

MAR

1964

In the Legislature

B.C. Budget Still Tops

Premier Bennett isn't going to be taken in by any fiscal jiggery-pokery from Social Credit Alberta.

Yesterday he repudiated Alberta's claim to having the third highest provincial budget in Canada.

The Alberta budget came down Friday and totalled \$414,500,000—a cool \$18,500,000 more than Mr. Bennett's—or so it seemed.

Alberta, he said, had lumped in federal-provincial and municipal-provincial cost-sharing items to produce a gross figure. B.C.'s \$396,000,000 budget was net provincial expenditure.

After Premier Bennett adjusted Alberta's budget it was \$41,000,000 smaller than his.

"The Alberta budget is a good budget," he allowed, "it is just not as big as British Columbia's."

The legislature observed one minute of silence last night, in tribute to the memory of Angus Macinnis, a founder of the CCF party, who died in Vancouver yesterday.

Premier Bennett told reporters, "while we know he was not feeling well for some time, his passing was a shock.

"I am sure I express the feelings of all the people of B.C., regardless of party, that Angus Macinnis was an outstanding citizen for B.C. and Canada.

Last night the legislature approved the \$14,738,559 estimates of the attorney-general's department after a debate lasting about seven hours.

At today's sitting, the House will be asked to consider estimates of the department of industrial development, trade and commerce, the department of education and possibly the department of labor.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner announced the government plans a pay boost for jury duty.

Later in the session, the government plans to bring in an amendment to the Jury Act "involving a variation in remuneration," Mr. Bonner said.

The attorney-general told reporters his department was considering "a modest increase," including a \$1-a-day pay boost along with the possibility that jury fees might be considered as a tax-free expense.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault said the time is ripe for creation

of a consumers' affairs office in B.C.

He said he had spoken to the Better Business Bureau and the Canadian Association of Consumers about the idea and that both had welcomed it.

He suggested a woman head the office. Women made 80 per cent of buying decisions.

Making new automobile licence plates every year is a waste of money and hard on the knees, Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver-East) said last night.

He suggested B.C. follow the

example of Denmark and England and have permanent plates that last the life of the vehicle.

Here from U.S.

Students In House

Forty-five college students from the Spokane area visited the legislature at the start of Education Week yesterday to see the British parliamentary system in action.

In extending a "warm welcome to our American cousins and friends," Premier Bennett quipped from the floor of the House: "There's a representative government—ours is a responsible government."

Opposition leader Robert

Strachan, who endorsed Mr. Bennett's welcome, said jokingly he would leave until a later time the matter of "whether this is a responsible government."

B.C. Liberal leader Ray Perrault also welcomed the Americans.

Premier Bennett told the legislature that of all the special weeks observed in B.C. and Canada, "none is more important than education in this province."

Nanaimo

Race Plans

Falter

in Stretch

Nanaimo horse racing plans faltered in the stretch in the legislature yesterday.

The select standing committee on private bills announced it has turned down a bid to incorporate Vancouver Island Turf Association, a Nanaimo promotion.

Committee chairman Alex Matthew (SC-Vancouver Centre) said the bill was improperly drawn up—it gave too much authority to too few people.

Nine shareholders were provided for, but only three of them were named: F. W. "Bus" Matthew, a former Tory MP; Douglas Skillings, a nephew of Victoria Socred Waldo Skillings, and businessman John Knight.

The group was represented before the committee by Nanaimo lawyer Harold Hine, a brother-in-law of Education Minister Leslie Peterson.

Outside B.C.

HEATHMAN LOCATED

By TERRY HAMMOND
Colonist Legislative Reporter

Charles Heathman has been found "elsewhere in Canada."

Attorney-General Robert Bonner made the announcement in the legislature yesterday.

Heathman, who once confessed to murder and then denied it, is outside the province, Mr. Bonner said later in a corridor interview, and can't be brought back in spite of the fact he broke a B.C. Mental Hospitals Act parole.

In his statement to the House, he said Heathman had been located and was "under surveillance."

He refused to tell reporters where in Canada police had found him, but there were unconfirmed reports it was in the east.

12 DAYS AGO

Heathman vanished from the Lower Mainland home of an officially-appointed sponsor 12 days ago, and his disappearance was immediately reported to the authorities.

The attorney-general's department issued a search and locate order to RCMP and a continent-wide hunt was launched. There were no instructions to apprehend him.

BEYOND BORDERS

Officials explained then and confirmed yesterday that jurisdiction of the Mental Health Act, under which Heathman was paroled, does not extend beyond the provincial border.

Heathman was twice sentenced to the gallows for the 1960 sex-slaying of 10-year-old Vernon newsboy Donald Ottley, and later was set free by the B.C. Appeal Court, which quashed the conviction.

Later he made what was purported to be a full confession to a Vancouver newspaper and then he repudiated it after publication.

About 20 months ago he was committed to Essondale Mental Hospital after being deemed dangerous to be at large.

WON PAROLE

Recently he won parole from Essondale when a medical appeal board found him fit for conditional discharge.

His case became an issue in the legislature yesterday when Mrs. Lois Haggen (NDP—Grand Forks-Greenwood) asked during debate on the attorney-general's estimates how society was to be protected.

54 CONVICTIONS

She said Heathman had a record of 54 previous convictions and became the central figure in a brutal murder.

"He was placed under light—

I would say very light—six months' probation.

"He is loose on society again, and the attorney-general says there is nothing he can do."

She said the Heathman case had cost taxpayers a great deal of money, but now they were unable to get protection.

"Something is wrong somewhere."

She quoted U.S. FBI chief Edgar Hoover as saying, "Gentle sex criminal laws are stupid."

RISES TO REPLY

Rising immediately to reply, Mr. Bonner said there was no hint of sex offences in any of the 54 convictions referred to by Mrs. Haggen, although sex had been a factor in the death of the Ottley boy.

But, he continued, Heathman had been acquitted of the Ottley murder by due process of law.

RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES

He told the legislature it is impossible to separate the rights and privileges of society from those of the individual.

If the customary safeguards

are not present for one man "of unsavory reputation," then they couldn't be present for anyone else.

"The system either works without political discretion or it doesn't work at all."

GONE OVERBOARD

Publicity over the Heathman case had "gone completely overboard," he said, but he didn't blame legislative reporters.

But at the same time, Heathman had been the victim of "one of the most remarkable . . . invasions of privacy which it would be possible to imagine."

Heathman, he pointed out, had repudiated the newspaper confession and had been declared fit to rejoin society by the same psychiatrist who had termed him dangerous.

"It would be a remarkable man indeed whose mind would not be affected by two convictions and the time he spent on death row."

EVERY TYPE

"If ever there was an example of a man in an unprotected position as of right now, bearing every type of public scorn ever heaped on anyone, it is this man.

"His position must touch anyone who thinks about it."

Mr. Bonner said that if he and others in his position were not concerned with the rights of the individual as part of their concern over the rights of society, then society was in a bad way.

B.C. Fights Indian 'Jail Habit'

Alberni NDP MLA John Squire wanted to know in the legislature yesterday what progress the government is making with the handling of Indians in B.C.'s jails.

Attorney-General Bonner replied that removal of the ban on sale of liquor to the Indians has contributed to "a tapering off" of the number of Indians in jail.

Those who are in jail usually find their way to forest camps where they seem to be best suited.

"Deliberate attention has to be given," he said, "to breaking down that acceptance of going away to jail." A number of Indians who used to get into trouble because of liquor laws got into the habit of going to jail.

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1964

Works in Ontario

'Spouse Hunt' Urged To Cut Down Welfare

The government should set up a team of investigators to track down deserting husbands, Gordon Dowding (NDP Burnaby) suggested in the legislature yesterday.

An organized "spouse hunt" in Ontario resulted in the location of 41 per cent of 1,634 erring husbands, he said. This resulted in 320 families being taken off the province's wel-

fare roles, of \$150 a month per family.

"It is costing up millions of dollars over the years in social assistance," Mr. Dowding told the House.

But, Arthur Turner (NDP Vancouver East) said social workers have told him it is cheaper to pay the social assistance money than track down the missing males.

In Serious Offences

MLA Asks Curb On Magistrates

Magistrates should not have the power to preside over serious offences, says Yale MLA William Hartley.

More than 90 per cent of the criminal cases in Canada are disposed of by magistrates, who may or may not be legally trained, he said in the legislature yesterday.

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He said there is "a strong feeling" among lawyers engaged in criminal work that the power of magistrates should be curtailed to deal only with minor matters.

The NDP MLA suggested that "serious offences ought to be dealt with by an independent and trained judge who is not spending most of his time dealing with drunks, vagrants and petty offenders, and who is not in close and constant relationship with the police."

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Attorney-General Robert Bonner replied that of 213 magistrates in the province, seven are district magistrates and 51 are trained in the legal profession.

"The situation has considerably improved over what it was a few years ago," said Mr. Bonner.

House Guffaws

Budget Tops Sex Nimsick Believes

Sex is only a minor thing when it comes to marriage, Leo Nimsick (NDP, Cranbrook) told the legislature last night.

A marriage course should be given in high schools because many broken homes are caused by inability of young people to cope with married life, he said.

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"Young people get out of high school and they get married and don't know what kind of problems they are getting into," he said during debate of estimates for the office of Education Minister Leslie Peterson.

"At the present, we prepare them for almost every problem we can think of, but the greatest problem of all we do nothing about—leave them to find out for themselves."

Mr. Peterson interjected:

"On behalf of your wife, I object."

Laughter rippled through the legislative chamber and things started getting out of control.

"This is no laughing matter," said Mr. Nimsick.

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What a person reads in the newspapers these days would make him think that "sex is the end-all and the be-all of marriage—but it should be far down on the list," he said.

"What's on top of the list?" asked someone.

"How to get along, how to budget, how to look after a family, how to keep house," Mr. Nimsick continued, determinedly.

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"Sure, it is easy to laugh, but when you see all the broken homes and difficulty" caused

by this problem, a person will realize they should "not wait until the horse is out of the barn."

A red-faced Mr. Nimsick stood at his place while the House around him erupted in loud laughter and guffaws, and the chairman of the committee of supply rapped his gavel five times and called for order.

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"Mr. Chairman, I don't know what they are laughing at," continued Mr. Nimsick. "We should solve these problems early in life and not . . ."

"Wait till the horse is out?" called a voice from the floor, bringing the House down in laughter again.

Education Minister Peterson later commented, "I don't think we can legislate quite as far as the member from Cranbrook suggests," to solve these problems of society.

'B.C. House' Report Asked

Bonner Defends Steacy Sets MLAs A-Moaning

Cries of "Oh, no" rose from legislative opposition benches yesterday when Attorney-General Robert Bonner leaped to the defence of former agri-

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Don't Say B.C. On Travels

Don't tell people you are from B.C. when you go traveling, Premier Bennett told the legislature yesterday, the name is "British Columbia."

But the trouble with saying British Columbia is that people confuse it with British Guiana, replied John Squire, (NDP, Alberni).

Far more people knew where Vancouver was than where British Columbia was, he said as he urged more effective publicity about the province.

culture minister Newton Steacy.

Mr. Steacy runs B.C. House in San Francisco. He was given the job after his defeat in 1960.

Leo Nimsick (NDP-Cranbrook) said the legislature should have a report "on this politically set up B.C. House" where the government had "pensioned off" a former minister.

"Anyone who has been a minister in this government is well qualified to represent the province abroad," replied Mr. Bonner, whose trade department estimates were under discussion.

Moans and loud shouts of "Oh, no," filled the House.

"Oh yes," Mr. Bonner shot back. "He has been diligent in his duties and attentive to the objectives of B.C. House."

No Yankee Dollars In New B.C. Bank

By **TERRY HAMMOND**
Colonist Legislative
Reporter

The "Yankee-dollar-stay-home" sign was nailed firmly to the front of the embryo Bank of British Columbia yesterday.

It was hung there by Premier Bennett and Attorney - General Bonner following a report that two major American banks are interested in securing a major interest in one of the three new Canadian banks currently being proposed.

NOT FOR BANKING

Both said they like to see the influx of U.S. investment money for industry but not for banking.

The Bank of British Columbia, they said firmly, would be "one hundred per cent Canadian."

Premier Bennett told the Colonist, in a corridor interview, that the first formal move toward launching the provincially-sponsored Bank of B.C. will come on Friday in the form of a legal notice in the Canada Gazette.

The notice of intention to apply for a federal bank charter is required under the Canada Bank Act.

The premier said he understands it has to run for four consecutive weeks before further action can be taken. The notice would contain no new details of the provincial bank venture.

Premier Bennett also reaf-

firmed the government's intention to exercise operating control over the new bank.

In the first announcement of provincial bank plans on Jan. 23 the premier announced the government's intention to seek legislative approval to buy up to 25 per cent of the capital stock in the venture. He agreed this could give operating control.

SPUR INTEREST

But since then a number of opposition speakers have suggested B.C. probably wouldn't buy anywhere near that amount --that the whole announcement might have been largely to spur interest in a western banking proposal.

The premier dispelled this notion when a reporter asked him if the government would agree to having the bank controlled by private Canadian capital.

"We would hope to see the authorized capital spread as widely as possible," he replied.

HOW MUCH

This meant there will be restrictions on how much bank stock a single investor can buy during the initial distribution of shares.

Provided a secondary market doesn't succeed in uniting a large number of shares after the initial distribution, B.C. would be the largest single shareholder and almost assured of working control.

But almost may not be good enough.

If it isn't, there is a simple expedient—hold back a portion of the authorized capital from the market.

If authorized capital was \$100,000,000 B.C. would be entitled to buy \$25,000,000. But if only \$50,000,000 of the authorized capital is put on the market B.C. would hold 50 per cent of the outstanding shares.

FIRST WORD

First word that U.S. capital is eyeing the three emerging Canadian banks came from a British banker visiting Vancouver yesterday.

He said that during a North American tour he heard rumors that two big U.S. banks are hoping to buy into one of the three.

HALF INTEREST

The U.S. banks apparently want to follow the example of the First National City Bank of New York which last year bought a half-interest in the Mercantile Bank of Canada.

The British banker, Major Harry Marley, declined to name the U.S. banks he had heard mentioned or the Canadian bank they were interested in.

School Subject

Italian Urged For Nanaimo

Italian should be taught in some of B.C.'s high schools, Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) suggested in the legislature last night.

He said the language should be taught in high schools in Vancouver East and Vancouver Centre ridings and

in Nanaimo and Trill, where there are numbers of Canadians of Italian ancestry.

Mr. Macdonald said he realizes that all languages cannot be taught in B.C., but believes the major languages should be carried on.

German and Spanish is already being taught in some high schools in B.C., and "I am sure there would be lots of support for such a course" as Italian, from Canadians as well as people of Italian descent, he said.

He also said "there is no excuse" for a student fee boost at the University of B.C.

MLAs Impressed

Deserted Mother Asks Crackdown On B.C. Hubbies

By JACK FRY

A young, deserted Vancouver mother of three who is fighting for enforcement of the Wives' and Children's Maintenance Act flew to Victoria yesterday seeking political help.

Mrs. Pearl Bentley, 31, of Burnaby, said in an interview at the legislature that she attended Liberal and NDP caucuses and spoke to Ralph Loffmark (S.C., Point Grey) and Highways Minister Gaglardi.

"I told the same story about six times today. They all seemed sympathetic and understanding," said Mrs. Bentley, who claims she and her children, ranging from 10 to six years old, were deserted by her husband six years ago.

She is the leader of a new group, Women Only, which

hopes to inform the government of loopholes in the act through which husbands avoid supporting families they have deserted.

Mrs. Bentley seemed to have made an impression in the first visit she has ever made to the provincial legislature.

Mr. Loffmark said in the corridor that Mrs. Bentley came to Victoria for help because "the present method of enforcing judgments against husbands who desert their wives and leave their children to be brought up by social welfare, as a burden on the general public."

Canada-Wide Pacts?

He said he will recommend to Attorney-General Bonner that efforts be made to extend reciprocal agreements throughout all the provinces, in the hope that eventually agents of social welfare departments anywhere in Canada could be called upon to trace wayward husbands who are running from their obligations.

"Some of these husbands are professional dead-beats, unwilling to look after the children they have fathered. By failing to support their children, they impose a burden on taxpayers and responsible

citizens who have children of their own to look after," said Mr. Loffmark.

"The big problem now is the professional itinerant husband who, whenever he is brought to court for examination as a judgment debtor, makes sure he hasn't been working before that—so he can plead poverty.

"As soon as the examination is finished and his wife and the public officer cease to pursue him for the time being, he goes back to work again.

"I will recommend to the attorney-general that further steps be taken to tighten up the law," said the Sacred MLA.

Job Rule Studied

A possible step might be to make it mandatory for a deserting husband to disclose to his employer about any maintenance order against him, and mandatory for the employer to deduct payments from the man's wages, he said.

But, jurisdiction extends only within the boundaries of the province itself, and later some reciprocal agreements would have to be worked out with other provinces.

The job of tracking a man down should come under the social welfare department, and eventually tracers could be put on a deserter who slips away to another part of the country, Mr. Loffmark said.

"The taxpayers would save

money because in the long run it would be cheaper to track these men down than pay social assistance to their families," he said.

"The law, as it is now, encourages other men to play the same running game because we have not developed a scheme for enforcing the act."

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) said yesterday he will attend a meeting Thursday of the Women Only group and draft their articles of incorporation as a society. He said he has also placed a question on the legislature's order paper to find out how many deserted wives are getting welfare assistance in B.C.

Perrault Urges Trade

Japan Good Customer

B.C. should develop a two-way trade with Japan, Liberal Leader Perrault said in the legislature yesterday.

He recommended the establishment of Japanese assembly plants here, where component parts manufactured in Japan could be assembled for distribution to markets in Eastern Canada.

UNIQUE VALUE

"We must recognize the unique value of Japanese trade in B.C. . . . the Japanese are good customers," Mr. Perrault said during debate on estimates for the office of the Minister of Industrial Development, Trade and Commerce.

Japan would be in a position to buy more raw materials from B.C. if the assembly plants were opened here to help balance trade between the two nations, he said.

Mr. Perrault also suggested in the House:

- Creation of a full-time ministerial post for the department of industrial development, trade and commerce.

- A full review of B.C.'s taxation structure, and a study of whether the five per cent sales tax could be waived as an incentive for industrial expansion.

- Publication of an inventory of B.C.'s industrial poten-

tial, including a survey of natural resources in the northern part of the province.

- Establishment of up to 12 regional offices under the department, each responsible for supplying information to potential investors outside of Canada.

- Steps should be taken now to offset the effects of industrial automation which will put a number of people out of work here in future.

Standards Lower

Parents Poor Teachers Of Sex, Says MLA

Parents are "very poorly qualified" to give instruction in sex, the legislature was told Tuesday.

Mrs. Lois Haggen (NDP, Grand Forks - Greenwood) said that if instruction is given by properly-qualified personnel it "can find a place in the school curriculum."

The natural relationship between parents and their children "precludes discussion," she said.

The need for sex instruction in the schools had been shown by a lowering of moral standards among young people. Parents were to blame.

Those who suggested such instruction should take place outside the schools weren't looking at the situation properly.

Estimates Passed

Estimates totalling \$1,013,961 for the industrial development, trade and commerce department were passed by the legislature Tuesday. Debate, which began Monday night, lasted four hours.

Canadians Won't Risk Funds Here

Foreign investment capital is needed to develop British Columbia because Canadians do not like to risk their own money in this field, Trade and Commerce Minister Robert Bonner told the legislature yesterday.

He was replying, during debate on his office estimates, to a suggestion by Randolph Harding (NDP—Kaslo-Slocan) that the government should take steps to return control of B.C.'s industries to Canadians which he said were "pretty close to 70-per cent foreign controlled."

In presenting his estimates to the house last night, Education Minister Peterson:

Said a \$50,000 increase in funds for scholarships and bursaries, to \$600,000, should mean there will be up to 5,000 awards this year, an increase of almost 400 over 1963.

Told David Stupich (NDP—Nanaimo - The Islands) school trustees deserve a lot of credit for their work, but there isn't much hope they will be paid . . . "they really haven't been able to make up their minds what they want in the form of remuneration, or whether they want any."

Said there is a shortage of teachers in B.C. but it would not be fair to say the province is lagging behind other parts of North America; that 1,096 new teachers were hired here during 1963 and another 1,265 probably will be added to the teaching force in September this year.

Shifting to Communities

MENTAL HEALTH GOES

DO-IT-YOURSELF

By **TERRY HAMMOND**
Colonist Legislative Reporter

Radical new "do-it-yourself" mental health legislation was introduced by the B.C. government yesterday. It came down in the form of the long-awaited B.C. Mental Health Act.

The new act would gradually take the government out of mental health services except for a financial role.

Onus for provision of new facilities would fall on the community level with financial assistance from B.C. and the federal government.

In a press conference following introduction of the new legislation, Health Minister Eric Martin said the community-level plan is in line with the modern concept of decentralization of mental health facilities.

He said it is impossible to predict what share of community mental hospital construction and operating costs Ottawa will pay.

But any increase in their share over what they now pay for general hospitals would be deducted from the community cost and not used to reduce the provincial contribution.

For general hospitals some 30 to 35 per cent of construction cost falls on communities, 12 to 15 per cent is paid by

He envisions private societies forming throughout B.C. to launch community mental hospitals along the same lines that general medical hospitals are created.

Effectiveness of the new policy will rest on complementary federal legislation which would put Ottawa on a cost-sharing basis for construction of new mental hospitals as well as hospital insurance coverage for the inmates.

Mr. Martin said he is confident Ottawa will take the necessary steps.

Ottawa, and B.C. puts up 50 per cent of the approved cost. Mr. Martin thought that the federal government might boost its contribution for mental hospitals.

The community mental hospitals would care for the same long-term patient now admitted to Essondale.

After many years of application of the new policy, Mr. Martin agreed, Essondale could be closed down.

When sufficient of the community hospitals are built, Essondale patients could be transferred back to their home locales.

In order to spur the move for government withdrawal from operation of mental hospitals, the new legislation provides for transferring ownership of existing facilities to private societies when these are formed.

But he didn't think any society would want to take over the sprawling Essondale complex.

Mr. Martin described the new legislation as "the most radical piece of mental health legislation in the western world."

He said it will offer increased opportunities for existing provincial mental health hospital staff and allow psychiatrists to "follow their patients right into the hospital."

LOCAL SOCIETIES

He expects immediate interest among the public in getting local societies underway, but pointed out construction can't actually start until Ottawa comes into the scheme.

The role of the mental health services branch would ultimately parallel the role of the B.C. Hospital Insurance Service and might, Mr. Martin said, become a part of BCHIS.

NEW POLICY

Under the new policy the province would simply regulate new construction and community operation through control of capital grants and per diem rates.

Mental health officials have been working on the new act for three years and studied at first-hand progressive legislation in England, Canada and the U.S.

Assistance in its preparation came from the Canadian Medical Health Association, the Canadian Medical Association, private psychiatrists and the UBC faculty of law, Mr. Martin said.

"This bill is designed to en-

courage the development of locally-developed and locally-operated mental health services," Mr. Martin said.

FULL MEASURE

"It is the policy of this government to extend a very full measure of co-operation and assistance to any society which wishes to establish mental health services."

The Act consolidates the provisions of six other acts and in time will bring about their repeal.

When proclaimed, the legislation will scrap the Mental Hospitals Act, Clinics of Psychological Medicine Act, Schools for Mental Defectives Act, provincial Mental Health Centres Act and the Provincial Child Guidance Clinics Act.

OPENED WAY

It meets recent criticism of a section of the Mental Hospitals Act which opened the way for release of confessed child-slayer Charles Heathman.

Much of the controversy over the Heathman release stemmed from the fact that before parole he was examined by a review board consisting solely of medical practitioners.

BE REPLACED

Under the new Act they would be replaced by psychiatrists.

The legislation would also plug a recently-opened legal avenue by which the provincial Woodlands School for Retarded Children could have been flooded beyond capacity.

This avenue resulted from a Vancouver court decision which held that the courts had power to order any child admitted to the institution upon satisfactory medical evidence.

The government is appealing the judgment and has secured a stay of proceedings.

Officials had said a flood of court-ordered admissions to the school could have caused chaos. The court case arose when the school's superintendent refused admittance to a child.

NEW ACT

The new act deprives the court of the right to order admissions and makes the superintendent the final authority on who gets in and who doesn't.

The bill is expected to spark a major outcry from municipalities.

They could argue that the government is simply shoving a major share of the mental health financial burden onto their shoulders.

Case Months Overdue

Kiernan Assails Ottawa For Oil Rights Delay

B.C. is running out of patience in its squabble with Ottawa over offshore rights.

Mines Minister Kenneth Kiernan said yesterday Ottawa still hasn't forwarded to him its argument to justify federal intrusion into the control of possible mineral wealth under B.C.'s offshore waters.

Presentation of Ottawa's case is months overdue.

"While I do not desire to create an embarrassment for the federal government we will not be justified in allowing this situation to drift much longer," Mr. Kiernan told the Colonist.

What B.C. officials fear most is that one of the exploration crews currently investigating coastal waters will hit oil before the conflict in jurisdiction is

cleared up.

Companies engaged in exploration work have taken the precaution of obtaining permits from Victoria and Ottawa just in case.

With an eye on the history of offshore jurisdictional disputes between state and federal governments in the U.S., B.C. hopes to settle the case while only a principle is at stake.

Ottawa suddenly started exercising control over offshore exploration in B.C. during the Diefenbaker administration.

For awhile, some companies explored under B.C. permits and others took their authority from Ottawa.

For two years B.C. has been asking Ottawa to justify its action by stating in simple words how they obtained jurisdiction in the first place.

B.C.'s case for exclusive con-

trol is based on history.

Canada, the province maintains, did not have jurisdiction when the coast was a Crown colony, and did not obtain it under the terms of union.

How then did Canada get it? "It must be obvious that the federal authorities are either very short of staff or are finding a great deal of difficulty in the preparation of a case that could be described as reasonable, Mr. Kiernan said.

"No serious difficulty is created at the moment but the exploration arm of the petroleum industry can hardly be expected to tolerate this situation indefinitely."

When the squabble started during the Diefenbaker years, B.C. was preparing to proceed under the Constitutional Questions Determination Act to get a decision.

If Ottawa doesn't act soon this avenue may be reopened.

Interior Loggers

Quota Solution Suggested

A group of B.C. interior loggers said Wednesday the only fair way of eliminating blackmail and spite bidding practices in timber sales will be to stop trafficking in timber quotas.

A brief to the legislature's forestry committee from the Interior Logging Association maintained that timber "is a public asset, and as such must be sold at public auction."

The brief was presented by G. R. Hickman, who told the committee a proposed solution to the spite bidding problem advanced by large timber operators would only place timber "into the hands and control of the minority."

Mr. Hickman said quotas—"originally given to the industry by the forest service"—now are being sold among operators for an average of \$10 a thousand board feet.

If the proposal of the larger operators to restrict bidding on timber sales to established operators with quotas were carried out, the values of quotas "might go as high as \$50 a thousand."

Under the present quota system a quota holder can obtain any timber sale from his quota by matching the highest competitive bid. But if he fails to do so he loses his entire quota.

The interior loggers proposed the present system of quotas be maintained but that the quotas not be lost through the holder's failure to win a sale.

If the sale were lost the quota holder would be able to apply for a replacement sale once the first sale had expired.

"This proposal protects the public asset and allows the

timber to be sold at its true value on a competitive market, completely divorced from the private asset, the quota," the brief said.

"No competent and efficient established operator should complain if he is unable to meet his competitor's bid for a public asset."

Mr. Hickman said 90 per cent of the excessive bids in current timber sales "are to protect quotas." Most of the high bids were being made by processing plants.

He said the advocates of restrictive bidding "are trying to get protection for their investment."

923 Charged

B.C. \$25,253 Richer From Game Law Fines

The provincial treasury was fattened \$25,253 last year in fines from game law violators, Conservation Minister Kiernan said yesterday.

Mr. Kiernan said the authorities charged 923 hunters and fishermen in 1963

with violations of fish and game regulations.

He said 277 persons were charged with carrying loaded firearms in vehicles, 165 with hunting or fishing without licences, 61 with transporting deer without evidence of sex

and 45 with failing to lock game tags properly.

Another 22 were prosecuted for making false statements in applying for hunting and fishing licences.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1964

New Methods Queried

Puzzled B.C. Teachers Peterson's Only Worry

Parents can't understand some of the new teaching methods in British Columbia schools, Randolph Harding (NDP, Kaslo-Slocan) complained in the legislature yesterday.

Education Minister Peterson replied that he is more concerned about teachers having a hard time understanding new methods of instruction, than he is the parents.

As for the effects at home, "a child will do his own homework instead of having his parents do it," he said.

Mrs. Lois Haggren (NDP, Grand Forks-Greenwood) said she understands some teachers have taught phonetically for a number of years. The result often seems to be that children learn words quickly but have a hard time spelling the words correctly "... they continued to spell phonetically—uh, phonetically."

Another Language In B.C. Schools? How About Chinese

If another language is to be taught in B.C.'s high schools it should be Chinese and not Italian, Victoria MLA J. Donald Smith said in the legislature yesterday.

Education Minister Leslie Peterson did not comment on his proposal, which was brought in on the heels of a renewed query about Italian from Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East).

"It's certainly all right for Italian to be taught. It's a very musical language. But, what have we got against the Chinese?" Mr. Smith wanted to know.

Mr. Peterson told the NDP member from Vancouver "the matter of teaching Italian is under consideration by my department."

He said he had received a brief on Italian from a delegation and that he passed it on to the director of curriculums.

Peterson Grateful to NDP For Remark on Schools

Education Minister Leslie Peterson said Wednesday he is "grateful" for an Opposition member's comment that religion and public schools should be separate.

Anthony Gargrave (NDP—Mackenzie) said he believed in the separation strongly and was "not prepared to have any change."

The comments came after John Squire (NDP—Alberni) said Section 62 of the Public Schools Act is a denial of the basic, fundamental right by prohibiting practising clergymen from teaching in public schools.

Book Rental Remains

Grade 7 students are still charged rental on textbooks even though that grade has been moved back from high school to elementary school level, Education Minister Peterson said yesterday.

Replying to a question from Mrs. Lois Haggren (NDP—Grand Forks-Greenwood) while the legislature was considering department of education estimates, Mr. Peterson said the entire Grade 7 rate structure is under study "but I am not able to announce any change at this time."

He pointed out, however, that rental in Grade 7 is only \$4.50 for books which are worth about \$20.

Eddie Tells House

91,000 New Jobs If No Overtime

The official opposition's labor critic said Wednesday 91,000 new jobs could be created in Canada if overtime work were eliminated.

Rae Eddie (NDP—New Westminster) based the figure on one by U.S. Labor Secretary Willard Wirtz, who had said 919,000 new jobs could be created in the U.S. with the elimination of overtime.

FIVE-POINT PROGRAM

Opening debate on the labor department's \$1,217,801 estimates for the 1964-65 financial year, Mr. Eddie also urged:

- A 40-hour week, down from the present 44-hour minimum law.
- Separate ministries for education and labor, now combined under Leslie Peterson.
- Double time instead of time-and-a-half for overtime work.
- More research into what skills will be needed in the future.

● Elimination of Section 55 from the Labor Act. Mr. Eddie said the section provides for the labor minister to make a direct offer to employees on strike, and constituted permission for a form of "strikebreaking."

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) said Bill 42, which prohibits use of checkoffs for political purposes is a restriction on civil liberties.

Mr. Peterson said he was pleased at the Supreme Court of Canada's recent decision accepting the bill's validity and that he does not intend to repeal it.

Training Schools

Bill Provides Testing For Children

A private member's bill introduced in the legislature Wednesday provides for psychological and physical examination of all children before admittance to training schools.

The bill, an amendment to the training schools act, states that no child shall be admitted without this examination to determine whether the school would be an effective part of the treatment plan.

The bill was introduced by David Barrett (NDP—Dewdney).

REVIEW PROVIDED

Under it every child committed to such a school would have his case reviewed every three months and every child released would have adequate after-care supervision for at least six months.

No child under 12 would go to a training school housing children over 12 and no child would be transferred to an adult institution without referral of the case to the original court of approval.

Dowding:

Admissions At Whim Of Officials

The new bill to bring in a "do-it-yourself" mental health act introduced yesterday in the legislature showed a "brazen abdication of responsibility" by the government, says NDP mental health critic Gordon Dowding.

The proposed act, he said, deprives the courts of the right to order admissions and this responsibility would be placed in the hands of superintendents at the institutions.

This would mean that admission of mental patients would be "up to the whims of hospital officials" unless the patients were judged too dangerous to be at large, said the Burnaby MLA.

NO PROVISION

Mr. Dowding said under the proposed act admissions would be based upon the availability of "suitable accommodation" and might as well be channelled through the office of the minister of finance "because in the final analysis he becomes the authority who decides what patients will receive treatment."

Because under the proposed act no provision had been made for facilities for emotionally disturbed children, said Mr. Dowding the government had "again displayed its unwillingness to meet the needs of emotionally disturbed children."

"The bill places great discretion in the Lieutenant-Governor in Council to make law and to regulate the act. This is dangerous and unnecessary transfer of powers from the legislature at the expense of the patients and the community," he said.

Legislature Query:

Why Can't B.C. Print Texts?

Why can't the Queen's Printer publish textbooks for B.C. schools? Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby) asked in the legislature yesterday.

He was critical of the fact that \$2,700,000 is earmarked for textbooks in the department of education's estimates.

This figure is an increase of \$250,000 over the estimated textbook expenditure of \$2,450,000 for the fiscal year which will end March 31.

Mr. Dowding noted that the Queen's Printer, which makes a tidy annual profit in its

operations, printed the budget "which is pure propaganda," and asked, "I wonder if it could print textbooks of a comparable size?"

Education Minister Peterson replied that textbook production is a specialized field of work and "I doubt that the Queen's Printer is equipped to do the printing and binding of textbooks."

Some textbook work is done by a private firm in B.C. but until recently there was no company in the province that could do this type of work, he said.

People Rot on

Welfare—Nimsick

Cranbrook NDP MLA Leo Nimsick came out on top in a verbal battle with the government benches yesterday.

In the legislature, he accused the government of letting people "rot on social welfare."

The government cannot solve the unemployment problem by industrial expansion alone, be-

cause automation will keep putting men out of work.

"That's the way it should be," said a Socred backbencher.

"Ridiculous!" retorted Mr. Nimsick. The government should do something for victims of chronic unemployment, he said.

"Education, not charity," shouted Ralph Loffmark (SC,

Vancouver-Point Grey), a University of B.C. professor.

Some people have families and are too old for re-training," said Mr. Nimsick.

"It's never too late," said Mr. Loffmark.

The NDP member countered: "It is easy for people who have gone through university to look down on those on welfare, the

unemployed employables—whom we are paying unemployment insurance to."

The minister of labor should foster among the other cabinet ministers some ideas which would create jobs for the unemployed, said Mr. Nimsick.

The exchange took place during debate of estimates for the department of labor.

Six-Hour Debate For Zero Salary

It took the legislature 6½ hours to approve a salary vote of zero for the minister of labor, which Opposition NDP leader Robert Strachan said was a "measure of the real worth" of the government's labor policies.

Labor Minister Leslie Peterson receives no salary for this cabinet post because he gets \$15,000 a year as minister of education.

"There are some who would say the amount paid under this vote is about what the government's labor policies are worth—and I am one of them," said the leader of the New Democratic Party.

It took the House only 12 minutes more to finish approving the entire labor department's estimates of \$1,217,801.

Mr. Peterson suggested unions may be the "authors of their own misfortune" in certification proceedings. After John Squire (NDP, Alberni), a union official, referred to delays in certification and the counting of non-voters as casting "no" votes.

It had taken 2½ months to get a vote at a 14-man Vancouver Island logging camp. When the vote was taken eight had cast ballots with five favoring certification.

Mr. Peterson said certification had not been allowed because the number in favor had been less than a majority of the employees and that if union organizers collected a month's dues from a majority of workers, certification would be quicker, a vote unlikely and there would have been less trouble for the labor department.

When debate open last night on Health Minister Eric Martin's salary vote, David Barrett (NDP, Dewdney) said a Socred candidate in his constituency during the last provincial election made "a foolish move to try to get a few lousy votes."

Premier Bennett jumped up and shouted, "No vote of any citizen of this province is lousy. That's a terrible thing to say against the people of the province."

Mr. Barrett told the House a Socred candidate announced at election time that a new wing would be added to a hospital at Haney, in his constituency.

"What business is it of a Socred candidate to stand out during an election campaign and announce a new wing will be added? You are playing cheap politics with the people's money," he said.

"It was a very low trick to pull off," said the NDP member.

Blackmail Bidding On Timber Denied

A Vancouver man who said his former partners in a timber firm have wrongly accused him of "blackmail bidding," said yesterday the ex-partners had sub-

jected him to "five years of hell."

W. J. Swetnam was testifying under protection of the Canada Evidence Act before the legislature's select committee on forestry.

ANSWERS CHARGES

He said he was appearing to reply to accusations made against him and his son Robin by Samuel Ketcham of Williams Lake and brothers William and Henry Ketcham of Seattle in an earlier submission to the committee.

Mr. Swetnam told how in 1957 he had agreed to give the Ketchams, owners of adjacent timber tracts, controlling inter-

est in the West Fraser group of seven timber companies near Williams Lake. In exchange, the Ketchams were to operate the firms.

He said the Ketchams managed to reduce West Fraser timber from 80,000,000 board feet to about 7,000,000 without his knowledge by putting quotas up for bid and then entering an "upset" price bid on behalf of Two-Mile Planing Mills Ltd., a firm they wholly owned.

Mr. Swetnam said he had decided last year he had the right to try to re-establish himself in the Williams Lake area by bidding on timber sales from Ketcham quotas.

"I feel they stole these quotas," he said. "Accordingly I decided to go into active competition against them."

CAN'T WIN

"But I'll never be able to win a sale because the Ketchams have used every possible tactic to stop me."

He said he bid on three sales put up by the Ketchams last year. In each case he had bid considerably above the upset price but low enough to make a profit on the logging operation.

"I don't feel I have been guilty of any blackmail bidding," he said.

OTHERS FRIENDS

Don Robinson (S.C. Lillooet) asked why Mr. Swetnam had bid only on Ketcham quota holdings in his attempt to re-establish.

"The other operators up there are all friends of mine," he replied. "Why should I bid against them?"

He Admires Bennett —Like Capone

Gordon Gibson, outspoken North Vancouver MLA, admitted in the legislature yesterday he admires Premier Bennett—like he admires Al Capone.

Mr. Gibson was annoyed that a Vancouver newspaper said he was a "secret admirer" of the Premier.

Premier Bennett jumped to his feet and said smilingly, "It's no secret, everybody knows it."

Mr. Gibson continued: "I won't say how I admire him, but you know Al Capone did a pretty good job of robbing banks and I admired him for it."

Stubbling Block?

Victoria MLA Waldo Skillings yesterday laid part of the blame for B.C.'s unemployment on immigration from Saskatchewan.

He offered his appraisal of the situation while John Squire (NDP, Alberni) was telling the legislature the government should try to find a way of solving the problem of unemployed employables.

"All those stubble-jumpers from Saskatchewan," said Mr. Skillings, from across the floor of the House.

'Health Decided by Laymen'

Health Minister Eric Martin said in the legislature last night his department approved a sewage plan at Castelgar, against the recommendations of a medical health officer who feared the project would pollute the Columbia River.

In reply to questions from Opposition Leader Robert Strachan, Mr. Martin said West Kootenay medical health officer Dr. James McAnulty was asked to resign because of the incident.

The letter calling for McAnulty's resignation was later withdrawn, and the health officer is now on holiday but will return to work. "I hope he will come back to his job with a different attitude," said Mr. Martin.

NDP leader Strachan said Dr. McAnulty opposed a sewage lagoon plan because it would be "a mosquito and disease menace and would add to pollution of the Columbia River."

Mr. Martin replied that the medical health officer "should have ceased his activities" after advising the officials of his opinions on the matter. Instead, Dr. McAnulty "carried on the fight" even though the project was put to a vote and approved by residents of the area.

Mr. Strachan told the House, "I am concerned with what happens here . . . laymen rather than professional medical men are going to decide the health standards in our province."

"What on earth is the sense of having a medical health officer?"

Mr. Martin said: "The people have elected representatives and they make the final decisions."

Bonner:

Courts To Merge

Attorney-General Robert Bonner said changes in British Columbia's supreme and county courts system approved in principle by the legislature Friday are a step toward merger of the two courts.

"I look to the time . . . when the two trial divisions of the county and supreme courts will become one," Mr. Bonner said, "perhaps under the current name of the Supreme Court of British Columbia."

He said the major overhaul would mean the stationing of "resident justices of the supreme court" in various parts of the province.

LIMITS REMOVED

Two bills given unanimous second reading in the House Friday had the effect of removing monetary limits on jurisdiction of county courts over lawsuits and empowering county court jurists to hear divorce proceedings.

The bills also permit use of juries in criminal cases before county court jurists and proclamatory provisions would involve simplification of county court procedures along lines already adopted for the supreme court.

Mr. Bonner said the amendments to the Supreme Court and County Courts Acts would have the over-all effect of permitting "speedier adjudication of matters under the Criminal Code."

The attorney-general said sections of the bills relating to transfer of divorce jurisdiction won't come into force until "some possible problems of constitutionality are studied."

BROAD REFORM

Mr. Bonner acknowledged that his long-range plan for unification of the courts systems "involves a fairly broad measure of reform."

"I trust we will be able to undertake it without too much delay."

The attorney-general said the government has held discussions with the courts and lawyers since the bills' introduction last month. "As a result amendments have been suggested which will be considered in committee."

The two bills and the attorney-general's long-term plans were both welcomed by opposition spokesmen.

Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) said at present the supreme court is being overwhelmed with work while county court jurists in most parts of B.C. are "underworked."

The situation was different in Vancouver and Victoria, however, and he felt the bills' application there should be made "very slowly."

KEEP CIRCUIT COURTS

Mr. Macdonald welcomed the simplified procedures for county courts but "for sentimental reasons" hoped effect of the court overhaul won't be an end to the circuit courts system.

Mr. Bonner said that while the role of the assize courts would be modified he felt assize circuits were "a desirable asset of the courts system."

HOPES FOR SUCCESS

Harry McKay (L, Fernie) hoped the attorney-general "will have success in his long-range attempts to unify the courts."

"Anything we can do to speed up the administration of the law is a good idea."

He said the move would also reduce costs for those who would no longer have to travel long distances to supreme court hearings from the interior.

Donald Brothers (SC-Rossland-Trail) welcomed the "general philosophy" but hoped the government would adjust territorial boundaries of county courts in the Kootenays. The districts had been left outdated by highway developments.

Mr. Bonner said redrawing of the boundaries is under study. "Realignment is certainly to be contemplated and undertaken without delay."

The bills were among 12 given second reading in an unusually friendly atmosphere. Most of the others went through without debate and all were passed unanimously.

JOB BILL DEBATED

Liveliest debate was sparked by an amendment to the Fair Employment Practices Act designed to prevent job discrimination against older workers.

Rae Eddie (NDP-New Westminster) said the bill's terms shouldn't have been limited to persons between 45 and 65 years of age. But he and other Opposition speakers supported the bill's principle.

Alex Matthew (SC-Vancouver Centre) said the bill embodies a principle he had fought for for three years. While it mightn't be perfect, it was "a step in the right direction."

LACKS TEETH

Liberal leader Ray Perrault agreed the bill "lacks some of the teeth it might have." But he congratulated the government for bringing it in.

Labor Minister Peterson and David Barrett (NDP-Dewdney) had a brief but hot exchange

over Mr. Barrett's statement the government was introducing "a requirement it itself refuses to follow."

Mr. Peterson said the bill is the first of its kind in Canada and that the Civil Service Commission has been selecting workers "in accordance with the bill's principles."

CAN'T BE POLICED?

The labor minister also took issue with John Squire (NDP-Alberni) for saying the act couldn't be policed "when the employer has more loopholes than you could shake a stick at."

Mr. Peterson said enforcement would largely depend on education of the public and co-operation on the local labor-management level.

Only other bill debated at any length was the proposed Contracts Relief Act.

NOT FAR ENOUGH

Opposition Leader Strachan and Liberal Leader Perrault both complimented the government for introducing the measure but both felt the terms might not go far enough in protecting debtors from excessive interest rates.

Attorney-General Bonner agreed the bill's success will depend largely on the courts' interpretation of two key words, "unconscionable" and "reasonable."

Bonner's Fringe Benefit?

Gordon Dowling (NDP, Burnaby) had words of praise for Attorney-General Bonner Friday for his introduction of two bills revamping British Columbia's supreme and county courts system.

"They represent the most revolutionary change in the B.C. courts system since the abolition of the wig," he said.

"I was thinking of bringing that back," smiled the attorney-general, long a slave to "Yul Brynner" hair styles.

Bill 67

Noise, Fireworks Controls in Big Overhaul of Municipal Act— -but Nothing on a Sunday

By JACK FRY

The Municipal Act, which regulates all cities and municipalities in B.C. expect the city of Vancouver will be given a major overhaul this year.

Sweeping amendments ranging from Saturday elections to noise control regulations are contained in Bill 67 which was introduced and given first reading in the legislature yesterday.

Vancouver is exempt from the act because it operates under its own charter.

Municipal Affairs Minister Wesley Black, who brought in the bill, said outside the House that many of the amendments were recommended by the Union of B.C. Municipalities.

Theo Adams of New Westminster, executive director of the UBCM, told newsmen that "by and large all the amendments are for better administration of municipal governments."

Missing from the bill is any reference to Sunday sports and entertainment.

Mr. Adams said "the UBCM will be very disappointed that Sunday sports was not included, and probably will continue to press for municipal authority in this field."

Victoria MLA J. Donald Smith, who some time ago said he would introduce a bill for local option on Sunday sports, said yesterday he will introduce such an amendment for Bill 67.

Bill 67 also outlines what type of business operations are exempt from municipal business licences, and is expected to eliminate future

disputes such as cases where Victoria businessmen objected recently to having to obtain licences in Saanich to operate in that municipality.

After the bill is passed in the legislature, civic officials throughout Greater Victoria who are now adjusted to the last change of the Municipal Act in 1962, will have to burn the midnight oil to catch up on hundreds of small technical matters.

Municipal Affairs Minister Black said yesterday he hopes that in future the act will have to be amended only "once every two or three years." In the past, amendments were brought in on almost an annual basis.

Major changes proposed by the bill:

● Civic elections will be held on Saturday of the week following candidates' nomination day, which is the last Monday in November. In the past, elections were held on Thursday of the week following nomination day.

● Councils will have the power to "regulate or prohibit" anything within the municipal boundary which causes noises that disturb "the quiet, peace, rest, enjoyment, comfort or convenience of the neighborhood."

Teeth for enforcement of noise control are contained in the fact that offenders can be fined or imprisoned or both. There is no specific maximum penalty.

● Councils can issue permits for the use of firecrackers and may specify conditions under which the fireworks will be allowed.

● Councils will have the authority to require fencing of private swimming pools and other types of pools.

● Professional people, in-

cluding doctors, lawyers, private detectives and surveyors are not required to hold business licenses outside of the area where their offices are located.

Although the wording of this section states that a professional person is exempt "unless he regularly and generally carries on business in the municipality," a municipal affairs department spokesman said the person is considered exempt "unless he has an office in the municipality."

● Changes will be made in municipal borrowing. Proposed borrowing will have to be approved first by the inspector of municipalities, six per cent will be the maximum interest rate allowed for money borrowed, and temporary financing can be arranged between passage of money bylaws and sale of debentures.

Politicians Praise Veteran Clerk

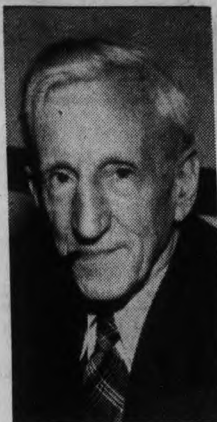
Politicians paid tribute in the legislature yesterday to E. K. DeBeck, clerk of the legislative assembly, who is 81 years old today.

Premier Bennett, in wishing a happy birthday to Mr. DeBeck, told the House, "Years are not the only judge of a man's ability . . . it is the spirit of a man that counts."

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said, "He is a most outstanding adjunct to this House."

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault said, "He has been an inestimable help to all in the House, including our five Liberals."

Mr. DeBeck was not in the House when the tributes were paid at the opening of yesterday's sitting.



DeBeck: 81 Today

New Constitution

Hydro Bill Passes Committee Debate

A bill giving the Crown-owned British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority a fresh constitution passed the committee stage of debate in the legislature Friday.

The bill, to take effect only when proclaimed, was drawn up after B.C. Chief Justice Lett found previous legislation establishing the authority invalid.

Constitutionality of the authority's establishment in 1962 is the subject of two appeals filed by the government against judge's rulings.

In the rulings, judges found Chief Justice Lett's ruling remained in force despite an out-of-court settlement between the authority and B.C. Power Corporation, private owners of B.C. Electric Co.

The Lett judgment primarily concerned the government's take over of the BCE in 1961, which he ruled ultra-vires of the province's powers.

The official New Democratic Party opposition supported the new bill but voted with the five-man Liberal group in opposing three of the 58 sections.

The government easily defeated the opposition with majorities of eight, nine and 11.

COMPENSATION

Opposed were sections providing for final and binding ruling on compensation for damage by a government-appointed evaluator; freeing Hydro from all provincial statutes except those mentioned in the bill; and granting the government wide powers on regulations.

The Liberals also opposed a long section which allows Hydro to enter other fields of enterprise.

UNLIMITED NATURE

Alan Macfarlane (L—Oak Bay) said the section gives "powers of almost an unlimited nature . . . not subject to any real review at all by the legislature."

Opposition leader Robert Strachan said the powers are the same that belong to private firms. "A public corporation has every right to equal freedom, equal authority with private corporations."

Liberal leader Ray Perrault rose to say the difference was that "this is public money we are dealing with."

Section 53, which frees Hydro from all provincial statutes except those mentioned in the bill, "takes away all legislation over the years except as set out in this bill," said Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby).

MLA's Idea

Lansdowne Campus Hospital?

Lansdowne campus of the University of Victoria should become a "house of mercy and learning," said Saanich MLA John Tisdale, opposing the possible sale of campus buildings to Saanich for use as a municipal hall.

The Social Credit MLA felt the campus should become a hospital and mental health centre.

OVERCROWDING NOW

Mr. Tisdale pointed out that there are 50,000 people in Saanich and 12,000 in Oak Bay without a hospital and Victoria hospitals are overcrowded.

The hospital complex attached to the university, would include training facilities for nurses and a residence.

NO NEED TO WAIT

He challenged the minister of health to take a "good look at the situation" and said that although the government has decided to build a mental health centre next to the Royal Jubilee Hospital, Lansdowne would be better, because there would be no need to wait for construction.

Future use of Lansdowne campus is being widely discussed with the university's announced decision to consolidate its activities at the Gordon Head campus.

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 1964

Accountancy Bill To Be Discussed

Advocates and opponents of proposed accountancy legislation will have an opportunity to state their views Thursday at the first meeting of the committee for private bills to study the matter.

Alex Matthew (SC, Vancouver Centre), chairman of the committee, has invited interested parties to apply for permission to appear before the group, which meets at 9:30 a.m. in the Cedar Room of the Legislative Buildings.

Attorney-General Bonner withdrew the bill from the floor of the House this week.

Sponsors of the bill, representing various accounting groups in the province, say the measure is designed to eliminate confusion in the minds of the public regarding different designations and grades of accountants.

Opponents argue its effects would be to create a monopoly in the field of accountancy, and to raise artificially the cost of accounting work.

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 1964

Martin Tells House

Dental Mechanics, Dentists Locked In 'War to Death'

Health Minister Eric Martin told the legislature yesterday "a war to the death" is taking place between B.C.'s dentists and dental mechanics.

The situation is "one of the most disgraceful things I have ever witnessed in my life."

The government bent over backwards earlier this year to settle a dispute between the two groups by bringing in new regulations which wiped out a disciplinary clause under which the B.C. College of Dental Surgeons was able to discipline its members for dealing with dental mechanics.

"What did we get in return? Nothing but kicks in the teeth," Mr. Martin told the House.

The B.C. Supreme Court subsequently ruled the government's action unconstitutional.

The dental issue arose during the second day of debate on the minister's salary vote,

which still has not been approved by the House.

Mr. Martin blamed both sides for not sitting down and ironing out their problems. "All the legislation is there, all we need is common sense and a little adulthood."

Each group is refusing to cooperate with the other, and if some solution is not found to the problem "I will bring in some very stringent regulations," he warned.

Saanich MLA John Tisdalle launched the debate on the dental issue, by telling the House that dental mechanics are being "driven underground" and forced to bootleg their skills on the black market.

Dental mechanics have a right to deal directly with the public, he said.

Arthur Turner (NDP Vancouver East) told the legislature "the answer is not to pass orders-in-council to restrict dental technicians."

'It's My Mouth'

Donald Robinson (SC-Lillooet) called for a government investigation of the dentist-dental technician fight, and said: "If I want to go to a dentist to get my teeth out and go to a dental technician for teeth — it's my mouth and I should be able to do what I see fit."

When a dental technician gets "only \$20 for uppers and lowers, and a dentist charges \$200 to \$300 for the same set of teeth, something is wrong somewhere," he said.

Esquimalt MLA Herbert Bruch said "I am as critical of the lack of co-operation by the dentists as I am critical of the lack of co-operation by dental technicians . . . these petty bickerings have to come to an end."

Bert Price, (SC, Vancouver Burrard), called for legislation

permitting dentists and dental mechanics to work together "without prejudice" to the dentist.

Mr. Price said that three dentists in B.C. have had their licences to practice suspended by the dental society, for dealing with the dental mechanics, who are non-professional denture makers.

The government backbencher said that although dental mechanics have been permitted to make dentures for anyone after gums have healed, the dental society has, in effect, frustrated the law.

Opposition leader Strachan said he had heard reports of the suspension but on investigation found the dentists had dealt with unlicensed mechanics or had allowed the mechanics to make dentures for unhealed gums.

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 1964

Fulton House Spectator

Columbia Authority Urged

E. Davie Fulton, B.C. Progressive Conservative leader, has called for early creation of a Columbia River authority to supervise non-power aspects of the river's development.

Mr. Fulton said Monday such an authority is necessary if B.C. is to derive maximum benefit from all aspects of the project.

He suggested the body, which would be similar to the Tennessee Valley and St. Lawrence Seaway authorities, might supervise compensation, relocation of highways, tourist facilities, school construction and problems in municipal affairs and agriculture.

The authority "would have executive powers within the framework of provincial legislation."

He doubted the government has any over-all Columbia development plan. If so, it was a case of "lack of foresight."

"But perhaps it's just that Mr. Bennett doesn't want to let the power get out of his hands."

Mr. Fulton was speaking to reporters after watching debate in the legislature from a seat in the public galleries. The party leader was personally defeated in the 1963 provincial election,

along with all the other Conservative candidates.

He said that he, "along with all other B.C. residents," welcomed the idea of a new federal bank with headquarters in the province. "But it would be a great mistake for the government to participate directly or indirectly in its administration."

Asked what he thought about debate in B.C.'s House the veteran Ottawa parliamentarian said he would reserve his comments until he is able to make them from the floor of the House.

Asked whether a bill providing for the government to invest in share capital of the new Bank of B.C. might be ultra-vires of the province's powers, Mr. Fulton said he presumed the federal justice department will study the possibility.

"But I know of no law which prevents a province from buying shares in a bank."

Mr. Fulton said he fears decentralization of mental hospital facilities, provided for under B.C.'s proposed new mental health act, might only be another example of Social Credit "trying to get rid of a hot potato."

He said the government has a prime responsibility in mental health and "should admit it."

Access Fine, But . . .

Forestry Firms Fight Road Act

B.C. forest industries are still implacably opposed to any legislation which would give the public the right to public access over private roads.

A clutch of briefs placed before the legislative committee on public access yesterday showed the industry is willing to expand its voluntary role as host to the general public but wants to retain control over the guest list.

BILL UNDER STUDY

A draft bill which would establish certain public rights to access is under consideration by the committee.

The bill was prepared last year but wasn't placed before the legislature.

Some observers predict that in the face of growing co-operation from industry in the access field it is likely to be pigeonholed again.

INDUSTRY CLAIMS

In yesterday's briefs the industry claimed:

- More than 4,000 miles of private industrial roads have been voluntarily opened to the public.

- More than 100,000 members of the public used such roads last year.

- Existing restrictions on access are in the public interest—either to preserve forest resources or protect human life.

PLAN WORKS WELL

A Council of Forest Industries brief said the voluntary access plan is now working well.

"Why put a straitjacket on it by imposing an access act?" the brief asks.

Individual access routes pose individual problems, the brief states, and cannot be properly administered through uniform regulations.

The council said 55,000 hunters—more than twice the number which passed through the Cache Creek game-checking station—passed industrial access points on Vancouver Island alone last year.

SERIOUS SITUATION

"The handling of this flood of hunters in the short period of the hunting season is reaching the point where it is a serious administrative problem," the council adds.

Cost of public use of the Gold River Road is estimated at \$25,000 and is being absorbed by industry, says the brief.

2,467 MILES OPEN

In a separate brief, MacMillan, Bloedel and Powell River Ltd. said it has opened up 2,467 miles of private road to public access.

"We have a liberal access policy. It will become more liberal as the public becomes more educated," the company stated.

Martin 'Deluding' Public On Chronic Care Plans

By TERRY HAMMOND

Health Minister Martin was accused yesterday of trying to delude the public into thinking the government had implemented a long-awaited chronic care program.

By a 29-to-16 vote, the government overwhelmed a non-confidence motion which would have cut the minister's salary by \$1.

NEGLECTING AGED

The motion was put before the House by Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) who accused Mr. Martin of having neglected the old people of B.C. by failing to provide for real chronic care.

The minister, he charged, had first promised a program for the chronically-ill in 1956.

"Eight years and 18 promises later we still have sweet nothing," he raged.

'ELECTION BAIT'

The chronic care promise had been nothing but "election bait."

He quoted the health minister as saying again in 1960 that hos-

pital insurance for the chronically-ill would come into effect later the same year.

In his non-confidence motion he said he would only call for a \$1 cut in the minister's salary (of \$17,500 a year) because he didn't want to put him on welfare.

FIVE HOSPITALS

Mr. Martin replied there were five chronic care hospitals in the province, of which Victoria's Gorge Road Hospital was the best example.

Patients undergoing "reactivation" treatment there were covered by BCHIS just the same as acute care patients in general hospitals.

SMOKESCREEN

Liberal leader Perrault charged the reactivation program affected only 40 per cent of the chronically-ill in the province.

Randolph Harding (NDP, Kaslo-Slocan) accused the minister of spreading a smoke-screen.

In Victoria, he said, is a case of a 70-year-old woman who has to go out to work to earn the \$245 a month needed to pay for chronic care for her husband in a private hospital.

Alan Macfarlane (Lib.—Oak Bay) said patients at Gorge Road are told after 30 days they will have to find accommo-

modation in a private nursing home, although sometimes they are allowed to stay 60 to 90 days before being forced to move.

After four hours the government abruptly withdrew the minister's salary vote and adjourned debate until 2 p.m. today.

Martin 'Hopes'

Mental Clinic

'In 1964'

Health Minister Martin said Monday he "sincerely hopes" construction of a new mental health clinic in Victoria will be started this year.

He was replying in the legislature to Alan Macfarlane (L. Oak Bay), who said the minister had announced plans for the mental health clinic in each of the last four years.

The Liberal member also asked what facilities are to be provided and when construction is to start on a retarded children's school proposed for land adjoining Colquitz prison in suburban Saanich.

Mr. Martin said the mental health clinic will be similar to the Crease Clinic and will provide intensive treatment services and services for outpatients, the emotionally disturbed, geriatrics "and any other type you care to mention."

"When will construction begin?" pressed Mr. Macfarlane.

"I am not able to let you know immediately," replied the minister.

"In 1964?"

"I sincerely hope so."

A Man Of Promise

Health Minister Eric Martin thought he'd found a convert among opposition ranks yesterday.

"I don't like to criticize this minister," said an apparently serious Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East).

The minister smiled.

"I used to think he was the most promising member of the cabinet, and I still do," Mr. Macdonald continued.

Mr. Martin's smile broadened. "He's promised medicare and he's promised chronic care since 1956. Promises, promises, promises."

Mr. Martin's smile waned.

Day in Legislature

Clubs Ask Law On Road Rights

B.C. outdoorsmen said Tuesday a provincial act establishing the public's rights of access to private roads should be introduced "at the earliest possible date."

The B.C. Federation of Fish and Game Clubs brief to the legislature's special committee on access said single use of crown land "is a narrow and wasteful policy which denies the citizen the right to travel by normal means to lands which are his in the right of the crown."

A bill which would regulate contributions to blind people was modified in the legislature yesterday by Provincial Secretary Black. It proposes a three-man Contributions to the Blind Board which would control collection of money for the blind.

Mr. Black assured the House no single group will dominate the board, and said he will set up an appeal procedure under which appeals against decisions

of the board can be made directly to himself. He also brought in an amendment which states that nothing in the act applies to work done by blind or partly blind persons for personal income purposes.

The department of mines will catch up to the 20th century by revising its service fees.

Mines Minister Kenneth Kieran told the legislature yesterday Bill 62, An Act to Amend the Mineral Act, deals with revision of fees for services rendered on mineral claims and transactions.

The last time the fees were revised probably "was back before the turn of the century when a day's wages for a miner was about \$2," he said.

Agriculture Minister Richter assured the House provincial and federal authorities are working hand-in-hand on the use of insecticides. He said there is adequate protection.

Royal birth announcement, signed by physicians

B.C. Celebrates Sunday

Next Sunday has been proclaimed as a "day of rejoicing and a day of prayer to almighty God" in B.C. in recognition of the birth Tuesday of a third son to the Queen and Prince Phillip. (See story on Page 5.)

The proclamation was issued by Provincial Secretary Wesley Black on behalf of Lieutenant-Governor George Pearkes.

The provincial legislature passed a resolution asking the lieutenant-governor to forward to the royal couple the members' "great joy at the birth of your son . . ."

The resolution was moved by Premier Bennett and seconded for the Opposition by Arthur Turner (NDF—Vancouver East).

Gas Storage

B.C. Does Know Assets From Hole in Ground

Who says the B.C. government doesn't know its assets from a hole in the ground?

It plans to lease underground holes in the lower mainland for storage of gas from northern British Columbia.

The scheme was contained in Bill 63 — An Act Respecting Underground Storage of Hydrocarbons—which was given second reading, approval in principle, in the legislature yesterday.

Mines and Petroleum Resources Minister Kenneth Kieran told the House gas taken

from the Peace River area could be injected into underground cavities near the point of consumption on the lower mainland.

The cost of underground storage is "substantially less than one-half" the cost of metal storage tanks on the surface of the ground, he said.

"The government shall retain ownership of the storage areas and they will be leased to those who wish to operate them, on condition they (the lessees) will make beneficial use of the area."

Plea for Retarded

'Don't Take Them Away'

Tisdalle Stills Legislature

A man who often empties the B.C. Legislature last night held it spellbound.

Saanich Socred MLA John Tisdalle took just six minutes to ram through the salary vote which Health Minister Martin has sought since last Thursday.

He talked of Woodlands School for retarded children as if he were a parent of one of its patients—which he is.

★ ★ ★

Mr. Tisdalle is the father of an 18-year-old boy in Woodlands.

In the midst of the most raucous debate since the 1954 legislature session started Jan. 23, he brought total silence to the floor of the House.

If the chaotic debate on mental health which had raged for two hours was an example of how to get proper facilities then "God save me from it," said the Saanich MLA.

In Woodlands, he went on, "we've boys and girls storey after storey.

"It is nothing more than a housing situation to put them out of sight."

When a choleric Health Minister Martin tried to interrupt, Mr. Tisdalle talked him down.

"This is my own opinion," he said. "Nobody is going to shut me up."

The Saanich MLA asked the house to disregard his personal implication with Woodlands.

"I feel incensed," he said.

★ ★ ★

"I know tonight I can go to parents and find they are suffering because they cannot get accommodation for their children.

"All we need to do is vote the supply and get on with the job."

Mr. Martin left the house at one point during Mr. Tisdalle's speech.

When he returned he sat with head bowed.

Victoria University's Lansdowne facilities were being put on the auction block to the highest bidder when they were urgently needed as a

local facility for the retarded, Mr. Tisdalle said.

Retarded children shouldn't be taken away from their own communities.

"Bring them back into the community where the people know them and there is human kindness," he pleaded.

There had been too many emotional words on the subject of care for the retarded and not enough action, he told the hushed legislature.

★ ★ ★

Mr. Tisdalle was surrounded by a government claque which earlier had been pounding gleefully on desks as Mr. Martin offered shouted rebuttals to opposition attacks.

When he was finished a half-dozen government members pounded their approval.

The role of government critic is a strange one for the Saanich member. Usually he is one of its most ardent admirers.

Health Minister Told

'Time You Found Out Where You're Going'

Health Minister Eric Martin was told in the legislature last night it is high time he found out "where he is going with his department."

The criticism came when he said during debate on his departmental estimates he has not received a copy of a report on Lower Mainland chronic hospital planning prepared by a E.C. Medical Association team.

Pat McGeer (L, Vancouver-Point Grey) told the House 13 copies of the report were mailed to the minister Feb. 14, and that the minister is either deliberately deceiving the legislature or has a total lack of knowledge of what is going on in his department.

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby), not satisfied with the answer Mr. Martin gave the Liberal member, asked whether the

minister received "a communication" from the B.C. Medical Association team.

"I've answered that question. I'm not in a court of law and I won't be submitted to this cross-examination," snapped Mr. Martin.

M. Dowding replied that the minister did not deserve his salary because "he doesn't answer questions in this legislature. He doesn't do his homework."

"It is time the minister took stock of where he is going with his department. He is dealing with the lives of thousands of human beings," Mr. Dowding said.

Hydro Charter Bill Passes Despite NDP

A bill giving the B.C. Hydro Authority a fresh charter was given final reading in the legislature Tuesday despite renewed New Democratic Party complaints over a section that would prevent strikes by Hydro workers.

Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) and Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) restated views that the requirement for binding conciliation of contract disputes was arbitrary.

Mr. Dowding said past operations of Hydro have shown no need for such legislation, "and legislation without reason is dictatorship."

Alan Macfarlane (L. Ok. Bay) said the bill denied the right of appeal for those whose property was expropriated by Hydro and Hydro was being placed outside the authority of the legislature.

The government has indicated the bill's proclamation will hinge on outcome of planned appeal proceedings revolving around constitutionality of Hydro's 1962 formation.

Final reading of the bill was approved by voice vote.

A bill amending the homeowner's grant act to earmark the grant for schools purposes ahead of other municipal spending was approved.

Also approved was the bill that makes Victoria's voting day the same as that of other municipalities and allows Victoria barbers to choose their own closing days.

Tisdalle Stills Legislature

His speeches cataloguing Soerred accomplishments often seem to coincide with the needs of MLAs and cabinet ministers to be elsewhere.

The moving speech brought immediate respect from opposition speakers who for hours had lashed the government's program for the retarded.

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby), one of the loudest critics, apologized for any intemperate language he might have used.

Mr. Tisdalle, he added, had crystalized the situation.

"I admire him."

NDP social service critic David Barrett said the Saanich member had capsuled what parents of Woodlands patients have been saying for years.

"When we say it," he added, "we are accused of cheap politics. It would be disgraceful if the member for Saanich is accused of cheap politics."

The Saanich MLA's speech was in sharp contrast to earlier exchanges on the Woodlands issue.

Mr. Dowding said the health minister should be cited for contempt of court for making public statements in connection with a case involving Woodlands which is still before the courts.

He is the lawyer for a family which sought admission of a mongoloid child on the strength of a court order.

When he got a judgment that the child be admitted, the provincial government launched an appeal, still pending, and obtained a stay of execution.

Mr. Martin said the Burnaby

member had done more damage to B.C.'s mental health program than anybody in the past 90 years.

"He has ruthlessly, relentlessly and mercilessly interfered with the good administration of Woodlands School."

He denied an earlier charge that political pressures had been brought to bear to obtain admissions to Woodlands, but said a court action had been brought in one case.

"And he (Mr. Dowding) brought the court action."

"The first member for Burnaby is creating a disgraceful scene," the minister shouted.

"I suggest we bow our heads in shame. I've been watching things for months and he's getting what he deserves, and getting the condemnation of society."

Mr. Martin said the NDP member had acted in a crude, sinister and destructive manner.

As a result of Mr. Dowding's actions, in the court case, the minister continued, his department had lost a valuable official when the assistant superintendent of Woodlands resigned recently.

"I am filled with disgust over what has happened."

Mr. Dowding said the minister's remarks were an insult to him and an insult to the court which issued the judgment.

The official's resignation had nothing to do with him or the court action.

The minister's attitude, he charged, had been one of "If I can't win in court I will attack the member and the court."

"And that's just what happened," he said.

He blamed the whole shouting match on the minister.

A total of 27 questions were outstanding against the minister on the order paper "which the minister hasn't got the courage to answer."

"We would have passed the minister's salary long ago if he had been frank and open."

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 1964

Three-River Policy Next Year?

By **TERRY HAMMOND**
Colonist Legislative Reporter

The B.C. government's vast two-river power policy could become a three-river policy next year with the addition of the Fraser to the Peace and Columbia.

This possibility emerged yesterday with the tabling of the final Fraser River Board report in Victoria and Ottawa.

B.C. Lands Minister Ray Williston said it is possible the first phase of the \$398,000,000 Fraser River flood control and power program might get started in 1965 if satisfactory cost-sharing agreements can be worked out with Ottawa.

POWER, KEY FACTOR

The Fraser project is designed primarily to curb flood damage on the lower river which could cost \$75,000,000 a year. But economic feasibility of the program rests on development of about 1,300,000 horsepower of electrical energy at dams in central and northern B.C.

Mr. Williston said the project could be completed before 1980.

LIKE TIME BOMB

The interval between the present and the stage at which substantial control of the Fraser is achieved is "like sitting on a time bomb."

Snowpack in the Fraser watershed this winter could spark a flood of 1948 dimensions, he warned. All that is needed to touch it off is a late spring accompanied by a quick thaw and warm rains.

First step in getting the Fraser project under way would be to have the board's report accepted by provincial and federal governments.

If it is approved, Mr. Williston said, there would be joint talks on phasing of the pro-

ject and financing. B.C. would expect a 50-50 cost split as a basis for going ahead, but would adjust this to compensate for the value of power produced.

Precedent for equal sharing has been created in financing of the Fraser Board's studies which began in 1955.

The board's report warned that "with each year's delay in taking protective action, the next damaging flood is that much closer.

"Accordingly, it is emphasized that remedial measures should be undertaken as early as possible."

The project is designed to control a run-off, with a potential for discharging 600,000 cubic feet of water per second at Hope—a situation which engineers predict would happen only once every 160 years.

Some 2,000 homes on the Lower Fraser Valley were destroyed in the 1948 flood which brought a 536,000 cubic feet per second discharge at Hope.

The control project calls for reconstruction of 233 miles of dykes and building of eight dams. The \$4,900,000 dyke phase of the project would start first.

These are the other control projects:

- Five dams on the Clearwater River system which flows into the North Thompson which in turn flows into the Fraser.

- One dam on the Fraser itself, east of Prince George at

the Grand Canyon.

- One dam on the McGregor River northeast of Prince George.

- One dam on the Cariboo River southwest of Barkerville.

HELP PEACE

Biggest of the eight would be the 460-foot-high dam on the McGregor which would back the Fraser tributary into the Peace watershed and produce 275,000 horsepower on the Peace hydro project.

Largest power producer would be the Clearwater dam at Hemp Creek. It would produce 500,000 horsepower from a 400-foot-high dam costing \$90,000,000. Output would ultimately write off the cost.

Mr. Williston said progress on the power phases will have to be keyed to B.C.'s load growth and the availability of Peace and Columbia power.

Some parts of the project may create major controversies. The Clearwater dams would destroy much of the recreational value of Wells Gray Park and some "moderate" salmon runs would be affected.

Shouting Match

Banking Bill Passes

B.C.'s revolutionary banking bill sparked its third legislative shouting match yesterday as Liberals lost a last-ditch stand to block it.

Chief antagonists again were Premier Bennett and Oak Bay Liberal Alan Macfarlane.

FINAL READING

The bill, which enables the government to become a partner in the proposed Bank of British Columbia, got third and final reading. It needs only the formality of being signed by the lieutenant-governor before it becomes law.

Mr. Macfarlane spearheaded Liberal opposition to the bill yesterday when he accused the premier of deliberately withholding names of prospective bank directors and the amount the bank's authorized capitalization.

PHONY REPLIES

He said that when he asked questions of the premier he just got "phony answers."

The legislature was being asked to sign a blank cheque on the provincial treasury, he charged.

"This is a dark day in the legislative history of B.C.," he said.

Premier Bennett lashed back. "This is a dark day for the Liberal Party of B.C.," he shouted.

AGAINST B.C.

"You are against B.C. You are for the eastern interests," he continued angrily.

He said that during the "financial crisis" controversy of two years ago Mr. Macfarlane had

done "untold harm to the people of this province.

"You are an enemy of the people of this province," he cried.

Mr. Macfarlane said that was "a typical false statement."

The premier had caused "concern around the world" with his "disgraceful" expropriation of the B.C. Electric.

Then he went back to questions about the bank directors.

"Will you be one?" he asked.

"The answer is no," the premier shot back.

"Will any cabinet member be one?"

"The answer is no."

"Will any MLA be one?"

"The answer is no."

HOW MUCH

How much money did the government plan to invest in the bank, Mr. Macfarlane wanted to know.

"Not to exceed 25 per cent?" shot back the premier.

"Twenty-five per cent of what?" asked the Liberal.

"X," replied Mr. Bennett.

"Who will be the directors?"

"I do not know."

"How much is the authorized capital?"

"I do not know."

NEW HEIGHTS

Mr. Macfarlane said the premier's "dictatorial manner" had reached new heights since last summer's election.

"You should be more humble in defeat," the premier retaliated.

Mr. Macfarlane then asked the premier to amend the bill to limit the government's interest in the bank to \$2,500,000 from the provincial surplus.

The bill, he charged, permits the government to invest any amount of money out of provincial revenues in a bank or any other private venture in competition with free enterprise.

"Maybe the members opposite have blind faith in the premier but I can tell you this; we don't have blind faith in the premier," he said.

NDP members supported the bill and it got third reading on a voice vote.

Gaglardi Tire Man Sparks House Uproar

By TERRY HAMMOND

Shouted exchanges rocked the legislature yesterday as Highways Minister Gaglardi was questioned on the "mysterious" appointment of one of his church officials as a government tire consultant.

Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) sparked the uproar when he asked about the role of A. H. Cassidy of Kamloops as a consultant to the highways department.

He said the appointment of Mr. Cassidy, a deacon of the highways minister's Calvary Temple church in Kamloops, must have been a joke.

Wild Melee

Within minutes the House erupted into a wild melee. Macdonald was charged with character assassination and smear tactics and Premier Bennett was branded an arrogant bully.

Mr. Macdonald said there were full time employees of the highways department who could teach Mr. Cassidy about tires.

The consultant, he charged, had been paid over \$8,000 for his services in the 1962-63 fiscal year.

Playing Joke

"This is the worst appointment since Emperor Caligua made his horse a pro-consul," he cried. "I think the minister must have been playing a joke. He's neither useful nor orna-

mental. He's like a second tail on a dog.

"We are tired of your tire consultant and we think he should be retired," he said.

Smear Campaign

Premier Bennett angrily shot to his feet and shouted:

"This attack on the minister of highways is a CCF-NDP planned smear campaign which has been rejected by the people."

Then Opposition Leader Strachan shot to his feet jabbing a finger at the premier.

"You are not going to intimidate us," he cried.

Arrogant

"You can get up and scream and shout all you like.

"We have this right and this responsibility and you try to browbeat us and bully us. You are an arrogant premier."

Highways Minister Gaglardi said Mr. Macdonald's remarks were a smear.

"I don't think anyone in this house has got the right to say an appointee is a joke.

'Cut Me Deep'

"This cut me pretty deep because you said he was a member of Calvary Temple—a sly way of doing it. It doesn't enhance your character one bit by mentioning it."

He said such character assassination had already driven

one man from B.C.

"It was a smear," chimed in the premier. "They do it all the time."

Thirty Years

Mr. Gaglardi said Mr. Cassidy was a tire expert with 30 years experience.

He knew so much about tires he had been sought as a director of the council of vocational schools.

"If you knew as much about law as he knows about tires, you would be very good at law," he told Mr. Macdonald, a lawyer.

Had Phone Call

Liberal leader Perrault said he was the first person to get interested in Mr. Cassidy's appointment.

He had a telephone call from Kamloops last spring at the time of the highways department investigation.

The caller said Cassidy's job was a "mysterious occupation."

Couldn't Find

He went up to check the allegation and couldn't find Mr. Cassidy. He had no office.

"I was a bit mystified about what a tire consultant does. People in the tire business in Kamloops didn't know his qualifications or what he does."

He had asked the minister about Mr. Cassidy but Mr. Gaglardi had been vague.

"Now he's an expert on the subject."

Cowichan-Newcastle

Shorted on Roads Strachan Charges

Opposition leader Robert Strachan last night said he was concerned about the money spent on highways by the government in his Cowichan-Newcastle constituency compared with money spent in other constituencies.

Earlier in the legislature session, Mr. Strachan had accused the government of discriminating against his constituency.

"When we look at the minister's (highways) report tabled earlier this session," he said,

"it becomes fairly obvious that Cowichan-Newcastle is not getting its share of the total money spent throughout the province.

"In Cariboo you will see that the allocation is so high they have divided it into two parts so that it doesn't look so bad."

He pointed out estimates for highway works at Comox were \$2,133,000, at Chilliwack more than \$2,000,000, South Okanagan, \$646,000 and in Saanich, \$249,000, while in his constituency, estimates totalled only \$271,000.

"This is practically the least of any constituency with any roads at all," he said.

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 1964

Prisoners Out During Day

Keep-Convicts-Earning Plan May Expand

Attorney-General Bonner said yesterday B.C. hopes to expand a pilot program for part-time prisoners.

He told the legislature that provincial and federal corrections programs include provisions whereby certain prisoners are allowed to work at normal jobs during the daytime and serve their sentences at night.

FISCAL YEAR

A total of 20 federal and provincial prisoners in B.C. were treated in this manner in the 1962-63 fiscal year.

"We can move forward in this direction as time goes by," Mr. Bonner said.

His statement came during debate on a private bill put

forward by David Barrett (NDP, Dewdney) which would create provisions for weekend prisoners.

NORMAL LIVES

The bill would allow convicted persons to serve out their sentences on Saturdays and Sundays while leading normal lives on weekdays.

Mr. Barrett said the measure was designed to reduce the "fantastic cost" of keeping people in jails, he said.

At present, he continued, a jail sentence is not always a punishment for the prisoner, but is for the prisoner's dependents and the taxpayers.

