

trading units in Canada.

## STABILITY

The bill should help bring stability to the volatile stock market on the west coast, the attorney-general said.

"The Vancouver Stock Exchange is becoming one of the most important on the North American continent, and this machinery will see it through quite a period of development," he added.

But he warned that no legislation could protect investors from their own foolishness or greed. He said too many study the market fluctuations, plunging in and out of various stocks for no reason related to the company's value to the economy.

"This is not investment," he said. "This is the psychology of the crap table. There is a limit beyond which governments cannot be effective in protecting shareholders."

However, the bill does require "inside trading" — by a company officer or shareholder with more than 10 per cent of the stock — to be disclosed with 10 days any personal selling or buying of the company's stock.

The information would have to be filed with the new commission, making it available to the public.

## INSIDERS

The "insiders," their associates and affiliates will be under a liability to the company and the persons with whom the trades are made if they are made as a result of confidential information.

"This type of legislation seeks to minimize profiteering of company officers by private knowledge and place all shareholders ... on a more equal footing so far as the affairs of the company are concerned," Mr. Bonner said.

Prospectuses — outlining stocks or bonds put on the market — will be generally strengthened by requiring more detailed information and greater responsibility will be placed upon auditors in making financial statements, Mr. Bonner said.

## DETAILED STATEMENTS

Other sections involving disclosure of information will require detailed annual financial statements by the company to be filed with the commission, thus making them available to the public.

These will have to disclose the amount of sales, gross revenue, source and disposition of funds and other items.

Attempts by shareholder groups or others to take over control of a company will be regulated and specified information to shareholders about the attempt will become compulsory.

The government also will set out the forms and information required on proxies to ensure the shareholders are better informed on the issues by those soliciting the proxies.

## Deliberately Delaying Answers?

The opposition failed Friday to get all the answers they sought on provincial government aircraft.

Dave Barrett (NDP-Coquitlam) complained during debate on department of highways estimates that Highways Minister Gagliardi had failed to reply to Opposition Leader Strachan's questions on the daily order paper since the session began in January on the operations of the aircraft.

"We spend half a million dollars to buy you a personal airplane," Mr. Barrett said. "There's accusations and rumors flying that this jet has been seen all over western Canada."

"It's pretty obvious that there's been a purposeful delay in answering these questions," Mr. Barrett said.

## NOT ANSWERED YET

Mr. Gagliardi said all of the questions involved had not yet been answered by his departmental personnel.

"When the answers are available they'll be put before the House," the minister added.

In reply to specific questions, Mr. Gagliardi told Mr. Barrett that no aircraft had been used for other than government business. No aircraft had been converted to jet propulsion.

Other questions included:

- What was the type and cost of each aircraft and when was it purchased or leased?
- What was the total maintenance cost for each aircraft in each relevant year since 1958?
- What are the names and salaries received by the pilots of the departmental aircraft?



## Protecting the Public

**T**HE GOVERNMENT IS TO BE congratulated on bringing in a long-needed, comprehensive bill to help protect the public against misleading or inadequate consumer credit dealings as well as the type of high-pressure salesmanship which victimizes the credulous.

In introducing the bill, Attorney-General Bonner gave recognition to the fact that credit is no longer merely an aid to merchandising but is a commodity of itself. The disclosure section which requires the cost of credit transactions to be set out in terms of both dollars and annual interest charges should, as he says, give new meaning to the phrase "let the buyer beware" by making it possible to compare credit charges anywhere in the province. Inclusion of credit or loan advertising among items covered by the bill will also prove a useful aid to the consumer who wants to shop around for the best deal.

The three-day hoist on the final sale of merchandise valued at over

\$50 sold door-to-door—permitting a return of the goods and unquestioned refund — will prove a boon to many householders, although it still leaves a small loop-hole through which the pedlars of less valuable items can slip. Those who should gain the most from this provision are the many elderly persons who from time to time have been literally panicked into signing conditional sales contracts which they did not understand. The mere existence of this provision should clear up a lot of the trouble by making the high-pressure deals unprofitable.

Mr. Bonner noted that federally-chartered finance and lending institutions are constitutionally immune from provincial legislation but he hoped that as a public relations gesture they would comply. Better yet, the provincial government can now put the pressure on Ottawa to implement with legislation the federal credit-disclosure plans outlined by Finance Minister Sharp a few weeks ago.

## NEEDS VALID CASE

### 'Court-Happy' People Checked

Incorrigible litigants will have to go to court for permission to take another party to court under legislation proposed by the government Friday.

A bill to amend the Supreme Court Act would permit any person to apply to a court to

have such a person restricted so that he could not sue anyone for anything without prior permission of a court to ensure it was not of frivolous or vexatious intent.

"It would adopt an English provision to the same effect," Attorney-General Robert Bonner explained outside the legislature.

"This is not a widespread problem but it is distressing when it occurs," he said.

Mr. Bonner pointed out the legislation would not stop a "Court-happy" person from having access to legal remedies but would merely set up a checkpoint to make sure there was a bona-fide grievance.

The wording of the amendment is:

"If (on application) the Court is satisfied that any person has habitually and persistently and without any reasonable ground instituted vexatious legal proceedings (in any court) and whether against the same person or against different persons, the Court may (after a hearing) order that no legal proceedings shall, without leave of the Court of a Judge thereof, be instituted by him in any court."

The bill also would raise the number of Supreme Court of B.C. judgeships from 15 to 17 — a move forecast earlier this week by Mr. Bonner.

### Big Traffic Jam Ahead Warns MLA

A rapid transit system in Greater Vancouver is 20 years away, Highways Minister Gagliardi told the legislature Friday.

He made the statement after opposition members repeatedly criticized government policy regarding lower mainland highways during debate on highways department estimates.

Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver-Burrard) said the government should "improve and extend public transit on the lower mainland" by reducing bus fares and encourage inter-urban commuter trains on PGE, Hydro, CPR and CNR tracks.

"Don't wait until the whole lower mainland area becomes one big traffic jam," Mr. Berger said.

Asked by the Liberal member about a new crossing at Burrard Inlet, Mr. Gagliardi said he will be meeting with the municipal officials concerned as soon as the current legislative session ends to discuss a new proposal.

"If we can't get together on the financing of the bridge at least we can get together on the financing of the engineering," the minister said.

## Long Nights Facing House In Race to Easter Close

The government is racing hard to beat the Good Friday wire for completing the present legislative session.

About a dozen bills — virtually the completion of the government's legislative program for this year — will descend on the MLAs Monday as night sittings stretch out longer.

Major bills on Workmen's Compensation, regional hospital districts, pollution control and medicare will be included in the new batch to be introduced at the beginning of the week.

With discussion on these and the estimates of six ministers

with portfolios still to come, it's touch and go whether the session can prorogue by the March 23 target date.

The government however, began driving hard this past week with four night sittings in a row — including a rare Friday night session.

MLAs adjourned at 5:55 p.m. and came back 10 minutes later Friday, skipping the normal supper break entirely, before finishing at 8:15 p.m. with the \$103.9 million highways department's appropriations after a steady eight-hour grilling of the minister, P. A. Gaglardi.

## Legislation Near To Restrict LSD Use

Legislation to restrict the use of the psychedelic LSD and other dangerously hallucinatory drugs will be introduced in the legislature at this session.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner Friday revealed a "massive prohibitory section" is being prepared which would establish permitted uses of the drugs and set penalties for misuse.

Mr. Bonner said there is a complication in that some of the field is under federal jurisdiction "but I think we can get around it."

He said drafting of the legislation began some time ago but it should be ready by next week.

Earlier this week, Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Point Grey), a brain researcher at the University of B.C., called for laws to control the use of LSD which he said was reaching epidemic proportions in some high schools.

## HUMANITIES CRIMP HIS STYLE: GAGLARDI



GAGLARDI

... 'I'm low man'

The B.C. government's emphasis on humanities has "put a crimp in my road-building hopes," Highways Minister Gaglardi told the legislature Friday.

The government had allocated more of its money this year for education, welfare and mental health services, he said.

"I'm low man on the totem pole and I'm getting lower all the time," the minister said.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) said the highways department budget is up \$8,000,000 compared with last year.

"My problems are up \$50,000,000," Mr. Gaglardi retorted.



## B.C. Gets Own Harbors Board

Tired of Waiting for Ottawa,  
Bonner Studies Super Port

The provincial government moved Monday to set up its seventh crown corporation — a B.C. Harbors Board with initial power to borrow up to \$25 million.

The port authority's first job will be to develop a modern deep-sea "super ship" port at Roberts Bank, near Tsawwassen, Commercial Transport Minister Robert Bonner revealed outside the legislature.

He said the bill to set up a B.C. Harbors Board will have no early effect on Victoria or other Island ports although the head office will be here.

### MODERN PORT

Mr. Bonner said the legislation was brought in to create the crown corporation because no action has been forthcoming from the National Harbors Board despite "startlingly favorable response" to the provincial government's suggestion of a modern port at Roberts Bank last year.

However, he said the province intends to hold talks with federal authorities and some private concerns which may result in a joint harbor project.

Mr. Bonner said the proposed new port would also provide large tracts of waterfront industrial land and the government's main concern was to ensure that B.C. coal exports to Japan pass through a B.C. port rather than Seattle and that facilities be provided for bulk shipment of such items as potash, sulphur and liquified petroleum gas.

### FISCAL AGENT

The bill would establish a harbors board of three to seven members with Premier Bennett as fiscal agent.

The bill creates general powers and functions for the board although Mr. Bonner emphasized it will concentrate its efforts initially on developing the Roberts Bank port.

"The Board is established for the purposes of developing or encouraging the development of harbor facilities in the province, to provide access to and from such harbor facilities and to assist and promote the industrial development of the province in conjunction with harbor development," the bill said.

### PROCLAMATION

As a proclamation bill, even after the legislature's approval, it will not go into effect until the cabinet decides to implement it.

The province's other crown corporations are: B.C. Hydro Authority, Pacific Great Eastern Railway, B.C. Ferry Authority, and B.C. School Financing Authority.

Last year the Universities Real Estate Development Corporation was set up but still has not been put in motion and earlier this session the government introduced legislation to create a Hospital Construction Financing Authority.

## Pollution Body Gets Muscle

Can Shut Down Companies  
If They Fail To Comply

By JOHN MIKA  
Legislative Reporter

A complete re-organization of the provincial government's program to control pollution would put water, air and soil pollution throughout the province under a revised Pollution Control Board for the first time.

The changes were spelled out in a bill introduced in the legislature Monday by Resources Minister Ray Williston.

The present PCB will be transformed from an administrative body to an advisory board with a civil servant to be appointed to a new post of director of pollution control to handle the administrative functions.

Outside the legislature, Mr. Williston said the new board may have between five and nine members, "it hasn't been decided yet."

However, he said it is likely at least two representatives will be appointed from outside the government, one from the medical profession and one from the municipalities.

The existing PCB only has jurisdiction over water pollution and only in areas designated by the cabinet.

### IMPORTANT ROLE

Mr. Williston indicated the cabinet will continue to have an important role in directing the board by ordering it to study specific air or land pollution problems. He said this is necessary because scientific knowledge in these fields is limited.

He cited "the situation in the Alberni valley" as a possible study project.

Both the director and the board "may" hold "a public or other inquiry" at their discretion into any matter within their jurisdictions, the bill said.

Appeals from the director's decisions can be taken to the board. Appeals from the board's decisions can be taken either to the cabinet or the B.C. Supreme Court "as the appellant may decide."

### MUST CHOOSE

Mr. Williston said that appellants will not be able to go to

both the cabinet and the court but will have to choose between them.

Under the bill no sewage or other waste materials could be discharged "on, in or under any land or into any waters without a permit from the director."

Mr. Williston said this will make it "axiomatic" that all industrial plants in built-up areas will have to have a PCB permit before they can operate.

Permits will be of interim duration automatically until satisfactory control is proved to qualify the applicant for a final permit.

Present penalties for violations comprise fines but under the bill the new PCB will be able to set penalties and Mr. Williston indicated these will be steepened considerably.

### SHUTDOWN

"These penalties most likely will be in the form of 'cease and desist' orders (forcing a shutdown of the plant's operations)," said Mr. Williston. "We can no longer depend on a fines situation."

The new board will have power to determine what constitutes pollution and will be able to assign research projects to technical committees or outside organizations.

It will co-ordinate the pollution control work of other branches of government, such as the health department's program of air sampling.

The bill reserves the right for the cabinet to divide the prov-

ince into pollution control districts for administrative purposes and repeals the existing Pollution Control Act.

"We haven't got a panacea for everyone's ills but for the first time we can spend money to find out (instances of) pollution and co-ordinate its prevention," said Mr. Williston.

## 'RIDICULOUS, SHAMEFUL'

## Storm of Bills Brings Protest

A 'paper blizzard' blanketed the business of the legislature Monday as the government introduced 19 bills.

All but one came during the afternoon sitting and merely recording the automatic first readings took 35 minutes. The final one was introduced at the start of the night sitting.

At least two more major pieces of legislation are expected today — a new Workmen's Compensation Act and the long-awaited Regional Hospital District Act, both of which could spark considerable controversy.

## FIRST READING

"This is ridiculous, we may say no," Liberal Leader Ray Perrault said sotto voice as government ministers asked for pro forma first readings of the long list of bills.

"It's shameful bringing all this in so late in the session," added Gordon Dowding.

But neither made an issue of it.

## SMALL DEBTS

Among the bills were ones that will:

Raise the jurisdiction of small debts court to cases involving maximum claims of \$500 instead of \$200, to ease the load in county court.

Eliminate present ceilings, ranging from \$500 to \$7,500 for mayors and reeves and \$200 to \$2,500 for aldermen and councillors depending on population, on the pay of municipal councillors leaving their salaries entirely to the discretion of individual councils.

Allow water district boards, as distinct from municipalities, to hold fluoridation referendums but continuing the existing 60 per cent majority vote requirement.

Establish a contributory compensation fund of at least \$50,000 by public notaries to cover claims against individual notaries for misappropriation of funds.

## VOTE LISTS

Add "Canadian" to the "British subject" definition of voters' qualifications in municipal elections.

Amend the "Execution Act" to require registration of a judgment against a specific parcel of land before judgment could be executed.

Re-constitute as a new Accumulations Act, bringing B.C. into conformity with Ontario and British law setting limits on the length of time an estate can earn money before being distributed.

Amend the Chiropractic Act requiring chiropractors to graduate from a recognized four year college and allowing them to qualify for use of X-ray facilities.

## FULL DISCLOSURE

Amend the B.C. Companies Act with regulations for full disclosure, insider trading and proxy fights complementary to the proposed Securities Act legislation introduced Friday covering extra-provincial companies.

## B.C. Lays Groundwork For Federal Medicare

By JOHN MIKA  
Legislative Reporter

The provincial government Monday outlined its stand towards Ottawa's conditions for federal medicare assistance — going far but not all the way towards meeting the primary demand for an overall provincial scheme.

A bill to establish the Medical Services Act was introduced in the legislature which will form Health Minister Wesley Black's position at a federal-provincial medicare conference April 17 and 18 in Ottawa.

It would set up a medical services commission of up to three members "to function as the public authority ... in respect of the administration and operation of a voluntary medical care insurance plan for the residents of the province...."

## NON-PROFIT

This would meet the first of four conditions set out in a federal act earlier this year which said any provincial scheme must be a "plan (that) is administered and operated on a non-profit basis by a public authority...."

But the B.C. legislation would allow the commission to designate any or all of the existing medicare carriers in the province to continue operating under its supervision including any private company "that sells ... medical insurance or a plan for the prepayment for medical services."

## SUFFICIENT

A spokesman said it was expected this would be sufficient to meet the federal demand, but if it wasn't, there would be time to make agreed changes before the federal plan goes into operation next year.

The B.C. Medical Plan — which provides government subsidies to premium payers of limited means — union and non-profit group plans, such as MSA and CU and C, also would come under the commission.

The commission could set standards of care, uniform premiums, and handle financial arrangements between government and private operators.

The bill would empower the commission to turn the employees of all medicare plans in the province into civil servants, at its discretion.

A government spokesman said B.C. would prefer to go into national medicare with existing private plans, such as MSA, CU and C and company-operated schemes but these could be amalgamated into a single provincial plan if Ottawa insisted.

In any event, the comptroller general would audit all the books of the various carriers, whether private or not, which would be receiving public money towards insurance costs under the national medicare program.

The cabinet will have power to decide which carriers are licensed to come under the medicare program.

## VOLUNTARY

Although the provincial plan is to remain on a voluntary — rather than universal — basis, it must cover 90 per cent of the population at the outset and 95 per cent by 1971.

Premier Bennett has told the legislature several times that all medicare schemes now operated in the province cover more than 90 per cent of the population with about 373,000 individuals, including many subsidized low-income persons, covered by BCMP.



## Educate Against LSD, PTA Resolution Urges

An anti-LSD education program in B.C. high schools will be proposed by a B.C. Parent-Teacher Federation resolution this month.

The resolution, which goes before the annual convention of the group at Vancouver March 28-31, urges co-operation of all school boards and health authorities.

The association's announcement followed remarks by student leaders and Vancouver Point Grey Liberal MLA Dr. Pat McGeer Monday. Their comments showed disagreement over a bill now before the legislature which would make possession of the drug illegal in this province.

### CAUSE MURDERS

Dr. McGeer said the drug can cause murders and suicides. He claimed problems with the drug have been underestimated.

He added, "A person could take it one day then have a recurrence of his experience three or four days later. He claimed also that contrary to

the beliefs of many people, the drug could produce a type of addiction.

"We also know that it impairs intellectual performance but we do not know how long this could last."

### MARIJUANA, TOO

Dr. McGeer will support the bill but he regretted that marijuana possession was included in the B.C. bill. He said use and possession of marijuana is already illegal under federal legislation and to include it in the B.C. act "raises a question of propriety of the provincial act."

Tom Berger (NDP-Vancouver Burrard) said the bill is unconstitutional because it is nothing more or less than criminal law and only the federal government may enact criminal law.

Meantime various student leaders suggested that a ban on use of LSD might backfire, promoting its use.

"I don't think strict legislation will help," said Peter Braund,

president of the University of B.C. Alma Mater Society. "In fact, it might prompt more students to take LSD to express an anti-authority attitude."