By allowing an offender to work at his normal job on week-

days, his family wouldn't suffer deprivation and his victim could be ensured of restitution or compensation.

Mr. Barrett proposed a pilot program which would entail purchase of an old home for conversion into a weekend prison hostel. It would be staffed by trained counsellors.

Mr. Bonner said the proposed bill conflicted with the sentencing provisions of the Canadian Criminal Code.

Debate on the bill was adjourned until later in the session.

Out of Order

Cigarette Curb Butted

A private member's bill to curb cigarette smoking was ruled out of order in the legislature yesterday but another is on the way.

The bill, sponsored by Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East), would make it an offence to sell or advertise cigarettes without a printed or spoken warning saying "These cigarettes have a nicotine and tar content and are dangerous to human health."

FEDERAL MATTER

Speaker William Murray ruled the bill out because of a section which would have imposed the warning on TV and radio commercials. He said both TV and radio are regulated by federal statutes and are outside provincial jurisdiction.

Premier Bennett invited Mr. Macdonald to submit a new bill

later in the session and the NDP member said he would.

The amended bill is expected to simply require printing of the warning on cigarette packages and there are indications it will get some support from within government ranks.

MLAs Object

Gaglardi 'Personal' Mail Hit

Highways Minister Gaglardi was criticized last night by Liberal leader Ray Perrault and Anthony Gargrave (NDP, Mackenzie) for marking all his mail to members "personal and confidential."

IMPROPER

"We write to you and ask questions about public matters and what is being done with public money," said Mr. Gargrave, "and you reply, marking the envelope personal and confidential. I think this is very improper."

"There are certain matters which should be considered private and confidential . . . but not matters which involve public works and public money."

OLD SPANISH CUSTOM

Mr. Perrault also asked Mr. Gaglardi why he marked the mail in such a way.

"It's an old Spanish custom," was Mr. Gaglardi's reply.

The highways department estimates were passed by the legislature last night.

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 1964

Party Lines Fall

Fireworks Ban Fizzles

Party lines were crossed in all directions in the legislature yesterday over a ban-the-firecrackers bill.

Lois Haggen (NDP, Grand Forks-Greenwood) lit the fuse for the debate with a private bill which would limit fireworks to public displays.

Three members of her party were against the bill, one Liberal voted against four others who favored it, and three Socreds cast their ballots with Mrs. Haggen.

MLAs WANT FIREWORKS

She said MLAs who opposed her just didn't want to be deprived of fireworks themselves.

"Some members are just not thinking of children the way I think of children," she said.

She drew government support from Saanich Socred John Tisdalle, government whip Bert Price and Arvid Lundell (SC, Revelstoke).

MUST HAVE FORGOTTEN

Premier Bennett said those who favored the bill must have forgotten the joy they had with fireworks when they were children.

Gordon Gibson (L, North Vancouver) said the vote would "separate the men from the boys."

He supported the bill in the Liberal camp along with Alan Macfarlane of Oak Bay, Liberal leader Ray Perrault and Pat McGeer of Vancouver-Point Grey. Harry McKay of Fernie opposed it.

Opposition Leader Strachan, David Stupich (NDP Nanaimo) and Tony Gargrave (NDP Mackenzie) opposed Mrs. Haggen.

The bill was defeated 32 to 18.

Also defeated was another bill put before the House by Mrs. Haggen.

EQUAL PAY

A perennial offering, it called for equal pay for women doing work "comparable" to men.

Labor Minister Peterson said B.C. already has a statute guaranteeing women equal pay for the "same" work performed by men.

Firms 'Inept'

Road Job Awards Attacked

Liberal leader Ray Perrault told the legislature yesterday that if last year's highways probe proved nothing else it proved the "appalling ineptitude" of some contractors.

He was making his annual pitch for adoption of a pre-qualification system for highway contractors.

PROTECTS TAXPAYER

Such a system is used in many places and protects the taxpayer against the costs of defaulted contracts, he said.

He said last spring's investigations into allegations of irregularities in the highways department showed the contractors involved in certain projects should never have been given

the jobs.

CITES CONTRACTOR

He singled out Dick Holzworth, the Montana contractor whose allegations sparked the probe.

Holzworth had been a principal in a company which held a Trans-Canada Highway contract in the interior.

In one U.S. state, said the Liberal leader, pre-qualification regulations limit a contractor to bids not exceeding 20 times his total assets.

\$20 LIMIT

"If this system had been used with people like Holzworth he could have bid up to about \$20," Mr. Perrault cracked.

"The whole picture of obnoxious, inept people of this kind is the major indictment to come out of these hearings."

CAN'T HANDLE JOBS

He claimed small companies are taking on contracts in B.C. which they can't handle.

The government's claim that pre-qualification would discriminate against small companies was "arrant nonsense." Under proper pre-qualification these companies could form consortiums to bid on larger jobs.

Kiernan on Parks

**If New Policy
Ever Existed
It's Dead Now**

B.C.'s controversial new parks policy vanished last night—if it ever really existed.

Recreation Minister Kiernan said the so-called major policy switch was a figment of the imagination of people who misinterpreted his Feb. 19 speech in the legislature.

"My address did not embrace any major new policy with respect to parks," he told the House during debate on recreation and conservation department estimates.

He said mining and timber interests have held rights in B.C.'s major parks for many years.

All he had done Feb. 19 was outline how his department hoped to handle them in the best interests of the people.

His earlier speech raised a storm of protest among conservation groups who interpreted it as an "open-door" policy to industry and private investment.

The storm spilled into the legislature yesterday afternoon when debate started on his departmental estimates.

Mr. Kiernan said his original statement had emphasized the lack of access in provincial parks and pointed to the folly of some park boundaries.

The same roads which are built through parks to serve industry also serve hunters and fishermen.

Lack of Access

Lack of access to isolated areas of provincial parks is resulting in excessive pressure to the accessible areas.

By extending access through co-operation with industry which already has rights to park assets, such pressure can be relieved.

He pointed out that it was his government which eliminated granting of crown grant mineral claims which amount almost to ownership.

But old crown grants still exist in B.C.'s major parks and so do privately-owned timber berths.

In Strathcona Park there are 98 crown grant claims and 11,407 acres covered by timber berths. Garibaldi Park has 22 crown grant claims and 3,927 timber berth acres. Manning Park timber berths cover 3,200 acres. In Tweedsmuir Park there are

29 crown grant claims and 1,341 acres covered by two pulp licences. In Wells Gray Park there are 16 claims.

Should his department co-operate with the owners to get development of use to the public or should it simply allow industry to go its own way?

Like access roads, he continued, park boundaries should be made to coincide with the needs of the people and the best use of the area.

"My observations (Feb. 19) on Strathcona Park were that there is not sufficient access and that the boundaries bore no relationship to the topography of the region."

He said a park boundary drawn on a map could not be considered as sacred.

The government had withdrawn one vast park reserve established years ago because it was nothing but muskeg.

Wilderness Areas

His department would continue to provide and protect wilderness areas but in the process it could not deprive the public of 90 per cent of the provincial park area.

The provincial park program must be geared to multi-use and to do this it is necessary to provide ski tows and places to eat.

"What is the objection to having these provided by private capital?" he asked.

There were many areas in Class B parks which should be neither logged nor mined,

he said, but there were also areas in which stood over-mature timber and which were of no recreational use at all.

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault said earlier that while the B.C. government was allowing the "thin edge of the wedge" of exploitation to creep into its parks, authorities in the rest of the world were trying to drive it out or keep it from getting in.

There was no difference in principle between what the government had proposed and the start of logging in Beacon Hill Park.

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 1964

Angry Premier Cuts Debate on Parks

An angry Premier Bennett abruptly cut off a marathon debate on Recreation Minister Kiernan's estimates at 1:10 a.m. today after he was accused of legislation by exhaustion.

★ ★ ★
The debate lasted for eight hours and 35 minutes and centred around Mr. Kiernan's controversial Feb. 19 speech heralding a new approach to industrial activity in parks.

The premier snatched back Mr. Kiernan's estimates totalling \$9,900 and announced the House would sit again at 2 p.m. today to deal with bills. (See Page 38.)

The exhaustion charge came from Leo Nimsiek (NDP, Cranbrook).

The government was expected later today to try an ancient gambit to ram through Mr. Kiernan's estimates.

This would involve placing

the bill back in debate a short time before 6 p.m. when the house usually rises for the weekend.

★ ★ ★
Earlier in the debate Mr. Kiernan indicated, in answer to a question from Mrs. Lois Hagen (NDP Grand Forks-Greenwood) that the government will consider naming a provincial park after the late Ernest Winch, a veteran CCFer in B.C. politics.

No Mineral Prospecting In Smaller B.C. Parks

An order-in-council prohibiting prospecting, staking and the recording of mineral claims in provincial parks of 5,000 acres or less, has been passed by the provincial cabinet, it was announced yesterday.

Recreation and Conservation Minister Kenneth Kiernan said

the order would apply to all classes of provincial parks.

He said 120 Class A parks will be protected from the encroachment of mineral development under the order, which supercedes legislation passed in 1949 which allowed unlimited prospecting within provincial parks.

Yearly Costs High

Backbenchers Urge Monthly Truck Fees

Two Social Credit backbenchers made a plea for monthly instead of annual licencing of logging trucks, in the legislature yesterday.

During the same debate, Liberal leader Ray Perrault appealed for government action to help relieve commercial truckers of the high licence taxes being paid across the nation.

Social Credit members Don-

ald Robinson and Dudley Little told the House that most logging trucks are not working in the spring when their owners have to pay large sums of money for licence plates.

Commercial Transport Minister Kiernan replied that under a monthly licencing plan officials would have to bother truckers for licences every month.

Perrault said he was informed that B.C. is the only province in Canada which does not have reciprocal agreements for licencing of inter-provincial truck operations and that this costs B.C. truckers \$4,800 a year in licences, compared to only \$800 which truckers in other provinces have to pay.

If the situation is as serious as is reported, "then we are going to see the demise of some of our trucking companies," said the Liberal leader.

Mines Minister

Guarded Statement Made About Cowichan Copper

Mines Minister Kenneth Kiernan gave a guarded statement in the legislature yesterday about the future of Cowichan Copper Company's operation at Jordan River.

The Jordan River copper mine has been closed down since part of the mine was flooded last December.

Trading of Cowichan stock was halted on the Vancouver Stock Exchange Monday because of a rush of selling which saw share prices drop 12 cents, to 53 cents.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said in the House yesterday that closure of the mine would be a serious loss to lower Vancouver Island. He asked Mr. Kiernan about the company's financial position and whether the government is doing anything to help the company out of its difficulties.

Mines Minister Kiernan replied: "If anyone can put that mine back into operation, MacDonald can do it." He was referring to Ossie MacDonald, president of Cowichan Copper.

The legislature took only two hours yesterday to approve the \$2,890,676 estimates of the department of mines and petroleum resources for the 1964-65 fiscal year.

During debate on the estimates, Randolph Harding (NDP, Kaslo-Slocan) wanted to know if helicopters are being used to lift prospectors into remote parts of the province.

Mr. Kiernan replied that al-

though "up to \$200" is allowed for air transportation, only five or 10 prospectors, a year go in by air. "The bulk of prospectors are still using the army mule — the Jeep."

The minister also said that some progress is being made in airborne mineral surveys in B.C., but the system "leaves a lot to be desired" because it is difficult to do in mountainous terrain.

Some claims have been staked as a result of airborne magnetometer research over Vancouver Island during the past two years "but nobody's come up with an ore body yet," said Mr. Kiernan.

B.C. Road Map Plugs Tourism

British Columbia's new road map contains a big pitch for the tourist industry.

One side of the new map which was released yesterday contains everything from a sports fishing guide and campsite listings to hunting and fishing licence information.

SMALL BOX

The map side of the new map contains a small box which explains for the benefit of American visitors that gasoline is more expensive here because an Imperial gallon sold in Canada is about one-fifth larger than a U.S. gallon.

Recreation Minister Kenneth Kiernan announced yesterday that more than 400,000 of the new maps will be distributed throughout North America and Europe.

This is the first year that B.C. has ever turned out its

own road map, said a spokesman for the department. The maps, which used to be printed by Gousha of Chicago, were printed this year by Grant-Mann Lithographers of Vancouver.

Free copies of the new map are available at the B.C. government travel bureau on Superior Street behind the Douglas Building.

Gaglardi Praises Tire Consultant

'Thousands Saved' for B.C.

Highways Minister Gaglardi said yesterday a government tire consultant who is an official of his Kamloops church has saved British Columbians hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The name of A. H. Cassidy brought an uproar in the legislature a day earlier when the NDP's Alex Macdonald termed his appointment the worst since "Emperor Caligula appointed his horse a pro-consul."

He charged that Mr. Cassidy had been paid over \$8,000 for his services in the 1962-63 fiscal year and was about as

useful as "a second tail on a dog."

Mr. Gaglardi hotly denied the charge in an interview yesterday and said his tire consultant was responsible for the setting up of a tire control program throughout the province "which has saved hundreds of thousands of dollars in rubber alone."

He said Mr. Cassidy is paid only \$20 a day plus expenses for his work, and does not work for the highways department every day.

Mr. Cassidy had been hired on the recommendation of the regional maintenance superin-

tendent. Mr. Gaglardi said it wasn't his idea, but he approved it.

Before the tire consultant was appointed, the minister said, the department wasn't getting its money's worth out of the \$500,000 it spends annually on tires.

In addition to being a tire expert, said Mr. Gaglardi, the consultant is a former bus driver with over 1,000,000 miles behind him and is currently at work on a driver safety program for departmental employees.

Doubts, Too

Mental Health Plans Lauded

By **TERRY HAMMOND**

Spirit of B.C.'s revolutionary new mental health legislation won approval from all parties in the legislature yesterday, but there were strong Opposition misgivings about how it will be used.

Main feature of the proposed new Mental Health Act is provision to set up community mental hospitals with the communities paying part of the cost.

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) said decentralization of mental care facilities is a desirable thing, but not if it means the province will shrink its responsibilities in the field.

UP TO PROVINCE

Under terms of the British North America Act, he pointed out, responsibility for mental institutions is exclusively that of the provincial government.

Decentralization could only help if the community mental hospitals are equipped and staffed to give comprehensive treatment.

Otherwise, he said, it will just distribute the misery.

NOT BLUEPRINT

He attacked three aspects of the proposed legislation.

It is not a blueprint for a new mental health program, he charged, because nearly half of its 48 sections give the cabinet discretionary powers. The act was merely a means of allowing the cabinet to create a blueprint.

RIGHTS LOST

One section of the act, he continued, deprives patients of the right to treatment. This is a section which establishes institution superintendents as the final judge of who gets in and who doesn't.

Previously the courts could order that a person be admitted and the superintendent had to comply.

FACILITIES KEY

The change could only be justified from the patient's point of view if facilities were maintained at an adequate level.

Mr. Dowding said the section also created an impossible situation for superintendents who are doctors.

A doctor's first responsibility, he said, is to a patient and not to the dictates of government policy.

DILEMMA FOR DOCTOR

"How can a doctor be put in such a position, in such a dilemma?" he asked.

He also said that unless B.C. covers the community mental hospital through BCHIS the province will still be treating mental patients differently from general hospital patients.

INTEGRATION URGED

Pat McGeer (L—Vancouver-Point Grey) praised the intent of the bill but advised the government to build more psychiatric facilities into general hospitals. In this way, he said, medical integration is achieved and federal hospital insurance grants are applicable.

While the cost of general hospital care of mental patients might be higher in total, the province would be responsible for only half the cost.

Debate on the bill was adjourned to Monday.

Uniform Agreement Urged in Home Deals

The provincial government was urged yesterday to establish a uniform conditional sales agreement for all home-purchase deals in B.C.

The recommendation came from Tony Gargrave (NDP, Mackenzie) during discussion of B.C.'s proposed new credit legislation which lets the courts police the lending field.

Mr. Gargrave said a standard agreement would help buyers as well as sellers by simplifying all such transactions as the purchase of cars and household appliances.

Approval in principle was granted to the credit bill.

Saturday Elections

More Voters Goal Of Change in Law

Municipal Affairs Minister Black hopes Saturday voting in B.C. municipalities will stimulate election turnouts.

As few as 13 per cent of the registered voters have turned out for some B.C. municipal elections, he told the legislature yesterday.

He was speaking to a government amendment to the Municipal Act which will make Satur-

day the municipal voting day throughout the province instead of the traditional Thursday.

Victoria, which has not voted at the same time as other municipalities, will be brought into line through an amendment to other legislation.

"I hope this switch in days will help stimulate the turnout," Mr. Black said, as the House gave approval in principle to the amendment.

Strategist Bennett Assists Kiernan

Embattled Recreation Minister Kiernan finally got his salary vote through the legislature late yesterday with an assist from seasoned political strategist W. A. C. Bennett.

As expected, the premier brought the vote back to the floor of the House a short time before members traditionally rise for the weekend.

He looked grimly determined, and opposition members took the hint.

In 17 minutes they wound up a debate which raged for eight hours and 35 minutes the day before.

If they hadn't, they might have been there half the night.

The debate stormed around Mr. Kiernan's Feb. 9 speech concerning industry and commercial developments in provincial parks.

Having shown the big stick to get the minister's salary vote approved, the premier was content to tuck it away again without demanding approval of the recreation and conservation department's full estimates.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1964

\$50,000 Minimum

B.C. Boosts Car Insurance

From July 1, next year, minimum automobile insurance coverage in B.C. will rise to \$50,000 from \$35,000.

Attorney-General Bonner introduced the new move in the Legislature yesterday.

TIME TO ADJUST

The 18-month lapse in enforcing the new law would give insurance companies time to adjust their rate structures as policies were renewed, he said. The increase would affect only about 15 per cent of car owners because an estimated 85 per cent already had coverage of \$50,000 or more.

The insurance changes were among 10 bills introduced in the House yesterday.

PETROLEUM CHANGES

Largest is the 150-part petroleum and natural gas act. Although mainly a rewrite of existing legislation, it makes important changes in lease-rental agreements and exploratory drilling groupings.

Department officials explained that companies at present get a 75 cents reduction—from \$1 to 25 cents an acre—if they perform exploratory work. Under the new law they will get only a 50-cent cut.

The mines department will spend about \$2,000,000 on the

exploration incentive this year. The lower reduction would give the government more revenue from the industry.

The grouping change will permit companies to double the number of units, from 144 to 288, with approval of Mines Minister Kenneth Kiernan, which would encourage more oil and gas exploration.

Before the new act comes into effect next July, it will be submitted to the industry for examination.

In cases where contractors default, an amendment to the law's declaratory act will give sub-contractors easier access to claims against labor and material bonds.

Private investigators will be allowed to hire temporary help without having to bond and fingerprint them, provided they have authority of the RCMP assistant commissioner.

UTILITIES MOVE

Another legislative change will bring public utilities under the securities act for the first time.

The batch of new bills will also permit the B.C. Pharmaceutical Association council to subpoena witnesses to hearings and inquiries under the Pharmacy act and allow registration of chiropractors other than British subjects.

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 1964

'Shortest' Sitting

Bennett Cuts Off Debate Again In House Blowup

Frayed tempers and a Bennett power play combined last night to bring one of the shortest legislative sittings in history.

The stage was set for a major blowup during afternoon debate which saw Premier Bennett branded a "Senator McCarthy" and his party a bedfellow of communism.

The charges came from the NDP during debate on the salary vote of Lands Minister Williston.

The NDP had attacked the Columbia River Treaty as being bad for B.C. and bad for Canada.

VOTE SNATCHED BACK

When the House resumed at 8:30 p.m. it went briefly to introduction of new bills and then turned to the lands minister's salary vote again.

Within minutes the premier snatched back the vote and the government majority steam-rolled the house into adjournment.

SECOND TIME

It was the second time in a few days in which Premier Bennett has suddenly withdrawn the salary vote of a minister under Opposition fire.

The last time was at 1:10 a.m. Friday after a day-long series of uproars over the salary of Recreation Minister Kiernan.

NIMSICK MOVES

The sudden adjournment Friday came after Leo Nimsick (NDP, Cranbrook) had charged the government with "legislation by exhaustion."

Last night it was again Mr. Nimsick who triggered the final explosion.

HE'S HURT

He said he was hurt because the premier had said there would be no more night sittings.

"Do you want me to withdraw the vote?" threatened the premier.

WON'T BE BULLIED

"You can if you want to," shot back Mr. Nimsick. "I'm not going to be bullied by anyone."

So at 9:10 p.m. the premier curtly took it back.

"What a way to run a government," cracked Tony Gargrave (NDP, Mackenzie).

AWKWARD SILENCE

There was an awkward silence as both sides of the House glared at each other.

Randolph Harding (NDP, Kaslo-Slocan) suggested the vote be returned.

"Do you speak for your party?" challenged the premier

"No," shot back John Squire (NDP, Alberni).

"What a childish way to run a government," said David Barrett (NDP, Dewdney).

"I move the House rise and stand adjourned until 2 p.m. tomorrow," said the premier.

Liberals and NDP members opposed the move but lost.

PETULANT PREMIER

Outside the House, Opposition leader Strachan said the premature adjournment was the action of "a petulant premier at his childish worst or his obnoxious best."

Observers noted that the loss of the night sitting just about completely eliminated any possibility the House will prorogue Friday—the earliest date considered likely.

Said Mr. Strachan angrily, "This means we won't be finished before Easter."

RED CHARGES

Last night's ill-feeling stemmed largely from the charges of Communist-lining hurled back and forth in the House during the afternoon.

Communism was first mentioned by a furious Premier Bennett in an attack on federal NDP MP Bert Herridge—arch-foe of the Columbia deal.

"There is a close connection between the Communist Party that's against the Columbia, and Herridge," the premier charged.

Taunted by the Opposition, the premier said it was with regret that he was going to read to the House from a 1945 newspaper clipping.

The clipping, he said, referred to the expulsion of Mr. Herridge from the CCF—forerunner of the NDP.

QUOTES COLDWELL

The premier quoted the then CCF leader, M. J. Coldwell, as saying of the expulsion, "there

is no room for himself and people with Communist leanings in the party—either they get out or I get out."

"That's the reason I'm alarmed by the alliance of the Communist Party and all its propaganda and Herridge," Mr. Bennett shouted.

'SENATOR McCARTHY'

"Senator McCarthy has just spoken," cried Mr. Strachan.

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) said such a charge against either an MLA or an MP was unparliamentary under standard rules.

"Why didn't you think of that a year ago?" asked Attorney-General Robert Bonner, referring to affidavits filed by Mr. Dowding which touched off the 1963 highways department probe.

LINK DENIED

Tony Gargrave (NDP, Mackenzie) said the NDP does not co-operate with the Communist Party or anybody else.

"This party on this side of the House has fought the Communist Party harder than any other group," he said.

"The Communist Party of this province supports Social Credit."

SLEEP WITH THEM

"You sleep with them politically."

The uproar came after NDP power critic Randolph Harding had said the Columbia treaty is bad for the province and bad for Canada.

Mr. Williston said Mr. Harding's language had the same ring as that of Mr. Herridge.

TREATY HAMSTRUNG

The NDP has the Columbia treaty "hamstrung" with its objections, he said.

He was referring to an expected NDP filibuster during consideration of the Columbia treaty by the Commons external affairs committee.

Mr. Strachan said the hamstringing charge was false.

OPPOSITION DUTY

Mr. Harding said it was the Opposition's duty to go through

the Columbia treaty clause by clause.

If they didn't, B.C. could end up with another E & N land grant deal.

"If any of our representatives don't do a job, they are not worthy to be in opposition."

OBSTRUCTIONISTS

"That's not the way they are doing it," Premier Bennett shouted. "They are obstructionists."

"Douglas has lost hundreds of votes here in B.C."

"Smear!" shouted Mr. Strachan.

"You are awfully nervous about this," replied the premier.

CANT ANSWER

Earlier Mr. Williston had said he couldn't give the answers to some Columbia questions posed by Mr. Harding because there could be no decisions until the treaty is ratified.

He said the external affairs committee could make no major changes in the treaty.

"If any basic changes come out of the hearings, there will be no Columbia treaty as we know it," he said.

WRECK DEAL

The U.S. had proceeded to finance the project on the basis already agreed on and any change would wreck the deal.

Mr. Williston said B.C. Hydro would not let any Columbia contracts before ratification of the treaty.

But it might call for tenders on some aspects of the project so that it could let contracts Oct. 1—the deadline for ratification.

HIGH ARROW KEY

He said High Arrow dam—the Columbia treaty's most controversial project—was the key to the whole thing.

Without High Arrow, the whole development would not be feasible.

The present treaty lets B.C. have its cake and eat it, too, he said.

The province not only gets the price of the dams, it gets the largest, low-priced block of power on the continent.

Not Exciting Or Inspiring

WINNIPEG (CP) — Howard Ross of Montreal, president of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, Monday night said the new federal budget is neither very exciting nor very inspiring.

"It is not a very inspiring or Ross said:

"It is not a very exciting or very exciting budget, but perhaps pretty much what could have been expected.

"However, the present level of expenditures would pretty well preclude any drastic reductions."

New B.C. Power Bills Affect Peace, Hydro

New power legislation was introduced by the government in the legislature last night.

Attorney-General Bonner brought in two bills which will allow the Peace River Power Development Co. to appeal in the courts the amount it was paid in a 1961 takeover and which will legalize all business done by B.C. Hydro since Aug. 1, 1961.

COST MORE?

Opposition Leader Strachan said outside the House one of the bills means Peace River power will cost more money.

The other, he said, is a bill which legalizes the illegal, that is, authorizes payment of the out-of-court settlement of the B.C. Electric takeover.

Bill 87 — An Act Respecting

Power Development, and Bill 89 — An Act Respecting the Peace River Power Development Co. Ltd., were given first reading.

ALL OTHERS

Bill 87 says the settlement has full, lawful authority, along with all other actions of the B.C. Hydro since the BCE takeover and the subsequent merger with the B.C. Power Commission.

Bill 89 allows the Peace River Power Development Co. Ltd. to appeal the \$8,020,328 which it was paid for its surveys and planning prior to its takeover.

The company now is trying to have the takeover legislation reversed. Original legislation denied an appeal to the courts, and the new bill is expected to speed up settlement of the dispute.

Age Limit Raised

Jurors Get Pay Hike As Exemptions Cut

A \$2-a-day increase in pay for B.C. jurors was the highlight of a government bill introduced in the legislature yesterday.

The bill would also broaden the field of prospective jurors by increasing the age limit and ending some exemptions.

\$10 PER DAY

The bill introduced by Attorney-General Bonner will boost daily jury pay to \$10 from \$8, increase the age limit of jurors from 65 to 70 and make some occupations previously exempt eligible for jury duty.

The amendments to the Jury Act will become effective July 1.

The new legislation says that only MPs, MLAs, law enforcement officers, coroners and prison wardens will be absolutely exempt from jury duty.

24 GROUPS NOW

The present Act exempts 24 occupation groups from jury duty, including doctors, lawyers, teachers, bankers, newspapermen, clergymen, policemen,

members of the armed forces, pilots, seamen, MPs and MLAs.

Persons now exempt who are called for jury duty after July 1 may apply to the sheriff or presiding judge to be excused on grounds of serious inconvenience. The amendments also still allow people to be excused from jury duty on grounds of hardship or illness.

Day in the Legislature

Debts Act Amended

Attorney-General Bonner introduced a bill in the legislature yesterday which will raise the level of wages exempt from garnishee proceedings in B.C.

The bill, given first reading, will raise the exemption for a married man from \$120 to \$150 and for a single man from \$60 to \$75. The bill is an amendment to the Small Debts Courts Act which recognizes increases in the cost of living.

★ ★ ★

Skeena Socond Dudley Little said the present system of setting stumpage fees for timber in the Terrace area is "ridiculous."

He said the government-set stumpage rates in the Hecate and Kitimat sustained yield units are being based on prices on the Vancouver log market.

Yet while prices at Vancouver were steadily rising the Skeena district price had been unchanged for years.

"Everyone must agree this situation is not only unwarranted but unfair," he said during discussion of lands and forests department spending estimates.

Dr. J. F. McCreary, dean of medicine at the University of B.C., said yesterday he has submitted a report on chronic care facilities to Health Minister Martin.

He said Mr. Martin's statement in the legislature recently that he had not received the report may have been a case of honest misunderstanding.

The minister may have assumed that the report represented the view of a sub-committee, although a covering letter sent with the report said it was approved by the full advisory committee.

★ ★ ★

B.C. prospectors, at least 67 of them, have signed a petition to the legislature's special committee on access, making a plea for steps to ensure "long-standing rights."

The petition says prospectors in recent years have had difficulty gaining access to privately-owned timbered areas to search for mineral deposits.

The prospectors ask that they be allowed to travel freely

in mountainous areas of B.C., to use all access roads with discretion, to camp in forest areas and light camp fires for cooking and warmth.

Health Minister Martin assured the legislature the government has no intention of "dumping mental health services on municipalities."

He said the new Mental Health Act, which was given second reading by the House, allows establishment of community mental health services if the municipalities want them.

★ ★ ★

The government offered some relief for homeowners caught by soaring values of rezoning.

Premier Bennett introduced a bill to amend the Assessment Equalization Act. Under terms of the bill, persons who lived in a residence for at least five years before last Jan. 1, can apply for their assessments to remain at the normal rate even though the land might have a higher value for other purposes.

New Aluminum Plant Proposed for B.C.

International aluminum interests are anxious to open negotiations in B.C. for establishment of a smelter on the Lower Mainland, Lands Minister Williston announced yesterday.

He said the company would phase construction of the project to the availability of Peace River power in the Vancouver area, provided satisfactory power rates can be worked out.

UNFAIR TACTICS

First mention of what could become B.C.'s second aluminum manufacturing industry came in the legislature during debate on the minister's salary vote.

He had charged provincial and federal NDP groups with hamstringing the Columbia project with unfair tactics.

CITES DOUGLAS

Typical, he said, was a charge by national NDP leader Tommy Douglas in Ottawa that B.C.'s sale of Columbia downstream benefits in the U.S. could put Alcan's Kitimat operations out of business by making a large quantity of cheap power available to the company's American competitors.

Williston denied this. B.C.'s share of the benefits would merely meet the U.S. Pacific Northwest's normal power load growth over three years.

EYEBING B.C.

What was more, U.S. aluminum interests were already eyeing B.C. as a place for expansion.

Outside the House the minister said "international" aluminum interests had approached him 2½ weeks ago to commence power supply negotiations.

He said these interests already operate aluminum plants in the U.S. but not in Canada. He wouldn't name the company.

He had "furthered" the company's desire to start negotiations but couldn't say if talks had begun.

Accounts In Order

The legislature's public accounts committee yesterday wound up business for 1964 amid an atmosphere of goodwill.

Opposition leader Strachan gave full credit for the atmosphere to committee chairman J. Donald Smith (SC, Victoria).

Mr. Smith won the chairmanship over government nominee Donald Brothers (SC, Rossland-Trail) when two Social Crediters bolted ranks at the start of the session to vote with Opposition members.

★ ★ ★

The committee held only three public meetings and no controversial matters arose.

In recent years the same committee has featured hot debates. Last year it conducted a free-wheeling inquiry into allegations of irregularities in the highways department.

Kimberley Snow Stalling House?

'Ask Leo' Is Key To Session End

By **TERRY HAMMOND**
Colonist Legislative Reporter

The end of the first session of British Columbia's 27th legislature is only days away—but the question is, how many days?

The public galleries look for the answer in the person of Premier Bennett.

But the eyes of 51 legislators, a dozen members of the legislative press gallery and sundry legislative officials focus on a garrulous, elf-like figure who occupies a desk in the ranks of the official opposition.

He is 56-year-old Leo Thomas Nimsick, the New Democratic Party member for Cranbrook and a resident of Kimberley.

As he rises from his seat during the waning days of debate hopes for an early end to the session plummet.

When he sits down they rise. The smart money watches his every move.

Two things make the Cranbrook member stand out from his opposition colleagues: he doesn't relinquish the bone of contention until it looks like it has been seven summers under a desert sun, and he is one-half of a classic personality clash whose other half is Premier Bennett.

Mr. Bennett has been listen-

ing to Mr. Nimsick across the floor of the legislature for 15 years and he gives the impression of one who doesn't really enjoy what he has heard.

Four times in recent years the premier has snatched back a supply vote and adjourned the House rather than have Mr. Nimsick gnaw at it any longer.

Each time, of course, the current session lasts a little bit longer.

This does not concern Mr. Nimsick. He wants to have everything clear to himself and be sure the public understands it as well.

Said a government member yesterday: "Sometimes Leo makes things so clear we wish we had never proposed them in the first place, no matter how good they were."

Some Liberal members, who express the desire to get back to their own businesses before the bailiff moves in, have a theory that Mr. Nimsick wants a year-round legislative session so there will be no hurry.

Even some of Mr. Nimsick's NDP colleagues have noted a cavalier attitude on the part of the Cranbrook member towards the alleged importance of time.

SESSION ENDS

When one New Democrat was asked when the session

would end, he replied "ask Leo."

"Well," the naive questioner continued, "isn't Leo anxious to get back to his home in Kimberley?"

"Have you ever lived in Kimberley?" was the rejoinder.

FALL CAST

At one point yesterday a pall of gloom was suddenly cast over the countenances of those NDP members who seemed to feel their 1963 contribution to the legislative affairs of the province was already signed, sealed and delivered.

The cause?

"We just got word there's still 16 feet of snow in Kimberley."

As far as the length of the session is concerned there are two camps.

STEAL AWAY

One camp has loosened its tent pegs and wants to steal away Friday or Saturday.

Leo Nimsick is the other camp. He says a week Thursday.

As he explained to reporters last night, "There's a lot of discussion to come yet."

What had he found notable about this session?

"There's been a lot more speaking than usual."

Debate Adjourned On Power Bills

Debate in the legislature was adjourned yesterday on two bills with potentially-explosive provisions.

They would declare valid all provincial power actions following the 1961 B.C. Electric takeover and would provide for an appeal of the Peace River Power Development expropriation price.

Among key bills approved in principle were measures:

- Boosting minimum public liability coverage in car insurance policies and maximum payments by the traffic victims indemnity fund to \$50,000

from \$35,000 after July 1, 1965.

- Providing for a standardized form of fire insurance policies to prevent possible fraud cases.

- Raising the amount of wages exempted from garnisheeing proceedings to \$150 a month from \$120 for married men and to \$75 from \$60 for single men.

- Reducing the minimum par value of a share of stock issued by a provincially-chartered trust company to \$10 from \$100.

- Preventing big jumps in assessments on land as a result of rezoning.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1964

Sunday Show Battle Not Over Yet

Victoria Socred MLA Donald Smith lost the opening round of his fight for province-wide Sunday entertainment legislation yesterday when he tried to amend a government bill amending the Municipal Act—but said he isn't through yet.

Chairman William Speare quickly ruled him out of order and got the support of an unsmiling Premier Bennett.

But Mr. Smith wasn't ready to give in.

OUT OF ORDER

"How can you rule it out of order when you haven't even heard it?" he asked the chairman.

"Out of order," intoned the premier.

"Out of order," repeated Mr. Speare.

SAME FOOTING

Mr. Smith argued his amendment was designed to put all B.C. municipalities on the same

footing as Vancouver, which already enjoys commercial Sunday entertainment and sport.

Mr. Speare explained he could not entertain the amendment because it was simply an addition to a message bill and not an amendment at all.

LOCAL OPTION

The Smith amendment is designed to give municipalities the right to place Sunday entertainment on a local option basis.

Councils would be authorized to hold a referendum on the subject and then pass bylaws corresponding with the will of the people.

Mr. Smith later said he will bring the subject up under the estimates of Municipal Affairs Minister Black and will propose a new bill.

House Told

Strict Smoke Bylaw Could Close Mill

The Moore-Whittington saw-mill, recently acquired by B.C. Forest Products Ltd., probably will close down if Victoria city council insists on stringent enforcement of its smoke bylaw, a cabinet minister hinted last night.

Lands Minister Ray Williston told the legislature that if the mill has to be rebuilt because of the smoke problem "the mill will disappear."

NOT ENOUGH TIMBER

He told the House, in reply to questions from John Squire (NDP, Alberni), that B.C. Forest Products "didn't want any part" of the Moore-Whittington takeover because there was not enough timber involved to get into a hassle which would bring unfavorable public reaction.

The merger did take place, however, and since then B.C. Forest Products "lived up to their commitments 100 per cent."

The firm will keep the mill going but the final story won't be told until the smoke nuisance problem is resolved, said Mr. Williston.

\$18,558,986

Approved

The legislature took only 18 minutes last night to approve the \$18,558,986 total estimates of the department of lands, forests and water resources, after spending nearly 10 hours on a 525,372 vote on the minister's salary.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1964

Mrs. Moran's Work Split by Department

PRINCE GEORGE (CP) — After one month of waiting, the social welfare supervisor Wednesday split up the caseload of suspended worker Bridget Moran.

District supervisor Ellis Lindsay said the department has not yet informed him whether Mrs. Moran will be reinstated or fired and the imported worker who was handling her caseload temporarily has been sent home.

Mrs. Moran and four other workers were suspended for insubordination Feb. 18. The government said they had violated authority by publicly protesting

working conditions. The four were subsequently reinstated. Mrs. Moran's case is not yet settled.

"If Mrs. Moran is reinstated her caseload will be returned," said Mr. Lindsay.

"We are able to provide the same quantity of service as we ever did," he said. "Of course, Mrs. Moran had 14 years experience and the staff is not acquainted with her caseload yet so for them it will be hard work for a while."

Mrs. Moran will be in the legislature when the welfare budget is debated later this week.

Day in the Legislature

Jury Pay Hike Attacked

A government MLA yesterday branded the \$2-a-day pay increase for jurors as totally inadequate.

Ernie Lecours, a sometimes-maverick Socred from Delta, claimed jury duty could cost a businessman two months of his time and serious financial losses.

Instead of boosting jury pay to \$10 a day, the government should pay a juror's living expenses and his normal salary for the time he serves.

The extra cost would be matched by better service from jurors, he claimed, because they would be free from financial worry and could give their full attention to the fate of the accused.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner pointed out that the amendment to the Jury Act described the daily pay as "expenses" so that it could qualify as tax exempt.

The amendment got second reading.

★ ★ ★

Lands Minister Williston said municipalities seem willing to tell one another what to do about parks but they are not too willing to do the same things themselves.

He was replying to Ralph Loffmark (SC, Vancouver - Point Grey), who had envisioned creation of metropolitan parks authorities to stop subdivision of parklands and potential parklands.

Mr. Williston said Recreation Minister Kiernan had suggested such an idea but that the province is not in a position to force municipalities to participate in area-wide authorities.

Vancouver might have a bigger smog problem than Los Angeles within 15 years unless a control is found for air and water pollution, Delta Socred MLA Hunter Vogel said.

He was anticipating problems which will arise when industrial development expands around the perimeter of Delta, up the navigable portion of the Fraser River and down the seaboard to the United States border.

In addition to smog, there probably will be "a high degree of pollution on every beach in the area," he told the House.

Mr. Vogel asked Lands Minister Williston if pollution controls can be anticipated and if they would be imposed on an area-wide or province-wide basis.

Gibson Timber Charge:

Cabinet Ill-Advised

Provincial cabinet ministers aren't very bright when it comes to trees, says millionaire logger Gordon Gibson.

"Not one of them knows the value of trees," the North Vancouver Liberal MLA told the legislature yesterday.

When cabinet ministers need information relating to B.C.'s forest industry they call in advisers who are more concerned about the interests of the big companies than they are the taxpayers, Mr. Gibson said.

During debate on the salary vote for Lands, Forests and Water Resources Minister Williston, the Liberal member said the province's timber resources are worth 10 times as much as the Peace and Columbia Rivers combined.

But, he said B.C. is cutting only half enough timber, while the other half is "rotting on the ground."

WROTE FOREWORD

Mr. Gibson also criticized Mr.

Williston for writing a foreword to a MacMillan, Bloedel and Powell River Ltd. brochure on modern forest management through tree farm licences.

The brochure was mailed out to shareholders in the company.

Mr. Williston said he was asked to write a foreword which appeared in the MacMillan, Bloedel brochure and in a company magazine, but he did not know then the brochure was to be sent to the company's shareholders.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1964

MLAs Tangle

'Private Eyes' Hit

Opposition members levelled a withering fire at amendments to B.C.'s legislation regulating private detectives yesterday and drew a withering response from Attorney-General Bonner.

The amendments to licensing of private detectives were described by NDP members as being synonymous with wiretapping, an invitation to business warfare and a return to employee stoolpigeons.

Mr. Bonner said the comments were the result of "sloppy homework" on the bill and accused NDP critics of red-herring tactics in using the debate to bring up irrelevant matters.

Opposition Leader Strachan said he was unalterably opposed to some sections of the bill, which he said turned back the clock to the day when some employers hired Pinkerton detectives to spy on their workers.

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) said a section of the bill was like wiretapping because it "legalizes undercover agents."

'SHEER IDIOCY'

Mr. Bonner said the NDP demand for a recorded vote on the bill was "sheer idiocy."

The amendment is designed to permit the employment of part-time private detective help without the necessity of obtain-

ing formal identification cards or having the part-time worker fingerprinted.

Exemptions to the identity card and fingerprinting requirements of the Private Detectives Licensing Act could be granted by the assistant commissioner of the RCMP.

The amendment also relaxes some conditions for bonding private detectives.

Victoria, Burnaby

Land Grants Urged For B.C. Universities

The provincial government should set aside 4,000,000 acres of endowment land for the University of Victoria and Burnaby's Simon Fraser University, says Point Grey MLA Pat McGeer.

The Liberal member suggested in the legislature yesterday "it isn't fair" that the University of B.C. should be the only university to benefit from endowment land in B.C.

The government should set aside 2,000,000 acres of land in the northern part of the province for each of the two new universities.

The universities should have outright ownership of this land and be given the power to manage it, but should never be allowed to sell the land, said Mr. McGeer.

This land might return \$2,000,000 a year in stumpage rates for timber and this value would rise in time, he said. It could be "a painless way" of financing operation of the universities.

Mr. McGeer also suggested that the UBC endowment land, which is held by the government, should be deeded back to the university for further development.

Lands, forests and water resources minister Ray Williston later told the legislature that the government is already pouring money into the universities and that it would be difficult at this time to spend additional money trying to build up endowment areas for them.

Besides, "I don't know where I'd find 2,000,000 acres," he told the House.

No Commitment

Hansard Study Approved

A big debate flared up in the legislature yesterday about whether a verbatim report is needed for proceedings in the House.

When the smoke cleared away and a division was called, the House approved by a 42-to-6 vote a resolution asking the government to "consider the advisability" of printing a Hansard.

Six Social Credit members, including party whip Bert Price, Victoria MLA Waldo Skillings and Esquimalt MLA Herbert Bruch, formed the sole opposition when a division was called.

The resolution introduced by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan was supported by Socred as well as Liberal and NDP members.

Premier Bennett refused to commit the government to pub-

lication of a verbatim report of the proceedings, but said they would continue to study the question.

Attendance and participation in debates is essential to good government and members have to be in the House to know what is going on, he said.

Mr. Bennett then left the chamber and missed about 20 minutes of debate on the resolution.

Before he left, Premier Bennett said, "The government will accept the resolution but will make no commitment when it comes into effect, because this is a study the government is carrying on from year to year."

Encourages Turnout

Absence of a Hansard encourages the turnout of all members for the debates, he said.

This is in contrast to Washington, where members of Congress can file their speeches without bothering to deliver them in Congress, and to Ottawa, where members rely on Hansard to the point where attendance is less than 25 per cent for important debates, said Mr. Bennett.

Mr. Bruch, who spoke against the resolution, suggested debate would suffer if there is a Hansard.

Debate of the House is not for public consumption and "we are not catering to an outside audience," he said. "We are not here to debate for the

record but to solve the issues facing B.C."

Waving a copy of the Saskatchewan Hansard, Mr. Bruch said that legislature "took a whole session" to debate a resolution which was clearly within jurisdiction of the federal government.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault said it is "incredible" that a government with an annual budget of about \$400,000,000 does not have a transcript of what goes on in the House.

He was also in favor of broadcasting key debates from the legislature and said he is "tired of the battle of news paper clippings which goes on in every session of the House. It is a battle of who has the most clippings."

Nothing Done in Year

Mr. Macfarlane pointed out that nothing has been done about a Hansard since the government accepted a similar resolution a year ago.

Mr. Strachan said he has noticed a tendency for the speeches to become shorter in the House in recent years. "Maybe they are oftener, but they are shorter."

Premier Bennett asked from across the floor, "What are you smoking these days?"

Mr. Strachan continued: "Some of the statements and chit-chat that goes across the

floor would not be said for fear it would go on the record," if there were a Hansard in the House.

Alexander Matthew (SC, Vancouver Centre) felt a Hansard would "add appreciably to the dignity of the House."

Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) challenged Premier Bennett to vote against the resolution if he is not prepared to authorize a Hansard. "The only inference which can be taken is you are afraid to see your policies in print."

Mr. Bennett laughed.

NDP Warning:

Forest Monopoly Likely

If the present trend toward monopoly in the B.C. forest industry continues the province will be confronted with "a monopoly bigger than the government itself," the legislature was told Tuesday night.

Anthony Gargrave (NDP, Mackenzie) said large timber operators in B.C. already hold "terribly powerful economic weapons."

The time may come, he said, "when the government will be unable to deal with the giant future mergers may create."

CONTRACTORS FEARFUL

Mr. Gargrave said the large firms have "affronted" the legislature's select committee on forestry by not making submissions to it.

The NDP member, said the committee's effectiveness has also been hampered by the fact sub-contractors logging for pulp mills have failed to come before the committee for fear they will lose their contracts.

Mr. Gargrave, one of four opposition MLAs on the committee, said trade unions, universities and non-quota-holding timber operators were also conspicuous by their absence at committee hearings this session.

NO PROPER HEARING

"Frankly, the committee has not received a proper hearing of all views within its terms of reference."

He said the government should study decentralization of the B.C. forest service's activities. One idea might be to allow municipalities to manage forests in

their vicinity to gain full benefits from their recreational potential.

PARTIAL PROCESSING

B.C. might also study the trend in the United States toward development of small pulp mills for partial processing of the product.

The point had been reached where "if the political objectives of the two or three largest forest companies coincided with the political objectives of this government . . . we would be coming very close to having a corporate state."

VOTE FINALLY PASSED

Mr. Gargrave spoke during a marathon discussion of the salary vote of Forests Minister Williston. The minister's vote was finally passed at 11:40 p.m. and the full \$18,558,986

departmental estimates for 1964-65 went through in 18 minutes.

Don Robinson (SC, Lillooet) said there is no need for a new royal commission on forestry.

The house forestry committee had accomplished a lot more in the last two years for the industry than any royal commission ever had "and for a heck of a lot less money."

SIT YEAR-ROUND

He said that if the committee were allowed to sit year-round "we could soon solve 90 per cent of the problems."

Mr. Robinson said that if B.C.'s forest resources were fully developed the province could support 40 pulp mills. Surveys indicated the world newsprint shortage was such that there would be ample demand for the mills' production.

At Least \$100

Fees Urged to Fight 'Blackmail Bidding'

The legislature's committee on forestry has recommended bidding fees of at least \$100 on all publicly-managed Crown timber put up for sale in B.C.

The committee's report on its 1964 hearings, tabled yesterday afternoon, said the fees would be used "with respect to blackmail bidding."

BUT NOT LESS

It recommended the bidding fee be set by the Forest Service at between one and five per cent of the bidding price but not less than \$100.

The recommendation follows Introduction Tuesday of an enabling amendment to the Forest Act by Forest Minister Williston.

The amendment would allow the minister to set a bidding fee for all bidders except the holder of a timber quota who asked for the sale within his own quota. The fee would be returned only to a winning bidder.

The amendment follows complaints by logging operators be-

fore the committee that the present statute encourages blackmail bids.

At present quota holders may be bid against by anyone in sealed tenders. The quota holder may win the sale by matching the competition but loses the portion of his quota involved if he fails to meet the competition.

The operators pointed out to the committee anyone who wanted to bid against a quota holder for spite or other reasons had nothing to lose and stood to win the quota.

DISALLOW SALES

The committee also recommended the minister still be allowed continued use of his discretion to disallow high-bid sales.

The report recommended that the committee's terms of reference be broadened next year to include pulp harvesting licences and the Forest Service's appraisal system. It recommended against creation of any new royal commission on forestry.

To Wenner-Gren Friends

Socreds 'Playing Santa'

Hans Hefelmann said Wednesday the government is playing Santa Claus to its Wenner-Gren friends, an NDP member charged last night.

Leo Nimsick (NDP, Cranbrook) told the legislature a bill to give the Peace River Power Development Company Ltd. the power to appeal for more money in the courts is "just another Santa Claus deal to help out the friends of this government."

The bill allows the Peace River company to appeal the \$8,020,328 compensation figure set by the comptroller-general in 1961 for hydro-electric power surveys and studies made in the Peace River area taken over by the Power Development Act in 1961.

It drew heavy fire from the NDP side of the House last night

but passed second reading on a division of 33 to 13, with Liberal ranks voting on the side of the government.

John Squire (NDP, Alberni) said it is "a question of whether somebody who's already got their pockets lined get their pockets lined with fur this time."

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan told the House "there isn't much chance of Wenner-Gren going broke when we pay them \$8,000,000 and give them a bill to come back for more."

"The Wenner-Gren group has raided the public treasury of B.C. enough," he said.

Arthur Turner (NDP, Vancouver East) said the government in effect is issuing the company "a special invitation" to sue for more money.

Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) said the late Swedish financier Axel Wenner-Gren was a man who "flatly broke every undertaking he ever made to this province yet the government has paid him over \$8,000,000."

Attorney-General Bonner, who closed debate for the government, charged that the hatred displayed by the NDP in the legislature earlier against the Wenner-Gren interests "was almost pathological."

"You pursue the same view even after that man's death," the Attorney-General told the NDP.

He said the bill is only a re-enactment of the principles on which the House based its approval in 1961 and that the alternative is to display carelessness in the legal safeguards.

Tempers Flare As NDP Votes For Power Bill

By JACK FRY

Tempers flared and a shouting match erupted in the legislature yesterday when the NDP grudgingly agreed to bail the government out of its power policy difficulties.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner retorted that "maintenance of public power in this province has been in spite of the combined opposition in this House."

CHALLENGES NDP

He challenged the NDP to vote against second reading of a power bill which legalizes all business done by the B.C. Hydro since Aug. 1, 1961.

He also charged the Liberals with being "the real enemies of public power in this province."

Bill 87 was given second reading by a vote of 44 to 4—opposed only by the four Liberals who were in the House when division was called.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan told the House this bill was brought in to validate a B.C. Electric Company takeover settlement made by the Socred government three days before the Sept. 30, 1963 provincial election.

The settlement was "an unauthorized act of this government" taken prior to the election "for political purposes," charged Mr. Strachan.

The legislation is "an admission the government went far

beyond its authority last September," and the only reason his party is willing to support the bill is "we simply can't leave the publicly-owned B.C. Hydro in jeopardy any longer," stormed the NDP leader.

CARRIED IT ALONE

Mr. Bonner jumped to his feet to claim that the government has carried the fight of the B.C. Hydro without the help of the other two parties since 1961.

Mr. Strachan, his face flushed with anger, muttered some comment to the attorney-general. "Will my friend be quiet," continued Mr. Bonner. "You made a poor speech when you were on your feet and you're out of order now."

He challenged the NDP leader to "take your whip off your members" and let them vote the way they wished "because we don't want your support."

SPECIAL PRIVILEGES

Oak Bay MLA Alan Macfarlane delivered a scathing attack against the government's "special privileges" to wealthy BCE shareholders able to afford a costly legal battle over the exchange of shares.

A widow of a First World War

veteran, Mrs. Ada Payne, whose \$1,000 worth of preferred shares in the BCE were replaced by 25-year perpetual bonds, wrote Premier Bennett a letter on Sept. 24, 1961, asking for either her shares back or cash for them, the Liberal MLA told the House.

WOMAN LOST

The woman's request was denied and she lost \$150, along with a 20 per cent tax credit for income tax purposes, he said. "She was denied by this government the right to have her money back."

However, Elgin W. Vanstone, one of the largest shareholders in the BCE, hired a good lawyer who found an obscure loophole in the law and obtained a B.C. Supreme Court judgment plus interest, which amounted to \$311,623.55—and the money has been paid.

"The government talks of special privileges to none. Here is a man granted special privilege and the government plans to take away the rights of others in law, in justice and in morality," said Mr. Macfarlane. "One wonders when and to whom justice is available in British Columbia," he said.

**Retarded
Facilities**

Socred

MLAs

Lash

Socreds

By **TERRY HAMMOND**

Four government members yesterday lashed out during final reading of a new Mental Health Act at the inadequacy of B.C.'s facilities for retarded children.

The attacks were spurred by sections of the act which make mental institution superintendents the final arbiters on admission of patients. Previously the courts could order admissions.

Two of the four Socreds who attacked retarded facilities also attacked the admissions section of the bill — but then voted for it.

RIGHT DEPRIVED

NDP members charged that in cancelling the authority of the courts the government was depriving the public of the right to care and treatment.

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) spearheaded NDP opposition to the admissions of the bill calling it "a retrograde step of the most disastrous kind."

Availability of accommodations, he said, has been substituted for the need for treatment.

JOKERS IN IT

Socred Whip Bert Price launched criticism from the government side of the house by saying the new act had "jokers in it so somebody can pick and choose" those to be admitted.

"I certainly question the right of a legislature to take away rights which have been the rights of the people for many generations," he said.

At Woodlands school for retarded children, he went on, there was an admitted waiting list "a mile long."

mission of guilt that we have not met our obligations to a crying need."

He said the need could have been met by slowing down part of B.C.'s road-paving program and postponing removal of bridge tolls.

"We have fallen short of meeting the needs of the hour," he told the House.

"It is a hard thing to support, this Act, because it condemns us and does not justify us."

GOOD RECORD

Said Ernest LeCours (SC, Delta):

"I deplore the need for a section such as the one we have here.

"This government has a good record in the field of meeting the needs of the people—if there is need for more accommodation let's get to it."

Attorney-General Bonner appealed to the House to stick to the machinery of the Act.

He said the sections controlling admissions were similar to those imposed by most other governments, including Saskatchewan.

Unless overcrowding can be prevented through regulation of

"What is the matter? Why can't they get the help they need?"

He said parents unable to get their children admitted are left in a tragic position which was "unfair and unhumane."

"This is something which something should have been done about, but it hasn't."

He said he couldn't understand why the government would bring in a bill which destroys the rights to care and treatment and he asked Health Minister Martin to withdraw the restrictive sections.

He was joined by Alex Matthew (SC, Vancouver Centre) who said he endorsed what Mr. Price had said and recommended "every possible step be taken" to get adequate facilities.

HAD KEPT PACE

The restrictive sections would not have been required if facilities had kept pace with demand.

Both men voted with the government and the Liberals when the controversial sections were put to a vote.

John Tisdalle (SC, Saanich) said he couldn't oppose the sections but found them "an admissions, the welfare of present inmates is jeopardized, he added.

FULL SUPPORT

Patrick McGeer (L, Vancouver Point Grey), a doctor and medical researcher, said the medical profession almost unanimously supports such control measures.

The Act enables superintendents to bar admissions on two grounds: lack of accommodation, or diagnosis.

Campus

**No Move
Made
For Clinic**

The University of Victoria's Lansdowne campus would make a good site for a mental health clinic, Saanich MLA John Tisdalle insisted last night.

He renewed a plea made earlier during health department estimates in the legislature.

He asked Works Minister Chant during debate on estimates for his department whether the board of directors of the senate of the university had approached him about the possibility of using the land for mental health purposes.

Mr. Chant replied no one has approached his department about such a scheme.

Mr. Tisdalle requested a survey of the property with a view to using it for this purpose instead of land acquired on Lee Street near Royal Jubilee Hospital.

**Members
Fed Up
To Sills**

Several MLAs complained last night about inadequate facilities for the members.

The complaints came during debate on the public works department estimates.

Works Minister Chant told them "we recognize that to be the case," but he could offer no solution to the problem.

Cyril Shelford (SC, Omineca) said things are so crowded "I have seen members sitting on window sills dictating letters—and believe me, that's going too far."

The house took 90 minutes to approve the total public works estimates of \$13,591,826, including the minister's salary vote of \$25,889.

Thurs., Mar. 19, 1964

'Completely Unfounded'

Carlow Complaints Denied by Bonner

Attorney-General Bonner yesterday branded as "completely unfounded" the public statements made by fugitive Frank Carlow about conditions at Colquitz jail.

Carlow, who escaped from jail with Richard Rodrigues Feb. 23, surrendered the next day to Saanich Det.-Sgt. Joseph Armstrong after telling the press his story of conditions inside the jail.

Rodrigues is still at large. Mr. Bonner said, on the heels

of a confirmation from former Colquitz inmate Leslie Hurlburt that Carlow's story is true, he received three reports on Carlow's charges and security conditions at the jail.

"There is no basis in fact for the complaints voiced in the press. I believe a very thorough review has been conducted," said Mr. Bonner.

"Accommodation and conditions are as suitable as any prison conditions are ever likely to be."

Arbitration Probe Urged

MLAs Again Pigeonhole B.C. Public Access Bill

A public access bill which has loomed over the forest industry for two consecutive legislative sessions went back into seclusion yesterday for another year.

The bill was drawn up more than a year ago, when public clamor for access to private timberlands and logging roads was at its height.

PIGEONHOLED

When industry pledged co-operation in opening up access, the bill was pigeonholed.

This year the legislative committee on public access brought it out again and briefly dusted it off.

Industrial briefs stressed the progress made on a voluntary basis during the past year, and protested the proposed legislation was unnecessary.

In a report filed last night, the committee recommended the bill be put in mothballs again. But it recommended study of a means of arbitration over the

use of private roads and recom-

mended an investigation into what role the RCMP might play

in traffic control and enforce-

ment on such thoroughfares.

ment on such thoroughfares.

Suing Government Remains Resolution

The legislature yesterday again approved a resolution which would allow people to sue the government without first obtaining a fiat from the Crown.

The motion was made by Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) who told the House this is "a long overdue reform."

He suggested the government should study Great Britain's Crown Proceedings Bill which was passed in 1947, and said he hopes a similar bill will be introduced in the legislature next year.

Oak Bay Liberal MLA Alan Macfarlane told the House the government "accepted this resolution a year ago" but that nothing had been done about it since that time.

Tony Gargrave (NDP, Mackenzie) commented that "the fact we endorsed the resolution doesn't mean to say the government will act."

"I know the Queen can do no wrong, but sometimes she

gets poor advice," he said, adding that a person run down by a public works department truck cannot sue the government although "you could sue if a private taxi ran you down."

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 1964

Monumental Study

THE LEGISLATIVE Assembly having voted 42 to 6 to ask the government to consider the advisability of having a Hansard, the natural presumption would be that Premier Bennett would take this as evidence of a strong desire in the House for an official report of debates—almost a demand, although couched in diplomatic terms.

The premier's attitude, however, seems to indicate that he doesn't want a Hansard and that's just about that. He thinks the full record of proceedings would enable MLAs to be more frequently absent from their seats; the government will continue to study the idea, but it won't commit itself.

The validity of Mr. Bennett's supposition is questionable, although not nearly as much as that of Mr. Herbert Bruch's remarkable argument that the debate of the House is not for public consumption.

The suspicion cannot be put down that the few members who decidedly oppose having a Hansard are either reluctant to have their views of the moment on official record forever, or afraid (unnecessarily as it happens) that the report would be truly verbatim and expose their faults of speech and grammar.

They seem to give short weight to the facts that the report would provide a permanent and complete account of the proceedings, of historical as well as immediate value; that it would tend somewhat to foster dignity in the House, and that it would enable interested citizens to know in full and completely in context what their representatives were saying.

The other arguments on either side are few, but Mr. Bennett doesn't want to commit himself because "this is a study the government is carrying on from year to year."

What a monumental study! Five minutes this year, five minutes next?

Strange Ways

IT IS A TRADITIONAL if strange factor of the British House of Commons that its legislative chamber can hold only about a third of the elected members. If they all turned up at once most of them would have to stand. Even the rebuilt postwar Commons was kept to the same limited dimensions.

The B.C. Legislature provides ample chamber room for its lawmakers, but there the convenience stops. Other facilities are scant and scarce.

This week several MLAs complained about the inadequacy of office space, citing the fact that members sometimes have to sit on window sills to dictate their letters, a situation scarcely calculated to benefit either them or the constituents they represent.

The works minister, Mr. Chant, conceded that things were in a bad way, but said he could offer no solution to the problem. Members must continue to conduct their affairs, apparently, without sufficient elbow room to do so.

No other business would ever expect its officials to do their jobs without proper facilities; but then in many ways no other business would follow the patterns of legislative practice.

Still and all, the situation seems absurd.

NDP Fails to Halt Hydro Appeal Bill

A bill allowing the Peace River Power Development Company Ltd. to appeal \$8,020,328 compensation paid for government takeover of its hydro power surveys in the Peace River area in 1961 was passed in the legislature yesterday, 34 to 14.

The NDP hammered away, without success, with questions of whether the company is entitled to more money and why it was given \$8,000,000 in the first place.

In Sacred Crown—Bennett

B.C. Hydro Diamond

By JACK FRY

A smiling Premier Bennett last night called the B.C. Hydro "a great diamond in the crown of the Social Credit government."

But Opposition leader Robert Strachan told the legislature the Hydro diamond cost B.C. taxpayers more than \$1,000,000 for just the litigation fees on the B.C. Electric takeover.

COST \$1,048,361

Earlier in the day, Premier Bennett indicated in a written answer to questions asked early in the session by Mr. Strachan, that litigation on the B.C. takeover cost \$1,048,361, and that \$605,026 of that amount has been paid so far.

During last night's debate on Bill 87 which legalizes all business done by the B.C. Hydro

since Aug. 1, 1961, Mr. Strachan told the House this legislation is "a magnificent monument to incompetent bungling and bad legal advice this government got."

WAGS PENCIL

Premier Bennett jumped to his feet and, wagging a pencil towards the leader of the Opposition, shouted that though the Hydro paid \$1,000,000 in costs, its accumulated savings and rate reductions during the past three years "amount to over \$30,000,000."

"Laugh if you want, my friend," but the tremendous Peace River power and the deal with the Americans is creating "thousands and thousands of jobs for people of this province and it means reductions of rates for the people.

"I've said the PGE is our

greatest jewel—this (B.C. Hydro) is a great diamond in the crown of the Social Credit government."

Bedlam broke out in the House as Deputy Speaker William Speare (SC, Cariboo) tried to call proceedings back to order. Premier Bennett stepped out of the House.

David Barrett (NDP, Dewdney) was ruled out of order while trying to answer Premier Bennett's speech. "But he was talking about diamonds and everything else," protested Mr. Barrett as he slowly sat down.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault said the bill "should be called the Power Expropriation Patchwork Bill—it's an attempt to patch up all the sins, mistakes and faults which have surrounded power development since 1961."

Sell Metro to Mainland MLA Tells Government

The government was urged Thursday to sell the idea of metropolitan government to municipalities in B.C.'s Lower Mainland.

Arthur Turner (NDP, Vancouver East) said the recent report of the Lower Mainland Regional Planning Board was "masterful."

The report recommended a number of conditions for a livable city—among them that it be limited in size—but "this can't be done by leaving it to the municipalities."

Some day the Lower Main-

land will be in a lot of trouble in this respect, and all we'll be able to do is look back at this government," he said.

"I am accusing this government of being afraid to tackle the problem or something would have been done long ago."

Mr. Turner was speaking during debate of the \$2,032,423 spending estimates of the municipal affairs department for 1964-65.

Earlier, the legislature approved the \$4,266,405 estimates of the provincial secretary's department.

'Too Many MLAs' Represent Victoria

Victoria has too many MLAs, says David Barrett (NDP Dewdney).

British Columbia urgently needs a redistribution of seats in the legislature, he said yesterday during debate on the salary vote of Provincial Secretary Wesley Black.

Mr. Barrett said that while Victoria which has 32,000 voters and one city council is represented by three MLAs, he is the only MLA for Dewdney which has 38,000 voters and nine councils.

An impartial judicial com-

mission should be set up to survey the population and geographical needs of the province and report its findings to the legislature, the NDP member told the House.

CONSIDERATION

Mr. Black said he will give the matter "serious consideration."

Mr. Barrett said that while he realizes "it is impossible to strike a complete balance of votes" in British Columbia, the Sacred government will "go down in history" for its democratic actions if it calls for a redistribution of seats.

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 1964

Welfare Rush Anti-Climax

By TERRY HAMMOND
Colonist Legislative Reporter

In the greatest anti-climax of the 1964 legislative session the estimates of Welfare Minister Black were rammed through in a mere 1½ hours last night.

Expectations of an all-night debate on B.C.'s controversial welfare policies fell flat at 11:45 after an NDP attack which branded them a dismal and total failure.

★ ★ ★

The debate was considered the last major obstacle to ending the session.

It was opened by NDP social services critic David Barrett who said the government had impudently rejected sound proposals for better welfare administration while singing the praise of "railroads in the sky and blacktop."

★ ★ ★

In the 11 years it had been in office the government hadn't introduced a single major solution to any of its welfare problems.

Its policies killed the incentive of welfare recipients, placed an unnecessary burden on the taxpayer, encouraged dishonesty by social services applicants and gave wayward youngsters an education in crime.

LASHED PROGRAM

Looking on from the public galleries as Mr. Barrett lashed the welfare program was suspended Prince George social worker Mrs. Bridget Moran.

Mr. Moran's open letter to Premier Bennett late last year made welfare a major subject of the 1964 legislative session.

She came to Victoria hoping her presence in the gallery during the debate on Welfare Minister Black's estimates might influence government policy.

SCANT ATTENTION

But government members paid scant attention to Mr. Barrett's speech.

At one time government attendance dwindled to 10 mem-

bers in their seats—four less than in Opposition ranks. Even Mr. Black left the House for a time.

The NDP welfare expert, holder of a master's degree in social work, said B.C. social services policy is punitive, not understanding and a waste of money.

WHOLE APPROACH

The government's whole approach to welfare was typified by the actions of one of its ministers following the 1961 resignation of former superintendent of child welfare Ruby McKay, Mr. Barrett said.

Highways Minister Gagliardi had launched a personal attack on her.

"This has consistently been the attitude of this government."

Mr. Barrett gave the government a plan of what should be done.

In it he proposed:

- Loans instead of welfare payments for all but chronic welfare cases.
- A subsidized adoption program for families with marginal incomes.
- Establishment of a "foster home bank" so social workers would never be at a loss to place children in suitable environments.
- Establishment of receiving homes for disturbed children throughout the province.
- Opening of group living homes to be run and staffed by non-bureaucrats.

ALL EYES

At one point all eyes turned to Mrs. Moran as debate shifted to her suspension.

Tony Gargrave (NDP, MacKenzie) and Welfare Minister Black got into a shouting match, with both members saying they would stay in the House all night, if necessary, until the issue was resolved.

SECRET ORDERS

The NDP member said he wanted to know "what secret orders" had been given about terms of whether Mrs. Moran can be reinstated to her job.

"I demand the minister answer . . . I'm not going to leave this House until I get an answer," he stormed.

Mr. Black said in a loud, firm voice, "I'm not going to take that kind of bullying . . . If you want to stay here all night,

I can sit it out as long as you can."

The clash between the minister and Mr. Gargrave came after Mr. Black had told Liberal leader Ray Perrault that Mrs. Moran is "well aware of her conditions of reinstatement" and that "I'm not going to discuss her or any other individual on the floor of this legislature."

BE FIRED

Gordon Gibson (Liberal, North Vancouver) implied to the House that the welfare minister should be fired.

"There is something very seriously wrong with this department . . . we are losing the social battle very fast," he said.

"It is a fatal mistake of throwing the blame and firing a few privates—what is obvious is fire the general at the top, and I mean that," said Mr. Gibson.

NO RIGHT

Herbert Bruch (SC, Esquimalt) jumped into the fray to say that a civil servant has "no right" to use information gained while working for the government to "try to condemn and damn the people he is working for."

Alan Macfarlane (Liberal, Oak Bay) told the House the performance which had taken place on the floor was "absolutely disgusting and the most arrogant situation we've run into here yet."

At another point in the debate, Tony Gargrave said "we're entitled to know what civil rights a person loses by becoming an employee of this government."

He later withdrew a reference of "you nuts" made in reference to government members, in the heat of battle.

Fri., Mar. 20, 1964

Allegiance

Civil Servants Told To Remember Oath

Civil servants who might think of publicly criticizing their superiors should remember their oaths of allegiance, Provincial Secretary Wesley Black said Thursday.

Mr. Black was replying to David Barrett (NDP, Dewdney) who had asked whether civil servants could make public statements about their departments and whether they could enter politics.

"I would judge by the papers that the member from Dewdney has an audience today," the minister said in an apparent reference to the presence in the House of Mrs. Bridget Moran.

Mrs. Moran was one of five

Pringle social workers suspended after they publicly objected to the government's treatment of a young Fort St. John social worker, Wallace du Temple.

"It is not normal for a civil servant to criticize his department or the government," Mr. Black said.

"I was once a civil servant myself," the one-time school teacher said, "and I had to resign when I entered politics.

"Civil servants sign an oath of allegiance. If they can't conscientiously sign it, they should probably look for work elsewhere."

Sealed-Sunday City

'Second Class'

Victorians are second-class citizens because they don't have the right to vote on Sunday sport and entertainment, the legislature was told last night.

★ ★ ★

Victoria Sacred MLA Donald Smith said that in failing to make Sunday blue laws a matter for local option the government had contravened its slogan of equal treatment for all, special privileges for none.

Vancouver residents had been given special privileges in legislation which gave them the right to vote on commercial Sunday sport and entertainment. The Vancouver sport bill was passed in 1958.

"People think this legislature is virgin in this field," he cried.

★ ★ ★

"Mr. Chairman, we lost our virginity on this issue in 1958."

He said the Union of B.C. Municipalities had passed a near-unanimous vote seeking local option on Sunday sport

and entertainment, and a number of municipalities had placed plebiscites before the electors and received 70 per cent support.

★ ★ ★

"Vancouver has this right but not the other people of this province.

"I am promoting equal opportunity. The right of free choice.

"Vancouver is not a special republic."

He said Municipal Affairs Minister Wesley Black had

said time and time again that the wishes of the public must be respected.

"Failure to provide legislation whereby small towns could have local option on Sunday activities was rank discrimination.

★ ★ ★

He quoted a newspaper editorial entitled "small towns have Sundays too."

"It actually says what the minister said a few minutes ago — 'the feelings of the people must be respected.'"

The people of Victoria, Cowichan-Newcastle and Oak Bay "have the intelligence and ability to vote on this issue, but they are second class citizens now.

★ ★ ★

Mr. Smith earlier in the session tried to amend a government bill to include local option legislation but was ruled out of order. Afterwards he said he would introduce a bill of his own before the session ends.

Fri., Mar. 20, 1964

Pollution Splits Liberals

Two Liberal members took opposing stands on B.C.'s air pollution problem in the legislature last night.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault reiterated an earlier stand that an air pollution control committee should be established and said: "No one is silly enough to say you can abolish odors but we must establish standards and we must demand of industry that these standards be adhered to."

North Vancouver Liberal MLA Gordon Gibson disagreed.

"Our prosperity in this country comes from a little bit of smell around a pulp mill," said the millionaire lumberman. "I certainly can't ask the people to get out and do the impossible."

"We should do everything we can, but I don't want to see the government pass a lot of laws which will put the companies out of business," Mr. Gibson said.

Inaction on Alcoholism 'Scandal of Socreds'

Liberal leader Ray Perrault said Thursday inaction on alcoholism is "one of the big scandals" of the Social Credit government.

Mr. Perrault contrasted the B.C. Liquor Control Board's \$30,000,000 profit last year with the \$145,000 the government proposes to spend in 1964-65 in a grant for alcoholic treatment.

He also asked Provincial Secretary Black whether the government is planning an educational program for B.C. native Indians.

Mr. Black said such a program is being developed and "this time next year we hope to have it in operation."

David Barrett (NDP, Dewdney) said there is no profit in the sale of alcohol although it shows as \$30,000,000 on the books.

He said the costs brought about by excessive drinking exceeded the profit. He described money paid by the government in alcoholism research as "piddling compared with the great social cost" of excessive drinking.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1964

Only a Little Stormy

Welfare, Bank Big Noise in Quiet Session

By Colonist Legislative Reporter

The first session of British Columbia's 27th legislature ended at 8:45 last night.

After giving royal assent to 72 bills, Lieutenant-Governor Pearkes prorogued the House 58 days after the session started.

For B.C. it was a relatively quiet session, due largely to an opposition still subdued by the results of the Sept. 30 election in which the NDP lost two seats while Liberals were only able to hang onto the five they began with.

Periodic storms which rent the legislative air produced as much thunder as ever — but were shortlived.

Most of the lightning strikes stabbed at the government's social welfare program and the precedent-shattering Bank of British Columbia legislation.

Welfare was the New Democratic Party's chief target, while Liberals concentrated their fire on the bank bill.

One major controversy was launched by Recreation Minister Kiernan with a speech three weeks ago in which he appeared to be outlining a new policy of increased industrial and commercial activity in provincial parks.

After Liberals and NDP members united to pounce on the announcement, Mr. Kiernan belatedly replied it was all a misunderstanding — he had simply been referring to park mineral and timber rights already in private hands.

Explosions

Tempers frayed by night sittings — there were 19 — brought two explosions when an angry Premier Bennett snatched back supply votes and abruptly adjourned the House.

Acrimony reached its highest pitch at intervals during the running Liberal attack on the bank measure.

Oak Bay's Alan Macfarlane, the unofficially acknowledged master at Bennett-baiting, said the bill amounted to a blank cheque on the provincial treasury.

Two-Bit

A furious premier called the Oak Bay Liberal a "two-bit lawyer."

The NDP supported the bank legislation, calling it a fine Socialist approach to finance. The Liberals voted against it.

On key sections of a controversial new Mental Health

Act the roles of the two opposition parties were reversed.

The New Democrats charged sections establishing mental institution superintendents as the final judges of who is admitted for care and treatment abrogated a basic public right to secure admissions on the strength of court orders.

Surprise

Liberals said control of admissions must rest with mental health authorities.

One of the few surprises came during debate on the admissions sections of the bill when four Socred members played the government for inadequate facilities in which to treat and care for retarded children.

They bluntly told Health Minister Martin he would not have needed the control measure if new accommodation for the retarded had kept pace with demand.

Electrifying

Most electrifying speech came from Saanich Socred MLA John Tisdalle, the father of a teen-age boy who is a patient in the provincial Woodlands school for the retarded.

In a searing attack on retarded facilities he accused the government of stacking up children like cordwood just to get them out of sight.

Mr. Martin earlier had announced a new Woodlands will be built in the Greater Victoria area, but didn't say when.

Critics of the program for the retarded claim the Woodlands waiting list exceeds 800.

Throughout the 43 working days of the 1964 session the government introduced a broad legislative program whose highlight remained the bank bill which was announced Jan. 23 in the Throne speech.

The bill allows the government to purchase up to 25 per cent of the equity in a new federally-chartered bank which will have its head office in Vancouver.

Liberals attacked the bill at every opportunity.

Securities

They said it would impair the government's financial position by tying up a large amount of capital in securities which would not be readily negotiable.

They also demanded the premier disclose the financial details of the bank venture, particularly the amount which the government would invest, and name the proposed direc-

tors.

The premier replied there could be no details before the bill was given royal assent at the end of the session.

No Move

He said he had not approached anybody to be a director and couldn't do so until the bill became law.

Other major legislation:

- Will empower the courts to police loan and credit deals and modify the conditions of agreements found harsh and unconscionable.

- Forbids job discrimination on the grounds of age against workers 45 to 65.

- Increases to \$150 from \$120 the salary exemption in garnishee orders.

Jury Fees

- Boosts to \$10 a day the fee for jurors and makes thousands more people subject to jury duty.

- Gives county courts new fields of jurisdiction previously held by the Supreme Court.

- Steps minimum car insurance public indemnity coverage up to \$50,000 from \$35,000.

- Names Saturday as the day for all municipal elections throughout the province except in Vancouver.

- Streamlines B.C. adoption procedures.

- Gives protection to the owners of homes whose assessments would increase as a result of rezoning.

- Establishes a timber sale bidding fee to discourage black-mail tactics.

- Makes provision for the revalidation of the creation of B.C. Hydro and validates all of Hydro's acts since it was set up.

- Increases the homeowners grant to \$85 from \$75.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1964

Hurry Asked On Columbia

The legislature voted 36 to 13 Friday in favor of asking the federal government to ratify the Columbia River treaty "without delay."

The resolution was moved by Donald Brothers (SC, Rossland-Trail) who said "an unholy trio is opposed to the treaty—the New Democratic Party, Saskatchewan and the Communists."

SAME SMEAR

The remark drew cries of "same old smear" from the New Democrats.

Mr. Brothers said 74 per cent of the Kootenays voted against the NDP and H. W. Herridge, federal MP for Kootenay West, should speak for the majority.

"If he doesn't want to do this he should resign," Mr. Brothers said. "Herridge is leading the NDP on a kamikazi mission to doom."

MOST IMPORTANT

Randolph Harding (NDP, Kaslo-Slocan) said Mr. Brothers was saying the most important legislation now before Ottawa should not be scrutinized.

"If anyone had the support of the Communists it is this member of the House," said Mr. Harding.

Premier Bennett called the NDP comments "a red herring" and said the party was "trying to get off the hook."

"Without delay" doesn't mean no discussion," he said.

MLA's Plea

Campus Urged As Park

Consideration should be given to turning 27 acres of the University of Victoria's Lansdowne campus into parkland, the legislature was told yesterday.

Alan Macfarlane (Lib, Oak Bay) told the House "there is considerable concern in Oak Bay, where there is a shortage of parks, about what will become of the campus."

University officials have said they are trying to sell the Lansdowne campus in a move to consolidate the university at its large Gordon Head campus.

Mr. Macfarlane suggested in the legislature that the Young, Ewing, and Paul buildings on the Lansdowne campus might be ideally suited for use as an adult education centre for Greater Victoria.

Slaughter of Bear, Cougar May Alter Nature's Balance

Leo Nimsick, New Democratic party member for Cranbrook, told the legislature Friday that unlimited destruction of predators may throw nature's balance out of kilter.

"Only where it is absolutely essential should we employ any artificial measures in reducing their number," he said.

Recreation Minister Kiernan

agreed: "We should be very cautious" in destruction of such animals as cougars and bears.

In reply to another question from Mr. Nimsick, Mr. Kiernan said his department will study the idea of a hunting manual for unqualified hunters. However, he said he thought instruction of such persons would have to come mainly from fish and game clubs.

B.C.'s Socreds Lead As Election Spenders

The Social Credit party was the biggest spender in the 1963 provincial election.

Provincial Secretary Black said \$292,802 was spent by the party on election expenses.

Progressive Conservatives spent \$83,667, Liberals \$57,915 and New Democrats \$49,417.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1964

MLA Blasts Park Deal

B.C. 'Duped' of \$36,000

B.C. has been duped out of \$36,000 on a Vancouver Island park deal, the legislature was told yesterday.

Alan Macfarlane (L. Oak Bay) said a timber deal promoter pocketed the \$36,000 profit by selling the government a piece of land he didn't even own.

The land is Rath-Trevor Park at Parksville.

The cabinet decided by order-in-council on Oct. 3, 1963, to trade Clearwater Timber Products Ltd. \$186,000 worth of timber from Wells Gray Park in the B.C. interior in exchange for Rath-Trevor beach, said the Liberal member.

Four days later Clearwater picked up its option on beach property owned by the Rath family and declared its value at \$150,000—the amount probably paid for the property, he said.

\$36,000 PROFIT

"They are getting \$36,000 as middle man in this transaction

... I'm surprised the government was taken in and duped by this obvious promoter."

Mr. Macfarlane dropped his bombshell in the waning hours of the last sitting of this session of the legislature, when the House was debating estimates for the department of recreation and conservation.

"What possible explanation can the government give" to a transaction such as this? he wanted to know.

MUST BUILD ROAD

Recreation Minister Kiernan retorted that if the Oak Bay member could "contain his usual belligerent courtroom attitude" he might also learn that the company did not get a special deal because it would have to build a road more than 30 miles long costing about \$350,000 to get in to the timber.

"You just gave these people \$36,000 of the people's money and it wasn't necessary to do so," continued Mr. Macfarlane. The government could have dealt directly with the Rath fam-

ily and avoided the middle man.

SHOCKING SITUATION

The situation is "shocking" and "somebody was asleep or it was intentionally done," he said.

"We know what the policy of this government is—the policy is to log the parks, and I strongly oppose it."

DIFFICULT DEALING

Lands, Forests and Water Resources Minister Ray Williston told the House the government had encountered difficulty in dealing with the Rath family over the years for the Parksville property.

He protested the inference that somebody was "padding their pockets" with \$36,000 profit, and said price of the land "jumped from \$120,000 to \$240,000" while the government was negotiating.

"The people of B.C. have been well served on this proposition," said Mr. Williston.

MAR

1964

ESCAPE PROBED

Colquitz Quiz In House Today

Attorney-General Robert Bonner today promised to answer questions in the legislature about conditions at Colquitz jail.

But he refused to allow a press tour.

"There are no newspaper tours of prison facilities," he said.

"I don't think they serve any useful purpose. It is rather a good rule and we intend to stick to it."

INQUIRY SET

Mr. Bonner said director of corrections S. Roxborough Smith is conducting an inquiry into the escape of two prisoners Friday and the charges made by one of them, 27-year-old Frank Carlow, that conditions at Colquitz are unbearable.

Mr. Smith said that Carlow's charges of maltreatment of prisoners by guards was "utter nonsense." He said Carlow was "obviously disturbed" and was trying to win public sympathy.

Carlow alleged some guards treated prisoners badly and told about an inmate who went on a hunger strike for four days after being placed in a straight-jacket.

Mr. Smith said such punishment would have to be approved by his office if it continued more than 24 hours. He said he is sure the prison staff did not act cruelly towards prisoners.

Mr. Smith said Carlow may only have had a half-hour of exercise a week in the open air because he worked in the prison kitchen. But he said other inmates got "quite enough fresh air" by working outside during the day.

Mr. Smith admitted conditions at the old mental home are not the best but said prisoners knew they would have to put up with them until the place was "broken in" as a prison.

He promised all the accusations made by Carlow would be investigated.

Warden Lou Hamblin, who is in charge of Wilkinson Road Jail, told *The Times* he would not comment on Carlow's statement "at this time." He said the only person who could give an official comment is Mr. Smith.

STOP-GAP JAIL

Mr. Bonner also refused to make any statements about jail conditions but he pointed out Colquitz is only "a temporary stop-gap jail."

A site for a new Vancouver Island jail is being "actively sought." As soon as the site is picked, planning will start. Mr. Bonner declined to predict how soon the new jail could be built.

Two members of the Opposition have served notice they expect answers in the legislature, and Mr. Bonner expressed "hope they will be forthcoming."

Mr. Bonner's departmental estimates were due for debate in the House this afternoon.

NO SURPRISE

Oak Bay Liberal Alan Macfarlane said it should come as no surprise that conditions at Colquitz—formerly a mental institution—are unsuitable and inadequate for a jail.

"It is almost unbelievable, however, that the treatment of prisoners at the jail should have sunk to as low a level as that

described by Mr. Carlow in such a short time," he said.

"If indeed there is any amount of truth in these charges then the jail should be closed immediately and the prisoners transferred to other institutions."

RESTRAINED

David Barrett (NDP—Dewdney) said he expects a statement from Mr. Bonner when the House sits.

"I have restrained myself from any comment about the attorney-general using Colquitz up to this point," Mr. Barrett said.

"However, unless we receive a full explanation in the House this week, I could no longer reserve certain comments which should be made."

POWER PARLAY

It Sounds Too Good To Be True

The legislature was told Friday how it could parlay \$274,000,000 in Columbia treaty money from the United States into \$2,740,000,000.

William Hartley (NDP—Yale) said the \$274,000,000 advance payment for B.C.'s downstream benefits under the treaty should be deposited with the Bank of Canada.

He said that under the Bank Act the Bank of Canada could print money "and allow the Bank of British Columbia to issue credit from six to 12½ times the sum."

"For easy figuring left's say that the B.C. bank expends its credit 10 times. That means that the original \$270,000,000 becomes \$2,740,000,000."

This would be enough to reduce B.C.'s contingent liabilities to two per cent, solve hospital bed and schoolroom shortages and finance both the Peace and Columbia power developments, he said.

Speaking during debate on second reading of a bill allowing the government to purchase up to 5 per cent of the new B.C. bank's share capital, he said his proposal was an example of what a publicly owned bank could do "for the people of B.C."



In Our

HOUSE

By Arthur Mayse



The night sitting, like vaccination or income tax, is necessary but not very popular. Most legislators and all press gallery inmates groan when Premier Bennett decrees an after-dinner return to the cockpit of provincial government.

Previous night sittings fell on Tuesdays and Thursdays, but with the bulk of parliament's budgeting still to be achieved, the premier plunked for evening overtime on Monday.

At night, the baroque but lovely legislative chamber changes its aspect. The schoolboy pages—bright daytime birds in red and blue—are home catching up on their studies, or so we will piously assume.

The legislature's grey-hair-

ed attendants take over the duty.

Decorous in a dark suit, an old soldier who once wore sergeant's hooks in the Princess Pats sits by the premier's desk. His back is straight. Until a message claims his attention, he glances neither to right nor left, but straight ahead as if on parade.

How They Yearn

The galleries which box the floor of the House are sparsely populated. Ladies' gallery, which looks directly down the chamber to Mr. Speaker's dais, usually holds a sending of members' wives . . . and how they must yearn at times to join the debate below!

Up there, too, sit the most faithful of parliament's "regulars." Two of these are elderly women who come from Vancouver each winter expressly for the session. They arrive on budget speech day, stay at a nearby hotel, and until the House prorogues, attend most sittings.

Then there are the Americans, welcome guests under the dome, but sometimes possessed of startling delusions.

One amiable neighbor from the south was amazed to discover that Canada had either federal or provincial parliaments.

Ruled By English!

"Why," said he, "I always thought you people were

ruled direct from England!"

Then, at a last-week night sitting, there was the pleasant visitor who had her parliaments mixed.

"Would you mind," said she to her Canadian companion, "pointing out Prime Minister Pearson?"

Away from the lighted chamber and its adjoining corridors, the grey old building is echoing and empty, except for a pair of strayed visitors who make a startling request.

They want to know where they will find the ghost picture.

But the photographs of British Columbia's first legislative council can't be viewed by night, which is maybe just as well . . .

Chilliest Legend

There are several legends about the ghost picture. Here's the chilliest.

The bearded council of 1864 was one lawmaker missing when it had its picture recorded for posterity. That member had a solid reason for not attending. His corpse lay behind crepe-hung doors.

This being so, who (or what) is the figure in the legislative group photograph which makes their count complete?

To conclude, let me put a Friday error straight. The Bert Gargrave in an earlier legislature was brother, not father, to NDP member Tony Gargrave.

Cottage-Style Jail Planned For Up-Island

By FRANK RUTTER

The B.C. government plans a unique new jail for Vancouver Island — with cottages instead of cells.

It will house 224 prisoners and may be in operation within six months.

To replace Colquitz, it will be like a large forest camp surrounded with barbed wire fences.

The site will be either adjacent to two minimum security forest camps near Campbell River, or in the Courtenay area.

'MEDIUM SECURITY'

Attorney-General Robert Bonner today described the new jail as "medium security."

He disclosed some of the plans in the legislature Monday, and elaborated today.

The Island jail will take a big load off over crowded Oakalla on the mainland, but will be quite unlike it.

The major innovation will be cottages instead of cells.

Ontario is experimenting with a similar idea, but the jail is not in operation yet.

So far cottages have been used only in B.C. minimum security forest camps.

CHEAP, QUICK

Mr. Bonner told the legislature the target date for abandoning Colquitz is six months ahead.

He explained that this may be possible because the new cottage jail will be relatively cheap and quick to build.

Mr. Bonner also told the leg-

islature that investigations into the escape of a Colquitz prisoner last Friday are being continued.

"There is every reason to believe the prisoner was contacted by members of the public—I will not identify them—a good 12 hours prior to his being turned over to police and prison officials," he said.

The prisoner, Frank Carlow, surrendered to freelance photographer Jim Ryan and Times reporter Desmond Bill.

"This matter is subject to further investigation," Mr. Bonner said.

"If this was the case, it is a practice not to be commended."

Heathman Beyond B.C. Reach

By FRANK RUTTER
Times Legislative Reporter

Charles Heathman, one-time confessed murderer, is in Eastern Canada — beyond B.C.'s jurisdiction — Attorney-General Robert Bonner disclosed Monday.

He told the legislature Heathman, who broke his parole under the Mental Hospitals Act, is under surveillance.

Later, he told reporters that it is not possible to bring him back to B.C. under terms of the Mental Hospitals Act.

WINNIPEG

Mr. Bonner declined to identify Heathman's exact whereabouts, but it is reported he is in Winnipeg.

Mr. Bonner also told the legislature that Heathman had been the victim of a most "remarkable invasion of privacy."

Mr. Bonner was answering a plea from Mrs. Lois Haggen (NDP — Grand Forks - Greenwood) for a B.C. institution to house sexual offenders.

Heathman was tried for the murder of 10-year-old Vernon newsboy Donald Ottley in 1960. After a series of appeals he was acquitted. In 1962 in a newspaper interview he confessed to the slaying. He was committed to Essondale Mental Hospital for 20 months, and released at the beginning of February on the recommendation of a medical board.

After his release he denied the confession made two years earlier.

BROKE PAROLE

He was released under supervision of a sponsor, but fled B.C., breaking the conditions of release two weeks ago.

Mrs. Haggen complained that Heathman had been under very light probation.

"This just does not make sense to me," Mrs. Haggen said.

"I am concerned about the rights of society, its protection, as a whole, against these sex offenders and persons of abnormal behavior. This man would seem to have been so abnormal that he was canny enough to have outwitted all those to whom we have to look for protection against such abnormal habits and criminal acts."

NO PROTECTION

"Dealing with this man has cost the taxpayers a lot of money but has provided no protection whatsoever from repetition of what is obviously a habitual and chronic pattern

of human behavior."

Mrs. Haggen said something is wrong with the law, because it usually takes a murder before anybody does anything about such people.

"He has been looked upon to be what we term queer. He has committed minor offences in the community. But what do we do, what can we do? We are told that nothing can be done until an indictable offence has been committed."

Mr. Bonner said no matter what had happened, the safeguards of civil liberty exemplified in the Heathman case had to be defended.

"It is important to recognize that if the customary safeguards are not observed to a person of less than wholesome reputation, then the safeguards are not available to any citizens.

"If a man may not stand his trial, have court adjudication and get acquitted then there is no liberty in society for anyone."

Mr. Bonner admitted he was conducting "a very curious defence" but it was the duty of the attorney-general.

He said Heathman was the victim of public scorn and publicity about him had gone "completely overboard."

Mr. Bonner said he was not blaming the news media—"they could hardly overlook it."

Magistrates Called 'Soft' on Policemen

An MLA Monday complained that local magistrates favor the police in their judgments.

The magistrates work closely with the police and know them personally, William Hartley (NDP—Yale) said.

"Inevitably a magistrate will tend to rule on what the police officer says."

He suggested that only petty offences such as speeding should be heard in magistrate courts.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner replied that of B.C.'s 213 magistrates 51 have legal training. There are seven district magistrates with special jurisdiction over important cases, he said, and they are doing a "capable" job.

Jury Pay Boost Promised

A boost in jury pay was promised Monday by Attorney-General Robert Bonner.

He told the legislature the government also intends to lift some of the exemptions from jury duty.

He said amendments to the Jury Act will be introduced later in the current session.

Mr. Bonner said the government plans "a variation" in jury pay.

The aim of it will be to "not attract unduly the impost of income tax," Mr. Bonner said.

This could be an exemption from the provincial income tax levy of jury pay.

At present the rate is \$3 a day, and Mr. Bonner's promise followed a complaint by Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby) that this is not enough.

Mr. Dowding suggested \$15 a day.

At present 24 classes of people are exempt from jury duty, including people over 65, clergy, doctors, teachers and newspapermen.

Mr. Bonner termed it rather a wide range.

New legislation would substitute grounds of "great personal inconvenience."

Law Asked to Nail Wayward Husbands

Laws to crack down on wandering husbands were urged in the legislature Monday.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby) said it appears almost impossible in desertion cases to first find the husband, second, get him into court, and third, make an order against him that will stick.

He praised the efforts of a new Vancouver group called "Women Only" composed of deserted wives, many of them forced on to social assistance rolls because their husbands won't pay them allowances.

Mr. Dowding said millions of dollars are wasted in public funds keeping such people on welfare aid.

He suggested a tighter parole system to keep husbands paying up.

Car-Testing Going Mobile

B.C. may have new mobile car-testing station this year.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner said Monday night his budget estimates include money for extra staff to man the unit.

It would have a senior clerk and three driver examiners, he said.

Mr. Bonner said the government has not yet decided just how to operate the unit.

He was answering a plea from Arthur Turner (NDP—Vancouver East) for more mechanical testing of vehicles.

U.S. MOVING IN?

B.C. Bank Details Disclosed Friday

Amount of capital involved in the proposed Bank of B.C. and the names of its provisional directors will be revealed Friday.

Premier W. A. C. Bennett said a legal notice will be published in the Canada Gazette that the new bank will seek incorporation from Parliament.

This notice has to run four weeks before a petition can be made to Parliament.

NO DETAILS

The notice will contain no details beyond the names of provisional directors and the amount of capital involved.

The B.C. government intends to buy up to 25 per cent of the shares, and Mr. Bennett made it clear that Americans won't be able to buy any.

He was commenting on a British banker's statement that two large U.S. banks hope to enter the Canadian field through a new bank.

It will not be through the Bank of B.C., Mr. Bennett said, for the bank he is backing will be 100 per cent Canadian.

But there are two other private banks also seeking federal charters. One is the Laurentide Bank of Canada, launch-

ed by a Vancouver financier. The other is the Bank of Western Canada, to have head offices in Winnipeg.

"I don't think I should say what banks are involved, or what bank they are hoping to buy into but I can tell you that they are very big American banks," Maj. Harry Marley, chairman and managing director of the private London banking firm of E. H. Marley and Partners.

He was interviewed Tuesday in Vancouver.

The attitude of U.S. and British investors toward Canada is changing rapidly, Maj. Marley said.

"Canada seems to have come out of her recession," he added.

Recently the First National City Bank of New York purchased a 50 per cent interest in Canada's Mercantile Bank.

Federal government officials said in Ottawa there is no firm policy on foreign ownership of Canadian banks.

However, the Bank of Western Canada proposes to limit foreign investment to 10 per cent.

If this is accepted by Parliament, it is believed similar restrictions may be demanded for the other two banks.

TRUSTEES UNDECIDED ON SALARY

School trustees can't make up their own minds if they should get paid, Education Minister Leslie Peterson said Tuesday.

David Stupich (NDP—Nanaimo) asked in the legislature if the government had ever considered salaries for "unsung heroes."

"They really haven't been able to make up their minds as to what they want with respect to remuneration—or indeed if they want any," Mr. Peterson replied.

He said discussions have been held about allowing payment on a local option basis, but no agreement was reached.

\$25,253 Fines Levied In 1963 On Sportsmen

Fines totalling \$25,253 were levied against 923 persons during 1963 for violations of the British Columbia fish and game laws.

Recreation and Conservation Minister Kenneth Kiernan said that by far the largest number of charges laid were for carrying loaded firearms in vehicles, for which 277 persons were convicted. This is one of the most foolhardy and dangerous practices possible for sportsmen, he said.

Among the common violations were hunting or fishing without a licence (165); transporting animals of the deer family without evidence of sex (61); and failing to properly lock game tags (45).

MORE HELP FROM GOV'T FOR STUDENTS

More B.C. University students will get government aid this year, Education Minister Leslie Peterson said Tuesday night.

A total of 5,000 scholarships and bursaries is likely because of an increase of \$50,000 in the budget estimates, Mr. Peterson told the legislature.

Last year 4,643 students got aid.

The provincial student loan fund, administered by the University of B.C., will be reviewed in the light of new federal aid, Mr. Peterson said.

He said he has not yet received any details of the new federal plan.

SCOTTISH-CANADIAN'S PLEA

Teach Italian Somewhere!

By AB KENT

A Scottish-Canadian appealed to Scandinavian-bred Education Minister Leslie Peterson Tuesday on behalf of B.C. Italians to preserve the mother tongue of The Boot.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) said in debate on the minister's salary estimate in the legislature that Canadians of Italian origin are in danger of losing their language.

"I hope the minister will make sure Italian is taught somewhere in B.C. in the high schools," Mr. Macdonald said.

Parents of Italian origin feel strongly about their language, he said.

"Without the opportunity for their children to study Italian their children will lose their native tongue, just as my own family lost Gaelic."

The member suggested Vancouver East, Vancouver Centre, Nanaimo and Trail as suitable places for courses in Italian. Not only Italian-Canadians but others as well want to learn "one of the great languages of the world," Mr. Macdonald suggested.

50-1 Ratio Protested By Liberal

There are as many as 50 pupils to one teacher in some Greater Victoria schools, Oak Bay Liberal Alan Macfarlane said Tuesday.

He asked in the legislature why the ratio should be so high, when the Public Schools Act provides for 38 to one.

In other parts of Greater Victoria the ratio is 40 to one, he said.

Education Minister Leslie Peterson, who was given his salary after 4½ hours of debate in the House, replied that there are many reasons.

He said the province-wide average was 26 to one in 1962.

The aim of the government is to reduce the official ratio to 35 to one as soon as possible.

This will depend on the supply of qualified teachers, he said.

Other reasons for higher ratios in some areas are a shortage of accommodation and schedule of classes, he said.

BY POLITICIANS

Deserted Wives Promised Help

All three parties in the legislature Tuesday pledged efforts to improve the lot of deserted wives.

Pretty Pearl Bailey, a deserted wife with three children, came to Victoria to see political leaders.

"They all seemed sympathetic and understanding," she said.

Mrs. Bailey, 31, has formed a new group in Vancouver called Women Only, dedicated to catching up with husbands who refuse to support the families they desert.

Mrs. Bailey received an assurance from Ralph Loffmark

(SC—Point Grey) that he will press for help.

He said he will recommend to Attorney-General Robert Bonner an extension of agreements with other provinces to make husbands pay up.

TRACE HUSBANDS

The idea would be for social welfare departments to combine efforts in tracing wayward husbands.

"Some of these husbands are professional dead-beats, unwilling to look after the children they have fathered," he said.

One of the problems is the husbands plead poverty when they are brought up in court. As soon as they get off the hook they fade away and find another job.

Mr. Loffmark suggested a law forcing a husband to declare to his employers any maintenance order against him; the employer would then deduct the payments from his wages.

Enforcement would require reciprocal agreements with other provinces.

Mrs. Bailey, deserted by her husband six years ago, also met Highways Minister P. A. Gagliardi, and the Liberal and New Democratic Party caucuses.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby) said he plans to attend a meeting of Women Only on Thursday and help them draft articles of incorporation.

He has also filed a question on the legislature's order paper asking how many deserted wives are getting social welfare aid in B.C.

Peterson Defends Supps Substitute

Education Minister Leslie Peterson Tuesday tolled the final bell for supplemental Grade 12 examinations.

But Opposition MLAs maintained some young people will have difficulty getting jobs without their junior matriculation.

The "supps" were abandoned last year.

Mr. Peterson said that instead of writing supps, students faced an adjudication committee.

In 1962, he said, 712 students got their matric by writing supps. Last year, the committee passed a total of 664.

Mr. Peterson said matric is not necessary for students going to vocational schools.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said there is one group of students that cannot get a certificate of matriculation—those who fail the university program in high school.

"It is a condition of employment," added Alan Macfarlane (Lib.—Oak Bay).

Mr. Peterson replied that this was an "unfortunate" tendency and represents faulty thinking on the part of employers.



In Our HOUSE

By Arthur Mayse



It's nice for our high school young that, on the invitation of various MLAs, so many of them are able to spend an instructive and edifying afternoon observing their Legislative Assembly in action.

For the sponsoring member, it must be pleasant too—doing his stuff with all those bright, intelligent faces looking down upon him.

On Tuesday, I happened to be up in the peanut gallery with a couple of future voters—even legislators, for all we know—shuffling their big feet behind me.

Funny Head?

Here's a sampling of their muttered conversation:

"Hey! Look! Look at that one with the funny-shaped head."

"You mean the guy with

the paper in front of his face?"

"No, the one that looks like he's asleep. . . . Will we have to do an essay on this stuff?"

"I guess so. They did last year."

"What a drag!"

Lardhead!

I don't offer that as a typical reaction. In fact, I'm sure most of the boys and girls who are exposed to B.C.'s provincial parliament—or British Columbia's, since the premier likes our province spelled in full—are not of a sort with that lard-headed pair.

What I do suggest though, is that in education we are, as one NDP member observed Tuesday afternoon, dealing not with white mice but young human beings.

This being so, I think we'll bypass the froth and frolic that enlivened parliament's first pass at Education Minister Leslie Peterson's estimates, and listen to practical minded Lois Haggen, NDP matron member for Grand Forks-Greenwood.

Gone Ahead

"We want to know what is cooking in education," said she, after a housewifely reference to ministerial plans which have been "simmering on the back burners."

She then followed her usual practice of getting down to basics.

"We have a great many confused young people," she said, who are wondering where, in all this big educational program they fit."

Dryly, she noted that the proposed regional junior colleges "are not a reality at the moment."

Then she turned to the vocational schools which weigh heavy in Mr. Peterson's master plan.

"We've gone ahead with equipment and buildings without being quite sure how we're going to use them. . . . We went overboard on highways, and now we're going all out on education. I certainly hope the planning of the years ahead will be sensible, and not just a matter of spending so much money."

Swelled Head

For parents, too, Mrs. Haggen had a warning. Don't, she urged, "make snobs" out of children by over-emphasizing the virtues of accelerated classes with their enriched programs.

"The slow learner," said she . . . and this observer couldn't agree more heartily . . . "shouldn't be tormented and humiliated by being used as a social status symbol."

That's it, except for a suggestion to Sacred Ralph Loffmark. Please, please, give us lesser brains a break. Say it plain, like Lois Haggen does.

MLA TELLS HOUSE:

More to Marriage Than (Blush) Sex

There's more to marriage than sex—and it's no laughing matter, an MLA said Tuesday. (NDP-Cranbrook) lectured on marital problems.

But the legislature laughed anyway when Leo Nimsick

Mr. Nimsick was advocating a course on marriage in school.

"Young people get out of high school and they get married and they don't know what kind of problems they are getting into," he said.

School prepares children for almost every kind of problem, Mr. Nimsick said.

GREATEST PROBLEM

"But the greatest problem in life we do nothing at all about, we leave them to find out for themselves."

"On behalf of your wife I object," interjected Education Minister Leslie Peterson.

Mr. Nimsick said he had seen stories in the newspaper lately about sex education in schools.

"It makes you think that sex should be the be-all and end-all of marriage," he went on.

"I would put it far down on the list."

HOW TO BUDGET

A scarlet Nimsick explained to a roaring House that he meant youngsters should learn how to budget, how to keep house and get along with a family.

"Some religions are doing this now—some churches are giving marriage courses today that take two to three months to go through," he said.

"Sure it's easy to laugh.

HORSE OUT

"But when you see all the broken homes and all the diffi-

culty in the world today something should be done—not wait until the horse is out of the barn."

The House exploded in laughter.

"I don't know what they were really laughing at," Mr. Nimsick complained.

"Something should be done earlier in life."

COMPLEX PROBLEMS

When the hubbub ceased, Mr. Peterson answered: "We're asked to have many things in school, but I don't think we could encompass quite all the things the member for Cranbrook spoke about."

He said it is possible to legislate against use of alcohol or smoking, but he didn't think the government could solve all the complex problems of modern society.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1964

'Change Gears' Industry Told

Think In Terms of World Markets, Bonner Tells Inert Manufacturers

Canadian industry has a psychological problem—it is reluctant to enter world markets, Trade Minister Robert Bonner said Tuesday.

He told the legislature: "There is a great deal of inertia—I'm not being critical, I'm merely observing a fact—in persuading them to look out from what they are doing.

"It is sometimes extremely difficult to interest manufacturers in expanding their horizons and opportunities."

Mr. Bonner recalled a sample show two years ago sponsored by the B.C. and federal governments and the Vancouver Board of Trade at which "we had to practically twist arms to persuade some of our secondary manufacturers" to exhibit.

"People are not geared psychologically to markets abroad," he added.

Mr. Bonner said there is no lack of participation from abroad in B.C. trade fairs.

"The place where you have to twist arms is Canada."

The problem isn't confined to B.C. firms, Mr. Bonner said. "The same may be said of almost any province in Canada."

The House spent 2½ hours debating the estimates of the trade department before moving on to education.

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault called for a full-time trade minister. Mr. Bonner doubles as attorney-general.

The Liberal leader also proposed: waiving the 5 per cent sales tax for new industry; a complete inventory of B.C.'s economic potential; 12 regional trade offices across B.C.; better liaison with the federal government and more accent on business with Japan.

SPEND MORE

Mr. Perrault said the trade department's budget is too small. It is folly to spend only \$1,030,000 on such an important department.

He suggested B.C. plants to

assemble goods made in Japan for supply to eastern Canada markets.

Mr. Perrault also expressed concern that B.C.'s labor force is not expanding as rapidly as capital investment and production. The reason: automation.

He predicted the Peace and Columbia river power systems will be virtually run by automation.

NEW RAILWAY

Mr. Perrault also proposed a new northern B.C. railway—from coal fields in the Nass River area to Stewart and Prince Rupert.

Major expansion of port facilities in the two northern centres would stimulate trade with Japan, he said.

Mr. Bonner agreed with Mr. Perrault on one point—the need for reduction of Canadian trade barriers.

Business leaders and the federal government are now providing "real leadership" in promoting tariff cuts, Mr. Bonner said.

B.C.? IT'S—BEFORE— UH—BOSTON COLLEGE!

Don't admit to being from B.C. when you're abroad, Premier W. A. C. Bennett advised his citizens Tuesday.

John Squire (NDP—Alberni) was complaining in the legislature that on a recent trip to England he had found nobody knew where B.C. was. They only knew Vancouver, he said.

"The word B.C. should not be used," Mr. Bennett replied. "They think it's Boston College or something."

TRUCK LOGGERS BLOCKED

The B.C. Truck Loggers' Association was ruled out of order Tuesday when it asked the legislature's forestry committee to review government policies on tree farm and pulpwood harvesting licences.

Committee chairman Cyril Shelford (SC—Omineca) ruled that the two types of licences lie outside the committee's terms of reference, which involved review of licensing practices in publicly managed forests.

Mr. Shelford suggested complaints concerning the tree

farm and pulpwood harvesting licences could be voiced at public hearings on three tree farm licence applications now before the forests department.

INEQUITABLE

A brief submitted by the truck loggers said the association opposes tree farm licences as an inequitable method of providing large companies with assured timber supplies.

It also questioned the advisability of granting any pulpwood harvesting licences "until more is known regarding their possible effect on established logging operators."

The association asked for creation of a new royal commission on forestry—the last was in 1956—and suggested forest policy and administration should be more clearly separated.

The brief was presented by George MacBryer, chairman of the association's forestry and legislation committee.

GRIT FIGHTS MILL SMELLS

Government enforcement of air pollution controls was advocated Tuesday by Liberal leader Ray Perrault.

He protested about smelly kraft mills during debate on Trade Minister Robert Bonner's estimates in the legislature.

Mr. Bonner replied that there is a continuing study of the problem by the B.C. Research Council, and exchanges have been made with Sweden.

The trouble has been, he said, that B.C.'s solutions seem to work in Sweden but not here.

'SORE POINT' UNDER STUDY

Local school boards should have the right to choose their own district superintendents, Liberal leader Ray Perrault told the legislature during debate on Education Minister Leslie Peterson's salary Tuesday.

A sore point with school trustees, the appointment of superintendents is under study by his department, Mr. Peterson said.

Mr. Perrault said only Vancouver appoints its own superintendent.



In Our HOUSE

By Arthur Mayse

★ ★ ★

The omen-freighted Ides of March whooped down upon us Wednesday, a fact which the Legislative Assembly's unthreatened Caesar was quick to note.

"I am sure," said Premier Bennett in full smile, "that no difficulty will arise."

His prediction was mostly right. Although the winds blew fresh and free inside the House as well as out, the squalls were few and brief.

Perhaps because they were to dine later as guests of premier and cabinet, members were painstakingly cooperative. This spirit was carried to a startling extreme when David Barrett (NDP—Dewdney) asked leave to introduce a bill and got a unanimous 'Aye' before he could

announce its title.

(A bill to amend the Training Schools Act: British Columbia's underdogs have no better friend than this sturdy, youngish Opposition member who in private life works with the John Howard Society for the rehabilitation of ex-convicts.)

Pitch-Penny Game

So on we went like a House afire for full 20 minutes, legislators playing brisk pitch-penny with education millions, and pack-in-the-box Leo Nimsick (NDP — Cranbrook) never once popping up to harangue the government side.

Then over the horizon a squall came booming.

With the assent of members, Chairman William Speare reopened a vote passed while John Squire was absent, so that the Alberni NDP could have his say.

What Mr. Squire wanted was a change in the Public Schools Act which would permit practicing clergymen to double as teachers.

"A denial of a fundamental right," asserted Mr. Squire, and not in line with the policies of Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec.

Scant Impression

This roll call of the provinces made scant impression on our legislature. The general feeling was that church should remain separate from state, a belief in which Tony Gargrave (NDP, Mackenzie) concurred.

"I speak as an individual,"

said Mr. Gargrave; and speaking as an individual, proceeded to support the government stand against preacher-school teachers.

Minor division of this sort within a party isn't uncommon. Our five Liberals, for instance, are not of one mind about the government proposal to expand industry's toehold in our Class A, or wilderness parks.

Gallant But Futile

Liberal Alan Macfarlane of Oak Bay made a gallant, but I fear futile pitch for the reintroduction of grade 12 supplemental examinations.

Socred Dan Campbell flew into a speech which bore no apparent relation to the vote, drawing a polite snarl from Burnaby's NDP Gordon Dowding.

Legislators then voted public libraries their \$10 difference between advances and revenues; banged off the million-dollar-plus department total; and double-clutched smoothly from education to labor, Mr. Peterson's other portfolio.

Then amiably off—NDP, Socred and Liberal—to join good host Bennett in a toast to the Queen.

Drunk, I sorrowfully add, in beautiful British Columbia water.

Incidentally doesn't the Ides of March come on the 15th of the month?

'DENIED RIGHT TO EARN A LIVING'

MLA Protests Teaching Ban on Clergy

An Alberni clergyman is being denied the right to earn a living in the teaching profession because of a provision of the Public Schools Act, Alberni MLA John Squire said in the legislature Wednesday.

The New Democratic Party member asked Education Minister Leslie Peterson, in debate on departmental estimates, to remove a section of the act prohibiting the employ of ministers as public school teachers.

Mr. Peterson said he was not prepared to recommend to the House any changes in legislation.

Alberni citizens polled on the subject of a minister refused employment last October used the expressions "bigotted, stupid, old fash-

ioned and out of date," in referring to the case, Mr. Squire said.

He said a person has "the right to earn a living at the best level he is qualified . . . By this legislation we deny him that right."

Interpretation of the act has included full-time teaching, relief teaching and adult education in the evening division. Mr. Squire quoted Mr. Peterson as having said at the time a clergyman "cannot disassociate himself from his religious beliefs when he walks into a classroom."

He said it is recognized, however, that a member of a political party who happens to be a teacher is in no way hampered.

"I'm not going to ask that the member for Comox (Socred Dan Campbell, a teacher), be denied

teaching in school. I'm not that narrow minded . . . I will never have any part of denying the right to teach."

He said the government recognizes that "partisan politics can be discarded on the doorstep, but not religious beliefs."

Mr. Squire showed the House letters from the governments of Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario in which it was stated clergymen may teach public school. He said this is also true in Quebec.

"They trust people in these other provinces," he remarked.

He pointed further to the fact that a former education minister in B.C. was also a minister of the cloth.

Government policy here is "denial of a fundamental right" in the public schools, but in the realm of adult classes "this is

ridiculous," the MLA said.

Mr. Peterson noted there is no rule against a minister holding the post of district superintendent or education minister, and in fact, those trained as clergymen are welcomed as teachers.

"The point is whether they are practising clergymen," he said. The act applies if they are.

When Mr. Squire asked for clarification regarding adult education teaching, the minister said he was not prepared to pre-judge the case for the superintendent of education, nor suggest any changes in legislation.

Mr. Squire said he was trying to treat the matter as delicately as possible.

"You could have been in touch with me months ago and we could have dealt with it very delicately," the minister replied.

UP TO COMMUNITIES

Gov't Transfers Mental Care

By FRANK BUTTER
Times Legislative Reporter

A new plan to shift mental health care from the B.C. government to community organizations was unveiled Wednesday by Health Minister Eric Martin.

He introduced a brand new Mental Health Act in the legislature.

Its three main aims:

1. To provide for community health care with federal and provincial aid;
2. To overhaul all existing mental health laws, particularly admission procedures;
3. To set up interim safeguards for existing laws, such as admissions to Woodlands School for the retarded, until the new law is proclaimed.

MOST MODERN

The new legislation was described by Mr. Martin as the most modern in the world.

But it does not come into effect until proclaimed by the cabinet—in whole or in part—at some future date.

The key to the new community care plan, Mr. Martin said, is federal aid.

It will not be launched until the federal government includes mental care in hospital insurance. At that time, B.C. will also include it.

The plan is for community societies or organizations to build their own mental hospitals, clinics and units with federal and provincial aid.

In addition, the cabinet has the power to turn over any existing provincial institutions or facilities to public groups.

VICTORIA FIRST

A health official said if federal aid is forthcoming, as is hoped after the report of a royal commission on health services, the new Victoria mental hospital to be built beside Royal Jubilee may become B.C.'s first community-owned unit.

One of the stop-gap measures of the new act is an amendment to the existing Mental Defectives Act upholding present admission procedure for Woodlands.

This is because of a current court case about the right of a judge to order admissions. The new section allows a judge to recommend admissions, but the final discretion lies with the superintendent of the school.

ONE FOR SIX

The new legislation will ultimately replace six existing laws—the Mental Hospitals Act, the Clinics of Psychological Medicine Act, the Schools for Mental Defectives Act, the Provincial Mental Health Centres Act and the Provincial Child Guidance Clinics Act.

It lays out a new admission procedure for all mental institutions.

In essence the new act wipes out court-ordered admissions, except where a person is de-

clared to be "dangerous" if left at large.

Forced admissions are at the discretion of the superintendent of the institution as long as two medical certificates are obtained no more than 14 days before admission, instead of 30 days as at present.

SUPERINTENDENT

The superintendent can decide in the final instance if a person is mentally ill, and can also base his admission on whether or not "suitable accommodation" is available.

Appeals can be made to the courts within three months of a patient's admission and automatic reviews for release are provided. After the three-month appeal limit to the courts, patients can go before a review board, composed of two psychiatrists, instead of two physicians as at present.

Mr. Martin said the new law will put all admissions on a medical basis.

Voluntary patients will be admitted on the same basis as people going into general hospitals, he said.

They must be allowed to leave again within 72 hours if they desire.

'Gov't Abdicates Duty To Care for Insane'

B.C.'s new mental health law is a brazen abdication of responsibility by the government, the Opposition mental health critic said Wednesday.

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby) called it a "do it yourself" mental health scheme.

"It has been the law of England and the Commonwealth from time immemorial that the Queen has full responsibility to care for mentally disordered persons," Mr. Dowding said.

ROYAL DUTY

"This government for the first time in history has dared to go back on the royal duty."

He said the new law contains no provisions for special care of such people as emotionally disturbed children.

They will continue to drift

through such institutions as Brannen Lake School for Boys and Willingdon School for Girls and Oakalla, he said.

The new community treatment plan with wide regulatory powers in the hands of the cabinet is a dangerous and unnecessary transfer of responsibility from the legislature, Mr. Dowding added.

'CLOSES INN DOOR'

Mr. Dowding criticized admission procedures outlined in the new legislation which give superintendents of institutions power to decide on the basis of "suitable accommodation."

"From now on under the new act suitable accommodation will be at the pleasure of the minister of finance. Admissions might as well be channelled through

his office," Mr. Dowding said.

The section blocking court-order admission to Woodlands School for the retarded "closes the door of the inn," Mr. Dowding said.

Admissions decided by a judge ensured patients' rights were safeguarded, Mr. Dowding said.

"This is swept away and government doctors will have sole discretion."

Loggers Fear 'Domination'

The legislature's forestry committee was told twice Wednesday the B.C. timber industry is in danger of being controlled by a few large firms.

Cortes Island logging operator Elton Anderson, president of Elton Logging Co., urged quota rules be changed to prevent tree farm licence holders from holding quotas within public working circles.

Mr. Anderson said the open log market "is the basic mechanism upon which the coast logging industry grew.

"Without the independent logger there would be no real open market—they go together."

OPEN MARKET

(Under sustained yield units and public working circles the crown forests are managed by the forest service, but under tree farm and pulp harvesting licences, management is by the licensee, generally a pulp mill.)

A brief from the Interior Logging Association also called for an open market on

timber.

The brief charged quotas—"originally given to the industry by the Forest Service"—now are being sold among operators for an average of \$10 a thousand board feet.

The brief, presented by G. R. Hickman, stated the proposed solution to the spite bidding problem, advanced by large timber operators, would only place lumber "into the hands and control of the minority."

QUOTA VALUE

He said the value of quotas "might go as high as \$50 a thousand" if the proposal of larger operators to restrict bidding on timber sales to established operators with quotas was carried out.

Under the present quota system, a quota holder can obtain any timber sale from his quota by matching the highest competitive bid. But if he fails to do so he loses his entire quota.

The interior loggers proposed the present system of quotas be maintained but quotas not be lost through the holder's failure

to win a sale.

If the sale were lost the quota holder would be able to apply for a replacement sale once the first sale had expired.

The brief continued:

"This proposal protects the public asset and allows the timber to be sold at its true value on a competitive market, completely divorced from the private asset, the quota.

"No competent and efficient established operator should complain if he is unable to meet his competitor's bid for a public asset."

As an alternative to their proposal the loggers suggested sales within sustained yield units be considered district forester sales "on a sustained yield basis."

The brief suggested the Forest Service could then see to it that the timber could be fully utilized and that the best possible price would be obtained on the timber sales through public auction.

Gov't Urged To Print Text Books

The Queen's Printer should publish B.C. school text books to save public monies, Opposition member Gordon Dowding suggested in the legislature Wednesday.

It is a union shop, does excellent work, turns out an \$88,000 a year profit, is "well run and has fine management when not interfered with," Mr. Dowding said in debate on Education Minister Leslie Peterson's estimates.

Queen's Printer turns out the annual budget, "which is just propaganda, but he does a fine job," the NDP member for Burnaby said.

Something of comparable size and quality would be suitable for text books, he thought.

He also noted QP did a number of copies of the Pacific Great Eastern report for 28 cents a copy, compared with a smaller run of the same report by a private printing house for \$4.50 a copy.

And much of this was "propaganda," too, Mr. Dowding said. "The government should not be in power just to engage those who print its propaganda," he declared.

Mr. Peterson replied it was possible if the Queen's Printer

has equipment to print and bind text books.

He agreed that changing text books in a school course is an expensive business, but with the "explosion of education it is necessary to review text books in use."

'New' Maths Puts Parents Out of Work

The new system of teaching youngsters mathematics is throwing parents and grandparents out of work because they can't understand their children's homework, New Democrat Mrs. Lois Haggen complained in the legislature Wednesday.

Randolph Harding (NDP—Kaslo-Slocan) told Education Minister Leslie Peterson parents have too much difficulty understanding the system to be of help to their school children.

"I am not as concerned about the trouble to parents as to the teachers," Mr. Peterson replied.

"Perhaps it will mean more students do their own homework rather than having their parents do it," he added, admitting the system is harder for persons schooled the traditional way.

TEST COURSE

Schools May Offer Italian

A pilot course in Italian may be introduced in a B.C. public school to meet a demand pressed on the education department by Italo-Canadians.

Following the urging of Vancouver New Democrat Alex Macdonald, Education Minister Leslie Peterson told the legislature Wednesday he had received a delegation asking for the same thing.

He said the director of curriculum was asked to study such a language course, possibly with the assistance of a university professor.

Canadian-Italians are concerned their children will lose the mother tongue, and other Canadians should be given the chance to study Italian along with French, German or Spanish now available in the schools, Mr. Macdonald said.

Victoria Sacred J. Donald Smith suggested Chinese should also be considered as a language elective with the others.

Mr. Peterson did not comment.

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 1964

Name-Calling Shakes House

By FRANK RUTTER
Times Legislative Reporter

The legislature erupted into a free-for-all between "blackshirts" and "communists" Thursday.

The bitterest clash of the session led the House beyond its usual supper adjournment hour and extended the debate of labor department estimates into the night.

The chief characters of the drama were Premier W. A. C. Bennett who called a New Democrat "a communist leader," Tony Gargrave (NDP—Mackenzie) who called the premier a bully, and Herbert Bruch (SC—Esquimalt) who

was branded a "blackshirt."

The angriest MLA of all during the heated exchange was Labor Minister Leslie Peterson, who sat glowering because nobody would talk about his department.

It all began a few minutes before 6 p.m. when Mr. Bruch complained that trade union leaders should spend more time on the needs of their members than on politics.

'Take Your Seat,' Premier Told

Mr. Gargrave rose to reply, just as the premier walked into the House.

Mr. Bennett made an inaudible remark.

"You take your seat—you've been absent all day," Mr. Gargrave shouted.

"We've had enough black-shirted ideas from the member for Esquimalt without bullying tactics from the premier."

When the premier continued to toss barbs (laughing to the Socreds behind him) Mr. Gargrave told him: "Mr. Premier will you please keep out of this argument."

Up jumped the premier, branding Mr. Gargrave "this communist leader."

A dire warning from House chairman William Speare brought a withdrawal of the word blackshirt from Mr. Gar-

grave and of the word communist from Mr. Bennett.

But Mr. Gargrave renewed his charge that the premier was bullying. The sooner this was exposed, the more orderly the debate would become, he said.

In the resulting pandemonium, Saanich Socred John Tisdalle contributed: "The premier has never bullied me and I object."

"We had good sound orderly debate until the premier came in," complained Mr. Gargrave. "When he goes out the debate will go back to normal."

He charged Mr. Bruch had tried to tear down the good name of the IWA, of which Mr. Gargrave has been a member for 16 years.

Mr. Bennett said the New Democrat was rabble-rousing.

Department Ignored—Peterson

Mr. Speare demanded "a more responsible attitude" toward the labor debate.

Mr. Peterson, scowling, kept demanding the MLAs return to his vote.

As 6 p.m. passed, John Squire (NDP—Alberni) suggested an adjournment.

Mr. Bennett replied the Social Credit leader was "not taking instructions from you, my friend."

Mr. Squire said in that case he had enough material to keep the labor debate going for weeks.

Mr. Speare ruled that the 6 p.m. adjournment rule does not apply during committee sit-

tings—debate on estimates. Mr. Gargrave challenged the ruling, and was defeated on a voice vote.

Mr. Squire said he had thought legislative debate had reached a higher level.

Mr. Peterson complained again. His department was being ignored.

At this point Waldo Skillings (SC—Victoria) told the NDP: "You're going to keep the debate going until the pallbearers return."

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan, NDP House leader Arthur Turner and Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) were away all afternoon attending the funeral of Angus MacInnis, a CCF founder and veteran MP.

Randolph Harding (NDP—Kaslo-Slocan) finally brought things down to earth with a calm question about labor matters.

"It's rather refreshing," replied Mr. Peterson wryly.

Mr. Gargrave made a quiet plea for adjournment.

"Any request that's made in a nice manner, the premier is always glad to accept," said Mr. Bennett with a smile.

He adjourned the House.

Prairie Migrants Jobless in B.C.

Saskatchewan migrants were blamed for unemployment in B.C. and the government was warned about latent Communist leadership of organized labor in lively exchanges in the legislature Thursday.

John Squire (NDP—Alberni) charged Social Credit labor laws are thwarting B.C. union leaders in responsible conduct of their affairs.

"You might as well know it," he intoned. "Look for insurrection by the Red element . . . the type of leadership there was 15 years ago," when the International Woodworkers of America turned out left wingers.

Debate was on Labor Minister Leslie Peterson's salary vote.

Victoria Sacred Waldo Skillings laid some of the blame for unemployment on an influx

of "stubble jumpers from Saskatchewan."

New Democrat Leo Nimsick (NDP—Cranbrook) accused the government of spending vast sums to eliminate tolls on Deas Throughway, for example, while doing nothing for the unemployed.

"Don't let the people rot in social welfare," he implored.

He pointed to the loss of jobs through automation, as in mining. Although mining production in B.C. is up, less than half as many people are employed as there were a few years ago, he said.

Some Are 'Beyond Educating'

"That's the way it should be," said a voice on the government side.

"Who made that smart remark?" Mr. Squire demanded.

This type of statement was "ridiculous." There should be steps taken to help chronic unemployment, Mr. Nimsick said.

"Education, not charity," Point Grey Sacred Ralph Loffmark tossed in.

Mr. Nimsick countered that education is not the cure-all for the problem, although it does help. But there should not have

to be charity, either, he said. The people he meant are "beyond educating."

"It is never too late," retorted Mr. Loffmark.

"It is easy for those who have gone through university to look down on people on welfare, the unemployed employables," Mr. Nimsick said.

"Would you scrap our vocational schools?" said Donald Brothers (SC—Rossland-Trail).

"There's another dud remark from a man with a university education," Mr. Nimsick fairly exploded.

Gov't Benches 'Missed Point'

At this point Donald Robinson (SC—Lillooet) rose threateningly, waving a finger.

"Social Credit has done more for the working man, for organized labor in B.C. than any other government," he said.

His backbenchers slapped their desks vigorously while the opposition let out a dismal groan.

"Don't come around and tell us we've not been for the working man," he said.

He referred to work created by the extension of Pacific Great Eastern Railway at a time when the CPR was laying men off. The new route opened up mining and logging ventures that in turn employed men, he said.

Mr. Squire said the point had been completely missed by the government benches.

The government can go on

creating industry, but unless something else is done it will not be helping the type of people referred to by Mr. Nimsick, he said.

"All the education in the world will not solve all the problems my friend is talking about," Mr. Squire said.

Many of the unemployed are 50 and 60 years old; some can't speak English, "and you're talking about sending them back to school for re-training."

COURTLY BOW END DEBATE

Labor Minister Leslie Peterson got off the big hook in 6½ hours in the legislature.

His departmental estimates were approved at Thursday night's sitting. The debate began Wednesday.

When the unexpectedly long debate ended, Mr. Peterson stood to give a bow of gratitude.

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 1964

Castlegar's Sewage Aired Again in House

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan Thursday night charged laymen can overrule experts to decide B.C.'s public health policy.

He was questioning the case of Dr. James McAnulty, the West Kootenay medical health officer, who was asked to resign because he got into a public dispute with Castlegar council about sewage disposal.

Health Minister Eric Martin said the elected representatives and the people of the municipality had voted in favor of a lagoon, but Dr. McAnulty persisted in campaigning for another system.

The request for his resignation has been withdrawn and

the doctor is on holiday, Mr. Martin said.

Dr. McAnulty is expected to return to his work without any more trouble, Mr. Martin said.

What looks like a long debate on health opened in the legislature Thursday night.

It ran for an hour and 35 minutes with little controversy.

The Opposition was waiting for chief mental health critic Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby) to return from a trip to his riding.

But Premier W. A. C. Bennett told the House when it adjourned at 11:15 p.m. that today's debate will open with bills—not health.

'B.C. Loads Scales Against Workers'

B.C. loads the scales against the working man in any grievance to the labor department, Opposition leader Robert Strachan complained in the legislature Thursday.

And the amount of Labor Minister Leslie Peterson's salary vote is an indication of what the government's labor policies are worth, he further charged. Mr. Peterson, paid as minister of education, gets nothing for his labor portfolio.

Debate on the salary vote Thursday night ended a sitting that brought sparks showering down on both sides of the House until the vote passed at 9:30.

Mr. Strachan said civil servants also feel the weight of loaded scales in relations with the government. He said the department discriminates against members of the official opposition as well.

Departmental officials have advised persons with a grievance, such as a case for compensation, not to approach a member of the opposition if they want their matter to be taken up, he charged.

Despite the fact the labor force is increasing, the actual number of union members in B.C. is declining, Mr. Strachan said.

'A SHAMBLES'

"The trade union movement is going to be a shambles be-

cause we can't protect it under these labor laws," the opposition leader said.

"If you (the government) maintain your Victorian attitude in labor legislation and labor-management relations we're headed for even more trouble," Mr. Strachan said.

Mr. Strachan accused the department of having two standards or attitudes in enforcement of legislation—loose on application of overtime control and strong in measures favoring management.

"It is most unfair to accuse my department of being unfair in administration of labor legislation in the province," Mr. Peterson declared, defying members to give examples of unfairness.

Gibson Admiration Runs Whole Gamut

Gordon Gibson (Lib.—North Vancouver) objected in the legislature Thursday to a newspaper column in which he was referred to as "a secret admirer of Premier Bennett."

Mr. Bennett jumped to his feet and agreed with a smile: "It's no secret. Everybody knows it."

The Liberal member rejoined that people can be admired for many reasons.

"I won't say how I admire him, but you know Al Capone

did a pretty good job of robbing banks, and I might have ad-



In Our HOUSE

By Arthur Mayse



For a difficult job well done, I commend to you Deputy Speaker William Speare, the quiet but durable government member for Cariboo who this session is chairing the House through its estimates of revenue and expenditure.

This phase of parliament's massive assignment is a rough one. The protocol of formal debate is behind us. Now, with the House in committee of supply, it is first come first served and devil take the hindmost, with members frequently contesting for the floor.

Sometimes as many as four members hop up in a dead heat.

"The chair recognizes the honorable member for Muskrat Meadows," intones the

referee from his post between our black-gowned clerks-at-law; and that, without argument or right of appeal, is that.

Cut of Debate

When one of parliament's verbal roughhouses erupts, it is for chairman Speare to restore peace. This he does with terse vigor. "Order!" he barks, and down cracks the gavel to back his command.

Perhaps the best tribute to Mr. Speare is the complaint I have heard from champions of all three parties . . . that he really could sometimes let debate (meaning in this context the slash at an opponent's jugular) continue a little longer.

Here's a sample of what Speare of Cariboo must contend with:

Chain of Yawns

William Hartley, Yale's contribution to the Legislative Assembly, beats NDP teammate Alex Macdonald to the jump as we pass from labor estimates to the health department votes.

He speaks earnestly of many things, while the clock hands creep from 9:38 to 10, and one yawn sets off another in a chain reaction.

Finally, 42 minutes after Mr. Hartley set out to assure us that health is joy, Socred Dan Campbell ups with his blowgun and lets fly a dart.

The bored back benchers squeak and titter. Mr. Hartley leans and glowers.

Bit of Shame

"If that is all the respect some members have for the House," he bawls, "to sit and giggle and laugh . . . they don't belong here. They ought to go home, they ought to resign from this Legislature!"

Then, to Mr. Campbell, a dressing-down that reached a soaring peroration:

"Shame! Shame on the member for Comox!"

Jolly fun, but time-wasting. Chairman Speare returns Mr. Hartley to his track, along which he chuffs for two mortal minutes more.

The luck of the draw went next to wise grey Arthur Turner of Vancouver East.

Nip of Vinegar

"My friend from Yale," said Mr. Turner, perhaps tempering party solidarity with the merest nip of vinegar, "has gone into the whole matter quite thoroughly, and I think has done quite a good job for a new member."

The Legislature's senior member then moved in like a skilled pro for a testing tap at Health Minister Martin's jaw. This with a reference to the Martin "body-guard" of civil servants crouched in echelon behind their chief.

MLA Proposes Pension Plan Tightening Up

Provincial control over pension plans was advocated in the legislature Thursday by Opposition member Tony Gargrave (NDP-Mackenzie) during debate on labor estimates.

He noted pension plans in the U.S. buy up half of stock market issues, and together with mutual funds account for most of the investment.

In B.C., although industrial workers contribute heavily to pension plans, there is no regulation, he said.

For one thing, there should be full disclosure of internal workings of plans, their management and who really owns the pension funds to which management and labor contribute.

And there should be unassailable and unattachable pension rights established, he said.

Agriculture Worth \$150 Million

Agriculture in B.C. last year was a \$150,000,000 industry, with gains in nearly all crops but grain, hit by drought in the Peace River region.

The annual report of the provincial agriculture department, tabled in the legislature Thursday, said total income was \$150,146,000 — down \$1,500,000 from the record total of 1962.

However, production generally was "well maintained and even increased in some instances, notably in apples and eggs — the latter reaching an all-time record."

Farm prices remained generally steady, although "a definite softening occurred in cattle prices during the year," the report said.

Sharing Of Profits Urged In B.C.

Profit-sharing schemes by B.C. firms were urged in the legislature Thursday by Liberal leader Ray Perrault.

"Labor feels it is not sharing in the rewards of the system," Mr. Perrault said.

In the age of automation there is no sense of personal accomplishment for push-button workers.

"Human dignity and human aspiration often suffer to a very great extent," he said.

Industry has become too mechanical. There would be fewer strikes if labor was allowed to participate in the profits, Mr. Perrault said.

He proposed federal tax incentives and provincial guidance and leadership to promote profit-sharing plans, which have proved very successful in the U.S.

Mr. Perrault also advocated higher salaries and more staff in the labor department's conciliation service.

Present salaries of \$4,000 to \$8,000 are not enough to attract "blue ribbon" conciliators who can save the public millions of dollars by solving major labor disputes, Mr. Perrault said.

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 1964

Lumberman Denies Claim Of 'Blackmail Bidding'

A Vancouver man who said his former partners in a timber firm have wrongly accused him of "blackmail bidding," said Thursday the ex-partners had subjected him to "five years of hell."

W. J. Swetnam was testifying under protection of the Canada Evidence Act before the legislature's select committee on forestry.

He said he was appearing to reply to accusations made against him and his son Robin by Samuel Ketcham of Williams Lake and brothers William and Henry of Seattle in an earlier submission to the committee.

Mr. Swetnam told how in 1957 he had agreed to give the Ketchams, owners of adjacent timber tracts, controlling interest in the West Fraser group of seven timber companies near Williams Lake. In exchange, the Ketchams were to operate the firms.

He said that following the province's institution of a quota system to prevent timber depletion, the Ketchams managed to reduce West Fraser timber quotas from 80,000,000 board feet to about 7,000,000 without his knowledge.

This had been accomplished, he said, by the Ketchams putting West Fraser quotas up for bid and then entering a bid

on behalf of Twomile Planing Mills Ltd., a firm they wholly owned.

Deputy Forests Minister R. G. McKee, present at the hearing, confirmed that the West Fraser holdings had not been bid upon by West Fraser and that the timber had been sold at the forest service's "upset" (reserve bid) price.

"Where were you when all this was going on?" committee chairman Cyril Shelford (SC—Omineca) asked Mr. Swetnam.

MOVED TO COAST

Mr. Swetnam replied that he had moved to Vancouver in 1957 and that at no time had it occurred to him that the practice was going on.

"It never once occurred to me that such a dishonest practice would be attempted."

He said he continued as a director of West Fraser until the Ketchams exercised an option to purchase the minority interest in January, 1962.

Asked whether he had been satisfied at the 1962 sale price, Mr. Swetnam said timber values had appreciated to the point where the 45 per cent interest had been worth twice what was paid.

YEARS OF HELL

He said the period 1957 to 1962 had been to him "five years of hell."

Mr. Swetnam said he had decided last year that he had the right to try to re-establish himself in the Williams Lake area by bidding on timber sales from Ketcham quotas.

"I feel they stole these quotas," he said. "Accordingly I decided to go into active competition against them."

He said he had an excellent site for a mill on land adjacent to the Pacific Great Eastern Railway and planned to build on the site if he won a timber sale.

EVERY TACTIC

"But I'll never be able to win a sale because the Ketchams have used every possible tactic to stop me."

He said he bid on three sales put up by the Ketchams last year. In each case he had bid considerably above the upset price but low enough to make a profit on the logging operation.

"I don't feel I have been guilty of any blackmail bidding," he said.

"You seem to feel quite definitely then that the upset prices are too low," commented Mr. Shelford.

"In many cases, at least in the Williams Lake area, yes."

Compensation Probe Delay Hit by Nimsick

An interim report on B.C. workmen's compensation and higher indemnity for widows of men killed in industry were asked for in the legislature Thursday by Leo Nimsick (NDP—Cranbrook).

He noted there has been a long delay in appearance of a report by the royal commission on workmen's compensation, and perhaps it would be two years before it comes down.

Labor Minister Leslie Peterson, replying in debate on his salary estimate, said it was "most unfair of the member

to suggest this is a delaying tactic. The members know full well why we have had to wait for the report."

He pointed out the original commissioner Chief Justice A. C. DesBrisay had died and was replaced by Mr. Justice C. W. Tysoe.

Mr. Peterson said he had discussed with Chief Justice DesBrisay the possibility of an interim report.

"We are anxious to have the report completed as soon as possible," he said.



In Our HOUSE

By Arthur Mayse

Friday is ferry day for many a mainland member, a circumstance which has a remarkable effect upon the quantity, and often the quality, of legislative debate.

"I hope everyone will co-operate," Premier Bennett told the House, after letting it be known that the motion to adjourn would be tossed in at 5:30 p.m.

Co-operate they did; and even though the Liberal lion failed somewhat of lying down with the NDP lamb, we came about as close to achieving a parliamentary millenium as may be expected.

The tone was set by one of the Legislature's happier occasions. It was time again to wish a happy birthday to Edwin K. DeBeck, he of the snowy hair and yellow quill pen which fascinates visitors to the House.

Mr. DeBeck, clerk of the Legislative Assembly and unofficial mentor of the press gallery, is 81 today. The event was foreshadowed in those

graceful little speeches that mirror the true shape of parliament.

Years Don't Judge

"Years are not the judge of man's ability," said Mr. Bennett. "I refer especially to our clerk. I am sure I speak for the House when I express goodwill toward him. I hope he has a good birthday, and many more happy birthdays."

"A most outstanding adjunct to this House," Opposition Leader Strachan contributed.

"I am delighted on behalf of our group to add congratulations," Liberal leader Ray Perrault said. "Mr. DeBeck has been of inestimable help to us five Liberals, and I would like to thank the clerk for all he has done for us."

Gracefully spoken by all, and heartily seconded (though silently) by the press from its observation post above Clerk DeBeck's white head and black gown.

Government Thanked

This mood of amity prompted Mr. Perrault to a later observation as he thanked government for introducing an amendment to the Fair Employment Practices Act.

"Some people," said he, "feel we engage in unremitting warfare, and that the carpet is bloodstained from the battles we fight in here."

That's a mighty nice sentiment, and it's a fact that on friendly Friday no blood was drawn. I must report, though, that Oak Bay's Alan Macfarlane—with no ferry to catch—did land a swing or two with a rubber hose.

Having stung the premier into entering the debate — this by a cut at the "brushfire

Socialism" which he detected in one section of the overhauled B.C. Hydro and Power Authority act — Mr. Macfarlane feigned surprise.

'Never Miss a Word'

"I didn't think the premier was listening," he said.

To which Mr. Bennett replied amiably, "I never miss a word!"

Nor does he. The premier is listening every moment he is in his House. Even when he leans, back turned, to hobnob with one of his ministers, he has an ear tuned to the debate.

Off now in a scurry to catch a fast ferry, with just time to share a morsel of 'way-out speculation.

There's a strong tendency in some quarters to assume that because Mr. Bennett said it, that's how it has to be.

But the Ides of March still falls on the fifteenth, and the sign is not yet up over our new Bank of British Columbia.

First, it must win a federal charter.

LEGISLATURE LAUDS CLERK ON BIRTHDAY

Party leaders paid tribute to the veteran clerk of the legislature, E. K. DeBeck, who is 81 today.

Premier W. A. C. Bennett drew attention to the birthday in the House Friday.

"It shows years are not the judge—but the spirit of the man," said Mr. Bennett.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said Mr. DeBeck was an outstanding aid to the House and had made a great contribution.

Liberty leader Ray Perrault said the clerk had been of inestimable help to all MLAs.

BENNETT SEES PGE GOING TO STEWART

Premier W. A. C. Bennett Friday said he looks forward to an extension of the PGE Railway to the west coast port of Stewart.

He told the legislature the PGE eventually may go to Fort Nelson, in northeastern B.C., as well.

The PGE, he said, is one of the main instruments for development of all parts of the province.

He made the comments when the House gave approval to a bill increasing the PGE's borrowing powers by \$25,000,000 to a total of \$165,000,000.

Mr. Bennett also said B.C. is still trying to win a federal subsidy for PGE construction.

NDP Fears Credit Bill Too Narrow

Government spokesmen said Friday installment plan buyers will be protected by a new B.C. law, despite grave doubts from the Opposition in the legislature.

The House gave second reading to the new Credit Relief Act, aimed at curbing excessive interest rates and credit terms.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby) said bill only referred to "money lent" and this might mean the courts would not uphold test cases on budget-buying.

Some firms charge up to 26 per cent interest, he said.

Others enter into a back-door partnership with finance companies, passing along all their credit business.

Ralph Loffmark (SC—Point Grey) said he believed the courts would be able to curb high credit rates as well as money-lending rates.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner declined to predict on court decisions, but he suggested the legislation would warn off "reckless lenders" anyway.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan pledged the support of the NDP to the legislation and it was unanimously approved.

SNAP VOTE SHOCKER

B.C. Hydro Act Hit in House

By FRANK RUTTER
Times Legislative Reporter

Opposition to parts of a new B.C. Hydro act forced three votes in the legislature Friday—with the government nearly caught out in one of them.

The legislation—a stop-gap measure in case new court decisions go against the government—was given committee approval after a clause-by-clause debate which ran for an hour and a half.

The New Democrats and Liberals opposed three of the clauses.

On one of them a snap vote caught the government benches unaware.

It looked like 16 to 15 for the Opposition until Provincial Secretary Wesley Black was found in a corner just inside the House, but out of his seat. That made it 16 all, but a formal division brought other Social Credit scurrying in to carry the day 26 to 17.

POWER OUTSIDE

The chief Opposition objections were that the new legislation vested too much power outside the legislature—in the hands of the cabinet and the Hydro Authority itself.

The legislation will not come into effect until proclaimed by the cabinet. This is unlikely

unless the courts decide existing legislation is invalid.

A Supreme Court ruling that it is has been appealed by the government.

The Opposition united against section 57 of the new Hydro Act which says: "In order to give full force and effect to the meaning and intent of this act the lieutenant-governor in council (the cabinet) may make any orders and regulations deemed necessary or advisable for carrying out the spirit, intent and meaning of this act to matters for which no express provision has been made or for or in respect of which only partial or imperfect provision has been made."

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby) called it a "Henry VIII provision"—vesting too much power in the head of state.

It gives the cabinet power to rewrite the law, he said.

"You've made a mockery out of democracy."

"The whole spirit of this act is to put B.C. Hydro outside the legislature," declared Oak Bay Liberal Alan Macfarlane.

However, the NDP wasn't with him when he violently opposed another section which gives Hydro power in 25 fields subject to cabinet approval.

Mr. Macfarlane said it would allow Hydro to go into any field of business—he termed it "brush fire socialism."

"So what?" asked Opposition Leader Robert Strachan.

He charged Mr. Macfarlane was opposed to publicly-owned companies making a profit.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) said the legislature would always be able to change these powers if Hydro went too far.

There are only two major private companies in B.C., Mr. McKay said. He didn't name them, but they are the East and West Kootenay Power and Light Companies.

The Opposition joined forces to vote against two other sections: one which provides no appeal for residents who get crop damages as a result of Hydro projects, the other declaring certain B.C. laws shall not apply to Hydro—including the Fair Employment Practices Act.

Local Councils Given

Power to Ban Noise

Municipal councils can ban noise under a new B.C. law introduced to the legislature Friday.

A 73-part revision of the Municipal Act also switches municipal voting day from Thursday to Saturday.

Omitted from the changes was provision for local option Sunday sports — only immediate cause of criticism from municipal officials. However, Victoria Social Credit MLA J. Donald Smith said later he plans to introduce a private bill to the legislature seeking the option.

Under the government bill, councils will be able to regulate or prohibit any noises which disturb the peace.

Councils at present can regulate noise, but they can't stop it.

Another new section allows senior municipal officials to be fired only after "reasonable

notice" plus a two-thirds vote of council. At present they can be fired without notice.

Changes affecting municipal borrowing powers say that a money bylaw must first receive approval of the inspector of municipalities before going to a vote; interest rates will be limited to a maximum of 6 per cent; and temporary financing will be allowed between passage of a bylaw and sale of debentures.

There are 17 amendments dealing with business and trade licensing.

Most important effect will be to prevent municipalities charging licence fees for people whose place of business is outside their boundaries.

Another new power for municipalities is to force fences around swimming pools.

Councils also will be able to regulate fireworks displays, allowing permits year-round for special events.

SAT., MARCH 7, 1964

First Wilderness Area Set Aside at Garibaldi

Strathcona Next Kiernan Says

By FRANK RUTTER
Times Legislative Reporter

The B.C. government Friday created the first of a new series of special wilderness zones in provincial parks.

Described as "areas of superlative natural beauty," they are to be strictly limited to the public, with a complete ban on commercial and industrial development.

The first "nature conservancy" christened by a cabinet order Friday consists of 49,248 acres of Garibaldi Park.

STRATHCONA NEXT

It is expected the government will create another one soon in Strathcona Park on Vancouver Island.

Recreation Minister Kenneth Kiernan said the only "improvements" to be allowed in

these areas will be trails and emergency shelters.

"This means these areas will be free from commercial and industrial development, as well as from the type of intensive recreational development existing in some parks already, such as ski lifts, parking areas and access roads," Mr. Kiernan said.

CENTRE OF STORM

Mr. Kiernan has been the centre of a fierce storm of controversy since he announced in the legislature last month that some park wilderness areas will be opened up to logging and mining companies.

Mr. Kiernan said Friday the "nature conservancy" plan had

been under study by park planners "for a considerable time."

AS THEY WERE

A press release about the new policy added:

"The minister indicated that developments in other sections of Garibaldi Park and other major parks in which nature conservancies have not as yet been designated would proceed as at present."

The cabinet order setting up the wilderness zone says the plan is to preserve "areas of superlative natural beauty, outstanding wilderness qualities or unique flora and fauna."

VIEW ROYAL TO GET LIBRARY SERVICES

View Royal will get library service through a change in the Public Libraries Act.

The legislature Friday gave second reading to the change.

Herbert Bruch (SC—Esquimalt) said that View Royal residents had been blocked from library service because of a technicality in the old legislation.

The change allows extension of library service to unorganized territory if it is included in a school district which provides the service.

Unexpected words of praise for Attorney-General Robert Bonner came from an unexpected quarter of the legislature Friday.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby) complimented Mr. Bonner on two bills re-vamping B.C.'s Supreme and County Courts system.

"They represent the most revolutionary change in our courts system since the abolition of the wig," he said.

"I was thinking of bringing that back," smiled the attorney-general, a Yul Brynner from away back.





In Our HOUSE

By Arthur Mayse

With us under the provincial dome on Monday we had the fallen archangel of Canadian politics, that same Davie Fulton who, with Lucifer's own stubborn pride, attempted the impossible at Kamloops last election.

Mr. Fulton, a big man with notably small feet for his heft, looked fresh and fit.

Yes, he assured questioning newsmen, he would most certainly try the consequence again. Not in such entrenched Sacred ridings as the twin Peace Rivers, of course; that would be pointless. He felt his best chance might come with a byelection.

And did he have second

thoughts about his 1963 tilt against a windmilling high-ways minister in a riding which was strong for Gagliardi?

No Backtracking

Oh no! He had acted then as seemed best to him. Davie Fulton left no doubts on that score. Even though he was visiting parliament's house as a guest rather than a Conservative member, he did not backtrack.

This outcast from politician's haven has neither rusticated nor rusted. He gets around. He speaks with the incisive clarity of the attentive bystander on British Columbia government policies.

Naturally, Mr. Fulton is critical. He sees lack of planning for such side-issues as recreation and relocation of roads in the vast Columbia project, and urges a house-keeping commission to oversee these byproducts of power development.

The bank? A good move, one which he welcomed; but government should not mix in bank administration.

Industry in wilderness parks? No, says Davie Fulton. Here, the provincial authority goes against a current which flows strongly toward conservation.

B.C. Needs Him

And so on, till we returned to our lookout above a floor where Davie Fulton might

well have held a seat as B.C.'s last surviving—or first reviving—Conservative member.

That he eventually will win House room; I don't for a moment doubt. Proud, stubborn and sometimes misdirected though he may be, this is simply too good a man to waste.

Apart from the Fulton visitation, the afternoon was blue Monday indeed. The strolling placard-bearers outside the main entrance might have picketed parliament as much for dullness as for its labor practices.

Haggen haggled. Liberal linked hands with NDP to dance a rigadon on chronic care. Health Minister Martin—still with Hear, See and Speak no Evil ranged in a prim row behind him—echoed the beer commercial which insists that "it takes time, time. . ."

To and fro we tromped across the well-scarred battleground of dentist and dental mechanic. A lead-balloon NDP motion attempted to reduce Mr. Martin's \$15,000 stipend by \$1.

Surprise, surprise, the motion was lost.

One ray of sunlight glinted when Liberal chief Perrault set foot in mouth to produce a puzzler.

"We boast," said he, "about being the richest province in British Columbia."

'DISGRACEFUL'

Dental War Draws Legislative Fire

Health Minister Eric Martin Monday deplored what he called a disgraceful war "to the death" between B.C. dentists and dental mechanics.

The war spilled into the legislature when both Social Crediters and New Democrats demanded government action to halt it.

Mr. Martin promised a determined effort to settle the dispute, but told the House: "If we succeed we'll be the first group of legislators in all the world."

The battle boils down to a question of how closely dental mechanics should be allowed to deal with the public and with dentists.

"It is one of the most disgraceful things I have ever experienced in my life," Mr. Martin said. "It is war to the death. Each group refuses to co-operate with the other."

The government is stymied because it can't legislate co-operation, Mr. Martin said.

"If anyone in this province is disgusted it is I," he added.

The trouble arose because the B.C. College Dental Surgeons was able to discipline its members for dealing with mechanics.

The government tried to remedy the situation by approving new regulations which wiped out the disciplinary clause.

For its trouble it got a kick in the teeth, Mr. Martin said, when the Supreme Court ruled the action unconstitutional.

"No dentist dare even look at

a mechanic," Mr. Martin said.

SUSPENSIONS

Bert Price (SC—Vancouver-Burrard) said the dental college had suspended three dentists for dealing with mechanics.

At present dentists can work with laboratory technicians, but their dealings with mechanics, independent teeth-makers, are restricted.

Mr. Martin said the mechanics are trying to take over the work done by the technicians, but he deplored the attitude of the dentists as well.

He said the whole problem could be settled with common sense "and a little adulthood."

Mr. Price said existing legislation allows for co-operation between dentists and mechanics, but the dental college refuses to recognize it.

Eight-Dam Plan Urged on Fraser

Top-Level Talks Due

By FRANK RUTTER

A \$405,000,000 plan for flood control and power development of the Fraser River was recommended today in a special federal-provincial report which took eight years to compile.

The plan involves eight dams on the upper reaches of the Fraser costing about \$400,000,000, and an extra \$5,000,000 worth of work on dikes along the lower part of the river. It would save an estimated \$75,000,000 a year in flood damage.

The entire project would be a joint federal-provincial one.

B.C. Resources Minister Ray Williston said he will seek an early meeting with Ottawa officials to discuss implementation of the plan.

Mr. Williston termed the report of the Fraser River Board "a very practical approach to the problem."

He indicated B.C. hopes for early action, because of the flood danger on the Fraser.

TWO PROBLEMS

But there are two major problems involved: the effect on fish and the ruin of the huge wilderness recreation area of Wells Gray Provincial Park.

The recreation department warned the board that the effects on the park could be "disastrous."

The board's report says that no major fish runs would be affected by the eight dams, but a number of "moderate-sized" runs of important economic value would be directly af-

ected.

These include salmon which migrate to spawning grounds on the upper Fraser.

FISH PROBLEM

But the big unsolved joker in the plan is the effect on "marine survival" of salmon. This is described as the ratio of returning adults to young salmon migrating down the river to the sea.

The report says that apparently the larger the flow of the river, the higher the survival rate of sockeye.

The board admits that the exact nature of this relationship is "not understood at this time."

But on the basis of present knowledge, it says a detrimental effect is likely.

"The effect could be most significant in years of low discharge in the river during May," it says. "The reduction of flow below natural levels could make the difference between having a moderate catch and having no catch."

FISHWAYS

The report recommends construction of protective fishways at some of the dams and urges more careful study and research to ensure maximum survival.

The plan calls for five storage dams with power-producing generators: Grand Canyon, on the Fraser near Prince George; Cariboo Falls on the Cariboo River near Likely; Hobson Lake on the upper levels of the Clearwater River; Clearwater-Azure on the Azure Lake, lower down the river; and Hemp Creek, below Ma-

hood Lake, also on the Clearwater.

In addition there will be run-of-the-river dams taking off power at Granite Canyon and Clearwater, near the junction of the Clearwater and the North Thompson and a secondary unit connected with the Clearwater-Azure project but 3,000 feet down river.

DIVERSION

As well as these the McGregor River would be dammed north-east of Prince George to divert it into the Peace River.

The flow of the McGregor would go into the reservoir created by the Portage Mountain dam now being built on the Peace near Hudson Hope.

The diversion would protect Prince George and Quesnel from floods, as well as helping to regulate the flow of the lower Fraser River.

The Clearwater projects in Wells Gray park would protect Kamloops and the lower Fraser Valley.

The total project could pay for itself of its 785,000 kilowatts of firm power could be sold at 5.16 mills, the report said.

It's Question Of Mathematics Mister Martin

Health Minister Eric Martin suggested Monday that Royal Jubilee Hospital should look into the question of sending more convalescent patients to Gorge Road Rehabilitation Centre.

He said B.C. Hospital Insurance Service provides the same dollar-a-day coverage for patients who can be rehabilitated as they do for patients in acute hospitals.

St. Joseph's Hospital, he said, make much more use of the Gorge Road Hospital than the Jubilee.

Administrator at Jubilee, George Masters said today "the reason St. Joseph's send more patients to Gorge Road is purely one of mathematics, they have 60-100 more surgical and medical beds."

St. Joseph's sends approximately 350 patients to Gorge Road Hospital a year while Jubilee sends 250.

More beds are used at Jubilee for psychiatric and maternity cases and these patients do not qualify as the chronically-ill who can be rehabilitated.

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 1964

'So 18 Promises Later ... Still Sweet Nothing'

By FRANK RUTTER
Times Legislative Reporter

The Opposition Monday unsuccessfully tried to cut Health Minister Eric Martin's salary for failing to provide hospital care for chronically-ill elderly citizens.

The bid was defeated 29 to 16 in the legislature, but not before Mr. Martin took a severe buffeting for setting up a "smokescreen" to hide his failure.

Although the motion was to reduce his salary by only \$1, a sort of minor non-confidence vote, it was the first time at the current session that there had been an attempt to censure an individual minister.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) who proposed the salary cut said older people have been badly let down by the government.

Chronic care was promised in 1956, Mr. Macdonald said.

"Eight years and 18 promises later we still have sweet nothing."

People are thrown out of hospital after the acute stage of their illness has finished, because the hospital insurance service will not provide care for \$1 a day for long-term chronic care, sometimes for a fatal ailment, he said.

He charged the chronic care promises were only election bait.

94,000 DAYS

Mr. Martin said the government had a chronic care program—for rehabilitation. It had given 94,000 days of patient care since it was introduced in 1960.

He admittedly deplored lack of care for long-term cases, but said the government is "working on that thing, too."

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault said the present program covers only about 40 per cent of the chronically-ill. Thousands of people have to pay \$8 to \$9 a day at private nursing homes because they cannot be rehabilitated. This means they lose life savings and often their homes, too, he added.

The federal government pays 47.1 per cent of the cost of the existing program, Mr. Perrault said.

PASSING BUCK

Leo Nimsick (NDP—Cranbrook) charged Mr. Martin was trying to pass the buck to local groups to provide chronic care.

Lois Hagen (NDP, Grand Forks—Greenwood) said the government is encouraging private hospital operators to make money out of chronic care.

Randolph Harding (NDP, Kaslo—Slocan) related the case of a Victoria man in a nursing home whose wife—aged 70—has to go out to work to earn the \$245 a month it costs, including drugs.

"These are the people we are speaking of," he said. "Don't let's have a smokescreen."

Alan Macfarlane (Lib.—Oak Bay) said patients are turned out of Gorge Road Hospital here after 30 to 90 days even though they may have suffered a stroke.

"DISGRACE"

"It's a disgrace you should stand on the floor of the House and go around the province trying to delude people," he said.

Patrick McGeer (Lib.—Point Grey) said the government had put only a tiny patch over a gaping hole in its hospital coverage.

Premier W. A. C. Bennett, in a brief defence, said last fall's Social Credit election manifesto outlined chronic care plans.

Mr. Bennett said the government had great confidence in Mr. Martin—and so did the people of B.C. who re-elected him last September.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 1964

ACTION NOT WORDS . . .

ON RETARDED CHILDREN

Simple Plea Silences

Racuous Debate

By FRANK RUTTER
Times Legislative Reporter

A virtuperative debate on mental health was dramatically halted in the legislature Tuesday night by the simple emotion of Saanich Socred John Tisdalle.