### INEFFECTIVE

Stan Wong, president of the Simon Fraser University Student Society, said legislation would prove ineffective.

"People may be tempted to use it simply because it is banned," he said. "Marijuana has been illegal for years, but they still use it."

Both Mr. Wong and Mr. Braund suggested education of students and the public to point up the dangers of the drug was the answer.

Steve Bigsby, president of the University of Victoria Student Union, said such legislation should not be drafted as a result of public hysteria.

### FOOTBALL

"This LSD business has been treated as a political football, but it should be considered as a long-term problem," he said.

## Socreds Using Patronage, Say Opposition Parties

Opposition MLAs Monday charged the government with political patronage and mistreatment in operation of the B.C. civil service.

The accusations came during debate on Provincial Secretary Black's estimates of \$31,524,760 which won approval after being deferred from last week.

Dave Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) said the government employees are not permitted to use a check-off system for payment of association dues but such a system got approval when the same employees purchased government bonds.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) said civil servants' rights to appeal to the B.C. Civil Service Commission "is an appeal of the employees to their own employers—there's no collective bargaining."

### BEST SERVICE

Premier Bennett interjected: "We consider the civil service in British Columbia the best civil service in Canada."

The premier said Mr. Mac-

donald's statement that the civil service commission is not independent is a straight falsehood.

Liberal Leader Perrault said that bargaining rights for civil servants have been granted in Saskatchewan, Ontario, Manitoba, and are planned at the federal level.

### STORE CLERKS

Mr. Perrault said the psychiatric nurses after eight years' including training received less money than store clerks.

Mr. Perrault said the premier would rather see such injustices perpetuated than grant bargaining rights.

The Liberal leader charged that the civil service "is

infested with political appointments, left, right and centre."

"It's the haven for all defeated Social Credit candidates," he said, "and when a position wasn't open they'd create one."

### PARTY WORKERS

Opposition Leader Strachan said that when Social Credit party workers and defeated candidates receive government appointments it "must make civil servants feel good."

Mr. Strachan said the cabinet issues orders involving appointment of "political party hacks" which takes such appointments out of the jurisdiction of the Civil Service Commission. The commission at least had some standards, he said.

## Water on Your Heads, Grit Warns Cabinet

There is a "most serious" threat of a Fraser Valley flood this spring because of heavy snowfall, Liberal Leader Perrault said in the B.C. Legislature early today.

He accused the government of "breaking faith with the area that has provided 90 per cent of the province's agricultural wealth" by not accepting a federal government offer to pay 40 per cent of the costs of raising Fraser River dykes.

The Fraser River Board reported three years ago that a \$4,000,000 flood-control program is necessary to avert the flooding but the warning has been ignored, he said.

Water Resources Minister Williston said there has "never

been any commitment or indication of a commitment" from Ottawa in this program.

He also said the preventive measures have escalated from \$4,000,000 plan to a \$30,000,000 plan because of seepage.

## NEW LSD CONTROLS PRAISED IN HOUSE

By JOHN MIKA

By Easter it will be illegal for anyone to possess any Lysergic Acid Diethylamide or Cannabis Indican in this province.

That's LSD and marijuana, to use the common names, explained a bill introduced Monday in the legislature by Health Minister Wesley Black.

The bill, entitled Proscribed Substances Act, makes it unlawful for anyone to "have in his possession any substance proscribed by the schedule except with the written permission of the provincial health officer appointed under the Health Act."

The only two items on the proscription list to begin with are LSD and marijuana but the bill would empower the cabinet to add more substances.

Penalty for possession without a permit

will be a maximum fine of \$2,000 and six months in jail.

The federal Food and Drug Act now makes it illegal to sell the hallucinogenic drug LSD without authority but does not prohibit its possession or use. Marijuana comes under the federal Narcotics Act.

Dr. Pat McGeer, (L—Vancouver-Point Grey), who called for laws to ban LSD last week, said he was gratified by the bill but feared that inclusion of marijuana was foolish because "it raises the question of constitutional validity of the provincial legislation."

Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver-Burrard) said the bill "obviously is unconstitutional because it is nothing more nor less than criminal law and only the federal Parliament has power in Canada to enact criminal law."

Both commented outside the legislature.

## STEEL, IRON ALLOYS

### Joint Venture Sought for B.C.

The provincial government is attempting to encourage a joint Italian, British and German venture to produce in B.C. alloys involved in steel and iron manufacture, Industrial Development Minister Loffmark told the legislature Monday.

The minister said outside the house the proposed development would produce the alloys in B.C. for export to the parent European companies.

No direct government participation in the scheme is planned, he said, but his department is trying to "induce" the companies to establish in B.C.

He made the statement after Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) said the minister's trip to Europe last December "was more of a disaster" than a trade mission.

#### LACKED TIME

He said he had received a letter from an international agency that arranged appointments for Mr. Loffmark with several important German businessmen and that the minister "did not apparently pay the visits".

Mr. Dowding said the agency spokesman had written that it would have been better if Mr. Loffmark's visit had never been announced.

Mr. Loffmark said he was unable to keep the appointments because the talks on the three-country iron and steel development had encroached on his available time.

### Car Meter Cheating Means Licence Loss

Car dealers will be liable to lose their licences to operate in future if they are convicted of turning back the mileage meter in a car to fool a prospective buyer.

This is one of the provisions in a bill introduced in the legislature Monday with a series of amendments to the Motor Vehicles Act.

The amendment fulfills a promise by Attorney-General Robert Bonner earlier in the session during debate on reports of the practice by some used car dealers.

The bill also would require youths under 18 to furnish written approval of their parents or guardians before they could register as owners of a motor vehicle.

It also would prohibit television sets in cars in places where they would be visible to the driver.

The bill also would give legal authority to highways department or municipal work crews to move a parked or stalled vehicle during snow-plowing operations. At present only police have this right.

### Legislation On Combines Under Study

Industrial Development Minister Loffmark told the B.C. legislature Monday his department is studying the inadequacies in existing legislation against combines.

His comments came during debate on his departmental estimates when Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) said B.C. should have more effective anti-combines legislation to prevent combines getting "empire privileges" through combines and to protect the public from price-fixing, lack of competition and the lack of standards of products.



## MARKED OR UNMARKED

## New Law to Allow Gov't To Seize, Sell Driftwood

The legislature Monday was asked to take the first steps towards solving the driftwood problem.

Among amendments to the Forest Act introduced by Resources Minister Ray Williston was a clause that would allow the government to seize and sell logs drifting on foreshore waters or stranded on beaches, whether or not they bear timber marks.

It is against the law now for anyone to salvage marked logs

except their owners or agents — usually a licensed beachcomber — after they have gone astray from booms.

## INSURMOUNTABLE

The legislature's forestry committee earlier this session was told the problem of ownership of marked logs was almost insurmountable. It had been studying the feasibility of setting up a system for commercial clearing of the beaches and coastal waters to provide pulping material.

However, the proposed amendment would empower Mr. Williston to advertise that by a specified date he would "declare forfeited to . . . the province all wood and timber, whether bearing timber marks or not, on any Crown foreshore or beach. . . ."

After the deadline, he could "sell a licence to remove or manufacture any wood or timber that is the subject of a declaration. . . ."

## Double Budget Asked For Forestry Branch

The provincial forestry budget should be doubled, Opposition and Social Credit MLAs told the legislature Monday.

Randolph Harding (NDP—Revelstoke-Slocan) also complained that the government is getting "farther and farther behind every year" on reforestation during debate on lands, forests and water resources estimates.

He said the forest industry deserves more spending because in the past 10 years production has risen 84 per cent and Crown revenues have jumped 100 per cent.

In 1957 the report of royal

commissioner Chief Justice Gordon Sloan said that 50,000 acres of land should be reforested every year "but only 32,000 acres have been reforested since then instead of 500,000 acres," Mr. Harding said.

Forests Minister Williston replied by telling the members that "We've planted every tree we've ever produced in our nurseries."

He admitted there is a shortage of seedlings but said a new nursery program is aimed at producing 75,000,000 young trees a year for the next 10 years.

## Province Lets City Councils Pick Up Tab

Civic councils will be permitted to make "good Samaritan" compensation awards of up to \$5,000 in future for citizens killed or injured while helping police.

Discretionary power to make the awards from civic funds will be given local councils under one of a series of amendments to the Municipal Act introduced in the legislature as part of an omnibus bill.

It would also cover cases of citizens helping municipal officials in the performance of their duties.

Among other amendments are a group that would ensure the basis for assessment and taxation for hospitals will be the same as for schools.

## MARRY ACTS

This change would help "marry" the Municipal Act to the yet-to-come Regional Hospital Districts Act, said Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Campbell outside the legislature.

Another group of amendments would scrap the present system of the minister initiating the process for adoption of various functions as part of the letters patent of existing regional districts, with ratepayers being able to vote in favor of "opting out."

Under the new procedures, the regional boards will be allowed to ask directly for the power to undertake specific functions, with the consent of the participating municipalities.

These functions must be ratified by a 60 per cent majority vote of ratepayers before being adopted.

## ROAD CLEAR FOR SEWER PROGRAM

The provincial government Monday began clearing the way for a regional sewer program in Greater Victoria by introducing legislation to allow Saanich to refinance its sewer bylaws.

An amendment to the Municipalities Enabling and Validating Act would permit Saanich council to hold a new bylaw vote among the half-dozen areas where separate local improvement sewer projects have been undertaken.

The various areas now have different local improvement charges for the sewers, but council would be empowered to hold a single bylaw vote aimed at making them uniform.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1987

## PETERSON INVITES COMMENTS

# Compensation Pension Hiked to \$150; New Act Delayed Year

By JOHN MIKA  
Legislative Reporter

Labor Minister Leslie Peterson invited interested parties to tell him what they think of a 57-page bill completely rewriting the Workmen's Compensation Act which was given first reading in the legislature Tuesday.

They'll have a whole year to do it—because the second reading won't be moved by Mr. Peterson until the 1988 legislative session—"but I hope they will make their representations as soon as possible and not leave it to the last minute," he said outside the legislature.

The infrequently used 12-month hoist of a proposed bill was roundly criticized by opposition members who said it only added further delay to implementation of the 18-month-old royal commission report by Mr. Justice Charles Tysoe.

### RAISE PENSIONS

In the meantime Mr. Peterson introduced an amendment to the present WCA which would raise existing pensions for permanently disabled workmen to \$150 a month starting April 1.

Pensions for this group now are as low as \$81.60 a month although most are around the \$100 mark.

Capitalized cost of the increases are estimated at about \$1 million and this will be split between the government and industry, Mr. Peterson said.

### VICTIMS OF BENDS

The amendment before this session also will allow the Workmen's Compensation Board to provide retroactive compensation to victims of the "bends" among workmen who were employed in the Highbury Tunnel project in Point Grey on the mainland five years ago.

The bill delayed for next year incorporates all but one recommendation by the Tysoe commission, Mr. Peterson said.

Among fundamental changes

the bill would:

Provide for compensation for injuries or disease caused by occupational factors as well as accidents instead of limiting to distinct mishaps.

Put the onus on the WCB to disprove an applicant's claim instead of the present requirement that the applicant give documentary proof.

Spread compensation coverage to volunteer workers—such as volunteer firemen—as well as paid employees.

The bill deletes the words "by accident" from numerous sections of the present Act—meeting an objection by opposition MLAs that these words had caused most of the injustices to workmen denied compensation because they couldn't prove their injuries were work accidents.

"The test will be whether the workmen's disability was work-caused instead of having to relate it to some instantaneous and obvious mishap," said Mr. Peterson.

### COMBINED DAMAGE

The bill also provides that when pre-existing disabilities are exaggerated by a work injury, the compensation shall cover the combined damage. Basis for measuring the compensation payments to be allowed will be the difference between the worker's disability before and after the injury or disease in question.

Compensation to persons injured on volunteer work will be scaled to their earnings in their regular jobs.

Miners are to be compensated for disabilities due to silicosis, a lung disease, if they were exposed to silica dust in the province three years prior to disablement or less if exposure occurred only in B.C.

### WITHIN YEAR

But the applicant must have filed a compensation claim with-

in one year of being disabled.

The one recommendation of the Tysoe report not included in the bill is adoption of a three-tiered system for medical compensation due to radiation.

Mr. Peterson said that would have restricted the compensation to the provision of radiation exposure within 300 metres would be responsible. Radiation included in 1984-85 was covered by the bill.

The bill would retain the make-up of the present Workmen's Compensation Board—comprised of seven civil servants.

But, among other changes, it would revise working of the medical review board to allow each medical specialist to submit a separate report on recommendation and allow appeals to the panels in dispute over the causes of a disease.

Nursing care would be added as one of the compensation benefits and the board would be empowered to send down inspections of an employer for failure to install first-aid equipment and service as directed.

Mr. Peterson said the bill was brought in as soon as it was prepared by a special committee studying the implementation of the Tysoe Report and the hiatus to next session is needed to allow sufficient scrutiny.

But Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said the 18-month delay in relieving injustices to many workmen and their dependents is inexcusable.

"After the government has had the report for 18 months, there is no reason why it should be delayed any longer," he said in the house.

"This is a clear sign that the government has slowed down—almost to a full stop."

Liberal Leader Ray Fennell also attacked the year's delay.

"This is not keeping faith with the members of this house and it's not keeping faith with the workers in the province," he said.

## CD ALERTED TO POSSIBLE FLOODING

The "alert is out" for possible flooding in the Fraser River Valley, Resources Minister Williston told the legislature Tuesday.

He said in reply to Opposition members who criticized the government for not acting on the flood threat caused by heavy snowfall, that trouble spots in the dyke system along the river are now being pinpointed.

"The alert is out," Mr. Williston said. "A general form of attack is being drawn up."

The minister said that several government departments and civil defence are engaged in preventative measures that include stockpiling of sand bags at trouble spots.

## APOLOGY PREVENTS CENSURE

Gordon Dowling (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) said Monday he is satisfied that MLA Herb Capozzi (SC—Vancouver Centre) has made amends for statements made in the legislature last week.

Mr. Dowling said he had intended to introduce a censure motion against Mr. Capozzi after Mr. Capozzi had called Opposition MLAs "fruits" and branded NDP members as "political enuchs." A motion was not introduced.

It is believed House Speaker William Murray had a talk with Mr. Capozzi and later relayed an apology.

## 'OTTAWA PRETENDING SURPRISE'

The federal government is only pretending to be surprised by news that B.C. is establishing its own nuclear board to oversee a super-reactor at Robeson Road, near Kamloops, says B.C. Trade Minister Ralph Laffranchi.

"Our ministers were completely misled in Ottawa," Laffranchi said, "because the board is a technical committee, not a regulatory body."

The federal ministers were asked whether they wished to co-operate with the province.



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He said the forest industry deserves more spending because in the past 10 years production has risen 84 per cent and Crown revenues have jumped 100 per cent.

In 1957 the report of royal

commissioner Chief Justice Gordon Sloan said that 50,000 acres of land should be reforested every year "but only 32,000 acres have been reforested since then instead of 500,000 acres," Mr. Harding said.

Forests Minister Williston replied by telling the members that "We've planted every tree we've ever produced in our nurseries."

He admitted there is a shortage of seedlings but said a new nursery program is aimed at producing 75,000,000 young trees a year for the next 10 years.

## Province Lets City Councils Pick Up Tab

Civic councils will be permitted to make "good Samaritan" compensation awards of up to \$5,000 in future for citizens killed or injured while helping police.

Discretionary power to make the awards from civic funds will be given local councils under one of a series of amendments to the Municipal Act introduced in the legislature as part of an omnibus bill.

It would also cover cases of citizens helping municipal officials in the performance of their duties.

Among other amendments are a group that would ensure the basis for assessment and taxation for hospitals will be the same as for schools.

## MARRY ACTS

This change would help "marry" the Municipal Act to the yet-to-come Regional Hospital Districts Act, said Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Campbell outside the legislature.

Another group of amendments would scrap the present system of the minister initiating the process for adoption of various functions as part of the letters patent of existing regional districts, with ratepayers being able to vote in favor of "opting out."

Under the new procedures, the regional boards will be allowed to ask directly for the power to undertake specific functions, with the consent of the participating municipalities.

These functions must be ratified by a 60 per cent majority vote of ratepayers before being adopted.

## ROAD CLEAR FOR SEWER PROGRAM

The provincial government Monday began clearing the way for a regional sewer program in Greater Victoria by introducing legislation to allow Saanich to refinance its sewer bylaws.

An amendment to the Municipalities Enabling and Validating Act would permit Saanich council to hold a new bylaw vote among the half-dozen areas where separate local improvement sewer projects have been undertaken.

The various areas now have different local improvement charges for the sewers, but council would be empowered to hold a single bylaw vote aimed at making them uniform.

PETERSON INVITES COMMENTS

# Compensation Pension Hiked to \$150; New Act Delayed Year

By JOHN MIKA  
Legislative Reporter

Labor Minister Leslie Peterson invited interested parties to tell him what they think of a 57-page bill completely rewriting the Workmen's Compensation Act which was given first reading in the legislature Tuesday.

They'll have a whole year to do it—because the second reading won't be moved by Mr. Peterson until the 1968 legislative session—"but I hope they will make their representations as soon as possible and not leave it to the last minute," he said outside the legislature.

The infrequently used 12-month hoist of a proposed bill was roundly criticized by opposition members who said it only added further delay to implementation of the 18-month-old royal commission report by Mr. Justice Charles Tysoe.

## RAISE PENSIONS

In the meantime Mr. Peterson introduced an amendment to the present WCA which would raise existing pensions for permanently disabled workmen to \$150 a month starting April 1.

Pensions for this group now are as low as \$81.60 a month although most are around the \$100 mark.

Capitalized cost of the increases are estimated at about \$1 million and this will be split between the government and industry, Mr. Peterson said.

## VICTIMS OF BENDS

The amendment before this session also will allow the Workmen's Compensation Board to provide retroactive compensation to victims of the "bends" among workmen who were employed in the Highbury Tunnel project in Point Grey on the mainland five years ago.

The bill delayed for next year incorporates all but one recommendation by the Tysoe commission, Mr. Peterson said.