After an hour and a half of shouting and thunder, Mr. Tisdalle's soft-spoken condemnation of government policies and his plea for action not words reacted like a bucket of ice water on hot coals.

It won Health Minister Eric Martin his salary.

It won plaudits of respect from Opposition MLAs who minutes earlier had been waging a slanging match with Mr. Martin.

It silenced the minister, who left the House while Mr. Tisdalle spoke. It also choked off clamorous desk-thumping from ardent Socred backbenchers, some of whom switched sides to applaud Mr. Tisdalle.

LONGEST YET

It was the high moment of the longest night sitting of the session, which ended at 12:12 a.m. today with all Mr. Martin's budget estimates approved.

Mr. Tisdalle, his voice charged with emotion, spoke for only about five minutes, but the message was crystal.

"I wonder if too many words have been spoken about this and too little action resulted," he said.

When Mr. Martin began to mutter in a low voice, he turned to the minister and flatly told him: "This is my own opinion and I have a right to say it. Nobody is going to shut me up."

"All the argument doesn't solve the problem of alleviating the pain of one parent."

"I know tonight I can go to parents in my riding and find they are suffering because they cannot get accommodation for their children."

Mr. Tisdalle said the problem made him feel "incensed."

Although he made it clear he was not pushing a personal brief, he once told the legislature that he has a son in Woodlands school for the re-

tarded at New Westminster.

Mr. Tisdalle blasted Woodlands as a place where the government had "stacked up girls and boys up storey by storey."

"It is nothing more than a housing situation to put them out of sight," Mr. Tisdalle said.

He called for community services to treat such children, where they would find real human kindness.

He also renewed his attack on the government for planning a new mental health centre next to Royal Jubilee Hospital instead of buying the university's Lansdowne campus.

David Barrett (NDP—Dewdney) said he had seldom been so moved as he was by Mr. Tisdalle's speech.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby), Mr. Martin's chief antagonist, agreed and said if his point had been made, he could take any amount of vituperation.

He and Mr. Martin exchanged plenty of it in the preceding debate.

DEMANDS ANSWER

Mr. Dowding began by demanding answers from Mr. Martin on a number of questions about Woodlands—including the size of the waiting list and why officials there had resigned.

He accused Mr. Martin of contempt of court and of the legislature by making statements about Woodlands in the press while refusing to answer in the House.

Mr. Dowding also had a clash with House chairman William Speare who repeatedly warned him that the subjects were sub judice.

Mr. Dowding was the winning lawyer in a Supreme Court decision ordering admission of a mongoloid child to Woodlands. The government has appealed.

Mr. Martin said he would be glad to answer questions "til the cows come home" but

Mr. Dowding had tied up the debate by asking questions on the order paper.

Mr. Dowding turned to a new tack. He quoted from a letter which said Premier W. A. C. Bennett had "arranged" the admission of a girl to Woodlands in 1959.

ATTACKS DOWDING

He asked if it was policy to admit children through political intervention.

Mr. Martin responded with a fierce attack on Mr. Dowding.

The New Democrat had acted "with animal-like ferocity" in disrupting the mental health services, he charged.

"The boom is about to be lowered," he shouted.

He charged Mr. Dowding's court action had created pressure on Woodlands.

Mr. Dowding categorically denied it.

"I've got no mercy with you lot," Mr. Martin shouted back.

He said Mr. Dowding had created a "disgraceful" situation, and had earned "the condemnation of society."

He accused Mr. Dowding of "peculiar, unusual, sinister, destructive, obstructive methods of behavior."

WITHDRAWN

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan demanded Mr. Martin withdraw the "frightful things" he had said.

Mr. Speare made Mr. Martin sit down, told the House to improve its language and get back to serious business.

"I do not like to be interrupted," protested Mr. Martin.

Mr. Dowding said the minister had insulted the courts as well as himself.

Under protest, Mr. Martin was forced to withdraw his remarks by Mr. Speare.

Then he went on to charge Mr. Dowding had forced the resignation of Dr. W. W. Laughland, the deputy superintendent of Woodlands.

"I'm filled with disgust over what has happened," he added.



In Our HOUSE

By Arthur Mayse

The boom which Health Minister Martin has been threatening to lower on his critics crashed down with a vengeance Tuesday night, but not upon opposition heads.

It descended on his own pink pate, and the man who dropped it was, of all unlikely mice to roar, Socred backbencher John Douglas Tisdalle of Saanich.

Through an evening gingered by a noisy clash between the health minister and embattled New Democrats, Mr. Tisdalle brooded darkly in his place. The plight of Woodlands school for retarded children—waiting list an asserted 860—was debated, but never a word did rear-echelon Bennetteer Tisdalle contribute.

He sat with chin in hand, staring hard at nothing.

Rarely Heard

Then, while the echoes of the head-on collision between Eric Martin and NDP Gordon Dowding of Burnaby were still rumbling, Mr. Tisdalle got to his feet.

He did not shout. He called no names. But, crashing across party lines, he delivered to an astounded House such a plea for the helpless and hopeless as our Legislative Chamber rarely has heard.

"I speak for myself," John Tisdalle said; and that he did.

'I Have Right'

In a building which, hours earlier, had broken out its flags to celebrate the birth of a princeling, he spoke of his own 18-year-old son in Woodlands.

Undaunted by ominous mutterings from Mr. Martin, he demanded more action and fewer words on mental health problems in British Columbia.

"This is my own opinion," he said in a voice quiet after the earlier blastings which had dinged our ears, "and I have a right to say it."

Half-turning toward Cabinet country, he added firmly, "Nobody's going to shut me up."

His opinion: Woodlands is a housing development where a Social Credit government has stacked boys and girls,

storey on storey, to get them out of sight.

We need community services to treat retarded children.

"They shouldn't be taken away . . . Bring them back where people know them, and where they will find real, human kindness."

And why plan a new mental health centre next to Royal Jubilee Hospital when the University of Victoria's Lansdowne campus "is on the block and going begging?"

'Get On With It'

His final challenge was flung impartially to legislators of three persuasions.

"The need is evident . . . All we need do is vote the supply and get on with the job."

All opposition, and a few government desks, were slapped in tribute.

NDP Dave Barrett of Dewdney rose in the following hush.

"There have been few times in this chamber when I have been more moved," he said. "I am proud of the way the member for Saanich spoke."

And so say most of us. Mr. Tisdalle has had his moments with the press. He has challenged our integrity on the floor of the House, and that assault is remembered against him.

But on Tuesday night, in the words of one cool-minded reporter, "Tisdalle stood 10 feet tall!"

AID PROMISED ON MENTAL HEALTH

'Unloading' Charge Denied

The B.C. government has no intention of dumping mental health responsibility on to the municipalities, Health Minister Eric Martin promised Tuesday.

"We affirm our belief that the provincial government is responsible for the planning and development of mental health services," he told the legislature.

His new mental health bill came up for second reading but debate was adjourned by Patrick McGeer (Liberal—Pint Grey), who wanted more time to study Mr. Martin's statements about it.

LOCAL ACTION

The bill provides for community mental health services

and allows local groups to take over any existing provincial institutions.

"We do not intend to dump this responsibility upon the municipalities," Mr. Martin said. "Nothing in this bill even refers to such an idea."

Mr. Martin said the government's policy is to encourage locally-run community mental health services, run by local groups, but with provincial financial aid.

"We do not think that we have to step out of the picture in order to accomplish this objective," he added.

"We believe that the best approach is to provide the authority for such a develop-

ment and then leave it to the community.

"If they wish to initiate such programs, we will offer every assistance."

He reiterated his suggestion that when the federal government extends hospital insurance aid to mental health new community services could be created in the same way as existing general hospitals are run.

"Should a local community wish to take over a provincially-operated mental health services then we would accommodate this request providing that reasonable requirements are met," he said.

"However, all such action must be initiated at the community level."

NOW B.C. MAKES MONEY FROM HOLES IN GROUND

The B.C. government has found a way of making money from holes in the ground.

It plans to lease underground areas in the Lower Mainland for storage of gas from northern B.C.

The scheme was contained in a proposed act respecting underground storage of hydrocarbons given approval in principle in the legislature Tuesday.

Petroleum Resources Minister Kenneth Kieran told the House gas taken from the Peace River area could be injected into underground cavities near the point of consumption on the Lower Mainland.

The cost of underground storage is "substantially less than one-half" the cost of metal storage tanks on the surface of the ground, he said.

"The government shall retain ownership of the storage areas and they will be leased to those who wish to operate them, on condition they (the lessees) will make beneficial use of the area."

REGULATE COLLECTIONS

New Control Board For Blind Welcomed

A bill creating a three-member board to regulate contributions and control the collection of money for the blind met with little opposition in the legislature Tuesday.

Lois Haggen (NDP, Grand Forks-Greenwood) said the bill would protect the public as permission to collect money for blind persons would have to be obtained from the board.

But Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) suggested the matter be referred to a committee of the legislature for further study. "I've got the impres-

sion that many blind people are not in favor of the legislation," he said.

Provincial Secretary Wesley Black said as far as he was aware there were no complaints.

He assured the House that no single group would dominate the board.

He also said he would set up an appeal procedure under which appeals against decisions of the board could be made directly to himself.

The bill has yet to receive third and final reading.

DOWDING:

Hydro Staff 'Distrusted' By Government

The provincial government was accused Tuesday of distrusting B.C. Hydro employees by refusing them the right to strike.

The New Democratic Party made the charge when the legislature gave final reading to a new B.C. Hydro Act, which would go into effect only if the government loses court action challenging the current status of the crown agency.

One of the sections of the act prevents a strike.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby) said Hydro employees should be treated as responsible trade unionists. There has been no reason to expect a strike.

The government, he suggested, doesn't believe the public can

rely on the responsibility of Hydro employees.

DISTRUST

"It shows a distrust of the people and a desire to rule their decisions for them," Mr. Dowding said.

"I believe people themselves should make decisions—not have them made by some Big Brother."

It was an "unthinkable action and another example of ever-increasing authoritarian government.

"You have absolutely no reason—and legislation without reason is dictatorship," Mr. Dowding charged.

"You don't change the law just to exert power, you change the law when grievous public wrong is being done."

The Liberals joined the NDP opposition to the bill, but for different reasons.

Alan Macfarlane of Oak Bay said the new Hydro Act denied the right of appeal to people involved in disputes with the crown agency and places the Hydro beyond the control of the legislature with power to go into any business venture it chooses.

New System Of Clinics Suggested

Community health clinics that would help prevent illness as well as being treatment centres were urged upon Health Minister Eric Martin in the legislature Monday by Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East).

He suggested a pilot program be set up at places like Port Alberni or Williams Lake as a sort of introduction to medicare.

The community health clinic should have a doctor on staff, paid a salary, the NDP member suggested. But not on 24-hour duty.

The clinic should integrate the prevention of disease with care, incorporating medicine, surgery, psychiatry, perhaps having a social welfare worker "operating out of the centre."

It would "make an all-out attack" on sickness, and if it works well, others will follow; if badly, nothing will be lost, the member said.

ON FLUORIDATION

**'Fight Cranks'
Nimsick Urges**

By HUMPHRY DAVY

The provincial government should take more active steps to promote fluoridation of water supplies, opposition members said in the legislature Tuesday.

The suggestion was made after Health Minister Eric Martin disclosed that a government health report showed that fluoridation helped prevent dental decay among children in certain areas of the province.

"Then if this is case why doesn't the government do more to inform the people fluoridation a good dental health measure," said Leo Nimsick (NDP Cranbrook). "The health department should show leadership in this respect."

FIGHT CRANKS

The minister replied that literature on fluoridation is available from the department.

Mr. Nimsick felt the government should not let a "group of cranks" campaign against fluoridation when medical experts had found it beneficial to children.

Patrick McGeer (Lib., Vancouver-Point Grey), said a more active role in promoting fluoridation throughout the province is required.

He said the public should be so informed and steps taken to promote fluoridation.

**MILK SUPPLY
PROTECTED,
SAYS RICHTER**

Agricultural Minister Frank Richter assured the legislature Tuesday that provincial and federal governments have adequate safeguards to prevent harmful chemicals from getting into milk.

He was answering a question from Oak Bay Liberal Alan Macfarlane asked if anything is being done to protect the public from milk contamination by insecticides and pesticides.

The minister said laboratory tests are conducted on animal feeds and vegetables to see that they did not contain the residue of harmful chemicals.

The B.C. government and federal authorities, he added, were on the watch for contaminated foodstuffs and were planning more rigid controls on the use of chemicals for agriculture.

**MORE ACTION
REQUESTED
ON ADOPTIONS**

The B.C. government should take more "aggressive" action to find homes for children in need of adoption, David Barrett (NDB—Dewdney), told the House Tuesday.

He said the lack of homes for adopting children is a "tragedy."

He was speaking to a bill to amend the Adoption Act. The bill has yet to receive final reading.

He suggested the government engage more social workers to carry out adoption surveys throughout the provinces.

This would solve the problem of the shortage of homes, he claimed.

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 1964

WILL LIGHT UP AGAIN

Smoke-Ad Bill Gets Butted Out

By FRANK BUTTER

A bill to regulate cigarette advertising was butted out in the legislature Wednesday—but its Opposition advocate will have a second chance.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver-East) agreed to withdraw the bill after assurances from Premier W. A. C. Bennett and Speaker William Murray that he could rewrite it and bring it up again.

Mr. Murray said the wording was out of order because it affected radio and television advertising, which is subject to federal control.

SUPPORT INDICATED

However, one Social Credit MLA indicated he will support Mr. Macdonald, and several others spoke earlier in the session on the evils of tobacco.

Mr. Macdonald's bill said that each cigarette packet must be labelled "Warning. These cigarettes have a nicotine and tar content and are dangerous to human health."

Mr. Macdonald said cigarette companies have been conducting a massive advertising campaign.

"I want a drop of truth in the ocean of commercialism," he said.

OLD-FASHIONED

The advertising makes it appear a person is a square or old-fashioned if he doesn't smoke, Mr. Macdonald said.

He guessed that two companies alone had spent between \$1,000,000 and \$3,000,000 on advertising king-size cigarettes.

He also deplored the practice of stores giving away coupons for free cigarettes to people who purchased other goods.

Mr. Macdonald said young people should be shown that smoking is not the smart thing to do—but the dumb thing.

Fissure Forces Relocation Of Canyon Road

A rock fissure has forced redesign of part of the Trans-Canada Highway in the Fraser Canyon, Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi said Wednesday.

But he said it is not true that there is a threat of a major blockage of the Fraser River through a rock slide.

He was answering questions in the legislature by David Barrett (NDP—Dewdney) and Opposition Leader Robert Strachan.

The fissure is located above the highway a mile from Hell's Gate.

PHIL'S FAST IN HOUSE TOO

Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi proved again Wednesday he is B.C.'s speediest cabinet minister.

He got his salary and his department's estimates approved faster than any other minister at the current legislative session.

Mr. Gaglardi's salary was approved after three hours and 55 minutes of debate. The remainder of his department's \$71,800,000 budget went through in 12 minutes.



In Our HOUSE

By Arthur Mayse



We had with us again on Wednesday evening, Leo Nimsick's eternal, infernal black Angus cattle.

It isn't that the Legislative Assembly has anything against that worthy breed. Several members are ranchers on the side—or maybe it's the other way 'round—and regard beef critters with considerable sympathy.

But it seems to this observer that at least once in each debate, no matter what the vote under discussion, along comes drover Nimsick to amble his herd from Agriculture Richter's unfenced rangelands to Highway Minister Gaglardi's autobahn.

The result is instant hamburger, and renewed laments from Cranbrook NDP Nimsick.

Like most who have sat under the dome since January, this observer is beginning to suffer from acute cabin fever. I wish Mr. Richter, Mr. Gaglardi and Mr. Nimsick would get together.

Please, No More

Fence the ranges. Shoot the cows. As a last resort, shoot Mr. Nimsick. But, please, no more about black Anguses this session!

With that plaint uttered, let us hop-skip back through a prevailingly mild Wednesday sitting to private members' bills.

First up was NDP Alex Macdonald (Vancouver East), who would require purveyors and advertisers of cigarettes to label their product with a "dangerous to human health" warning.

"Cigarette smoking," he declared, "especially the excessive smoking going on today is injurious to heart, lungs and

wind. I don't think there's a member of this House who is not aware of that."

Wind Excellent

(Wise words; but this conscience-stricken backslider can't agree one hundred per cent. There is nothing—absolutely nothing—wrong with members' wind.)

Anyway, back to the workshop went cigar-smoker Macdonald's bill, after Speaker William Murray pointed out that television and radio advertising are under federal statute.

Lost too was one of parliament's hardiest perennials—Mrs. Lois Haggen's yearly plea for a ban on general sale of fireworks.

"Let us have a free vote," Opposition Leader Strachan urged; and on behalf of Nanaimo residents whose traditional Guy Fawkes' "Bonfire Night" goes back to the city's beginnings, aligned himself against his party member.

So did others on both sides of the House, including a premier who admitted to having great fun with crackers as a boy.

Growing Old?

Fireworks should not be banned, he said, with snook cocked at anti-cracker Liberal Gibson, "just because some members are growing old in mind if not in years."

Said NDP Tony Gargrave (Mackenzie): "I'm a Guy Fawkes fan, actually. Still working on it... giving this incident in British history a good deal of study." This sinister confession made, Mr. Gargrave went on to say he could not vote for a bill which took the privilege of buying fireworks out of parents' hands.

Grandmother Haggen got in a final reproach before the vote.

"It seems to take a long, long time to impress some people with the point I am trying to make," she complained. "I am not thinking of adults, I am thinking of children's safety."

"There are some members on both sides of the House who don't wish fireworks banned because they want to shoot them off themselves!"

After this statement of the obvious, the vote, which killed the bill 32 to 18. So, barring action by individual municipalities, crackers will pop next Halloween as usual.

REVERTING TO CROWN

Tofino Road Set For Improvement

Major improvements to the Alberni-Tofino road will be considered this fall, Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi announced Wednesday night.

Control of the road to the west coast will revert to the Crown Oct. 4 under terms of the tree farm licence held by MacMillan, Bloedel and Powell River Co.

"When we get it back I hope we'll be able to do some major construction work and get rid of some of the difficulties," Mr. Gaglardi said.

He was answering questions in the legislature by John Squire (NDP—Alberni).

Mr. Gaglardi said the road will be very costly to maintain.

Outside the House he said it might be cheaper to do a major reconstruction job than to maintain the road in its present condition.

MORE VISITORS

Mr. Squire told Mr. Gaglardi that improvements are necessary in view of the increasing number of visitors who visit Long Beach.

"Either you improve the road or arrange to have our telephone lines cut in the evening during the summer months," he said. "We are deluged with complaints."

He said the chief target for complaints was the highways engineer for the district.

"I don't know how he can stand it," he said.

The west coast road is a sore point with residents of Long Beach and nearby Tofino and

Ucluelet. It is riddled with potholes for more than 40 miles. The road up one hill resembles the bed of a dried, boulder-strewn creek.

PRIOR CLAIM

When Dudley Little (Social Credit—Skeena) claimed that his district should have priority over the west coast of Vancouver Island in road construction projects, Mr. Squire was quick to inform him of the history of the west coast.

He recalled the west coast has been waiting for roads since the Spanish relinquished their claim to Vancouver Island in 1796.

"There were people on the west coast long before there was anyone living in the Skeena Valley and any other part of the province," he said.

Mr. Squire also urged the government to do something to institute a ferry service between Flores Island and Tofino.

Flores Island is situated a few miles north of Clayquot Sound on the west coast and is mainly inhabited by Indians. The population is about 500.

But Mr. Gaglardi said the affairs of native Indians are the responsibility of the federal government.

"I think they should take care of this," he said.

However, he told Mr. Squire he would be happy to contact Ottawa on the ferry request.

Cowichan 'Low Man' On Highway Totem?

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said Wednesday he is afraid his riding will be low on the totem pole for highway projects this year.

He said the Cowichan-Newcastle riding is not getting a fair share of highway money.

Last year \$271,000 was spent there, almost the lowest of any B.C. riding, he said.

This year's estimate is \$163,000.

Comox, the riding of Social Creditor Dan Campbell, got

more than \$2,000,000 last year, Mr. Strachan said.

He renewed his pleas in the legislature for work on the Cowichan Lake Road, the road to Crofton and sidewalk improvements at Duncan.

Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi told him that he is seeing federal aid for the Duncan project, his department is "taking a look" at the Cowichan Lake Road, and plans improvements on the Cowichan River Bridge.

Bridge Site Under View

Relocation of the bridge over the Sooke River and its approaches is under consideration, Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi told the legislature Wednesday.

He was answering a question from Herbert Bruch (SC—Esquimalt) who said residents are anxious to know the location of the proposed bridge.

The minister also informed

John Tisdale (SC—Saanich) that the department will continue with its program to make the Patricia Bay Highway a four-lane highway.

Weekend Jail Urged By Barrett

A proposal to send people to jail on weekends only was sidetracked in the legislature Wednesday.

David Barrett (NDP—Dewdney) suggested setting up an old house as a hostel for prisoners who would work at their normal jobs and go there weekends.

His private bill to set up the scheme was briefly debated, then adjourned by Delta Social Creditor Ernest LeCours to a later sitting of the House.

PREMATURE

Attorney General Robert Bonner agreed that he would be "most delighted" if probation could replace B.C.'s jail system, but called the bill premature.

He said B.C. already has an experimental day parole system which he predicted would be extended.

Mr. Barrett said jail costs have become fantastic.

It costs \$2,700 a year to keep a man in jail and \$4,000 to keep him at Haney Correctional Institute, Mr. Barrett said.

SOCIAL AID

In addition the taxpayers have to pay an extra \$2,000 a year, if the convict is married, for social assistance to his wife.

He said that some convicts unconsciously seek the comforts of jail—regular meals, a bed and someone to complain to.

In many cases, he said, men go to jail to escape their families.

Mr. Bonner said B.C. tried out day parole for four prisoners in 1962-63. Another 14 federal prisoners were granted similar privileges—going out to work by day and returning at night to jail.

AS TIME GOES BY

"I agree heartily with getting people out of institutions," Mr. Bonner said. "We can move more in this direction as time goes by."

To go any farther at present would conflict with the federal Criminal Code, he said.

He also said there are "comparatively few" prisoners who would qualify for the privileged treatment proposed by Mr. Barrett.

House Defeats Bill to Limit Fireworks Use

Party lines were split Wednesday when the Legislature voted on an NDP private bill to amend the Fireworks Act and thereby restricting the use and sale of fireworks to public displays only.

The bill was defeated by a vote of 32 to 18 despite support from three Social Credit members and four Liberals.

Two NDP members, including Opposition Leader Robert Strachan and one Liberal, Harry McKay (Fermie) voted with the government against the bill.

If the amendment had succeeded it would have done away with present legislation restricting the sale of fireworks to the period between Oct. 24 and Nov. 1 (Halloween). Instead, their use would have been strictly controlled—for public displays only—subject to the approval of the fire marshal.

'OLD IN MIND'

The bill, introduced by Mrs. Lois Haggen (Grand Forks-Greenwood), stirred considerable debate on both sides of the House. Even Premier Bennett, who opposed the bill, got into the act.

"The legislators are getting old in mind," he said, chiding the members.

He recalled that in his younger days children used fireworks with discretion.

"I feel certain the youths of today are just as responsible," he said.

Mrs. Haggen explained the bill was to protect children and to prevent fireworks from falling into the hands of irresponsible youths.

She said several municipalities and public and private organizations, as well as police chiefs of major cities, are in favor of stricter controls.

DANGER TO YOUNG

John Tisdalle (SC—Saanich), Bert Price (SC—Vancouver-Burrard) and Arvid Lundell (SC—Revelstoke) voted for the bill because of the danger to children.

Mr. Tisdalle got up to speak just after the premier, founder of a chain of hardware stores.

"I would not want to say that anyone who supports this does so because he sold them (fireworks) in his store," Mr. Tisdalle said.

David Stupich (NDP—Nanaimo) opposed it because, he claimed, it would prevent families from using fireworks on occasions such as Guy Fawkes Night.

GRIT CHARGES:

Highway Builders 'Inept'

Liberal leader Ray Perrault Wednesday demanded protection for B.C.'s taxpayers against obnoxious and inept highway contractors.

A legislative inquiry last year exposed the "appalling ineptitude" of highway contractors, Mr. Perrault said.

"They should never have been given contracts in the first place," he told the legislature. "The whole picture of obnoxious, inept people of this kind is the major indictment to come out of these hearings."

PROVE THEMSELVES

Mr. Perrault advocated a system of pre-qualification through which contractors would have to prove their financial capability for a project.

In the state of Arkansas contractors are limited to jobs worth only 20 times their assets, he said.

"If the department had been able to follow this procedure with Holzworth and some of these people they would have been able to bid up to about \$20," Mr. Perrault said.

Dick Holzworth was one of the contractors who testified at the inquiry last year.

'ARRANT GARBAGE'

Mr. Perrault said small companies are biting off more than they can chew at the expense of the taxpayers.

The present system of contract awards in B.C. is "utter nonsense," he said.

The government excuse for opposing pre-qualification—that small firms would have no chance—is "arrant garbage," Mr. Perrault said.

He said small firms could form a group to bid on big jobs.



In Our

HOUSE

By Arthur Mayse

How the Honorable William Kenneth Kiernan's tenure as minister of conservation and recreation will end, only the Lord and his British Columbia co-pilot, Premier William Andrew Cecil Bennett, can say with any surety.

But end it should, say I, between yawns from our lengthiest night sitting to date in a weary session.

Out of his own mouth on Thursday evening, Mr. Kiernan demonstrated his complete unfitness to be our provincial park-keeper:

"There is nothing particularly sacred in a line drawn on a map," said he, "even though it happens to be the boundary of a park."

Theirs or Ours?

As for future generations, Mr. Kiernan suggested it will be their affair, not ours, if they find fault with the new lines he proposes to draw on our wilderness park maps.

At this point in a debate which only a Socred power-play can squelch before next Monday, it seems to me that Mr. Kiernan's courses are plainly defined.

He can persist in a plan which from the day of its inception has brought him and the Socred government under very heavy public censure.

Sure Vote-Loser

He can withdraw with all grace possible from a position which will be a sure vote-loser in the next of Social Credit's rather frequent elections.

Or this many-splendored minister—conservation and recreation, mines and petroleum resources, commercial transport—can resign the one portfolio too many which has landed him in trouble.

Admittedly, replacement would be difficult. One could stalk the Socred backbench wilderness from end to end and find no stag fit for a ministerial silver bullet.

Distracters

Not that back-benchers don't have their uses. One

is to distract by any means that the chair will condone an opposition watchdog who bites too deep.

Of these, the first up was Liberal chief Ray Perrault, who caught the full brunt of an obviously organized government move to hamstring its cross-floor critics.

Against laughter, jeers and taunts which chairman William Speare of Cariboo did not see fit to curb, Mr. Perrault plowed gamely to his conclusion.

Ottawa Willing

This, in essence, was a suggestion that if we can't handle wilderness parks without aid from industry, we turn Strathcona, Garibaldi and three others over to a willing federal authority.

From that point on, Socred hecklers fared poorly. NDP Tony Gargrave slashed grimly into arguments put forward at the start of the evening sitting by Minister Kiernan.

After him, government log-rollers competed for the floor with Liberal and New Democrat opponents who sprang up like the fabled sowing of dragon's teeth.

Angry, Grey-Faced

Hopes for a quick putsch gone glimmering, an angry premier rescued his grey-faced minister by snatching the vote back at 1:05 of a chilly morning.

PERRAULT:

Truckers Killed By Licence Fees

High licence fees are killing off B.C. trucking companies, Liberal leader Ray Perrault said Thursday.

B.C. truckers have to pay the highest rates in Canada, he told the legislature.

Mr. Perrault called for a reciprocal licensing agreement with the other provinces which already participate in such a scheme.

Because B.C. is not part of the agreement, it cost a trucker here \$4,800 a year to get licences to travel in other provinces, Mr. Perrault said.

In the provinces which have joined, licence fees are only \$800 a year, he said.

The B.C. government would only lose about \$20,000 a year in revenue by joining.

SICKEST IN B.C.

Lillooet Social Creditor Don Robinson said the trucking business is the sickest in B.C.

Truckers are all "wrapped up in paper with the finance companies," he said.

Transport Minister Kenneth Kiernan said that he planned to meet with truckers to discuss reciprocal licensing after the session is over.

But, he added, he did not necessarily accept the argument that B.C. would lose only \$20,000 a year.

Skeena Social Creditor Dudley Little urged monthly licensing for the first three months of the year.

At present truckers pay an annual fee.

UNFAIR

Mr. Little said this was unfair for northern logging truckers

who couldn't operate during the breakup period at the start of the year.

Mr. Kiernan said the problem is under study, but a monthly licence fee would cause a lot of administrative trouble.

"We don't want to go around the province bugging people for a monthly fee," he said.

Mr. Little said Mr. Kiernan should see how much he is getting bugged by the northern truckers.

He said he had been told by the government agent at Terrace that there would be no problem issuing monthly licences in the break up period.

Mr. Robinson said truckers have to try to borrow from the banks to pay for their licences in the Spring and they find it "mighty tough."

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 1964

SESSION'S LONGEST DEBATE

Kiernan Denies New Policy On B.C. Parks

By FRANK BUTTER
Times Legislative Reporter

The battle of the parks has forced the legislature into its longest sitting of the session—but it isn't over yet.

Premier W. A. C. Bennett angrily called it off at 1:05 a.m. today as the Opposition and Recreation Minister Kiernan fought on about the threat of industry to B.C.'s parks.

Mr. Kiernan maintained that he has no new policy to allow industry into the parks.

The Opposition refused to accept his answer, accusing him of backsliding and jeopardizing the recreational areas of future generations.

After eight hours and 35 minutes of debate, Leo Nimsick (NDP—Cranbrook) commented: "It's rather unfortunate we're beginning to legislate by exhaustion."

Mr. Bennett immediately jumped up and said "I withdraw the thing."

The Thing

The thing is Mr. Kiernan's salary vote.

Mr. Bennett also said that the House will debate bills this afternoon, instead of continuing with the parks debate.

Twenty-two MLAs spoke Thursday afternoon and night.

Mr. Kiernan said that there is nothing new about logging and mining in B.C. parks.

It has been going on under timber berths and crown-granted mineral claims since the beginning of the century, before the parks were established.

He said he could not be responsible for the "very liberal interpretation" of the speech he made in the legislature Feb. 19 which created a storm of controversy because it dealt with industrial development within parks.

"My address at that time did not suggest any major new policy," Mr. Kiernan said.

"It was merely a factual outline of the current situation."

He said the opposition should be old enough to face the facts of life—that the old timber berths and mineral claims cannot be altered.

Mr. Kiernan listed all the old mineral and logging rights held in provincial parks.

David Stupich (NDP—Nanaimo) said that if Mr. Kiernan's original speech was misunderstood—it was understood by all the NDP and the Press Gallery, which reported it.

He said the Opposition was not complaining about existing grants to industry—what it wanted to know was if the

government will extend such privileges.

No Answer

Mr. Kiernan never answered this point.

He said that the existing claims were unavoidable realities, and he was merely trying to make the best of them.

His plan: to use them to obtain public access to wilderness areas.

"Provided we can obtain multiple use of these areas we have the resource potential that would take care of probably 50,000,000 people quite comfortably," he said.

There are severe pressures on existing recreational areas, he said. Getting people access to a wider area would avoid the possibility of restrictions on hunting and fishing, he said.

Cannot Revoke

These are the existing concessions to industry, which cannot be revoked, he said:

Kokanee Park, 50 mining claims; Strathcona Park 98 mining claims; and timber berths covering 11,407 acres; Garibaldi Park, 22 mining claims, 3,927 acres of timber berths; Manning Park, one mining claim, 3,200 acres of timber; Tweedsmuir Park, 29 mineral claims, two pulp leases totalling 1,341 acres; Wells Gray Park, 16 mineral claims.

"If you're going to grant title as they did in the past in fee simple, you've got to be prepared to honor that title," Mr. Kiernan said.

Of his previous speech, he said: "If some people wish to develop some phoney ideas from it, that's their responsibility, not mine."

Muskeg Swamp

Mr. Kiernan said the government had abandoned some 2,500,000 acres of parkland—but half of it was muskeg swamp in the Liard River basin and the rest was land considered of no recreational value in Hamber Park.

Wilderness parks are very dear to the hearts of only a few people, Mr. Kiernan said.

A little bit of wilderness goes a long way, he said.

"I suggest 95 per cent of the people will get no use of them at all."

He said if a park doesn't serve the people, it is practically useless. In areas where timber is getting old and people have no access, it was only good sense to cut it.

Nature Tidy?

"I never noticed Nature was tidy in her harvesting."

Mr. Kiernan said the government intended to follow a policy of reserving parkland whenever unopened country was penetrated.

Tony Gargrave (NDP—MacKenzie) said he believed Mr. Kiernan's policy means there will be no wilderness areas left for future generations.

Loggers have been "hungry for timber" in the parks, he said.

"The loggers are going to get Garibaldi Park," he predicted. "The minister has made a weak defence of a grave error in policy."

The recital of old claims was a roll call of "past dismal errors."

"I think the minister is misguided and he has indicated he is not a dedicated park man."

Long-Term Damage

The government had won elections and forgotten its responsibility to the people, he said.

"If this policy is not changed I can see long term and serious and irreparable damage done to our parks system."

Arthur Turner (NDP—Vancouver East), said the government was trying to save face. He suggested a freeze on any industrial activity until a new parks act is brought in to regulate it.

Mr. Stupich said Mr. Kiernan had presented "a picture of innocence" and righteous indignation.

Patrick McGeer (L—Point Grey), said he wanted to hear a dedication of the parks for the future and not a policy of expediency to allow easy access to parks.

Mugwumps All

Donald Brothers (SC—Rossland-Trail), said as far as he was concerned every Opposition speaker was "a mugwump."

Ernest LeCours (SC—Delta), said he knew the minister had no intention of jeopardizing wilderness parks.

(cont'd)
 Bert Price (SC—Vancouver-Burrard), said he trusted the minister, but was "a little skeptical" how long he would remain minister. He didn't elaborate.

Donald Robinson (SC—Lillooet) advocated industrial development in parks, and denied that Mr. Kiernan was the author of a speech he made before the parks controversy suggesting it.

Brainstorm

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby) demanded Mr. Kiernan clean up the controversy. He suggested the minister had suffered some kind of "brainstorm."

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan repeated demands for an answer about extending park leases to industry.

He called Mr. Kiernan's attention to an old Roman law

which said parents could not sell the heritage of their children.

Before a supper adjournment, the parks debate was launched by Liberal leader Ray Perrault.

Mr. Perrault said he had never heard anything as foolish as the argument that industry would provide public access to parks.

No Aesthetics

"I don't think aesthetic considerations enter into the picture as far as these people are concerned," he said.

The trend everywhere else in the world is away from industrial development and toward more protection of parks, Mr. Perrault said.

Parks comprise only 2.7 per cent of the forest, and only 4 per cent of B.C.'s timber lies within wilderness parks, Mr. Perrault said.

Mr. Perrault suggested turning over the big parks to the federal government, which pro-

tect them.

Garibaldi, Assiniboine, Bowron Lakes, Tow Hill and Strathcona should become national parks, he said.

Mr. Nimsick likened the park situation to the struggle to preserve history.

Invite Termites

"To start nibbling away at the parks in B.C. now, we're going to end up 40 or 50 years from now with nothing left," he said.

"It's like asking a termite to take a bite out of your house."

He said people are engrossed with "city thinking" and don't see anything but high-rise apartments.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) said there is tremendous pressure from the logging industry.

"If you give way on the park issue and if you allow inroads by order-in-council . . . you are going to destroy this province as we have known it."

Ernie Winch Park In the Cards

Recreation Minister Kenneth Kiernan said Thursday night the government will consider naming a provincial park after the late Ernest Winch, long-time CCF member of the legislature for Burnaby.

Mrs. Lois Hagen (NDP—Grand Forks-Greenwood) had asked the minister during discussion of his estimates whether he might consider bestowing such an honor on the former MLA, who died prior to the 1957 session of the House.

Replied Mr. Kiernan: "It is fitting that Ernie Winch's name be commemorated in our parks system, as the opportunity arises."

'THANK YOU' QUEEN CABLES

The Queen Thursday cabled her thanks to B.C. for its congratulations on the birth of her son.

The telegram was sent to Lieutenant-Governor George Pearkes.

"I and my husband sincerely thank you and Mrs. Pearkes and the people of B.C. for your kind congratulations on the birth of our son," it said.

"Please convey to the members of the legislative assembly our deep appreciation of the kind terms of their loyal address."

400,000 'HOME-MADE' ROAD MAPS

The B.C. government has issued a new tourist road map of the province.

Recreation Minister Kenneth Kiernan said Thursday 400,000 copies will be distributed across North America and Europe.

The map lists all campsites and parks as well as hunting and fishing information.

It is the first such map designed and printed in B.C. Previous road maps were made in Chicago.

SMALL PARKS PROTECTED FROM MINING

An order-in-council prohibiting prospecting, staking and the recording of mineral claims in provincial parks of 5,000 acres or less, has been passed by the B.C. Cabinet.

Recreation Minister Kiernan said the order would apply to all classes of provincial parks whether they be Class A, B, or C.

Total of 120 Class "A" Parks will be protected from the encroachment of mineral development under the order, which superseded 1949 legislation allowing unlimited prospecting within provincial parks.

GIBSON BACKS B.C. STOCK PROMOTERS

Millionaire Gordon Gibson Thursday sprang to the defence of stock promoters.

"Without stock promoters we would not have any mines at all," the North Vancouver Liberal told the legislature.

"I haven't anything against these people."

Mr. Gibson, speaking during debate on the mines department, said he didn't know many stock promoters who got rich and they took tremendous chances.

"Give them encouragement because we need them very badly," he advised Mines Minister Kenneth Kiernan.

B.C. Plumps For Movies

B.C. is trying to sell Hollywood on making movies here.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault suggested in the legislature Thursday the government send copies of its Beautiful B.C. magazine to movie-makers so they could see the wonderful scenery.

Trade Minister Robert Bonner replied that a government representative at B.C. House in San Francisco is already "pursuing" the idea in Los Angeles.

FRIDAY, MAR. 13, 1964

Accountant Fears Monopoly

Fears of a monopoly of accountants charging higher fees to the public were aired Thursday before a legislative committee.

For the second year the legislature is considering a bill setting standards of accountancy in the province and uniting various groups of accountants who deal with the public.

Last year the bill was turned down because of violent objections from the Certified General Accountants' Association.

Now the House private bills committee is studying a revised version.

There are still objections from individual members of the CGAA.

They were voiced Thursday by Gordon Campbell, an employee of the national revenue department's taxation division here.

45 PER CENT OPPOSED

Mr. Campbell said 45 per cent of the CGAA membership is opposed to the bill.

He said it could jeopardize their status.

Many of these accountants and bookkeepers handle income tax returns for the public.

Mr. Campbell said the bill would destroy competition in the accountancy business and could lead to a monopoly group and higher charges to the public.

The bill would unite under the name of the Institute of Chartered Accountants the members of three separate groups who now deal directly with the public.

The new institute would establish standards and regulations which would have to be approved by the provincial cabinet.

Mental Health Plan Okay Despite 'Serious Flaws'

By FRANK RUTTER
Times Legislative Reporter

The Opposition Friday indicated general approval of B.C.'s new mental health laws, but expressed fears and suspicion on how they will be carried out.

The comprehensive new Mental Health Act was given two hours and 25 minutes of debate in the legislature before Attorney-General Robert Bonner adjourned discussion until some time next week.

David Barrett (NDP—Dewdney) and Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby) found what they called serious flaws in the legislation, but didn't oppose it.

FEDERAL AID

Patrick McGeer (L—Point Grey) also approved, but suggested the government get immediate federal aid through hospital insurance for expansion of psychiatric wards in general hospitals. Ottawa would pay half the cost, he said.

Mr. Barrett said the NDP had "a number of grave suspicions" about the legislation.

He hailed the principle of encouraging community treatment of mental illness, a major aim of the bill, but warned:

"You have raised fears in the community that you will not participate in the financing."

"It may give a bad flavor to an otherwise enthusiastic reception," he said.

SELL IT

He urged the government to go out and do a selling job on its plan, and to pledge grants for new community mental health projects.

But Mr. Barrett said the bill completely ignores any preventive measures.

There is nothing in it to help emotionally disturbed children, he said.

Mr. Dowding said new community care centres should be guaranteed top standards and services.

"If those are not guaranteed we are only compounding the evil by distributing it all over B.C. and throwing the load on municipal councils," he said.

PAPER LAW

Mr. Dowding said he feared it may only turn out to be "paper legislation."

The Burnaby MLA took issue with the new admission procedures in the bill. Court admissions are wiped out except for people deemed dangerous

to be at large. Admission to mental institutions would be at the discretion of the medical superintendent.

Mr. Dowding said this would pose "a dreadful dilemma" for the superintendent, who would have to equate his role as a doctor against the government's policy.

Mr. Dowding said admission is a basic right for everyone.

He also challenged 23 sections of the bill giving power to the cabinet to make regulations.

BEST POSITION

Dr. McGeer said he thought it best to leave admission up to the superintendent, who would be in the best position to know the situation.

He said he feared future competition between general hospitals and community centres for mental care.

The government could provide the highest standard of mental care in existing general hospitals, with hospital insurance coverage, he said. Ottawa would pay half the costs; miracle drugs available to the hospitals would aid treatment.

However, he pledged Liberal support on the principle of the bill.

KIERNAN PAY APPROVED

'Weekend' Vote Ends Park Row

The parks battle faded from the legislature—at least temporarily — late Friday afternoon after only 17 minutes of debate.

That's all it took for the House to approve the salary of Recreation Minister Kenneth Kiernan just before the weekend adjournment.

Premier W. A. C. Bennett pulled out the vote after more than three hours of debate on bills.

It worked. The night before a marathon sitting failed to resolve the question of whether or not the government intended to allow new industry into the parks.

When the subject came up Friday, House chairman William Speare suggested MLAs confine themselves to direct questions as the policy issue had been dealt with "at length" Thursday.

The opposition submitted. Mr. Kiernan leaves Sunday on

a trip to California where he will kick off a tourist promotion tour. He won't return until Wednesday night. Then he will have to face the House again for approval of the rest of his recreation estimates.

Chairman Speare promised the Opposition it could ask more about the parks policy at that time.

Friday Mr. Kiernan refused to commit himself about further development of the Buttle Lake area for recreation.

He said he would go and look at the area with parks officials after the session.

More Say On Financing Needed

Municipalities should be given more power in the field of financing, Arthur Turner (NDP—Vancouver East) told the legislature Friday.

He said councils shouldn't have to go continually to the people for permission to borrow or use municipal funds for necessary projects.

"I will have more to say on this subject at a later date," he said.

He was speaking to an act to amend the Municipal Act which was approved in principle by the House. It will be discussed in detail in committee at a later sitting of the House.

Mr. Turner said the government should give municipalities more leeway in managing their affairs and encouraged them to take on more financial responsibilities.

"I don't mean by that the government should go hog-wild in giving them more say in the matter of financing," he said. "It should be under the watchful eye of the department."

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1964

PROGRAM BEHIND SCHEDULE

37 DAYS GONE—RECORD 45

Marathon House Session

Surprises Legislators

By FRANK BUTTER
Times Legislative Reporter

The B.C. legislature is heading for an unexpected marathon session.

Already the lawmakers have sat for 37 days since the session began Jan. 23.

The all-time record is 45 days, established in 1920 and equalled in 1962.

When the session began this year there were few predictions for fireworks or lengthy debates.

In fact, with a provincial election just over, there seemed to be few major issues.

The issues still haven't materialized, but the debate has been unusually lengthy.

Expectations of prorogation for next Friday now seem beyond the realm of possibility.

Late this week even the belief that everyone would be home by Easter took a dive.

The moment of truth came at 1:15 a.m. Friday when an angry Premier W. A. C. Bennett called off a marathon debate on parks policy.

An MLA said the premier told him afterwards in the corridor that there would be no more night sittings, and that the House might be adjourned before Easter until April 15 for a second sitting.

Asked about it Friday evening, Mr. Bennett replied: "No comment."

But Social Credit caucus members have been warned the sessional program is behind schedule.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan still holds out that it could all end in a rush next week.

But Social Crediters are less optimistic.

If things aren't wrapped up by Good Friday, March 27, it may prove essential to adjourn for a couple of weeks.

Premier Bennett and Attorney-General Robert Bonner are due in Ottawa March 31 for a federal-provincial conference.

Resources Minister Ray Williston and Mr. Bonner are also expected to appear before the national Parliament's external affairs committee early in April to testify about the Columbia River project.

Still to come before the House are the controversial social welfare department's estimates.

In addition, debate on the recreation department has been stalled until next Thursday when the minister, Kenneth Kiernan, returns from a trip to California to promote tourism.

Next week the House will discuss the lands, forests and water resources departments and public works.

There is also some legislation still to be debated.

It all points to a mighty rush to finish next weekend, but a possibility of winding up by March 25, which would equal the record.

MLAs Like New Civic Voting Day

An amendment to the Municipal Act changing municipal election day from Thursday to Saturday is expected to win the full approval of the House.

There was no opposition to the proposed change when a bill to amend the act was approved in principle by the members Friday.

Municipal Affairs Minister Wesley Black said "Saturday elections" had the full approval of the Union of B.C. Municipalities.

He said it would not effect

Vancouver because the city had a separate charter.

Arthur Turner (NDP-Vancouver-East) said the change of day would help to stimulate an interest in municipal affairs.

"Interest in municipal affairs is at low ebb," he said. "Either we have a low level of municipal administration or the people are not interested in their affairs."

SPECIAL COURSE

Mr. Turner also suggested the department set up a special

course on municipal affairs for newly-elected councillors.

"This would give them a better understanding of their duties," he said.

Mr. Black said he would consider the suggestion.

In submitting the bill for second reading, Mr. Black noted that one of the amendments allows lower taxes for golf courses, providing the owners agreed to maintain such open spaces for at least 10 years.

"This is to encourage green belts in cities," he said.

NOT LESS THAN \$50,000

Minimum Car Insurance Up

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The 18-month delay will allow motorists and insurance companies to adjust policies, he said. Present minimum is \$35,000.

The necessary changes in the Insurance Act and the Motor Vehicle Act were presented to the legislature.

People who have to file proof they carry insurance will get an extra year's grace before the limits go up.

Mr. Bonner said only about 15 per cent of B.C.'s drivers carry less than \$50,000 insurance at present.

Nine other bills were introduced.

Main one is a complete overhaul of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Act.

Mines Minister Kenneth Kierman said he will not seek second reading of the bill until next year's session. This will give the industry plenty of time to discuss it.

One major change affects lease rental agreements and exploratory drilling.

At present companies are allowed a reduction from \$1 to 25 cents an acre on rental leases where they carry out exploration.

The new bill allows a reduction of only 50 cents.

The change affecting drilling doubles the number of units allowed from 144 to 288.

Another bill, amending the Laws Declaratory Act, is aimed to give sub-contractors an easier time filing claims against bonds when major contractors default.

A change in the Private Detectives Licensing Act allows employment of temporary investigators without being bonded or fingerprinted.

The Public Utilities Act will be changed to bring utilities under the Securities Act.

The Pharmacy Act and Chiropractors Act are to be changed allowing druggists who are not Canadian citizens to be licensed provided they have satisfactory training and chiropractors who are not British subjects to join the Canadian Chiropractic Association.



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Ten not very comfortable wooden chairs front a sloping oak counter from which at intervals jut plywood-boxed amplifiers. There are also inkwells with swingout lids. For years, these have been dry as a back bencher's maiden speech.

Dreamers Awake

Here sit the news men assigned to this choice but difficult beat. View them from public or ladies' galleries and they look to be asleep or day-dreaming. But let the member from Juniper Junction intrude into his verbiage something that matters, and the pencils move as one.

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narrow door into Speaker's corridor. Those stairs haven't killed anyone yet. At least, not quite.

Parliament has its bar against strangers. Ours, though not of visible and well-shined brass, is equally solid. None save an accredited gallery member or a message-bearing page boy or attendant may risk his neck on our stairs.

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So much for the half of the place and institution which in theory (though definitely not in fact) is invisible to the Honourable Members.

The other half consists of two high-ceilinged rooms a pace beyond the corridor doors. They hold desks, antique typewriters, old orders of the day, and telephone booths scorched by sulphurous parleys between gallery men and their giggling editors.

Here are also reporters and correspondents (that's a reporter away from home), who type with two, four or nine fingers at fantastic speed. In the annex room are huge leather-covered armchairs sent down from a former Government House.

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a bundle of private members' bills. Next day, by Mr. Speaker's edict, in came the steel plate.

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This exhilarating, but time-wasting state of affairs persisted until, 40 minutes after the Monday evening sitting began, the man with the big shilleagh ended it by recalling the vote.

"A petulant premier at his childish worst," a snorting-mad Leader of the Opposition branded Mr. O'Bennett's action to newsmen after the Legislative Chamber had emptied. "Or at his obnoxious

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For the second time in a wordy week, the head-on challenge which caused Mr. Bennett to tuck a vote back in his little black satchel emanated from Cranbrook NDP Leo Nimsick.

Up By His Thumbs

There are times when I wish this broncho member's fellow New Democrats would hang him up by his thumbs in their caucus room, or at least, shackle his feet to the floor of the Legislative Chamber.

We have MLAs, notably North Vancouver Liberal Gordon Gibson, who can dare the premier and make

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The reason for the sudden halt: an Opposition MLA complained the premier had broken a promise.

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HINTS SEEN IN PROPOSALS BEFORE LEGISLATURE

AFFECT GREATER VICTORIA, VANCOUVER

Amalgamation Hopes Dwindle in Favor of Slow Campaign for Metro

By **JOHN MIKA**
Times City Hall Reporter

Several proposals before the current session of the B.C. legislature hint that hopes for amalgamation of Greater Victoria and Greater Vancouver have been abandoned in favor of a slow campaign for metropolitan government.

At least, that's what some civic officials read between the lines of government bills.

Strongest evidence of this, they suggest, is a series of 17 amendments to the Municipal Act that would revamp completely the method of licensing businesses.

A radical innovation introduced by the proposed amendments would empower the minister of municipal affairs to designate any area containing two or more municipalities as a "trading area" for the purpose of setting and collecting business licences.

The legislation would require the various municipal components of such a trading area to "jointly establish a schedule of fees for the granting of licences to carry on businesses in all municipalities in the trading areas."

This could end the Balkanization here and in Greater Vancouver in which a single firm may

have to take out licences in each of the municipalities because its operations spill over the borders.

"Metropolitan governments usually are established on the basis of a trading area—the natural economic unit—and the use of this method of licensing may be significant," said one civic official.

"It might mean that the government has decided the time is not ripe for promoting outright amalgamation and has switched to a methodical education campaign pointed towards a metropolitan form of government."

Greater Victoria already has many civic boards and services of a metro nature — schools, public health, family court, water supply, public library — and is heading for more of the same — police and fire services, parks, and possibly sewers.

But all of these constitute a purely inter-civic co-operation.

The government legislation could bring a form of metro regulations — and, in a sense, taxation — to the business community.

"It's a slow process, but once you have the community accepting its trade functions on a metro basis it would not be a big step towards putting its local government on the same basis," the official pointed out.

Bennett Charges MP Ally of Communism

By **FRANK RUTER**
Times Legislative Reporter

Premier W. A. C. Bennett Monday accused an MP of being allied with the Communist Party because he opposes the Columbia River treaty.

The legislature exploded in a wild melee of name-calling between the New Democratic Party and Social Credit.

Mr. Bennett said the NDP's Kootenay West MP, Bert Herridge, is allied with the Communists.

Tony Gargrave (NDP—Mackenzie) countered with charges that the B.C. Social Credit party gets Communist support.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan likened the premier to the late red-baiting U.S. Senator Joseph McCarthy.

Labor-Education Minister Leslie Peterson said opposition to the Columbia treaty is "the death-knell of the NDP in B.C."

"This is obstructionism at its worst," he declared.

CLOSE CONNECTION

Charged the premier: "There is a close connection between the Communist party that's against the Columbia treaty and Herridge."

He read a newspaper report of 1945 quoting the then CCF leader, M. J. Coldwell, as say-

ing Mr. Herridge had been expelled from the party executive for Communist leanings.

"That's the reason I'm alarmed by the alliance of the Communist Party and all its propaganda and Herridge," Mr. Bennett said.

"Senator McCarthy has just spoken," Mr. Strachan said.

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby) complained that it was against Parliamentary rules to make such reflections about either MPs or MLAs.

Tony Gargrave (NDP-Mackenzie) said the NDP co-operates with no groups.

"The party on this side of the House has fought the Communist Party more and longer than any other group."

"The Communist Party of this province supports Social Credit," he declared.

"You sleep with them politically."

The big row began when Randolph Harding (NDP-Kaslo-Slocan) said the Columbia treaty is a poor deal for B.C. and for Canada, and the Arrow Lakes dam "a major catastrophe."

Resources Minister Ray Williston said this is the same attitude as Mr. Herridge has in

Ottawa, where hearings have begun on ratification of the treaty.

"The NDP have the whole thing hamstrung at the moment because of politics," Mr. Williston said.

Mr. Williston said that he couldn't answer certain questions about the Columbia project until the treaty is ratified, and the NDP was holding this up.

He said if Ottawa's external affairs committee changes the treaty—there will be no more treaty.

Mr. Williston said there will be no Columbia contracts before the treaty is ratified. Target date is Oct. 1.

B.C. Hydro may put out tenders before this date, he said, so it can award contracts immediately afterwards.

His verdict on the treaty: "We can have our own cake and we can eat it, too."

Mr. Harding said the NDP was just doing its duty in questioning every minute detail of the Columbia deal.

"That's our job and we're going to do it," he declared.

"That isn't why they're doing it," shouted the premier. "They're obstructing."

Mr. Strachan charged the premier was smearing everyone who disagreed with him.

TUESDAY, MAR. 17, 1964

INTERNATIONAL ALUMINUM FIRM

New B.C. Plant Mooted

An international aluminum company is interested in building a B.C. plant powered by electricity from the Peace River, Resources Minister Ray Williston disclosed Monday.

The plant would be in the lower mainland area, he said. Mr. Williston said he received a telephone call from a U.S. company about two and a half or three weeks ago.

He said he referred the proposal to B.C. Hydro for negotiations on the price of power. First Peace power will be

available in 1968.

Mr. Williston made a brief reference to the proposal in the legislature, and expanded in an interview outside.

He said the company has plants in the U.S. and represents international interests.

Mr. Williston said he had "no idea" how big the proposed industry would be.

His reference to the project in the legislature was prompted by questions from Randolph Harding (NDP - Kaslo - Slocan) about the effect of the Colum-

bia River project on the Aluminum Company of Canada.

Mr. Williston said national NDP leader Tommy Douglas expressed fears about the abolition of the Canadian aluminum industry because of a build-up of U.S. firms using Columbia power benefits.

It couldn't be done, Mr. Williston suggested, because the U.S. will need the power to meet its immediate load growth.

Aid Promised Boom Area Residents

Relief from booming assessments on certain residential property will result if the legislature approves a new law proposed Monday night.

Premier W. A. C. Bennett introduced an amendment to the Assessment Equalization Act which would apparently aid homeowners in areas where property values have soared because of rezoning.

The amendment confines

assessments to the actual residential value of land for people who have lived five years or more in areas which may have a higher value for alternative use.

The five-year cutoff date is Jan. 1, 1964.

The amendment classes such land in the same category as farmlands where the suburban build-up has increased property values.

Another new bill, introduced by Attorney-General Robert Bonner, raises exemptions from garnishee orders.

At present a married man can earn \$120 a month before deduction of a garnishee on his pay cheque, and a single man \$60.

The limits are boosted to \$150 for a married man and \$75 for a single man.

HIGHER PAY, FEWER EXEMPTIONS

A-G Wants More Jurors

More and better-paid jurors are proposed in new B.C. legislation presented Monday.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner's amendments to the Jury Act would hike fees from \$8 to \$10 a day.

They will also raise the age limit of jurors from 65 to 70.

In addition only a limited group of people will have outright exemption from jury duty.

The new law would be effective July 1, once finally approved by the legislature.

24 EXEMPTIONS

At present 24 classes of people are exempt from jury duty, including doctors, lawyers, clergymen, teachers, newspapermen,

members of the armed forces, police, MLAs and MPs.

The new law would exempt outright only MPs, MLAs, law enforcement officers, prison wardens and coroners.

However, the other people cur-

rently exempt will be able to apply to a judge or the sheriff

for exemption on grounds of "serious inconvenience."

Exemptions will also be allowed on grounds of illness or special hardship.

Open Market On Logs Urged For Skeena

Skeena Socred Dudley Little Monday urged the government to set up a log pool in northern B.C. instead of granting huge pulp harvesting licences.

He advocated an open market on logs in the Skeena Valley where big timber companies are vying for a licence.

Mr. Little said there are already conflicting prices for logs within the three sustained yield units in his riding.

One unit's prices are based on the local cost of a finished log; the other two are based on the Vancouver market.

Mr. Little said there is plenty

of room for pulp mills both in Kitimat and in Prince Rupert.

He urged an open market where operators of all kinds—sawmills and pulp—could bid for the logs they need.

Mr. Little agreed it would be impossible to change existing tree farm licences, but suggested a certain percentage of the timber within them should be allocated to his log pool.

Forests Minister Ray Williston agreed there are "truly great problems" in the Skeena forest areas.

"I haven't got the answers today," he admitted.

He said he will judge the situation on its merits when five public hearings are held in northern B.C. after the session.

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby) accused Mr. Little of representing special interests.

He said the Socred had no right to air before the legislature issues which would be decided outside it.



In Our HOUSE

By Arthur Mayse

The winds blew fair on Tuesday, and after rounding Cape Horn in the shape of Lands and Forests Minister Williston's salary vote at 11:42 p.m., lawmakers scudded on to approve estimates totalling \$18,558,896 in a flat 18 minutes.

Today, members expect to make their northing into the uncertain latitudes of Social Welfare, where we may expect anything from squalls to a full gale. My own hope is that with the help of oil already poured by Minister Wesley Black, our somewhat battered ship of state may find comparatively smooth sailing.

As to the big off-floor

question of the day—when will the session end?—members' guesses now range from an optimistic "This Friday" to a dolorous "Three days before Christmas!"

New Ministers?

Having missed by a country mile with a March 13 prediction, this bystander ain't guessing.

There's considerable speculation, also, as to whether Mr. Bennett will expand his cabinet by one or perhaps two new ministers. Ralph Loffmark of Vancouver-Point Grey is—or perhaps I should say, was—considered a likely candidate for portfolio and \$15,000 a year.

In any case, if appointments are to be made, the word will probably follow close after the session wind-up.

Pulp and Power

From the orderly pattern of Tuesday's debate, two words emerge.

Power is one, and the other is pulp; and in combination, they may work significant changes in the prevailing saw-log economy of British Columbia forest industries.

Mr. Williston's answers may not always satisfy, but he has a refreshing habit of meeting opposition questions

squarely. He also succeeds better than most in giving the total picture.

That, in a department concerned with an industry which has undergone enormous changes both in operating techniques and philosophy, is no easy task.

Let God Do It

While Mr. Williston fails to agree with North Vancouver Liberal Gordon Gibson's old-logger contention that "God can plant our trees and they will grow very well," the minister did reveal that his department may change its replanting system.

Under the new plan, industry rather than government would bear the cost of reforestation.

But it was pulp Mr. Williston kept returning to, and what pulp coupled with power might be expected to accomplish for B.C.

This province, he told members, has become the last major pulpwood supplier to world markets in which Japan figures very prominently.

And to interior lumbermen, pulp milling may offer economic salvation after downhill years in which the saw-log minimum has shrunk from 14 to eight inches at branch height.

All in all, a solid working day, from afternoon sitting to evening adjournment with the hands of the chamber clock precisely on midnight.

IN TIMBER SALES

New Bidding Fee Designed To Head Off Blackmailers

By FRANK RUTER
Times Legislative Reporter

Legislation aimed at stamping out blackmail in provincial timber sales has been introduced by Forests Minister Ray Williston.

Mr. Williston also proposes new regulations on re-forestation, forest fires and roads as well as cancellation of a special concession to the holder of a Vancouver Island tree farm licence.

His amendments to the Forest Act were presented to the legislature Tuesday.

The legislation allows him to set a bidding fee on all Crown timber sales.

This is aimed at discouraging bidding and blackmail threats, he said.

Several small timber firms have complained to the legislature's forestry committee about blackmail.

Other firms, they said, have threatened to force bidding to an exorbitant level unless they were granted favors.

Mr. Williston said the forestry committee has recommended

the bidding fee as a deterrent, in a report soon to be made to the House. The fee will be returned to the successful bidder.

Another amendment gives the forests minister power to order re-forestation in a timber sale contract.

Cost of the re-forestation will be partly or wholly repaid by the government, which includes a grant for silviculture in its annual budget.

Mr. Williston said another important change will give the forest industry a break in fighting fires.

At present the forest service can order loggers to burn slash and if the fire accidentally burns out of control, the logger is responsible for putting it out.

CLOSE MILL

Sometimes this means a whole mill has to close down to fight a fire, he said.

The change lifts this responsibility. The logger will only have to commit the number of men required to supervise burning the slash.

The amendments also ban

any kind of plant within half a mile of a forested area without a permit. Mr. Williston said this was simply to ensure adequate fire protection measures already required by permits to operate a plant within a forested area.

STANDARD FORM

The changes also eliminate a 16 per cent stumpage concession granted in an old forest management licence to Crown Zellerbach in the Campbell River area. The company has agreed to change its licence to the standard form now used for all tree farm leases, Mr. Williston said.

Another amendment gives the forest service power to designate forest roads in property which reverts to the Crown. At present all trails and roads which come back are called forest roads.

PULP MILL BID QUERIED

W-G's Ghost Haunts House

By FRANK RUTTER
Times Legislative Reporter

The Opposition plugged away at timber monopolies and resurrected the ghost of Wenner-Gren as the legislature Tuesday night ploughed through the budget estimates of Lands, Forests and Water Resources Minister Ray Williston.

After nearly 10 hours of debate, the estimates were approved and the House adjourned at midnight.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan brought up the Wenner-Gren issue when he asked questions about a northern B.C. pulp mill application by Alexandria Forest Products.

REMNANT

Mr. Strachan said Alexandria is controlled by Wenner-Gren B.C. Development Co., a remnant of the complex of companies controlled by the late Swedish financier Axel Wenner-Gren who planned the Peace River power project, a northern monorail and vast industrial development in the Rocky Mountain Trench.

Mr. Strachan recalled that the Wenner-Gren plans never came about.

He also recalled that Wenner-Gren promised to put his profits into philanthropic and scientific projects.

He asked if Mr. Williston would take this into account when he hears Alexandria's application in May.

'PRETTY BUMPY'

Mr. Williston admitted the hearings could be "pretty bumpy." But he paid tribute to Wenner-Gren for having a vision of B.C.'s north and for making the initial surveys that led to the government's development of Peace River power.

He said that B.C. Forest Products had joined forces with Alexandria to provide business know-how.

The forestry debate began

with Tony Gargrave (NDP—Mackenzie) charging that the big timber companies had affronted the legislature's forestry committee by not making any submissions.

DIRECT LINE

"I have no doubt they are going direct to the minister," he said.

Other smaller companies are afraid to appear before the committee, he said, because they fear they may lose contracts from the timber giants.

Mr. Gargrave said he feared that B.C. may be nearing a "corporate state" where the policies of the top timber companies coincided with government policy.

MORE MONOPOLY

"The trend towards monopoly is increasing," he said. "This is something that must be reversed."

"If the trend towards monopoly continues I think we will have created a monster that is bigger than the government itself."

John Squire (NDP—Alberni) said "the big grab is on" with the forest falling into the hands of a few big firms.

Mr. Williston replied that the big companies had representatives at every public meeting of the legislative committee.

He said no timber company, big or small, had any difficulty getting into his office, and he spends most of his time dealing with small firms.

The big companies have done a good job for B.C., he added, creating jobs and investing their profits into their own industry.

\$2 Boost in Jury Pay Claimed Not Enough

A Social Credit backbencher Tuesday joined the New Democratic Party in calling for a bigger raise in jury pay than the \$2 proposed by the government.

Ernest LeCours (SC—Delta) said jurors should get their regular salary plus expenses when called away from work.

The legislature gave second reading—approval in principle—to amendments to the Jury Act boosting pay from \$8 to \$10 and defining it as expenses rather than fees to exempt it from income tax.

Mr. LeCours said some people who spend up to two months on jury duty could end up several hundred dollars in debt.

He joined Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) and Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby) in calling for an even higher rate.

Mr. Dowding suggested the government give thought to boosting the amount before the amendments come before the House again for clause-by-clause study.

'SHAMEFUL' TACTIC CLAIMED

An Interior logging operator implied during last September's provincial election campaign that a Social Credit candidate gained special privileges for the operator, New Democrat John Squire said in the legislature Tuesday.

He quoted from an advertisement in the Hope Standard, signed by L. L. Hampton, of Hampton Sawmills Ltd., which said former Social Credit member for the constituency, Irvine Corbett, had "worked on our behalf" in solving a problem through the legislative committee on forestry.

"We can think of no better help rendered by a member," Mr. Squire read from the advertisement, published about two weeks before the election.

The NDP member for Alberni called the tactic "frightful, shameful and infers someone was getting something out of the committee they shouldn't get."

Mr. Squire pointed out that he was a member of the committee when the Hampton problem was brought up, and that the committee had agreed to a solution unanimously.

"The minister (Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston, whose estimates were being debated) should make it clear to the citizens of that area that no one got any special privileges," Mr. Squire declared.

He said the ad had been directed to the citizens of Boston Bar and surroundings.

"When this sort of thing goes on, it's time the whole thing was stopped," he said.

"At all times, the name of the forestry committee must be above reproach."

Mr. Williston replied later that he knew nothing about the advertisement.

\$252 Million From B.C.'s Woods Industry

The taxpayers got \$256,500,000 from B.C.'s forest industry last year, Forests Minister Ray Williston said Tuesday.

He was answering a plea from Gordon Gibson (Lib.—North Vancouver) for higher taxes on the industry.

Mr. Gibson told the legislature the B.C. government got only \$40,000,000 from the industry last year—only 4 per cent of the selling price of forest products.

Mr. Gibson said B.C. should get \$100,000,000 at least, and the timber companies could well afford it.

POOR SHARING

"The wealth is not being shared very well," he said.

Mr. Williston replied that the federal and provincial governments together got \$256,500,000 and spent \$21,700,000 on forest administration.

This includes income tax collections, he said.

He agreed with Mr. Gibson that eventually the forest industry should be made to pay the cost of re-forestation—currently borne by the government.

'Give Land To New Colleges'

B.C.'s three publicly-owned universities should own their own endowment lands to raise money for higher education requirements, Point Grey Liberal Dr. Patrick McGeer said in the legislature Tuesday.

Only University of B.C. has endowment lands now, but doesn't own them outright.

Dr. McGeer suggested during debate on Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston's salary that University of Victoria and Simon Fraser University should each get 2,000,000 acres of far northern forest land that would raise an estimated \$2,000,000 revenue a year for each university.

IDEA REJECTED

Mr. Williston rejected the idea.

"It isn't fair that only B.C. should have endowment lands," Dr. McGeer said.

He urged that UBC now be given its land but never be permitted to sell it. These lands could become extremely valuable to the university if developed like Stanford, in California.

There the lands are leased for 50 years to scientific industry, one of the foremost tourist attractions of the state.

"If we do the same for UBC it could become one of the most powerful magnets of technical accomplishments and a source of important secondary industry," Dr. McGeer predicted.

Williston Letter Attacked by MLA

Forests Minister Ray Williston was accused by an MLA Tuesday of siding with B.C.'s biggest timber firm.

Logger MLA Gordon Gibson (Lib.—North Vancouver) quoted a letter which appeared in publications of MacMillan, Bloedel and Powell River Co.

The company currently is seeking a tree farm licence in the Kitimat area.

Mr. Williston's letter appeared in a brochure sent out to all shareholders of the company, all shareholders of the company mentioning the application.

WITH BROCHURE

The minister's message said Mac-Powell is actively partici-

pating in a province-wide program of continuous forest production, and the rest of the brochure would outline the responsibilities of a holder of a tree farm licence.

"I am happy to have this opportunity to commend it to you and to show how this particular form of tenure fits into the broad picture of forest management," it said.

Mr. Gibson said the minister's job is to protect the public interest.

The owners of Mac-Powell "can do very well for themselves without finding he's more or less on their side," Mr. Gibson said.

"It's appeared that way for a long time."

Mr. Gibson also charged that Mr. Williston's advisers are more for the interests of industry than the people.

NO APOLOGY

Mr. Williston replied that he would make no apology for his letter, but it was not designed for circulation among the shareholders.

It was written some time ago for the company magazine Dibster, he said, and he later approved its publication in the brochure.

Mr. Williston agreed it looked "very damaging" when sent out to the shareholders, but that was not its purpose.

'PERMITS LABOR SPIES'

Private Eyes Bill Blasted

Industrial spying will be permitted by amendments to the Private Detectives' Licensing Act, New Democratic Party members charged in the legislature Tuesday.

But their protests went down before a divisional vote of 35-13 after debate on the bill. The Liberals voted with the government.

Dave Barrett (NDP—Dewdney) opened debate with an attack on the Canadian system of divorce, which he said depends to a large extent on the evidence of private detectives.

"We have in Canada one of the most archaic divorce systems in the world," Mr. Barrett said. He deplored use of private detectives to "get evidence in divorcees that is among the most sordid in the world."

"The member's views on divorce are not at issue in this bill," Attorney-General Robert Bonner replied.

He suggested the remarks were out of order and was upheld by Speaker William Murray.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said one section must be opposed "unalterable." He referred to a time when employers hired men directly to spy on their cohorts to prevent the organization of trade unions. This has been stopped by legislation, he said.

The bill "opens the door to this danger" by allowing a private detective to hire spies for the same purpose, he noted.

STOOL-PIGEON

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby) said the bill relaxes the principle of bonding private detectives.

"The Bill of Rights is a fine declaration, but it is eaten away by this kind of stool-pigeon spying. It is synonymous with wire tapping," Mr. Dowding charged.

"Don't be silly," retorted Mr. Bonner.

"But it allows undercover agents," Mr. Dowding came back. "It allows (people) to engage in clandestine war against business firms or individuals . . . distasteful to this house."

SLOPPY WORK

Mr. Bonner said he "listened in amazement to objections from the opposition," and suggested they had done "sloppy homework" on the bill.

"The bill doesn't touch the points about which objections are raised," he said.

The bill excludes persons employed for certain jobs on a temporary basis from posting bonds and having to have identification cards and undergo fingerprinting required of full-time private detectives.

Mr. Bonner said the legislation would be helpful to smaller detective agencies.

Opposition Backs Assessment Ease

The Opposition Tuesday hailed a government move to ease assessment against residential property.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan recalled that he had urged government action earlier in the session to protect homeowners from big boosts in assessment because "ridiculous" land prices had increased the value of certain areas.

Premier W. A. C. Bennett said the government had been studying the problem for two years.

His amendments to the Assessment Equalization Act were given second reading in the legislature.

They are aimed at keeping down the assessment of residential property where someone has lived more than five years, but where such development as apartment blocks has caused a big rise in the speculative value of property.

FISH FIRST ON FRASER —WILLISTON

There will be no dams on the main stream of the Fraser River until fish problems are resolved, Resources Minister Ray Williston said Tuesday night.

He was answering questions in the legislature about implementation of the report of the Fraser River Board which recommended a \$405,000,000 power and flood control program for the river and its tributaries.

Mr. Williston said he is sure "some arrangement can come" for federal-provincial development of the program.

First projects will be dams on the Clearwater River, he said.

Next will come a McGregor River dam to divert potential Fraser floodwaters into the Peace River.

Accountants Lose Out Second Time

The legislature Tuesday threw out private bills aimed at setting standards and regulations for accountants and realtors.

It was the second year the House had rejected the bid of accountants to form a provincial institute governing their business affairs.

Alex Matthew (SC-Vancouver Centre), chairman of the private bills committee, said interested groups and individuals had not had sufficient time to study the accountancy bill, which was strongly opposed by some accountants.

Mr. Matthew said the bill seeking incorporation of the Real Estate Board of B.C. put too much power in the hands of a small group of directors.

He said the committee was concerned the bill might lead to restrictive practices that would not be in the public interest.

WED., MARCH 18, 1964

WAC Drives House For Weekend Finish

Prospects of an all-night sitting loomed today when it became obvious the premier wants the House prorogued by the weekend.

*The issue—social welfare.

The budget estimates of Welfare Minister Wesley Black are expected to come before the House tonight.

After a province-wide controversy on welfare earlier this year, the opposition is expected to launch a full-scale attack on government policy.

The government has completed its legislative program for the current session, Premier Bennett said Tuesday.

He told the House the government has no more new bills to introduce.

Today is the 40th day of the session which started Jan. 23.

There have been 17 night sittings.

The all-time record session lasted 45 days in 1962 and 1922.

This year the House will probably prorogue on Saturday morning—its 43rd day.

Premier W. A. C. Bennett has taken steps to end the legislative session this week.

He has proposed morning sittings starting Friday.

Mr. Bennett has filed notice he will move on Thursday that the House hold three sittings a day.

The first one will be from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

After an hour for lunch MLAs will return at 2 p.m. and sit until 6.

The third sitting will be from 8 p.m. "until adjournment"—no time limit.

Power Shortage Spurs Peace Dam Building

Construction of the Peace River power project has had to be stepped up because B.C. faces a power shortage, Resources Minister Ray Williston said Tuesday.

On the basis of current load growth B.C. will be "completely out" of power by 1973 to 1975, Mr. Williston told the legislature.

First power from the Peace is due in 1968.

"Already the Peace River is having to be stepped up," he added.

Between 50 and 60 per cent of the initial Peace power will go to northern B.C., Mr. Williston said.

It will cost only 2 mills per kilowatt hour at its Portage Mountain site, and a shade under 4 mills in Vancouver.

Mr. Williston also assured the House that Mica Creek dam on the Columbia River will get power generators as soon as possible to help meet the needs of the province.

He charged the Opposition was obsessed with the idea that Peace power will be expensive.

So far actual construction costs are \$33,000,000 below estimates, he said.

BENNETT NON-COMMITAL

Six Socreds Defy House To Oppose B.C. 'Hansard'

Six Socreds voted against the rest of the legislature and a Hansard Wednesday.

The House approved an Opposition resolution for government consideration of a verbatim record of its proceedings, although Premier W. A. C. Bennett refused a commitment to implement it.

This is the third year the government has agreed to consider Hansard and several of the 17 MLAs who spoke about it in an hour-long debate this time doubted anything will ever be done.

FURTHER STUDY

Mr. Bennett said the government will carry out "further studies."

"The government will accept the resolution but will make no commitment when it will come into effect," he said.

The six Socreds who opposed Hansard were Herbert Bruch of Esquimalt; Waldo Skillings of Victoria; Jacob Huhn, North Peace; Bert Price, Vancouver-Burrard; Willis Jefcoat, Salmon Arm, and Cyril Shelford, Omineca.

The other 42 MLAs present approved the resolution, moved by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan.

"If nothing else, for the sake of history we should have a verbatim report," he said. "We owe this to the people of the province."

A Hansard would cut out "chit-chat" and elevate the standard of debate.

The Hansard-boosters said that many other provinces now have a Hansard and Social Credit Alberta approved a resolution for one earlier in March. Liberal leader Ray Perrault said he was tired of annual battles over newspaper clippings reporting what MLAs had said. Mr. Perrault also advocated radio broadcasts of legislative debate.

ADD TO DIGNITY

Alex Matthew (SC—Vancouver-Centre) said Hansard would add to the dignity of the House.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver-East) challenged the premier to vote against the resolution if he really had no intention of carrying it out.

He said the Socreds are afraid that "inconsistent" policies will be exposed to the public view.

Mr. Bruch said Hansard encourages absenteeism from the legislature.

"It should be debate on the issues before the legislature and not debate to be put on record for public consumption," Mr. Bruch said.

Frank Calder (NDP—Atlin), said Saskatchewan's Hansard costs only \$2,000 a week.

Arthur Turner (NDP—Vancouver-East), said if Mr. Bruch was right, then the British parliament and Ottawa's House of Commons have been wrong for many years.

"You just want a record to embarrass somebody," somebody," commented Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi.

J. Donald Smith (SC—Victoria), said "choice tidbits" thrown across the floor should be recorded for posterity.

DON'T EVEN SPEAK

The premier said that a big argument against Hansard is that it discourages full attendance in legislatures. In the U.S. legislators have gone a step farther—they don't even speak, just file a copy of a speech.

Mr. Bennett also criticized Ottawa's Hansard because it is being extensively edited.

Lois Haggen (NDP—Grand Forks-Greenwood), said the premier was intimating B.C. won't get a Hansard.

"It's a saying that only a nightingale opens its mouth merely to emit sound," she said. "Attendance could be controlled by other means."

SEEK MORE OFFICE SPACE

MLAs Squeeze Out a Plea

Members of the legislature are squeezed out of their offices at the buildings into hotel rooms in order to conduct constituency business during the session, members complained to Works Minister W. N. Chant Wednesday.

Government members joined the opposition in its annual plea for more space during debate on Mr. Chant's estimates, passed in an hour and 25 minutes Wednesday night.

Donald Brothers (SC—Rossland-Trail) suggested setting up tents on the lawn.

"The people who are suffering are those who come down here to see the members," said Cyril Shelford (SC—Omineca). "They should be able to sit down. But, then, maybe they

don't stay as long . . ." He thought a tent would be "a lot better than standing in a corridor."

Randolph Harding (NDP—Kaslo-Slocan) said members have to work in "disgraceful quarters. They have to talk in the corridors and are crowded into the committee room where the phone is ringing. And it must be worse in the government caucus room."

A couple of hearty desk thumps from the Socred side endorsed the remark.

Mr. Harding said when a member is forced to do his work in a hotel room when the other facilities are centred in the Parliament Buildings, it is "not right."

"Surely it is not beyond the

monetary resources of this government (to improve facilities) even if it means moving to another building," he said.

Ray Perrault (Lib.—N. Van), seconded the idea, suggesting no members' offices on the main floor of the House at all, and improved telephone facilities.

Mr. Chant brushed aside the pleas, saying the need for accommodation is greater in other fields.

\$100 MINIMUM

Basic Fee Urged For Timber Bids

A \$100 minimum bidding fee on Crown timber sales to curb blackmail threats was recommended Wednesday by the legislature's forestry committee.

Legislation allowing Forests Minister Ray Williston to impose a fee was given second reading earlier in the House.

The legislation does not set a specific amount, but the committee recommended between 1 and 5 per cent of the bid with a minimum of \$100.

QUOTA TRADE

The committee, headed by Omineca Sacred Cyril Shelford, said it was concerned about trafficking in timber quotas. During public hearings loggers complained that quotas were being bartered at high prices.

The report suggested a thorough study of quota trading and the possibility of a government fee each time a quota is sold.

Threats of blackmail bidding on timber sales to force up prices on timber sales were also charged by loggers before the committee.

The bidding fee is aimed at curbing this practice, and the committee said it was not recommending any further action pending more study.

The committee asked the legislature to give it power next year to study pulp harvesting licences and to review methods of appraising logs.

It also proposed further study next year of sub-contracting logging within the big tree farm licence areas.

Licence holders at present must allow independent loggers to cut between 30 and 50 per cent of their timber.

The committee said loggers are not taking full advantage of their opportunities, and recommended no changes in the present regulations.

INFLEXIBLE CLIMATE

However, the committee asked for more representations from the forest industry and suggested further review of the situation next year.

It also suggested that written contracts be made available for study.

The committee said that forest policy based on royal commission recommendations created "an inflexible climate" which was not in the public interest.

However, policy discussions through the committee have resulted in a frank and open climate which is more effective, it suggested.

Grits Alone Oppose New Power Bill

By FRANK RUTTER

The Liberal party stood alone again in the B.C. legislature Wednesday to oppose what it called a denial of public rights in new power legislation.

A new power measures bill was given second reading—approval in principle—by a vote of 44 to 4, everyone else versus the Liberals.

The bill validates every action taken in the name of public power ownership since the B.C. Electric takeover in 1961.

Oak Bay Liberal Alan Macfarlane said the bill discriminates against the holders of B.C. Electric preferred shares.

ARBITRARY

"It is the final act of arbitrariness in the whole unpleas-

ant matter," he said.

One section of the bill cancels all preferred shares in the old B.C. Electric company, and forces their holders to accept new 25-year bonds, Mr. Macfarlane said.

This is being done despite the fact that one of the largest shareholders won a court judgment giving him his money and interest—a total of \$311,623, Mr. Macfarlane said.

Now other preferred shareholders are denied the right to seek a similar court judgment, he said.

WIDOW LOSES

He cited the case of Vancouver widow Ada Payne, who held only \$1,000 worth of shares. She wrote Premier Bennett in 1961 asking for cash. Her loss on the shares now amounts to \$150, Mr. Macfarlane said.

The rich shareholder had been allowed to get his money, but the small shareholder is denied that right, Mr. Macfarlane said.

"Here's a man who's been granted special privileges and here we have a bill which purports to take away from other people in the same class, owning the same class of shares the rights they are entitled to in law, in justice and in morality."

"One wonders when and to whom justice is available in B.C."

Mr. Macfarlane said the government should offer preferred shareholders immediate cash or parity bonds in exchange.

REAL ENEMIES

Attorney-General Robert Bonner charged the Liberals with trying to make political capital out of the situation. He called the Liberals "the real enemies of public power."

Tony Gargrave (NDP—MacKenzie) said his party supported the bill to rescue the government from the "desperate folly" of the way it had managed public power ownership.

"It can only be described as Frankenstein legislation of the most frightful kind," he said.

"It's an example of a government which has decided it needed to talk to nobody about anything until it gets into trouble with the courts."

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said the NDP condemns the government for the way in which it handled the B.C. Electric takeover but supports public power and approves the bill to keep B.C. Hydro from jeopardy.

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1964

Strachan Says Power Bill New Pay-Off to Wen-Gren

By FRANK RUTTER

The B.C. government was accused Wednesday night of setting up a new payoff to the Wenner-Gren interests.

New Democratic Party MLAs charged the government is playing Santa Claus and will fur-line the pockets of a Wenner-Gren company.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner countered by charging the NDP with a pathological hatred for a man even though he is dead—Swedish financier Axel Wenner-Gren, originator of the Peace River power plan.

Bitter words blew about the legislature during debate on a bill allowing the former owners of the Peace River power plans and surveys to appeal compensation they were paid for a 1961 government takeover.

EQUAL RIGHT

The Liberals, who supported the bill, said it gave the government an equal right of appeal against what has already been paid to Peace River Power Development Co.—a total of \$8,020,328.

Mr. Bonner said that without the bill Peace River Power Development Co. would be able to launch an action against the government for wrongful seizure of the plans and surveys.

The company already has a

case before the courts. The bill would limit court action to the actual amount of compensation by the bill.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said it was a special privilege bill.

AN INVITATION

Arthur Turner (NDP—Vancouver East) termed it "an invitation to sue" for Peace River Power.

He said the company had already done too well out of the government.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) said the Wenner-Gren interests agreed in 1956 to build a railway and power project and to plow profits into philanthropic enterprises.

If it came to a court case, he said, the company would be found guilty of breaking its agreements. He charged the government had defrauded the public by giving concessions to the company.

"I think this just another Santa Claus deal to help out some friends of the government," said Leo Nimsick (NDP—Cranbrook).

The NDP said that if Wenner-Gren interests want to sue the government they can get a fiat—permission from the attorney-general—the same as anyone else.

John Squire (NDP—Alberni) predicted British Columbians

will pay for generations to come for the Wenner-Gren deal.

"The question is if the company has already got its pockets lined, is it going to get its pockets lined with fur this time?" he asked.

Mr. Bonner angrily hit back at the Opposition attacks.

"The Opposition has been going down all this season and tonight they are just about ready to be swept out of the door," he said.

He chided Opposition Leader Robert Strachan for sitting with his back to the Speaker, accusing him of "the embarrassment of indifference."

EXPRESSING SCORN

"I'm simply expressing my scorn for the attorney-general," Mr. Strachan snorted.

Mr. Bonner said the bill simply re-enacts the principle of the 1961 takeover which was unanimously approved by the legislature.

The bill won approval in principle by a vote of 33 to 13.

It was scheduled to come up for detailed study, clause by clause, today.

CRACK IN CANYON STARTS TO WIDEN

HOPE (CP)—Mountaineer Laimon Kandors said Tuesday a fissure in a rock wall beside the Fraser Canyon near Hell's Gate appears to be moving slowly.

The fissure is between 400 and 500 feet long and the crack is between eight and 12 inches wide in places.

The crack was brought to light when Highways Minister Gagliardi told the legislature that engineers were seeking an alternate route for the highway. Engineers said the rock face could break away and destroy a new section of road.

HURTS JUST AS MUCH TO BE HIT BY CROWN

The Queen can do no wrong—but she sometimes gets poor advice, an MLA said Wednesday.

Tony Gargrave (NDP—Mackenzie) was urging the government to allow anyone to sue the Crown without first obtaining a fiat—official permission.

The legislature unanimously approved a resolution giving consideration to such a move, but as Mr. Gargrave pointed out, this does not necessarily mean the government will act.

The resolution was proposed by Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby).

"I know the Queen can do no wrong—but sometimes she gets pretty poor advice," Mr. Gargrave said.

"To the ordinary citizen on the street it seems incredible that if a public works department truck runs you down you can't sue in the same way as if a taxi runs you down."

MENTAL HEALTH

Four Socreds Speak Against Vote for Bill

By **FRANK RUTTER**
Times Legislative Reporter

Four Social Crediters spoke against new mental health legislation Wednesday—then hopped back into the government fold when it came to a vote.

Socred Alex Matthew. He urged Health Minister Martin to get mental health facilities "in adequate form."

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) said the act puts too much power in the hands of the superintendent, who, being human, will not want his institution overcrowded.

John Tisdalle (SC—Saanich) said the lack of mental health facilities in B.C. is the "need of the hour." It is an admission of guilt not to provide these facilities.

'CONDEMNUS US'

"Our prisoners can cry out at the lack of facilities in some of our jails, but they go of their own volition in most cases.

"But these children do not. This act is a hard thing to support because it condemns us, it does not justify us," Mr. Tisdalle said.

Ernest LeCours (SC—Delta) said he believed some persons are only technically entitled to admission and get in, while others in greater need of care do not get treatment. He thought the section is unnecessary.

"I think the first responsibility is to the handicapped, and let's get to it and provide necessary accommodation," he said.

The bill—basically aimed at decentralizing mental health care—was given second reading with only the New Democratic Party opposed.

But sections on admission of patients to Woodlands School for the retarded and other institutions caused an hour-long debate.

COURT UPSET

One section leaves admission of patients up to the medical superintendent. This was the procedure under a cabinet order which the courts upset late last year. The government has appealed a ruling that admissions could be ordered by a court.

"This is legislation of a disastrous kind for a government with a primary responsibility in this field," Mr. Dowling said.

"No longer will it be your family doctor and another doctor who decide whether you get treatment," he said. "Why should a superintendent, who knows nothing of the case, decide this?" Mr. Dowling asked.

He said this is "putting the doctor (superintendent) in a dreadful dilemma" in deciding

between duty to patient and to the legislation as a government official.

FEAR 'JOKERS'

Bert Price (SC—Vancouver Burrard) said there are "jokers" in the section. "I can't help feeling something is being taken away. I question the right of the legislature to take away rights of the people accepted by the people for many generations.

"I'm afraid of this section," the MLA said, referring to the lengthy waiting list of children seeking admission for years to treatment centres such as Woodlands.

"What's the matter? How is it people can't get the help they need . . . help that is a social responsibility. Parents of such children are in a tragic position . . . It is unfair, inhumane and certainly something about which something can be done . . . It destroys the right of an afflicted person to have treatment," Mr. Price said.

ADDED VOICE

"I'm afraid I will have to add my voice to that of my colleague from Vancouver Burrard," said Vancouver Centre

LAWYER SAYS:

Lawyers 'Unsuitable' As Jurors

Lawyers may know the law, but they are "completely unsuitable for jury duty," Oak Bay barrister Alan Macfarlane told the legislature Wednesday.

The Liberal member was speaking on an amendment to the Jury Act. He asked for exclusion of lawyers from jury duty because of their peculiar position, not in self-interest.

In a murder trial, for instance, Mr. Macfarlane pointed out, jurors receive their instruction on the law from the presiding judge.

DIFFERENT VIEW

If a lawyer was a juror, others on the panel could look

to him for his view of the law, which might frustrate the direction of the court.

Also, the MLA pointed out, what the lawyer has said—within the confines of the jury room—could not be subject to review by a court of appeal as would be a judge's instruction.

Premier Bennett suggested the matter of a lawyer's daily fee could also be of consideration in a bid for exclusion of lawyers from jury duty.

SNIDE IMPLICATION

Mr. Macfarlane objected to the "snide" implication.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner said the probability of a lawyer becoming a member of a jury is "so remote it is not worth considering."

A lawyer probably would be excluded in the normal course of jury selection, the attorney-general said. A lawyer could also claim exemption because of inconvenience under the act, he said.

THURS., MAR. 19, 1964

FOR YEAR'S STUDY

Private Road Access Delayed

Legislation controlling public access to recreational areas through private roads has been shelved for at least a year.

The legislature's public access committee Wednesday night recommended further study of a draft act before action is taken.

But the committee suggested in the meantime:

UNIFORM SYSTEM

1. A uniform system of permits for public access on Vancouver Island roads through timber licence areas.

2. Formation of an arbitration procedure to decide disputes about access.

3. Joint development of picnic and camping grounds by the recreation department and industry.

This work was handed over to an inter-departmental committee of civil servants which drew up the draft legislation.

NEW REVIEW

The access committee report, submitted to the House by chairman William Speare (SC-Cariboo) asked for permission to re-view the situation again next year.

"It seems clear there is an increased awareness on the part of industry of the desirability of making provision for public access over privately-administered roads," Mr. Speare's re-

port said.

"There seems every reason to believe that this co-operation on the part of industry will continue and expand."

WET SUMMER

Last year—with a wet summer—was not a fair guide to assessing the impact of proposed legislation, the committee said.

It recommended the legislation be delayed "at least one more year" for further study.

The committee said there is a multiplicity of private roads through forest areas on Vancouver Island with checkpoints and permit systems.

It urged a uniform permit system be worked out by industry and the inter-departmental committee during the coming year.

Victoria Court Lauded In Plea for Vancouver

Victoria's court house has splendid acoustics among other enviable facilities, like court rooms, chambers and washrooms, legislative members were told Wednesday.

"You can hear every word the judges are saying in the Court of Appeal as they deliberate among themselves," said Alex Macdonald (NPD-Vancouver East) in support of a new Vancouver court house.

1,000 TO ONE

In Vancouver 1,000 lawyers must use a single urinal, he complained.

"I can never find it," chipped in Attorney-General Robert Bonner.

Mr. Macdonald said most of the litigation in the province is carried on Vancouver's archaic facilities. "What is your plan for Vancouver court house?" he asked Mr. Chant.

IN DUE COURSE

"In due course," the minister replied.

"Have you no plans?"

"Have a little patience. A great deal has been done and more will be done."

Mr. Chant had basically the same reply for Opposition leader Robert Strachan, asking about a new Duncan court house for the 12th year.

Mr. Strachan recalled a 1956 campaign promise by Mr. Chant—"within two months."

An NDP member observed the minister had not said which two months.

"Plans are proceeding," Mr. Chant said.

Mr. Strachan wanted to know when.

"I'm not giving any dates," the minister ended.



In Our

HOUSE

By Arthur Mayse



Our frayed and weary legislators have the world by the tail on a downhill haul now, and are galloping toward an end which may come this evening.

I write 'may' because of all rumor factories, there is none to match the stately and echoing halls of parliament.

Someone voices a mild conjecture. It goes bouncing down corridors and through offices; flies up blue-carpeted stairs and circles the restaurant where, these days and nights, coffee washes away

the acrimony of debate.

Rumor Wrong

Thursday was no exception. The House wouldn't end its session before Easter . . . the Old Man would prorogue on Monday—Saturday—Friday. This sitting would go all night, we'd be breakfasting here for certain.

So much for rumor!

Before midnight, we were snuffing the cool air of the world outside, with Mr. Black's social welfare estimates in the bag after a mere fraction of the debate predicted for this particular area of disagreement.

Suppose, now, we glance back along the course.

Little Monster

Since Throne Speech day late in January, our many-headed little monster of a Legislative Assembly has brought in new provincial laws and patched up old statutes. It has voted close to \$400,000,000 in revenues to hand or anticipated. It has dealt in sense and nonsense, uttered words by the million.

Out of its deliberations have evolved policies which, for better or worse, will affect the destiny of an awakening province which dwarfs the mighty state of Texas in size and po-

tential.

In some areas—parks, welfare and health—it has acted in a manner which this observer considers dubious at the very least. Elsewhere, the lawmakers—who are not gods after all, but hardworking men drawn from diverse backgrounds—have moved with far-seeing wisdom.

Spring Beckons

The projected Bank of British Columbia is shadowed by many an 'if.' But to my mind, Mr. Bennett has done very well here. Even in Eastern eyes, Canada will no longer end at the Head of the Lakes.

From the press gallery over the floor of the House, I have glimpsed what may be the shape of British Columbia's parliaments to come. Elsewhere, one day, we'll consider certain interesting possibilities.

Not today, though. Today, with luck, we will be released to a springtime which has burgeoned scarce - noticed while parliament plodded through its massive task.

It is enough for now to remember that 51 men and one woman have worked like the very devil to guide and budget our province through another year.

BLACK HOLDS BACK

'Study Only' on Seat Shuffle

The government would only promise "serious consideration" to Opposition pleas for redistribution of the seats in the legislature Thursday.

"I can only say we'll give this serious consideration," Provincial Secretary Wesley Black told the legislature.

He had no promises to make about an overhaul of the Elections Act, either.

The matter will get study, he said.

USE BALL POINTS

David Stupich (NDP—Nanaimo) asked if the act could be amended to allow use of ball point pens on ballots. At present only pencil is permitted.

"If and when the Elections Act is amended, this will certainly be one clause that will be amended," Mr. Black said.

The NDP urged a redistribution study by an independent judicial commission.

David Barrett (NDP—Dewdney) said re-

distribution should be based on population and geographic needs.

He said he realized it would be impossible to achieve a completely balanced representation on population alone.

VICTORIA EXAMPLE

However, he singled out Victoria and his own riding as an example of unfair urban distribution.

Victoria, with one municipal council, and 50,000 voters has three MLAs.

Dewdney, which covers nine municipal councils, and has 38,000 voters, has only one MLA.

Arthur Turner (NDP—Vancouver East) said provincial voting lists had changed tremendously in the last 20 years.

In 1941, Dewdney had only 11,000 voters, he said. Delta had boomed from 16,000 to 73,000, North Vancouver from 14,000 to 49,000, Fort George from 3,500 to 14,000.

Session Expected To End Tonight

The B.C. legislature is expected to wind up its annual session tonight.

Premier W. A. C. Bennett said he "would hope" he can call on Lieutenant-Governor George Pearkes to prorogue the House tonight, although Mr. Pearkes is scheduled to go to Vancouver.

"I'm sure he is available," the premier said.

The session is now in its 42nd day.

Instead of calling a morning session, as he was authorized to do, Mr. Bennett adjourned the House until 2 p.m. today.

All that is left is completion of the budget estimates of Recreation Minister Kenneth Kiernan, debate on a few Opposition resolutions, and third reading for a handful of government bills.

If necessary, the premier said, he will call a session Saturday morning. But it does not appear likely.

\$1.2 Million Bill On BCE Takeover

It cost the taxpayers a total of \$1,294,946 to fight the B.C. Electric takeover in the courts.

The figure was disclosed for the first time Thursday in the legislature by Premier W.A.C. Bennett and Attorney-General Robert Bonner.

They were answering written questions by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan.

Mr. Strachan immediately charged the government with bungling, incompetency and bad legal advice.

Mr. Bennett countered that the takeover was "the diamond in the crown of Social Credit" and had resulted in \$30,000,000 revenue for the province, cheaper light bills, more jobs and the reality of the Peace River power project.

The resulting court case cost B.C. Hydro \$1,048,361 and the attorney-general's department \$246,585.

The case lasted more than a year before Chief Justice Sherwood Lett of the B.C. Supreme Court declared the takeover invalid.

MOST TO LAWYERS

Lawyers got most of the expenses. Accountants and consultants also got large amounts.

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault said the government paid infinitely too much for legal costs.

The premier said he had no second thoughts on the BCE takeover.

"If we hadn't taken it over as we did we still wouldn't control the BCE," he said.

"This is the diamond in the crown of Social Credit."

Largest single payment in Hydro's legal cost was \$214,006 to

the Vancouver law firm of Davis, Hossie, Campbell, Brazier and McLorg.

Victoria lawyers Harman, McKenzie and Murphy got \$50,805 from Hydro.

Utility consulting firm E. Zinder and Associates were paid \$71,381.

Valuation engineers Marshall and Stevens got \$31,611.

The accounting firm of McDonald, Currie and Co. was paid \$54,650.

\$22,158 TO PURDY

Dr. H. L. Purdy, court-appointed receiver for B.C. Electric during the dispute, got \$22,158.

The Royal Trust Co., which acted as trustee for some of the bonds involved, was paid \$49,947.

The B.C. Power Corp., the former owners of B.C. Electric, who launched the action against the government, was paid \$35,979.

Mr. Bennett said that court costs so far in a separate case involving Peace River Power Development Co. total \$5,000. The amount has not yet been paid by Hydro, he said.

The government's lawyer, M. M. McFarlane, got a fee of \$104,329.

Vancouver lawyer D. T. Braidwood got \$47,391 for his part in defending the attorney-general. Toronto accountant G. G. Richardson, who was appointed court assessor to help Chief Justice Lett, got \$21,160.

Mr. Bonner said the government's share of costs represented three years of legal work connected with the takeover, not just the trial.

WOODLANDS APPLICANTS SURVEYED

The B.C. mental health department is making a complete survey of the waiting list for Woodlands school for the retarded.

Health Minister Eric Martin gave this answer to the legislature Tuesday instead of the number of children on the waiting list.

He was answering written questions by Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby).

Mr. Martin said the information on how many are waiting for admission is not available.

"The information is not available since a complete survey of applications of patients awaiting entry is now being undertaken," he said.

Unofficial estimates put the waiting list as high as 800.

HOLDBACK CHARGED ON EXPENSES

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said Thursday the government is intentionally withholding information on election expenses "so we can't adequately discuss them."

He asked Provincial Secretary Wesley Black why he had not answered a question on the order paper asking what election expenses had been declared by each party in the the 1963 election.

"The information has not been given me by the chief electoral officer," Mr. Black replied.

Mr. Strachan said it would be another case where the answer would be tabled just before the House prorogues.

FULL-TIME WELFARE BOSS URGED

A back-bench social welfare minister was urged Thursday night by New Democratic Party welfare critic David Barrett.

"Is this government so weak in the election of 34 members it can't find one soul in that mess of backbenchers to take this job?" the Dewdney New Democrat asked the legislature.

"Surely to goodness one of these fellows could do the job."

He urged a full-time welfare minister to take over from the present holder of the job, Wesley Black, who is also municipal affairs minister and provincial secretary.

SHE VISITS HOUSE**Moran Firing
Flares Briefly**By **FRANK RUTTER**
Times Legislative Reporter

Bridge Moran and the legislature collided in person Thursday night.

The result: explosive debate and the certainty she will never get her job back as a Prince George social worker.

Mrs. Moran sat in the public gallery to hear herself branded disloyal by a Social Credit backbencher.

She heard the Opposition demand to know how and if she could get her job back.

And she heard Welfare Minister Wesley Black refuse to tell the condition she must meet to be rehired.

But she told The Times afterwards: "The condition of my reinstatement is that I do not speak outside the department, and that if I want to speak outside the department, I will resign first.

"I will not make a commitment for the future," she declared.

She was suspended for communicating with the press. Her open letter to Premier W. A. C. Bennett branded his government's welfare services "sick, sick, sick."

"Maybe in three to four years I will feel like doing something again," said the mother of three

children, expecting a fourth this summer.

"I just will not give a commitment.

"I can't give it."

She said she did not understand why Mr. Black did not tell the legislature what the condition of her re-employment is.

But his refusal sparked a furious—though brief—debate in the last hour of the night sitting.

It started when Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) demanded she be rehired.

It was climaxed with a cry from Ernest LeCour (SC—Delta) of "disloyalty" as the reason for her suspension.

"Define it, you nuts," shouted Tony Gargrave (NDP—Mackenzie) but he was made to withdraw the words.

Mr. Black said the suspension is "an administrative problem."

"She has been told by the people I sent up into the area exactly what the situation is.

"When she's ready, willing and able to abide by the situation then she'll be reinstated.

If she's not, she'll have to remain in the situation she is in now."

Black Won't Reveal Condition

Mr. Black denied he had received a recommendation Mrs. Moran be fired.

"The solution of the problem is in the hands of her and the administration," he said.

When Opposition Leader Robert Strachan asked what the "condition" is that she has to meet, Mr. Black replied: "That's a matter between the individual concerned and the administration."

He said she was suspended under Section 67 of the Civil Service Act—for misconduct.

He said Mrs. Moran had the right to appeal to the Civil Service Commission.

Mr. Gargrave said government policy on suspensions affects every civil servant and they have a right to know what the rules are.

He demanded an answer. Mr. Black refused.

"That's just fine with me—I'm prepared to stay here just as long as he is," Mr. Black said.

"I'm not going to take this kind of bullying," he declared.

"I've given an answer—that's all the answer I intend to give."

"I've never heard such evasive conduct in my life," said Alan Macfarlane (Lib.—Oak Bay).

"This is most disgraceful and arrogant situation we've run into here to date."

"Are there secret rules?" asked Mr. Gargrave.

"Disloyalty," shouted Mr. LeCours.

Herbert Bruch (SC—Esquimalt) said civil servants should not be allowed to use information they get on the job to shout to newspapers.

"We're making a fatal mistake," charged North Vancouver Liberal Gordon Gibson. "We're throwing the blame and firing a few privates—you should fire the general right at the top."

And then it was all over—unexpectedly swiftly after an hour and 36 minutes—as the House gave Mr. Black his salary and his budget estimates.

'SERIOUS DOUBTS'

**Gov't Backs Off
On Metro Nudge**

Provincial government attempts to sell municipalities on the virtues of metro government may have been in error, Municipal Affairs Minister W. D. Black said Friday.

He told the legislature, "I must admit I begin to doubt if I was right in trying to develop metropolitanization."

He suggested that out-and-out amalgamation of adjacent municipalities which share common problems might be more advantageous. This has been a recent recommendation by Carl Goldenberg, Canada's foremost expert in municipal affairs, and a former B.C. royal commissioner, said the minister.

Mr. Black said the two cities which have adopted metro form of government, Toronto and Winnipeg, have been plagued with increasing controversy.

Amalgamation is the term given to the forming of one large

city from an urban area and its rural neighbors. Metropolitan government occurs when these same groups continue to operate under their own council governments but join in administration of common matters of concern such as sewerage, water supply and police and fire protection.

NO ACTION

Both have been considered in Greater Victoria for years. The Municipal Act was streamlined in 1957 to make municipal union easier. But neither here nor in Vancouver was any action taken.

Now said Mr. Black, "I have serious doubts whether (metro) is the type of two-tier government we should recommend. We take the attitude we shouldn't stuff (metro) down people's throats whether they want it or not."

He said there is a degree of

metro in the lower mainland now in formation of mutual membership boards.

Arthur Turner (NDP—Vancouver East) reminded the minister that he would not discuss the matter last session because of delicate negotiations then underway. What was going on then, Mr. Turner asked.

FAILED

Mr. Black replied that his department at the time was attempting to persuade local governments of the lower mainland that a metro form of government would be beneficial. He said the attempt was not fruitful. And at this point he wasn't sure it would be the right course to follow.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan urged the government to find out what was the best course and added, "Let's get moving."

NDP BLUEPRINT

**Loans Proposed
As Welfare Aid**

Social welfare loans were advocated Thursday night by the Opposition's welfare critic.

David Barrett (NDP—Dewdney) offered the government a blueprint for welfare which he said could be paid for out of the present departmental budget.

Community social advice offices combining all welfare services.

A determined drive to stop families thriving on welfare aid generation to generation.

Stepped-up training for unemployed people on welfare.

Subsidies to allow elderly people to stay in their family homes.

Mr. Barrett's plan for loans is aimed at what he called the long-term welfare recipient—a person on welfare by accident, by death of the breadwinner, or desertion.

The loan would replace a straight cash handout.

He presented the plan when the legislature debated the welfare department estimates—expected high point of the session.

The debate ran for only an hour and 36 minutes.

Mr. Barrett's plan includes: Subsidies for families who adopt children.

New community facilities for problem children.

Social workers in schools.

A youth conservation corps to provide jobs for school dropouts and adolescents with no job prospects.

EXTRA EARNINGS

Mr. Barrett suggested \$200 a month for a woman with four children, and no penalty for extra earnings up to about \$60 a month.

He called it "a psychological device."

The welfare recipient would get money on the understanding she would repay it any time she was in a position to do so.

Mr. Barrett said the government now gets nothing in return for the money it spends on social welfare—a total budget of over \$33,000,000.

He said his plan could plant such a feeling of self-respect that second-generation children would make an effort to repay the loans, although it didn't matter if the money never came back.

Mr. Barrett said the government's approach to social welfare was punitive and impotent.

"I charge this government with complete and absolute failure in the field of social welfare," he said.

"They have not made one major move to correct or remove the problems brought home to them year after year."

**Settlement
Out for
Peace Power**

The provincial government will not make any settlement with the Wenner-Gren interests for higher compensation for Peace River power plans, Attorney-General Robert Bonner promised Thursday.

"It would not be government policy to settle," he told the legislature.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) asked about a possible settlement for higher payment during debate on a bill allowing Peace River Power Development Co. to appeal its compensation to the courts.

Earlier the NDP had charged the government was going to pay the company more than the \$8,020,328 it received after a 1961 takeover of the Peace plans.

The company is currently fighting the government in the courts.

Mr. Bonner declined to say if there will be any government appeal from any court decision. The new bill is designed to confine court action to the actual amount of compensation.

The bill received third and final reading by a vote of 34 to 14.

WHY DISCRIMINATION?

'Small Towns Have Sundays Too'

BY PETE LOUDON

A Victoria Socred MLA flatted his government Friday for legislating discrimination and inequality.

J. Donald Smith was renewing his previous appeal for open Sundays. But this time he said the issue was more than a request for local option votes to bring about paid admission sports and entertainment on the Sabbath.

This time, Mr. Smith said he was concerned with the principle that was shattered when Vancouver was given privileges which the rest of B.C. was denied.

He said that Vancouver was given local option rights for Sunday sports in 1958 and in 1963 Vancouver was given the privilege of local option for Sunday movies. Now that city

enjoys these recreations while in B.C. generally, they are withheld.

This is inequality and discrimination, he said.

"We've had wars over this. We are going to have more wars, big wars," he added.

He reminded the government of its promise of equal treatment for all. He suggested his colleagues were afraid of the issue, adding, "But, Mr. Chairman, we lost our virginity on this issue in 1958."

Mr. Smith said the Union of B.C. Municipalities in convention at Dawson Creek resolved for Sunday sports almost unanimously. And last year voters in Duncan, Surrey, Richmond and the District of North Vancouver passed plebiscites on the

same question, 70 per cent in favor.

"Vancouver is not a special republic," he said. "I'm promoting equal opportunity, the right of free choice . . . Small towns have Sundays, too," he said quoting a Vancouver newspaper.

He said the people of Victoria, Cowichan-Newcastle and Oak Bay have intelligence and ability to vote on the question.

The House heard him out then went back to consideration of the budgetary estimates of Municipal Affairs Minister W. D. Black. But Mr. Smith said he would bring in a private bill before the session ends, seeking an end to the discrimination against non-Vancouverites.

Cutting Soon In Exchange Timber Deal

Timber tracts in Wells Gray Park recently given logging firms in exchange for other property will soon be cut, Recreation Minister Ken Kiernan said Thursday.

Mr. Kiernan said the tracts, in the Mahood Lake area near the park's southwestern boundary, were traded for shoreline properties on the lake and at Rathrevor Beach near Parksville.

The minister said in an interview on his return from a trip to California that access roads to the tracts in question have been approved by the depart-

ment.

"I believe that construction on them has already begun."

A stipulation in the government's agreement with the logging firms had been that the access roads will be open to the public except when safety reasons dictate otherwise.

OPEN WEEKENDS

"The roads will all be open weekends," he said, "but if the firms find they will need to operate extra-wide equipment there may have to be closures from 8 to 5 daily."

The minister said the department is already improving a road into the south end of the park north of Kamloops and that plans are going ahead for providing campsites and picnicking facilities at Mahood Lake.

Mr. Kiernan said the department has no present plans for further timberland exchanges or for any mining permits within the large park, most of which is completely inaccessible except by plane or on foot.

He said the logging operations will be "closely supervised."

Welfare Gets New Denver Douk School

A one-time school for Sons of Freedom Doukhobors will be turned into a social welfare institution, the legislature was told Thursday.

Welfare Minister Wesley Black said he had been given "the green light" to take over the New Denver school buildings in the Kootenays.

New Denver was built as a compulsory school for Freedomite children in the 1950's when their parents refused to send them to public school.

Mr. Black said his department is studying what use to make of the school. He did not offer any immediate plan.

206 Nurses Quit B.C. Mental Health

Two hundred and six psychiatric nurses resigned from the B.C. mental health department last year, it was disclosed Thursday.

Health Minister Eric Martin gave the figure in answering questions filed in the legislature by Gordon Dowding (NDP—

Burnaby).

Mr. Martin said 59 of the 206 resigned from Woodlands school for the retarded at New Westminster.

A breakdown of the total resignations shows that 92 nurses quit for "personal and family" reasons.

Another 42 left B.C. altogether. Twenty-nine went to other jobs.

Another 19 resigned for "miscellaneous" reasons.

Sixteen went to further their education and eight quit for health reasons.



In Our HOUSE

By Arthur Mayse

British Columbia's lawmakers have picked up their pay-cheques. The Queen's man, on a rainy Friday evening, bade them disperse with Her Majesty's thanks for a labor faithfully accomplished.

Unless some extraordinary circumstance fetches them back to the Italianate chamber with its red carpet and lofty ceiling, it will stand empty until January next.

The session now ended has been called a dull one. At times it was; but there were also moments when the air was charged with ozone.

We had high drama.

Outraged Father

I will not soon forget the night when the outraged father broke through the shell of the politician, and John Tisdalle of Saanich—with an 18-year-old son in Woodlands school for retarded children—flew in the

face of his party's health minister to castigate government for its delays.

We had flashes of razor-edged wit.

"This," said wry, dry New Democrat Alex Macdonald of Vancouver East, "is the worst appointment since Caligula made his horse a pro-consul!"

And intemperate anger:

"Two-bit lawyer!" . . .

"Blackest act in the history of British Columbia!" . . .

"Political hack!" . . .

"Character assassination!"

All this with Speaker's or chairman's gavel banging, and the back bench menagerie giving tongue.

WAC the Master

In actual fact, no session can be truly dull while Premier Bennett remains master of the House.

Here is perhaps the most powerful and politically astute leader British Columbia has yet produced. And while he sits in the plain blue chair with the Leader of the Opposition across from him, Parliament will be his creature.

How much he has helped and harmed his province, only time can answer.

Because of him, or in spite of him, a giant province has wakened belatedly to her destiny. The implications of his Columbia and Peace projects are enormous for good and bad.

Men for Props

He is a charmer and a puzzler. He is also a practical joker whose props are not exploding cigars, but men.

Solemnly, he extols the virtues of Friendship Week, knowing that even as he pon-

tificates, the black clouds gather. The storm breaks—an explosion he has helped provoke—and the premier swings his chair away from the name-slinging clamor to indulge himself in soundless mirth.

With the first session of our 27th Legislature not yet cold, the amazing Mr. Bennett perpetrated his most piquant jest to date.

Walnut Shell

Bypassing Speaker William Murray and deputy speaker William Speare, he

bestowed portfolios upon Brothers of Revelstoke, and Loffmark of Vancouver-Point Grey, a pair whose significant contributions to debate one could file with ease in a walnut shell.

With Comox MLA Dan Campbell's appointment to municipal affairs, I don't quarrel. Mr. Campbell has worked hard and constructively for his riding.

As for Mr. Bennett's decision to make conservation and recreation Kenneth Kiernan's sole portfolio, we can but wait and see. There are signs that Mr. Kiernan has been persuaded into certain changes of heart as regards parkland logging.

But back of his ministers new and old stands the premier—the political enigma, the bossman called "father" by his henchmen, the holder of the strings.

Since this column ends with the session, it's time now to put up the shutters. I'll be back in a week or thereabouts, on the city page.

B.C. House Asks Treaty Be Okayed

By a vote of 35 to 13, the legislature Friday voted in favor of asking the federal government to ratify the Columbia River treaty "without delay."

But the resolution only passed after a heated debate between the government and New Democratic Party.

The Social Credit members accused the NDP of "Communist support" and the NDP retallated with "smear tactics."

Even Premier Bennett got in the act, calling the NDP comments on the resolution a "red herring."

The resolution was moved by Donald Brothers (SC—Rossland-Trail), who said "an unholy trio is opposed to the treaty—the New Democratic Party, Saskatchewan and the Communists."

B.C. Museum To Hire Technicians

The B.C. government plans to hire a staff of technicians before opening a new provincial museum, Recreation Minister Kenneth Kiernan said Friday.

He was answering questions in the legislature by Lois Hagen (NDP—Grand Forks-Greenwood).

She said there are no display technicians on the present museum staff. The government plans to build a new museum by 1967.

Mr. Kiernan said the government recognizes the need for technical staff and would hire some before the museum is completed.

Nuclear Arms 'Deplored' By Legislature

The legislature Friday went on record as deploring nuclear weapons, but not before there was a hassle on how strongly to condemn them.

The NDP originally moved a resolution calling for removal of nuclear weapons from Canadian soil.

It was replaced by an amendment moved by two Socreds which read:

"This House recognizes the right of the federal government to make decisions regarding the defence of Canada but deploras the necessity to use nuclear weapons and urges the government of Canada to make every effort to maintain peace among the nations of the world."

The amendment was approved over the objections of the NDP, which then turned around and voted for it as a new resolution.

72 BILLS IN 42 DAYS

Long Session Splutters Out

By FRANK RUTTER
Times Legislative Reporter

A long but relatively uneventful session of the B.C. legislature ended at 8:45 p.m. Friday.

Lieutenant-Governor George Pearkes prorogued the first session of the 27th Parliament after giving royal assent to 72 bills.

BANK ACT

Most important legislation allows the government to buy up to 25 per cent of the shares in a new chartered bank in B.C.

The session, which had little acrimony during 42 days of debates, managed a final fiery gesture shortly before prorogation with a shouting match between Premier W. A. C. Bennett and Opposition Leader Robert Strachan.

Although it was a post-election session and there were few stormy issues, more words were spoken than in any session since 1962, with 20 night sittings.

MAIN ISSUES

The main issues were parks, social welfare, mental health and the bank.

Of eight new MLAs after the Sept. 30 election, two stood out: David Stupich (NDP—Nanaimo), a versatile and sharp-witted opposition critic, and Ernest LeCours of Delta, an immediate Social Credit rebel.

Yet probably the most effective

speech of the session was made by Saanich Socred John Tisdalle, who in six minutes destroyed a fierce mental health controversy with a simple but stirring plea for action not words.

The only issue to really catch the public imagination was industrial development within provincial parks.

What was widely believed to be a new policy to allow industry into the parks stirred a furious controversy outside the House until Recreation Minister Kenneth Kiernan issued a denial interpreted just as widely as a backdown.

Social welfare was more of a pre-session issue than cause for debate.

The woman who started the row, Mrs. Bridget Moran, arrived in Victoria to attend the welfare debate, which promptly fizzled out in less than two hours.

Another welfare worker, Wallace du Temple, caused a brief stir with a letter to the premier, which led to his resignation being prematurely accepted.

A completely new Mental Health Act was passed changing admission of patients to institutions and setting up community treatment centres.

Health Minister Eric Martin

also announced the government will build a new school for retarded children near Colquitz.

The budget hit a new high—\$395,593,483—with education getting the major share.

But it did not disclose how much money will be invested in the bank.

The Liberal party fought alone against the changes in the Revenue Act which put no limit on the amount of cash to be spent—still a mystery.

Power—the top issue of recent years—faded in 1964. There were a few flurries when the government brought in new legislation validating everything done in the name of public power since the B.C. Electric takeover and allowing court appeal of the compensation paid to Peace River Power Development Co.

Other legislation wipes out all provincial tolls, protects employment rights of workers over 45, revamps the Municipal Act, expands the work of county courts, boosts jury pay and allows the courts to curb exorbitant interest rates.

CIGARETTE WARNING REJECTED BY SOCREDS

Curbs on cigarette advertising were rejected by the B.C. government Friday.

An Opposition-sponsored bill which would have forced a warning message on all cigarette packs was defeated by a voice vote.

The bill was proposed by Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East).

"I would urge that we in B.C. lead the fight," he said.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner said however much sympathy the government had for the bill, it was a different matter to put it into law.

He said there are already at least two avenues open for federal government action on tobacco.

One, he suggested, is the Food and Drug Act which could be extended to cover health hazards from smoking. The other is a federal Tobacco Restraint Act.

NEWCASTLE BRIDGE OUT

A bridge from Nanaimo to Newcastle Island is impractical to build, Recreation Minister Kenneth Kiernan announced Friday.

Mr. Kiernan said the bridge would cost \$600,000 and would have to be 36 feet above high tide to allow clearance for ships.

"This just puts it in the impossible category because of dollars," he told the legislature.

TIMBER CUT UP SHARPLY

B.C. loggers increased their timber cut in January over the same month last year.

Timber scaled in B.C. in January 1964 totalled 114,304,031 cubic feet compared to 99,836,593 in January 1963.

The number of logs exported was reduced from 12,980,468 to 9,685,471 last January. The totals were released by the department of lands, forests and water resources.

Socreds Big Spenders In Election

Social Credit spent more—by a wide margin—than all the other parties combined to win last September's provincial election.

Official campaign expenses for the Sept. 30 vote filed in the legislature Friday night were:

Social Credit \$292,802.
Progressive Conservative \$83,667.

Liberal \$57,915.
New Democratic Party \$49,417.

The most money spent by a single candidate was \$10,738—for Conservative leader Davie Fulton's abortive attempt to wrest Kamloop's from Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi. Mr. Gaglardi spent \$6,810 for victory.

The most money spent by a Social Credit candidate was in Oak Bay where Dr. Charles Ennals failed to unseat Liberal Alan Macfarlane, at a cost of \$7,110.

Mr. Macfarlane's expenses totalled \$5,197.

The least money spent by any candidate was in Columbia where the NDP's expenses for unsuccessful Bev Harris totalled \$62.37.

Premier Bennett spent \$2,908 for Okanagan South.

In Victoria the three unsuccessful Liberal candidates spent \$2,612 apiece. The triumphant Socreds spent \$1,879 each.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1964

NEAR PARKSVILLE

Firm's Profit Hit In Land-Swap Deal

A timber company made a \$36,000 profit in a land-swapping deal with the provincial government, Oak Bay Liberal MLA Alan Macfarlane charged Friday. He termed the deal suspicious.

The company — Clearwater Timber—did not even own the property it exchanged for timber inside a provincial park, Mr. Macfarlane said.

The government obtained what is known as the Rathrevor property near Parksville in exchange for timber worth \$186,000 in Wells Gray Park.

Mr. Macfarlane said Clearwater only paid \$150,000 for the Rathrevor property. The title was not held by the company until after the cabinet had approved the swap, Mr. Macfarlane said.

Mr. Macfarlane said he was opposed to any swaps involving parks.

If the government wanted the Parksville property it should have paid cash to the original owners, the Rath family," he said.

PRICE RAISED

Forests Minister Ray Williston

said he had tried to negotiate such a deal for three years during which the family jacked the price up to \$240,000.

Recreation Minister Kenneth Kiernan accused Mr. Macfarlane of displaying a "belligerent court-room attitude."

He said the timber company would have to spend \$350,000 to build a 30-mile access road into Wells Gray.

FALSE ARGUMENT

Mr. Macfarlane said that was a fallacious argument. The company was getting timber at a very low price—\$1.50 per cubic foot—which was enough compensation for the road.

"I think it's shocking and I fail to understand how the government can let a timber company make a profit like this," he said. "Either somebody was asleep or it was intentionally done."

MAR

1964

Movie Censorship Attacked by MLA

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Dave Barrett Monday night launched an attack on the government's movie censorship branch.

He said the \$33,836 allocated for the branch in the next fiscal year is ridiculous and foolish.

"I would like to decide for myself and my children what movies to see and what ones not to see," said Barrett, the MLA for Dewdney.

Barrett noted that the current censor is a former navy petty officer.

"I'm afraid if the petty officer is promoted or retired we might get a defeated Socred candidate as censor," said Barrett.

"If anything is worse than a censor it's a Socred censor," he added. "Frankly, I don't think you are qualified or that any government is qualified to play Big Brother."

The B.C. censor is Ray McDonald, who has held the post since 1952. Before that he spent two years as assistant censor and previously worked in the federal civil service.

He spent two years in the Royal Canadian Navy during the Second World War.

Gov't Probes Surrender

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The surrender of an escaped prisoner who gave himself up to newspapermen is under investigation by the attorney-general's department.

The legislature was told Monday that Frank Robert Carlow, 27, allegedly was in touch with members of the public 12 hours before he turned himself over to police.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner said if this is the case it is not something to be commended. He mentioned no names.

Carlow and Richard Rodrigues, 28, who is still at large, broke out of a Saanich maximum security jail on Friday.

STUDENTS GET HOUSE PRAISE

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Premier Bennett said Monday that B.C. has the cleverest students it has ever had.

He paid them the compliment in the legislature while acknowledging this as Education Week.

Bennett said about 45 American students from the Spokane area were in the House and would see a different form of government than they were used to.

DROWNING SEQUEL

MLA Urges Licensing Of Boats

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A Kootenay MLA called Monday for licensing of boats used to carry workers across B.C. waterways.

Randolph Harding (NDP, Kaslo-Slocan) also demanded running lights, stricter safety inspections and stiff penalties for offenders.

Harding was commenting on the drowning of seven loggers in Kootenay Lake in January.

He said the small boat ferrying the loggers from Tye to Creston was overloaded and not equipped with safety gear or running lights.

In Creston Monday night, a coroner's jury recommended heavier boats to transport loggers and equipment across the big lake.

It also urged that loading of the boats should be supervised as to the number and placement of passengers and that passengers wear life jackets at all times.

The jury found that logger Reg Bennett, 34, and six others died accidentally when their 15-foot fiberglass outboard boat overturned in a storm.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner said some safeguards might be undertaken by the Workmen's Compensation Board.

He also said the jury's verdict would be passed on to Ottawa because small boat regulations come under the Canada Shipping Act.

'Vancouver Loses Peace Potential'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Vancouver is losing money by not realizing business potential in the Peace River country, the legislature was told Monday.

Trade and Industry Minister Robert Bonner said the area from Prince George north is within the economic orbit of Edmonton.

"This inattention is costing Vancouver hundreds of thousands of dollars a year," Bonner said.

MLA Seeks Legal Aid Surveillance

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — An Opposition lawyer-MLA said Monday the government should watch how its \$50,000 legal aid contribution is doled out.

Harry McKay (Lib., Fernie) cited a personal case to show how the system has been abused.

He successfully defended a woman in the Interior city, acting voluntarily in the needy case.

"I did such a good job that a short time later her husband came to me for help and the case involved two foreclosures," he said.

McKay said he billed the husband for the property work and also charged him for defending his wife.

Earlier, Dave Barrett (NDP-Dewdney) asked how spending of the legal aid money is going to be supervised.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner said that a full-time member of the Law Society of B.C. would screen legal aid applicants and decide which cases warranted help.

Alex Macdonald (NDP-Vancouver East) said the \$50,000, given for the first time this year, should be used to start an office of public defender.

Nanaimo Race Bid Rejected

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The legislature's private bills committee Monday rejected a bid to establish horse racing at Nanaimo.

Chairman Alex Matthew (SC-Vancouver Centre) said the bill presented by the Vancouver Island Turf Association was improperly drawn up.

"It placed too much power in the hands of too few people," he said.

The bill provided for nine shareholders.

Three already named include W. F. Matthews, former Conservative MP for Nanaimo, businessman John Knight, and Douglas Skillings.

The chairman suggested the association should rewrite its bill and submit it again next year.

Matthew's committee approved a bill presented by the B.C. Automobile Association proposing an auto insurance plan through its own company.

Also approved by the committee was a bill to rezone the abandoned Vancouver Lawn Bowling Club's green in Shaughnessy Heights.

It will zone the green for residential lots.

'Criminals Taught To Like Jail Life'

MLA Says Short Terms Known As Instalment-Plan Living

By IAN MACDONALD
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—British Columbia's penal system has taught people to live in jail and like it, according to a New Democratic MLA.

Dave Barrett (Dewdney) claimed in the legislature Monday that some go to jail like a child running to the arms of a loving mother.

He said that short-term sentences are known to criminals as instalment-plan living.

"A man knows he will get three meals a day and a bed to sleep in without any responsibility on himself," Barrett said. "While in jail they have the comforts that most of them haven't got outside."

NEW JAIL 'BLUNDER'

He called Attorney-General Robert Bonner's confirmation that a new 224-unit jail will be built on Vancouver Island a foolish blunder.

Barrett said a forestry camp system would work better and be cheaper for the taxpayers

of B.C.

But he said the province should be thinking more of a widespread switch to the probation system. Barrett is a social worker and a former employee at Haney Correctional Institution.

He maintained jail for short-term offenders is more of a punishment on families of the accused and the taxpayers.

Barrett said B.C. has only 80 probation workers to deal with about 20,000 persons passing through institutions every year.

LITTLE REHABILITATION

Barrett said there is very little rehabilitation work done with the short-term offender, and rehabilitation is the only answer to the problem.

He charged Bonner has fail-

ed to give leadership in dealing with the problem.

Barrett said he would fight tooth and nail against a major jail building. "Forestry camps, yes, major construction, no," he said.

"It is the taxpayer who should be protected and he is not being protected, nor are we getting any kind of rehabilitation program."

MORE PAROLES

Bonner replied that in the last 12 years B.C. has greatly increased the number of people on parole.

He maintained the government is actively moving toward parole, although trained probation officers are hard to get and the Criminal Code sometimes does not allow parole.

Bonner also said a large percentage of offenders are not suitable for parole and a need for institutions remains.

He said the government is not committed to making its new Vancouver Island jail, which will likely be built on crown land near Campbell River, a brick wall institution.

Bonner said the forestry camp system has worked well in B.C. and is far less expensive to operate.

He added that it has been found that putting Indians charged with liquor offences in jail has little effect, and an attempt is being made to place them in forestry camps, where they prove to be good prisoners.

HIGHER CEILING ASKED FOR INDEMNITY FUND

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The \$35,000 ceiling on the Traffic Victims Indemnity Fund is insufficient, the government was told Monday.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan said this amount should be paid if necessary to each victim of an uninsured driver, rather than the maximum for any one accident and its victims.

Strachan said the courts recently awarded \$97,703 to victims of an accident that killed one man and injured five.

Because the driver involved had been drinking his insurance was invalid, and the fund had to pay.

Strachan said, as a result, a widow with three children who had been awarded \$43,642 received only \$11,000.

HUSBAND-HUNTERS 'COULD CUT WELFARE'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—British Columbia needs a squad of fast-moving husband-hunters.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby) said in the legislature Monday he favors investigators to find husbands who have deserted their wives.

He lauded the approach of a group of Vancouver women who have banded together in an effort to make more straying spouses support their families.

Dowding said that in Ontario a group of investigators assigned to find 1,634 such husbands located 41 per cent.

Magistrates' Pay Reviewed

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Salaries of B.C. magistrates are being reviewed, Attorney-General Robert Bonner said Monday.

He said in the legislature that upward revisions are being planned to bring their salaries into line with the service they render.

However, Bonner said the government will have to consult first with municipalities concerned because they pay magistrates' salaries.

"Magistrates' scales in the province generally equate with the Vancouver scale, and they are the busiest magistrates in the province," he said.

Magistrates' salaries vary from centre to centre and range from modest retainers paid in small, remote jurisdictions to the \$10,750 to \$15,000 a year paid to magistrates in Vancouver.

Heathman in East, Legislature Told

VICTORIA (Staff) — Attorney-General Robert Bonner told the legislature Monday confessed child-killer Charles Heathman has been located and is under surveillance in another part of Canada.

Bonner made the announcement — without giving any other details on Heathman's whereabouts—after the handling of Heathman's case was sharply criticized by Mrs. Lois Haggen, NDP member for Grand Forks-Greenwood.

Bonner said outside the legislature that Heathman is in Eastern Canada and beyond the jurisdiction of British Columbia.

He also said no action will be possible against Heathman when he returns to B.C.—if he stays out of the province for the remainder of the six-month probation period he was placed on when released from Essondale Mental Hospital.

RCMP superintendent W. H. Nevin, who directed the police search for Heathman on orders of the attorney-general's department, would not comment.

Heathman, committed to Essondale by a court order in

May, 1962, was released Feb. 11. He disappeared from the home of his Vancouver sponsor Feb. 19. He was at first believed to have fled to the United States.

Heathman's release from Essondale was authorized by a two-man board of medical doctors who reviewed his case at his request as is provided under the Mental Hospitals Act.

Both Bonner and Dr. Bruce F. Bryson, superintendent of Essondale, said at the time Heathman was on six months probation, subject to control only in B.C.

STORM OF PROTEST

Heathman's release by the review board sparked a storm of public protest including a 1,500-name petition signed by the citizens of Vernon.

Heathman was twice convicted of the sex slaying of newsboy Donald Ottley, 10, of

Vernon, in September, 1960, but both convictions were quashed by the B.C. Court of Appeal.

Heathman then confessed to the crime to The Sun. He again admitted it when arrested afterwards in Seattle. He repudiated both confessions when he appeared before the magistrate who found him mentally ill and ordered him committed to Essondale.

There had been no suggestion Heathman had been located until the handling of his case came under fire by Mrs. Haggen, who asked what society could do to protect itself from a man who has displayed an habitual and chronic pattern of human misbehavior.

She said she realized Heathman couldn't be kept in Essondale on the basis of a 1,500-name petition from the citizens of Vernon.

'LOOSE ON SOCIETY'

"Now he (Heathman) has broken probation and is loose on society again, nobody knows where he is, and the attorney-general says he can do nothing about this," she complained.

Bonner said he felt much of the publicity given to Heathman was based on a misconception about his reputation. He stressed there was no record of sexual deviation.

Bilk Branch Urged

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Liberal leader Ray Perrault asked the government Monday to establish a consumer's affairs branch to combat bilk artists.

He said that with the pace of construction in the province, shysters are coming into B.C. on every train.

"It's time to take preventive action," he told the legislature. "Fraud blooms in the spring."

Perrault suggested the government hire a woman to head

the consumer division because women are aware of consumer affairs and make 80 per cent of the buying decisions.

Perrault said the division he proposed could work closely with the Better Business Bureau, the Canadian Association of Consumers, the Women's Institute, and could advise the government on matters affecting consumers.

Angus MacInnis, CCF Pioneer, Dies

In Victoria Monday, the legislature observed a minute's silence in tribute to the CCF pioneer.

Premier W. A. C. Bennett said: "I am sure I express the feelings of all the people of B.C., regardless of party, that Angus MacInnis was an outstanding citizen for B.C. and Canada.

"He served the city of Vancouver well in Parliament for many years and he will be greatly missed. Our con-

ferences go out to his widow."

STRACHAN'S IDOL

New Democratic leader Robert Strachan said: "He has been my idol since I joined this party. He was an example to every elected member in absolute honesty and absolute integrity."

Liberal leader Ray Perrault said: "He was a great man who made a notable contribution to the public life of Canada. He was a man of staunch principle."

CAPITAL COLUMN

Bennett Pretends Not to Tune In

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—Premier Bennett sits in his blue leather swivel chair in your legislature reading, writing, chatting, dreaming his big dreams, but always with an ear open as to what's being said on the other side of the House.

The citizens in the public galleries, come hither to be instructed or amused, are quite sure the premier's not listening, and they think it very rude of him. Indeed, the premier is listening—it's only that he pretends he's not.

In this way he can, when he chooses, and for his own political reasons, ignore what is to him the ceaseless, nonsensical chatter of dirty politics from across the crimson-carpeted no-man's-land that separates government folk and oppositionists.

It's to be noted that, if really needed, and seeing the chance to make a high-sounding speech extolling the virtues of Social Credit, the premier jumps up right away and, arms waving, off he goes, while a second before he was pretending not to be hearing a word from those people who would turn him out of the seats of the mighty.

Every now and then the premier takes off his specs, chews lightly on the handles, looks calmly and appraisingly all around the House. That's so he can know who's in and who's out, who's paying attention and who is not. In this way the premier sizes up future cabinet material.

Backbench government supporters would do well by themselves to always appear alert, for one never knows when the premier might add to his ministry. It's the quiet laudable ambition of every backbencher to some day be a cabinet minister and who can blame them?

There's not much the premier ever misses, though there are times when he deliberately, and for reasons known only to himself, puts on the Dumb Dora act. It's the old story about there being none so dumb as those who will not hear.

Liberal Gordon Gibson of North Vancouver, who secretly admires the premier's get-up-and-go, says that every time an oppositionist rises to talk that dictator Bennett turns his back and stomps out of the chamber because in the Gibson view he's afraid to hear.

NDP Mrs. Lois Haggan of Grand Forks - Greenwood says the premier really does very well, sitting hour after hour, he being, she observed, such a very busy man, at the beck and call of everyone, and all that.

It's no wonder the premier thinks Mrs. Haggan a most charming lady. He'd like her on his side so he could make her a cabinet minister. It's always good politics to have

a woman cabinet minister — the women's vote, you know.

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault, making a long, statistics-studded speech on trade, showing he'd been burning the midnight oil, said Robert Bonner's not a bad industrial development minister, being energetic and enjoying his job.

Mr. Perrault apparently doesn't think so much of Bonner as attorney-general and advised the premier to find a new chief law officer. The premier, quietly, just went Ha-Ha-Ha. He has no intention whatsoever of finding a new A.G. unless Bonner wants it that way, and there's certainly no indication of that. The two B's—Bennett and Bonner — are absolutely solid in their togetherness.

The premier is never happier than when the oppositionists fall out and start scrapping among themselves, Messrs. Perrault and Robert Strachan snarling at each other.

When Liberals and NDPers jeer one toward the other, and brawl in wordy wars of political enmity, the premier beams in political joy, he just sitting there and beaming.

The bickering between these two opposition groups, banded together only by dislike of Social Credit, are as sweet mandolins and bird song at dawn to our premier.

If only he could rid the House of those pesky Liberals how really joyful he'd be. He has eliminated Conservatives entirely, but those Liberals keep hopping back, though not enough of them to do much more than get under the premier's political skin.

'FAR DOWN LIST'

Nimsick Comes Out Against Sex

Sun Victoria Bureau
VICTORIA — The place of sex in marriage was pondered Tuesday in the legislature. "It should be far down on the list," maintained Leo Nimsick (NDP-Cranbrook).

"It isn't the be-all and end-all of marriage," he said.

"Well, what would you put at the top of the list?" called out a government backbencher.

Nimsick paused for a moment and then plowed on with his suggestion that schools should give a marriage course.

He told the laughing members that it wasn't funny and that something should be done to try to stop breaking up of homes.

"We shouldn't wait until the horse is out of the barn," he contended as the House howled.

Nimsick said there should be a marriage course to teach budgeting, looking after a family and housekeeping.

"I think we should give consideration to solving some of these problems early in life and not wait until . . ." floundered Nimsick.

"Until the horse is out of the barn," chimed in a member.

B.C. Better On Teachers — Peterson

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Education Minister Les Peterson calls the teacher shortage less acute in B.C. than elsewhere in Canada.

But he admitted it exists and is not likely to improve much in the immediate future because of increases in school population.

Peterson said B.C. training institutions produced 1,096 teachers last year and are expected to turn out 1,265 this year.

Peterson told the legislature Tuesday B.C. has the most qualified and highest-paid teachers in Canada.

He said the wages help attract teachers from other provinces.

Peterson also said a large percentage of high-school future-teacher club members are entering teaching.

Morticians Should Hail Me—MLA

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Alex Macdonald says B.C. morticians let him down.

His attack in the legislature on the high cost of funerals in B.C. should have been applauded by undertakers, Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) said Tuesday.

He said they should have welcomed his efforts to resist high costs and commercialism in funerals.

Macdonald said last week the average funeral in B.C. costs \$837.

"I was referring to total burial costs," Macdonald said. "When you consider cemetery costs and the kind of caskets being sold you will find these costs run very high indeed."

He said these costs are not controlled, as the morticians claim, and added the charge that his ideas are a step toward non-Christian communism is ridiculous.

"I want simple but reverent Christian burials," said Macdonald.

'Supp' Exams Thing of Past

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Junior matriculation supplemental examinations are a thing of the past, the legislature was told Tuesday.

Education Minister Les Peterson confirmed that the supplementals, dropped for the first time in 1963, will not be restored.

Various groups have pressed for restoration, but Peterson said the provincial board of examiners felt they were not good for students trying for a second time within months to meet university entry qualifications.

He said last year an adjudicating committee raised 664 students to pass level in junior and senior matriculation examinations. Peterson added only 712 wrote supplementals the previous year.

TAUNT TOSSED OVER STEACY

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — An Opposition MLA asked Tuesday how everything is going at British Columbia House in San Francisco.

"How is that politically set-up house where we managed to pension off one of our defeated candidates?" asked Leo Nimsick (NDP-Cranbrook), referring to former Socred agriculture minister Newton Steacy, now commissioner of trade and tourism at B.C. House.

A \$38,493 budget for operation of B.C. House in the next fiscal year was included in total trade department estimates of \$1,013,961 that were approved by the legislature Tuesday.

PULP SMELL LINGERS ON

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Canadians use Swedish air-purification techniques, and the Swedes use Canadian methods, but the smell from pulp mills lingers on.

Trade Minister Robert Bonner told the legislature Tuesday that at the moment there is no surefire solution to a world-wide problem.

He said B.C. Research Council is doing research. "But the day they or any other body can announce complete control will be a happy one for the world," Bonner said.

B.C. Urged to Hike Rural Student Aid

VICTORIA (CP) — Members on both sides of the B.C. legislature suggested Tuesday night that the province boost its aid to university students from rural areas.

The suggestion, first made by Ralph Loffmark (SC, Vancouver-Point Grey) was quickly picked up by several opposition members, including John Squire (NDP, Alberni) and Randolph Harding (NDP, Kaslo-Slocan).

Loffmark said that as a native of a rural area he was well aware of the added costs such as board faced by rural students attending college.

He asked Education Minister Peterson "to consider the possibility of making a financial adjustment re city and country students so that the difference in costs might be taken into account."

Peterson said allowance for board costs was already being made in calculating bursary payments, which had been made to 1,373 students last year.

Squire maintained later, however, that the bursary system doesn't begin to meet the need.

He said the rural taxpayer pays his full share of uni-

versity buildings erected by the province.

Prison of Huts Eyed for Island

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A new medium-security jail to house inmates in huts rather than cells is being planned for Vancouver Island.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner said today nothing is on paper yet, but authorities are considering a setup for about 224 prisoners.

It will be built in the Campbell River-Courtenay area within six months, he said.

The attorney-general's department is using the vacated Colquitz mental home in Saanich, near Victoria, as a temporary island jail.

The government is investigating a prisoner's complaints about Colquitz conditions.

Frank Carlow escaped with a second man and then surrendered to a newspaperman and photographer to tell his story.

Bonner said the jail likely

will be similar to the prison forest camps that hold minimum-security inmates.

But there will be fencing around it, he said.

The forest camp huts will be barless and pretty plain, Bonner said.

The island jail will relieve overcrowding at Oakalla in Burnaby.

Bonner Criticizes Traders' Inertia

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — British Columbia secondary manufacturers are not geared psychologically to think about trading abroad, the legislature was told Tuesday.

Trade Minister Robert Bonner said they are slow to move and it is difficult to interest them in expanding their horizons and opportunities.

"There is a great deal of inertia," Bonner said. "It is difficult to persuade them to look out from what they are doing."

Bonner said some almost had to have their arms twisted to exhibit at a sample show a few years ago to which the federal government flew in U.S. West Coast buyers.

He told the House that the department of trade and industry is doing all it can to have more secondary industry established in B.C.

Before the House passed the \$1.03 million estimate for the department, the sum was called too low by Liberal leader Ray Perrault.

He said there should be a full-time trade and industry minister. Bonner also is the attorney-general.

Perrault called for increased liaison with Ottawa to bring industry to B.C., and suggested relaxation of the sales tax and other concessions in certain areas.

He suggested the government consider building a railway from the coal fields in the Naas and Stikine valleys of northern B.C. to Stewart and Prince Rupert to increase exports to Japan.

B.C.? What's That? Britons Ask MLA

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Tell folks abroad you're from B.C. and you'll draw a blank.

John Squire (NDP-Alberni) said he found out during a trip to Britain last year that foreigners don't know where the province is.

"If you mention B.C. you're beat," said Squire. "But tell them Vancouver and they know where you're from."

Squire was speaking in the legislature Tuesday during discussion of trade and industry department spending estimates, which included \$75,000 for advertising publicity.

Premier Bennett said residents travelling abroad should say they are from British Columbia, not B.C.

"They think that's Boston College or something," he said.

Squire said he tried British Columbia and some people mistook it for British Guiana, in South America.

He said it would be a wise investment for the government to publicize the province.

Gov't to Farm Out Mental Treatment

Opposition Raps Proposal As 'Do-It-Yourself' Policy

By IAN MacALPINE
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The provincial government announced plans Wednesday to withdraw gradually from mental health treatment and turn the field over to local agencies.

Enabling legislation introduced in the legislature calls for establishment of public community mental health centres, an overhaul of existing mental health laws and new safeguards against wrongful committal to mental institutions.

It also takes away from the courts the power to order admissions to mental health centres and places this authority solely in the hands of the hospital superintendents.

Health Minister Eric Martin said the concepts contained in the new Mental Health Act are the most radical approach to mental health treatment in the Western world.

Martin said officials spent three years drafting the bill and studied mental health legislation in England, the United States, Ontario and Saskatchewan.

The bill's provisions will not be brought into effect by the cabinet until proper arrangements have been worked out, he said.

Basically, the bill is designed to encourage establishment of locally-developed and locally-operated mental health services.

Martin said at a press conference the legislation carries out the government's policy of extending full co-operation and assistance to any society that wants to set up mental health services.

He said that publicly-owned mental health units are best for treating patients.

Much of the new act hinges on expansion of the federal-provincial health scheme, however.

Federal-provincial agreement is necessary to finance operation of the proposed community units in the same way the B.C. Hospital Insurance Service now pays for general hospital care, he said.

Only acute mental care provided by general hospitals is now covered by BCHIS.

CONSTRUCTION GRANTS

Martin said the scheme will include the present system of senior-government construction grants.

But he said he hopes for a larger federal contribution to ease the financial burden on communities.

Under the present system, the federal government pays only between 12 and 15 per

cent of hospital construction costs, he said. The provincial government pays half the cost and communities the remaining 35 per cent.

Martin said he has no doubt that several societies will act on the government's new legislation which will permit establishment of community mental hospitals in the same way that general hospitals are set up.

To encourage this decentralization, the bill will allow the government to turn over some of its facilities to societies prepared to run them.

The minister said that eventually the government would be involved in mental health only for the purposes of financing and supervising.

The bill also sets out new procedures for admissions and committals to B.C. mental institutions.

The review panel which determines if a patient should be released will include two psychiatrists, rather than two medical doctors.

The panel was originally constituted with two medical doctors in the early 1940s, at a time when there was a general feeling of mistrust toward psychiatrists, Martin said.

This situation no longer exists. "We respect them now," he said.

Under the present Mental Hospitals Act, persons seeking voluntary admission to hospital must make written application and submit a doctor's certificate.

The new bill will simply allow the person's doctor to call the mental hospital and make the necessary arrangements with the superintendent, as they do now with patients entering general hospitals.

And individuals who enter a mental institution voluntarily will be able to leave the hospital within 72 hours of notifying the superintendent.

The legislation will protect the civil liberties of persons who are committed to mental hospitals.

It will eliminate the need for a judicial committal order. Persons will be committed on the basis of two medical certificates.

However, would-be patients will be able to appeal attempts to admit them to hospitals before they are actually committed.

MLA Raps Anti-Clergy Teaching Law

By IAN MACDONALD
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — An 1876 law prohibiting clergymen from teaching in B.C. schools is archaic and should be repealed, the legislature was told Wednesday.

John Squire (NDP-Alberni) maintained a clergyman has as much right to teach as a partisan politician.

He said there are safeguards to ensure that neither religious nor political dogmas are taught.

Squire said it is particularly stupid when a minister is denied even the right to teach adult night classes.

Squire was referring to the case of Rev. Bruce M. Fleming, of Alberni, who was prevented last year from acting as a substitute teacher because of the regulation.

The member did not refer in the House to Fleming by name but said he was speaking on behalf of all ministers. He said it is not a case involving the question of church and state.

Squire said he would not suggest that Social Credit MLA Dan Campbell (Comox) a teacher, be denied the right to teach because he also engages in partisan politics.

Education Minister Les Peterson said he intended to make no suggestions of a change in the law, although he suggested a relaxation considering adult education might be considered by school boards.

PILOT ITALIAN COURSE STUDIED FOR SCHOOLS

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Education Minister Les Peterson sees the possibility of a pilot program of Italian in the school system.

Peterson said a brief proposing this is under study by his department.

"There may be a good possibility of Italian being introduced," Peterson said in reply to a repeated request by Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East).

Victoria Social Credit member Donald Smith said B.C. has more Chinese than many other racial groups and asked about the possibility of Chinese being taught, too.

Peterson made no reply.

MATH TEXT FOILS TWO

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A school teacher and the education minister agreed Wednesday that new mathematics text books are fine for children but tough on parents.

Teacher Ran Harding (NDP-Kaslo-Slocan) who admitted he isn't a mathematics specialist, and Education Minister Les Peterson said in the legislature they have had their troubles with the text.

University Fire Protection Hit

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The oldest vehicle on the University of B.C. campus belongs to the fire department, the legislature was told Wednesday.

Tony Gargrave (NDP-Mackenzie) said protection offered by the university's own department is inadequate.

Arthur Turner (NDP-Vancouver East) said the best arrangement might be for Vancouver fire department to provide protection. Education Minister Les Peterson agreed.

Bouquets, Brickbats

Council's action came as part of a mixture of bouquets and brickbats being thrown at the government's plan from all sides.

The New Democratic Party's mental health critic blasted it as a brazen abandonment of the government's responsibilities in favor of a do-it-yourself mental health service.

A number of lay and professional people in the mental health field hailed it as an enlightened step that will improve methods of treating the mentally ill.

Gordon Dowding, MLA for Burnaby, who made his comments outside the legislature, was most critical of the new policies governing admissions of mental patients, including children trying to get into Woodlands School at New

Westminster.

(The new act would give the director of the institution the final say as to whether or not a patient should be admitted. He could, if he wished, ignore doctors' certificates, and even court orders.)

"From now on suitable accommodation will be at the pleasure of the minister of finance," Dowding said. "The patient will be at the mercy of the whims of bureaucracy save where he is dangerous to be at large."

Dowding also complained the act makes no provision for mental hospital facilities for emotionally disturbed children.

"The Sacred government has again displayed its unwillingness to meet the need of emotionally disturbed children," he said. "This government will

continue its policy of allowing young children with emotional problems to drift through childhood until they can be placed in mental hospitals when adult."

Dowding charged the legislation places too much discretion with the cabinet to make law and regulate the act.

"This is a dangerous and unnecessary transfer of powers from the legislature at the expense of the patients and the community," he said.

Timber Bid Blackmail Denied

VICTORIA (CP) — A Vancouver man said Thursday his former partners in a timber firm have wrongly accused him of "blackmail bidding," and had subjected him to "five years of hell."

W. J. Swetnam was testifying under protection of the Canada Evidence Act before the legislature's select committee on forestry.

He said he was appearing to reply to accusations made against him and his son Robin by Samuel Ketcham of Williams Lake and brothers William and Henry of Seattle in an earlier submission to the committee.

Swetnam told how in 1957 he had agreed to give the Ketchams, owners of adjacent timber tracts, controlling interest in the West Fraser group of seven timber companies near Williams Lake. In exchange, the Ketchams were to operate the firms.

POINT CONFIRMED

He said that following the province's institution of a quota system to prevent timber depletion, the Ketchams managed to reduce West Fraser timber quotas from 80 million board feet to about seven million without his knowledge.

This had been accomplished, he said, by the Ketchams' putting West Fraser quotas up for bid and then entering a bid on behalf of Twomple Planing Mills Ltd., a firm they wholly owned.

Deputy Forests Minister R. G. McKee, present at the hearing, confirmed that the West Fraser holdings had not been bid upon by West Fraser and that the timber had been sold at the forest service's "upset" (reserve bid) price.

Swetnam said that he had moved to Vancouver in 1957 and that at no time had it occurred to him that the practice was going on.

OPTION EXERCISED

He said he continued as a director of West Fraser until the Ketchams exercised an option to purchase the minority interest in January, 1962.

He said the period 1957 to 1962 had been to him "five years of hell."

Swetnam said he had decided last year that he had the right to try to re-establish himself in the Williams Lake area by bidding on timber sales from Ketcham quotas.

He said he bid on three sales put up by the Ketchams last year. In each case he had bid considerably above the upset price but low enough to make a profit on the logging operation.

"I don't feel I have been guilty of any blackmail bidding," he said.

Sewage Tiff Over, Martin Believes

VICTORIA (CP) — Health Minister Eric Martin said Thursday night the chief medical officer of health for the West Kootenays is "on holiday" following a dispute in which at one point he was asked to resign.

Replying in the legislature to Opposition leader Strachan, Martin said the situation concerning the officer, Dr. James McAnulty, "has been clarified."

"I hope he will go back to his job with an attitude which will enable him to carry out his work to everyone's satisfaction."

POLLUTION DENIED

Strachan also asked the minister to comment on Dr. McAnulty's contention that the planned construction of a sewage lagoon to serve the Castlegar area would involve pollution of the Columbia River and constitute a menace to health.

Martin replied that Castlegar council's decision in favor of the lagoon rather than a more expensive treatment plant recommended by Dr. McAnulty, had the support of the health department.

Another speaker, William Hartley (NDP—Yale) blamed doctors and lack of a government health plan for the crowded condition of British Columbia's hospitals.

QUALIFIES PATIENT

Hartley said the doctors are filling the hospitals with patients who could be treated at home.

But treatment in the hospitals qualified the patient for free services under hospital insurance and made the doctor's work easier and more lucrative.

During the debate David Barrett (SC—Dewdney) said that his Social Credit opponent was chosen by the government to announce a new hospital addition for Haney during the election campaign.

He described the action as "a foolish move to get a few lousy votes."

Premier Bennett objected that no vote "of any citizen of this province is lousy."

Oil Firms Seek Levy For Roads

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C. oil and gas companies Thursday sought the legal right to levy capital and maintenance costs against other industries using their roads.

The request was a key point in a brief submitted to the legislature's public access committee by the B.C. division of the Canadian Petroleum Association.

The brief said nearly all main trunk roads built by oil and gas firms in northeastern B.C. are used by other industries.

But no company now has the legal right to regulate road use for the purposes of safety and maintenance, or to compel sharing of road construction costs.

The association said voluntary private agreements are made between road users, but there are cases where agreement is not possible because the road builder lacks title.

The association suggested the government grant formal licence of occupation or easement to the builder so all users could be forced to contribute to road costs.

PETERSON JOB 'WORTH NIL'

VICTORIA (CP) — It took more than six hours Thursday for the legislature to approve giving Leslie Peterson nothing as minister of labor.

Peterson's \$15,000-a-year ministerial salary is paid him in his capacity as education minister.

Opposition leader Strachan, drawing attention to the "blank" opposite the minister's salary as labor minister, said: "There are some who would say that the amount paid under this vote is about what the government's policies are worth."

Bennett 'Admirer' Liked Capone Too

VICTORIA (CP) — Gordon Gibson (Lib.—North Vancouver) objected in the legislature Thursday to a newspaper column in which he was referred to as "a secret admirer of Premier Bennett."

Bennett jumped to his feet and agreed with a smile: "It's no secret. Everybody knows it."

Said Gordon: "I won't say how I admire him, but you know Al Capone did a pretty good job of robbing banks, and I might have admired him for that, too."

The column was written by veteran legislative reporter, James K. Nesbitt in The Sun on Thursday.

FRIDAY, MAR. 6, 1964

Premier Stirs Up Storm Calling MLA a Red Leader

By IAN MacALPINE
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier Bennett called a New Democratic MLA a Communist leader in the legislature Thursday.

The comment apparently was made jokingly, for after he said it the premier swivelled around in his chair and smiled at his cabinet cohorts.

Nevertheless, the House exploded into uproar and bitter argument that ran on 15 minutes after normal adjournment time.

Members were debating labor department spending estimates, and all was relatively peaceful.

John Squire (NDP-Alberni) said there was a possibility of Red leaders getting back into unions.

"We're going to have the same people back in the industry as in 1948 when the IWA cleared out the Com-mies," he said.

This is happening because union leaders are shackled by

restrictive legislation, Squire said.

Labor Minister Leslie Peterson said he was surprised to hear Squire say that union leaders were not able to handle their problems.

"I want to say those problems do not exist among the great mass of membership," said Peterson. "A great many leaders devote their time on membership and not on politics."

Herb Bruch (SC—Esquimalt) rose and complained that union leaders are spending more time on politics than on the needs of their members.

This brought an angry denial from Tony Gargrave (NDP-Mackenzie), a member of the International Wood-workers of America for 16 years.

"We've had enough black-shirted ideas from the member for Esquimalt," said Gargrave.

Just then Premier Bennett entered the House and made an inaudible remark as he took his seat.

"Mr. Premier, please keep out of this argument," said Gargrave.

"I won't keep out of it," snorted Bennett.

"Take your seat. You've been absent all day," returned Gargrave.

"This Communist leadership can say what they like," Bennett retorted.

"The premier has always had a policy of bullying in this House," Gargrave shouted. Gargrave demanded that Bennett withdraw his remark about Communist leadership.

"I'll withdraw if you take back blackshirts," Bennett bargained.

Committee chairman William Speare (SC—Cariboo) ordered Gargrave to withdraw his statement.

"I accept your ruling and willingly withdraw," said Gargrave, demanding that Bennett do the same.

"I'll gladly withdraw," Bennett beamed.

MLAs Level Guns At Strike Clause

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — An Opposition MLA says use of Section 55 of the Labor Relations Act is a threat to the bargaining strength of trade unions.

Tony Gargrave (NDP-Mackenzie) levelled the charge in the legislature Thursday during debate on labor department spending.

Section 55, enacted in 1961, gives the minister of labor authority to take employer or employee settlement offers during strikes directly to the other party. Said Gargrave:

"If the minister uses it unwisely, great harm could be done to unions."

Rae Eddie (NDP-New Westminster) said:

"It is a strike-baiting

weapon".

Alex Macdonald (NDP-Vancouver East) said:

"It's a weapon in the hands of the employer."

SCHOOL BONDS SOLD IN U.S.

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Five million dollars worth of school district capital financing authority debentures have been sold at a rate of 4.93 per cent, Premier W. A. C. Bennett announced Thursday.

The coupon rate on the 20-year debentures, payable in United States funds, is 4.75 per cent. The debentures will be dated April 1, 1964, and mature in 20 annual instalments to 1984, said Bennett, who is also finance minister.

SOCRED URGES 40-HOUR LAW

Sun Victoria Bureau
VICTORIA — A Socred MLA Thursday urged the government to legislate a 40-hour work week in B.C.

Bert Price (Vancouver-Burrard) said if this were done workers wouldn't have to go to the expense of joining unions. The government allows a 44-hour work week.

"Unless the 40-hour week is established by law it will help to force people into the ranks of labor unions," said Price.

FRIDAY, MAR. 6, 1964

'Stubble Jumpers' Hit by Skillings

'Force From Saskatchewan Swells B.C. Jobless Toll'

By IAN MACDONALD
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A Social Credit MLA Thursday blamed Saskatchewan stubble-jumpers for part of B.C.'s unemployment problems.

Waldo Skillings (Victoria) made the charge during cross-fire debate of labor department estimates in the legislature.

NDP spokesmen maintained government policies were doing nothing for employable people on social welfare and said B.C.'s problems are mounting.

"We have all these stubble-jumpers here from Saskatchewan," Skillings interjected.

The remark went unnoticed by the opposition.

'LOOKING DOWN'

Leo Nimsick (NDP, Cranbrook) accused Point Grey Socred and University professor Ralph Loffmark and other government MLAs of looking down on welfare recipients.

The exchange was touched off when Nimsick accused the government of doing nothing to get welfare recipients back to work.

Nimsick said normal expansion of industry will not provide jobs for these people, many of whom are unskilled and not young.

He said the government, instead of underspending on its estimates, should institute special projects such as park development to put them back to work.

'EDUCATE THEM'

"You are trying to build up your reserves and letting

these people rot on social welfare," Nimsick charged.

"Education, not charity," called out Loffmark.

"What is social welfare but charity?" Nimsick replied. "I am talking about people beyond education."

"They are not," Loffmark said.