Among fundamental changes

the bill would:

Provide for compensation for injuries or disease caused by occupational factors as well as accidents instead of limiting to distinct mishaps.

Put the onus on the WCB to disprove an applicant's claim instead of the present requirement that the applicant give documentary proof.

Spread compensation coverage to volunteer workers—such as volunteer firemen—as well as paid employees.

The bill deletes the words "by accident" from numerous sections of the present Act—meeting an objection by opposition MLAs that these words had caused most of the injustices to workmen denied compensation because they couldn't prove their injuries were work accidents.

"The test will be whether the workmen's disability was work-caused instead of having to relate it to some instantaneous and obvious mishap," said Mr. Peterson.

## COMBINED DAMAGE

The bill also provides that when pre-existing disabilities are exaggerated by a work injury, the compensation shall cover the combined damage. Basis for measuring the compensation payments to be allowed will be the difference between the worker's disability before and after the injury or disease in question.

Compensation to persons injured on volunteer work will be scaled to their earnings in their regular jobs.

Miners are to be compensated for disabilities due to silicosis, a lung disease, if they were exposed to silica dust in the province three years prior to disablement or less if exposure occurred only in B.C.

## WITHIN YEAR

But the applicant must have filed a compensation claim with-

in one year of being disabled.

The one recommendation of the Tysoe report not included in the bill is adoption of a Nova Scotia Act providing for special compensation due to radiation.

Mr. Peterson said that would have restricted the compensation to the proportion of radiation exposure within B.C. which would be negligible. Radiation is included in other diseases covered by the new bill.

The bill would retain the make-up of the present Workmen's Compensation Board, composed of three civil servants.

But, among other changes, it would revise powers of the medical review boards to allow each medical specialist to make a separate report or recommendation and allow appeals to the panels in disputes over the causes of a death.

Nursing care would be added as one of the compensation benefits and the board would be empowered to shut down operations of an employer for failure to install first-aid equipment and service as directed.

Mr. Peterson said the bill was brought in as soon as it was prepared by a special committee studying the complexities of the Tysoe Report and the hiatus to next session is needed to allow sufficient scrutiny.

But Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said the 12-month delay in relieving injustices to many workmen and their dependents is inexcusable.

"After the government has had the report for 18 months, there is no reason why it should be delayed any longer," he told the house.

"This is a clear sign that the government has slowed down—almost to a full stop."

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault also attacked the year's delay.

"This is not keeping faith with the members of this house and it's not keeping faith with the workers in the province," he said.

## CD ALERTED TO POSSIBLE FLOODING

The "alert is out" for possible flooding in the Fraser River Valley, Resources Minister Williston told the legislature Tuesday.

He said in reply to Opposition members who criticized the government for not acting on the flood threat caused by heavy snowfall, that trouble spots in the dyke system along the river are now being pinpointed.

"The alert is out," Mr. Williston said. "A general form of attack is being drawn up."

The minister said that several government departments and civil defence are engaged in preventative measures that include stockpiling of sand bags at trouble spots.

## APOLOGY PREVENTS CENSURE

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) said Monday he is satisfied that MLA Herb Capozzi (SC—Vancouver Centre) has made amends for statements made in the legislature last week.

Mr. Dowding said he had intended to introduce a censure motion against Mr. Capozzi after Mr. Capozzi had called Opposition MLAs "fruits" and branded NDP members as "political enuchs." A motion was not introduced.

It is believed House Speaker William Murray had a talk with Mr. Capozzi and later relayed an apology.

## 'OTTAWA PRETENDING SURPRISE'

The federal government is only pretending to be surprised by news that B.C. is establishing its own harbors board to develop a super-port at Roberts Bank, near Tsawwassen, says B.C. Trade Minister Ralph Loffmark.

"Our intentions were communicated to National Harbors Board chairman Howard Mann in a telephone conversation several days ago," Mr. Loffmark said Tuesday.

"The federal authorities were asked whether they wished to co-operate with the province."



## ISLANDS IN HOSPITAL AREA

# Tax Nibble To Launch New Scheme

By JOHN MIKA  
Legislative Reporter

Most of the approximately 62,000 ratepayers in an expanded Greater Victoria regional district won't even notice their first universal tax bite this spring for hospital construction.

For the "average" residential property owner—with a school purpose assessment of about \$5,000—the initial tax increase will be only a dime.

But it will go towards meeting old debts, not new construction.

That will be the first local impact of a bill introduced in the legislature Tuesday to create a Regional Hospital District Act which will blanket all inhabited areas of the province with 25 to 30 districts.

The boundaries of the hospital districts will be announced after the current session is over and following a cabinet review.

But it was learned from a reliable source that in this area, the government intends to expand the existing Capital Region District to encompass the Gulf Islands and add hospital financing as one of its functions.

This would create a single jurisdiction covering Greater Victoria, Sooke, Saanich and the Gulf Islands school districts with an estimated population of 190,000 from Port Renfrew to the tip of Galiano Island.

## Family Court

Besides hospital financing, the expanded CRD would undertake construction of a Greater Victoria Family Court building, also announced Tuesday. It would continue the present functions of regional park acquisition, firecracker control, regional sewer survey and construction of a Centennial swimming pool for the Langford, Oakwood and Metchosin components.

Hospital taxation at the rate of .02 mills — two cents per \$1,000 of assessment—would begin this year for the whole area because the new bill requires all existing public debt for hospitals to be borne uniformly by all ratepayers within a regional hospital district.

Although the expanded CRD includes eight "approved" hospitals under the B.C. Hospital Insurance Service regulations, only the Lady Minto Hospital at Ganges, on Salt Spring Island, has debentures being repaid by property taxes.

## Debt Spread

Now being levied by the Gulf Islands hospital district, its annual debt installments of \$7,597 would be spread over the total assessment of the four school districts, which was \$368.6 million last year, reducing it to the .02 mill levy.

The other BCHS-approved institutions in this area are:

Royal Jubilee, St. Joseph's and Rest Haven general hospitals; Queen Alexandra Solarium for crippled children;

Gorge Road rehabilitation hospital; Victoria's Mount St. Mary and Langford's Priory chronic hospitals.

Construction of additions to these hospitals or of entirely new ones would be financed through a new authority, being created at this session, in the same way as schools are financed now.

## 60% Approval

The regional board would put up a money bylaw for 60 per cent approval by ratepayers.

The bill probably will revive pressure for an early second attempt to put a hospital construction bylaw before the expanded CRD.

This area's first hospital bylaw was defeated in December, 1965, when a \$26 million program for 400 beds to meet the needs of the next 15 years was rejected.

But it envisaged an average two-mill annual levy on the basis of the \$302.9 million school assessment at that time and the present grants formula under which the province puts up 50 per cent of the cost, the federal government adds \$2,000 per bed and the community pays the rest.

The new bill would introduce the previously announced formula of 60-40 sharing by the province and community after deduction of federal grants, with the province picking up 80 per cent if the ratepayers' share goes beyond four mills.

With the new formula, an expanded CRD likely could undertake the same 400-bed program at a cost of about 1.3 mills to ratepayers.

Premier Bennett predicted the new deal "will solve Greater Victoria's problem."

However, Dr. C. H. Hemmings, chairman of the Greater Victoria Hospitals Planning Council, told The Times he was not sure the new bill "will make that much difference" to the outcome of a second vote.

"The fundamental question still is: are the people going to support hospitals through property taxes or not?" he said.

"The planning council only knows there is a desperate shortage of beds but our efforts have had no avail with the electors."

He pointed out that representatives of the CRD and the GVHPC completed interviews of five hospital consulting firms about three weeks ago preparatory to a \$40,000 to \$60,000 survey of area needs.

But if the Gulf Islands were included in the survey, the costs would increase considerably because detailed study of each island would be involved.

## No 'Opting Out'

Premier Bennett, outside the legislature, said the new bill would not allow any community to "opt out" of a hospital regional district.

But, he said, theoretically all voluntarily-financed hospitals such as those in this area with the exception of Lady Minto could ignore the regional board and expand unilaterally.

They could do this by opting to take the present formula of a 50 per cent provincial construction grant but they could not raise their share by taxation or use the government-guaranteed financing authority to pool marketing of bonds.

Only hospital projects undertaken by the proposed hospital regional districts will qualify for the more favorable new grants formula and financing authority assistance.

## Up to \$50 Million

Mr. Bennett said these two advantages together are expected to push hospital construction in the province from current levels of about \$15 million a year up to \$50 million a year.

"We don't know yet, of course, because it's up to local decision but that's our estimate," he said.

"The government has been thinking of a formula for setting up hospital districts, as there are (large unit) school districts although not necessarily with the same boundaries," the premier continued.

"But it has been delayed (in acting) because of the tight money situation."

"But we couldn't postpone it any longer because of the acute need for hospitals."

However, neither Mr. Bennett, Health Minister Wesley Black or Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Campbell—who gave a joint press briefing—could say when or how many regional hospital districts will be created by the cabinet under the bill's regulations.

## 25-30 Districts

All three would only say the number will be "25 to 30" with some spanning several school districts, others duplicating or enlarging existing regional districts and the balance with entirely new boundaries.

Mr. Bennett said the cabinet still has to review all factors and will announce the boundaries "shortly after" the current session, expected to finish by Easter.

"These regions will be set up arbitrarily, just as the school districts were set up on the recommendations of the Cameron report in 1946," the

premier said.

"The hospital districts will all be set up at the one time and there will be no opting out," he added.

The bill provides that the regional hospital district boards will be able to operate as well as finance construction of hospitals but reporters were told at the briefing this was not expected to be common.

Individual hospital management boards are expected to be untouched by the new system and, although private hospitals could be bought to provide chronic care beds, this will not apply to "private society" general hospitals such as St. Joseph's or Royal Jubilee.

Premier Bennett insisted that although the cabinet will be able to amend the letters patent "of any district in any respect" the bill would not empower the government to turn the hospital districts into regional districts with other functions.

Mr. Campbell pointed out that if any of the present regional districts are also made hospital districts, the existing boards of elected representatives will undertake the hospital function.

The new hospital districts still will need specific approval of architectural plans from BCHS and also approval from Mr. Black for bylaw votes.

## Approval Needed

Assessment for the districts will be based on school tax rolls and the ratepayer lists used in school bylaw votes will be used for hospital bylaws as well.

The bill provides for appointment or election of representatives from unorganized areas to serve on district boards along with delegates from municipal councils and payment of up to \$25 each per meeting.

The bill would become law on royal assent but Mr. Bennett would not indicate how soon the de facto change to the new system will be accomplished.

"No districts should jump to conclusions at this stage and no press representatives should jump to conclusions as to district boundaries," he warned.

## Not Set Yet

"No boundaries have been set yet. We will look over the whole province and the cabinet will divide the province into districts later."

However, The Times learned that the present School Districts 61, 62 and 63 boundaries of the CRD are slated to be expanded to include School District 64 and the hospital district's boundaries will be co-terminus.

School District 64 includes Salt Spring, Mayne, North and South Pender, Galiano and Saturna Islands and the smaller islands interspersed among them.

This should make the area roughly equivalent in size to the other 25 or so regional hospital districts when it is considered that the province has 87 school districts, most of them larger in area than the ones here.

## Action Will Speak

### THE RECORD OF THE SOCIAL

Credit provincial government in controlling the pollution of Buttle Lake is not such as to inspire any large measure of confidence in the public. Consequently the new legislation covering pollution—admittedly worthy in intent—will be judged on its future application rather than on its present words.

As written, the legislation has much to commend it. A Pollution Control Board would have jurisdiction over actions leading to pollution of the air, water and soil of the province, and its powers would include the study of pollution problems as well as practical application of the law.

The bill specifies that sewage or other waste materials must not be discharged onto land or into waters—"without a permit from the director." The director will be a civil servant.

Empowering a public body to spend money in the study of pollution is a forward step, for there is much to be learned about prevention

in this field. But it is obvious that the legislation has an escape hatch in it: justification for the issuance of a permit could no doubt be found when desired. The majority of the five to nine board members, too, will be appointed from within the government—only one from the medical profession and one from the municipalities are suggested—and this constitutes a further potential weakness through government interference.

For these reasons the legislation will be watched with a critical eye for its effects in furthering pollution control. Administered with determination to prevent in British Columbia the waste and destruction that have fouled many communities and wilderness regions on this continent, the regulations could be a great boon. But if they are to be applied in the very permissive spirit which has marked, for instance, the government's attitude toward conservation of the great public parks, then the new law could prove to be nothing more than a political sieve.

## Regional Board Gets Court Nod

Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Campbell Tuesday night announced the four municipalities here have become the first in the province to agree to build a regional Family Court building.

He issued supplementary letters patent to add this as a function of the Capital Region District on behalf of Victoria, Saanich, Oak Bay and Esquimalt.

The new courthouse is expected to cost more than \$200,000 and be built on city land near the joint juvenile detention home.

Saanich Reeve Hugh Curtis, chairman of the Regional District, said he was delighted with the announcement.

"We can now get together with the existing family court committee and work out the next move," he said. "They already have drawing so it shouldn't take us too long to get the matter off the ground and call for tenders."

## Come Clean on Whole Mess At Buttle L., Gov't Told

The B.C. government was asked Tuesday night in the legislature, "to come clean on the whole mess" of possible pollution of Buttle Lake in Strathcona Park on Vancouver Island.

Ernie Hall (NPD—Surrey) said during debate on estimates of the water resources department that 15 days ago opposition members interrupted scheduled debate to bring the situation to the attention of the house. "Since then we've had no information," he said. "Just silence."

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) repeated previous pleas for a pollution control board divorced from the government.

"If I had my way I'd have a board composed of people passionately in favor of pollution control," he said.

The onus should be on Western Mines Ltd. to prove that

dumping of tailings in the lake is not harmful rather than placing the burden with Campbell River Water District to prove that it is.

### SEEPAGE

The water district, which draws domestic water from the lake, objected to permits issued to the mining company by the pollution control board. An appeal by the district was upheld by the B.C. Appeal Court and the permits were revoked.

Since then the company has been dumping its wastes into a pond that seeps into a creek that drains into the lake.

Because of this "Western Mines is in contempt of court," Mr. Dowding charged. "When union leaders are in contempt of court they are sent to jail."

He said a hearing on the matter should be postponed until a new pollution control board is appointed under proposed pollution control legislation introduced in the house Monday.



HALL  
... "just silence"

## Flood Answer At Cowichan Long Way Off

Solutions to the Cowichan Valley flooding problems will be presented in four to six months, Resources Minister Williston said Tuesday night.

Mr. Williston, replying to a

question from Opposition Leader Robert Strachan, said data has been compiled but not collated. Recommendations for specific projects can't be made yet, he said.

The minister also suggested that groups in the Cowichan Valley should apply for flood control projects under ARDA, the federal-provincial plan.

Communities can get assistance for riverbank protection by paying 25 per cent of the cost. The rest is shared by the senior governments.



THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1967

## Campbell Silent On Charges Of Grant Misuse

Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Campbell Wednesday night and early this morning listened in silence to the taunts of opposition MLAs who demanded he deny Premier Bennett's accusation that municipalities have been misusing grants.

"Conspicuous by his silence," snapped Liberal Leader Ray Perrault at one point.

And Mr. Campbell kept silent in his seat despite a hammering series of demands he clear the reputations of municipal councils that lasted more than an hour late Wednesday night and early this morning.

He only jumped up once to demand withdrawal by Mr. Perrault of a suggestion that he lacked integrity for refusing to answer.

### HECKLING

Throughout the opposition attack, Premier Bennett led a counter-barrage of heckling by his backbenchers.

Alan Macfarlane (L-Oak Bay) said Mr. Campbell had assured local civic leaders that he would speak in the legislature about the premier's charges that "municipalities are misusing their funds — they are caught in their own glue" earlier this session.

He said if any councils have abused their position, Mr. Campbell should name them. Otherwise he should deny the accusations publicly.

### CLEAR NAMES

"This minister has a responsibility to clear names of the municipalities of this province that have been slandered by the premier," he said.

Several MLAs noted the spate of protests from various municipal officials and Randolph Harding (NDP-Revelstoke-Slocan) and Barrie Clark

(L-North Vancouver-Seymour), both municipal councillors, made direct complaints in the House about the premier's remarks.

Both asked Mr. Campbell to deny the accusations.

### SHOULD RESIGN

"If he lacks the courage to stand up, he should resign," shouted Mr. Perrault as Mr. Campbell stared silently at the opposition.

"On a matter of principle of this kind, there should be no evasion, no circumlocutions."

Mr. Campbell remained seated and Gordon Dowding (NDP — Burnaby-Edmonds) pointed out that the Municipal Act requires he order an investigation if there is a complaint that a council is misappropriating funds.

"I take it a complaint has been made by the premier of this province and I want to know if the minister has done his duty and investigated this mess the premier says there is," he demanded.

### CIVIC FUNDS

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan, with the municipal affairs department's report on civic funds in his hand, asked individually if any of the funds had been misused. He paused after each question but no response came.

"Will the minister agree that anyone who accuses any municipalities of misusing their funds is guilty of a gross untruth?" he asked but Mr. Campbell remained silent.

"Would the minister agree that anyone who makes that gross untruth should, if he's an honorable man, apologize to these municipalities?" Mr. Strachan asked as a parting shot.

There was no answer.

## SC Official's Predictions 'Nonsense'

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan Tuesday night said a speech by a top Social Credit official that he and several NDP MLAs were being forced into federal politics was just "nonsense."

George Driediger, president of the B.C. Social Credit League, made the claim in a speech in Nanaimo.

He said Mr. Strachan is being forced out of the provincial NDP leadership by "top labor officials" who favor Tom Berger (NDP-Vancouver-Burrard).

"He (Mr. Berger) is 'a big knife in Strachan's back.'"

Mr. Driediger said in the reshuffle, Colin Cameron would retire as MP for the Nanaimo area and Mr. Strachan would seek the seat. He said Randolph Harding (NDP-Revelstoke-Slocan) and David Stupich (NDP-Nanaimo) would be among other MLAs who would go into the federal field too.

Mr. Driediger said a revolt is pending in the national NDP party too with deputy national leader David Lewis trying to supplant NDP Leader T. C. Douglas.