Nimsick said he was referring to people in their mid-30s and 40s with families.

SCRAP GOES ON

"It's never too late," Loffmark shouted.

Rosland - Trill Socred Donald Brothers chipped in: "You want us to scrap our vocational schools?"

"There's another dud remark from people who have gone to university," Nimsick answered.

"These aren't remarks you might expect from somebody with an education," he added.

"These people with education look down on people on welfare."

John Squire (NDP, Alberni) said Loffmark was wrong when he maintained education is going to solve all the problems of the world.

"Some of these people can hardly speak English—maybe in their 40s and 50s — and he is talking about putting them into school after they have helped pioneer the country," Squire said.

SATURDAY, MAR. 7, 1964

Bill Changes Municipal Polling Day

Saturday Vote, Noise Control in Revised Act

By IAN MacALPINE
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—New legislation will shift B.C.'s municipal voting day to Saturday and give councils power to prohibit noise.

These are the key points in a 73-part revision of the Municipal Act, introduced in the legislature Friday.

The amendments also provide for new business licensing and regulation procedures; greater security for senior municipal employees; referendum votes at any time of the year; and special tax provisions for cemeteries and golf courses.

They contain no concession to municipalities seeking the right to hold paid Sunday

sports and entertainment.

The Municipal Act regulates all municipalities in the province except Vancouver, which operates under its own charter.

The change in voting day was made at the request of the Union of B.C. Municipalities, department spokesmen explained later at a press conference.

Existing law calls for a Thursday vote in the week following nomination day, which is held on the last Mon-

day of November.

Bill 67, given first reading following introduction by Municipal Affairs Minister Wesley Black, calls for balloting on Saturday in the week following nominations.

Another amendment will permit municipalities to hold land title referendums at any time during the year, rather than just at annual elections.

Test Case Result

The Municipal Act now allows municipalities to regulate noise by bylaw.

But a new amendment will give them complete power to prohibit noise within their boundaries.

Spokesmen said the amendment is the result of a test case in New Westminster last year in which the courts upset a city bylaw which officials tried to use to quell industrial noise.

The new section says that municipalities can pass bylaws to prohibit noises or sounds on highways and land within their borders that disturb or tend to disturb the quiet, peace, rest, enjoyment, comfort or convenience of the

neighborhood

The amendment will also permit councils to invoke this authority over individuals who, in council's opinion, are objectionable or liable to disturb peace and quiet.

The penalty section of the Municipal Act sets no limits, but provides for a fine, imprisonment, or both.

Summary dismissal of Burnaby's planner and engineer last year prompted an amendment that officials said will give more protection to senior municipal employees.

Present law says that employees can be dismissed without notice for cause.

A new section calls for termination on reasonable notice and then only by an affirma-

five vote by two-thirds of council.

Four amendments relate to municipal borrowing.

They state that municipalities must first get approval of money bylaws from the inspector of municipalities before passage; limit borrowing interest to a maximum six per cent; and provide for temporary financing between passage of bylaws and sales of debentures.

There are 17 amendments dealing with business licensing and regulation procedures.

They define the classifications of non-resident businesses that do not require municipal licences, including taxis, movers, insurance men, doctors and lawyers, and travelling salesmen.

Trade Areas Provided

The changes also provide for setting up inter-municipal trading areas for the purpose of licensing; and removal of municipal authority to impose a general tax millrate on landlord and tenant fixtures and machinery.

The amendments will instead permit municipalities to impose a business tax of up to 10 mills on machinery and fixtures.

Cemeteries in use or designated for use by the Public Utilities Commission will be tax exempt under the proposed legislation.

At the same time, owners of land reserved for future use as a cemetery or golf course

will be able to enter into special agreements with municipalities.

Lower tax rates will apply to these properties if the owners guarantee to hold them in reserve for at least 10 years.

Other amendments will allow municipalities to enact bylaws requiring that fences be built around private swimming pools; state that persons who are members of council or employees of the municipality, except a mayor or reeve, may not be appointed to the board of police commissioners; and gives councils the right to regulate setting off firecrackers.

Theo Adams, of New Westminster, executive director of

the UBCM, said the amendments are in line with UBCM thinking.

However, he said the UBCM would probably be disappointed that there was no provision for paid Sunday sports and entertainment.

BILL PERMITS JUDGE TO CURB HIGH INTEREST

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Attorney-General Robert Bonner said Friday a new provincial law will curb interest rates.

The bill, given unanimous approval in principle by the legislature, makes it possible for a judge to change excessive interest rates.

Bonner said he believed the act will be better than one requiring all details of a loan to be disclosed on the contract. Liberal leader Ray Perrault maintained full disclosure should have been included.

'LIKE HENRY VIII'

Opposition Battles Hydro Act

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The B.C. Hydro Act ran into tough opposition in the legislature Friday.

Liberals and New Democrats united to fight three clauses of the bill which they say give too much power to the cabinet and hydro authority.

The bill is proclamatory, a stop-gap measure that can be brought into force if court rulings invalidate existing legislation.

The opposition members objected to a clause in Section 53 of the bill which gives the cabinet the right to decide if other statutes should be applied to the hydro authority.

They also ganged up on the government over Section 57 which states:

"In order to give full force and effect to the meaning and intent of this act the Lieutenant-Governor in council (the cabinet) may make any orders and regulations deemed necessary or advisable for carrying out the spirit, intent and meaning of this act to matters for which no express provision has been made or in respect of which only partial or imperfect provision has been made."

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby) termed this one of the most iniquitous sections evolved since Henry VIII.

"It gives the cabinet power to rewrite the law," Dowding claimed. "You've made a mockery out of democracy."

Alan Macfarlane (Lib.—Oak Bay) said the spirit of the act is to put B.C. Hydro beyond the jurisdiction of the legislature.

Harry McKay (Lib.—Fernie) said another section of the bill could force private power firms to sell out to B.C. Hydro.

The bill allows Hydro to insist that private companies provide it with power and Hydro can set the price it will pay, he said.

The bill passed the committee stage of debate. The NDP supported the bill as a whole but voted with the Liberals in opposing the three sections. Amendments to these were defeated.

Bonner Predicts Merger of Courts

By IAN MACDONALD

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Attorney-General Robert Bonner said Friday a merger of the county and supreme courts is likely.

Bonner made the comment as the legislature gave agreement in principle to two bills making changes in county court operation—among them the right of county court to handle divorce cases and to have jury trials in criminal cases.

"I look upon the day when the two trial divisions (of county and supreme court) become one," he said.

Bonner said the changes will mean that county court judges will handle some of the supreme court work and court lists will be speeded up.

MAJOR OVERHAUL

"Delay cannot be justified although it may have been an accepted matter, he said.

Bonner added that major overhaul of the court system would mean the placing of resident supreme court judges throughout the province.

But the attorney-general agreed with Opposition members that he did not wish to see a complete end to the circuit courts system.

The Opposition halted the moves, although Alex Macdonald (NDP-Vancouver East) pointed out that county court judges in Vancouver and Victoria generally are overworked.

The attorney-general also said the government is considering realignment of county court districts.

The House gave third reading to a bill extending the

Pacific Great Eastern Railway's borrowing powers from \$140 million to \$165 million. The money will cover an extension of the line to Fort St. James.

PGE EXTENSION

Premier Bennett told the House he hoped in the future to ask for legislation to extend the line to Stewart and to Fort Nelson and east to the Mackenzie River basin.

The premier said the line is one of the great economic forces in the development of the province.

Jobs Bill 'Educational'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The main theme of B.C.'s Fair Employment Practices Act is to educate and conciliate rather than compel, the legislature was told Friday.

Labor Minister Les Peterson said the bill, which makes it illegal to discriminate in employment against people between 45 and 65, is breaking new ground in Canada.

He said the government is leading the way in anti-discrimination, and that since 1958, 16 per cent of civil servants hired have been between 40 and 65. Six per cent were over 50.

The bill was given unanimous second reading by the House, although NDP members maintained it was paper legislation without any teeth in it.

AT LEGISLATURE

Small Operators Rap TFL Policy

VICTORIA — Operators of smaller sawmills and plywood plants charged here Friday that granting of new tree farm licences is drying up the British Columbia open-log market.

The operators said in a brief to the legislature's select committee on forestry and fisheries that the volume of timber being offered in timber sales is getting progressively smaller.

They claimed this situation, aggravated by higher stumpage rates on Timber Sales cutting areas, is hurting their ability to compete with larger firms with TFLs.

The brief was presented by Phillip Frewer, president of the Independent Timber Converters Association, which represents the smaller operators who do not hold TFLs.

NO STABILITY

It said small operators have enough difficulty competing, without these other problems, because timber sales cutting areas yield substantially lower volumes per acre than other types of tenure.

"The purpose of this submission is to draw to the attention of your committee the plight of the independent operator who, in the absence of stability of raw material supply, cannot possibly plan their operations effectively," the brief said.

"Without such forward plan-

ning our members cannot justify the capital investment necessary to ensure full employment and to keep abreast of modern methods in order to remain competitive in world markets."

BOOST REVENUE

The brief said the association considers too much has been said about the contribution of tree farm licences to the economy and too little about the impact of timber sales operators.

It admitted that independent operators do not incur the forest management costs, which TFL holders reported cost them more than \$500,000 in 1960.

But it said the association estimates that because of higher stumpage costs, the timber sale operators paid an "increment" of \$4.5 million toward forest revenue in 1962—an amount almost equal to total Forest Service Costs for the year.

The brief also pointed out that timber sales revenue in 1962 amounted to 72 per cent of the total direct forest revenue for the only 49 per cent of the total log operation.

COVER-UP FOR LEGAL HEAD?

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby) told the legislature Friday new court legislation is the most revolutionary move since the elimination of lawyer's wigs.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner said in an aside he had been thinking of restoring them.

"The attorney-general might well be accused of self-interest," quipped Dowding, as Bonner blushed to the top of his bald head.

B.C. Accountants Bill Withdrawn

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A bill uniting B.C. accountants and regulating their professional standards was withdrawn from the floor of the legislature Friday.

Alex Matthew (SC, Vancouver Centre), chairman of the legislature's private bills committee, said he intends to invite more submissions from groups affected by the proposed legislation.

Dental War Disgusts Martin; Change in Law Threatened

VICTORIA (Staff)—Health Minister Eric Martin said Monday he is disgusted with the "disgraceful" war between British Columbia's dentists and dental mechanics.

He said he is determined to get the two groups to co-operate and that he will introduce stringent regulations if necessary.

Martin was commenting in the legislature on a statement by Bert Price (SC—Vancouver Burrard) that three dentists have been suspended by their professional body for co-operating with dental mechanics.

CERTIFICATE NEEDED

Dental mechanics are independent operators registered under the Dental Technicians' Act. They are permitted to make dentures without a dentist's prescription and to sell them directly to the public. However, they can do this only if the patient has been examined by a dentist and issued a certificate of oral health.

The mechanics claim they provide dentures at lower rates than the dentists.

Price said the B.C. Dental Association has in effect frus-

trated the 1960 law permitting mechanics to work directly for the public.

'DISGRACEFUL'

Opposition leader Robert Strachan said he had heard reports of the suspension but on investigation found the dentists had dealt with unlicensed mechanics or had allowed the mechanics to make dentures for unhealed gums.

Health Minister Eric Martin said all necessary legislation for co-operation is on the books. All that is needed is a little common sense, he said.

He described the conflict between dentists and dental mechanics as a war and as disgraceful. "If anyone is disgusted, it is I," he said.

"If we don't get co-operation we will bring in stringent regulations," he said. "There is going to be a determined effort on my part to get co-operation."

'NOT FIGHTING'

In Vancouver, Dr. Wes Munsie, president of the B.C. Dental Association, said his group was already co-operating to the extent that the law requires.

"We're not fighting with anybody," he said.

(He said the association had recently changed its regulations to permit dentists to sign certificates of oral health for patients who wanted plates made by mechanics, a practice which he said was dubious under previous regulations.)

SOME DON'T CHARGE

(He said many dentists sign such certificates, and some don't even charge for the necessary examination.)

(He denied mechanics provide plates at markedly lower rates than dentists. He said the average charge by a dentist for fitting and providing dentures is \$137, and some charge as little as \$100. He said dental mechanics' rates run from \$85 to \$125.)

During the debate the dentists came under fire from both sides of the House.

John Tisdalle (SC-Saanich) said that as a result of the dispute in the profession people are being driven underground in an effort to get cheap dentures from mechanics.

He said dentists have managed to prohibit mechanics from obtaining imprints of a person's natural teeth prior to extraction. "I can't see why the dentists should oppose this."

Don Robinson (SC, Lillooet) didn't see why the dentists should be so concerned as to who should treat teeth.

"It's my mouth and I should be able to do with it what I see fit."

Cyril Shelford (SC, Omineca) said the Dental College's action in preventing dentists from dealing directly with the mechanics was "a bunch of nonsense, and we shouldn't permit it to go on any longer."

Promoters Won't Profit on Bank

VICTORIA (CP)—Get-rich-quick promoters won't be able to make a killing in the planned Bank of B.C., a Social Credit backbencher said Monday night.

Ralph Loffmark, economics professor at the University of B.C. and member for Vancouver Point Grey, said such persons will not be able to buy blocks of shares and then sell them at a large untaxable profit to the public if the share value goes up.

On the contrary, he told a Social Credit party dinner, it is more likely the general public will be invited to be the first investors, not a group of promoters, he said.

The B.C. government has applied to the federal govern-

ment for a charter for the bank and is seeking in the legislature to amend the revenue Act to enable it to buy up 25 per cent of the share capital.

Loffmark said he could not speak for the government but was speculating as a private member.

Socreds Survive Chronic Care Blast

'Smokescreen,' Says Opposition;
No-Confidence Motion Defeated

By IAN MACDONALD
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The government was accused Monday of trying to smokescreen its lack of chronic-care hospitals.

Opposition members claimed Health Minister Eric Martin is misleading the public into thinking that a short-term rehabilitation program is chronic care.

They claimed the government is neglecting the older people who helped pioneer B.C.

Some families are being forced to almost bankrupt themselves to keep relatives in private hospitals, the legislature was told.

"The government encourages private operators to go into the business," said MLA Lois Haggren (NDP-Grand Forks-Greenwood).

"It is a shame to encourage these people to build hospitals to make money at the expense of the families," she said.

LONG DEBATE

Martin came under heavy attack for 2½ hours of debate on convalescent and chronic care. There was little reply from the government side.

"It is a disgrace that you should stand in this House and go around this province trying to delude people that you have a chronic care program," said Alan Macfarlane (Lib.-Oak Bay).

"You haven't and you know it."

Alex Macdonald (NDP-Vancouver East) moved a non-confidence motion in Martin and the government policies that he said are almost traditional. He moved the traditional motion that Martin's \$15,000 salary be cut by \$1.

The government beat the NDP-Liberal opposition 29-16.

Macdonald accused Martin and the government of promising a chronic-care program as election bait but doing nothing about it.

'MOST PROMISING'

Macdonald told Martin he was the most promising of the Socred cabinet ministers. Then, as Martin gave a look of mock surprise across the legislature, Macdonald made his point: "Promises, promises, nothing but promises. It was in 1956 you first promised a plan for the chronically ill. Eight years and 18 promises later we still have sweet nothing."

Macdonald also blamed the government for delaying a chronic hospital for which Vancouver allocated \$1.3 million two years ago.

Martin said it wasn't the

government's fault. He said: "No plans have been received." He gave the same heated answer to fellow Socred Alex. Matthew (Vancouver Centre) when Matthew questioned the delay.

PILOT SUGGESTED

Macdonald suggested the government set up a pilot community health clinic in B.C. as a prelude to medicare.

Macdonald said such a clinic would tackle preventive medicine as well as treatment and could be a base for social workers. He suggested it coordinate all health services.

Martin maintained Macdonald was ignorant of the \$1-a-day scheme operated under B.C. Hospital Insurance Service in some hospitals for rehabilitative care.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault charged that this program is only for people on long-term recovery.

"He knows those people who can be treated are only 40 per cent of all the serious chronic cases in B.C.," Perrault said.

FIGURE CHALLENGED

Premier Bennett and government members challenged the figure but Perrault said he had gathered it throughout the province.

Perrault said old people, many of whom have been tax-paying citizens for many years, are entitled to chronic care for \$1 a day.

He said the problem will not be solved simply by letting private operators enter the field.

Perrault suggested the Victorian Order of Nurses be subsidized by the government to help increase chronic care.

\$250 A MONTH

Ran Harding (NDP-Kaslo-Slocan) accused the government of forcing old people to pay \$250 a month and maybe more for private care.

"Don't let us have any smokescreen that these people are being taken care of by the government," he said.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan said that in reply to a question on the order paper last year Martin said there are no chronic hospitals in B.C.

"These were your own words on the record," Strachan said. "Now you have the gall to stand here today and refer to chronic hospitals."

CAPITAL COLUMN

They'd Grind Him Into the Stubble

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA — Saskatchewan people, backed by Albertans and Manitobans, are vowing to get even next election with Social Credit Waldo Skillings of Victoria, the premier's confidante, bridge mate and travelling companion.

Prairie folk, come to live in this place, were never so insulted in all their lives as when Skillings sneeringly referred to "stubble-jumpers from Saskatchewan." Who does he think he is, this Skillings?

The voluble, peppery Skillings blurted out this insult when NDP John Squire of Alberni was saying the government should do more to help the unemployed. There would not, opined Skillings, be unemployment in this province if the Saskatchewan stubble-jumpers would stay home and not come flooding out to British Columbia to escape what to Skillings and the premier are the horrors of NDP government in Regina.

Skillings made even some of his Social Credit colleagues mad, too, for several come from the Prairies. Mines Minister Ken Kiernan and Education Minister Les Peterson are Alberta natives, Health Minister Eric Martin was born in Manitoba. Public Works Minister William Chant was for years an Alberta cabinet minister under Premier William Aberhart.

Calling a person from the Prairies a stubble-jumper is like calling an Oklahoman an Okie—their's fightin'

words!

Skillings is not noted for his tact. He delights in being brash. He loves an altercation, sometimes physical, like our politicians of old; Premier Amor de Cosmos and Attorney-General George Hunter Cary, often banged their political opponents over the heads in the public streets.

Skillings threw good taste completely out the door when he said NDP'ers were drawing out debate to keep it going until "the pallbearers return." This was in reference to Opposition Leader Strachan, Alex Macdonald and Arthur Turner who were in Vancouver for the funeral of Angus MacInnes.

It is true, many native and old-time Victorians DO refer to Prairie people as "stubble-jumpers." Victoria, you see, has never been quite the same since the influx from the Prairies. These people, say old-time Victorians, don't have too much tone, and practically no background.

The municipalities won't do much about it, but in the new Municipal Act they'll have the right to regulate or prohibit noises that disturb "the quiet, peace, rest, enjoyment, comfort or convenience of the neighbor-

hood."

City and municipal fathers all agree there's too much unnecessary noise these days but they are loathe to crack down, because those they pinch might get even in the polling booths. To tell a man his dog makes the night hideous by howling is to insult him and incur his enmity forever.

This fair capital city, said to be so peaceful and quiet, is one of the noisiest cities of its size in North America.

The hot-rods shriek around most of the night with mufflers off, and tires screeching. Motorists here are constantly saluting each other by loud blasts on their horns. We are so old-fashioned we permit noisy small-town wedding processions.

Enormous lumber carriers roar like tornadoes through Government Street and many offices and stores have to keep their doors and windows closed to keep the din out, and the workers and customers in.

In the Parliament Buildings you can hardly hear on the phone when the lumber trucks and the cement mixers bulldoze their way through. The city is afraid to do anything about it, for fear the lumber bosses and other captains of industry will get sore and move their operations elsewhere.

Power mowers, dogs, radios, create a terrible racket on fine summer days, turning once peaceful neighborhoods into circus-like confusion.

PARALYSIS

Virus Halts Local Bees

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A form of paralysis is attacking bees in Lower Mainland colonies.

The disease is most noticeable in colonies in Victoria, Vancouver and the Queensborough district of New Westminster, provincial apiarist John Corner of Vernon said in a report tabled in the legislature.

Corner said the paralysis has had no noticeable effect on honey production, which reached a record 1.8 million pounds in B.C. last year.

"It appears to be some kind of virus which affects the bee's nervous system," he said.

Corner said samples have been sent to the federal agriculture department in Ottawa and the Guelph, Ont., agricultural college in an attempt to learn more about the disease.

MLAs Want Nurses' Act Proclaimed

VICTORIA (CP)—A government backbencher joined an opposition member Monday in seeking early implementation of a Practical Nurses' Act passed in 1951 but never proclaimed.

Dudley Little (SC-Skeena) said he couldn't understand why B.C. practical nurses are being denied a means of obtaining standardized qualifications.

He told the House the B.C. Registered Nurses' Association feels there is a lot of danger

in not having standard qualifications for practical nurses.

He said the association's executive secretary has written Health Minister Eric Martin twice but has received no reply.

Earlier, Mrs. Lois Haggen (NDP - Grand Forks - Greenwood) had renewed an appeal for proclamation of the act. She said Martin has sidestepped the issue and on two occasions had provided her with answers she later found were wrong.

Mrs. Haggen said the minister kept complaining about the shortage of nurses in B.C. yet was passing up a simple way of relieving the shortage.

Martin assured the members the matter is very much under consideration.

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 1964

'Hospitals Never Had It So Good'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C. hospitals have never had so much money to spend, Health Minister Eric Martin told the legislature Monday.

Speaking during debate on his departmental estimates, the minister said also that never in their history have so many hospitals been in a surplus position.

His statements came during a general defence of his department's operations and spending.

Martin said that only 14 hospitals in the province had deficits last year and only one of them was in a serious loss position.

"They will be in even better shape this year," he said.

He also said that reports are being prepared to determine hospital requirements all over the Lower Mainland.

One report expected soon will determine future hospital bed requirements in Vancouver, he said.

The minister also said that he expects Royal Columbian Hospital in New Westminster will undergo extensive renovation and expansion in the future.

"Almost every hospital in the province has plans of some kind or another for expansion as the population increases," he said.

No Need for Act, Say Logging Firms

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Representatives of forest industries claimed Monday that public access legislation isn't necessary in B.C.

Three groups appearing before the legislature's access committee said private firms are doing a good enough job.

The access committee is considering an act that would regulate public travel on private roads and place certain requirements on the companies operating them.

"If there are now problems of access to private roads, such problems cannot be solved by all-encompassing legislation, but must be negotiated according to each problem and the individual circumstance of the situation," said a represen-

tation from MacMillan, Bloedel and Powell River Co.

"The plan is working very well now," said the Council of Forest Industries in another brief.

"Our experience to date does not lead us to the conclusion that an access act is required, until it is found that voluntary access is no longer successful," said a brief presented by four logging companies.

The Council of Forest Industries said the record of companies allowing public access to privately-held lands has been excellent during the past few years.

SOCRED MLA RAKES OWN GOVERNMENT

Retarded Stacked
Out of Sight

By IAN MACDONALD
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A Social Credit member Tuesday accused his government of stacking retarded children storey-upon-storey at Woodlands school to put them out of sight.

John Tisdalle, the father of an eight-year-old retarded boy in Woodlands, raked the administration for its handling of handicapped boys and girls.

He brought a screaming, name-calling debate to abrupt silence with his words.

It was the first major criticism by a Social Credit member of the government's policies.

It brought him Opposition applause and praise for his courage.

Tisdalle, obviously emotional but keeping his feelings in check, spoke briefly and quietly.

He got to his feet after Health Minister Eric Martin accused Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) of animal-like ferocity in criticism of the mental health department.

Tisdalle had sat among loud government members who had thumped their desks, laughed and heckled Dowding.

Normally an eager advocate of the government, Tisdalle rose and asked the House to disregard his own personal situation.

"I think all of the argument did little for the parents who have children who want facilities," Tisdalle said.

"All the argument doesn't solve the problem of alleviating the pain of one parent," he said in the hushed House.

"I feel incensed.

"I know tonight I can go to parents and find they are suffering because they cannot get accommodation for their children," he said.

Tisdalle said the debate he had listened to would not produce facilities.

"God save me from it," he said.

"Tonight I wonder if too many words have been spoken and too little action resulted," Tisdalle said.

Martin started to mumble and Tisdalle swung around and spoke directly to him.

"This is my own opinion and I have the right to say it. Nobody is going to shut me up about it," he said.

Martin got up and left the chamber for a brief spell while Tisdalle was talking.

Tisdalle said the government is letting buildings at the old Victoria College go on the block when they

could be used for retarded children.

He referred to the Woodlands school for retarded children at New Westminster.

"We are stacking young boys and girls up," Tisdalle said. "... stacking up crippled children storey upon storey at Woodlands. It is nothing but a housing situation to put them out of sight."

Tisdalle said retarded children should be brought back to institutions within their communities.

"Bring them back to the communities and you will have the problem solved," he told the House.

"Put the children in the community where people know them and where there is human kindness.

"The cause is there and the cause is evident," Tisdalle said.

"All we need to do is vote the supply (money) and get on with the job," he said.

JOIN IN APPLAUSE

Several government backbenchers including Ernie LeCours, (Delta), joined in the applause as Tisdalle sat down.

Martin sat with his head bowed.

"Few times have I been moved as by the previous speaker," said Dave Barrett (NDP-Dewdney).

He said Tisdalle had put in capsule form the feelings of parents of retarded children.

"I have been accused of dealing in cheap politics for such words," Barrett said. "But these words (of Tisdalle) were in essence the same words given from this side only to be labelled as cheap politics."

Dowding said he wanted to thank Tisdalle for his statement.

"I want to apologize to him for intemperance in my language," he stated.

Dowding, a lawyer, said in recent court actions about admission of children to Woodlands he had attempted to crystalize the question of responsibility and procedure.

"If I have crystalized that point and the government recognized it I can take any amount of vituperation and abuse.

"I admire him (Tisdalle) for his courage in saying so simply what he said tonight," Dowding added.

The House then quickly passed Martin's salary vote of \$15,000 after three debating sessions. He made no reply to Tisdalle.

The slanging match between Martin and Dowding before Tisdalle spoke was the noisiest, most bitter debate of the current session.

The debate ran on until 12:20 a.m., the first mid-

night sitting of the House this year.

Deputy speaker William Speare repeatedly had to beat his gavel for order as they shouted at each other.

Dowding, the NDP mental health critic, charged that Charles MacSorley (Social Credit-Burnaby) had boasted of using political influence to get a child admitted to Woodlands.

CHARGES DAMAGE

Martin jumped up and said Dowding had caused more damage to the mental health program than it had suffered in its 90-year existence.

"He has acted with animal-like ferocity," Martin claimed. "He has ruthlessly, relentlessly and mercilessly interfered with good administration of Woodlands school."

Opposition members shouted objections to Martin's remarks.

Martin quoted from a Vancouver Sun story by medical reporter Arnie Myers which quoted officials as stating there was no political pressure used in gaining admissions.

Dowding jumped up and denied he had interfered at Woodlands.

At times both Dowding and Martin were shouting at the same time.

COURT CASE CITED

Dowding maintained Martin had made comments about a court case involving a Woodlands admission case that is before the appeal court. He said Martin had insulted the court and was in contempt.

"I will repeat it," shouted Martin.

Speare called proceedings to a halt, and criticized the intemperate language being used.

Martin was told to withdraw a remark imputing improper motives on Dowding's part. "If I have to withdraw I have to," the minister said.

He maintained Dowding's action had led to the resignation last year of Dr. W. W. Laughland, former assistant superintendent at Woodlands.

Martin said much of the trouble was caused by Dowding's court action on behalf of a couple with a retarded child who wanted her in Woodlands.

GOVT APPEALING

The court ruled in the child's favor and the government is appealing.

Dowding replied he had taken the case to court to try to clear the muddled water created by the Socred government.

He said much of the confusion about Woodlands would be cleared up if Mar-

tin would answer questions put to him.

Dowling denied having anything to do with the doctor's retirement at Woodlands. He said the doctor resigned in August and he did not take the case to court until December.

'Mental Care Planning Still Gov't Job'

VICTORIA (CP) — The provincial government has no intention of dumping its responsibility for the planning and development of mental health services on B.C. municipalities, Health Minister Eric Martin said Tuesday.

"Nothing in this bill even refers to such an idea," the minister said during second reading of a new mental health act.

Debate was adjourned by Dr. Pat McGeer (Lib.-Vancouver-Point Grey).

Martin told the House a special report published by the Canadian Mental Health Association has recommended psychiatric services be established within the community.

The report had recommended such services be autonomous and be managed by local boards of management although supported financially by provincial governments.

"We believe that such a development would be truly advantageous to the people of British Columbia," Martin said.

Prayers For Queen's Son Planned

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Sunday has been proclaimed a day of prayer and rejoicing for Queen Elizabeth's new son.

Premier Bennett announced the birth in the House, which agreed this message should be sent to the Queen and Prince Philip:

"We, your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the members of the legislative assembly of the province of British Columbia, in parliament assembled, express great joy at the birth of your son and tender to Your Majesty and His Royal Highness the Prince Philip our sincerest congratulations.

"On this happy occasion we most humbly renew our pledges of loyalty and devotion to your majesty."

The message was signed by Lieutenant-Governor George Pearkes, who added his best wishes and those of all citizens of B.C.

HOSPITAL WAITS

Sickness Slowed Gov't Cash

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government couldn't pay for a new hospital because its auditing staff was sick, the legislature was told Tuesday.

Health Minister Eric Martin maintained a straight face as he explained the situation.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan brought it up.

He said that Martin officially opened the Nanaimo General Hospital in January, 1963.

Nine months later the federal government still had not made its contribution to the construction cost, he said.

Strachan said he made inquiries to find out why and was told that the provincial government hadn't made its final payment for the building.

The situation left the hospital with a \$60,000 bill, plus interest, said Strachan.

It turned out that the federal government wouldn't pay its share until the provincial government had anted up.

The federal government does not pay up until provincial books have been audited.

The provincial government couldn't settle because of an unusual amount of sickness in the auditing staff, said Martin.

"It's a sad state of affairs," said Strachan.

"It's being cleared up now," said Martin.

B.C. to Award More QCs To Lawyers

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — British Columbia isn't going to do away with the distinguished Queen's Counsel title bestowed on deserving lawyers.

On the contrary, the number of honored barristers and solicitors is to be increased.

There has been talk from time to time across the country, suggesting that the QC title be abolished.

But the B.C. legislature Tuesday approved an amendment to the Queen's Counsel Act raising the maximum number of annual appointees from five to 10.

At the moment there are only about 77 of the province's 1,400 lawyers who bear the title.

None has been appointed in B.C. since 1960, but a list is being compiled this year.

Because of a cumulative clause in the Act, covering years in which appointments were not made, as many as 25 B.C. lawyers could receive the title this year.

House Passes 15 Bills in Active Day

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — It was law-making day in the legislature Tuesday.

The House passed 15 bills touching on a variety of subjects ranging from livestock branding to public library affairs.

The legislature also gave second reading—approval in principle—to a bill revising mining fees, and to a measure that will permit underground storage of natural gas.

Debate on the government's new Mental Health Act was adjourned at the request of Dr. Pat McGeer (Lib.—Vancouver Point Grey), who said more time is needed to study the contents.

Alex Macdonald (NDP-Vancouver East) said at third reading of the B.C. Hydro bill that the proposed legislation prevents Hydro employees from going on strike.

He said they should not be treated differently from other employees in B.C.

The bill is backstop legislation in case the current act establishing the hydro authority, now before the courts, is ruled invalid.

SMALL PARKS MINING OUT

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government Tuesday banned mining activity in provincial parks containing fewer than 5,000 acres.

A cabinet order-in-council said the prohibition of prospecting, staking and recording of mineral claims applies to all classes of parks.

The order reverses 1949 legislation allowing unlimited prospecting in B.C. parks.

Gov't Boosts School Bonds

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier W. A. C. Bennett Tuesday announced the government has doubled the amount of its new school districts capital financing authority debentures.

Last week \$5 million worth of the debentures were sold at an effective cost of 4.916 per cent.

Bennett, who is also minister of finance, said Tuesday the principal amount has been boosted to \$10 million.

The 20-year debentures have a coupon rate of 4.75 per cent.

Bennett Claimed Hiding Bank Facts

Withholding Directors' Names, Amount of Capital, Says Liberal

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Premier Bennett was accused Tuesday of deliberately withholding the names of directors and the amount of share capital of the proposed Bank of British Columbia.

Alan Macfarlane, (Liberal-Oak Bay) maintained Bennett was telling the legislature he did not know when he actually did.

Macfarlane headed a last-ditch Liberal battle against the bank bill but the five members were defeated by the government and New Democratic Party as the bill received third and final reading.

Macfarlane and Bennett tangled in bitter debate.

The Liberal maintained the premier gave phoney answers that were not answers at all.

"This is a dark day in the legislature history of B.C.," Macfarlane charged.

NO MLA DIRECTORS

Bennett bounced to his feet and said it was a dark day for the Liberal Party. "You are against B.C. You are for the Eastern interests," Bennett charged.

"You are an enemy of the people of this province," Bennett shouted.

Under questioning by Alex Macdonald (NDP-Vancouver-East) the premier said no member of the cabinet or legislature will be on the bank directorship.

"The answer is no," Bennett replied to the questions.

Macfarlane asked how much of the public's money was going to be invested in the bank.

"Not to exceed 25 per cent of share capital," Bennett replied.

"Twenty-five per cent of what?" asked Macfarlane.

25 PCT. OF X

"X", replied Bennett as the government backbenchers interrupted.

Macfarlane continued to press the attack, insisting that the government was asking the legislature to sign a blank cheque and not giving enough information.

"Who will be the directors?" he said.

"I do not know," Bennett answered.

"How much is the authorized capital?" the Liberal asked.

"I do not know," Bennett replied.

Macfarlane and the premier tangled constantly during the 80-minute debate.

"The premier is so exuberant over his victory last September that he has got to the heights of his dictatorial manner," Macfarlane maintained.

"You should be more humble in defeat," replied Bennett.

ASKS AMENDMENT

Macfarlane suggested the premier should amend the bank bill to state that only the provincial surplus could be invested in the bank to the amount of \$2.5 million, which he indicated would get his

party's support.

The legislation under which the province can invest up to 25 per cent in the share capital is sought under an amendment to the Revenue Act.

Macfarlane charged if the premier was only interested in a bank he did not have to amend the Act.

He maintained that the change will give the government the right to invest money in other ventures, some in competition with private enterprise.

"Maybe the members on the other side have blind faith in the premier but we were not sent here to have blind faith," Macfarlane said. "We ask what the people want to know, the particulars about the spending of money."

He said: "Perhaps the premier would like to tell us why he wants this unlimited power."

ATTACKS NDP CLAIM

Macfarlane attacked the NDP contention that the federal government will keep a close eye on bank operation.

"We don't want to delegate responsibility to the federal government," Macfarlane said.

He stated that the people of the province should know from the leadership shown that they can not trust the government any more.

Gordon Gibson (Liberal-North Vancouver) said the premier wanted the bank to gain complete political control of B.C. and its economy.

He said the thousands of letters the premier claimed to have received from people

praising the bank probably were from people seeking special concessions.

"The people I speak to and in the business world I travel are absolutely afraid to death of this bank," Gibson maintained.

NOT POLITICAL

Bennett maintained there would be no partisan political control of the bank.

"It is not the intention of the government to try to make a political bank of it, a Sacred bank," he said.

Bennett said the government would only sponsor the bank and name the first directors. He stated there probably would be criticism of the selections but no person is above criticism.

"We have not asked a single person nor will we until we get some authority from this House," the premier said.

"We want to build a model charter bank and one that will co-operate in the development of our country," Bennett said.

He said the trouble with investing surplus money would be if that the surplus disappeared and money was needed it would be necessary to suddenly sell bank shares and smash the price.

Bennett stressed the government was buying the shares to ensure that the bank did not fall into the hands of people who might move the head office out of B.C.

The premier repeated it is hoped to file an application for the new bank at the current parliamentary session at Ottawa.

WOODLANDS TO ADMIT 35

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Thirty-five patients from the waiting list of 800 will be admitted to Woodlands School for retarded children as soon as a renovation project is completed, Health Minister Eric Martin said Tuesday.

He told the legislature a 35-bed wing was closed for repair in January and the patients transferred to Tranquille.

"As soon as the project is completed patients will be transferred from the waiting list into Woodlands," he said.

CAPITAL COLUMN

My Fair Alex Deserves Medal

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—Well, well, well—NDP Alex Macdonald of Vancouver East, the quiet, persevering studious type, at last did it. Yes, he did. He did it. By golly he did it. He should get a medal.

By poking and probing and sticking to it, he smoked out the premier about that yet unborn bank that's the premier's pride and joy.

He got Premier Bennett to say that Finance Minister Bennett will not be a director of that bank, nor will any cabinet minister, nor will any member of the legislature.

SC backbench faces dropped a mile, especially that of Ralph Loffmark of Point Grey. Everybody has been running around saying the premier was going to make Loffmark a director, and he seemed to believe it, and so was happy.

Now, because of that man Macdonald, Loffmark is eating dust, and the premier doesn't seem to care a bit.

Whatever came over our premier? He usually likes to keep people guessing. But under the calm pressure of Macdonald he blurted it out. Perhaps he was tired — of Macdonald.

Now our premier has tied his own hands and fenced

himself in—or has he? He hasn't really—he can always take one of those famous Social Credit second looks, and so Loffmark might make it in due course. Poor Loffmark, pinning his hopes so high, only to have his boss dash them like that.

Liberal Alan Macfarlane of Oak Bay has a balky constituent—none other than the premier himself. The premier lives in a seaside Oak Bay apartment.

He doesn't vote in Oak Bay, preferring to vote for himself in Kelowna, the capital city of his South Okanagan empire.

He'd rather vote for himself than personally vote against Macfarlane. He wishes he could do both, but even premiers can't get away with everything.

Oak Bay's MLA dearly loves to rouse Oak Bay's No. 1 resident, who's so important that people driving by point him out when they see him hiking along the water-

front.

Macfarlane needles away at this august personage, quite unafraid, and he goes at it for hours in his best lawyer style.

He persists and he wriggles around legislative rules, and he brings a grim look to the premier and he won't sit down until the premier hops up, roaring and shouting, and predicting the end of the Liberal Party because it's full of Alan Macfarlanes who like Eastern Canada better than they like British Columbia and who'd sell us out to the financiers of Toronto and Montreal. That's what the premier says.

After Messrs. Macfarlane and Bennett have blown up at each other, they feel better, the air is clearer and they're quite happy as they cross the border from Victoria city into cozy little Oak Bay for dinner.

Space to Increase For Heart Surgery

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The provincial health department is going to turn over a little-used tuberculosis operating room for open-heart surgery at Vancouver General Hospital.

Health Minister Eric Martin told the legislature Tuesday night that a committee is making arrangement to transfer the Willow Chest Centre to VGH.

"There are certain legal matters to be straightened out and costs to be worked out," he said. "It's far more complicated than we anticipated."

But he said the unit will be made available for open-heart surgery. "No one would be more pleased than ourselves to have it for that use," said Martin.

He was replying to a question from MLA Dr. Pat McGeer (Lib.-Vancouver Point Grey).

Dr. McGeer noted that there is now only one operating theatre available for open-heart surgery at VGH.

He said the Willow Chest Centre is used only about once a week for surgery and would be a valuable aid to the heart surgeons.

The centre is operated by the health department's division of tuberculosis control.

Sportsmen Seek New Deal On Use of Private Roads

VICTORIA (CP)—B.C. outdoorsmen said Tuesday a provincial act establishing the public's right of access to private roads in the province should be introduced at the earliest possible date.

Their brief to the legislature's special committee on access said single use of crown land is a narrow and wasteful policy and one which denies the citizen the right to travel by normal means to lands which are his in the right of the crown.

The brief by the B.C. Federation of Fish and Game Clubs was submitted by secretary-manager Ed Meade of Vancouver.

It said the benevolence on the part of a few large forest companies at present does not

ensure equal or permanent benevolence on the part of all.

Singled out as an example was the area along Harrison Lake in the Lower Mainland.

Meade said roads in the area are held by a variety of owners, many of them original homesteaders. At present the public could go only a few miles from Harrison Hot Springs before a logging gate was reached.

"If you could get past that first gate you could probably reach Lillooet on the existing roads network," he said.

The brief said access legislation is desirable to protect the interests of both public and industry. But the legislation should not, as now proposed, be a combination of the present Commercial Trans-

portation and Public Access Acts.

It said the law should set up a system of land-use priorities and establish the public's right as landlord on crown lands.

The committee also received a brief from the Mining Association of B.C. which sought legislation setting out an arbitration procedure for dispute involving use of private roads by more than one industry.

"The right to use industrial roads on this (multiple) basis should, we consider, apply to lands of any description, whether held in fee simple, under tree farm licence or otherwise."

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 11, 1964

Health Minister Accused of Deceit

By IAN MacALPINE
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Health Minister Eric Martin was accused Tuesday of deliberately deceiving the legislature in answers to questions about a report on chronic hospital facilities.

During debate on his departmental estimates, Martin said he expects to get a copy of the report soon.

The report deals with chronic care planning on the Lower Mainland and is the work of a medical team headed by University of B.C. medical Dean John F. McCreary.

Liberal Dr. Pat McGeer (Vancouver-Point Grey) challenged Martin on the point Tuesday night, claiming that Martin already has copies of the report.

Dr. McGeer told the legislature that Dr. McCreary told him he had mailed 13 copies of the report to Martin on Feb. 14.

DIDN'T GET THEM

Martin said he did not get copies of the report.

He said the study group hasn't completed its report.

"Either the minister is deliberately deceiving this House or he has a shocking lack of knowledge of his department," said Dr. McGeer.

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby) picked up the attack.

"Did he (Martin) or did he not receive a communication from that committee?" he asked.

"I've answered that question.

I'm not in a court of law and I won't be submitted to this cross-examination," retorted Martin.

"The minister doesn't deserve his salary. He doesn't answer questions in this legislature. He doesn't do his homework," continued Dowding.

"It's time the minister took stock of where he is going with his department," Dowding went on. "He is dealing in the lives of thousands of human beings."

ACCUSED OF CONTEMPT

Dowding also accused Martin of contempt of court over statements attributed to the minister in a New Westminster newspaper.

The statements concerned a court case involving admission of patients to Woodlands school for retarded children.

Dowding said Martin should have shown respect for the courts and refrained from commenting on the case while it is still being heard.

"He should be taken into court on contempt," said Dowding.

"His conduct is reprehensible. It's lucky you're not cited for contempt," Dowding told the minister.

"I'll do exactly what I please," shot back Martin.

Rock Fissure Threatens Slides on Canyon Highway

VICTORIA (Staff)—A rock fissure in the Fraser Canyon has forced the highways department to redesign a new stretch of highway.

Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi told the legislature late Wednesday the fissure might pose a slide threat.

He said government geologists are investigating to determine whether the fissure could cause slides, and to establish a method for redesigning the road.

NEW SECTION

The fissure is on a cliff face above a new stretch of road about a mile south of Hell's Gate.

The highway follows a course dug out of solid rock

about half way up the steep cliff above the Fraser River.

Highway officials say the fissure is about 50 feet long, a few inches wide.

Crews are drilling holes and inserting gauges to determine whether the fissure is widening.

Highways officials today said the fissure was uncovered by blasting and construction work this winter and has been under observation for several weeks.

'JUST CHIP EDGES'

"We believe we could run into some difficulty under the present plans for the road there, so it will take some changing," highways public

relations officer Ray Baines said today.

Baines said the original plan was to cut back into the cliff side and all but eliminate a curve in the highway.

"Now it appears we will have to leave most of the rock there and just chip a few edges off to smooth out the curve."

Baines said that because of the cutback in rock removal, the department has been able to reduce weekly closures on the highway from five to two days.

Gaglardi said when questioned by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan that no prolonged closure would be needed and that if a rock slide developed it would not cause any major block in the Fraser River.

Change Sought In Marriage Age

By IAN MacALPINE
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — An MLA who thinks advice on marriage should be given in schools also wants to lower the legal age for matrimony.

A bill introduced in the legislature by Leo Nimsick (NDP-Cranbrook) would drop the age minimum from 21 to 19.

At present B.C. residents under 21 must get consent of both parents to wed or authority from the court if parental approval cannot be obtained.

GO TO U.S.

Nimsick said many young B.C. couples are going across the border to marry so they can avoid getting consent.

In a number of cases minors cannot get parental consent

because the parents may be separated, divorced, or just won't go along with the plan, said Nimsick.

The alternative is to go to court but the couples consider this too expensive, he said. The result is they go to the United States.

CONTRACTS DIFFER

Nimsick said this is not right because contractual obligations in the U.S. are different than in Canada.

Nimsick said in the House earlier that schools should acquaint students with marriage problems they will encounter and offer instruction in family care, budgeting and housekeeping.

"Young people know nothing about life in this respect," Nimsick said.

GOV'T WILL FIX HIGHWAY

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government will fall heir to the Alberni-Tofino forest road this fall, the legislature was told Wednesday.

Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi said the road will revert to the crown on Oct. 4 under terms of a tree farm licence held by MacMillan, Bloedel and Powell River Co.

Gaglardi said he hopes to do major reconstruction work on the rugged 60-mile highway when the government takes ownership.

PHIL DETOURS BRIDGE QUERY

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The 42nd of June, 1969, the opening date of the new Mission bridge.

That was the answer Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi gave when needed in the legislature Wednesday by Dave Barrett (NDP—Dewdney).

Barrett said the bridge had been a prominent Social Credit promise in the election campaign and he thought it only proper that Gaglardi should give an opening date.

THURSDAY, MAR. 12, 1964

Bonner Squelches Weekend Jail Plan

By IAN MacALPINE
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—B.C. isn't ready for a system of weekend jails, Attorney-General Robert Bonner said in the legislature Wednesday.

He was commenting on a bill introduced by David Barrett (NDP-Dewdney) that would set up the system.

Under Barrett's proposal, patterned on systems now used in Europe and Wisconsin, prisoners would work at regular jobs Monday through Friday and spend the weekends in jail until they served their terms.

Barrett suggested setting up a pilot program to see how effective it would be.

The MLA said this would teach prisoners to accept community responsibilities, keep inmates' families off welfare roles, and relieve present prison overcrowding.

JAIL COMFORT

Barrett said that studies have shown that many prisoners seek the comfort of jail.

"They get three meals a day, have a bed, and someone to complain to," he said.

"But while they are in jail they learn to live by rules and regulations that have no relation to life outside jail," he added. "On release they are completely incapable of living in the community."

While prisoners are in custody their wives and families have to accept welfare, he said.

"They are punished by having to go on welfare and it places a burden on the taxpayers," Barrett said.

ALREADY HERE

Bonner said that the provincial corrections branch already operates a limited release system.

Both the provincial and national parole boards release inmates for daily employment, though the prisoners must return at night.

In the 1962-63 fiscal year 20 inmates were released from B.C. jails on this basis, he said.

"It is regarded as a half-way

step between a full prison program and parole itself," said Bonner.

MANY PROBLEMS

However, he said the system proposed by Barrett is premature.

There are complicated constitutional problems relating to federal legislation that would have to be solved and there are too few prisoners in B.C. jails that would qualify for the scheme, he said.

Bonner indicated he favors the system, however.

"I agree heartily with getting people out of institutions."

Terminal Won't Be Altered

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government has no plans to abandon or alter the ferry terminal at Horseshoe Bay.

Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi said this in the legislature Wednesday night, answering a query from Liberal leader Ray Perrault.

Perrault, who represents North Vancouver riding, said the Horseshoe Bay council is anxious to know if any changes are planned there.

"We don't intend to change anything," said Gaglardi. "The fish are swimming there and we'll let them swim there."

Gaglardi did say that his department is considering plans to widen Upper Levels Highway to Horseshoe Bay and that an interchange will be built at the intersection of Upper Levels and Lonsdale.

He said the new Port Mann bridge and freeway will be opened in the latter part of May.

\$71 Million For Roads Gets Fast OK

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The legislature spent \$71.8 million in four hours Wednesday.

Approval of the 1964-65 estimates of the highway department took less time than any of the eight departmental budgets sanctioned so far this session.

The time was taken up mainly by MLAs discussing the state of roads in their ridings.

The legislature has so far passed estimates for the premier's office, the attorney-general's department and the departments of finance, agriculture, health, labor and education.

Today the House will go into committee to debate spending proposed by the department of mines and petroleum resources, followed by recreation and conservation.

Both portfolios are held by Kenneth Kiernan, who will leave next week to head a B.C. tourist promotion team in California.

Third Road To UBC Considered

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Another access road into the University of B.C. is being considered, Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi told the legislature Wednesday.

"There's nothing positive and I won't make any promises I can't live up to," said the minister, replying to Dr. Pat McGeer (Lib.—Vancouver-Point Grey).

Dr. McGeer said UBC is a city of 25,000 every day during classes, and suggested another road could be built off the end of Sixteenth.

In answer to another question, Gaglardi said highway crews are surveying Lougheed Highway for plans to widen it to four lanes to Mission.

And he said he plans to confer shortly with North Vancouver district council concerning access roads into Seymour Park.

Fireworks Leave House Splintered

By IAN MACDONALD
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Mrs. Lois Haggen's anti-fireworks campaign blew up again in the legislature Wednesday.

And when the smoke cleared, the legislature was left with party solidarity broken and some strange alliances.

Mrs. Haggen, who never gives up, had her private bill to have fireworks banned for all but public displays defeated 32-18.

She noted the government's Fireworks Regulations Act now permits firecracker sales and firing from Oct. 24 to Nov. 1.

LOST THREE

She maintained that if firecrackers are considered undesirable and dangerous the rest of the year, they are equally undesirable and dangerous for that one week.

The NDP member for Grand Forks-Greenwood got support from three Social Credit members — Arvid Lundell Revelstoke, Bert Price (Vancouver-Burrard), and John Tisdalle

(Saanich)—but lost the votes of three of her own party.

Voting with Premier Bennett and the other Socials, and four Liberals, was her leader, Bob Strachan, and NDP backbencher Tony Gargrave.

Dave Stupich (NDP-Nanaimo,) who said he intended to vote against the bill, was out of the House when the vote was taken.

Harry McKay (Liberal-Fernie) split with his party and voted with Mrs. Haggen.

EARNEST PLEA

The debate was a light-hearted affair despite Mrs. Haggen's earnest plea. She has tried for her bill at several sessions.

"I am not thinking of adults," she said. "I am thinking of little people who get hurt by firecrackers."

Premier Bennett said that when he was a boy he had a lot of fun with firecrackers. He maintained some members were getting too old in their outlook.

"Youth today is just as responsible as I was," he said.

Cave Hunt Looms For Gas Storage

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Gas companies will have to go cavern hunting if they want to take advantage of the government's proposed natural gas storage scheme.

The legislature has given second reading—approval in principle—to the bill that will authorize underground storage of gaseous hydrocarbons.

The idea is to transport gas from its source in northern B.C. to storage caverns in the major consumption area of the Lower Mainland.

This would permit operators to make more use of pipelines during slack seasons and relieve load pressure during peak periods.

Mines Minister Kenneth

Kiernan told the legislature the government is prepared to lease underground caves to operators.

But he also said Wednesday that the companies will have to search for the caves themselves.

There are no known caverns within 60 miles of Vancouver, he said.

"We will authorize people who are interested in underground storage to carry out exploration for some," he said.

Kiernan said that old mine workings, caves carved out of rock, or natural underground reservoirs like the ones in which natural gas is normally found, can be used for storing gas.

EQUAL PAY BID

Mrs. Haggen Loses Fight For Women

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The legislature's only woman member lost a bid Wednesday to amend the Equal Pay Act to women's advantage.

Mrs. Lois Haggen (NDP-Grand Forks-Greenwood) wanted wording in the act changed to state a woman shall receive the same pay as a man for comparable work.

She maintained the present

wording, which states there will be no discrimination for the same work, is open to abuse.

Mrs. Haggen said frequently an employer will slightly change the job a woman does to get around the law and pay less money.

She also wanted the act change to make it permissible for a person to lay a discrimination charge on behalf of another.

Labor Minister Les Peterson said he admired Mrs. Haggen for her persistency in bringing her private bill in every session but said the government could not accept her amendments.

He maintained the changes could result in unjustified and frivolous complaints.

TIRE-ADE IN THE HOUSE

**Macdonald Treads Heavily
On a 'Rubber-Stamp' Job**

Sun Victoria Bureau
VICTORIA—Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi was accused Wednesday of patronage in appointing a deacon of his church as a tire consultant to the highways department.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) pressed the point in the legislature and sparked a bitter row between Socred and New Democratic MLAs.

Macdonald said a character assassin and Premier W. A. C. Bennett was labelled an arrogant bully before the fight ended.

Macdonald said Gaglardi must have been playing a joke in hiring A. H. Cassidy, of Kamloops, as a tire consultant.

He said that Cassidy, paid \$8,035 during the 1962-63 fiscal year, is a deacon of Calvary Temple at Kamloops, of which Gaglardi is pastor.

"Are there not more qualified men to act as tire consultants," asked Macdonald. "This is the worst appointment since Emperor Caligula made his horse a proconsul.

"He's your tire consultant and we think he should be retired," he said.

"He's neither useful nor ornamental, like a second tail on a dog."

Gaglardi tore into Macdonald for attacking Cassidy.

"This is more character assassination which I certainly deplore," he said.

SAVED THOUSANDS

Gaglardi said Cassidy was hired because he is an expert in his field and a man with 30 years' experience in the tire business.

He said Cassidy is such a well-known tire authority that the council of vocational schools asked him to become a director.

"If you knew as much about law as he knows about tires,

you'd be very good at law," said Gaglardi to Macdonald, a lawyer.

Gaglardi said that Cassidy has saved the highways department thousands of dollars.

"If I suspect patronage in a department I'll say so," said Macdonald. "A question never hurt anybody if there's a proper answer."

Macdonald said he was not attacking Cassidy's character.

Premier Bennett joined in: "This attack on the minister of highways is a planned attack of the NDP-CCF smear campaign that the people reject."

'YOU'RE ARROGANT'

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said that Premier Bennett doesn't like anyone to ask questions or be critical of his government.

"You're not going to intimidate members of the Opposition by standing up the way you've just done," he said.

"We have this right and this responsibility and you try to browbeat us and bully us," said Strachan. "You're an arrogant premier."

Contacted at his home in Kamloops Wednesday night, Cassidy said he could not understand why Macdonald would make such remarks.

"I ran my own tire business for 20 years," he said. "It's easy enough to check on qualifications."

**Liberal Raps Gov't
On Road Contracts**

**Probe Proved Inept, Obnoxious
Firms Got Jobs, Says Perrault**

By IAN MacALPINE
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Last year's highways probe proved that obnoxious and inept contractors are being given road-building contracts in B.C., the legislature was told Wednesday.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault recalled the hearing at which Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi was cleared of graft allegations.

Perrault, speaking during debate of highway spending estimates, said he was appalled at the ineptitude of the contractors who were involved in the probe, centered around Project S19, near Revelstoke.

It showed that small contractors were biting off more than they could chew, at the expense of the taxpayer, he said.

'DISGRACEFUL'

"It's absolutely disgraceful," said Perrault. "The whole concept of obnoxious and inept people was the major indictment to come out of the hearing."

The Liberal leader said there is a need for a system of pre-qualification in B.C., whereby companies bidding on highway contracts would have to disclose their financial status.

He said that some U.S. states rule that a company can only bid up to 20 times the value of its assets.

SOME COULD

Men like Montana contractor Dick Holzworth (who sparked the probe) and some other B.C. contractors working under that system could bid up to \$20, said Perrault.

The Liberal leader said it is arrogant garbage to suggest that contractors who have gone broke on government jobs haven't cost the province money.

Gaglardi said it is untrue that contractors have cost the taxpayers money and said the government has no intention of instituting a system of pre-qualification.

\$1 BILLION

In 11 years the government has awarded highway contracts worth about \$1 billion and a bonding company has never had to step in and take over a contractor, he said.

He said that only about one-tenth of one per cent of the people involved on government jobs have ever run into financial troubles.

"And I think this is a record," said Gaglardi.

**Road Planned
To Pemberton**

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi said Wednesday a road from Squamish to Pemberton will be open to the public this fall.

Gaglardi told the House that grading will be done on a 12-mile stretch south of Pemberton to complete the highway. He said outside the House that paving is likely next year.

Gaglardi also said the government is considering improving the Squamish Highway just north of Britannia.

He said the Patricia Bay Highway from Victoria through Saanich to the government ferry wharf at Swartz Bay will be widened to four lanes as soon as a survey is completed.

THURSDAY, MAR. 12, 1964

MLA's BILL

Smoking Curbs Stubbed

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — An anti-smoking measure was stubbed in the legislature Wednesday but not put out completely.

Alex Macdonald, (NDP-Vancouver East) attacked cigaret advertising — particularly on radio and television — as indicating to young people that smoking is the smart thing to do.

Macdonald, a cigar smoker, said: "The commercials indicate non-smoking is rather square. We should try to show young people that cigaret smoking is not the smart thing to do but that it is the dumb thing to do."

He got applause from both sides of the House, several government members being staunch anti-smokers.

Macdonald had introduced a bill that would require all cigaret packages to carry the words: "Warning. These ciga- rets have a nicotine and tar content and are dangerous to human health."

He also wanted the words included in all cigaret advertising, including radio and television commercials.

Speaker William Murray ruled the bill out of order on grounds it was partly outside provincial jurisdiction as radio and television are federal matters.

But Premier Bennett pointed out that private members' bills were brought forward early this session so new bills could be brought in.

Macdonald said he would prepare a new bill.

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FRIDAY, MAR. 13, 1964

'B.C. Discriminates Against Truckers'

Lack of Reciprocal Licences A Hardship, Says Perrault

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—B.C. truckers are being driven into financial hardship through lack of reciprocal licensing agreements with other provinces, the legislature was told Thursday.

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault said he has been told by responsible truckers B.C. is the only province that doesn't have inter-provincial truck licensing arrangements.

The result is that a long-haul company in B.C. must pay \$4,800 a year to obtain vehicle licences for all provinces. Truckers in other provinces, who have the benefit of reciprocal plates, only have to spend about \$800, he said.

"If this is true it is a totally unwarranted interference with commerce," said Perrault.

EXPLANATION SOUGHT

He asked Commercial Transport Minister Kenneth Kiernan to explain if this is the situation.

Kiernan said later he has scheduled a meeting with B.C. truckers after the legislature prorogues to discuss truck licensing problems.

He did not give an answer to Perrault's specific question.

Perrault claimed lack of reciprocal licences required B.C. truckers hauling across other provinces to pay the full rate for plates in the other areas.

As a result B.C. truckers are not able to compete on an equal footing with their counterparts elsewhere in Canada, he said.

OUT OF BUSINESS

He said the difference in licence costs could force some trucking companies in the province out of business.

Perrault said it would only mean a loss of about \$20,000 a year to B.C. to implement agreements. This would be more than offset by increased equipment sales to truckers.

Kiernan was also asked to consider establishing a monthly licensing system for B.C. trucks.

Leo Nimsick (NDP-Cranbrook) said many truckers cannot use public roads during the annual spring breakup, when load restrictions are in effect.

Yet they are required to pay a licence fee for this period, he said.

If truckers were able to buy their licences by the month they wouldn't have to pay anything when they weren't using their vehicles, said Nimsick.

'RULE BY EXHAUSTION' REMARK ENDS SESSION

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Premier Bennett ended a marathon legislative session at 1:05 a.m. today when an opposition member mentioned exhaustion.

After 8 hours and 35 minutes of debate, Leo Nimsick (NDP—Cranbrook) said: "It is unfortunate we are beginning to legislate by exhaustion again."

Bennett jumped to his feet, recalled the vote on the salary of Recreation and Conservation Minister Kenneth Kiernan, and ended debate. It was the longest sitting of the current session.

HOLLYWOOD INFORMED OF BEAUTIES OF B.C.

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—British Columbia is trying to sell Hollywood on its wide-open spaces for movie-making.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault suggested in the legislature Thursday that B.C. is perfect for this purpose and the government should distribute its color magazine, Beautiful B.C., throughout Hollywood.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner said this already is being done through B.C. House in San Francisco and personnel in Los Angeles.

Kiernan Defends Policy on Parks

Wilderness Logging, Mining Termed Unavoidable Reality

By IAN MACDONALD
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Logging and mining rights in wilderness parks are unavoidable realities, Recreation and Conservation Minister Ken Kiernan told the legislature Thursday.

Kiernan said his announcement last month that the operations are permissible was not something new or a major change in policy.

Kiernan has been under heavy attack from conservationists opposed to any commercial ventures in the wilderness areas.

He repeated and expanded his views when he rose during the estimate debate on his salary. Kiernan has already announced he will present a new parks act to the legislature next year.

Tony Gargrave (NDP-Mackenzie) maintained that a serious mistake in policy had been made.

GO BACK LONG WAY

Kiernan said crown mineral rights — which amount to rights in perpetuity — have been held in some of the wilderness parks up to 50 years.

There are 22 in Garibaldi Park, along with timber rights to 3,927 acres of timber, and others exist in most of the parks.

Kiernan said that Social Credit had cancelled crown grant mineral rights but could do nothing about those already issued.

When the debate adjourned the minister had not answered a question by Opposition leader Robert Strachan asking if any new development would be permitted or whether it would be restricted to rights already held.

"There is no basis in democratic government to forbid a man to mine that which is democratically his," Kiernan said.

NEED STRESSED

He said rights already granted could not be taken back and it was pointless to think of buying them back.

Kiernan said he mentioned these in his first address to bring the attention of the people to the need for access to parks.

Kiernan suggested it is bet-

ter to co-operate with the commercial interests to work to have mining and logging roads built in the best practical location rather than as an obstruction.

He said some of the parks, including Garibaldi and Strathcona on Vancouver Island, are relatively inaccessible.

Kiernan said some of the wilderness park boundaries had been prepared without regard to the lie of the land or access.

FAVORS PHILOSOPHY

He said there had to be a park philosophy.

"It has to be a philosophy that is realistic and understandable and one that serves the need of the people," Kiernan stated.

Kiernan said if parks are dedicated to wilderness 95 per cent of the people will get no use from them.

Kiernan, replying to opposition criticism, said the reason total park acreage is down is that some areas judged useless have been given up — including a 1.3 million area of mosquito-laden muskeg in the Lard River basin in Northern B.C.

He said the government had acted correctly in announcing two recent park moves by cabinet order. The opposition had maintained they should have been handled by the legislature.

FAVORS FACILITIES

Kiernan said he sees nothing wrong with permitting people like ski-tow operators and restaurant operators to provide facilities in public parks with private money.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault said Kiernan's announcement about orderly development sounded similar to that made by commercial interests.

He said only 0.4 per cent of B.C. timber resources are in the parks and he doubted industry really needed it.

Leo Nimsick (NDP-Cranbrook) said it is ridiculous to suggest private companies

will do selective logging.

It is like asking a termite to take only one bite out of your house," he said.

Alex Macdonald (NDP-Vancouver East) said there is tremendous commercial pressure for logs. "The minister is a well-intentioned man but I don't think he realizes the pressures working against him," he said.

"We want a province in the future in which people can live decent, human lives with a little elbow room in a world where elbow room is disappearing," Macdonald added.

Gargrave, speaking in the debate that ran on after midnight, said that logging companies have had their eyes on Garibaldi Park for several years.

"The parks belong to the people," said Gargrave.

"We were elected by the people," Labor-Education Minister Leslie Peterson broke in.

Gargrave pointed to the minister and declared: "This government has been so successful at the polls they have forgotten their responsibility to the people."

Cyril Shelford (SC-Omineca) said it is ridiculous to talk about reducing the size of some large wilderness parks.

He said that Tweedsmuir Park, one of those reduced in area, now only stretches from Vancouver to Kamloops.

FACE-SAVING CHARGED

Shelford said he has been on guiding trips 60 miles into Tweedsmuir and "that's just over the first hump."

Arthur Turner (NDP-Vancouver East) said Kiernan is trying to save face by saying that there is no change in park policy.

David Stupich (NDP-Nanaimo-The Islands) described Kiernan as the picture of innocence.

"At times (during Kiernan's explanation of park policy) I thought he was filled with righteous indignation at the public furore," he said.

Grubstaking Grant Hiked

VICTORIA — The provincial government will grubstake prospectors this year to the tune of \$40,000.

The amount was approved in the legislature Thursday, an increase of \$10,000 from last year.

Established prospectors can obtain amounts in excess of \$700 in the quest for B.C.'s mineral wealth.

WINCH PARK A POSSIBILITY

VICTORIA (CP)—Recreation Minister Kenneth Kiernan said Thursday night the government will consider naming a provincial park after the late Ernest Winch, long-time CCF member of the legislature for Burnaby.

Mrs. Lois Haggan (NDP—

Grand Forks - Greenwood) had asked the minister during discussion of his estimates whether he might consider bestowing such an honor on the former MLA, who died prior to the 1957 session of the House.

Replied Mr. Kiernan: "It is fitting that Ernie Winch's name be commemorated in our parks system, as the opportunity arises."

Own Coney Island Proposed for B.C.

Socred MLA Urges Reclamation Of 10,000 Acres at Mud Bay

By IAN MacALPINE
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A Canadian Coney Island on the B.C. Lower Mainland was proposed in the legislature Thursday by a Socred MLA.

Ernie LeCours (Delta) suggested the scheme, based on reclamation of 10,000 acres of foreshore land stretching along 40 miles of beach from the U.S. border to Beach Grove.

He said the funland could feature horse and dog races and summer and winter accommodation for tourists.

It could be served by a monorail from downtown Vancouver, said LeCours.

His slogan to promote the attraction: "Next winter spend your summer on the Canadian Riviera."

The area includes White Rock, Crescent Beach, Ocean Park, Boundary Bay and Mud Bay.

The stretch that would have

to be reclaimed behind a seawall is in the Boundary and Mud Bay region.

LeCours said the Boundary Bay area is now under reserve for industrial development.

"This is causing concern in Delta, Vancouver and New Westminster," he said.

LeCours urged Recreation Minister Ken Kiernan to use his influence with Lands and Forest Minister Ray Williston in having the industrial reserve lifted.

He said the area would serve much better as a playground.

"By the year 2000 the population of the Lower Mainland will be anywhere between

three and five million," he said. "We'll have to give thought to a recreation area for all these people."

Lecours said there could be private development along the beach park but the shoreline itself would be reserved for the public.

"It sounds like Coney Island," said Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East).

"Maybe," replied Lecours, "but you need dollars to develop it and commercialism means dollars."

The Socred said the park could be the greatest development of its kind in Canada.

SAYS SHELFORD

B.C. Short On Game Wardens

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C. needs more game wardens, the legislature was told Thursday.

Cyril Shelford (SC, Omicron) a farmer and sometime guide, said the present squad of conservation officers is overworked.

They are doing a good job but they are kept too busy, particularly in the fall, said Shelford.

The MLA said also the officers aren't allowed enough air travel.

Many hunters and fishermen in north-central B.C. fly into the region, he said.

"Ninety-five per cent of them abide by the law but some don't," said Shelford.

Though some are caught for game infractions, he said, untold others are not.

Shelford cited the case of an American sportsman who flew in to a remote lake without bothering to stop at customs or to pick up hunting and fishing licences.

He caught fish and shot moose and was about to leave when the game warden apprehended him.

Shelford said the man was fined \$2,000.

He said it was just luck that the game warden happened on to the case.

Shelford said the government reaps enough in game licence fees to spend more for extra help and more use of aircraft in enforcement.

Accountants Bill Rapped By Official

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A federal tax official claimed Thursday a move to unite public accounts in B.C. will raise fees charged to the public.

Gordon Campbell, an officer in the taxation division of the national revenue department here, told the legislature's private bills committee he was speaking as an individual certified general accountant.

The committee is hearing submissions on a bill that will bring all public accountants together under a single regulatory act.

Campbell said this would create a monopoly and eliminate competition between chartered accountants and certified general accountants.

He said 45 per cent of the certified general accountants in the province are opposed to the bill because they fear possible discrimination.

Campbell said the certified general accountants' credentials were recognized in a bill passed by the legislature in 1961. This created competition between them and chartered accountants, he said.

FRIDAY, MAR. 13, 1964

Tire Man Defends Gov't Consultant

Highways department tire consultant A. H. Cassidy, whose appointment sparked a bitter row in the legislature, has been described as the best qualified man in B.C. for the job.

The description was given Thursday by J. L. Tyrrell, divisional manager of Good-year Tire and Rubber Co. of Canada Ltd., who has known Cassidy for 17 years.

Tyrrell was commenting on an accusation made by MLA Alex Macdonald (NDP-Vancouver East) that Cassidy's appointment was political patronage by Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi.

Macdonald pointed out in the legislature Wednesday that Cassidy is a deacon of Calvary Temple at Kamloops, of which Gaglardi is pastor.

30 YEARS IN WORK

"This is the worst appointment since Emperor Caligula made his horse a proconsul," he said — and opened a fierce discussion between Sacred and

New Democratic MLAs.

"Cassidy has been in the tire business for 30 years and I don't think there is anyone in B.C. better qualified for the job he holds now," said Tyrrell.

"He was our warehouse distributor in Kamloops, when he ran his own business there, and I have known him since 1947."

Cassidy operated his Kamloops business for 20 years until about two years ago.

"He is a practical man and knows everything there is to know about tires," said Tyrrell. "He is a good man and does not deserve any criticism."

\$20 A DAY, EXPENSES

Gaglardi said Thursday that Cassidy, who earned \$8,035 during the last fiscal year, saves B.C. up to \$166,000 a year by inspecting and advising on the tires of highways department vehicles.

He said Cassidy works on a consultant basis for \$20 a day and travel expenses.

"And we can show that he

saves the department anything up to one-third of annual costs of \$500,000 for tires and maintenance," said Gaglardi in a telephone interview.

He explained that Cassidy's job involves deciding when to recap and replace tires and casings, and what type of tires to use on highways equipment. He also trains department employees to inspect tires.

"If a man is qualified to do a job what difference does it make what church he belongs to?" asked Gaglardi.

He said opposition members make discriminatory remarks every year "about contractors they figure are friends of mine."

Gaglardi said Macdonald was implying that all a tire consultant does is go around kicking tires.

In fact, all big businesses with a lot of motor equipment have a tire consultant, he added.

McGEER TELLS LEGISLATURE:

Mental Patients Deserve Care in General Hospitals

Sun Victoria Bureau
 VICTORIA — The provincial government was urged Friday to treat mental patients in general hospitals rather than in large institutions.

Dr. Pat McGeer (Lib.-Point Grey) told the legislature that modern miracle drugs make this possible.

He said the drugs and new treatment are resulting in far less severe mental symptoms than before.

McGeer, speaking on the proposed new Mental Health Act, congratulated the government for moving towards decentralization of mental health facilities. The debate on the bill was adjourned.

STILL HAVE STIGMA

"We want to take people away from great institutions like Essondale and Crease Clinic and treat them in their own communities," McGeer said.

But he said the act has not incorporated the recognized principle adopted elsewhere in the world to treat mental patients like other patients in general hospitals.

"We still have today a partial stigma towards mental illness and this would help remove it," McGeer said.

He said the provincial government would get 50 per cent federal aid for treatment of mental patients in general hospitals, which would in the end reduce provincial costs.

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby) said he disagreed

with McGeer and was opposed to putting admission in the hands of a medical superintendent.

He said the proposed act is a document of paper and not reality.

Dowding maintained it provided a patient could get out of a mental hospital if improperly there but did not guarantee a person needing treatment could get in.

He also maintained that 23 sections in the bill delegate power to cabinet order rather than to the legislature.

David Barrett (NDP-Dewdney) also commended the government for moving toward decentralization of mental hospitals.

"No one can predict the outcome of this bill. The principle is good. No one can stand in the way of this bill," he said.

SERIOUS DEFECT

Both Barrett and Dowding complained that the new Mental Health Act does not spell out how the proposed mental health scheme will be financed. They termed this the most

serious defect of the legislation.

Barrett said this lack of information has raised fears in communities that they will be stuck with the cost of mental health, now \$18 million a year.

Barrett added that the bill does not make provision for preventive treatment in the mental health field, particularly in relation to emotionally disturbed children.

THREE 'SCHOOLS'

This must be taken care of to prevent these youngsters from following the flow through the jails and, eventually, Essondale provincial mental hospital, he said.

"I have known people who have taken grade school in Brannon Lake School (for boys), high school at Oakalla and university correspondence while in B.C. Penitentiary," said Barrett, a social worker.

"With the right approach we could have prevented these people from flowing through these institutions," Barrett said.

Kiernan to Study Solids Pipeline

VICTORIA (CP)—Commercial Transport Minister Kenneth Kiernan said Friday his department has received several tentative submissions from firms contemplating construction of a solids pipeline between Vancouver and the Prairies.

Kiernan said in an interview that a firm application for such a pipeline "would certainly be considered," since the feasibility of moving coal and other solids by pipeline has already been demonstrated in the United States.

"But at the moment all the submissions have been in the category of vague generalities," he said, "and the general attitude of the government is that an application to do something at some time is unsatisfactory."

An application from General Commodities Pipelines Limited of Calgary had talked of a pipeline that would carry coal, potash, sulphur and gypsum between Regina and Vancouver via Edmonton.

"But their submission was couched in terms of asking whether, if the scheme proved feasible, they would be given priority," he said.

"In this case, the answer is no. We don't give options of this sort."

To be valid applications, he said, the submissions would have to include statements on such matters as proposed timing and construction techniques.

Kiernan said the idea of solids pipelines is getting "intensive study" across North America.

"Undoubtedly the idea will play an ever-increasing part in the movement of bulk commodities over long distances."

Better Vote Turnout Aim

Sun Victoria Bureau
 VICTORIA — Municipal Affairs Minister Wesley Black said Friday he hoped Saturday voting will help get more people to the polls.

Black said the turnout at some local elections has fallen as low as 13 per cent.

"I hope this switch in days will help stimulate the turnout," he said as the House gave approval in principle to an act to amend the Municipal Act.

In the past municipal elections have been held on a Monday in most parts of the province. Vancouver's civic elections are traditionally held on a Thursday and Victoria's on a Wednesday.

Accountant Denies Act to Hike Fees

Sun Victoria Bureau
VICTORIA — A Vancouver accountant said Friday it is not true a proposed new public accountancy act in B.C. will lead to a monopoly and higher fees.

Lewis Battrum, past president of the Certified General Accountants Association, was replying in the legislature's private bills committee to an opposite view given Thursday.

At that time Gordon Campbell, a federal tax official who made a submission as an individual certified general accountant, said the act would eliminate competition in accountancy.

He also claimed that general accountants would eventually lose their status as qualified accountants by uniting with chartered accountants.

Battrum said the proposed act would not affect the general accountants nor would the amalgamation lead to a monopoly.

Battrum said the act would, for the first time, make it easy for CGAs to obtain chartered

accountant status. The bill would give public accountancy a professional status, he said.

New Westminster accountant Richard Bishop told the committee a monopoly already exists in his profession.

The accountants' societies reprimand members who do not charge high enough fees, he said. The proposed act would legalize this monopoly.

Oil Act To Boost Revenue

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A new Petroleum and Natural Gas Act designed to give the government more revenue from oil and gas leases was introduced in the Legislature Friday.

The bill is mainly a redraft of existing legislation but officials of Mines Minister Kenneth Kiernan's department said one important change will mean a \$1 million a year revenue increase.

Companies now get a 75-cent reduction—from \$1 to 25 cents an acre—if they do exploratory work on oil and gas leases. Under the new law, they will get only a 50-cent cut.

UP NEXT SESSION

The new act will not be debated until the next session of the legislature. Kiernan said it is being introduced now so that it can be studied by interested parties.

Several other minor bills were introduced Friday.

An amendment to the Laws Declaratory Act will give subcontractors easier access to claims against labor and material bonds in cases where contractors default.

Private investigators will be permitted to hire temporary help without having to bond and fingerprint them, provided they have authority of the assistant commissioner of the RCMP.

ANOTHER CHANGE

And another legislative change will bring public utilities under the Securities Act for the first time.

Other legislation will permit the council of the B.C. Pharmaceutical Association to subpoena witnesses to hearings and inquiries under the Pharmacy Act; and allow registration of chiropractors other than British subjects.

MONDAY, MAR. 16, 1964

Prospectors Seek Free Access Right

VICTORIA (CP) — British Columbia prospectors say they are concerned about difficulties of pursuing their profession in timbered areas.

A total of 67 prospectors have signed a petition to the legislature's special committee on access, making a plea for steps to ensure "long-standing rights."

The men have made their appeal through the B.C. and Yukon Chamber of Mines.

The petition says prospectors in recent years have had difficulty gaining access into privately owned timbered areas to search for mineral deposits.

The prospectors ask that they be allowed to travel freely in mountainous areas of B.C., to use all access roads with discretion, to camp in forest areas and to light camp fires for cooking and warmth.

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Jurors Get Raise, More to Be Eligible

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government moved Monday to raise jury pay and broaden the field of prospective jurors.

Legislation introduced by Attorney-General Robert Bonner will increase pay from \$8 to \$10 a day. It will also raise the age limit of jurors from 65 to 70, and make a wide range of individuals previously exempt eligible for jury duty.

The amendments to the Jury Act will become effective on July 1.

24 EXEMPTIONS

The present act exempts 24 occupational classes from jury duty, including lawyers, doctors, newsmen, teachers, bankers, clergymen, members of the armed forces, pilots, seamen, MPs, MLAs and policemen.

Under the amendments, only MPs, MLAs, law enforcement officers, coroners and prison wardens will be absolutely ex-

empt from jury duty.

However, the new legislation says that those people now exempt who are selected for jury duty after July 1 will be able to apply to the sheriff or presiding judge to be excused on grounds of serious inconvenience.

FIRST READING

Bonner said in the legislature several days ago that the present act exempts many occupational classes that would provide the kind of jurors that should be hearing cases.

He did not elaborate when the new bill was introduced and given first reading in the House on Monday.

The amendments still allow jurors to be excused on grounds of hardship or illness.

APPLICATIONS TO BE HEARD

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Public hearing of five applications for pulp harvesting licences will be held in northern B.C. as soon as the legislature progresses, Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston said Monday.

Williston said the applications have been made by Celgar, at Prince Rupert; MacMillan Bloedel and Powell River Ltd., at Kitimat; Bulkley Valley Timber Operators, at Houston; Alexandra Forest Products, north of Prince George, and Noranda, east of Prince George.

The minister said no specific hearing dates have been set.

GARNISHEE EXEMPTION UP

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The level of wages exempt from garnishee proceedings is going to be raised in B.C., Attorney-General Robert Bonner said Monday.

He introduced a bill in the legislature amending the Small Debts Courts Act.

The bill will raise the exemption for single persons to \$75 from \$60 and married couples' income to \$150 from \$120. Bonner said the increase recognizes the higher cost of living.

Aluminum Plant Considered Here

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — An international aluminum company is considering building a plant on the Lower Mainland, Lands and Forest Minister Ray Williston said Monday.

Williston told the legislature the company, which he did not name, is interested in Peace River power.

Power from the northern development is due to start flowing in 1968.

Williston later said outside the House that the company approached him concerning the price of Peace Power about 2½ to three weeks ago.