"Douglas has so many knives in his back they are sticking out of his stomach," Mr. Driediger said. "One of these days Douglas is going to bleed to death just as Bob Strachan is bleeding to death in the legislature right now."

Mr. Strachan's response: "Nonsense. I have no intention of resigning."

"No wonder Thompson quit."

He was referring to last week's announcement that Robert Thompson resigned as national Social leader.

## PAROCHIAL CANCER PREVENTS MERGERS

### 'Co-Operate With Neighbors'

Parochial cancer is preventing small municipalities from amalgamating into larger districts to avoid duplication of services, Municipal Affairs

Minister Campbell told the received house approval: "The municipal unit which is trying

He was joined by several to do the job is not so viable opposition and government any more. I am not for MLAs who said they would help wholesale amalgamation but I him convince municipalities inam for making viable units their areas that amalgamation through regional districts, or formation of regional dis- "Municipalites must co- tricts would improve local gov-operate with their neighbors or ernment. they will be frustrated on

Mr. Campbell said during provision of transit, hospitals, debate on his departmental housing, family court and estimates of \$73,591,626 which welfare services."

## 'Bugging' Bill Dies in House

Three private members' bills went to their private graves in the legislature Wednesday including one to preserve privacy.

Alex Macdonald (NDP-Vancouver-East) urged adoption of his proposal to outlaw wire-tapping, electronic eavesdropping and secret photography but the bill was adjourned before it could come to a vote on its principle.

Two years ago it was rejected by the government majority.

Before being called to order, Mr. Macdonald criticized the royal commission on "bugging" being conducted in Vancouver by retired judge R. A. Sargent.

"This commission has lost the confidence of the people in B.C.," he said.

He read a portion of a judgment by Mr. Justice Peter Seaton which accused the commissioner of invading the privacy of unions during the inquiry.

### STANDARD UNIT

Also adjourned without a vote were bills by Ernie LeCours (SC-Richmond) to enable laymen to represent accused persons in courts under certain circumstances and by David Barrett (NDP-Coquitlam) to require price labelling on a standard unit basis for household goods, foods and other items.

Earlier, six bills were introduced without debate by NDP MLAs to establish \$1.75 an hour as the minimum wage for all male and female employees in the province; permit prisoners in provincial jails to work at their jobs during weekdays; add ambulance service to BCHIS benefits; investigate feasibility of a provincial sickness and injury indemnity fund; and prevent hiring discrimination on the basis of sex.

## FOR MUNICIPALITIES

## Free Vote Urged On Sunday Sports

A maverick Social Credit backbencher Wednesday night told the government it should introduce legislation this session to permit B.C. municipalities to hold plebiscites on Sunday sport.

Ernie LeCours (SC-Richmond) said it was rank discrimination and against the government's creed of equal treatment for all that Vancouver was permitted to have Sunday sports but none of the other communities.

(Under its own charter, Vancouver permits paid-admission sports and entertainment on Sunday afternoons but the municipal act forbids all other municipalities from following suit.)

"Sunday sports can't be against government policy because otherwise it would not have permitted Vancouver to have it," Mr. LeCours said.

"And it cannot be a moral issue in one area and not another — in any event I resent anyone trying to measure my moral standards that way.

"No one is compelled to attend Sunday sports. It's entirely voluntary."

Mr. LeCours said the change was needed to revive amateur sports.

He said he missed the support of J. Donald Smith, former Social Credit MLA for Victoria (who was not re-nominated for the last election) on the issue.

"Don't get me mixed up in this," shouted Waldo Skillings (SC-Victoria).

"There's only one man who is holding up Sunday sports—a dated premier," called out Robert Williams (NDP-Vancouver East).

Premier Bennett ignored the sally.

## Extend Session, Strachan Insists

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan Wednesday called for recess of the legislature over Easter so it can return to adopt the proposed new Workmen's Compensation Act.

In a press release issued outside the house, he said the bill should be dealt with at this session instead of being hoisted to the 1968 session as the government intends.

"We ask that the session return to work after an Easter recess for this most important work," he said.

Mr. Strachan said the government "is determined to ram through immediately other legislation" before prorogation.

But "the people of B.C. have been waiting since 1961 for improvements to the Workmen's

Compensation Act and the government is derelict in its duty if it doesn't proceed with this legislation as soon as possible."

Tuesday, Labor Minister Leslie Peterson said interested parties should contact him with their views on the major changes proposed by the bill before the next session.

He added that the Workmen's Compensation Board will be requested to observe the new procedures proposed in the bill for processing claims during the year's delay and report on any weaknesses before second reading.

In the meantime, he introduced an amendment bill which would boost existing pensions for totally permanent disabled to a minimum of \$150 a month beginning April 1.



THURS., MARCH 16, 1967

## PREMIER SURPRISES HOUSE IT MUST BE SPRING

# Bennett Offers Ottawa Kind Words and \$55 Million for Bridge

By JOHN MIKA

Times Legislative Reporter

Premier Bennett defended the Liberal government in Ottawa and attacked its Progressive Conservative predecessors Wednesday.

And he topped it off by offering to loan Ottawa \$55 million so it could make a grant towards construction of a new \$82 million crossing of the Second Narrows on the lower mainland.

The good-humored exchanges began as Mines Minister Donald Brewster said the federal "roads to resources" program has been exhausted.

Randolph Harding (NDP—Revelstoke-Slocan) chided Premier Bennett and Liberal Leader Ray Perrault for not combining to seek continuation of the program from the Liberal federal government.

### FOOLISH PLAN

Mr. Bennett quickly responded the program had been plagued by a "foolish formula" through no fault of the federal Liberals because it was created by the former Conservative government.

"It was a foolish formula which said there would be \$7.5 million for each province—how foolish can you get."

"It shows again how the federal government always discriminates against B.C. We criticized it then because we have to speak up for our province. If this government doesn't speak for B.C. who does?"

### SAME AS P.E.I.

Mr. Bennett said mountainous B.C. was given the same financial allotment for building roads to spur mining development as was tiny Prince Edward Island "which has no minerals—they don't even have a foot of gravel."

"They (P.E.I.) were paving the streets and alleys (with "roads to resources" grants). At the last election in Prince Edward Island, they even had signs up on the lawns—please don't pave my lawn!" he exclaimed as the MLAs burst into laughter.

Mr. Perrault said a major new national highway program with federal contributions is needed and Mr. Bennett agreed.

He said if Canada adopted a national highway grant system similar to that in the U.S. "there would be no problem with the bridges and roads in Vancouver."

Mr. Perrault asked if this meant he would accept a federal offer of a loan towards the proposed new second crossing but the premier said "let's turn that offer around the other way."

"We're committed to give up to \$27 million and if they (Ottawa) can't put up the rest, we'll loan it to them."

Peals of laughter broke out again as Mr. Perrault shook his head with a hopeless expression.

## Price Controls On Gas Opposed

A special legislative committee was told Wednesday it should not recommend any legislative controls over gasoline prices.

Imperial Oil Ltd. submitted the suggestion in a brief to a committee studying the impact

of the Morrow Royal Commission report on the gasoline industry tabled at the last session.

The brief said a number of recommendations of the report have been voluntarily complied with by the gasoline industry and some others do not need legislative action.

### PUBLIC PROTECTED

"We would respectfully suggest, therefore, to the members of the special committee that a careful examination of the total findings of the (Morrow) report support a conclusion that the public interest in gasoline prices is amply protected," the brief said.

"And legislation for this purpose is neither required nor justified," it added.

Imperial Oil said the royal commission demonstrated, after an intensive assessment, that the public interest has "been protected by a truly competitive market system."

"It (the public) has been assured that gasoline prices in B.C. now and over the past many years compare favorably with elsewhere in Canada and on the west coast of the U.S."

"It has been shown that B.C. gasoline prices have gone down while the prices of other consumer products were rising."

## PUBLIC DESERVES BETTER RETURNS

Mining Probe  
Demanded

An opposition member of the B.C. legislature Wednesday demanded a royal commission into the B.C. mining industry.

Leo Nimsick (NDP—Kootenay) made the demand during debate on Mines Minister Brothers' departmental estimates. The estimates, totalling \$5,029,140, were approved after three hours' debate.

Mr. Nimsick said mining promoters are more interested in mining the small stockholders than in mining ore bodies. The public was not getting sufficient returns from the mining industry. Only 18 cents of every dollar invested in mining stocks ever got to the mine or exploration program.

Mr. Nimsick said the petroleum and natural gas industry, which received only \$316,748 of Mr. Brothers' departmental estimates, returned \$34,000,000 in royalties and lease moneys to the provincial coffers during 1966.

With the total provincial mines production estimated at \$300,000,000 last year, the net revenue to the provincial public purse from mines totalled only \$6,000,000, and \$5,000,000 had to be returned to the operation of the mines department to encourage development of the industry.

Mines Minister Brothers said, "I have no intention of setting up a royal commission into the mining industry.

"I think it is carrying on very well today," the minister said.

Scientists Uncertain  
On Long Term Effects

A six-month study by the B.C. Research Council was insufficient to determine long-term effects of the controversial Stellako River log drives.

A report by council scientists was filed in the legislature Tuesday by Resources Minister Williston, who ordered the drives on the central B.C. river last summer.

The minister's order clashed with an order from the federal fisheries department, which said the drives would disturb gravel spawning beds and dump back into the water, polluting the river with chemical products deadly to fish resources.

Operators of tourist resorts and others in the Stellako area protested the drives.

The report filed Tuesday said the experts in the research

council's division of applied biology could find no harmful effects on unhatched salmon. But they couldn't say what would happen to fish during later stages of development.

The last page of the nine-page report states:

"On the basis of this study it is not possible to state what may be the long-term effects on salmon reproduction of log driving on the Stellako River."

The river connects Francois Lake with Fraser Lake and generally follows Highway 16 for several miles between Vanderhoof and Burns Lake.

The biologists said levels of oxygen in the river were sufficient to support life and carbon dioxide levels had not reached dangerous concentrations.



## COAL FOR STEEL MILLS

Billion \$\$\$ at Stake  
In Super Port IssueBy JOHN MIKA  
Times Legislative Reporter

A billion dollars worth of coking coal from Crow's Nest Pass for the steel mills of Japan and California is firing up a struggle of giant companies and governments.

Commercial Transport Minister Robert Bonner this week jumped into the centre of the melee and today still is considering how to duck counter-punches from both the federal government and Canadian Pacific Railway.

Mr. Bonner jolted them with his surprise bill to create a super-port at Roberts Bank and certificates permitting Kootenay and Elk Railway Company to build a 77-mile spur line from Natal, B.C., to Eureka, Mon., to connect with the Great Northern Railway.

## Lightning Jabs

Those two lightning jabs would wreck the CPR's two-year-old negotiations with two major coal companies to haul about 60 million tons of coal in the next decade from the Crow's Nest Pass area to a CPR-owned ship terminal in Port Moody.

He is still studying an angry telegram from the CPR protesting his actions and calling for a meeting of all parties.

The coal would come from Crow's Nest Industries Ltd. mines at Fernie, B.C., 20 miles west of the pass, and Coleman Collieries Ltd. at Coleman, about 20 miles east of the pass in Alberta.

Both have interim contracts to supply 400,000 tons annually this year and next to a consortium of Japanese steel mills and have been negotiating to meet the Japanese requirement for an average of

six million tons annually over the following decade.

CNI is on the verge of signing a contract for an average of two million tons a year at a price around \$13 a ton and Coleman Collieries is understood to be on the verge of an even bigger contract for the balance of the requirement.

Together, the 10-year Japanese agreements would have a potential value of about \$750 million.

Another contract of about two million tons annually could be in the making if the province completes the sequence started this week when it authorized a \$1 million capitalization for Kootenay and Elk Railway and set its borrowing ceiling at \$15 million for construction.

But CNI also has begun dickering with the Kaiser Steel interests in California for some of its 75-million-ton reserves of special quality bulmer coking coal and the understanding here is that Kaiser probably will enter into a partnership with CNI.

## Kaiser Controlled?

(The CPR claims Kaiser already controls CNI but this has been denied. CNI officials say its principals are Seattle businessmen with 28 per cent of the stock owned by Canadians.)

The interim coal shipments are being hauled by the CPR and loaded at Port Moody for \$6.08 a ton with a \$2.73 federal subsidy which runs out in 1969.

The CPR has offered a \$4.60

rate for hauling the 10-year tonnages if they are landed by the two collieries but CNI says it can get a \$4 rate from GNR to ship the coal via the U.S. and up to the Roberts Bank super-port.

CNI, of course, also would be in a better position to ship its coal to California if its just-formed subsidiary Kootenay and Elk Railway builds the spur to Eureka.

Ever since last August the provincial and federal governments have been in the background trying to help negotiations reach a conclusion.

For B.C. the crucial turning point came last Friday when Coleman Collieries made its first contact with Mr. Bonner and told him it would be happy to ship its tonnage via GNR and Roberts Bank if it lands the Japanese contract.

Mr. Bonner admits this "influenced" the decision to introduce the unexpected harbors board bill the following Monday.

It would set up a crown corporation with \$25 million capital to start construction of a super-ship port, whenever the cabinet gives it the green light. On Tuesday, the railway certificates were ratified by cabinet although the orders were not available publicly until Thursday.

Continued

## ALLOWANCES TOO SMALL

'Parents Can't Afford  
To Keep Children'

The provincial government is taking children away from welfare parents because allowances are so small they can't afford to keep them, Dave Barrett (NDP-Coquitlam) told the legislature Thursday.

He said during debate on welfare estimates the govern-

ment pays \$800 a month to keep a child in government care but allows welfare parents only \$25 a month.

This was the biggest factor in a 36 per cent increase in children coming into the care of the government, he said, and urged the assistance allowance be increased.

He also criticized the government for "transferring children from foster home to foster home with gay abandon" which meant they rarely got to know their "parents".

Mr. Bonner says that if all the coal bound for Japan passed through Roberts Bank, the port project would be assured of economic feasibility.

Initially, it would involve a mile-long causeway slip immediately north of the Tsawwassen ferry terminal.

The slip could handle a 100-car "unitized" train. Ten such trains would be needed to load the 125,000-ton super-carriers that would take the coal to Japan.

More than \$10 million would have to be invested by CNI in special rolling stock as well as building its spur line and all lower mainland rail lines would connect to the Robert Banks port, requiring considerable track construction there too.

Federal Transport Minister Pickersgill has indicated that Ottawa may take the stand the B.C. bill is ultra vires because navigation and shipping come under national jurisdiction and the Roberts Bank area recently was made part of the Port of Vancouver supervised by the National Harbors Board.

Mr. Bonner shrugs off the federal claim of jurisdiction as pertaining only to navigation aids, pointing out that 60 per cent of the docks in Vancouver are privately-owned so there should be no bar to the provincial government owning docks too.

### Built Ports

"In fact, we have developed ports ourselves — one at Tsawwassen and another at Swartz Bay," he says.

"We can do it because we have done it. We also operate a shipping line — the B.C. Ferry Authority, which is licensed under the Canada Shipping Act. So jurisdiction is not a question here."

Mr. Bonner points out the Roberts Bank port idea was developed by his department last year when it was trying to get the CPR and CNI negotiating again after the coal company had threatened to ship its coal via GNR and the Washington port of Everett.

He says both CNI and GNR are now anxious to use Roberts Bank because it offers the prospect of a newly-built automated port with the most modern facilities on the west coast of North America and the only one equipped to handle super-freighters efficiently.

He dismisses the argument that allowing the spur line connection would siphon off traffic for the profit of an American-owned railway and American-owned colliery at a cost of Canadian jobs involved in building track and rolling stock and operating the unit trains.

He said if CNI and the CPR "can sign an agreement, I'd be happy," but his chief concern is to keep "Canadian coal in Canadian hands."

And he insists the GNR-Roberts Bank route "gives us a route to the sea in Canadian hands with a Washington detour."

"It's important to remember that this is not a Washington exit (port)."

"This is a B.C. exit and it would be only on that basis we would take the next step in defining the route."

Mr. Bonner still has to issue a certificate to Kootenay and Elk Railway assigning it a route and he says this won't be given without a written agreement ensuring that Japan bound CNI coal would be loaded at Roberts Bank.

Mr. Bonner says he would not be disturbed if CNI also exports coal to California via the spur line.

"What's the difference between exports to Tokyo or exports to San Francisco?" he asks.

### Quick Action

He also says that the province moved abruptly this session because CNI indicated it cannot reach agreement with the CPR and quick action is needed to assure the Japanese that there is a firm foundation to proposals for shipping the coal in time to meet their needs.

Mr. Bonner said this summer is the critical deadline for firm contracts and arrangements to be completed in order to meet the 1969 deadline set by the Japanese mills.

"Our lead-in time is almost exhausted now."

"Basically, we (B.C.) are in a salvage role for an export prospect that may not jell. I would guess if the matter is not cleaned up by mid-year, there may be a considerable lapse before a similar opportunity comes again."

Mr. Bonner insists he is not basing his action on an assumption that the CPR will not be able to meet the GNR rates but claims that to bring their rate to the \$4.60 level they need the total Japanese export haulage and an extension of the \$2.73 per ton federal subsidy which is to expire in 1969.

He indicated that the province would not join the CPR in urging Ottawa to extend or increase the subsidy.

"It seems to me fundamental economic idiocy is involved in paying people to ship out a basic national resource. It's silly to subsidize coal for someone else's manufacturing process."

### Salvage Role

But he claims the B.C. government's "salvage role" in a coal-export prospect is simply accepting the economic facts of life "and the fact that this is a legitimate business enterprise which we cannot prevent."

He argues that even if B.C. has to develop the super-port alone, there are good prospects

of shipping lumber through it and long-range possibilities of liquefied petroleum gas, sulphur, potash and other bulk commodities to justify the venture.

In any event, the CNI and Coleman traffic would make the port economically feasible.

Mr. Bonner says he "resents the stupid inference 'and the cheapest sort of political demagoguery' that the bill to establish a provincial harbors board is a manifestation of separatism."

He also says the collieries' negotiations with the Japanese consortium is in an extremely delicate phase which could be upset by a public quarrel here.

"It may not jell and if the CPR arouses the national government to make intemperate statements the result will not be that the CPR gets the hauling contract but the result will be that no one gets the contract."

## CREDIT UNIONS

### Financing Of Housing Wins Approval

B.C. credit unions will be empowered to go into housing financing in a major way this year.

The government's final bill for this session was introduced early this morning in the legislature during a late sitting.

The bill also introduces complementary provisions to the federal trust deposits insurance plan but only to bring credit unions within its scope.

The federal insurance plan is being adopted this year as a result of recent finance company collapses in eastern Canada which shook the entire investment community.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner earlier indicated that complementary legislation covering all B.C. trust-handling firms would be introduced at this session but he has since said it is not clear general legislation is needed to dove-tail provincially-incorporated companies with the federal insurance scheme.

#### CATCH ALL

The government's last bill is an annual "catch-all" from the attorney-general's department entitled "An Act to Amend and Repeal Certain Provisions of the Statute Law."

One of its sections would authorize credit unions to "develop, promote, establish, operate, or maintain" housing for their members.

This would enable them to develop apartment buildings with occupier-owned suites, or multiple housing units, Mr. Bonner said outside the legislature.

Another section would repeal the present \$1,000 yearly payment by the province to county court judges in order that they qualify for a \$2,000 annual supplement approved by the federal government for those judges not receiving any provincial remuneration.



## OVERLAPPING—GAPS

# Pilot Study Launched On Welfare Services

By JOHN MIKA  
Legislative Reporter

A major study of all welfare services in the Greater Victoria region to chart the overlapping and gaps will be undertaken soon by the provincial government.

Social Welfare Minister Dan Campbell Thursday announced in the legislature that this area will be one of three pilot projects he has planned for surveys on which he hopes to base new welfare policies.

He outlined some of his early moves towards re-organizing the department he took over last fall at the start of a repeatedly stormy debate that lasted eight hours before his \$72.5 million estimates were adopted close to 1 a.m.

Mr. Campbell said complete "social inventories" will be made in the pilot surveys.

These would not only catalogue specific private and government welfare programs but determine all social services available to the community including use of schools for various functions, libraries and other facilities.

"You are never going to be able to successfully declare war on welfare problems unless you bring in total community involvement," he said.

Mr. Campbell said Greater Victoria was selected as one of the survey areas because it has a unique "fragmentation" problem in its welfare services.

He said there is considerable duplication of public welfare

agencies in such a compact area and he felt that "regionalizing" the services should be studied.

## FRAGMENTED

He said unless this is done, the picture would be fragmented further by Oak Bay and Esquimalt establishing their own welfare departments.

The local study will be carried out by provincial staff but the other surveys will be co-ordinated in Vancouver by minister without portfolio Grace McCarthy and in White Rock by Rober Wenman (SC—Delta).

Mr. Campbell made the comments in agreeing with David Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam), a professional social worker, that there is wasteful overlapping of services by private and government agencies.

Mr. Barrett had advocated that the government should have the courage to challenge private agencies such as the Vancouver children's aid services to vacate the work now done by government services and return to a role of pioneering programs that public agencies could not undertake.

## SUMMIT CONFERENCE

He also called for a "summit conference" of all welfare organizations and the government to determine how much overlapping there is and what should be done to eliminate it.

Mr. Campbell agreed to Mr. Barrett's request that he consider the possibility of giving subsidies "over and beyond the homeowner grant" to elderly

homeowners who might otherwise have to go into subsidized housing.

He said those on limited

incomes frequently could not afford to keep their homes and it would be "more economic and more humane" to give them subsidies directly so they could live out their lives in their homes instead of public housing.

Mr. Campbell said he will study feasibility of individual subsidies and added high praise for Saanich municipality's plan to introduce a new concept in public housing.

He said approval has been given to Saanich's plan to purchase 50 older homes scattered throughout the municipality and make them available to persons on limited income at low rents.

## NEW LOOK

"Saanich is the only municipality in B.C. which has taken a new look in respect to housing," he said. "They're on the right track and we will help them where we can."

"This won't lead to a bunching of a single type of tenant," he said.

Mr. Campbell said minister without portfolio Isobel Dawson will undertake an evaluation of his department's new Division of the Aged to help lay guidelines for its operation.

He also said communities will be asked to establish job registers which would help older persons on welfare to obtain light part-time work such as baby sitting or lawn mowing.

## 'Applicants Deserve A Medal'

When a person applies for social assistance it is "almost like taking away one's civil liberties," Dr. Ray Parkinson (NDP—Vancouver Burrard) told the legislature Thursday.

He said during debate on welfare estimates that persons who apply for assistance "deserve a medal if they go through the procedure to get on social assistance."

Dr. Parkinson said the government's attitude toward allowances is that it "is not a right—it is a privilege."

He said payments should be increased immediately because the \$75 allowance for a single person is not enough. The government should aim for guaranteed annual incomes for welfare recipients.

"If there is a conscience in this government let it be exercised tonight," he said. "I spend \$75 a month on my car."

"On \$75 a month how can you be a part of anything? This is still a money society."

## ROUND-A-BOUT

By DOUGLAS HILLSIDE

B.C. is growing right? Even Victoria is adding 5,000 people each year. So how come the provincial voters' list totalled 874,267 names in 1960 and only 873,927 in 1966? The figures were produced by the opposition in recent debates in the legislature. They said this bears out their argument for an improved system of voter registration. They say an enumeration before every election would add thousands of names to the list.

Another of the meatier points made in the recent legislature debates:

A beginner social worker in B.C. earns \$375 and a beginner dog catcher in Vancouver earns \$425 a month. A social worker with a master's degree (six years' university) earns \$470 a month and a dog catcher with five years' experience is paid \$508 a month.

Staff turnover of social workers is up to 40 per cent annually. That means four out of ten quit their jobs each year.

Students wondering what they would like to be when they go out into the world should examine a new publication by the department of national revenue. It's called "Twenty-One Million Dollars a Day"—the average gross taxation collection per working day.

One of its many tables shows top average incomes by professions as follows:

Occupation—	Average Income	Average Tax
Doctors and surgeons	\$21,474	\$5,495
Lawyers and notaries	17,282	4,225
Engineers and architects	16,801	4,063
Dentists	14,909	3,157
Accountants	13,021	2,647

The list goes on and on, right down to pensioners who have an average income of \$3,221 and who pay taxes, on the average, of \$206. So whatever you decide to be kids, don't be a pensioner.

## MUZZLING CHARGE WITHDRAWN

## Shouting Match Erupts Over Welfare Payments

The legislature Thursday erupted into raucous debate over repeated demands from opposition members for an increase in B.C. social welfare and supplementary allowance of old age payments.

At one point, Herb Bruch (SC — Esquimalt), chairman of the committee of supply, threatened Leo Nimsick (NDP — Kootenay) with expulsion from the chamber.

Mr. Nimsick had charged the government is "a chicken coop administration" which is forcing through low payments, people to live in hovels and chicken coops.

Both NDP and Liberal members repeatedly told the house the federal government will pay 50 per cent of whatever social assistance payments the province wished to make.

Premier Bennett said there is a "joker" in the federal offer. Ottawa set the ceiling.

But, added the premier, "if the federal government will raise it, we will do likewise."

## NO ANSWER

The premier said at a recent federal provincial conference he asked the prime minister whether the ceiling on supplementary allowances could be raised.

"I got no answer," the premier said.

Welfare Minister Campbell said "we would be delighted to discuss this point with the federal government."

"We've been discussing it for the last three months and we've

## BANGED FOR ORDER

Then, with the chairman standing and banging his gavel for order, Mr. Nimsick refused to be seated.

"I'm going to name you," Mr. Bruch warned. "Will the member please be seated."

Gordon Dowding (NDP — Burnaby-Edmonds) said there had obviously been a mistake.

"It was well known no one could muzzle Mr. Capozzi."

"I'm asking the member to withdraw that statement," Mr. Bruch repeated to Mr. Nimsick. "Will the member please be seated."

"I didn't make a reflection on the integrity of anybody," Mr. Nimsick, still standing, insisted. Social Credit MLAs in the back row shouted: "Throw him out."

Mr. Nimsick finally withdrew the "muzzling" statement, but again started a discussion the chair ruled out of order.

Mr. Bruch cautioned the NDP member to stick to the vote in question, the \$4,000 for the minister of welfare's office.

Mr. Nimsick said: "I'm not willing to give up the battle for the people who are in this category, it's too important."

"Give everybody the right to live," continued Mr. Nimsick.

"Don't let them live in a miserable hovel. They come to their MLAs with tears in their eyes."

got absolutely nowhere."

Mr. Campbell said the federal government allowed a maximum welfare payment of only \$135 a month to a single person and \$240 a month for a married couple.

Dave Barrett (NDP — Coquitlam) said "there's no ceiling other than that placed by the provincial government."

"That's a falsehood," retorted the premier.

The provincial government would raise the ceiling if the federal government would contribute, Mr. Campbell said.

## PUT UP

The provincial offer "is a put up or shut up" offer.

"How far are you prepared to go," shouted Opposition Leader Strachan.

"As far as Ottawa will go," replied the premier.

After Liberal Leader Ray Perrault had quoted from Hansard a section apparently outlining the federal policy, Hero Capozzi (SC — Vancouver Centre) interjected: "I suggest someone phone Ottawa."

Mr. Nimsick said no Social Credit MLAs had criticized the low welfare payments. The NDP member said the Social Credit backbenchers had been "muzzled."

Mr. Capozzi asked Mr. Nimsick to withdraw the statement.

Despite repeated requests from chairman Bruch Mr. Nimsick refused to withdraw the "muzzling" charge.

## 'Take Over City Welfare Services'

The provincial government should take over all city-administered welfare services in B.C., Opposition Leader Strachan told the legislature Thursday.

Mr. Strachan, speaking during consideration of welfare department estimates, read from recent press reports that accused Victoria city welfare officers of turning over to the police department lists of welfare recipients.

"No satisfactory answer has been given as to whether or not the Victoria city welfare department has been providing the police with a list of welfare recipients," Mr. Strachan said.

The NDP leader told Welfare Minister Campbell he had the right to take under the provincial wing all city welfare services in B.C.

"It's time you did so," Mr. Strachan said. "I don't think welfare should be left in the hands of any city administration in this province."

Since administration differed from city to city, persons in similar circumstances were receiving different treatment.

## CANADA ASSISTANCE PLAN

## B.C. Signs Cost-Sharing Agreement

The provincial government today will sign the new Canada Assistance Plan, a cost-sharing agreement with the federal government covering welfare services.

The intended signing was announced Thursday in the legislature by Welfare Minister Campbell during debate on his departmental estimates totalling \$72,559,849.

"We are the first province to do so," Mr. Campbell said.

The minister said he regretted the fact that the plan, otherwise a good plan, made no provision taking into account B.C.'s high influx of new welfare-prone families. The plan allows no portability or equalization.

However, he said the federal welfare minister still appeared to have "an open mind" on this problem.

"We have a definite new influx here because the welfare services levels here are better than anywhere else."

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault said "British Columbia is not the first province to sign the agreement, we're fourth or fifth."



## Off Again

### THE CONCLUSION THAT MR.

Bennett is embarked on a policy of deliberately baiting the federal government seems inescapable, following his latest foray into the national jurisdiction. Monday's bill to establish a provincial harbors board and develop a deep-water port at Roberts Bank, near Tsawwassen, must inevitably run head-on into the federal government's authority—the latest in a series of unilateral actions which appear designed as a defiance of recognized federal law.

In the present instance, the matter of sea harbors has been a traditionally federal concern. The BNA Act is vaguely phrased on many topics, but Section 92, subsection 10 c, appears to be applicable in exempting from provincial jurisdiction "Such works as, although wholly situate within the Province, are before or after their Execution declared by the Parliament of Canada to be for the general Advantage of Canada or for the Advantage of Two or more of the Provinces". Port facilities on the Pacific coast would appear to come within that provision.

The bill emerged, too, as the federal government was in the act of carrying out extensive studies of the Roberts Bank area with a view to its development, and the Vancouver Harbor Board jurisdiction had been extended southward to the United States border, taking in the ocean front in question.

The suspicion is not that Mr. Bennett became impatient with lack of action on the part of Ottawa, but that he saw himself being

denied a chance to assert provincial supremacy by staking out a claim to the Roberts Bank site.

The background of the port proposal involves the possibility of future large-scale coal shipments to Japan from such a facility, as well as other bulk export projects. No doubt the future will see much greater development of the lower mainland coast in this regard, but there is no immediate emergency that would warrant British Columbia undertaking a rush job at enormous expense in the face of federal willingness to carry out its responsibilities. Transport Minister Pickersgill has made it plain, too, that the federal government is quite willing to consult and co-operate with the province in any such major work, but that Mr. Bennett acted without warning or advice.

The tone of this latest incident has an ominous note in that it could be construed as one more step in Mr. Bennett's apparent personal campaign to foster provincial sovereignty at the expense of the national authority. To challenge the federal right in the matter of sea harbors is in line with his frequent veiled threats to "go it alone" and references to provincial autonomy in many new fields.

The question arises as to how long the Canadians living in Canada's westernmost province will put up with the premier's breast-beating assertions of local rights in direct conflict with the nation. Eventually we may have to face the question: Are we in favor of a Canadian nation, with ourselves in it, or not.

## NDP BACKS BOARD

# Bill 'No Bluff' Claims Bonner

By JOHN MIKA  
Times Legislative Reporter

Commercial Transport Minister Robert Bonner Friday told the legislature that the bill to establish a B.C. Harbors Board "is not a bluff."

He said its purpose was to develop a super-port at Roberts Bank to help bring a huge coal export contract to fruition and criticism during the past two days "has seriously jeopardized" the current negotiations in Tokyo.

The legislature gave its agreement in principle to the new bill in a 46 to 5 division that saw the Liberal MLAs vote against second reading while the Social Credit and NDP parties combined to pass it.

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault said he was not opposed to the super-port and did not think the bill was ultra vires but it should be delayed a year so a current \$75,000 federal feasibility study of Roberts Bank development could be completed.

## HELP OR UNBALANCE

Mr. Perrault said the important question was to determine whether a Roberts Bank facility at this juncture would help or unbalance the overall value of the port of Vancouver and stifle more development than it promoted.

He said last November federal Transport Minister Jack Pickersgill announced major plans for development of west coast port facilities and the provincial move could well cause a breakdown in co-operation.

"We don't want either the federal government or the provincial government doing a spectacular solo on this," said Mr. Perrault.

"Let's find out in the next few months if the federal government is prepared to develop port facilities of this kind then take action at the

next session of the legislature — but this is not the time."

Mr. Perrault admitted there was "some validity" in criticisms that the National Harbors Board had not realized the potential of Vancouver harbor in the past but some \$12 million would be spent by the federal government in the coming year and there was not need for B.C. to duplicate programs contemplated by Ottawa.

"Let's sit down and co-operate with them" he said.

Premier Bennett who would be fiscal agent for the crown corporation developing the super-port said "we are only too anxious at all times to co-operate with the federal government."

"This act is not a bad thing. It's good," Mr. Pickersgill (who criticized the bill after it was first announced Monday) went off a little quick but since then he's cooled down a bit.

"We'd be glad to have federal financial help."

Ernest Hall (NDP-Surrey) said his party approves the bill but deplored the "incredible series of statements" exchanged by provincial federal and CPR officials during the week.

## 'BORN IN ANGER'

"Legislation that's born in anger or bluff will never serve this province well" he warned as Premier Bennett applauded in agreement.

"If that's the case here, and it could be, it would not augur well," Mr. Hall continued.

He added that though the NDP supports the bill it reserves the right to "say shame to both your houses" if it proves to be merely part of

a poker-game between federal Liberals and provincial Socreds.

"This government doesn't bluff, I want to tell my friend from Surrey," replied Mr. Bonner. "This bill isn't put into the house to bluff anybody."

He recalled the former Liberal MLA Harry McKay three years ago had appealed to the government to facilitate the Fernie coal export negotiations. The super-port proposal was "brainstormed by my department because neither the route nor the rate (for hauling) had been determined by which the exit of Fernie coal could occur after all this time. It's that simple."

## CRITICAL STAGE

He said coal contract negotiations with B.C. and Alberta collieries have reached a critical stage on deals that could result in export to Japan of up to "seven million tons per annum as the ultimate target."

"I'm deliberately avoiding throwing gasoline on flames recently lit," he said.

Criticisms of the legal right of the government to pass the harbors board bill or obtain U.S. border crossing permits for a spur line from Fernie area "has caused great confusion in Japan" where final negotiations began this week.

"It has seriously jeopardized those negotiations" he added.

In answer to questions by Leo Nimsick (NDP-Kootenay), Mr. Bonner said the Kaiser steel and aluminium interests in California are "interested but not involved at this point" in the Japanese negotiations.



## Car Owners Will Not Gain, Says Oil Firm

British American Oil said Friday the adverse effect of recommendations made by the royal commission on gasoline prices is likely to outweigh any possible advantages implementation of the recommendations would gain for consumers.

In a brief to the legislature's special committee studying the commission's report, the company said it appears that the "implications of some of the measures proposed... do not appear to have been appreciated."

It said there were many instances where the company agreed with the objectives of the commission, but disagreed with the "practicality and perhaps legality" of the methods proposed.

The commission, in its report to the legislature last year, urged sweeping reforms of gasoline marketing in the province, including a ban on consignment selling, a five-year moratorium on service station construction and strict policing of the oil companies.

### NOT IN LINE

The legislature committee was set up after several MLAs said the government had failed to keep the oil companies in line and the companies themselves had failed to police their industry.

The B-A brief said the company no longer has any service stations in the province selling company-owned gas on consignment for a fixed commission per gallon.

But, said the brief, B-A could not agree with the commission's recommendation for banning consignment selling, which it described as the only legal method available for remaining competitive with other companies.

The company said the "five-year holiday" in service station construction would be a hardship on residents of newly developing areas.

Turning to the commission's proposal for uniform gasoline prices across the province, B-A said it is not in a position to implement the recommendation, since its dealers set their own prices.

## Consumer Bill Advances Step

The government's bill for a Consumer Protection Act received second reading, approval in principle, from all sides of the legislature Friday, but not before individual MLAs had voiced some criticisms.

Alex MacDonald (NDP—Vancouver East) said "the legislation should be supported because it goes at least half-way."