He said he referred the queries to the B.C. Hydro Authority, the agency for the project.

Williston would not say if the company is American-owned but said it has plants in the U.S.

"It is international," he said. He did not say if the company has entered into negotiation with the hydro authority.

Williston declined to give any estimate of the value of the plant being considered.

He made his House reference to the scheme while discounting claims made in Ottawa by national NDP leader Tommy Douglas.

Williston quoted Douglas as saying that cheap Columbia power to be sold to the United States under the Columbia treaty would eliminate the aluminum industry in B.C.

INSURANCE

B.C. Moves On Fraud

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government plans to thwart fire and casualty insurance fraud with an amendment to the Insurance Act.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner told the legislature Monday the change will establish a uniform insurance application form.

"We're blazing new trails," said Bonner.

He explained later that at present there is no standard form for applying for fire and casualty insurance.

As a result there have been cases where individuals made repeated claims, without arousing company suspicions.

"It amounts to a fraud on insurance funds," Bonner said.

He said the new scheme will permit insurance companies to make cross-references through a central pool.

Log Pool For North Proposed

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — An MLA has proposed setting up a harvesting pool in northern B.C. as a means of solving log marketing problems.

Dudley Little (SC—Skeena) also advocates keeping timber in his area open so that logs can be put to their best use.

Little said Monday there is no need for any operators to suffer from lack of logs suited to their timber enterprise.

With a harvesting pool, operators could trade logs with one another to get the type of logs needed, he told the legislature.

"I stress it is most important that the timber in the Skeena Valley be held open and no exclusive rights given to anyone in this area," said Little. "I feel the contractors and operators should be able to sell the pulp logs where they can secure the best price."

Two companies—MacMillan, Bloedel and Powell River Ltd., and Columbia Cellulose, are competing for pulp harvesting rights in the region.

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TUESDAY, MAR. 17, 1964

Thousands to Get Assessment Relief

By CLIFF MacKAY
Sun City Hall Reporter

Thousands of B.C. homeowners are promised relief from high taxes by an amendment to the provincial Assessment Equalization Act introduced in the legislature Monday night by Premier W. A. C. Bennett.

This provides that residences used for that purpose for five years prior to last Jan. 1 shall be assessed on that basis regardless of zoning provisions.

Vancouver's assessment commissioner W. H. Snowdon declined comment today, beyond stating that the change will require serious study. It will force alterations in the 1963 assessment roll now under preparation.

Chiefly affected here are areas of the West End, Kitsilano and Kerrisdale which have been zoned for apartments. In addition, large tracts of residential Fairview have been zoned for commercial use.

Assessors throughout the province have been forced by the equalization act passed in 1953 to value these properties according to their highest and best use, rather than according to their worth to the owners as home sites.

Each year, courts of revision have heard scores of complaints from owners who don't wish to sell or move. Many have protested that they can't get offers for their property corresponding to assessed values because zoning is far ahead of demand.

The situation was protested

to Victoria this year by Charles Brakenridge, chairman of the Vancouver revising tribunal.

Premier Bennett's amendment is apparently modelled on legislation already in effect in Alberta.

New Democrats Ask Time for Homework

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The New Democrats stalled approval of nine bills in the legislature Monday, begging more time for homework.

All of the legislation was introduced by the government Friday, just before the weekend adjournment.

When the government sought second reading—approval in principle—Monday, the NDP opposition adjourned debate on each of the bills.

Ran Harding (NDP—Kaslo-Slocan) explained that the NDP had not had time to study the proposed legislation.

Included in the list were two complementary bills raising the maximum claim from the traffic victims' indemnity fund and the minimum auto insurance coverage from \$35,000 to \$50,000.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner said this will give B.C. the highest comprehensive coverage in Canada. He predicted that other provinces will follow B.C.'s example.

Bonner said the higher amount is necessary to meet the increasing levels of insurance claims.

Seven bills were passed by the legislature Monday.

Among them were the new Contracts Relief Act, which gives the courts power to review credit transactions; the bill removing tolls from Oak Street Bridge and Deas Tunnel on April 1; and Bill 20, which forbids employment discrimination against workers between 45 and 65 years of age.

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Bennett Charges NDP-Red Alliance

By IAN MACDONALD
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier Bennett charged Monday that Kootenay West MP Bert Herridge is allied with the Communists in trying to block the Columbia River treaty.

The accusation threw the legislature into a wild shouting match.

"I am alarmed about the alliance of communism and all its propaganda and Herridge," Bennett told the House.

He maintained the NDP, headed by Herridge and leader Tommy Douglas, are obstructionists.

Bennett was accused of McCarthyism by Opposition leader Bob Strachan, who also said Social Credit practices smack of latent fascism.

CUTS SESSION

The row began in the afternoon and simmered on into a night sitting that was ended abruptly in 40 minutes by the premier to opposition taunts that he was being childish.

Leo Nimsick (NDP—Cranbrook) smilingly said the pre-

mier had let him down after promising last week that there would be no night sittings this week.

Bennett jumped up and asked Nimsick if he wanted him to withdraw the vote—on Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston's salary—which would mean an end to the sitting.

"It is your prerogative not mine," Nimsick said. "I am not going to be bullied by anyone. The promise you made must have been a threat."

The sudden ending at 9:10 p.m. threw a block into many hopes that the legislative session, which began on Jan. 23, would end by this weekend.

'BAD TREATY'

The Columbia dispute started when Harding said the present treaty is a bad one and a catastrophe for B.C.

He asked Williston a lot of questions about detail of the project.

Williston said the questions had a similar ring to those being asked in Ottawa, where the amended treaty is up for ratification.

He said the NDP is sworn to use all its power to oppose passage of the treaty.

"The NDP have the whole thing hamstrung at the moment out of pure politics," Williston said.

The minister denied opposition claims he was opposed to external affairs department committee hearings on the Columbia at Ottawa.

CHANGE COSTLY

But he warned that if any serious changes resulted from the hearing there would be no treaty.

Williston said it was time the NDP realized the plan would ensure B.C. the cheapest industrial power in North America.

Harding replied the NDP was not objecting simply for objecting's sake.

"The minister indicates we are holding up the treaty," Harding said. "We would not be doing a job if we let one of the major pieces of legislation in our time go through Ottawa or pass through this House without close scrutiny."

Peace Group Gets Chance in Court

New Bill Would Clear Way To Fight Takeover Price

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A bill introduced by the government Monday clears the way for the Peace River Power Development Co. to seek more money from the province.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan served immediate notice outside the legislature that the NDP will fight the bill, which will allow the company to question in court the \$8 million paid for expropriation of the power scheme.

"We (the province) are going to give Peace River Power more money—this is obvious," said Strachan.

"This is despite the original statement that they would never be bailed out."

The Peace firm, set up by the late international financier Axel Wenner-Gren, was awarded \$8 million in payment for records, surveys and plans held by the company at the time of expropriation.

The Wenner-Gren interests also got back a \$500,000 deposit when the government

ruled they had fulfilled their obligations to survey the resources of a vast area of the northern Rocky Mountains.

Opposition critics had attacked the Wenner-Gren development as a monstrous giveaway.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner said in introducing the bill Monday that it will also permit the government itself to appeal the award made by provincial comptroller-general C. J. Ferber.

The Peace firm already has launched a court action attempting to upset the expropriation in 1961.

Bonner also introduced another bill which would legalize all business conducted by the B.C. Hydro Authority since the government took over Peace Power and the B.C. Electric Co.

CAPITAL COLUMN

A Good Blow-Up Clears the Air

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—The public, listening to fierce spats in the legislature, wonders how on earth the opposing forces, having, with such vicious venom, pitted themselves one unto the other, ever have the gall to speak to each other again, let alone shake hands and slap backs.

But you see, it's like some husband-and-wife teams. The partners may yell and scream at each other sometimes, but it really doesn't mean a thing, so they say. It's just a way of clearing the air.

A good blow-up is said by some psychologists to be of great value in warding off strokes. If your MLAs didn't shout at each other now and then they'd live in constant danger of apoplexy—and you wouldn't want that, would you?

Take that spat the other evening between Premier Bennett and NDP Leo Nimsick of Cranbrook.

The premier said he'd call off the sitting if Mr. N. wanted it. Mr. N. said yes, he'd like the sitting to end, he was that exhausted. He did not dream the premier would.

The premier did. This caused Opposition leader Robert Strachan to say we have a petulant, childish and obnoxious premier.

Now the premier, when he gets to the hustings, can say, piously, that his government always considers the feelings of the opposition, that he, as premier and house leader, would never even think of riding rough-shod over oppositionists, those fine, upstanding pillars of our democracy, and if Mr. Nimsick was tired and cranky he was certainly entitled to go home and sleep

it off.

Nimsick, on the other hand, when he gets to the hustings, can tell his constituents the premier's so touchy, has so little sense of humor hat, in a fit of pique, he adjourned the House, spoil-sport that he is, so jumpy and unfit to be premier, that, in a selfish rage, he deliberately threw monkey wrenches into the public's business. Shame on him.

Thus it is that MLAs feed each other ammunition, and that's what keeps them from personal bitterness after those legislative spats. They gain from these spats wonderful political talking points.

SC J. Donald Smith of Victoria made a sort of half-hearted effort to bring Sunday movies and sports to all British Columbia.

Vancouver has such amenities (as some people call them), and Smith, rightly, believes the rest of the province should at least have a chance to get them if they want.

But he didn't get very far, and he didn't try very hard, because the government doesn't want Sunday sports and movies anywhere but in the big and wicked city of Vancouver.

People there may be walking down the road to hellfire, but the government, by law, will protect from that fate citizens in innocent places.

It doesn't make much sense,

but often governments don't. Why Sunday sports and movies are good in Vancouver, but bad elsewhere is a mystery the government keeps locked deep in its bosom.

B.C., under SC, is being called by Premier Bennett's political enemies, more separatist than Quebec.

The latest to wave the flag of B.C. separatism is SC Ralph Loffmark of Point Grey, said to be a Bennett confidante, though this could be but idle rumor.

Loffmark looks upon eastern Canadian money men as sharks and big financial bulles, and he says they're just not going to be allowed to get their claws around the new Bennett bank.

No, says Loffmark, B.C. is sick and tired of being pushed around and trampled upon by Montreal and Toronto tycoons.

British Columbians, we may gather from this, don't mind being pushed around by Vancouver tycoons, who, I suspect, can be just as hard-bolled as the M and T tycoons.

Eastern Canadians Loffmark calls foreigners, and he reminds them: "It is as far from Victoria to Ottawa as it is from Boston to London."

This, some people interpret as being a hint to Ottawa that if the 13 colonies could go it alone, so can B.C.

Williston Accused Of Taking Sides

Sun Victoria Bureau VICTORIA—Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston was accused Tuesday of taking sides with the giant MacMillan, Bloedel and Powell River Co.

Gordon Gibson (Lib.—North Vancouver) said a company brochure containing Williston's picture and an introduction written by the minister was sent to MBPR shareholders last month.

The minister's message said the company is actively participating in a program of continuous forest production.

The rest of the brochure explained responsibilities of a tree farm licence holder.

"I am happy to have this

opportunity to commend it to you and to show how this particular form of tenure fits into the broad picture of forest management," Williston's statement said.

Macmillan, Bloedel and Powell River is currently seeking timber rights in the Kitimat region in competition with three other firms.

"The minister shouldn't take sides," said Gibson. "He's a representative of the people."

Williston said later that he had no apology to make for the situation. But he pointed out that the statement written by him as a foreword in the company's brochure was not intended as a message to shareholders.

MLA Big Com Sun VICTO giants a ture's fo not maki MLA sa Tony kenzie), committ cerns sh their vi and hea committ Lands Ray W reply to big tin represen committ He sa the me did not Garg other g tended ings. "Wh Gargra come t would unions. "Wh holders the co "Fra mittee receive said G The of the workere there good, est po He should work of ref of the Soc Ou S VIO Credit out of he pro allowe on S tainme Don said o have afford to mo bill a Act. Smf order not a govern said M privat ends.

MLA Raps Big Timber Companies

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C.'s timber giants affronted the legislature's forestry committee by not making an appearance, an MLA said Tuesday.

Tony Gargrave (NDP, Mackenzie), a member of the committee, said the big concerns should have presented their views on forest policy and heard the views of the committee as well.

Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston said later, in reply to Gargrave, that the big timber companies sent representatives to the forestry committee meetings.

He said they attended all of the meetings although they did not make submissions.

Gargrave also claimed that other groups should have attended the committee hearings.

"Where were the unions?" Gargrave said. "They didn't come to the committee. We would like to hear from the unions."

"Where were the non-quota holders? We didn't hear from the consumers."

"Frankly, the standing committee on forestry has not received proper sounding," said Gargrave.

The MLA, who is a member of the International Woodworkers of America, said there has been a dearth of good, sound discussion on forest policies in the province.

He said the committee should be encouraged in its work and given wider terms of reference for airing views of the forest industry.

Fraser Dams To Be Last Under Plan

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The Fraser River will be the last to be dammed under a scheme to construct hydro and flood control measures in the river basin, the legislature was told Tuesday.

Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston said fish migration problems on the main stem of the river will have to be solved before any development occurs on the Fraser itself.

He was commenting on proposals made by the federal-provincial Fraser River Board for a \$405 million power and flood control scheme.

The board, after eight years' study, recommended building dams on the Fraser, Clearwater and McGregor Rivers, and strengthening dikes in the Fraser Valley.

Ottawa has asked B.C. for an early meeting to discuss the board's findings.

Williston said a preliminary meeting will likely be held in Ottawa in April.

However, he told the legislature that first development of the Fraser basin would occur on the Clearwater River, where a series of dams and power units is proposed.

This would be followed by a dam on the McGregor River that would divert the river's flow into the Peace River behind Portage Mountain dam.

Forming Park Units Local Task

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — It will be up to municipalities to band together in Metropolitan park authorities if they want to take advantage of aid offered by the provincial government.

Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston told the legislature Tuesday that the government cannot force the scheme on cities.

He was commenting on statements made by Ralph Loffmark (SC—Vancouver-Point Grey).

Loffmark said the government should consider setting up park authorities, in line with the policy announced earlier by Recreation Minister Kenneth Kiernan.

Kiernan said the government would offer financial help for park development if metropolitan areas set up common park commissions.

Loffmark said such places as Shaughnessy, Langara and Jericho golf courses, the Spanish Banks foreshore and the federally-owned Kitsilano area in Vancouver should be reserved for park use.

He also asked the government to clamp reserves on potential parkland to prevent subdivision development until a metropolitan park authority is set up to deal with the matter.

Forests Pay Too Little, Says Gibson

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C. forest companies can afford to pay \$36 million more a year in revenue to the provincial government, the legislature was told Tuesday.

Gordon Gibson (Lib.—North Vancouver), a millionaire lumberman and shareholder in the province's largest timber company, said this wouldn't hurt the companies at all.

He said the provincial government's net return from the forest industry last year was \$14 million or only two per cent of total forest income.

Management is getting the big piece of the forest pie, said Gibson, adding: "The ones getting almost nothing are British Columbians."

Gibson, a shareholder of Macmillan, Bloedel and Powell River Co., said the government should get at least \$100 million a year from forests.

Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston said later the net income to both the federal and provincial governments from B.C. forests was \$256 million.

The governments spent \$21.7 million of this through their forest services, he said.

Payment For Trees Considered

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government may start charging timber operators for trees now distributed free for replanting.

Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston told the legislature Tuesday that this would be a logical move.

He was replying to criticism from Gordon Gibson (Lib.—North Vancouver).

Gibson complained that operators are being given the trees when the government should be selling them and increasing provincial revenues. "They should grow them or we should charge them," said Gibson.

"Maybe it would be logical to charge for trees for replanting," said Williston. "We're not doing it now."

Socred Talks Out of Turn

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A Social Credit backbencher was ruled out of order Tuesday when he proposed municipalities be allowed to exercise an option on Sunday sport and entertainment.

Donald Smith (Victoria) said other communities should have the same opportunity afforded Vancouver, and tried to move an amendment to a bill amending the Municipal Act.

Smith was ruled out of order because a member cannot amend a bill concerning government spending. Smith said he plans to introduce a private bill before the session ends.

Wen-Gren People Behind Pulp Plan

Routine Application for Licence Could Erupt in Big Controversy

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A routine application for a pulp harvesting licence in northern B.C. could erupt in controversy at a public hearing scheduled for May.

The application has been made by Alexandria Forest Products, which has allied with B.C. Forest Products to build a multi-million-dollar pulp mill north of Prince George.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan told the legislature Tuesday night that Alexandria is controlled by the Wenner-Gren B.C. Development Co.

The Wenner-Gren company is an offshoot of the big northern development proposed in 1956 by the late Swedish financier Axel Wenner-Gren.

His company's plan for a Peace River power project, 400-mile monorail in the north and industrial development of the Rocky Mountain Trench never materialized.

At the time of its proposal, the opposition assailed rights granted to the company as a

sell-out of provincial resources.

Strachan said Tuesday he checked up on the principals behind Alexandria at the companies office and found that Wenner-Gren owns a huge block of shares.

He said the company is obviously taking advantage of provisions contained in a memorandum of intent filed by Wenner-Gren in February, 1956.

Strachan said that Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston should remember the promises originally made by the Wenner-Gren interests seven years ago when he considers Alexandria's pulp harvesting application.

"It will be a pretty bumpy hearing when it comes along," Williston said.

Real Estate, Accountancy Bills Ditched

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Two bills that would have set up new professional regulations for realtors and public accountants in B.C. were rejected Tuesday.

The chairman of the legislature's private bills committee, Alex Matthew (S-C Vancouver Centre), told the House his committee could not approve the proposed legislation.

He said the bill seeking incorporation of the Real Estate Institute of B.C. proposed too broad powers in the hands of a small directorate.

The public accountancy bill, that proposed a merger of various classes of accountants, was turned down for the second year in a row.

The committee ruled that interested groups and individuals had not had time to study the effect of such important legislation.

AIMED AT BLACKMAILERS

Gov't Slaps Bidding Fee On Crown Lumber Sales

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government Tuesday introduced legislation aimed at curbing blackmail in timber sales.

The deterrent is a bidding fee to be levied on all crown timber sales.

Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston said the fee is an attempt to discourage irresponsible bidding and blackmail threats.

A number of small companies have told the legislature's forestry committee that they have been forced to grant special favors under threat of competitive bidding.

By amendment to the Forest Act, all bidders except the applicant for the sale will be required to pay a fee set by the minister on each timber auction. Williston gave no indication how big the fee would be.

The fee will be returned to the successful bidder.

This would discourage bidding by operators who have no intention of buying the timber but want to bump up

the price to a rival who wants it.

In other amendments, loggers will be relieved of the responsibility of quelling forest fires started from slash fires; operators can be required to reforest timber areas; and the B.C. forest service is given authority to designate forest roads.

The forest service can now order loggers to burn slash and put out any forest fires started as a result.

In some cases operators have had to shut their mills and deploy all workers on the firelines.

The amendment to the Act will require companies only to provide enough men to supervise slash burning.

Another change to the Forest Act will do away with a 16 per cent stumpage concession granted under an old forest management licence to Crown Zellerbach in the Campbell River district on Vancouver Island.

Wed., Mar. 18, 1964

Endowment Lands Build-Up Urged

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The provincial government was told Tuesday it should hand over University of B.C. endowment lands to the university.

Dr. Pat McGeer (Liberal-Point Grey) said UBC should have clear title to the provincially-controlled land.

Dr. McGeer suggested it could be developed into a prime asset for UBC and the province.

He said part of it could be a laboratory research centre for scientifically-oriented industry as has been done at Stanford University at Palo Alto, Calif.

SEEN AS MAGNET

Dr. McGeer said the Stanford site has become world famous and a prime attraction for foreign dignitaries and

tourists.

He added it is a powerful magnet for drawing people with outstanding technical accomplishments.

Dr. McGeer said a similar centre at UBC would help provide some actual endowment for the university, thereby helping relieve the cost of higher education, and might lead to establishment of secondary industry in B.C.

Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston made no direct reference to Dr. McGeer's suggestion, but said the province at present is subsidizing the land — spending more money on the area than is coming out in revenue.

"The land still owes the people of B.C. \$1 million," Williston said.

NEW LAND REFUSED

He turned down another suggestion by Dr. McGeer that Victoria University and Simon Fraser University each be given two million-acre endowment lands in northern B.C.

Dr. McGeer said he was told these would earn about \$2 million each and help maintain the universities.

Williston said endowment lands need capital invested in them before they begin to produce.

Opposition Slaps 'Industry Spy Bill'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The government was accused Tuesday of opening the door to management spies in industry.

Opposition leader Bob Strachan led an NDP attack on an amendment to the Private Detectives' Licensing Act.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner claimed the NDP was trying to draw red herrings across a simple legislative amendment.

The change in the bill will permit agencies to employ temporary help without them having to be fingerprinted and issued identity cards.

"There is a principle in this bill which allows employers to hire a private detective who then can legally find some employee of a firm to hire on a temporary basis to spy on his fellow workers," Strachan maintained.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby), said stool-pigeon investigation is not dignified in a democracy.

He maintained the action is synonymous with wire-tapping.

Bonner said the relaxation partly was intended to aid small firms that possibly want to hire a temporary watchman or other employee.

He added that legislation of this kind wouldn't be of any interest to a person intent on being an industrial spy.

Bonner said the only thing involved in the bill was regulation concerning licensing.

New Democrats opposed passage of second reading of the bill but were defeated 35-13 by the government and Liberal members.

SOCRED HITS JURY STIPEND

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Social Credit's newest rebel said Tuesday the government should make up the normal salary of people serving jury duty.

Ernie Lecours (Delta) joined opposition members in criticizing the proposed jury pay hike from \$8 to \$10 daily.

Lecours, a rookie member who has bucked the government several times during this session, said some people face bankruptcy and financial hardship if chosen for extended trials.

CITY COULD BE SMOGVILLE

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Greater Vancouver could be as smoggy as Los Angeles in 15 years, the legislature was warned Tuesday.

Hunter Vogel, (Social Credit-Delta) said this will be the case unless strict air-pollution laws are enacted for the entire area and rigidly enforced.

He said also there should be the case unless strict air-against water pollution if beaches throughout the area are not to be ruined.

BAY SEEN GRAIN OUTLET

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Boundary Bay is being considered as a deep-sea shipping terminal, Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston told the legislature Tuesday.

Williston said national interests, which he did not name, are looking at it as an additional outlet for grain and other commodities to the Far East.

THURSDAY, MAR. 19, 1964

CAPITAL COLUMN

Time Really Flies —8 Weeks Today

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—The 1964 session of your legislature has gone eight weeks today.

This astonishes every MLA. They cannot believe it. They're all wondering how it could happen, since it's a session of not really very much to do. They all look innocent, as much to say: "It's terrible—but it's not my fault."

Oppositionists have kept it going until they've near crazed themselves. The government side has kept it going, too, especially the cabinet ministers. Most of them feel it incumbent upon them to read long statements made deadly by statistics, and they give roundabout, involved answers to opposition questions. They should know by now that the art of being a smart cabinet

minister is to keep as silent as possible in the face of opposition barrage.

With two less in opposition ranks this session, one was sure the 1964 session would be shorter than last year. Not at all. Oppositionists seem to be talking longer, as if to make up for the bodies they lost in the polling booths last September.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan should be a tougher disciplinarian. He should tell his followers how long they may speak, and on what subjects. He shouldn't worry that, if he did so, they might attempt to get even with him, and so break out

into public revolt and go running for the leader's job, with all its prestige and extra pay and a Parliament Buildings office and staff.

In the meantime, Strachan's the leader, and he should not allow his followers to go off every which-way, and with no terminal facilities that you can notice.

The way NDP'ers have been beating the Columbia River argument is a case in point.

They know it's going through; they did their best to stop it, but even when they know it's too late they keep on trying. Perseverance is all very well, but what's the use of shouting at the roar of thunder?

Replace Yellowed Clippings With Hansard, Says Strachan

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — MLAs voted overwhelmingly Wednesday in favor of introducing a Hansard to the B.C. legislature.

But whether a verbatim record of House proceedings will ever be established is another thing.

This is the third consecutive year that opposition resolutions urging a Hansard have been accepted by the legislature.

And still the members are relying on yellowed newspaper clippings to refresh their memories of bygone events.

Premier W. A. C. Bennett conceded Wednesday however, that there are valid arguments in favor of a Hansard and said the government is studying the matter.

The perennial resolution, brought in last year by Liberal leader Ray Perrault, was sponsored this time by NDP leader Robert Strachan.

He said that if for no other reason than the sake of history, the verbatim record should be established.

The official record also would tend to elevate the level of legislative debate, would do away with inconsequential chit chat on the floor of the House, and would provide an important record of government policy statements, he said.

Strachan added that five provinces have now set up the system and that Alberta has voted to introduce it, too.

He said that the New Brunswick legislature spends \$25,000 a year for a Hansard.

"That's a lot of money, but consider the importance of having a record," he said.

Perrault said it is incredible that there is no official transcript in the B.C. legislature.

He noted that cabinet ministers quote freely from the

House of Commons Hansard, but show a remarkable lack of interest in bringing it to the B.C. House.

"I'm getting tired of the battle of newspaper clippings," he said. "It's now a matter of who has the most clippings. It prolongs debate and leads to repetition."

Alex Matthew (SC-Vancouver Centre) said a Hansard would add appreciably to the dignity of the House.

Alex Macdonald (NDP-Vancouver East) suggested the government is afraid to introduce an official record because it does not want to see its inconsistent policies in print.

"We challenge you, Mr. Premier, to vote against this resolution if you're not prepared to give us a Hansard," he said.

The premier turned down the challenge.

THURSDAY, MAR. 19, 1964

4 Socreds Rap New Mental Bill

Rebel Quartet Takes Shots But Backs Measure on Vote

By IAN MACDONALD
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The government came under fire Wednesday from four of its members for lack of mental health facilities and new admission regulations.

Bert Price (Vancouver-Burrard) said parents unable to get handicapped children into special schools are left in a tragic position that is unfair and inhumane.

He said there is no question that the waiting list for Woodlands school for retarded children is a mile long.

Price said he was afraid of parts of the new Mental Health Act.

Alex Matthew (Vancouver Centre) urged every possible step be taken to provide adequate facilities.

John Tisdalle (Saanich) maintained the government has not fulfilled its obligations to mental health.

VOTE FOR BILL

Ernie Lecours (Delta) said admission would not have to be based on availability of accommodation if enough facilities were available.

But although they attacked certain sections of the Act, the four voted with the government and Liberals to beat the New Democratic Party and push third reading of the bill through the legislature.

The Act states that admission to mental health facilities will be at the discretion of the medical superintendent in charge and if accommodation is available.

Gordon Dowding (NDP—Burnaby) argued it is a retrograde step from the present Act which states a person can be admitted on the signature of two doctors and if necessary a court order.

Dowding said afflicted persons will be denied their right of admission and treatment.

"This is a retrograde step of the most disastrous kind by a government that has a responsibility and has failed to measure up," he stated.

Dowding said there never is any waiting list for jails and the government always could find money for additional accommodation.

He maintained too much power will be vested in medi-

cal superintendents. Dowding said the new act will take away from a family doctor the right to decide if a patient needs care.

Price said he was glad the bill will not become law until proclaimed by the government, and he hoped much study would be given it before then.

"I question the right of a legislature to take away rights that have been accepted by people for many years and I am afraid of the section (giving the medical superintendents jurisdiction)," he stated.

Price said: "This is not right and it is not fair to the general public of this province."

Tisdalle, who earlier this session rapped the government for failing to provide facilities, said money should be available even at the expense of other measures.

"Someone might have to drive over a gravel road or pay a toll for another year on the Deas Island system (the tolls come off April 1) but this is not a sacrifice like one that hurts physically . . . like the needs of those people who can not speak for themselves," Tisdalle stated.

SAME ELSEWHERE

Alex Macdonald (NDP-Vancouver East), said the proposals put too much power in the hands of one person and provided no appeal or recourse to the courts.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner said the proposed legislation was similar to that in other provinces.

Dr. Pat McGeer (Liberal-Point Grey), said his party felt discretion should be left to medical superintendents. He stated the government was at fault by not providing enough facilities, but this would not be remedied by wrong legislation.

Health Minister Eric Martin said the waiting list for Woodlands is not a dead but a moving thing.

THURSDAY, MAR. 19, 1964

Opposition Jumps On New Peace Bill

Government Accused of Lining Wen-Gren Pockets With Fur

By IAN MacALPINE
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government was accused Wednesday of setting up a new deal to line the pockets of the Wenner-Gren promoters.

The charge was hurled by NDP MLAs during two hours of bitter debate on the government's new power legislation.

Two ostensibly non-controversial bills were introduced in the legislature Monday night.

One, Bill 89, gives Peace River Power Development Co. Ltd. the right to appeal the \$8 million payment made by the government for plans and surveys when the company was taken over in 1961.

Bill 87, called the Power Measures Act, legalizes all actions taken by the Crown-owned B.C. Hydro Authority following the 1961 expropriation of the B.C. Electric Co. and fixes redemption terms of BCE shares.

VIOLENT BATTLE

The legislation erupted into violent verbal battling when the bills came up for second reading Wednesday.

The Soereds were accused of sponsoring Frankenstein legislation, defrauding the public, and displaying non-confidence in the province's comptroller-general.

Government members countered with charges assailing the NDP for pathological hatred and called the Liberals enemies of public power in

B.C.

Leo Nimsick (NDP—Cranbrook) said the bill allowing Peace River Power Development Co. the right of appeal is a Santa Claus deal to help out friends of the government.

John Squire (NDP—Alberni) said it amounts to a payoff to Wenner-Gren interests who are involved in the Peace River Co.

'FUR NOW?'

"The question is, if the company has already got its pockets lined, is it going to get its pockets lined with fur this time?" said Squire.

Arthur Turner (NDP—Vancouver East) said the bill is an invitation to Peace River Power to ask for more compensation for its plans and surveys.

"From my point of view that company has done very well indeed — too well — when you consider they came here as philanthropists on a charitable mission," he said.

Turner referred to the late Swedish financier Alex Wenner-Gren, who promoted a multi-million-dollar industrial development scheme in northern B.C. that never came off.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan said the bill shows the government has no faith in comptroller-general C. J.

Ferber, who set the \$8 million compensation figure.

"This in effect is a non-confidence vote in the comptroller-general," he said.

"The Wenner-Gren group has raided the public treasury enough and I oppose this bill," he said.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East) said the memorandum of intent signed by Wenner-Gren in 1956 was one of the blackest documents in the history of B.C.

"The people of B.C. have been defrauded by this government," he said.

He said the government had no right to give Peace River Power development \$8 million.

"I think you've made friends with these promoters since you took them over in 1961," said Macdonald.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner accused the NDP of heaping hatred on the late Wenner-Gren.

"This hatred toward Wenner-Gren is almost pathological, even though the man is dead," said Bonner.

Liberal Harry McKay (Ferber) said the bill merely gives the company the right of appeal to the courts.

Four Liberal MLAs stood with the government to give approval in principle to the bill by a vote of 33 to 13.

Public Right To Sue Gov't, Says Dowding

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government agreed Wednesday to consider dispensing with the need of obtaining a fiat to sue the crown.

British Columbians must now obtain special sanction from the government before launching an action against the province.

If the government wants to avoid litigation it can simply refuse to grant a fiat.

Gordon Dowding (NDP)

Burnaby, introduced a resolution Wednesday asking the government to do away with this procedure.

He said it is time the government adopted a crown proceedings act that would give citizens the right to sue the government.

The legislature unanimously accepted the resolution.

Earlier Tony Gargrave (NDP—Mackenzie) said the public finds it difficult to understand why they cannot sue if they are struck down by a public works truck, yet can launch action if they are hit by a private taxi.

"It's true that the queen can do no wrong," said Gargrave, a lawyer. "But sometimes she gets pretty poor advice."

NO RELIEF FOR LAWYERS

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Vancouver's courthouse overcrowding was reduced to simple terms in the legislature Wednesday.

Tony Gargrave (NDP—Mackenzie), who is a lawyer, maintained there is only one urinal for 1,000 lawyers.

But Attorney-General Robert Bonner pointed out they are not all there at the one time.

Works Minister W. N. Chant didn't hold out any great hope for relief. Queried about a new courthouse, he said: "No doubt in due course this matter will be attended to."

\$100 Cure Urged For Timber Abuse

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The legislature's forestry committee Wednesday recommended a minimum \$100 bidding fee to deter irresponsible bidding and blackmail tactics in crown timber sales.

The committee's report, the result of several weeks of hearings, was tabled in the legislature Wednesday night.

It said the fee should be between one and five per cent of operators' bids and a minimum of \$100.

The report was filed after the House gave second reading to a bill that gives Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston power to levy a deterrent fee.

The legislation does set the fee. It gives Williston discretion to impose the amount.

During debate on the bill prior to its approval in principle, Tony Gargrave (NDP-Mackenzie) accused the government of bringing in clumsy legislation.

He said it is regrettable that the bill gives discretion to the minister to set the amount of the bidding fee.

"If the minister's discretion goes much farther we will have a lumber czar in the province greater than a liquor czar," he said.

The committee's report also said it was concerned about trafficking in timber quotas.

The committee was told during the hearings that timber

quotas are being traded at inflated prices.

The committee, chaired by Cyril Shelford (SC-Omineca) suggested the government study quota trading and consider imposing a fee each time a quota is sold.

The committee also asked the government to broaden its powers next year so it can study pulp harvesting licences and methods of appraising logs.

Road Access Laws Delayed in House

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The legislature public access committee has decided to wait for a year before deciding whether new legislation is required to open private

roads to public travel.

Further study and more information is needed before a decision can be reached, said the committee in a report tabled in the legislature Wednesday.

William Speare (SC-Cariboo), chairman of the committee, said amendments to legislation in 1963, which relieved private road owners of the responsibility of quelling forest fires started by tourists, has aided in opening private roads to the public.

A proposed Public Access Act that would set out the public's right to travel on private roads is before the committee.

It has been opposed by representatives of the forest industry who claim the present voluntary method of allowing access better serves the public interest.

The committee did recommend, however, that an interdepartmental government committee study the problem of public access to recreation areas through private roads, and that an arbitration program be established to rule on disputes arising from public use of private roads.

Push Starts To Finish Peace Dam

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Peace River dam construction has been speeded up to meet approaching power shortage in B.C., Water Resources Minister Ray Williston said.

Speaking in the legislature, Williston said the power load growth is rising at a rate that will leave the province out of power sometime between 1973 and 1975.

"Already the Peace River project is having to be stepped up," he said.

The minister said that Peace Power, the first of which will be available in 1968, will cost two mills at site and about four mills in Vancouver.

He said that between 50 and 60 per cent of the energy will be consumed in northern B.C.

Williston also said that power generators will be installed at the proposed Mica Creek dam on the Columbia River as soon as possible.

The minister noted that construction costs on the Peace River project are \$33 million below estimates at the present time.

WIRE TO MLAs

Dentist Asks End Of Curbs

A Vancouver dentist has appealed to MLAs to amend legislation so that dentists can work with dental mechanics without running the risk of suspension.

"The public benefits if this co-operation exists," said the dentist in a wire sent to members of all parties in the legislature.

He said he would have to remain anonymous for fear of having his right to practise suspended, but said his identity could be revealed to those interested by Cyril Shelford (SC-Omineca).

Health Minister Eric Martin said last week in the legislature that he was disgusted with the war between B.C. dentists and dental mechanics after it was disclosed that three dentists had been suspended by their professional body for co-operating with dental mechanics.

The wire asked that the Dental Act be amended since dentists are having their right to practice placed in jeopardy through their desire to co-operate with the Public Denturists Society of B.C. (dental mechanics).

The amendment sought would allow mechanics to obtain an imprint of a patient's natural teeth before extraction. Dentists now prohibit this.

The dentist noted that there is a strong public demand for immediate dentures, particularly by people who are engaged in vocations where they are in direct contact with the public.

FRIDAY, MAR. 20, 1964

Black Doubts Vancouver Needs Metro

Just 4th Spending Body, Civic Leaders Agree

Municipal Affairs Minister Wesley Black said Thursday he has very serious doubts whether metropolitan government would be right for Greater Vancouver.

Speaking in the legislature, Black declared: "I cannot honestly recommend that metropolitanization of Greater Vancouver take place forthwith.

"I'm not sure if that is the right course to follow."

Black's statement upset none of Greater Vancouver's civic leaders, who said they are opposed to metro anyway.

"It is entirely unnecessary and no economies would necessarily flow from it," said Mayor Bill Rathie of Vancouver. "It seems to me it would just be a fourth government spending body."

Rathie and Ald. Frank Goldsworthy, acting mayor of North Vancouver city, said they favored the idea of amalgamation of Vancouver city, said they favored the idea of amalgamation of Vancouver with Burnaby and New Westminster and a second entity made up of the three North Shore municipalities.

SECOND THOUGHTS

This scheme was suggested in the legislature by former Burnaby reeve Charles Mac-Sorley, now a Socred MLA.

Black expressed his doubts when Arthur Turner (NDP—Vancouver East) asked what is being done to bring in metro government.

Black said that in the past he had personally tried to persuade Greater Vancouver municipalities on the wisdom of metro.

But he said he has had second thoughts.

Black said popular thinking now tends to favor amalgamation rather than metropolitanization. But he did not say whether he favored that, either.

Black said there is a degree of metropolitanization in Greater Vancouver now.

Turner said the weakness with metro in Toronto and Winnipeg is that the people

were not properly sold on the subject.

He said that the problems of urban growth in B.C. have to be faced somehow. But they are not being faced by the provincial government.

INTEGRATION AREAS

Reeve Alex Forst of West Vancouver said there are areas such as parks, connecting roads, hospital and policing where integrated services could be extended.

But he said he does not favor either metro or amalgamation unless it can be shown that great benefits would ensue.

Mayor Beth Wood of New Westminster, a consistent opponent of metro, said metro would only create another costly level of government. "Municipalities already have enough expense," she said.

Reeve Alan Emmott of Burnaby said there is already a great deal of co-operation between Lower Mainland municipalities.

"I've never felt we had a situation comparable to Toronto where they were in desperate straits. . . We have the situation licked," he said.

COSTLY UNION

Rathie said he would not necessarily include New Westminster in a Vancouver-Burnaby amalgamation. He said a union with Burnaby would be expensive for Vancouver at the beginning but in the long run he was certain it would bring about economies for both.

Goldsworthy said North Vancouver city is aiming at amalgamation with West Vancouver and North Vancouver district but would balk at any connection with municipalities on the south side of Burrard Inlet.

Reeve Murdo Fraser of North Vancouver district was not available for comment.

FRIDAY, MAR. 20, 1964

Woman in Gallery Branded Disloyal

Oath of Allegiance Broken by Ex-Welfare Worker, House Told

By IAN MACDONALD
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A woman sat in the legislative gallery Thursday night and heard herself branded disloyal.

Mrs. Bridget Moran listened as her name was hurled across the House in a battle over social welfare policies.

She had travelled from her Prince George home to hear the debate on Social Welfare Minister Wesley Black's salary vote.

She saw him wave an official civil service oath of allegiance form in the air and say that people who sign it should be prepared to abide by it.

She heard a backbencher yell "disloyalty," as the opposition hammered Black for details of her case.

MADE PROTESTS

Mrs. Moran, a part-time social worker, in January protested to Premier W. A. C. Bennett and publicly about lack of facilities and trained personnel in the north.

The department admitted she was right, but suspended her.

Black said she knew the condition under which she could be reinstated but maintained he would not discuss Mrs. Moran or any other staff member on the floor of the House.

But Mrs. Moran made no secret of the conditions.

WITHSTANDS ASSAULT

She said later they were that she must not speak outside the department about conditions.

Mrs. Moran said she would not make such a commitment.

Black withstood a determined assault by Opposition members who demanded to know officially what the situ-

ation was—although Mrs. Moran earlier had stated her case.

He clashed with Tony Gargrave (NDP—Mackenzie) who said the secret conditions affected all civil servants.

Black said he did not intend to be bullied and that Gargrave—a lawyer—could keep his cross-examination for the courtroom.

When a backbench voice howled "disloyalty" during the hubbub, Gargrave shouted: "Define it, you nuts."

He withdrew the remark at the request of Deputy Speaker William Speare.

Black said Mrs. Moran's suspension was an administrative problem and not his own.

BACKS DECISION

"But the decision made by the administration is entirely backed by me," Black said.

He maintained Mrs. Moran should have gone to her superiors rather than newspapers and other news media.

Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East), said Mrs. Moran had helped bring to light a situation that needed to be remedied. "It is not a question of insurrection or insubordination," Macdonald added.

Black said a department official had ruled that under a section of the Civil Service Act her action was misconduct.

Gordon Gibson (Liberal—North Vancouver), said it was evident something was seriously wrong with the welfare department.

"We are making a fatal mistake by blaming and firing a few privates. What we should do is fire the general right at the top."

GOV'T TO CONSIDER ELECTORAL CHANGES

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The provincial government will give serious consideration to redistribution of electoral seats in the next year.

Provincial Secretary Wesley Black told the legislature that other amendments to the Elections Act are possible and probable.

He was replying to Opposition pleas for a re-alignment of seats based both on population and geography.

Dave Barrett (NDP—Dewdney) said current distribution gives some urban areas unfair representation in the House.

Planning Report 'Not His Business'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Municipal Affairs Minister Wesley Black Thursday shrugged off the Lower Mainland Regional Planning Board's report as none of his business.

He declined to comment on the finding of the board that spent 10 years drafting a detailed plan for development of Fraser Valley communities and industry.

Black told the legislature: "It's not my position to comment on this report. It belongs to the Lower Mainland municipalities and they should comment, not I."

Arthur Turner (NDP—Vancouver East) immediately charged that Black was neglecting his duty and said he should resign.

"If the report offers a way that urban problems can be handled, the government is negligent in its duty if it tries to sidetrack it," he said.

Black said officials in his department have the report but haven't had time to assess it.

AQUARIUM PLAN ROLLS

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The government assured the legislature Thursday it will pay \$250,000 toward the cost of Vancouver's aquarium extension.

Labor-Education Minister Leslie Peterson said he has been in touch with federal Fisheries Minister Louis Robichaud.

"He has assured me there is no problem," said Peterson. "The federal share will be contained in supplementary estimates."

GOV'T LOST 206 NURSES

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Health Minister Eric Martin disclosed Thursday that 206 psychiatric nurses resigned from the mental health department last year.

Fifty-nine of them left Woodlands school for retarded children in New Westminster.

The information was contained in answers tabled in the legislature in reply to questions from Gordon Dowding, the NDP mental health critic.

Peace Power Firm Won't Get Payoff

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Attorney-General Robert Bonner said Thursday the government will not make an out-of-court settlement with the Peace River Power Development Co.

He was replying in the legislature to a question from Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East), during debate on the new Peace River Power Development Act.

The legislation, passed Thursday in a 34-to-14 vote, gives the company the right to appeal to the courts the sufficiency of the \$8 million payment made by the government for plans and surveys when the company was taken over in 1961.

The NDP, voting against the bill, claimed the legislation is new machinery to permit the government to make a payoff to the company, an offshoot of the Wenner-Gren scheme.

Bonner said the company accepted the \$8 million payment under protest.

Asked by Macdonald if the government is considering an out-of-court settlement, Bonner replied: "I contemplate no settlement short of a court settlement. It is not government policy to settle."

Also given third and final reading Thursday was a bill amending the Forestry Act.

The legislation gives Lands and Forests Minister Ray Wiliston power to impose a bidding fee on crown timber sales to discourage irresponsible bidding and blackmail tactics.

PERRAULT SAYS:

'Alcoholism Research A Scandal'

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Liberal leader Ray Perrault accused the government Thursday of scandal in not spending more of its huge liquor profit on alcoholism research.

He told the legislature the province took in \$30 million in liquor revenue last year.

Yet in the next fiscal year it will allocate only \$145,000 for treatment of alcoholism, he said.

"It is one of the real scandals of this government when it makes this profit and doesn't spend enough on research," said Perrault.

The Liberal leader quoted from a letter written to him by E. D. McRae, executive director of Alcoholism Foundation of B.C.

It said: "The policy of the provincial government as it is known to us with respect to social research is that this is the responsibility of the federal government, and they have consistently blue-penciled our many requests for funds to undertake research."

Perrault said the government is not really making a profit from liquor when there are serious alcoholism problems.

"There is a tremendous net loss," he said.

Sunday Sport Bid Fails

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A Victoria Social Credit MLA Thursday lost a battle to give communities the right to vote on Sunday sports and entertainment.

Donald Smith urged that people in other parts of B.C. be given the same opportunity Vancouver had.

"Vancouver isn't a special republic and why should it have special rights or privileges?" he said.

Several members applauded Smith's argument but none rose to back him and the bid died.

Vancouver was able to vote on the matter under terms of its city charter.

FRIDAY, MAR. 20, 1964

Legal Bill \$1.2 Million Hydro Takeover Case Costs Given House

By IAN MacALPINE
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The government disclosed Thursday it cost \$1,294,946 to defend the expropriation of the B.C. Electric Company.

Premier Bennett said the B.C. Hydro and Power Authority's share of the bill was \$1,048,361. Attorney-General Robert Bonner said his department paid another \$246,585.

Opposition members said the figures were infinitely too high for the government's incompetent bungling.

The government gave a breakdown of only those bills which have been paid—about \$790,000 of the \$1.29 million total.

Largest single items were \$104,329 for M. M. McFarlane, QC, chief counsel for the attorney-general, and \$214,006 for the Vancouver law firm of Davis, Hossie, Campbell, Brazier and McLorg, retained by B.C. Hydro.

BEDLAM BREAKS OUT

Bedlam broke out in the legislature as Bennett claimed the government had saved taxpayers \$30 million by taking over the BCE and creating B.C. Hydro, "a great diamond in the crown of the Social Credit government."

Bennett and Bonner disclosed the costs in written replies to questions by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan.

The opposition attack came later as the House gave committee-stage approval to a bill validating all activities of the government and its agencies following the 1961 expropriation.

Strachan called the bill "a magnificent monument to incompetent bungling and the bad legal advice this government got."

'PATCHWORK BILL'

Liberal leader Ray Perrault said it should be called the power expropriation patchwork bill.

"It's an attempt to patch up all the sins, mistakes and faults which have surrounded power development since 1961," he said. "This was bungled from the beginning."

The takeover of BCE from its former parent company, B.C. Power Corp., was ruled illegal by Chief Justice Sherwood Lett after the longest

and costliest civil suit in B.C. Supreme Court history.

B.C. Power Corp. has not revealed its costs in the litigation.

\$605,026 PAID

Bennett said B.C. Hydro has so far paid \$605,026 of its total costs of \$1,048,361, mostly in lawyers' fees.

Hydro's costs, besides the fee of \$214,006 to the law firm of Davis and Co., included:

Harman, McKenzie and Murphy, Victoria lawyers, \$50,805.

Paine, Edmonds, Mercer and Williams, Vancouver lawyers, \$45,332.

E. Zinder and Associates, utility consultants, \$71,381; Marshall and Stevens, valuation engineers, \$31,611.

Dr. H. L. Purdy, the court-appointed receiver of BCE assets during the trial, was paid \$22,158.

SHAREHOLDERS' TRUSTEE

Royal Trust Co., which acted as trustee for BCE shareholders, was paid \$49,947; the accounting firm of McDonald, Currie and Co., \$54,650; and B.C. Power Corp. was paid \$35,979.

The remainder of the amount paid was made up of court costs and other smaller items.

Bonner said his department has paid about \$186,000 of its bill.

Bonner said D. T. Braidwood, who appeared for the attorney-general along with McFarlane, received \$47,391.

The attorney-general's bill also included \$21,160 payment to G. G. Richardson, a Toronto accountant who was hired as court assessor to assist Chief Justice Lett in interpreting technical and financial evidence.

Bonner said these costs were not for the trial alone.

They represented three years of legal work connected with the BCE expropriation, he said.

Cabinet Strength Boosted by Three

Bennett Eases Work Load On Multiple Portfolios

By IAN MACDONALD
Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Three new cabinet ministers were sworn in Friday night in a major cabinet shuffle following prorogation of the legislature.

Sworn in at a surprise Government House ceremony were:

Ralph Loffmark, rookie member for Point Grey, minister of industrial development, trade and commerce.

Donald Brothers, Trail, minister of mines and petroleum resources.

Dan Campbell, Comox, minister of municipal affairs.

The shuffle relieves Recreation and Conservation Minister Ken Kiernan of two of the three portfolios he held, takes one of three portfolios from Provincial Secretary Wesley Black, takes one portfolio from Attorney-General Robert Bonner and gives him another.

No new posts were created in the shuffle.

The portfolio of industrial development was previously held by Bonner, that of municipal affairs by Black, and mines by Kiernan.

The shuffle also switched the commercial transport portfolio from Kiernan to Bonner.

This is the new makeup of the cabinet:

W. A. C. Bennett—Premier and finance minister.

Robert Bonner—Attorney-general and minister of commercial transport.

Wesley Black—Provincial secretary and minister of social welfare.

Ray Williston—Minister of lands, forests and water resources.

Frank Richter—Minister of agriculture.

Kenneth Kiernan—Minister of recreation and conservation.

P. A. Gaglardi—Minister of highways.

Leslie Peterson—Minister of education and labor.

Eric Martin—Minister of health services and hospital insurance.

W. N. Chant—Minister of public works.

Ralph Loffmark—Minister of industrial development, trade and commerce.

Dan Campbell—Minister of municipal affairs.

Donald Brothers—Minister of mines and petroleum resources.

A significant move is removal of the other jobs to leave Kiernan with the increasingly important recreation and conservation portfolio.

Kiernan, a senior minister, look over the job when Earle Westwood was defeated in last September's provincial election.

In the new appointments Bennett gave one cabinet post each to Vancouver, Vancouver Island and the Kootenays.

The opposition hammered away during the session that too many ministers held too

many jobs, but reaction to Bennett's choices was one of surprise.

Commented Liberal leader Ray Perrault: "To say that I am surprised at the names which have been announced as B.C.'s newest cabinet ministers is a considerable understatement."

"When I first heard the news I had to check the calendar to make certain that it wasn't April 1."

But he said he welcomed the expansion of the cabinet.

Perrault said he hoped the municipal switch will give Black an opportunity to deal more fully with pressing problems in the social welfare department.

JUST LAUGHED

Social welfare and Black came under heavy fire during the session.

Said opposition leader Bob Strachan: "I laughed, and laughed, and laughed — once for each new minister."

Commented Liberal Gordon Gibson, North Vancouver: "Bennett would have done better to have crossed the floor for other ministers rather than pick these three."

Cabinet changes had been expected — although not as quickly as they came — and Loffmark and Campbell's names had been among those mentioned in speculation. Brothers was an outsider.

Passed over in the shuffle was Bill Speare, Cariboo, thought a likely candidate for a \$15,000-a-year cabinet job.

FAST START

Loffmark, a 43-year-old University of B.C. economics professor, won one of two seats in Point Grey for Social Credit in his political debut last September.

B.C.-born, he is the son of a railway carpenter. He has degrees in accountancy, business administration, law and political science.

He also is active as a business consultant as well as a teacher. The appointment means he will have to give up his UBC post.

Loffmark is married and has a young son.

Campbell, 38, is a school teacher who was elected to the House when Social Credit took over government in 1952.

He is married with two children. Campbell served with the army in Canada 1944-45. He is head of the department of extra-curricular activities at Courtenay high school.

Brothers, 40, was first elected in 1958 when he took the seat of former lands and forests minister Robert Sommers,

who was jailed for bribery and conspiracy.

A lawyer, he was born at Grand Forks. Brothers served as an RCAF pilot in the Second World War and later graduated in law from UBC.

He is married and has three children.

Lieut.-Gov. Pearkes gave royal assent to 74 bills as he prorogued the House after a session of 43 days—only two days short of the record established in 1920 and equalled in 1962.

NEW BANK

Key measures among the bills approved were legislation authorizing Premier Bennett as finance minister to buy up to 25 per cent of the share capital of the proposed new Bank of British Columbia, and a new provincial Mental Health Act.

Bennett refused to disclose exactly how much money the government would invest in the bank. Full details await presentation of a petition to the federal government.

The new mental health legislation will revise the whole approach to mental illness by providing for decentralization of facilities and treatment.

POWER BILL

Other major legislation included a bill validating the 1961 expropriation of the B.C. Electric Company and subsequent activities by the government and its agencies in power matters.

It is expected to be proclaimed only if the government loses its appeal against the Supreme Court ruling that the takeover was illegal.

Other legislation provided for criminal jury trials in county court, revamped provincial machinery for municipal administration, and removal of tolls effective April 1 from the government's last two toll structures, Oak Street Bridge and Deas Tunnel.

Also approved during the session, which included 20 night sittings, was a record budget of \$396 million for the coming year.

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Oral Question Period Asked In Legislature

Sun Victoria Bureau
VICTORIA — An oral question period in the B.C. legislature was urged Friday by Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby).

Dowding said it is the duty, right and privilege of MLAs to question ministers in the House, even though a question time is not permitted.

Members are required to submit their questions in writing and sometimes wait several weeks before receiving a written reply from the ministers.

But Dowding said House rules handed down from the British House of Commons do permit an oral question period.

"If there is the least shadow of doubt that the asking of oral questions of ministers is not a privilege and right of legislative members . . . the statute Legislative Assembly Privileges Act) should be interpreted by the Supreme Court of British Columbia," said Dowding.

Dowding suggested the legislature be allowed a specific question period at the opening of the day's sitting.

There would be no debate or opinion, just straight questions and answers, he said.

Dowding said he is quite sure that cabinet ministers would oppose the question period.

"It's like a grand inquest," said Dowding.

NDP Nuclear Motion Lost

Sun Victoria Bureau
VICTORIA — A New Democratic Party resolution urging the federal government to remove nuclear weapons from Canadian soil was defeated in the legislature Friday.

But the House gave unanimous approval to the following resolution:

"That this House recognizes the right of the federal government to make decisions regarding the defence of Canada but deprecates the necessity to use nuclear weapons and urges the government to make every effort to maintain peace among nations of the world."

Woodlands Under Study

Sun Victoria Bureau
VICTORIA — The mental health department is conducting a survey to determine the number of patients awaiting entry to Woodlands school for the retarded in New Westminster.

The survey was disclosed by health Minister Eric Martin.

Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby), the opposition's mental health critic, had asked Martin how many patients are on the waiting list.

MLAs Get \$6,400 — Plus Mileage

Sun Victoria Bureau
VICTORIA — MLAs Friday voted themselves a hefty \$339,800 in pay for their 43 days of legislative service in the capital.

The sum approved by the legislature included \$260,000 in sessional indemnities (\$5,000 each), \$52,000 for living allowances (\$1,000 each), and \$7,000 for mileage.

Also included was \$20,800 (\$400 each) to cover their phone and telegraph bills.

The spending was the last item in the government's 1964-65 estimates to be approved before the legislature prorogued Friday night.

NO NEW CAR FOR PHIL

VICTORIA (CP) Police found Highways Minister P. A. Gagliardi's car abandoned and apparently undamaged in suburban Saanich Friday night.

The department-owned 1958 car disappeared from the legislature parking lot Thursday night.

Said Gagliardi before the car was found: "Premier Bennett said to me, 'That's an awfully sneaky way to get yourself a new car.'"

\$36,000 Profit Cited in Swap

Sun Victoria Bureau
VICTORIA—A logging company made a fast \$36,000 profit in a land swap with the provincial government, an MLA claimed Friday.

Alan Macfarlane (Lib-Oak Bay) told the legislature the government traded timber rights worth \$186,000 for 116 acres of parkland worth only \$150,000.

The land bought from Clearwater Timber Co. Ltd. last year has been established as Rathrevor Beach Park, just south of Parksville.

In exchange, the Clearwater Company was given timber rights in the southwest corner of Wells Gray Park, north of

Kamloops.

MIDDLE MAN

Macfarlane said the timber company acted as a middle man in the deal because it apparently held an option on the Parksville land at the time the deal was made.

He criticized the government for making the trade, saying it should have dealt directly with the owners of the Parksville land.

The government should have paid the company in cash and let the firm bid for timber rights like others are required to do, he said.

"This method of handling leads to suspicion," Macfarlane

said.

Recreation and Conservation Minister Kenneth Kiernan said the company didn't get any special deal.

\$350,000 ROAD

It will have to build a \$350,000 road into the park to get the timber, he said.

Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston said that in recent years timber worth \$2 million was lost in Wells Gray Park because operators could not get in to cut it.

Williston said he tried unsuccessfully for three years to deal directly with the owners of the Parksville property.

CAPITAL COLUMN

Quite Suddenly House Is Closed

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—Provincial Secretary Wesley Black rose with great dignity in the legislature Friday and solemnly intoned the time-honored words of surcease.

"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."

This meant it was ended, the 1964 session of your legislature.

The legislative sparring and sparring for political position is over for another year, unless Premier Bennett decides to take over the telephone company next summer, in which case he'd call an emergency session.

There were the usual formalities, the ancient phraseology, as your MLAs ended their annual grind on your behalf, for which you pay them \$6,400 a year each.

For instance, Mr. Speaker William Murray bowed to the lieutenant-governor, and said: "May it please your honor — we, her majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the legislative assembly of the province of British Columbia, in session assembled, approach your honor at the close of our labors, with sentiments of unfeigned devotion and loyalty to her majesty's person and government."

As the House awaited the Lieutenant-Governor's arrival, there was the last-minute flurrying about. NDP member Leo Nimsick of Cranbrook went on and on about fish and game, pesticides and pollution.

Committee chairman William Speare of Cariboo tried to shush him, but Mr. N. took his own sweet time shushing himself up. He didn't care if he irritated everyone else, even his own colleagues.

The premier created some surprise when he announced the Public Utilities Commission will be reduced from four to three members (Percy E. George is retiring).

This caused Opposition leader Robert Strachan to say—Ah-ha, so that really was it? Yes, said he, that was it all right—political favors in high places. You see, in 1961, the premier upped the commission from three to four seats so a job could be found for a defeated cabinet minister.

Huh, said Strachan, huh. Politics. The premier grinned a bit sheepishly, knowing this to be quite true. But not a word did he say, passing on hurriedly to other business. Most governments, of course, look after their friends, and this Social Credit government makes no exception to the accepted rule.

It's a wonder, actually, the premier didn't leave that commission job open — he never can tell when he'll have a good loyal party friend in need. Or did he wipe out the job, knowing that if he did not he'd be besieged by thousands of Social Credit faithful looking for a juicy plum.

You may be sure that whatever our premier does, or does not do, he has a very good reason. He seldom misses a trick. He never does much without due and deep contemplation.

NDP Alex Macdonald of Vancouver East had a final word. He said B.C. offices in San Francisco could be closed and B.C. offices opened in Ottawa instead.

The premier said he's considering such an office. He will not, however, be closing the San Francisco office because, in his view, it's doing a terrific job, telling Californians what a wonderful place B.C. is, and how, if they're smart as they're supposed to be, they'll put some of their gold into our natural resources and grow with Social Credit.

What a B.C. office in Ottawa would do is a mystery. We already have 22 B.C. members of the House of Commons and five B.C. senators there.

Surely they can do B.C.'s business in our federal capital. If not, what are they there for, at \$18,000 each a year for MPs and \$15,000 for senators. That's \$471,000 a year; there's one Senate vacancy at the moment, and will be until Prime Minister Pearson can make up his mind who's the most deserving Liberal in B.C.

The MLA's were glad to leave, for eight weeks of talk take their toll.

They were tired and pale and edgy as they went out into the fresh air to smell the perfume from the blossoms and blooms that are now bustin' out all over this, your capital city of Victoria, the heart and the home of British Columbia.

SATURDAY, MAR. 21, 1964

Storm Blows Up On Power Treaty

Sun Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The Columbia River Treaty dispute erupted again in the dying hours of the legislative session Friday.

The storm blew up on a resolution by Donald Brothers (SC - Rossland - Trail), urging Parliament to ratify the treaty without delay.

Opposition members maintained this meant without full hearings of the external affairs committee.

The government said it did not mean this but simply urged there be no delay at any stage.

The resolution went through with Government and Liberal support.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan said the Government members were cheap politicians and accused the premier of trying to browbeat and bully the House.

Premier Bennett said none of the Opposition were Communists but they were fellow travellers in trying to block the treaty.

Bennett maintained Kootenay West NDP MP Bert Herdige was betraying the people of B.C. by his opposition.

Strachan maintained the So-creds were ready at any time to sleep with the Communists and said Brothers would not have won the election without the support of Harvey Murphy and his Communist-dominated Mine-Mill Union.

MAR

1964

Monday, March 2, 1964

2 escapes stir action on prison

Attorney-General Robert Bonner says he will confer with the director of corrections, S. Rocksborough Smith, on charges made about conditions at Colquitz prison near Victoria.

One of two prisoners who escaped Friday, by cutting a bar, gave himself up to newsmen Saturday after he was assured that his account of conditions in the recently-opened prison would be published.

Frank Carlow, 27, was arrested at the home of Det. Sgt. Joseph Armstrong after a photographer and a reporter had driven him there.

Carlow alleged conditions at the prison were unbearable and because of this he ran away. He said some guards were cruel, prisoners were denied proper recreation and food, and cruel punishments were imposed for infractions.

Carlow was second cook at the jail. "I knew nothing about cooking," he said. "I felt sorry for the ones who had to eat the stuff I cooked."

ONE AT LARGE

The second prisoner who made the break was Richard Rodriguez, 28. He has not been caught.

Rocksborough Smith des-

cribes Carlow's statements as "utter nonsense."

Meanwhile the escape and subsequent statements by Carlow threaten to blow up into a political battle in the legislature. David Barrett, NDP social services critic, said he expected an immediate statement from Bonner.

CRITICISM

Barrett said all he has been told of Colquitz was that it was to be used only for six months.

"It is strange that some men now there have sentences running past October, eight months from now."

I have restrained myself from any comment about the attorney-general using Colquitz up to this point. Barrett, member from Dewdney, is a former member of the staff at Haney Correctional Institution.

Alan Macfarlane, Liberal

member for Oak Bay, said Bonner as much as admitted last week that Colquitz is unsuitable. He said if there was any amount of truth in Carlow's charges, the prison should be closed immediately.

HOUSES 22

The former mental hospital has been open only a few weeks and houses about 22 prisoners.

Carlow was jailed for 16 months for driving while suspended, his sixth conviction. He began his sentence at Oakalla prison two weeks ago and was transferred to Colquitz.

He told reporters Colquitz is worse than Oakalla.

Carlow found a truck with its engine running when he escaped but did not take it because of his convictions. "It would be real rough on me" if he had taken it.

Practice at present

Sanity examination law announced by Bonner

Canadian Press

VICTORIA — Attorney-General Bonner has announced that his department plans to draw up a law under which persons committed to mental institutions under orders-in-council will be given regular examinations to determine whether they have regained their sanity.

Bonner said such persons already are being examined about every six months but the practice will be regulated under the statute.

He was replying to Gordon Dowding (NDP-Burnaby) who had asked for comment on a case in which a man had been released from Essondale mental institution and placed in jail for more than a year before his release.

Bonner said that in the instance the man had been sent to a forest camp as part of a "gradual return to society."

He said that under previous governments such persons would have been placed in

mental institutions 'ad infinitum.'

Committals are made by order-in-council when persons are found not guilty of an offence for reasons of insanity. They are confined "at the pleasure of the crown."

The mental hospitals act already provides for regular review of the cases of mental hospital inmates committed by the courts on a doctor's certificate.

Victoria comment



Bennett touchy about budget

By PADDY SHERMAN
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A jealous man, this Premier Bennett, particularly when it comes to the honor of his favorite offspring, the budget.

Some upstart finance minister from Alberta had the nerve to suggest the other day that his \$414 million budget is bigger than B.C.'s at \$396 million.

He added that it was beaten in Canada only by Quebec and Ontario.

So Bennett made one of his rare personal telephone calls to the press gallery to explain

that B.C.'s budget is still \$41 million bigger than Premier Manning's.

The Alberta budget is a gross figure, he said, and B.C.'s is net. Last year's net B.C. spending, for example, was only \$350 million — but total gross spending, including federal contributions to shared programs, was \$436 million.

But this is only a minor part of the premier's defence system.

This "little government" also has one of the biggest and best printing houses in the province at its disposal.

67 pages—and in color!

Many thousands of copies of the latest budget speech have been printed for distribution to anybody interested—free. But this version is no dull, dry raft of typewritten pages.

It's a 67-page brochure advertising the government. There are pages of colored photographs of such non-controversial items as the ferry fleet and the Peace River power project.

So far this year, nobody has given any figures on how many were printed. Last year, it was 45,000. It doesn't take long, with modern machines that run off 4,000 such books an hour.

The department of the Queen's Printer is, in fact, big business. Last year it cost \$1.5 million to operate, and printed its way over \$950,000 worth of paper.

It's strangely non-socialist

That paper saw the light of day in every conceivable shape and guise, from maps to laws to millions of dollars in parity bonds. The last item made one of the premier's jokes about the headquarters of the new bank into half-a-joke.

He said the head office wouldn't be over here because the Queen's Printer was here, too, and the temptation would be too great. There seems little doubt that, in addition to printing the near-money of parity bonds, the equipment could go the whole way. We're all set if B.C. ever secedes from Canada.

However, the taxpayer doesn't foot the bill for this department. It made a net profit for the year of \$88,128.

In the process, it makes another addition to the strange "non-socialist" but still publicly-owned empire the premier is building.

Recently the Opposition has been after him for letting the PGE pay Evergreen Press \$4.35 one year for each copy of a 19-page annual report, while last year the PGE did the job itself at 28 cents for 25 pages.

Last year's budget cost 32.5 cents each for more than 60 pages, against \$4.35 for 19 pages under free enterprise.

Maybe the printers had better print themselves some insurance forms, in view of what happened to private enterprise in the power and ferry businesses?

Inquest slated after lake gives up body

VICTORIA — Because the body of one of seven loggers drowned in Kootenay Lake in January has been recovered, Attorney-General Bonner will direct that an inquest be held.

He made the announcement in the Legislature in replying to a question from Randolph

Harding (NDP, Kootenay) that RCMP enforce more rigidly the small-boat regulations on craft that carry workers to their jobs.

Harding said the boat that sank in January on a trip across the lake could not have been inspected. It was overloaded, inadequately equipped, and had been making the run

after dark frequently without lights.

Some years ago, eight loggers drowned in a similar accident on Kootenay Lake.

Harding said such boats should be licenced for passengers, inspected at least twice a year, made to carry the very best survival gear, and have

a far stricter safety margin than other boats.

Bonner said federal authorities set these regulations. He said an investigation is already underway in preparation for the inquest. Recommendations may be forthcoming from the inquest, he said.

LEGISLATURE

New jail plans promptly raked

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Attorney-General Bonner announced a 224-prisoner jail for Vancouver Island Monday — and was promptly accused of “complete folly” and a “foolish blunder.”

The criticism came in the Legislature from David Barrett (NDP, Dewdney) during the discussion of Bonner's spending estimates.

Barrett, a social worker, told Bonner it was folly to build more big institutions.

“Once they are built, it is the tendency of the courts to fill them,” he said. “It is Parkinson's Law in action.”

There is no rehabilitation in Oakalla Prison Farm or other

big prisons, Barrett said. Inmates learned only to adjust to prison conditions, and got meals and security many of them couldn't achieve outside.

Many inmates are alcoholics doing life sentences on the installment plan—30 days in, long enough to dry out, then back to welfare, more drinking and back in.

He said that instead of 80 probation officers, B.C. should have 300 or 400. This would save money and achieve something.

Bonner said no decision had been made on the site of the new island prison, except that it would not be put in a growing area.

He said that while the number of inmates has doubled in 12 years, the number on probation (2,800) and probation staff (82) has quadrupled.

It is difficult to get completely competent probation staff, he said. Last year 96 prospects were interviewed, and only six or eight were appointed.

Bonner also said a “very large percentage” of prisoners are repeaters, and there would be need for medium-security prisons.

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) complained that 16 escapes from Oakalla Prison Farm last year kept nearby residents in “constant terrorization.” He urged greater security.

Escapee's complaint refuted

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Two investigations are under way as the result of last weekend's escape from Colquitz temporary prison near here, Attorney-General Bonner said Monday.

First is a full study of the circumstances surrounding the escape of Frank Carlow, 27, and Richard Rodriguez, 28.

The second is a report that Carlow surrendered to a reporter and photographer a good 12 hours before he was turned over to police.

Carlow complained to the press about conditions at the prison, and said some of the staff were cruel.

Bonner says allegations against the staff were refuted by S. Rocksborough Smith, director of corrections. He had no reasons, and expected none, to differ from Smith's views, Bonner said.

Staff at the new prison is an unusually experienced one, Bonner said. The officer in charge had been in the service 19 years.

While not specifically mentioning the Victoria newspaper men involved in the

surrender, Bonner said his department had reason to believe that one prisoner was in contact a good 12 hours before he was turned over.

This was not to be commended, he said.

He would make no further comment because the matter is the subject of further inquiry.

However, Smith said in Vancouver he is not making a special investigation of the escape.

“The officer in charge of the prison will give me a report of the incident and I will send it on to the deputy attorney-general.”

Pay hike for jurors considered

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Jury pay will probably be raised during this legislation session, Attorney-General Bonner said Monday.

He said he could not now state the amount of the raise, as his department is consider-

ing the implications of income tax on the proposed change.

“We will offer a variation in jury remuneration in consideration of provisions of the income tax,” he said. (Jurors now get \$8 per day, recently raised from \$6.)

Bonner said changes in magistrates' pay also are being considered, with the purpose of equating them throughout the province with Vancouver magistrates' pay.

The question of jurors' excusability is also being studied. Some of the excuses based on historic grounds are no longer valid and they should be based more on grounds of personal inconvenience, he said.

“We will continue to exclude lawyers and members of any legislative bodies from jury service.”

Bonner's statement, during consideration of his departmental estimates, followed a query by Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) who urged that jury pay be raised from \$8 to \$15 a day.

“Eight dollars may be fair enough for short trials, but they can produce hardship on long cases,” he said.

One extreme example in B.C., a case involving a minister of the crown (Robert Sommers) had lasted 84 days, he said. He cited a case in which a man lost his vacation pay because he had to serve on a long trial.

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Police search ended

Heathman under watch

Charles Heathman has been located elsewhere in Canada and is under surveillance, says Attorney-General Bonner.

Bonner did not give any details on how Heathman had been found or where he is living.

RCMP Inspector W. H. Nevin, who directed the police search for Heathman, would not make any comment.

"This is one subject I will not discuss," he said. "I have nothing to say."

Dr. A. E. Davidson, deputy minister of mental health services, and Dr. H. L. Bryson, superintendent of the Provincial Mental Hospital at Essondale, said they had not been notified that Heathman had been located.

Heathman was released from Essondale on probation Feb. 12 to a sponsor in Vancouver. He disappeared a week later.

Hospital officials at Essondale said Heathman's breach of probation did not constitute an offence and he would only be brought back to the institution should there be any recurrence of mental illness.

CONVICTED TWICE

However, now that Heathman has left B.C., he is beyond the jurisdiction of the provincial Mental Health Act.

Heathman was twice convicted in the slaying of Donald Ottley, 10, of Vernon in 1960 but was acquitted by the B.C. Court of Appeal.

After confessing to the crime and then repudiating the confession, Heathman was committed to Essondale for psychiatric treatment.

The present plight of Heathman "must touch anyone who thinks about it," Bonner told the Legislature Monday.

"If ever there was an example of a man who is in an unprotected position right now, bearing the full burden of every type of scorn that can be heaped upon him, it's this man."

BEARING BURDEN

Of the way Heathman had been dealt with by press and public, he said: "We have seen one of the most remarkable invasions of privacy that you can possibly imagine."

Bonner quietly told the House that it might seem curious that a man in his position, supposed to prosecute, should now be making "what sounds like a defence."

But, he said, if the customary safeguards society gives to everyone were not available to "a person of less than wholesome reputation" then they were not safely available to anyone.

If a man couldn't go through all the processes of law and then be acquitted "there is no liberty in society which is really safeguarded," Bonner said.

Bonner said he felt that much of the publicity given to Heathman was based on a misconception about his reputation.

Heathman has had 54 previous convictions, he said. But apart from the murder of Donald Ottley, there was no suggestion of sexual deviation in his background.

The only suggestion of such deviation came in his "so-called confession" to the murder. It was given when he had been drinking, was later repudiated, and was an admission of a crime for which he was acquitted.

The Bonner defence was given calmly and dispassionately. It was received in the same atmosphere on the other side of the House.

It all began when Mrs. Lois Hagen (NDP, Grand Forks-Greenwood) asked what society could do to prevent sexual deviates from committing offences.

In most cases, she went on, people who committed sex deviation murders were known in their community beforehand as "queers".

She said that a recent petition in Vernon demanded that Heathman be returned to custody so he couldn't commit any more offences.

"Now he has broken probation and is loose on society again, nobody knows where he is, and the attorney-general says he can do nothing about this."

"This just does not make sense to me. I am concerned about the rights of society, its protection against sex offenders."

"This man would seem to have been so abnormal that he was canny enough to outwit all those to whom we look for protection from such abnormal and criminal acts."

"I feel that something is wrong somewhere, either in the application, interpretation or working out of our laws in dealing with such offenders against society."

Why could society do nothing with these people until a crime took place? she asked.

Bonner replied that the rights of society cannot be separated from an individual's freedom. What happened in this case goes to the heart of the whole question, he said.

Heathman had gone through the courts, and finally been acquitted. He had been judged in need of mental treatment. After having this, he was judged, by the experts who knew him best, to be no longer in need of it.

If, after this, he couldn't be set free, "there is no liberty in society which is really

safeguarded to anyone."

Pointing out that Heathman had no record of sexual deviation, Bonner went on: "It should be established as a matter of fact that such conduct is not the conduct of (Heathman) habitually."

Dealing with what he called the "so-called confession", the attorney-general said it would be a remarkable man whose mental composure was not affected by two trials convicting of murder, then a reversal, and a period on death row.

Bonner said Mrs. Hagen had said Heathman was released after study by two doctors who were not psychiatrists.

POSITION NOW

But, he went on, a psychiatrist who favored putting him in custody in the first place was equally clear 20 months later that all the symptoms had gone.

He said he personally questioned the doctors who said he should be released, and they were clear that Heathman had no illness that needed hospital treatment.

What is his position now, Bonner asked?

"He has been acquitted, committed for a mental condition, and has been dealt with in a mental hospital, and the professional opinion of those most to do with him is that he is no longer required to be in."

"Obviously no one of these people—and thank goodness—can say, keep this man there."

It is not now possible to say that at any particular step something might have been done differently to obtain a different result.

PERMITTED TO WORK

"Either the system works, and is permitted to work, without the introduction of some form of political discretion, or it doesn't work at all."

"Although this may make the court appear to be in a strange position and the attorney-general in a strange position, this is one of the most logical outcomes of the system that has been devised."

If the niceties of the various situations had not been observed, if the principles had been departed from, said Bonner, in the failure a fundamental part of our freedoms would have disappeared.

His reference to Heathman being spotted?

It came as almost an afterthought. Mrs. Hagen got up again to ask what society could do in all this.

Bonner answered only that the "subject of the discussion" had been "observed elsewhere in Canada, and is now under surveillance."

Activities studied

Real estate operation legal, says Bonner

Canadian Press

VICTORIA — A real estate operation which an Opposition member said allowed a group of investors to parlay a \$1,000 investment into more than \$119,000 was apparently legal, Attorney-General Bonner said Monday.

Leo Nimsick (NDP, Cranbrook) had asked Bonner for comment on the activities of B.C. Estates Ltd. and two principals in the firm, Ralph and Donald Farris.

The NDP member said the dealings of the firm apparently had been approved by J. Stewart Smith, B.C. brokers superintendent who resigned in 1962.

Bonner said the activities of B.C. Estates had been brought before his office and studied for possible infractions of the Companies or Securities Acts.

"Apparently there were none," he said.

The case appeared to be "one of those regrettable occasions in which members of the public stay within the law to the detriment of the public good."

After a close study of the matter his department had found facts cited by the alleged victims of the real estate firm "were not necessarily all demonstrable."

BCAA plan for insurance gets okay

VICTORIA — B.C. Motorists Insurance Co., sponsored by the B.C. Automobile Association, was approved by the private bills committee of the legislature Monday.

The bill would enable the BCAA to issue its own insurance policies to members. The association now issues policies to members through an agreement with a private insurance firm.

The committee also recommended approval for the Vancouver Lawn Bowling Club to disband and convert its bowling lawns in Shaughnessy to residential lots, by granting an amendment to the Shaughnessy Heights Building Act. The club has become dormant through loss of members.

Mobile car test unit possibility next year

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Next year's spending estimates contain funds for possible introduction of a mobile car testing unit, Attorney-General Bonner told the legislature Monday night.

So far, however, no decision has been made on the type or function of the unit, he said, and Ontario experience is being carefully studied.

Bert Price (S.C., Vancouver-Burrard) hoped it wouldn't be used on the lower mainland. Testing was too important to be done on a spot basis, he said. The regular system should be used, and Vancouver needed another station.

The present station in the West End is crowded beyond toleration, he said.

In another item of spending under the Attorney-General's \$14.7 million estimates David Barrett (NDP, Dewdney) called for the end of "ludicrous

and ridiculous" movie censorship. He said he'd rather teach his own children to make decisions, not have the State do it.

Spouse hunter to cut costs urged in House

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The B.C. government should hire itself a team of "spouse hunters" and save a lot of money, Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) proposed in the Legislature Monday.

He made the suggestion in commenting on the cost to the taxpayer when husbands and fathers desert their families. Dowding referred to a group of deserted wives who set up an organization in Vancouver recently.

He said Ontario hired some investigators to find husbands who had fled and left their families to the mercy of the taxpayer.

Wednesday, March 4, 1964

Pat Carney



Hearing gets nowhere

VICTORIA — The frustrated forestry committee is gallantly trying to lay down new ground rules for industry despite a formidable obstacle: The industry spokesmen who ask for new rules or regulations rarely seem able to specify what it is they want.

The result is endless, tortuous, tiring rounds of questions, all on the same theme and most going nowhere.

Although they are by no means the only guilty parties, members of the Truck Loggers' Association Tuesday produced a few examples of the problems facing the committee.

Tony Gargrave (NDP-MacKenzie) was questioning TLA spokesman George MacBryer on the TLA suggestion that free expression of opinion was not obtained at forest hearings in many cases "due to the presence at all times of the chief forester."

Gargrave: "Are you afraid that if you criticize the Forest Service at a public hearing you will suffer under a policy change?"

MacBryer: "No."

★

Gargrave: "Isn't that a logical projection of your brief?"

MacBryer: "We feel more information would be brought out to assist..."

Gargrave: "Then why should you object to the presence of the chief forester?"

MacBryer: "That's a good question. At the Sloan hearings some points were not clarified because some people don't express themselves as well as others."

Gargrave: "But don't you think that that is the place for a chief forester to be?"

MacBryer: "Every minute of all the time?"

Gargrave: "Are you saying that the presence of the chief forester inhibits the giving of evidence before a public hearing?"

MacBryer: "That's the point we're trying to make."