Mr. MacDonald said no provision was made to ensure truthful advertising, legitimate packaging or protection against sales gimmickry.

Alan Macfarlane (L—Oak Bay) said no direct provision was made in the proposed act to cancel contracts involving door-to-door service salesmen.

Leo Nimsick (NDP—Kootenay) objected to the three-day "cool off" period in which contracts can be cancelled.

The "cool-off period" should be at least seven days, he said, to allow for men working away from home to cancel contracts made during their absence by their wives.

## Pollution By Mill Hit

The cabinet should investigate pollution of the sea by the Crofton pulp mill, John Tisdalle, (SC—Saanic and The Islands) told the legislature Friday.

"The Crofton mill, although a great asset to the community, has created a hazard on the beaches," he said during debate on second reading of a new Pollution Control Bill.

The mill is preparing to extend its facilities "and dump even more waste liquor (chemical) into the water," he said.

He questioned the benefit of such industries to the provincial economy.

"Are we really making money? Are we really raising the economy of the province when it costs so much?"

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# Power Rate Boost Forecast in House

## Increases Due On April 1?

By JOHN MIKA

The Legislature was told Monday night B.C. Hydro will raise electricity rates April 1.

The prediction was reported by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan from this week's issue of the Financial Post.

Premier Bennett would not deny it and his response implied it was true.

Mr. Bennett said he has nothing to do with rate increases as fiscal agent for Hydro and just concerns himself with raising capital.

"The premier doesn't know how much Hydro will advance the rates," Mr. Bennett said.

Mr. Strachan quoted the Financial Post as saying that the rate cuts since the government took over B.C. Electric will be reversed April 1.

"The rates will not go all the way back to the earlier level though," the article attributed to Dr. Hugh Keenleyside, co-chairman of B.C. Hydro.

The prospect of increased hydro rates was first suggested by Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Vancouver-Point Grey) Feb. 21 when he told the legislature the B.C. Hydro's own prospectus for the latest \$50 million from Wall Street indicated higher rates were coming.

### TO COVER DIFFERENCE

He said when the Peace River project begins operating at the end of this year, its annual \$46 million interest and capital repayment charges will go on to the utility's operating books where only \$9.9 million net income was shown last year. Rate increases would be needed to cover the difference but Mr. Bennett at the time refused to make a statement.

Monday night the premier said there "always has been some question how much B.C. Hydro should pay in expanding and keeping up to date its (existing) system.

"We will save costs later if we use profits now," he argued, strengthening the suggestion of rate increases.

### THIRD READING

The exchanges came during third reading of a bill to boost B.C. Hydro's statutory borrowing ceiling from \$500 million to \$1 billion.

Mr. Strachan said the bill "is due to the bungling incompetence of the minister of finance (Mr. Bennett) and this is reflected in what we have to borrow and what we have to pay."

David Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) said Mr. Bennett now is

## No Denial From B.C. Hydro

B.C. Hydro would not confirm or deny today that it plans its first general rate increase on April 1.

"We shall announce on March 31 any change for the coming year but I cannot anticipate whether it will be up or down," BCH co-chairman Dr. Gordon Shrum said in a telephone interview.

Two BCH directors, Resources Minister Ray Williston and Recreation Minister W. K. Kiernan, both said rate structures will be discussed at a meeting March 30, but both also admitted the Crown utility faces heavy expenditures to meet a sharply growing demand for power in flourishing instant towns and the need for construction of lengthy transmission lines.

None of them would comment on predictions in the legislature Monday night that electricity rates will be raised April 1.

"in the deepest trouble" of his career in office.

He said the Columbia River treaty had been "bungled and it will be the death knell of Social Credit."

Mr. Bennett would not give an assurance demanded by William Hartley (NDP — Yale-Lillooet) that the legislature will not be asked to raise the borrowing ceiling again at a later session.

### NOBODY KNOWS

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault asked if the Peace and Columbia projects will cost \$100 million more than anticipated but Premier Bennett replied "nobody knows what any great project will cost until it's finished."

But the premier added that he has been assured by Dr. Gordon Shrum, the other B.C. Hydro co-chairman, that power will be delivered in Vancouver at 4.2 mills as predicted earlier.

## FIVE-YEAR BANISHMENT ON WAY OUT

Civic councillors in future will be treated the same as federal MPs and provincial MLAs when they run afoul of the law outside of their political careers.

A provision in an omnibus bill amending the Municipal Act given second reading Monday night would eliminate the five-year disqualification from holding office from most situations in which a civic politician is charged.

At present, conviction of any "indictable offence" — whether the crown proceeds by way of indictment or by summary trial before a magistrate — bars a councillor from running for or holding civic office for the following five years.

### SUMMARY

Most trials in magistrates court — including those involving such things as impaired driving offences — are conducted under summary procedures although they are indictable at the crown's option.

The amendment would change the wording of the five-year prohibition clause so it goes into effect only when a councillor has actually "been convicted upon indictment of an offence."

Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Campbell explained outside the legislature, that the change conforms to the rules that apply to provincial and federal office holders.

### INTENDED

"I think the legislature intended doing that all along (when the act was first drafted)," he said.

"This makes it clear that it (the five-year ban) would not include those offences which could lead to an indictment but were not, in fact, handled in that way."

For all practical purposes, the change will have its principal impact in the area of driving offences committed by civic councillors and, if they are tried by summary procedure, then no forced retirement from politics would result.



# Regional Plan Fog-Up Charged by Campbell

Opposition M.L.A.s Monday accused Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Campbell of using deception to insiduously establish regional districts as a third level of government.

But he struck back with an accusation that they were making 'incredible mis-statements' of the effect of proposed legislation and 'throwing fog in the gears.'

The argument centred on provisions in an omnibus bill to amend the Municipal Act which Mr. Campbell said would "reverse the original concept of the method by which regional districts would be incorporated" so that the districts instead of the department decided which functions would be performed.

## SECOND STEP

"This is the second step in some master plan this minister has developed for regional districts and I think he misled the House two years ago," said Opposition Leader Robert Strachan.

He said abandonment of the "opting out" system for municipalities rejected one of the fundamental bases on which the legislature originally accepted regional districts and creation of hospital construction as a statutory function was in the same category.

## SECRET CHANGES

He said Mr. Campbell must have known he would make the changes when he first proposed regional districts to the legislature and he probably still has some secret changes he will introduce next year.

"It's obvious the regional districts are going to be substantial taxing bodies in the province," he charged, as Mr. Campbell shook his head in disagreement.

"You can shake your head till it falls off but it's obvious you intend to give them tax powers in the future," Mr. Strachan continued.

"As far as I'm concerned, you can't be trusted in implementing this legislation.

## COME CLEAN

"I suggest you come clean with this House and tell us what you intend to do in regionalizing this province."

Leo Nimsiek (NDP-Kootenay) also argued Mr. Campbell

was making isolated moves according to a secret master plan.

"The danger is that you are setting up another level of government and the result will be municipalities will have two bosses, regional governments and the provincial government," he said.

He also complained that regional districts are so large "you're almost balkanizing (B.C.) into a group of provinces within a province."

## SEWERS, TOO?

Alan Macfarlane (L-Oak Bay) also accused Mr. Campbell of withholding information and demanded to know if sewer construction, public transit and arterial roads would be made functions of the Capital Regional District here on top of hospital construction.

He said "it's time, just for once," for Mr. Campbell to make a policy statement on how far the provincial government intends to develop regional government.

Mr. Campbell said the M.L.A.s apparently had not read the bill because of the "incredible mis-statements they've made."

## FIRST PLACE

"In the first place, the representatives on the regional boards come from the municipalities and the municipalities are part and parcel of the regional boards.

"In every sense of the word, regional districts are pretty well the creatures of the municipalities."

The regional districts had to be large to give them balanced assessment rolls.

He said the opposition should read the actual wording of bills "instead of spreading distrust ... the kind of thing that is not going to get anyone anywhere."

## FLEXIBLE

Mr. Campbell said the legislation is flexible so that municipal components can make regional districts serve them in a variety of ways and, aside from one exception, he had never used his powers to initiate functions.

"Under this bill, the initiation of new function no longer comes from the minister to the regional district but will come from the municipalities to the minister," he said.

"And the functions will be

added only if the members approve — it's as clear as that."

Mr. Campbell said it was "completely false" for anyone to say that he had misled anyone about the possibility that regional hospital districts would be set up by statute because he had warned the Union of B.C. Municipalities' convention of precisely this last September.

## RATEPAYERS

The minister said the only time he acted unilaterally in proposing a function was two years ago when he notified the Capital Regional Board here that he wished it to undertake hospital construction but ratepayers 'opted out' in a series of votes.

"The member for Oak Bay (Mr. Macfarlane) is more responsible for lousing up the hospital question in Victoria and throwing more fog around it than anyone else in Victoria," Mr. Campbell shouted.

"I shed more light and truth on it than you did" interjected Mr. Macfarlane, then added "smear, smear, smear" as Mr. Campbell shouted accusations that "he and his Liberal friends" in the municipal field confused the issue.

## FOGGY FOG

"Foggy fog," quipped Attorney-General Robert Bonner.

Mr. Campbell touched off general laughter when he accused Mr. Macfarlane of "throwing fog in the gears."

"Senator Fogbound," Mr. Macfarlane shouted through a din of laughter and cross-heckling.

# Everyone a Drug Spy In New Legislation

The B.C. government indicated Monday night it wants to make everybody an LSD informer, but did not stipulate any penalty for not informing.

Health Minister Black told the legislature an amendment to the Health Act will require that any person knowing of the presence of LSD "shall report it to a medical health officer or a police officer."

Mr. Black said a bill to control LSD and marijuana, which received second reading Monday night, will be supported so far as LSD is concerned by the amendment to the Health Act.

The bill makes possession of

LSD or marijuana illegal, with a maximum fine of \$2,000 or six months' imprisonment, or both.

No penalty is stated in the proposed Health Act amendment requiring persons to report the presence of LSD.

Dr. Pat McGeer (L-Vancouver Point Grey) told the house the legislation will cut down on "capricious LSD parties."

He said there are 100 LSD users at the University of British Columbia and "several hundred regular users at the very least" in the province.

He said teen-agers should be told there is no way they can win by taking LSD.

# Gov't Squelches Drive For Extended Session

By JOHN MIKA  
Legislative Reporter

The legislature began the homestretch towards an Easter prorogation Monday night after the government benches used a moment of procedural confusion to stop a growing demand for continuing the session beyond the holiday.

Labor Minister Leslie Peterson and Premier Bennett seized an opportunity to bring an hour-long debate on the Workmen's Compensation Act to abrupt halt by forcing a vote on a minor amendment bill before all members had spoken.

Before and after, the MLAs made good time despite several debating flurries by giving second reading — approval in principle — to 13 remaining government bills including several controversial ones and going through third readings of another 20.

There were only four divisions on the bills.

In two of them, the legislature recorded unanimous approval in principle for a bill to enable the government to dovetail pre-paid medical plans in the province with a national medicare plan and a bill to establish regional hospital districts.

Opposition MLAs said drugs, child dentistry and ambulance services should be included in the former and taxation on land should be eliminated from the latter but they voted for second reading.

However, they lost 29 to 21 votes twice on third reading of a bill to earmark provincial per capita grants for civic road-building purposes.

The major debate however occurred on a bill to make \$150 the monthly minimum pension for persons receiving total permanent disability payments

from the Workmen's Compensation Board.

But the opposition damned this with the faint praise of a "slight improvement" for a small group and concentrated its fire on the government decision to delay until next year second reading of a bill to completely rewrite the Workmen's Compensation Act along lines suggested by a royal commission.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan led a bitter attack by opposition MLAs on the delay and demanded that the legislature come back after Easter to pass the new WCB legislation or, "even sit through Easter" to do it.

Two Sacred backbenchers gave him strong support.

Ernie LeCours (SC—Richmond) said the WCB "is a mill of injustice" because it traps

Continued on Page 3

workmen claiming injury compensation in masses of red tape while refusing to abide normal rules of fair play itself.

John Tisdalle (SC—Saanich-The Islands) gave strong support to the opposition attack and said the legislature should return after Easter to pass the needed legislation or else hold a special session later in the year.

He said he had been under the impression the new WCA was to be dealt with at the current session and "it's unfortunate we can't deal with the full bill and see justice done."

## HARDSHIPS

He said some persons are suffering terrible hardships because of the harshness they met from the WCB. There are so many complaints of bad treatment that "not all of them can be liars."

He accused WCB officials of using detestable language to bully applicants.

"I've never talked to horses on the farm like that," he said. "No wonder these people go away with such a neurotic condition that MLAs can hardly talk common sense to them later."

## ANIMAL TREATMENT

He said the WCB treats some claimants as though "they were animals or seals on the St. Lawrence sealing grounds."

"If we are not going to deal with the (WCA) bill, then I urge the minister to use his authority to tell the board over there to be human," he said.

David Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) said there were reports of claimants being "thrown out bodily" from the WCB offices

and others being "shunted from desk to desk" remorselessly by officials who did not want to recognize their claims.

"Something is desperately wrong with this whole situation," said Mr. Barratt.

"The board has to hire a commissionaire and put up a steel gate to protect the staff from the people and something is wrong when this happens."

## CLAIMS JUSTIFIED

Numerous other opposition MLAs attacked the board and the only voice in its defence was that of Dudley Little (SC—Skeena) who said most of the claim rejections were justified.

Dr. H. R. McDiarmid (SC—Alberni), who had applauded the attacks on the board's practices, rose to speak about seven minutes after the normal 6 p.m. supper adjournment when Labor Minister Peterson leaped to his feet to close the debate after an MLA drew the attention of Speaker William Murray to the time, calling for an automatic adjournment.

Despite protests that Dr. McDiarmid was being cut off, Mr. Peterson moved second reading of the bill and charged the opposition with trying to prevent him from replying.

Mr. Murray put the question and it passed in the confusion.

As opposition MLAs began demanding a second voice vote or a cancellation so the debate could continue with Dr. McDiarmid, Premier Bennett quickly jumped up and demanded a formal roll-call division — cutting off debate under the house rules and making it test of confidence in the government.

In the result, all MLAs voted in favor of the bill to increase the disability pension maximum and the row ended.

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## Drivers Must Know Charge From Start, House Agrees

Attorney-General Robert Bonner Monday gave in to one of his proposed amendments to the Motor Vehicles Act.

He told the legislature that his departmental officials will study the criticisms with a view to altering the amendment after opposition lawyers said it would enable prosecutors to "change the goal posts after the trial."

The proposed amendment would have allowed magistrates to order specific charges to be laid after hearing a general charge of careless driving.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) said "if the crown can't lay a charge properly, it shouldn't have another crack at it after hearing the evidence."

Alan Macfarlane (L—Oak Bay) said at least the accused should be given time to defend himself from the specific charge arising out of the court case and Garde Gardom (L—Vancouver-Point Grey) said it would create "a complete abrogation of the rule that a person know what he is charged with."

### CRIMINAL CODE

Mr. Bonner said the proposal would have paralleled a similar provision in the Criminal Code but admitted personally he "would prefer to see a precise charge laid and disposed of" from the outset of a case.

David Barnett (NDP—Coquitlam) said government-paid inspectors should check cars before they come off an assembly line to make sure they are safe to drive and drivers should be fined \$5 for failing to use seat belts.

Mr. Bonner said these were impractical but, although critical he said he is "not rejecting

the idea" of psychological tests for driver licence applicants.

Mr. Barrett said the tests should be part of the standard testing procedure for licence applicants to weed out disturbed persons who might have unconscious desires to use a car for suicide.

### NOT RELIABLE

Mr. Bonner agreed with Dr. H. R. McDiarmid (SC—Alberni) that "psychological pre-testing" has not proven reliable.

Several MLAs also protested that a provision to make it illegal for auto dealers to turn back mileage meters with the intention of misleading purchasers would put the onus on the crown instead of the dealers.

Mr. Dowding said courts now accept such action as prime facie evidence of fraud putting the onus on the accused to prove it was not done for dishonest reason. But the government bill would reverse the onus so the crown had to prove fraud was intended whenever meters were turned back.

Mr. Bonner defended the change as fitting in with the traditional concept that the onus always should be on the crown to prove wrongdoing.

## More Haste, Less Understanding

WITH only a few days of the session to go the Social Credit government dumped 25 legislative bills on the House, 19 of them in one day, to make up the 60-odd that have been introduced.

This is legislation by exhaustion. The legislature cannot give proper consideration to bills under such conditions, particularly in view of the frequent night sittings and the heavy involvement in morning committee meetings. It is not good enough that our laws should be made in this way, and the government lays itself open to one of two public suspicions: either that it has been grossly incompetent in the

preparation of its legislative program so that much of it must be introduced in a tardy rush, or that it has deliberately resorted to a manoeuvre designed to curtail adequate review and debate by the opposition.

The device of eleventh-hour legislation is an old political trick, of course, and has been resorted to on occasion by all parties. But the technique of the legislative deluge has been brought to a notorious pitch by Mr. Bennett's administration. It does the government no credit and the province no service to treat the public business in such a fashion. British Columbia deserves better.

## NO CRIMINAL MISUSE OF FUNDS

## Bennett Explains District Slam

Premier Bennett Monday responded to weeks of criticism for his "municipalities have misused their funds" remark by denying he meant they acted illegally.

"This is holy week. I'll answer that," the premier interjected as David Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) maintained pressure on Municipal Affairs Minister Dan Campbell to name offending municipalities or repudiate the premier's accusations.

"No municipalities have criminally misused funds," Mr. Bennett said.

## ROAD WORKS

"But they know the grants replaced one-third of the motor-vehicle licence fees and should

have been used for that purpose (road construction)."

He was referring to the per capita grants to municipalities given by the provincial government.

It was during discussion of an amendment March 3 which would earmark the per capita grants for municipal road construction that Mr. Bennett made the remarks "municipalities have misused their funds ... they've been caught in their own glue."

A storm of protest arose from civic leaders around the province and opposition MLAs persistently have demanded a retraction.

Monday's debate began during second reading of a bill to amend the Municipalities Act in which Alan Macfarlane (L—Oak

Bay) said Mr. Bennett had made the accusations "during a rage". He said the premier should either withdraw or Mr. Campbell should tell the house exactly how and which municipalities had violated provincial laws.

Saanich Reeve Hugh Curtis told council Monday night that the premier's comments "amounted to the kind of retraction sought by most municipalities and under those circumstances I think the matter is closed."

## B.C. CASH EYED IN VICTIM FUND

The provincial government should use some of its \$1.3 million revenue from magistrate court fines to set up a compensation fund for victims of crime, the legislature was told Monday.

"It is not unreasonable that out of that \$1.3 million a few thousand dollars could go into an insurance fund for victims or to take care of those who are injured by reason of going to the assistance of enforcement officers," said Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds).

He objected to a provision in a bill to amend the Municipal Act that would allow municipal councils to make "good Samaritan" awards of up to \$5,000 to citizens who come to harm while assisting municipal police or officials.

"It should be done by the provincial government which gets the money (from court fines)," he said.

"Unless that is done, this section is of little use except as an item of Social Credit propaganda in the year 1967."

Garde Gardom (L—Vancouver-Point Grey) said the measure is "a classic example of the government being wishy-washy and shunting its responsibilities onto the municipalities."

Alan Macfarlane (L—Oak Bay) predicted that no municipal councils would make the awards because they do not have money available. He said the province at least should share part of the cost of the awards.

Robert Williams (NDP—Vancouver East) said the provision is "a halting first step in the right direction" but had serious limitations restricting it to discretionary awards by councils only to persons who help police or officials within a municipality.



## NDP AMENDMENT BID DEFEATED

'Legislative Stupidity'  
Charged Over Pollution

HARDING  
... charges insincerity

The Social Credit majority Tuesday night defeated an amendment to guarantee that air pollution is included in the new pollution control legislation.

"This is legislative stupidity," cried Randolph Harding (NDP—Revelstoke-Slocan).

"It is obvious this government has no intention of tackling certain problems in the pollution field and air pollution is one of them."

The government voted down 30 to 21 an amendment by Ernie Hall (NDP—Surrey) to add air to the definitions of water and soil pollution setting the scope of the new pollution control board.

Resources Minister Ray Williston said there was authority for the board to undertake air pollution research and the government did not want to move carelessly by setting up "paper tiger" legislation which could not be implemented.

## ACTION NEEDED

"We need action, not words," he said.

Numerous opposition MLAs attacked his stand and demanded that air pollution be put into the defined scope of the bill.

Later they criticized the lack of substantial provisions for controlling soil pollution, contending the bill was really only concerned with water pollution.

Allan Williams (L—West Vancouver-Howe Sound) proposed amendments to add "air or land" to several sections deal-

ing with the board's powers to control water pollution but these were defeated.

However, he was successful in persuading the government to make a technical amendment which he said would obviate some of the difficulties caused by the lack of an air pollution definition.

This amounted to changing one section's wording from "the pollution" to "a polluted condition" of water, land or air in authorizing the cabinet to order studies.

Ruled out of order, at the insistence of Mr. Williston, was an amendment by Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) that would bar civil servants from serving on the new pollution control board.

He said the present all-government employee board had shattered public confidence by refusing to give adequate public hearings in the Butte Lake affair.

"Failure to make the board independent means a suspicion will remain that the board is a body responsive to government whims," agreed Liberal Leader Ray Perrault.

But the amendment was held to be out of order because it would involve the expenditure of money, a prerogative of the government alone.

## Industrial Injuries Heavy

More than a million days were lost from work because of industrial injuries in B.C. last year.

The annual report of the Workmen's Compensation Board said the time loss was 1,172,968 days compared with 1,132,313 days in the previous year.

This represents "the actual number of days lost by injured workmen" who received time-loss compensation.

It "makes no provision for workmen who were disabled for less than four days, nor does it include time charges arising from permanent disability and fatal accidents."

Forest products led other industries in time loss with 28.4 per cent of the total. Construction was second with 20.9 per cent and general manufacturing third with 14 per cent.

Compensation costs last year amounted to \$28,443,133 compared with \$25,248,309 in the previous year.

The number of injuries reported to the board was the second highest on record—95,322 compared with the record of 95,562 in 1956.

(The average size of the labor force covered by compensation in B.C. last year was 500,000.)

These were "new claims" in addition to those reopened or continuing from previous years.

Time-loss injuries (more than three days off work) amounted to 28,252, highest figure since the 28,533 cases in 1956.

Of the 1966 accidents, 23.3 per cent were in forest products, 17.6 per cent in general manufacturing and 17.5 per cent in construction.

There were 216 industrial deaths last year compared with

253 in the previous year.

Just over one-third of the accidents were caused by workers being struck by objects and materials and almost one-fifth were from falls and slips on the same level.

During the year, there were 17,481 inspections resulting in 15,268 orders "for correction of hazardous conditions to workmen."

NEW ORLEANS INCLUDED  
IN GAGLARDI JET NET

Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi informed the Legislature Tuesday his Lear jet flew as far as New Orleans last year.

All told, up to the end of December 31, it logged 89,000 miles, including 19,000 outside the province.

Mr. Gaglardi, filing answers to MLA questions, said no records of passengers or destinations are kept but from memory he recalled the jet had travelled to New Orleans, Seattle, Edmonton, Portland, Wichita, Regina and Calgary.

Besides the Lear, leased at \$5,915 a month, his department owns seven aircraft.

Mr. Gaglardi said no maintenance cost records were available but he listed seven pilots paid from \$570 to \$860 a month in the government employ.

WED., MARCH 22, 1967

## 'STRAIGHT GRAPE-SHOT LAW'

# Bonner Drops Amendment After Opposition Protest

By JOHN MIKA  
Legislative Reporter

Attorney-General Robert Bonner Tuesday bowed to objections from opposition MLAs that an amendment was carelessly thought out and took the unusual step of withdrawing it.

But he vowed he would persist in an effort to find some legal formula for ending carelessness by prosecutors in using the "careless driving" charge under the Motor Vehicles Act.

The amendment would have permitted a magistrate, after hearing all the evidence in a careless driving charge, to direct the laying of a second and more specific charge after adjournment.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) said this would permit magistrates to check the whole Motor Vehicles Act after the careless driving charge was started "to see if there isn't something that can be pinned on the accused ... it's ridiculous."

This reflects an attitude that anyone involved in an accident "must be guilty of something," he said.

### 'GRAPE-SHOT LAW'

"It's straight grape-shot law," said Garde Gardom (L—Vancouver-Point Grey). "If the first ball doesn't get you, the second pellet will."

He said police used the careless driving section "as a catch-all, sure in the knowledge that they're bound to get you with something" during the course of the trial.

Allan Williams (L—West Vancouver-Howe Sound) said most persons are forced to hire lawyers and plead not guilty to the careless driving charge because it is so vague "and what you really end up with is a

case of failing to stop at a stop sign or something like that."

Ernie LeCours (SC—Richmond) agreed with the opposition lawyers and said the careless driving section is the prop of a lazy prosecution and "instead of encouraging this, we should be protecting people against sloppy prosecutions."

Mr. Bonner said the proposed amendment was intended to parallel a similar provision in the Criminal Code but he personally agreed that careless driving charges are open to misuse and "charges should be drawn up with precision."

He admitted his department "has been quite concerned with the careless manner in which this section has been applied from time to time."

"I'm not anxious to press this amendment against objections that have been conscientiously taken so I'll withdraw it," he added.

### THIRD READING

The bill was given third reading after the section was dropped. Among its other provisions:

Auto dealers are subject to losing their provincial licences if they are convicted of turning back mileage meters in order to mislead prospective purchasers;

Television sets cannot be placed in cars within view of the driver;

Youths under 18 must have written parental or guardian authorization before they can register vehicles in their own name;

Civic and highways department employees can remove vehicles from the path of snowplows instead of having to call police first.



DR. McDIARMID  
... \$13,029 campaign

## ALBERNI SC TOP SPENDER

Dr. H. R. McDiarmid spent the most money of any candidate in the Sept. 12 provincial election to win the Alberni seat for the government, the legislature learned Tuesday night.

The Social Credit MLA spent \$13,029 compared with the \$2,878 spent by John Squire, who was defeated as the NDP incumbent, and \$693 by Liberal George McLean.

All told, the Social Credit party spent \$437,182 on the provincial campaign. The NDP spent \$125,394 and the Liberals \$45,639. The Communist party, which ran four candidates, spent \$2,121, and the Progressive Conservatives, which nominated three, has not filed its expenses.

### ECONOMIC CAMPAIGN

The least expensive riding was Columbia River where Socred James Chabot won reelection while spending \$247 to the \$310 by Christ Madson of the NDP and \$874 by Liberal Robert Keenleyside.

The Socreds spent \$4,568 and the Liberals \$1,525 in unsuccessful attempts to unseat NDP Leader Robert Strachan who spent \$828 in Cowichan-Malahat riding.

The government party also spent \$8,500 on Dr. Charles Enns's second unsuccessful attempt to unseat Liberal Alan Macfarlane in Oak Bay, who was not far behind with an expenditure of \$7,834, while the NDP spent only \$386 for Mira Yarwood.

In other Vancouver Island ridings, the parties spent:

**VICTORIA**—SC \$6,436, NDP \$2,068, L \$2,878;

**ESQUIMALT**—SC \$761, NDP \$1,574, L \$1,020;

**SAANICH-THE ISLANDS**—SC \$1,609, NDP \$2,012, L \$1,263;

**NANAIMO**—SC \$2,805; NDP \$2,238, L \$728;

**COMOX**—SC \$3,176, NDP \$2,264, L \$1,775.

The information was tabled in the legislature as a return by Premier Bennett.



## NDP Ranks Split Over Mining Act

The New Democratic Party ranks split Tuesday during debate on an amendment to a proposed Mining Regulation Act in the legislature.

The debate within the party was greeted by loud desk-thumping from government benches and Premier Bennett said at one stage: "I suggest the NDP caucus carry on in some other room."

The amendment, which eventually received House approval, permits 17-year-olds to work underground in a mine if they are participating in an approved training program.

Leo Nimsiek (NDP—Kootenay) started the squabble by labelling the amendment "a backward step" because the government "shouldn't try to induce lads to quit school to go underground to train for mines."

He said the youths would be "running errands and doing things done by adult miners who get full wages" and the minimum age for working in mines should remain at 18.

Frank Calder (NDP—Atlin) disagreed. He said training is important because older, but inexperienced miners are injured in accidents that could be prevented.

Dave Stupich (NDP—Nanaimo) charged that the government is "sending children back into the mines" and was joined by William Hartley (NDP—Yale-Lillooet) who said the government "is backing the mining promoters by trying to get child labor back in the mines."

Opposition leader Strachan said the age should remain at 18 because "the more maturity in the individual, the more safe that mine will be."

Randolph Harding (NDP—Revelstoke-Slocan) said he supported the amendment because "training of any kind for any job is good."

The bill, which also provides for stiffer safety regulations in all mines except coal mines, passed clause-by-clause debate in committee stage. It is expected to receive final reading today.

## 'INFRINGEMENT ON RIGHTS'

## Duplicate Acts Outlaw LSD Use

LSD users could find themselves booked for a round trip through the courts as a result of two provincial bans on its use.

This was the suggestion of some opposition MLAs in the legislature Tuesday as committee approval was given an amendment to the Health Act providing a maximum penalty of \$2,000 and six months jail for unauthorized possession of LSD.

This duplicated the bill to create a new Prescribed Substances Act which would impose the same maximum penalty for unauthorized possession of LSD or marijuana.

### STAMP OUT DRUG

"I share in the government's desire to stamp out LSD, but this is an infringement of fundamental human rights we cannot allow," said Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver-Burrard).

"Our entire system of law is directed to the premise that double jeopardy shall not exist. This legislation means double jeopardy."

However, another lawyer, Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby-Edmonds) said the duplication of bills would give a technical defence to the charge on the grounds that the combination created double jeopardy.

Both urged the government to kill its Prescribed Substances bill, which has passed second reading, and make the Health Act the vehicle for banning the hallucinogenic drug.

### TWICE AS GOOD

But Health Minister Wesley Black took the opposite view.

"As a layman, it seems quite simple," he said. "If one law is good, two are twice as good."

And Attorney-General Robert Bonner said both pieces of legislation should be retained until a third law—in Ottawa—is passed.

"We can leave these statutes on the books until the next session. If the federal government has acted satisfactorily by then, we can withdraw them."

Mr. Bonner said the federal government is drafting legislation to outlaw LSD.

The Health Act amendment would make it an offence to possess LSD and also require "any person knowing of the presence of ... LSD in any premises or in the possession of any person (to) report the matter at once" to a medical health officer or a policeman.

Failure to inform officials could be punished, on summary conviction, by a maximum fine of \$500.

## 'GOOD NEWS'

## Gymnasium Ban Lifted By Bennett

New schools in Greater Victoria will again be able to meet minimal educational standards now that Premier Bennett has lifted the freeze on gymnasium construction.

"It is good news," said Greater Victoria school board chairman Peter Bunn. "It means that once again we shall be able to meet the minimal physical requirements for education."

Mr. Bunn said plans would proceed immediately for the construction of an activity room for the Newton elementary school and a gymnasium for the Christie Point school.

"Architectural plans are also well advanced for the Blanshard school which will eventually replace North Ward," he said. "It, too, will be designed with a gymnasium."

Mr. Bunn pointed out that even while the freeze was on all schools were actually designed with gymnasiums.

### INCLUDED IN PLANS

"It isn't as if we have to go out and design a new set of plans," he said. "We have also included these things in the plans and then knocked them off on government orders."

Both sides of the legislature Tuesday took credit for the announcement by Premier Bennett.

Mr. Bennett said the government clamp on all new projects would be lifted because a second \$25 million bond issue had been floated by the school financing authority.

### 'GREAT DAY'

"This is a great day for the opposition," countered Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East). "Little by little our ideas have been seeping in."

Outside the legislature, Education Minister Leslie Peterson said all pending school board applications for permission to build gymnasiums, activity rooms and auditoriums would be approved immediately.

"Some activity rooms and gymnasiums may not be ready in time for the 1967-68 term opening in September but no pupils will be without these facilities for more than a very short time," he said.

The freeze on new school construction projects went into effect in October but it was lifted from classrooms earlier this session when the government met an opposition attack by announcing it had sold \$25 million of school bonds to its own pension funds.

### SOLD IN U.S.

The new issue was sold in the U.S. with the 20-year bonds providing an effective yield just under six per cent.

"It is almost as though we are living in a never-never land," commented Liberal Leader Ray Perrault.

"We heard during the entire session that there has been no freeze at all—now we discover there was no freeze until the thaw set in."

But Mr. Peterson snapped back: "We denied there was ever any freeze in construction of new classrooms. We did not deny that a freeze existed in gymnasium construction."

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1967

# Do-Nothing Gas Report Action Hit

## New Laws Demanded By Grit

By JOHN MIKA  
Times Legislative Reporter

A prorogation-day storm blew up for the Legislature this afternoon in the wake of a special committee's majority report on gas prices that was tabled shortly before dawn at the end of a night sitting.

The report recommended virtually no action to follow up the Morrow Royal Commission's findings except for setting up another review committee in two years time.

But the four NDP members of the committee attacked the government party's refusal to permit them to table a minority report. And Alan Macfarlane, the only Liberal member of the committee, said he would repudiate the majority report which he had supported because the final written version tabled by the chairman conflicted with the consensus of nine Socreds and himself.

### CHAIRMAN

"That report does not represent what went on in the committee," he angrily declared outside the legislature after copies of the document signed by chairman Herb Capozzi (SC—Vancouver-Centre), were distributed.

He said he would see Speaker William Murray before the afternoon sitting, expected to be the last of the session, to

determine the best procedure for disavowing the majority report officially.

Mr. Macfarlane objected to the report's sections which recommended "legislation if necessary" which he said was supposed to read "legislation was necessary" to prohibit retroactively consignment selling and gasoline supply agreements beyond five years between oil companies and retailers.

### CRITICIZED

He added the report did not make it clear, as it was supposed to, that the oil companies had refused to commit themselves against reviving these practices criticized by commissioner Judge Charles Morrow.

The NDP minority report recommended establishment of a crown corporation for pilot operation of a refinery and gasoline distribution system to retailers to see if this competitive device could force the oil industry to reduce gasoline prices.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) said the majority report "fails completely to deal with monopoly prices in this industry and does not deal with more than a small part of the recommendations of Judge Morrow."

But his sharpest criticism was aimed at the government's refusal to allow tabling of the minority report and quashing of Socred backbencher Cyril Shelford's attempt to have the majority report adopted in order to provide the means for a debate on its content.

Mr. Shelford, who single-handedly crusaded for the commission, and forced the government to set up the committee review after charging oil companies were showing contempt for the government and the commission, did not sign either the majority or minority reports.

## 'Erasing Defeat In Courts'

The provincial government is trying to erase a defeat in the courts by forcing 150 B.C. Medical Plan employees to become civil servants, Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) told the legislature Tuesday.

He made the comment after introducing an amendment to the Medical Services Act to delete a portion of the bill that would classify the employees as civil servants.

Mr. Macdonald said the Labor Relations Board rejected the employees' application for certification as an office workers union local and the courts "upset this ruling and restored the employees' rights of free collective bargaining which are now to be removed."

His amendment was defeated by a vote of 30 to 21 but Health Minister Black assured the house the government has no intention to force employees of non-profit medical insurance plans to become civil servants.

The Medical Services Act, which sets up provincial machinery for the proposed federal medicare plan, received final reading.

## Visitor Rooms Sought

A request was made in the Legislature Wednesday for more committee rooms in which members can meet constituents.

Complained Cyril Shelford (SC—Omineca) during debates on Works Minister Chant's departmental estimates for \$21,338,901:

"I do want to appeal for better accommodation for members who have to travel 500 miles to get here.

"Members have to meet their constituents in corridors. "It's a disgrace in my opinion that we should have to lean in corridors talking to people who come to see us."

Dudley Little (SC—Skeena) said Mr. Chant had been promising him committee rooms would be fixed up for the past six years.

IN U.S.

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## SIX MEN TO WATCH

# Those New City Slickers Improve Tone of Debate

By JOHN MIKA  
Times Legislative Reporter

All going well, the legislature's 55 members will be lining up tonight to receive their \$8,000 cheques for salary and expense money, settle their debts and go home after eight weeks of work in the limelight.

The rest of the year they'll have to work almost as hard each day looking after constituents' problems as best they can but the publicity spotlight will be turned off.

Since this has been the first session of the 28th legislature, it's still too early to say whether it will go down as one of the great legislatures in the province's history but certainly the first indications point in that direction.

All three party leaders—Premier Bennett of the Social Credit, Opposition Leader Robert Strachan of the NDP,



Mika

and Liberal Leader Ray Perrault—believe that it is far better than average, particularly because of the 19 newcomers.

## GOOD HUMOR

And the consensus is that this first session of a new legislature was better in caliber of debate, sense of proportion and good-humored temper than the last session of the 27th legislature, or for that matter, any of the previous sessions.

The first session after an election normally shows better sense of proportion and humor but it is rare indeed for its debates to rise above the level of the pre-election session when all MLAs are experienced and talking for their individual political lives.

## OUTSTANDING

The pre-election session of this group, some two or three years hence, should be an outstanding show.

Each of the party leaders pays tribute to the speaking abilities of the freshmen—plugging those from their own parties most, of course.

Premier Bennett says the biggest difference he notices from the days when he entered the legislature a quarter-century ago is that young men who have never faced so many political opponents at one time today not only do not shrink from the ordeal of a maiden speech but embroil themselves willingly in debates and do well at that.

## NEW ATMOSPHERE

Opposition Leader Strachan says he detects an entirely new atmosphere in the legislature and, although he concedes one or two freshmen from the other parties have begun impressive, he feels that the NDP group has managed to seize the initiative and retain it throughout the session.

Liberal Leader Perrault says some of the freshmen have been as articulate as the veterans and this gives promise that this particular group of MLAs will be the best seen during the Bennett era.

Undoubtedly, the composition of the house has had something to do with its new-found sheen. The redistribution of ridings has put far more "city boys" with an education into the political forum.

## MEN TO WATCH

Comparisons are invidious at this early stage, but on the basis of their performance at the first session the newcomers to watch next session will be:

Socreds Evan Wolfe and Herb Capozzi, both from Vancouver-Centre; Liberals Allan Williams (West Vancouver Howe Sound) and Barrie Clark (North Vancouver-Seymour); and NDP members Robert Williams (Vancouver East) and Ernie Hall (Surrey). Tom Berger (NDP—Vancouver-Burrard) also has shown well but he's had one year of federal politics behind him.

All represent the new breed of young hard-nosed urbanites who are likely to be on the provincial scene for many years to come. And any one of them could someday write a throne speech, depending on how the breaks go.

## Night-Long Debate Sets Stage to End B.C. Session Today

By JOHN MIKA

Lieutenant-Governor George Pearkes is expected to prorogue the first session of the 28th legislative assembly sometime this evening.

It has held 63 afternoon and night sittings since opening in New Westminster's Queen's Park Arena Jan. 24 to mark the 100th anniversary of the first Legislature's meeting in the city.

MLAs completed scrutiny of spending estimates totaling \$739.3 million at 4:20 a.m. today at the end of the latest night sitting of the session.

Final appropriations to receive approval were \$21.3 million for public works department, \$5.1 million for recreation and conservation department, \$1.9 million for the new travel industry department, \$427,989 for the public utilities commission and \$28,500 for the salaries and office expenses of the three women ministers-without-portfolio.

An NDP motion to adjourn at 1:10 a.m. was defeated by the government and, during a wrangle later, Premier Bennett shouted that the house would sit all night if necessary to complete the government's agenda.

Wednesday afternoon they pushed through clause-by-clause study and third readings of nine government bills after wading through 31 the previous day.

Still left to clean up today were 20 private bills, almost all proposed by opposition members and facing defeat or out of order rulings, and 14 resolutions on subjects ranging from provision of free drugs to children suffering from shigella sonnei to an appeal for an end to the war in Vietnam.

## MINES IN PARKS ATTACKED

Prevent New Buttles,  
NDP Demands

By JOHN MIKA

The gulf between Social Credit and NDP attitudes towards exploitation in provincial parks widened early this morning during a sometimes bitter debate over Recreation and Conservation Minister Kenneth Kiernan's estimates.

NDP MLAs accused Mr. Kiernan of permitting undue exploitation in Tweedsmuir Park by approving 238 mining claims which would repeat the "sorry story of Strathcona park" there and everywhere else in B.C.

## CANCEL CLAIMS

And David Barrett (NDP—Coquitlam) promised he would try to persuade his party to adopt a policy warning all mining promoters that "when we form the next government every mining claim in a provincial park will be cancelled."

Mr. Kiernan said under his aegis mining development in Class B parks has been brought under control, policy of protecting especially worthwhile areas in nature conservancies has been instituted and park expansion has been vigorously pursued.

## GOVERNMENT MAPS

Mr. Barrett touched off the debate by producing government maps and statistics to show that Mr. Kiernan had permitted each claim to be recorded during 1965 and 1966 after the new Parks Act was brought in.

He charged that at least two of the claims intruded into the Eutsuk Lake nature conservancy within the park which was supposed to be inviolate.

"The minister said we were going to preserve the parks (in 1965)," said Mr. Barrett.

## FOR COMPANIES

"We're going to preserve them all right — we're going to preserve them for the mining companies."

He also said 31 claims had been staked and recorded with ministerial approval in Garibaldi Park since 1965 "so now we know the reason why the provincial government didn't want the federal government to spend \$10 million in Garibaldi (on condition there be no exploitation)."

## CONTROVERSY

Robert Williams (NDP—Vancouver-East) said the government should have "learned its lesson" in the controversy that surrounded its permits to Western Mines in Strathcona Park.

"Surely it must realize by now that if we have claims, the mine, mill, roads and townsites all go with them, he said. "After all the kind of logic used

by Western Mines will be used by the other companies."

"Is this the prospect that faces our other provincial parks?"

"Will townsites be allowed in Tweedsmuir Park? Will tailings be allowed in Eutsuk Lake? Will raw sewage be dumped into other Tweedsmuir lakes? Will there be townsites in Garibaldi and the other parks of the province?"

Mr. Williams said it was amazing that the government was able to stop claim staking in the Columbia River project area but not in provincial parks.

Mr. Kiernan said "there were only 56 provincial parks in 1952 and now there are 250 "and there are these problems in only a half-dozen of them."

He said he agreed there should be no exploitation in Class A parks "but members should realize until two years ago there was no protection at all for Class B parks."

"We are clearing up the situation by regulating the Class B parks — we're in the process of defining and setting up superior areas within them as Class A areas and controlling activity in the rest."

"There is no virtue in having miles and miles of identical forest with no natural or ecological values."

## LARGE PARKS

"Some of the large parks in the province were set up with no more imagination than it takes to draw a line on a map."

"But if we are to have an intelligent park policy, then the real estate in the parks should be selected carefully."

He said this has been done in Tweedsmuir Park "which is not some little softball lot — we're talking about something over two million acres, twice the size of the province of Prince Edward Island."

## TINY PART

He said the 600,000-acre Eutsuk Lake nature conservancy was set up within Tweedsmuir after the whole park was surveyed to determine which areas were ecologically valuable.

Cyril Shelford (SC—Omineca) in whose riding Tweedsmuir Park falls, said the area just north of the park is "one of the hottest spots" of mining activity on the continent and only a tiny part of the park has been staked.

He said he was opposed to destroying lakeshore or alpine meadow areas but the claims have been staked in sections that would never be visited by the public.



## MLA Asks Help For Coast Trail

The provincial government was urged in the legislature Wednesday night to donate some money and manpower towards rehabilitation of the West Coast trail between Bamfield and Port Renfrew as a hiking route.

"There are estimates that we could attract 30,000 people to use such a trail, people from all over the world as well as Vancouver Island and the rest of B.C.," said Alan Macfarlane (L-Oak Bay).

Speaking during recreation and conservation department estimates, he said the government was giving moral support to the Boy Scouts Association which was rehabilitating the trail as a centennial project but it should also give financial support.

### VOLUNTEERS HELP

"The cost of putting it into shape would be between \$3,000 and \$5,000 and the annual maintenance cost would be between \$500 and \$800, depending on how much volunteer labor could be obtained," he said.

"This is not a large sum of money but if it was spent and this trail developed and advertised properly, it could attract hikers from all over the world and mean considerable business to all the hotels on the west coast of this Island as well."

Mr. Macfarlane added that the department should begin planning now for an extension of the trail from Port Renfrew to Victoria in future years.

## Cabinet Shields Plan for Capitol

The University of B.C. was described Wednesday as an architectural disaster.

The comment came from Dr. Pat McGeer (L-Vancouver-Point Grey) during debate on Works Minister Chant's departmental estimates when the Liberal member asked Mr. Chant if the provincial government had a master plan for continuing development of the provincial government buildings complex in Victoria.

Motels and neon lights were already springing up near the legislative buildings and soon would mar "this incomparable spot in B.C.," Dr. McGeer said.

### SEE RESULTS

If one wanted to see the results from a lack of planning, he only need look at the University of B.C., Dr. McGeer said. It is located on one of the most beautiful natural campuses in the world.

"What has appeared there over the years is nothing but unsightfulness," Dr. McGeer said. "There's no architectural cohesion at all."

Works Minister Chant said there had been a great deal of work done on a master plan for the capital area.

"In the last year we've spent \$500,000 in acquiring old premises within the government precincts," Mr. Chant said.

In response to another question from Dr. McGeer, the minister said the master plan wouldn't be made public at this time.

## That Sweet Smell Of Success Missing

A professional social worker told the legislature Wednesday that he really, desperately, wants to belong and be accepted into his peer group but just can't seem to make it.

Dave Barrett (NDP-Coquitlam), the social worker, asked during debate on Works Minister Chant's departmental estimates "how are the priorities established as to who gets invitations to sit on the platforms at public opening ceremonies?"

Mr. Barrett said he had recently been paying more attention to advertisements saying "Even your best friends won't tell you."

"What kind of political odor

have I got that I can't seem to get up on the public platform at any public openings?"

At one ceremony, Mr. Barrett said, he was left standing in a mud puddle outside "but even the Social Credit federal candidate got up there."

"I've never once been asked to share the platform," Mr. Barrett said.

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault interjected "You've got a rejection psychosis."

Works Minister Chant said it was not purposeful discrimination as such. "It's simply that only the best people are invited."

## New Orleans Trip Blamed on Strike

Labor Minister Peterson said Wednesday the government's Lear jet aircraft was used to fly a B.C. delegation to a labor conference in New Orleans last year.

"We had arranged to fly on a commercial airline but the (U.S. airline) strike came up and we had to take the jet," said Mr. Peterson.

The New Orleans trip was disclosed Tuesday when Highways Minister Gagliardi answered a series of questions in the legislature concerning

trips on the Lear jet. The minister said he could not recall why the jet was flown to New Orleans.

Mr. Peterson said the plane was used to fly a labor department delegation to the International Association of Government Labor Officials.

## Bennett Blocks House Debate On Gas Price

Two Social Credit MLAs refused to join the government in preventing a debate on gasoline prices by over-riding Speaker William Murray.

It was the first time that Mr. Murray had been over-ruled by the House and it was done on a challenge by Premier Bennett himself.

Cyril Shelford (SC—Omineca) and Ernie LeCours (SC—Richmond) broke party ranks to vote with the NDP and Liberals in a futile bid to uphold the speaker's decision that the debate was in order.

### STRANGE VOTE

In a strange vote, Premier Bennett led his party to cast its votes as "all those who oppose the Speaker's ruling" to win 28 to 21 and effectively kill the debate.

It came in the dying hours of the session as Mr. Shelford moved a previously-posted resolution asking the government to give consideration to placing sale and distribution of propane gas under Public Utilities Commission regulation.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) promptly added an amendment to include "petroleum products" which he said would enable the House "to decide whether there should also be regulation of gasoline prices."

This manoeuvre countered the government's gimmick of preventing debate on a special committee's report on gasoline prices when it had been tabled a few hours earlier.

### NO ACTION

The report had recommended virtually no action.

By refusing unanimous consent to a motion by Mr. Shelford that it be adopted, the government effectively used House rules to prevent the NDP from debating the report or bringing in a minority report urging legislation to set up a crown corporation refinery.

Mr. Macdonald, while amending Mr. Shelford's propane gas motion, argued that the oil companies charged identical prices for their gasoline in all parts of the province.

### MONOPOLY

"They say it's a co-incidence but we say it's a monopoly," he said. "It is not just like any other business. It is a utility and it is overcharging the motoring public so it should be regulated by the PUC."

Attorney-general Robert Bonner said both Mr. Shelford's motion and the NDP amendment would fetter the government's right to make policy decisions and he asked Mr. Murray to rule them out of order.

"My view is that the motion is in order," said Mr. Murray, ruling debate could proceed.

"I challenge the speaker's ruling," said Premier Bennett, invoking the formal procedure for upsetting a ruling of the chair by a majority vote.

### RULING LOST

"Will all those who supported the Speaker's ruling please stand," said Mr. Murray. The entire opposition and the two Soerod mavericks rose.

"Will all those who oppose the Speaker's ruling please stand," said Mr. Murray and the rest of the government MLAs followed Premier Bennett to their feet.

"I declare the Speaker's ruling lost," Mr. Murray said for the first time in his five years in the post.

Earlier, Alan Macfarlane (L—Oak Bay) had declared he would repudiate the majority report which he claimed did not represent the committee's consensus but he was absent from the House when the amendment was introduced.

Mr. Shelford also, earlier, had criticized the majority report on the grounds that it should have recommended specific legislation to ensure oil companies would not exert direct control over retail service stations.

## Hey! What About Paying Our Bills?

It was a fantastic finish to the legislature Thursday night.

A slight oversight — of \$739.3 million — which could have produced the biggest April fool joke Premier and Finance Minister W. A. C. Bennett and B.C. have ever had, was narrowly averted.

Lieutenant-Governor George Pearkes had prorogued the legislature at 9:40 p.m. and, with the MLAs all standing respectfully, was just about to stride out of the chamber behind his aides when:

"Hey, wait a minute! What about the supply vote?" called Opposition Leader Robert Strachan in sotto voce.

The vice-regal party, Speaker William Murray and cabinet ministers were frozen into a tableau of horrified embarrassment for a moment.

Back went the aides, up onto the chair went Lieutenant-Governor Pearkes, down sat the MLAs and "harmph" went Speaker Murray.

"And is an Act for Granting Certain Sums of Money for the Public Service of the Province of British Columbia," Mr. Murray intoned, after a short message to the lieutenant-governor.

Without those words spoken before Gen. Pearkes finally left the chamber, there would have been no budget money in the provincial coffers on April 1 at the start of the new fiscal year.

They constitute the final reading of the bill to make it legal — capping the scores of hours the MLAs spent on estimates.

They should have been spoken early in the ceremony before Gen. Pearkes began reading the formal closing speech — which also is written by Premier Bennett — but no one noticed something was askew except Mr. Strachan and one of the house clerks.

The Opposition Leader scanned back through the list of procedure and checked the journals during the remainder of the ceremony waiting in vain for an unobtrusive opportunity to remind someone of the slip.

He tried, but never succeeded, in catching Premier Bennett's eye and, in desperation, hissed the electrifying words after the ceremony was officially over and Gen. Pearkes was about to leave and the clerk was whispering in agitation to Mr. Murray.

So the legislature actually was prorogued twice — and if the slip had not been retrieved then, a constitutional dilemma would have ensued that could well have required re-convening of the MLAs after Easter to patch things



## MLAs Fight War of Words On Vietnam

Members of the legislature started shooting emotions from the hip Thursday when they became verbally embroiled in the Vietnam war.

The debate started after Frank Calder (NDP—Atlin) introduced a resolution calling on the legislature to urge the federal government to use its position on the International Control Commission to promote a cessation of bombing on North Vietnam.

This, he said, would lead to the start of negotiations between all parties concerned.

Mr. Calder referred to the war as "bloody and barbarous."

### BLOOD BATH

"It is a blood bath that has no equal," he said. "Canada cannot remain silent in the face of bombing not only military targets but civilians in North Vietnam."

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault said no other member of the United Nations had done more than Canada in an attempt to find a peaceful settlement.

When a settlement does come about in Vietnam it will largely be because of the Canadian effort," Mr. Perrault said.

"You'd think there's only one criminal involved here," Mr. Perrault said. He proposed an amendment which would make the resolution read that "Canada continue its efforts towards..."

Attorney-General Bonner said:

"If we are willing to condemn the excesses on one side we should condemn the excesses on the other."

Many peace feelers had been initiated by the U.S., he said.

Mr. Bonner said he believed himself as informed as any other member of the House and couldn't pretend to know all that is involved in the war.

### ANTI-CANADIAN

The attorney-general said the resolution was anti-American and "anti-Canadian as well."

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) asked "How many children have been napalmed since you made that statement?"

"You and your party weren't too keen on putting a stop to the Second World War," Mr. Bonner snapped. "Don't wear your political heart on your sleeve."

"While we're sitting here at this very moment, children, mothers and fathers are being maimed and killed," said Eileen Dailley (NDP—Burnaby North).

Mr. Macdonald urged members "to stand up and be counted in this great moral issue of this age."

Canadians could not continue to wash their hands of the matter.

"You're washing them in pink water," shouted Herb Capozzi (SC—Vancouver Centre).

"There are times when elected representatives have to distinguish between right and wrong," Mr. Macdonald continued.

### RIGHT, WRONG

"Communist line," shouted Social Credit members.

Dr. Pat McGeer (L—Vancouver Point Grey) said Mr. Macdonald had asked members to distinguish between right and wrong.

"This is pretty simple to do—the Communists are wrong," Dr. McGeer said.

Education Minister Peterson said, "If we're going to condemn a war—and I'm not suggesting we should—we should not just condemn half a war."

The Liberal amendment was defeated by a voice vote and the NDP resolution went down 14-24, with the Liberals supporting the Social Credit members.



**BROADCASTER Barrie Clark** (L—North Vancouver—Seymour) lost a bid to allow television and radio broadcasting and film reporting of debates and proceedings in the legislature. Social Credit members lined up against the Liberals and NDP to defeat the bill when it came up for second reading Thursday.