Chairman Cyril Shelford (SC Omineca) was questioning MacBryer on a TLA proposal for another public

hearing on provincial forest policies not later than 1965.

Shelford: "You feel there should be another royal commission?"

MacBryer: "Yes, we feel it. We as an association would like to have allocation held up before they start handing (timber licences) out."

Shelford: "What I'm trying to get clear is that you want a royal commission?"

"Yes."

"You mean you don't want the standing committee to sit longer to deal with forestry matters as you recommended last year? You have reversed your policy?"

"We haven't reversed anything."

★

TLA president W. D. Moore rescued that by saying that the more talk about forest policy the better, before a committee of a commission or a public hearing. But Moore floundered later on the contracting clause in tree farm licences.

TLA is pressing for "clarification" of the clause. Chairman Shelford figures the people who should know what a good contractor clause should be are the people who contract for TFL holders.

Moore told the committee that the future of the small logger is quite possibly in contracting on TFLs. The association wants contractors dealt with as individuals, "not as people with hats in their hand." He added: "The TFL is the people's timber. We don't feel we should have to deal with cut rate policies and cut rate competition."

Shelford: "If a TFL holder wants to live up to the clause and about 10 different contractors want to go into that area how does he choose between them? Does he put the contract out for tender?"

Moore: "I don't see why we should comment. That is the big companies' business."

Shelford: "But supposing the company calls for tender and gives the contract to the cheapest bid?"

Moore: "We can't comment on that."

Shelford: "But on whether a contract should be negotiated or tendered, you have no opinion on that?"

Moore: "No opinion. We can't tell the big companies how to do business."

Shelford: "But later on in your brief you ask that the Forest Service establish a fixed price. There seems to be some conflict. How do you choose between your 10 operators? Surely you don't expect the Forest Service to say you're okay and you're not."

Moore: "That's part of business."

Shelford: "So your answer is that you are willing to let a contract be put out to tender and let companies choose the cheapest logger?"

Moore: "No sir, you're putting words in my mouth."

Moore went on to explain that the TLA felt there should be some formula to protect a logger if negotiations broke down. This led Shelford to point out this was asking the Forest Service to set policy in certain areas, while another part of the TLA brief had asked that the Forest Service not be permitted to set policy etc. etc.

The biggest run around occurred over the TLA suggestion that TFL holders should not be allowed to make a profit on logs produced by contractors other than justified overhead.

★

John Squire (NDP Alberni) asked MacBryer whether the principle should be applied to quota holders in crown forests who sub-contract their logging operations.

MacBryer said: "I see no problem there. If we can't all have a certain amount of free enterprise, we might as well all work for the government."

Squire: "You're the one who brought the brief... the question gets down to one of principles. Your brief states that no profit should be made by a TFL on a contractor. But if I ask if it should apply to a quota holder, I get a reverse answer."

MacBryer: "It all depends on how you look at it."

Pity the poor committee.

Budget battle continues

VICTORIA — The battle of the budgets continued Tuesday, with Premier Bennett calling in all reinforcements to head off Alberta.

The issue being fought is whether Alberta or B.C. has the biggest budget.

Bennett claims his is Canada's third biggest. The net total is \$396 million. The \$414 million budget brought in by Finance Minister E. W. Hinman of Alberta is a gross

figure. On the same basis, B.C. is \$41 million bigger, Bennett said.

But Hinman fired back Tuesday that his \$414 million is on the same basis as B.C. \$396 million.

Bennett hit back, raising the ante on his gross figure to \$508 million. This, like the Alberta budget, he said, includes grants from Ottawa and municipalities, plus employees' contributions to pension funds.

Wednesday, March 4, 1964

LEGISLATURE

U.S. 'grab' no worry to Bonner

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Foreign investment in B.C. shouldn't cause too much worry, Trade Minister Bonner told the Legislature Tuesday.

He was replying to Randolph Harding (NDP, Kaslo-Slocan), who deplored increasing U.S. control of Canadian industry. Harding said the new Bank of B.C. might help keep control of basic industries here.

"It is fair to say the great exception is the foreign investor who has not been a good citizen in terms of developing our resources," Bonner replied.

This is in the interest of the investor, who wants a profit and admires qualities of stability in Canada, he said.

For years Canadians have made "strident pleas" to the world to invest money in this country.

"Canadians aren't risk takers," said Bonner. "They like bonds and blue chip investments, but they hesitate on risks. Our national temperament runs contrary to our national visions of development. 'Everytime there is a com-

plaint about a foreigner buying a Canadian industry, we should remember there must be a Canadian selling it.

"This problem has never really been faced up to—to take any steps to halt a Canadian selling his business abroad."

Bonner said Canada's chronic trade imbalance has been countered by the continual flow of capital and investment money into the country from abroad.

What's that smell?

VICTORIA — What smells in West Vancouver?

Liberal Leader Perrault (North Vancouver) asked Trade Minister Bonner in the Legislature Tuesday for a report on kraft mill odors in West Vancouver. Several home owners have had assessments lowered because of the smells, he said.

A solution is being sought, said Bonner.

"But a funny thing happened there," he said. "When the Woodfibre mill (closest pulp mill to the area) was

closed down for a period because of a boiler explosion, the most vociferous complaints of odors continued from West Vancouver."

The B.C. Research Council is working on a solution for kraft mill odors but none has yet been found, said Bonner. The hydrogen sulphate from the mills is so strong that it can't be eliminated yet.

"If our research council find a solution to this problem it will be a happier day for all the world," Bonner said.

Training lag disputed

VICTORIA — Shortage of teachers in B.C. is less than in most parts of the world, Education Minister Peterson told the Legislature Tuesday.

He disputed charges by Mrs. Lois Haggen (NDP — Grand Forks-Greenwood) that B.C. is lagging in teacher training.

"There is a shortage, and it won't improve shortly because of the rapid growth of our school population," said Peterson. "But we're far ahead of most places."

A total of 1,086 new teachers was graduated in 1963, and 1,265 will graduate in 1964. In addition, many teachers come to B.C. from other provinces and countries, though this is decreasing with the general shortage.

Shortage is greatest in secondary schools, he said.

UBC's College of Education has one new building in operation and two more under construction, a total of \$3½ million in one plant.

Wednesday, March 4, 1964

Victoria comment

Bonner puts case clearly



By PADDY SHERMAN
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — There is a stage in our society, and we reach it more frequently these days, at which democracy cannot function.

In fact, it should not function.

The real dilemmas of this space age are posed most frequently by the advances of science. How on earth can you and I decide on problems of space exploration known only to a handful of experts—even though the future of our civilization could conceivably depend on it?

But we don't have to reach

so far to find such a problem for democracy, the voice of the people. An outstanding example has been posed for us by the case of Charles Heathman.

The dialogue in the Legislature between Mrs. Lois Haggan and Attorney-General Bonner showed clearly the conflict involved.

Mrs. Haggan formulated the fears of society at large. Speaking of Heathman's release, she said: "This just does not make sense to me . . . I feel that something is wrong somewhere."

Principle clearly laid out

Bonner's reply, in my opinion, was one of the most thoughtful and intelligent things he has done in the House, notwithstanding the deluge of criticism it is liable to bring down on him.

He clearly laid out the principle involved, gently removed the emotional web in which it has been entangled, and explained that—in demanding the arrest of Heathman—society is cutting away at its own civilized roots.

It was cold logic, fundamental law and a defence not so much of Heathman as the system we so jealously protect in

most cases. In this one, the background of the individual involved is, as Bonner put it, not wholesome.

But he was acquitted by the highest court in the province. He was committed for mental treatment, and the key psychiatrist who said he needed this treatment said 20 months later that his symptoms had completely disappeared.

Certainly there is some doubt about whether or not he killed that boy. Certainly, with the inherent uncertainties of psychiatry, there is no way of saying that a man who has been "cured" will never do wrong again.

As sane as the rest of us

But the alternative is to lock up a man the experts are satisfied is as sane as the rest of us, and lock him up for no crime that we know of.

This was what Bonner said to the Legislature. It took courage to say this, political courage of a very high order. Where the emotions are involved, the voter has a memory as long as an elephant.

When some more valid criticism of his handling of the Sommers case is forgotten,

Bonner may well be remembered as the attorney-general who defended Heathman.

It may do him harm in the next election, especially if Heathman should even be suspected of any more trouble with the law.

But to many thoughtful observers here, on all sides of the Legislature, Bonner spoke in the great and difficult tradition of those who defend unlovable individuals when the temper of the times is almost for lynch law.

No fees

VICTORIA — Technical and vocational schools can help their graduates get jobs, but the department of education doesn't want fees charged. Education Minister Peterson has introduced such legislation.

Wednesday, March 4, 1964

Delay in pulp harvesting licences asked

By PAT CARNEY

VICTORIA—Pulpwood harvesting areas are parasites on existing sawmill economies and tree farm licences have had their day, the Truck Loggers' Association said Tuesday.

The TLA was commenting on recent applications for PHAs and TFLs in northern B.C. to provide raw material for projected pulp and paper plans requiring a combined investment initially of \$220 million.

The TLA statement was issued after forestry committee chairman Cyril Shelford (SC-Omineca) ruled statements on the timber applications were beyond the committee's terms of reference.

He said that if the TLA statements were admitted, other interested parties would probably wish to appear before the committee and added: "In northern B.C., that would be every second person."

PHAs were designed by the Forest Service to encourage the harvesting of wood now

wasted without disturbing the supply of sawlogs to sawmills already established in an area.

The PHA concept superimposes a pulp mill economy on a sawmill base, ensuring better utilization of timber and a higher return to the province from its forest resources.

A tree farm licence grants a company cutting rights to crown timber at prices set by the Forest Service in return for managing crown and privately owned forests on a perpetual harvest basis.

The TLA requested that no further PHAs be issued until more is known about them and their effect on established local operators. It added: "If we could be assured of the economic success of a 100-ton pulp mill or a two- to three million dollar plant capable of processing chips and wood waste, it would change the whole concept of pulpwood harvesting licences."

"Smaller processing plants can and will create a competitive market for mill and woods waste quite different to the present monopolistic hold the

large pulp plants have on the tributary woods operators and lumber manufacturing plants."

Although the pulp harvesting system did not necessarily interfere with existing sawlog supply, the TLA said, "they surely assure themselves of an unnecessarily low cost raw product from mill and woods waste available."

"Basically they are parasites as they flourish best where a sawmill economy is already established or an integrated operation of their own can be developed."

Dealing with tree farm licences, the TLA said the concept that we had to "give away timber" to get industry established is a "fallacy." It said: "We can entice industry without loaning our fine timber growing sites in perpetuity."

It suggested that hearings on the TFL applications should be held in Vancouver or Victoria to permit other than local residents to participate: "Local interested parties, favorably affected by industrial expansion, can and will develop impressions possibly contrary to the good of the province."

Truck Loggers suggest new forestry commission

VICTORIA — A new royal commission on forestry to be held not later than 1965 was suggested Tuesday by the Truck Loggers Association.

The TLA told the standing committee on forestry the last two hearings were held in 1944-45 and 1955-56. It added: "We are getting bogged down with petty daily problems. A new look at our forest policy and its administration is essential before we make too many more irretrievable mistakes."

The TLA has asked for a future policy on contract clause enforcement, under which tree farm licence holders are required to contract out some of their logging operations.

The TLA suggested that data should be enumerated for each licence affected and should be made public so that interested contractors could act as they see fit.

It also suggested that a "fair

price" should be paid for the particular phase of the operation being handled by a contractor. The forest service could police the pricing arrangements, based on its own appraisal figures.

Until independent arbitration is available, the arbitrator should be the committee or the minister of lands and forests, the TLA suggested.

The TLA also asked that pending cut control measures be postponed until the committee has an opportunity of assessing new inventory reports due soon.

Since increases in annual allowable cuts for tree farm licences have been assigned to the TFL holders, the association suggested that the same yardstick be applied to quota holders in crown forests so that increases in available timber can be distributed to established operators.

Thursday, March 5, 1964

Victoria comment



Foes miss a bet

By PADDY SHERMAN
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—With all the furor about plundering our parks, the conservationists et al seem to have overlooked the most efficient sounding board.

Nobody has so far presented a brief on the question of logging and mining in provincial parks to the 12-member legislative Committee on Public Access to Privately-Administered Roads.

Whether by accident or design, the Government issued an open invitation to such groups when it set up the

terms of reference of the committee.

Its basic problem is the thorny one of multiple use of roads built by forest and mining companies. But as reported here earlier, it really opens up a whole new subject.

Section (D) of the terms of reference reads as follows: "To consider the multiple use of natural resources and the problems of mutual access thereto and such measures as may be necessary for the protection of the forests arising from such mutual access."

There is little doubt that as it stands, this widens the powers of the committee to go

into the whole hornet's nest Recreation Minister Kiernan opened up with his statement on park policy.

The feeling is that this came about by an error in drafting, that it was really intended to limit this to consideration of roads in view of the multiple use of resources.

As it stands, however, the way is clear for the most ardent opponents of Kiernan's stand to request a hearing.

If they all come forward, of course, the committee could go all summer. But it is more likely that the Government would quickly redraft the section.

No clear-cut trends emerging

As for the main business of the committee, no clear-cut trends are emerging. There seems to be no strong feeling among members yet on whether the draft new access act will be made law this session.

It is basically a re-vamping of the Industrial Transportation Act, with a section giving the cabinet power to proclaim industrial roads as open to the public.

The committee has been hearing senior civil servants on the problems involved. From their testimony, various

interpretations have been drawn.

One member suggested that there was no need for the act, that all that had to be done was insert a new clause in the Industrial Transportation Act forcing companies to file with the government.

But he was told this was researched three years ago and raised difficult problems.

There are still two big question marks in the application of any plan that gives the public access to roads formerly considered private. First, while policing the conditions won't

be too difficult, there is no way of knowing how much it would cost the government annually to share the maintenance costs of major logging roads.

And secondly, how much would it cost the Government, in a bad forest fire season, to fight publicly-caused fires in private timber holdings?

Such problems cause some feeling here that the committee may decide to give a further trial to the system of voluntary opening introduced last year, and hold off the proposed new act.

Don't say B.C., say it in full, urges Bennett

Province Victoria Bureau

Victoria — Don't tell anybody you live in B.C., Premier Bennett has advised the Legislature. Tell them British Columbia.

He urged the government to spend more money advertising facts about B.C. — oops, British Columbia, in England.

But John Squire (NDP, Alberni) said that from his experiences on a trip to England last summer, even that isn't good enough. When he tried it, people thought he came from British Guiana.

Squire said that, after considerable discussion, his travel group decided to say they came from Western Canada, then British Columbia.

Thursday, March 5, 1964

B.C. bill shifts mental care job to local areas

By PADDY SHERMAN
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The government gradually will withdraw from mental health care, under the provisions of a new mental health bill introduced into the Legislature Wednesday.

Instead, the government plans that local communities and mental health groups will administer mental care on the lines of a general hospital operation now.

Such groups would build mental health centres and even have existing government facilities handed over to them, under certain safeguards.

ROYAL COMMISSION

The financial aspect will depend on a decision by the federal government, said Health Minister Martin. He expects a royal commission on health services to recommend federal sharing of mental health costs.

The new bill prepares the way for this. It comes into effect when the cabinet proclaims it.

Martin maintained the proposal is the most enlightened mental health legislation in North America. He said it embodies principles set forth by the Canadian Mental Health Association.

"At last we are coming out of the dark ages," he told reporters.

OPPOSITION VIEW

But opposition spokesmen caustically called it a do-it-yourself mental health service.

"It is a brazen abandonment of the government's responsibilities."

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) was especially critical of a new section that sets out admission policies for all mental and retarded patients, including children trying to get into Woodlands School at New Westminster.

Dowding won a court case recently involving a boy on the Woodlands waiting list, now under appeal.

UP TO SUPERINTENDENT

The proposed law makes the superintendent of Woodlands the sole authority.

Section 21 says that the

head of a mental health facility shall not admit a person if suitable accommodation is not available; if he thinks the person is not mentally disordered; or if he thinks the person could not be cared for or treated appropriately in the facility.

Dowding said this, in effect, makes the minister of finance the admitting authority, since everything depends on what he is willing to provide.

The bill also would make widespread changes in the admission and release procedures for non-voluntary patients, such as Charles Heathman.

In future, it won't be necessary to have a judge order the committal of such a person. It can be done simply by an order signed by two doctors.

But to protect civil liberties, the patient has the right of appeal to a judge.

He has similar rights for three months after admission, too. A review by two psychiatrists must take place at least once a year after that.

Release in such cases will depend on a review board consisting of two psychiatrists, not simply two medical doctors as at present.

Patients who want to enter an institution voluntarily can also do so more informally under the new act.

At present, there has to be a written request. In future, the patient's own doctor can arrange the admittance with the hospital just as with a general hospital.

Martin said the bill is designed to encourage the development of local mental health services, and end centralization of facilities.

He envisioned the day, though many years off, when the Provincial Mental Hospital at Essondale would be closed down because the number of long-term patients would dwindle.

He said the government will "extend a very full measure of co-operation and assistance to any society which wishes to establish mental health services."

But the bill does not spell them out. The details will be set by regulations the cabinet draws up.

The bill would replace the Mental Hospitals Act, the Clinics of Psychological Medicine Act, Provincial Child Guidance Clinics Act, Provincial Mental Health Centres Act, and the Schools for Mental Defectives Act.

This would be gradual, however, and the bill's sections may be proclaimed by stages.

However, there is a safeguard in case the court of appeal upholds the recent Woodlands decision that children must be admitted to Woodlands on a court order.

The proposed law will now read that the judge "may" direct admission, instead of "shall" direct. And the order becomes authority to admit the patient "providing that suitable accommodation is available therein."

Martin said: "It is obvious that enforced admissions could create havoc with the standards of care and treatment provided."

"Facilities can provide just so much care, and if these are taxed too far, the standards fall. Levels of occupancy must be controlled."

Dowding said the new bill makes no provision for emotionally disturbed children.

"The government will continue its policy of allowing young children with emotional problems to drift through childhood until they can be placed in mental hospitals when adult."

He also criticized the discretion given to the cabinet as a "dangerous and unnecessary transfer of powers from the Legislature at the expense of the patients and the community."

Thursday, March 5, 1964

Loggers ask second chance to hold onto timber quotas

Canadian Press

VICTORIA — A group of B.C. Interior loggers said Wednesday that the only fair way of eliminating blackmail and spite bidding practices in timber sales will be to stop trafficking in timber quotas.

A brief to the Legislature's forestry committee from the Interior Logging Association maintained that timber "is a public asset, and as such must be sold at public auction."

The brief was presented by G. R. Hickman, who told the committee a proposed solution to the spite bidding problem advanced by large timber operators would only place timber "into the hands and control of the minority."

Mr. Hickman said quotas — "originally given to the industry by the forest service" — now are being sold among operators for an average of \$10 a thousand board feet.

If the proposal of the larger operators to restrict bidding on timber sales to established operators with quotas were carried out, the value of quotas "might go as high as \$50 a thousand."

Quotas of timber, set by the government several years ago to prevent depletion of the forests, were based on an operator's production record.

Under the present quota system, a quota holder can obtain any timber sale within his quota by matching the highest competitive bid. But if he fails to do so the portion of his quota represented in the sale is transferred to the high bidder. Normally this means loss of most or all the original holder's quota.

The Interior loggers proposed the present system of quotas be maintained but that the quotas not be lost through

the holder's failure to win a sale.

If the sale were lost, the quota holder would be able to apply for a replacement sale once the first sale had expired.

"This proposal protects the public asset and allows the timber to be sold at its true value on a competitive market, completely divorced from the private asset, the quota," the brief said.

"No competent and efficient established operator should complain if he is unable to meet his competitor's bid for a public asset."

Mr. Hickman said 90 per cent of the excessive bids in current timber sales "are to protect quotas." Most of the high bids were being made by processing plants.

He said advocates of restrictive bidding "are trying to get protection for their investment."

"We loggers are asking not for protection but only for equal rights."

He said the association has about 80 members and indirectly represents another 800 small logging contractors throughout the interior.

As an alternative to their proposal, the loggers suggested sales within sustained yield units be considered district forester sales "on a sustained yield basis."

The brief suggested the forest service could then see to it that the timber could be fully utilized and that the best possible price would be obtained on the timber sales through public auction.

A Cortez Island logging operator told the committee later that the entire B.C. timber industry will be in the hands of about 10 large firms unless present quota rules are changed.

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 1964

LEGISLATURE

Legislature boils with wild talk

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The angriest scene of this session of the Legislature erupted Thursday afternoon.

One minute the Legislature was quietly debating labor department spending estimates, totalling \$1.2 millions. The next, members were calling each other communists and blackshirts.

The furious exchanges raged on for 20 minutes, despite the pleas of House Chairman William Speare (S.C., Cariboo) that members "adopt a more responsible attitude."

The outburst began when Tony Gargrave (NDP, MacKenzie) said he'd had enough "Blackshirt ideas" from Herbert Bruch (S.C., Esquimalt) without hearing "bullying ideas" from Premier Bennett, who had just walked in.

COOLS OFF

He shouted at Bennett to keep out of the argument, and said things were quiet when Bennett "was absent all day."

Bennett retorted that "this Communist leadership can say what they like."

Then he sat down, turned his back and grinned at Labor Minister Peterson. But his remarks brought debate to boiling point, and NDP members bobbed angrily up and down.

The tempest blew itself out when the "Blackshirt" and "Communist" remarks were withdrawn.

During the quiet earlier debate, Peterson said the report of the Royal Commission on Workmen's Compensation shouldn't be too long in coming.

"We would be very happy to get an interim report now," he said.

The commission was delayed by the death of former Chief

Justice Desbrisay. Mr. Justice Tysoe took over in February.

Peterson told Liberal leader Perrault that a proposal to settle the Vancouver and Victoria shipyard strikes is now being considered.

"We expect a report on it at any moment," he said.

Perrault said B.C.'s whole conciliation setup needs upgrading because a year of labor difficulties is coming. At least nine or 10 more labor department negotiators are needed, he said.

He suggested profit-sharing arrangements would keep labor peace.

STUBBLE JUMPERS

There was a brief flurry of angry debate earlier when Waldo Skillings (S.C., Victoria) indicated "all those stubble-jumpers from Saskatchewan" were responsible for much unemployment in B.C.

This one began when Leo Nimsick (NDP, Cranbrook) accused the government of "letting people rot on social welfare while you try to build up your reserves."

Ralph Loffmark (S.C., Point Grey) called for "education, not charity" as the answer.

John Squire (NDP, Alberni) said education wasn't the only answer to the world's problems. Many of the persons involved were 45 to 50 years old, and "can't speak English, yet they helped to pioneer this country."

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 1964

Victoria comment

NDP at odds on Columbia



By PADDY SHERMAN
Province Service Bureau

VICTORIA—It's confusing enough that we have five parties in Canadian politics, but at times the total seems even higher.

Often you wonder whether a provincial party shares the same philosophical stable with its Ottawa counterpart.

At times the B.C. Liberals have their troubles with Ottawa. At all times there is little liaison between Premier Bennett's form of social Credit and the versions represented by Robert Thompson and Real Caouette.

And, of course, the coolness between federal and provincial factions of the Conservatives almost froze the party to death.

Now one begins to wonder about the NDP. When the Columbia River treaty was placed before Parliament this week, there was a mighty roar and an eruption of villification from national leader Tommy Douglas.

NOT IN B.C.

But out here, where the party has been bitterly enmeshed in the complications of the Columbia treaty for years, that sort of attack is not heard any more.

Not, I hasten to add, because the NDP MLAs have suddenly learned to love it.

They haven't. But they are behaving rather realistically, and the issue has become more subdued.

The trend of their speeches on the subject has switched more now to making sure that those about to be flooded out are generously dealt with and don't have to suffer for their sacrifices.

We had Alex MacDonald (NDP, Vancouver East), accepting the government's two-river policy as a fact of life, urging Premier Bennett to export as much surplus Columbia power as possible in order to bring down the cost of Peace power.

OPPOSITION CREDITED

And Ran Harding (NDP, Kaslo-Slocan) said: "Some say the present treaty is \$100 million better than before . . . If so, the major credit goes to those who . . . opposed it in the first instance."

But the strongest thing he had to say about the revised treaty in his last speech was: "The treaty is not, in my opinion, the best for this country. Too many things have been overlooked and subordinated to our desire for power and money."

This isn't the first time the B.C. members have been try-

ing to downplay the McNaughton plan only to have their MP's do the opposite. In the Columbia by-election last summer, the NDP dropped the issue entirely from its platform.

Then at the last minute in flew Tommy Douglas from Ottawa and stirred up the muddy Columbia waters again.

The current uprising of sentiment from Douglas and Bert Herridge might be good for national consumption; but the result of the last provincial election doesn't seem to make it good policy out here.

There seems to be considerable feeling on this point among some of the provincial members. When the Douglas objections hit the headlines. One shook his head and said: "He can't stop it. Everybody knows he's against it. Why doesn't he leave it at that?"

With another I was discussing a recent Herridge attack on this paper and me, and wound up with: "Seems as if he intends to cause us as much trouble as he can."

Came the reply: "You think he's causing YOU trouble."

MLA urges school Italian

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Italian language should be taught in some B.C. high schools, Alex MacDonald (NDP, Vancouver East) told the House.

"In Vancouver there are many people around Templeton high who want their children to learn their native tongue. There are many others in Vancouver, Nanaimo, Trail and other centres who want Italian language instruction. It is one of the great cultural languages of the world."

Friday, March 6, 1964

Gibson admires Bennett like he does Capone

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Gordon Gibson, outspoken North Vancouver Liberal MLA, admitted to the Legislature that he admires Premier Bennett —but only in the same way that he admires Al Capone.

He rose to take issue with a Vancouver newspaper item. "It says I'm a secret admirer of Premier Bennett" he said angrily.

"It's no secret," shouted Premier Bennett. "Everybody knows it."

"I never said what I admire him for," continued Gibson. "All Capone did a good job of robbing banks, too."

"If the press says I admire him seriously they are all wrong. I want to set the House straight on this."

Private road ills voiced

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C.'s oil and gas companies don't mind sharing their private roads with the public, but they'd like other industries to help foot the bill.

The B.C. division of the Canadian Petroleum Association made the request Thursday to the Legislature's Special Committee on Public Access.

The association's brief said all its members' main trunk roads in northeastern B.C.

are open to the public. Other industries also use some of them as the area grows.

Usually, voluntary private arrangements are made between industries in such cases.

The association wants the law changed to provide for cost sharing, with arbitration.

Said the brief: "The operator that constructed the road . . . must have the power to compel other industrial users to contribute."

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Paddy Sherman

A fishbowl view of MLAs in action



The 85,400 cubic feet of space around and above our legislators here is open to varying descriptions as seen from the public galleries.

Some visitors take their places above the heads of our politicians with the idea that they are looking down into a Roman-type amphitheatre, with Premier Bennett about to toss another opposition Christian to the voting lions.

Others, after a dull session, get the feeling that it's an overheated goldfish bowl, with the denizens opening and closing their mouths out of habit.

But either way, the visitors get a view of the MLAs that is quite different from the view the MLAs get of each other at floor level. Every move and gesture on the back benches, which may be invisible to the member two seats away, is clear to the voters on high.



The contrast to one of them was rather startling. He noted that he couldn't even lean forward to put his hands on the rail without an attendant rushing forward to stop him.

"Yet," he went on, "down on the floor two members were stretched out on a couple of chairs each, trying to sleep.

"Others were holding little discussion groups while some member was trying to make a point. Sometimes the noise became so loud that the chairman had to pound his desk and ask for order.

"There certainly didn't seem to be too much decorum there."

Had that visitor been in on the end of the labor estimates, he could have added a few more criticisms—ill-temper, petulance, bad taste, and perhaps worst of all, lack of humor.

Tony Gargrave (NDP, Mackenzie) was

the focal point, and as occasionally happens, his flash-point was very low. He said a Socred member had blackshirt ideas, which is as close as one can come to calling anybody a Fascist.

Then he was horrified when Bennett called him a Communist. From up above, it was clear Bennett was doing nothing more than setting up his political balances. When he turned his back, he was laughing. But the turmoil was bubbling.



For half an hour we had a lot of mean talk that did nothing to polish anybody's image. It got worse. At 6 p.m. John Squire (NDP, Alberni) suggested the House adjourn, since it was normal adjournment time. The NDP was obviously stalling for time, and nothing worthwhile was happening.

But Bennett snapped: "The House leader is not taking instructions from you, my friend." So we sat through another quarter-hour of the nonsense.



Two of the interjections from Waldo Skillings (S.C., Victoria) would have been better unsaid. Opposition Leader Strachan and other NDP members were away at a funeral during this period, and Skillings shouted: "Are you trying to keep the debate going until the pallbearers return?"

At another time, he blamed much of B.C.'s unemployment on "all these stumble-jumpers from Saskatchewan." Such comments easily turn him into a stumble-jumper.

To the public eyes and ears above, such scenes in the goldfish bowl-arena inspire little confidence in the people who rule us.

Independents starving for logs, brief claims

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Independent sawmill operators are "starving to death in chaos" because of vicious competition for a shrinking supply of logs available to them, P. G. Frewer, president of the Independent Timber Converters Association of B. C., told the Legislature's forestry committee Friday.

Frewer presented a brief on behalf of the industry's "have nots"—the operators who do not hold tree farm licences.

"All I really want is the right to starve to death in an orderly society—we don't want to starve in chaos," he said.

Frewer, who operates Richmond Plywood Corporation, charged that government discrimination in favor of pulp mills, through tree farm licences, is killing independent mill operators. Their log supply is drying up, he said.

The big firms now control two-thirds of the province's log supply, through tree farm licences and their "tied loggers", he said. So it is impossible for small operators to plan ahead. The growing shortage has resulted in vicious competition for available logs.

A bad fire season, followed by a heavy winter, could be disastrous to the independents, he said.

The association urged restriction of timber sales to established operators in an area.

John Squire (NDP, Alberni) asked: "Would you favor the forestry department setting up a log pool from which everybody could buy?"

"We'd go for that," replied Frewer. "I like that suggestion."

Saturday, March 7, 1964

In Garibaldi Park

B.C. wilderness area preserved for all time

Bill moves voting day

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Municipal voting in B.C. will be switched from Thursdays to Saturdays, and local councils will have power to ban "objectionable" noises under a bill introduced in the Legislature Friday.

It consisted of 34 pages of amendments to the Municipal Act, most of them housekeeping changes.

But the most controversial item in municipal politics—local option for Sunday sports—wasn't mentioned.

SOME DISAPPOINTMENT

T. R. Adams, executive director of the Union of B.C. Municipalities said that while most of the changes were satisfactory to UBCM, it was very disappointed about the Sunday entertainment omission.

The act applies to all municipalities except Vancouver, which operates under its own city charter.

UBCM has sought Saturday voting for some years. It said more voters will be able to turn out, and schools will be readily available as voting centres.

PROHIBIT NOISE

The noise control feature is the result of a New Westminster decision that a council can only regulate noise, not prohibit it. The new clause permits prohibition.

The changes also recognize long-standing complaints of golf clubs and cemetery operators that they are being taxed out of existence.

A clause will permit special arrangements between councils and individual golf clubs or cemeteries to get lower taxes, provided they agree to keep them as open spaces for at least 10 years.

If the land is built on at any time before the 10 years, the operators will not only have to pay the full rate of taxes for the years in which they received concessions, but also half their capital gains on selling.

REASONABLE NOTICE

A dispute at Burnaby involving council's dismissal of its engineer and planner has brought changes in the act. They provide that senior officials may not be dismissed except on reasonable notice.

Seventeen new sections deal with the controversial problem of licensing of resident and non-resident businesses. They will also permit the municipal affairs minister to designate two or more municipalities as a joint trading area in terms of licensing.

Order bars developers

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The 'heartland of Garibaldi Park was set aside by the government Friday as an area in which there is never to be any development, not even so much as a ski-tow.

A cabinet order set aside 49,248 acres around Garibaldi Lake, Black Tusk Meadows and Mt. Garibaldi as the first in a series of "nature conservancies."

The only changes to be permitted in the region will be trails and a few emergency shelters.

TWELFTH OF AREA

The cabinet order defined nature conservancies as areas of superlative beauty and said it is necessary to preserve them free from commercial or industrial exploitation.

The area set aside is roughly one-twelfth of the entire area of Garibaldi Park, and contains most of the best-known alpine, glacier and volcanic highlands.

It purposely does not include the area around Diamond Head Chalet, north of Squamish. Park officials said this was done so that this region could develop ski-resort facilities.

AERIAL TRAMWAY

Its limits stop a long way short of Whistler Mountain, near Alta Lake, where a private company plans to build a giant aerial tramway.

No indication has been given officially of the next natural conservancy area to be designated. Conservation Minister Kiernan indicated that more may be on the way in future.

Saturday, March 7, 1964

Hydro bill progresses, awaits routine action

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A charter for B.C. Hydro awaits only a routine third reading for adoption.

Three sections were opposed Friday by the NDP and the Liberals, on the grounds that they took too much control of Hydro from the Legislature.

Section 57 gave the cabinet power to make orders and regulations on matters not specifically covered by the bill.

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) called this the "most iniquitous provision since the days of King Henry VIII."

It made a mockery of democracy, he said.

Alan Macfarlane (Lib., Oak Bay) said the NDP wanted the act to have wide powers in case they ever became government. "This is brush-fire socialism," he said.

Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) said: "For the first time in history, Hydro is responsible to this House."

Section 44 was opposed because Macdonald said it made no provision for crop damage caused by Hydro.

On this section, the government had its narrowest squeak for some years on a standing vote. The count was 16-16, with many members absent. But on a formal recorded vote the section passed easily.

The Sherwood Lett judgment last July in the B.C. Electric takeover case ruled that Hydro was illegally set up. Later court decisions upheld that ruling. These are now being appealed. If the government loses them, it can proclaim the new act immediately.

Victoria comment

Prophets loud but that's all



By PADDY SHERMAN

VICTORIA—Park conservation has one problem in common with the difficulties of developing the Columbia River: More people feel strongly about it than think strongly.

One feels at times that there are more prophets crying aloud about the wilderness than people who ever came close to crying of frustration in the wilderness.

Before developing this any further, let me explain my personal position. By avocation, I'm a mountaineer. Nothing pleases me more than to climb in an area where nobody else has set foot on the peaks, and I've done a fair amount of this, from Bute Inlet north to Alaska.

Wilderness? much of the country my climbing colleagues explore will be primeval generations from now, fortunately. Some years ago a very fit party from the Alpine Club came down the Southgate Valley after a first ascent, and took four days to cover 20 miles on the flat.

That's wilderness for you. You can have it tomorrow in exchange for one decent logging road that will open up the mountain paradise beyond.

Some of the earliest climbing I did in B.C. a dozen years ago was on the U.S. border south of Hope. We got in by a logging road. Then we climbed the lower mountain slopes by an old burro trail that had serviced a silver mine.

Wicked, wicked exploitation

Wicked, wicked industrial exploitation. By slashing a road and trails through, it had made it possible to do some wonderful climbing on a weekend instead of in a tough week.

Of course, some terrible things have been done in the name of industry. But luckily they have been so bad that they changed the whole climate surrounding such things.

The Kennedy Dam monstrosity produced by flooding for the Kitimat project was so bad that no politician would ever dare let it happen again. Through the blunders of the

past, we are more enlightened today.

Enthusiastic as some of us are, there are people in the provincial park planning offices here who are even more dedicated to preserving the things we love. I know some of them well, and they produce even more forceful cases to their minister than most of us do.

Yet there are loud voices outside that seem to think they are the only ones who know the subject. The Garibaldi nature conservancy order last week is a case in point.

Garibaldi has drawbacks

It set aside 50,000 acres of the heartland as untouchable wilderness. Among others, Roderick Haig-Brown of Campbell River denounced this as inadequate, and so on.

For years, the Alpine Club of Canada, the B.C. Mountaineering Club, the Varsity Outdoor Club and the B.C. Natural History Society have had a Joint Mountain Parks Committee to consider parks policy.

It recommended not 50,000 acres as a sacrosanct area, but 28,000 acres. Of course we'd all like more, but from a practical point of view the new area is entirely adequate.

It may sound like heresy to Haig-Brown, but some of us find much of Garibaldi un-

interesting and uninspiring as a park after looking at it firsthand.

The odd mine or logging operation around its borders, under strict supervision, would improve it by making it at least slightly available.

He's right on one aspect, however. The government is going about things in the wrong way.

If Recreation Minister Kieran had done a more thorough job when he announced the new policy, if he had shown what safeguards there would be, what sort of act is planned for permanent protection, he could have achieved his objective and got bouquets instead of brickbats.

Martin demands action

Legislature raps dental impasse

By PADDY SHERMAN

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The first motion of no confidence in a provincial cabinet minister this session failed in the Legislature Monday by 29 votes to 16.

The minister, Health Minister Eric Martin.

The grounds: The government's failure to do anything significant to bring in a hospital care program for the old and chronically ill.

Moving the traditional motion that Martin's \$15,000 salary be cut by \$1, Alex MacDonald (NDP, Vancouver East) said the government had let down old people, who were in real trouble.

Although the government had promised chronic care programs since 1956, he said, the chronically ill had to pay up to \$300 a month in private hospitals once they left acute-care hospitals.

The government just used the matter as election bait, he went on, and had no intention of doing anything about it.

Martin said five private hospitals provide convalescent care for people with long-term illnesses that can be improved. Many communities plan such institutions, he said.

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault said that only 40 per cent of the chronically ill could qualify for the convalescent care at \$1 a day.

The rest of the problem couldn't be solved by allowing private operators into the field solely to make a profit.

Ran Harding (NDP, Kaslo-Slocan) said the only people who qualified for the convalescent program were those who had, for instance, a broken hip, and for whom there was no room in an acute hospital.

Alan MacFarlane (Lib., Oak Bay) said that for eight years the government has tried to pass off a rehabilitation program as a chronic care program, but was fooling nobody.

Earlier, MacDonald proposed that the government should set up, in such a place as Port Alberni or Williams Lake, a complete community health clinic.

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A bitter struggle between B.C.'s dentists and dental mechanics has reached an "intensity nothing short of disgusting" and is now "a war to the death," Health Minister Martin told the Legislature Monday.

Unless both sides get together and co-operate, he warned, "I will bring in some very stringent recommendations" on future action.

All the legislation needed to settle the battle over the supply of dentures to the public is already in existence, he said.

"All we need is common sense and a little adulthood."

Earlier, the dentists had come under severe criticism from several government MLAs.

Cyril Shelford (S.C., Omnica) accused them of "stymying" every move made by the Legislature. They had taken an irresponsible attitude, he said.

Alex Matthew (S.C., Vancouver Centre) accused them of slapping the government's face.

HITS BOTH SIDES

Herbert Bruch (S.C., Esquimalt) criticized both sides, but said he had many complaints that dentists weren't doing their job well enough in supplying dentures.

The dentists had a major public relations job to do, he went on, and must realize that professionalism meant more than just protecting their own group.

Bert Price (S.C., Vancouver Burrard) brought the matter up. He said the Legislature

passed an act that permitted dental mechanics to deal directly with the public in supplying dentures provided a dentist certified the mouth was healthy.

But now, he said, the College of Dental Surgeons has suspended three dentists for working with mechanics.

Shelford called the dentists' action deplorable and irresponsible.

At another stage he said it was "a bunch of nonsense, and we shouldn't permit it to go on any longer."

Matthew said the present situation will put mechanics out of business.

PRICES HAVE RISEN

He said the dental college didn't like the bill the government brought in, "so since then they have been sitting up night after night trying to figure out ways and means of rendering that act inoperative."

Dan Campbell (S.C., Comox) rejected the idea of trying to legislate co-operation. But he said the dentists and mechanics should be told that unless they got together, the legislature would step in.

Opposition Leader Strachan said the original problem was economic. Mechanics said they could produce dentures for \$80 instead of the dentist's \$140.

But ever since mechanics were legalized, he said, their prices had risen, and would probably settle at \$10 below the dentist's price.

He wanted mechanics to operate under dentists' supervision in the way laboratory technicians now operate under the guidance of doctors.

No project submitted for money, Martin

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Why doesn't Vancouver get the chronic hospital towards which it voted \$1,330,000 two years ago?

Two Social Credit backbenchers from Vancouver pressed Health Minister Martin for an answer to the perennial question Monday in the Legislature.

Alex Matthew (Vancouver Centre) and Bert Price (Vancouver Burrard) got an answer — sort of.

"The Vancouver money vote

was for any hospital purpose, not just for a chronic hospital," said Martin. "They have never submitted a project to us. It must be submitted by a public hospital, not by the city council."

"But no plans for any chronic hospital have ever been received here from them. We've implored and prayed for some plan from Vancouver."

Earlier Pat McGeer (Lib., Point Grey) had accused the government of "delays, delays, delays" in the project.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 1964

Victoria comment

Tough choice on the Fraser



By PADDY SHERMAN
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — While conservationists are girding for a rather nebulous battle over the multiple use of B.C. resources, a real crackerjack of a problem has suddenly arisen.

The final report of the Fraser River Board, which has struggled for many years to find an answer to the problems of Fraser flooding, has posed a tough choice of alternatives.

Shall the beauties of Wells Gray Wilderness Park be ruined and the Fraser's fish

runs damaged, or shall we have more devastating floods in the lower Fraser Valley?

If power were the object of the exercise, there would be a tremendous outcry against the project and chances are it would be shelved.

But what do you do when the lives and welfare of thousands of people are stacked against the fish and the trees?

The Fraser report doesn't put the problem quite as bluntly as this, of course, but it doesn't skirt it either.

All angles considered

Let's take the fishery problem first. Don't get the idea that all the angles haven't been considered, because W. R. Hourston, Pacific area director of the federal department of fisheries, is one of the board's four members. Special studies were done by the department.

The report finds that the proposed plan "would, in general, be compatible with the maintenance of salmon runs."

Normally, there is no problem in releasing water for the May migration downstream.

But in a dry year, normal reservoir flows would have to be cut to provide water storage for power. If the water

wasn't stored, 20,000 kilowatts of power would be lost.

"A comparable loss to the fishery should the natural conditions in May not be maintained," says the report. "It could represent a reduction in the numbers of an off-year run, or, alternatively, a substantial loss in one of the major runs in a peak year."

The extent of this problem is not yet known, the report says.

Now for Wells Gray Park, which is liable to become the great rallying ground for conservationists. It begins about 85 miles north of Kamloops, and runs about the same distance north.

Recreation in danger

The report says of the problem there: "The parks branch of the department of recreation and conservation maintains that such a plan would virtually destroy the recreational amenities of this area."

"The claim is supported in some measure by the fish and game branch of the same department on the basis of a limited survey of sport fish and game animals in the park."

"One of the major objections raised by the parks branch concerns the loss of natural shoreline along Clearwater, Azure and Hobson lakes, and the impact upon the public of a drawdown strip devoid of growth."

It explains that low levels appear before the snow melt begins, and maximum levels come in the middle of summer, though the conservationists are hardly likely to accept this.

The price for this destruction is all the flood control that Kamloops needs, and about 24 per cent of the control required by the lower Fraser Valley.

Up to now the current furor has been the people versus the industries who might despoil our parks.

Now it becomes the parks versus the people and a whole new set of arguments will arise.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 1964

Hydro act passes but not without last gasp attack

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The B.C. Hydro and Power Authority Act received final reading Tuesday, but not before a last ditch attack on two of its provisions by the NDP and Liberal opposition groups.

Provision against strikes was hit by the NDP.

"The right to withhold work is sometimes the only way a just wage can be arrived at," said Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East). "I don't believe Hydro employees should be treated any differently from the other workers in the province. These employees are losing the protection of the Labor Relations Act."

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) said this provision was a typical example of the government's unfairness to labor, distrust of the people and use of the 'big brother' technique. It was a dictatorship, he said.

William Hartley (NDP, Yale) said he objected to the no-strike clause as a card-carrying member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Alan Macfarlane (Lib., Oak Bay) said the Liberal Party opposed the bill because it denied the right of appeal from expropriation proceedings, and because it placed control outside the Legislature. It would allow the Hydro to enter into competition with private business, he said.

The bill carried on a voice vote.

A proposed clampdown on soliciting of funds for the blind was modified when an act covering such contributions was discussed in committee prior to final reading.

The act will set up a three-member Contributions for the Blind Board appointed by the government. Canvassing or collecting funds for blind persons will be prohibited unless approved by this board.

Provincial Secretary Black said Tuesday an appeal board will also be set up, responsible to him as minister.

An amendment introduced by the minister Tuesday provides that the act will have no application to personal money made by blind or partially blind persons.

The Homeowners Grant Act got final reading after an amendment by Dowding was ruled out of order. The act specifies that the name of the grant must be followed by the words "applicable first to local school taxes and then to other levies" on tax notices, "boldly printed."

Dowding said this was just printed propaganda and the provision should be incorporated as a separate section of the act to give it meaning. "It's not enough just to print it on the back of a tax notice," he said.

Pledge by Martin

B.C. won't pass buck on mental health issue

VICTORIA — The provincial government has no intention of dumping its responsibility for the planning and development of mental health services on B.C. municipalities, Health Minister Martin said Tuesday.

"Nothing in this bill even refers to such an idea," the minister said during second reading (approval in principle) of a new mental health act.

Martin told the House a special report published by the Canadian Mental Health Association has recommended psychiatric services be established within the community.

The report had recommended such services be autonomous and be managed by local boards of management although supported financially by provincial governments.

"We believe that such a development would be truly advantageous to the people of

British Columbia," Martin said.

"However, we do not think that we have to step out of that picture in order to accomplish this objective.

"We believe the best approach is to provide the authority for such a development and then leave it to the community.

"If they wish to initiate such programs, we will offer every assistance."

Martin said he expects the federal government will extend its hospital insurance program to include coverage for mental illness.

"This will pave the way for development of such community mental health services in exactly the same way in which acute general hospitals are developed."

Martin said the bill provides authority for the provincial government to plan and develop all the services considered by medical authorities to be required.

WED., MARCH 11, 1964

Still no details after 3rd reading of B.C. bank bill

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier Bennett insisted he did not know the amount of the capital of the new Bank of B.C., or who would be any of its directors, as he pushed third reading of the bank bill through the house Tuesday.

The five-man Liberal opposition failed in an attempt to get any definite information about the bank. An hour and a quarter of debate was often heated and noisy.

Amount of the province's investment in capital shares will be "one quarter of X dollars" was all Bennett would say.

"That shows how people are being denied any sensible information about this bank," said Alan Macfarlane (Lib., Oak Bay). Macfarlane led the Liberal onslaught to get some information about the bank.

"We haven't got any of the relative facts essential to an intelligent vote," he said. "We should know by now the proposed directors, the management and the policies.

"Who will be the directors?" he asked the premier.

"I do not know," replied Bennett. "After we get this bill passed, we'll ask for directors."

Bennett insisted he had not yet asked anyone to serve as a director. On further questioning he said he would not be a director, and neither would any cabinet minister or MLA.

He said there will be no promoters, no preferred shares, no special shares. "We want to let anybody in B.C. who wants to buy shares do so," he said.

The premier pledged that there would be no partisan or political pressure or control. He said he had received thou-

sands of letters praising the idea of the bank but not one criticizing it.

Gordon Gibson (Lib., North Vancouver) replied: "You say you're getting stacks of letters of praise. But the business people I talk to are afraid of it. The intention is just to get more power for the premier. It's getting more foolish all the time."

Macfarlane said when the application is made to Ottawa it must spell out the authorized capital and name the directors. He said he was sure the premier has this information now.

Macfarlane said money put into the bank shares by the government should be limited to surplus funds. These would be even greater this year.

But Bennett said surpluses fluctuated too much for this purpose, and were at their lowest point in the summer.

At one point in the debate Macfarlane said: "I've been in this province all my life, and that's more than the premier can say."

Bennett retorted: "In other words you didn't have anything to say about coming here—I did."

At another point Pat McGeer (Lib., Point Grey) said: "The premier told the minister of finance all these answers but he didn't tell us." (Bennett holds both posts).

NDP Leader Strachan reiterated his party's support for the bank bill and the bank. The bill didn't give enough information, but he preferred the principle of trusting responsible government rather than "the U.S. system of where everything is examined regardless of the damage done."

Let bill stand alone —sportsmen on access

VICTORIA — Benevolence on the part of a few large timber companies is not the answer to the access problems of sportsmen, the Legislature's special committee on public access heard.

The B.C. Federation of Fish and Game Clubs urged a new public access bill to "protect the rights of the public and to properly establish the privileges of industry."

Secretary-Manager Ed Meade said benevolence by a few does not ensure equal or permanent benevolence by all.

He said access is blocked to a huge part of Harrison Lake despite a network of roads.

The new access act should not be introduced as a part of a new commercial transportation act, but a single one dealing entirely with access, he suggested.

The federation said single use of Crown land is a narrow and wasteful policy, and urged that a system of priorities in land use be drawn up. This would put recreational use in top priority should a conflict develop on parkland use.

Wednesday, March 11, 1964

Tisdalle incensed

Socred condemns Woodlands school

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A bitter debate on the care of the mentally retarded suddenly died Tuesday night when Socred MLA John Tisdalle (Saanich) roundly condemned his own government's facilities, particularly Woodlands School at New Westminster.

Tisdalle said he was incensed by the whole situation.

"At Woodlands the government has stacked boys and girls up storey after storey, doing nothing but put them out of sight.

(See *the story on Page 18*)

"Bring them back into the community, and the problem will be solved," he urged.

The angry bickering between Health Minister Martin and NDP mental health critic Gordon Dowding of Burnaby stopped at Tisdalle, who has a son in Woodlands, began to speak.

When he finished, there was violent applause from the opposition benches, and he was showered with congratulations.

At one stage, the health minister began muttering during Tisdalle's speech.

Tisdalle turned to him and

said: "This is my own opinion and I have a right to say it, and nobody is going to shut me up."

At one point Martin briefly left the house during the surprise speech.

Tisdalle said all the argument did little for the parents of children who needed proper facilities. There was no excuse for inadequate facilities, he said.

No arguments would solve the pain of parents affected.

He criticized the government for not buying the old premises of Victoria College for mental health accommodation although it was available and facilities were overcrowded.

The House was so stunned by the outburst that a few minutes later it passed Martin's \$15,000 salary vote which it had been debating on and off since last Friday.

Earlier Martin and Dowding engaged in a half-hour shouting match over the question of admission to Woodland.

Martin charged a court case brought by Dowding had disrupted the work of Woodlands and had contributed to the resignation of an official.

"He has acted with animal-

like ferocity and ruthlessly, relentlessly interfered with the good administration of Woodlands school. He has done irreparable harm to the mental health service of this province."

Dowding countered by charging that a private member had admitted in the House getting a patient into Woodlands in one day by "political pressure."

He read excerpts from a column-long interview in a New Westminster paper with Martin on the Woodlands court case and charged Martin with contempt of court in commenting on it. He said Martin hadn't the courage to answer questions on Woodlands on the order paper.

Each charged the other with causing resignations of top staff at Woodlands.

Martin attacked

Angry words fly on hospital report

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—An angry battle over the future of chronic hospital care in Vancouver erupted in the Legislature late Tuesday night.

At one stage Dr. Pat McGeer (Lib, Point Grey, accused Health Minister Martin of either deliberately misleading the House, or having a shocking lack of knowledge of his department.

McGeer said that on Feb. 14, Dr. John F. McCreary, dean of the medical faculty at University of B.C., mailed Martin 13 copies of a study on chronic care planning in Vancouver.

Martin had earlier told the House he expected the report shortly.

After McGeer's attack, which the Liberal MLA said was based directly on a talk with McCreary, Martin still insisted the report was not finished, and the work was not done.

The committee has yet to include a report on Holy Family

Hospital, he insisted.

McGeer brought the matter up when he read a letter from Vancouver General dated last Oct. 3. It asked Martin for approval in principle of a 200-bed chronic hospital, so that planning could go ahead.

No such approval was received, he said, yet Martin now had the gall to tell the House that he was begging VGH for a proposal.

As a result of the delays, dating back to 1958, Vancouver City Council finally put the \$1.3 million set aside for chronic facilities, putting it into a general hospital fund.

Martin denied the money was reallocated.

But McGeer quoted Ald. William Street as saying the action was taken last Dec. 19.

Martin retorted that VGH didn't know what it wanted in chronic care.

"They can't make up their minds, and I think it is about

time they did," he said.

The minister said that in the October letter the hospital wanted one sort of care, and in a later one asked for a different sort.

He went on: "Because of this, we asked the medical profession to set up a committee and advise us what should be done."

When McGeer persisted in trying to find out more on the report the minister angrily said he wouldn't be subjected to cross-examination.

The exchanges took place during debate on Martin's \$15,000 salary vote, already the subject of one non-confidence motion that failed earlier.

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) accused him of being the only minister who didn't do his homework, and said he had so far failed to answer 26 opposition questions.

Thursday, March 12, 1964

Ban vote loses

Party lines don't count on firecracker issue

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Fireworks blew a hole in the traditional party lines of the Legislature Wednesday.

The occasion was the annual attempt by Mrs. Lois Haggen (NDP, Grand Forks-Greenwood) to restrict the sale of fireworks to licenced public displays only. She said she wanted to take the "so-called playthings out of the hands of children and irresponsible persons with immature minds."

Her attempt failed by 32 votes to 18. Her own boss, Opposition Leader Strachan, and Tony Gargrave (NDP, MacKenzie) joined Harry McKay (Lib., Fernie) and the government in the vote against her.

However, three government members broke ranks to join her. They were party whip Bert Price (Vancouver Burrard), John Tisdalle (Saenich) and Arvid Lundell (Revelstoke).

Price said he voted that way in favor of small children who get hurt every year.

Gargrave said he was a Guy Fawkes man, and had made a long study of Fawkes' attempts to blow up Parliament, in London since his own methods hadn't been working recently. He didn't want parents robbed of the right to give displays for their children.

Dave Stupich (NDP, Nanaimo) said he had to support the present law, since Nanaimo has celebrated Guy Fawkes night for 100 years.

After Gordon Gibson (Lib.,

North Vancouver) who has produced many political fireworks in his time, supported Mrs. Haggen, Premier Bennett said: "I can see some members are getting old. There was a time when he (Gibson) wouldn't have taken that attitude."

Tisdalle followed Bennett and said he wouldn't suggest that anyone who opposed the bill did so because his store sold fireworks.

(The Bennett family has a chain of hardware stores).

As Welfare Minister Black stood to help the government defeat the suggested ban, he said: "The page boys will never talk to me again."

But another NDP private bill seemed headed for more success. Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) introduced one providing that cigaret packages and advertising must contain a warning that nicotine is dangerous to health.

He said he was hoping to get a drop of truth into an ocean of commercialism in the cigaret advertising world.

But Speaker W. H. Murray ruled that since a section dealt with radio and television advertising, which is under federal control, the bill was out of order.

However, Premier Bennett intervened to say that one reason private members' bills were brought in early this year was to give time for new ones to be brought in if needed.

Macdonald indicated he would do so.

Shift forces redesigning

VICTORIA — A section of shifting rock in the Fraser Canyon has caused redesigning of part of Trans-Canada Highway there, Highways Minister Gagliardi told the Legislature Wednesday night.

David Barrett (NDP, Dewdney) had asked if the change was because of "serious danger of a major rock slide."

Thursday, March 12, 1964

Gaglardi's tire consultant has Macdonald hopping mad

Province Victoria Bureau
VICTORIA — Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) says he's "tired of highways minister Gaglardi's tire consultant and wants him re-tired."

The highways department estimates hadn't been under discussion for three minutes before Macdonald and Gaglardi were arguing over the position of A. H. Cassidy of Kamloops, the department's tire consultant.

"It's the worst appointment since the Emperor Caligula made his horse a pro-consul," said Macdonald.

He pressed Gaglardi for information about Cassidy's qualifications. "Why do we spend \$8,035 a year for a tire consultant?" he asked.

"I'm not attacking the personal worth of Mr. Cassidy, I know he's a deacon in the

church of which the minister is pastor, but that fact should be left aside."

Gaglardi called Macdonald's remarks a character smear. "I deplore this kind of character assassination," he said. "Mr. Cassidy was hired because he is an expert in the tire field."

"He has had 30 years of experience in this field. If you know as much about law as he does about tires you'll be a success."

"This cuts me deep because you said he was a member of Calvary Temple—A sly way of doing it. But it doesn't enhance your own character," he said to Macdonald.

"It was a smear!" interjected Premier Bennett. "They do it all the time."

NDP Leader Strachan then jumped up to accuse the premier of "arrogantly bullying

and browbeating the members."

Liberal Leader Perrault said he had learned of the Cassidy appointment when he was phoned from Kamloops a year ago. He went up there but couldn't find Cassidy.

"His appointment was mysterious," he said. "He had no office, he lived at home. I was a bit mystified about what a tire consultant does. People in the tire business in Kamloops didn't know his qualifications or what he does."

Later Gaglardi told the House the Squamish to Pemberton road should be completed by fall this year. He told reporters later it should be paved this year.

Weekend jail plan opposed

VICTORIA — Dewdney MLA Dave Barrett's "weekend prisoner" plan would run into conflicts with the Criminal Code and with federal and provincial jurisdictions, Attorney-General Bonner told the House.

Barrett outlined his bill Wednesday and discussion was adjourned to the next private bills day.

His plan would allow prisoners to live and work at home for five days, then spend weekends in jail.

It was an attempt to curtail the huge cost of jails and to

rehabilitate prisoners, he said.

He feels the present system teaches a man how to live in jail, while his family is being taken care of by welfare, but it does nothing to restore him to society.

"This bill will provide a meaningful learning experience in society, where the prisoner has failed, rather than a useless experience in jail where it is easy to be a success," said Barrett.

But Bonner said it cut too casually across federal and provincial jurisdictions, and it would require amendments to the Criminal Code.

The principle is already in effect in B.C. in the "day parole" of certain prisoners, said Bonner. This is working satisfactorily and might be extended.

Under this system the prisoner works at his job all day and returns to jail every night. "It's halfway step between jail and parole," the Attorney-General said.

Friday, March 13, 1964

Victoria comment



Bennett acts to soothe foes

By PADDY SHEERMAN
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier Bennett pulled a good-humor ploy the other day that just may prevent this from becoming one of the longest sessions for many years.

To the positive astonishment of the House, he rose Tuesday and announced that the following day would be private members' day.

This is a day when opposition members get the chance to introduce bills of their own and try to talk the government into accepting them.

In theory, the legislature's standing orders designate Wednesday and Thursday as private members' days each week.

In practice, the private members' bills come before the

House in the dying minutes of closing day and are turfed out with scant ceremony.

The large number of members who came here in 1960 or later were puzzled by this sudden benevolence. They'd never heard of such a thing as giving the opposition a fair crack of the whip while the session was in full swing.

They were even more astonished when Alex Macdonald's bill on cigaret package warnings of the dangers of nicotine was ruled out.

The premier rose and said in his most avuncular manner that the reason for bringing private members' day so early was that members would have a chance to bring in new bills if necessary.

It may cut down debates

Opposition leader Strachan wasn't fooled. He interpreted the premier's move as an attempt to put the opposition in a good humor. This was, there was less likelihood of the breakdown of good feelings, which usually extends debate to ridiculous lengths.

Private members' day turned out to be good-humored enough. It was unfortunate that Mrs. Lois Haggen talked so much about her annual attempt to ban fireworks except at public displays.

This took up an hour, which might more profitably have been used on the other half-dozen bills that weren't reached.

But the general lessening of tension so improved the atmosphere of the House that Highways Minister Gagliardi's spending estimates of \$71.8 million surprisingly went through in a single sitting, and not even a late one at that.

Strachan is predicting that as a result, the session could wind up on the night of Friday, March 20, or Saturday, March 21.

Hopes to end by Easter

Bennet, on the other hand, has told the Social Credit caucus that he is prepared to come back after an Easter recess. He's hoping, however, to finish by March 25 or 26, just before the Easter weekend.

A lot remains to be done, and everything depends on the continuing sunny temper of the members. Still to be debated are the spending estimates of the departments of lands, forests and water resources;

municipal affairs; public works; and social welfare.

The controversial new Mental Health Act is still to be debated. So is the 34-page amendment to the Municipal Act.

Finishing these by next weekend would mean sitting every night, taking the total of night sittings to about 20 against eight last year.

If things spin out to March 26, however, as is very likely, this session will be as long as the one in 1962. And that was the longest in 42 years.

Friday, March 13, 1964

B.C. organizations differ on accountancy bill

Province Victoria Bureau

A proposed new act to govern public accountants has been attacked as monopolistic and threatening the public with higher fees.

Gordon Campbell, a Victoria certified general accountant, told the legislature's private bills committee that 45 per cent of B.C.'s CGA's are opposed to the new accountancy bill. Campbell said it would eliminate competition between chartered accountants and certified general accountants.

Campbell, an officer in the taxation division of the National Revenue Department here, said the act represented only the views of the B.C. Institute of Chartered Accountants.

He said the CGA's credentials were recognized in a bill passed by the legislature in

1961, giving them similar status to CA's in public accountancy. He feared the new act would drive CGA's out of the business.

J. Bruce Ewing of Vancouver, president of the B.C. Institute of CA's, defended the act at the hearing. He said its objective was only to give professional status to accountancy and to ensure that all in the business were properly qualified and regulated.

Ewing said it would not involve any merger of present accounting bodies cut the number of practicing accountants, and prohibit people acting as public bookkeepers.

Opposition to the new act was registered also by two other CGA's and by the Victoria Community Grocers' Co-operative Association.

Park mining rights not new — Kiernan

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Mining and logging rights have existed for many years in most of B.C.'s major wilderness parks, says Recreation Minister Kiernan.

The problem now, he told the Legislature, is to get maximum benefit out of any access roads built in to these land alienations.

Kiernan said he couldn't be expected to take responsibility for the "very liberal interpretations" critics made of his earlier policy statement.

There was nothing new about that statement, he said. It was simply an explanation of what had been going on for years, and an expression of the philosophy for making the best of it.

He listed the numbers of timber berths and Crown-granted mineral claims in Caribaldi, Strathcona, Manning, Tweedsmuir and other parks.

There was no way to stop a man mining his property, or logging land alienated at the turn of the century, before the parks were even designated, he said.

The government can deal in two ways with the owners of these lands. It can try to get co-operation, providing location of access roads where they

would help the public most, or it can say it wished the owners were not there.

Wilderness parks, he went on, are dear to the hearts of only a very few.

"A little wilderness goes a long way. And 95 per cent of the people would get no use from them at all."

Keirnan said it served no useful purpose to say that 95 per cent of our park land must be left dormant while the rest is overworked.

As for private investment in park facilities, he pointed out that this is already in operation. He could see nothing wrong with ski lifts and coffee shops being operated, under supervision, by the people who put up the money for them.

His speech brought an angry rejoinder from Tony Gargrave (NDP—Mackenzie), who accused Kiernan of "a weak defence to a grave error in policy."

Gargrave accused the minister of avoiding the issue and setting up a smoke screen.

Kiernan, he suggested, was misled, misguided, and had indicated he was not "a dedicated park man."

Friday, March 13, 1964

Gaglardi justifies tire expert's job

Highways Minister Gaglardi says his \$20-a-day tire consultant saves B.C. up to \$166,000 a year by inspecting and giving advice on the tires of highways department vehicles.

"It would take some digging, but we can show that he saves the department anything up to one-third of annual costs of half a million for tires and maintenance," Gaglardi said in a telephone interview.

The inspector, A. H. Cassidy of Kamloops, decides when to recap and replace tires and casings and what type to use on highways equipment. He also trains other department employees to inspect tires.

Cassidy himself refused to reveal what he does for the highways department, a question brought up in the Legislature by NDP Alex Macdonald, who likened the appointment to Caligula making a pro-consul of his horse.

Gaglardi said he hired Cassidy, a deacon in the Kamloops church of which Gaglardi is pastor, two years ago on the recommendation of the department's mechanical superintendent at Kamloops.

He said Cassidy works on a consultant basis for \$20 a day and travel expenses. Macdonald said Cassidy cost the department \$8,035 a year.

Gaglardi accused Macdonald of discrimination.

"If a man is qualified to do a job, what difference does it make what church he belongs to?" he asked.

"The same type of discriminatory comments comes up every year about the contractors they figure are friends of mine."

"The man's got 30 years' experience. Isn't that enough?"

Gaglardi said all big businesses with a lot of motor equipment have tire consultants. "This business isn't just going around kicking a tire like Alex Macdonald thinks."

Cowichan head praised

VICTORIA (CP)—The president of flood-plagued Cowichan Copper Company got a vote of confidence Thursday from Mines Minister Kiernan.

Mr. Kiernan had high praise for Cowichan President O. G. MacDonald in replying briefly in the Legislature to Opposition Leader Strachan.

Mr. Strachan, citing reports that Cowichan is on the verge of bankruptcy, asked whether the government could do anything to prevent the collapse of the firm.

Mr. Kiernan said he would necessarily have to be "rather guarded in my comments."

"I don't want to create any more problems than the company now faces, but if anyone can put that mine back into production, Macdonald can do it."

The Cowichan mine at River Jordan has been closed since early December when the Jordan River broke into a disused tunnel and flooded the entire operation.

Mr. Strachan said loss of the mine would be a serious blow to lower Vancouver Island.

Queen sends her thanks to B.C. people

Province Victoria Bureau

Queen Elizabeth has thanked the people of B.C. for the congratulations sent by the government on the birth of the new prince.

A telegram to Lieutenant-Governor Pearkes was read by Premier Bennett as the Legislature opened Thursday. It said:

"I and my husband sincerely thank you and Mrs. Pearkes and the people of British Columbia for your kind congratulations on the birth of our son. Please convey to the members of the Legislative Assembly our deep appreciation of the kind terms of their loyal address."

Saturday, March 14, 1964

All parties support mental care change

All parties supported the principle of the government's revamping of mental hospital care Friday, but the NDP said it had some "grave suspicions" about how it would work in practice.

The bill would gradually de-centralize mental health care, and, the government hopes, eventually see most communities with facilities for handling their own mental problems.

Dr. Patrick McGeer (Lib., Point Grey) complimented the government, saying that psychiatric care in general hospitals was the ideal of most authorities.

He hoped the federal government would soon join in, thus cutting the net cost to B.C. by half.

David Barrett (NDP, Dewdney) said nobody should stand in the way of the bill's principles.

But he told Health Minister Martin: "You have raised fears in the communities, which I hope are unjustified, that you will not participate in financing the plan.

"This may give a bad flavor to an otherwise enthusiastic reception of this bill."

His chief criticism that the bill concentrated on treating adults who were already ill and made no provision for treating emotionally disturbed children before they became really ill.

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) said that 23 of the bill's 48 sections transferred authority from the Legislature to the cabinet. This was bad in law and for the security of the patient, he said.

"We are not laying down a blueprint at all, we are giving authority to the cabinet to make a blueprint," he said.

The bill also failed to make it clear that primary responsibility for mental health remained with the provincial government, he said.

No community would assume mental health costs totaling \$18 million a year unless it was guaranteed help under the B.C. Hospital Insurance Service, he said. Communities might end up with simply custodial care, because of shortage of staff.

The bill becomes law only when proclaimed by cabinet.

Saturday as voting day soon to become law

Saturday voting for all municipalities except Vancouver, which has its own charter, moved a step nearer Friday when the new Municipal Act got second reading in the Legislature.

Municipal Affairs Minister Black explained that the amending act was an experiment which had been agreed upon with the Union of B.C. Municipalities.

"We decided to incorporate many amendments at one time, so we need to come before the Legislature just once

every two years," he said. "This is the result of two years study and two annual UBCM conventions."

He hoped the new voting day — the Saturday following the last Monday of November — would increase the municipal vote. This now falls as low as 13 per cent, he said. They vote now on Thursday.

Bills given final reading Friday included that forbidding job and hiring discrimination for those from 45 to 65 years of age, and one prohibiting excessive interest charges on loan contracts.

'Beautiful B.C.' sent to lure movie-makers

Recreation Minister Kiernan says "Beautiful B.C." magazine is now reaching Hollywood movie producers — he hopes.

B.C. House in San Francisco has an agent in Los Angeles who is distributing the government's pictorial magazine to key people in the film industry.

The question was raised in the House by Liberal Leader

Perrault who said it is an excellent publication, with good pictures of B.C.'s scenery. He felt there was a tremendous potential for film making against B.C. scenery, and thought distribution of the magazine to producers might bring results.

"We're doing it now, and we hope it brings results," said Kiernan.

Saturday, March 14, 1964

Paddy Sherman



Kiernan pokes hornet's nest

To those who respect the ability of Recreation Minister Kiernan—and they sit on all sides of the Legislature—his conduct of the park controversy has been almost incomprehensible.

It started out logically enough. In his first speech on Feb. 19 he poked the stick into the hornet's nest. His first remarks at that time were that since he had just taken over the portfolio, "It may appear premature to propose any major change in policy, if in fact such a change is warranted."

In fact he didn't propose any new policy. We now have private capital operating private facilities in the public park on Mt. Seymour.

We now have logging and mining reserves in many of our parks. There are 11,407 acres of timber berths in Strathcona Park, and 98 mineral claims dating back many years. Garibaldi has 22 mineral claims owned outright, and 3,927 alienated acres of timber berths.

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And in fact, as he said, some of our park boundaries are ridiculous. Garibaldi Park, as recommended by the B.C. Mountaineering Club in 1920, took in 156,000 acres. Today the area is 600,000 acres.

The extra was added for purely political reasons—to make it big enough to encourage Ottawa to take over. Surveys since by experts have concluded that the additions added nothing to the park.

In his second speech, Kiernan made a very sound point. Holding up a map of northern B.C., he showed an area of 1.3 million acres centred on Mt. Edziza on the Klastline Plateau.

It contains 30 square miles of glaciers, the grand canyon of the Stikine, several volcanos and so on. It has more to recommend it than most present parks, he said. Yet he set the boundaries in 10 minutes with a ruler himself that morning—and this, he said, was as much attention as was paid to most of our early boundary setting.

But with all his commonsense, he underestimated the emotional reaction his first speech would bring.

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By the time he spoke again, he knew the violence of the reaction. Yet he did little to correct the causes of it. He spoke for an hour and at the end of it we were no closer to an understanding of his new policy, if in fact there is one.

Kiernan's second speech left many questions unanswered, and will do little to quell the commotion, unbiased though much of it seems.

Social party whip Bert Price told the House he was skeptical Kiernan will stay recreation minister for long. He's likely wrong on this.

Premier Bennett doesn't readily change ministers when they are under fire.

But if there is a change the new minister will have a tough time quieting the uneasiness Kiernan has aroused.

Boundary Bay resort, not industry, proposed

Boundary Bay foreshore now reserved for industry should be turned into Canada's Riviera instead, Ernie Lecours (S.C., Delta) proposed in the Legislature.

He urged Recreation Minister Kiernan to influence Lands Minister Williston to suspend a reserve now placed on 10,000 acres.

The result, after reclamation, could be 40 miles of beach stretching north from the U.S. border, he said. It could have such things as the coliseum Vancouver wants but

hasn't room for, he said, plus horse racing and dog racing.

Perhaps a monorail could run there from Vancouver, he said.

Lecours suggested thousands could be attracted from the Prairies with the slogan: "Next Winter Spend Your Summer on Canada's Riviera."

Alex MacDonald (NDP, Vancouver East) cut in: "It sounds like a Canadian Coney Island."

Lecours said perhaps it would have to be a Coney Island because such developments cost a lot of money.

Saturday, March 14, 1964

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Auto policies to go to \$50,000

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Minimum coverage under auto insurance policies will go from \$35,000 to \$50,000 next year under a bill introduced to the Legislature Friday.

The limit will apply to contracts written after July 1, 1965.

Attorney General Bonner said outside the House that it will apply to about 15 per cent of those insured, since 85 per cent already have coverage of \$50,000 or over.

The same limit will also go into effect on the Traffic Victims Indemnity Fund, which protects those injured by uninsured drivers.

The new bill was one of 10 introduced to the House Fri-

day, making it virtually certain that the session will not be over next weekend.

Biggest of the new bills was 54-page rewriting of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Act, which regulates the entire industry.

Mines Minister Kiernan, in introducing it, said it would not go before the House until next year. Meantime it is tabled for study by the industry and other groups.

The major change involves a reduction in the incentive now offered to oil companies to explore B.C. areas.

They now lease land at \$1 an acre a year, which may be reduced if they do work costing 25 cents an acre a year. The 25 cents will be raised to 50 cents.

The incentive apparently costs the provincial government about \$2 million a year, and the new plan should save it \$1 million or more.

Another provision will permit companies to group up to 288 units of land for technical purposes instead of the present 144 units.

Another bill would bring public utilities under the terms of the Securities Act for the first time. In the past they have been subject only to the Public Utilities Commission.

Others provide for persons other than British subjects to become chiropractors, and for private detectives to hire staff for specific investigations without bonding and fingerprinting.

Such hiring would be only temporary, and would be subject to approval by the RCMP.

A change in the Laws Declaratory Act will give subcontractors the right to claim against a labor and material bond where a contractor defaults.

B.C. road map just out, and it's free

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A new road map of B.C., designed and printed in the province for the first time, is ready for distribution, Recreation Minister Kiernan has announced.

The free map, printed in Vancouver by Grant-Mann lithographers, contains camping and fishing information as well as the latest information on provincial roads. More than 400,000 will be distributed throughout North America and Europe.

Copies may be obtained from the Travel Bureau, Parliament Buildings, Victoria.

Tuesday, March 17, 1964

Victoria comment

Access move delayed year



By PADDY SHERMAN
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Since the major forest companies are behaving themselves so well in matters of public access to their vast domains, they are to get another year's reprieve from a tougher government stand.

The Legislature's Special Committee on Public Access to Privately-Administered Roads has decided not to bring in this year the Access Act it has been studying for two sessions.

This act would hold a really big stick over the heads of in-

dustry with logging and mining road networks. It would give the cabinet power to exercise a vast measure of control over the private roads that lead, particularly on Vancouver Island, to paradise for the sportsman.

The reason for hoisting the act another year is mainly that last summer was almost devoid of serious forest fires. This fact prevented a thorough assessment of the effectiveness of moves the Legislature took last year.

Firefighters bored to tears

The draft Access Act was all ready for introduction at the session of 1963. But the alarmed forestry companies said that, with some changes in present laws, they would voluntarily open up the roads.

The main change brought in relieved the companies of the cost of fighting fires started on their preserves where it was shown that a member of the public was to blame for the fire.

Comes the summer, with everyone holding his breath to see how things would work, and firefighters along the coast almost died of boredom.

Chairman William Speare (S.C., Cariboo) said Monday nine months wasn't long enough to see how the new system is working.

So the present voluntary system will be given another year to prove itself—despite

the request of the B.C. Federation of Fish and Game Clubs that access shouldn't depend on the present benevolence of big forest companies.

However, the access committee decided Monday to take several other steps to improve things. It wants more activity this year from the committee composed of deputy ministers of the government departments involved.

It wants that committee to simplify the present procedures on "strategic arterial" logging roads, where four or five permits and checks are needed to cross sections of Vancouver Island.

It wants the committee to devise a procedure for arbitrating access disputes involving private roads or property, and to encourage resource users to designate picnic and camping sites in suitable areas.

Financial aspects studied

The legislative committee itself will study the financial implications of this next year.

It will also study the civil servants' recommendations on policing and traffic control standards on major logging roads, and on specific new problems that may arise.

Despite suggestions that the civil service committee should get more teeth to bite backsliders, the committee decided not to move any further this way.

Said one member: "We don't have to spell out to these companies what we want. They got the message."

The public clamor for access died down last year. Top government officials said this was because the public expected a new Access Act. Now they are not getting such an act, it will be interesting to see if next year's committee hearings will be as quiet as this year's have been.

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Tuesday, March 17, 1964

Top aluminum firm planning B.C. plant

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — An international aluminum company is considering the production of aluminum on the lower mainland, using Peace River power, Lands and Forests Minister Williston said Monday.

The first information came in the Legislature, when Williston was rejecting suggestions by NDP National Leader T. C. Douglas that exporting Canadian power would wreck the B.C. aluminum industry.

Williston said the company, already operating in the U.S., had said it was ready with a proposal for producing aluminum.

When "people in high places speak of things of this nature," the minister went on, it was annoying to hear the NDP talk the way it did.

Outside the House, Williston told reporters the ap-

proach was made to him two to three weeks ago. He referred the query to B.C. Hydro.

Williston refused to give the name of the company.

He said the company indicated it wanted to negotiate on the price of Peace River power, which is expected to come on line in 1968.

B.C. Hydro officials in Vancouver said the request for information is one of many confidential inquiries they receive from industries studying possible location in B.C. and that they could not reveal the name of the firm.

An official of Aluminum Company of Canada said he had not heard of any other aluminum firm interested in locating in B.C.

Another source indicated that no great importance had been attached to the inquiry at this stage.

New Peace Power Act allows company appeal

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The provincial government has opened the way for Peace River Power Development Co. to appeal the \$8 million it received for its surveys and studies when they were taken over in 1961.

A new act, known as the Peace River Power Company Act, gives PRPD three months to appeal to a judge of the Supreme Court of B.C.

At the same time, it says that the \$8 million payment was "just, adequate, fair and full compensation," and deals only with power studies of the river and an application made for water rights to the giant project.

When the government expropriated B.C. Electric on Aug. 1, 1961, it also took over the PRPD plans and documents. On Oct. 24, 1961, the comptroller-general established a figure of \$8,023,028 as full compensation.

The new act provides that a judge shall fix a date for hearing within 10 days of an application. He may award costs to or against either party, and there is an appeal to the Court of Appeal within 30 days.

Attorney - General Bonner also introduced a four-page bill Monday night, called the Power Measures Act, that validates everything done by B.C. Electric and B.C. Power Commission since the takeover.

It legalizes the status of directors appointed by cabinet order, and said that the settlement between B.C. Hydro and B.C. Power Corporation last Sept. 27 was confirmed.

(Earlier in the session, Opposition Leader Strachan said that settlement should not have been made without the Legislature's approval.)

(Strachan said Monday the new bill was a "retroactive attempt to legalize an illegal action which was done three days before the election.)

The new bill also confirms the cabinet's decision to alter terms of the takeover legislation, and issue 25-year securities instead of the perpetual securities offered to preferred shareholders.

The act also paved the way for final establishment of B.C. Hydro under another act before the House.

The new one provides that the B.C. Electric Co. and B.C. Power Commission may amalgamate or enter into partnership, and dispose of assets as they wish.

Tuesday, March 17, 1964

New jury bill puts thousands on call lists

By PADDY SHERMAN
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Tens of thousands of B.C. residents in occupations exempted from jury duty since 1883 lose their immunity under a bill introduced to the Legislature Monday.

The bill will also raise jury pay from \$8 a day to \$10.

Those traditionally exempt from jury call who will no longer be exempted include the following:

Civil servants, both federal and provincial; clergymen, lawyers, doctors, dentists, servicemen, sailors, teachers, journalists, municipal officials, those in transportation industries, telegraph operators, firemen and bank employees.

In future the only persons excluded will be those of 70

or over, MPs, MLAs, privy councillors, coroners, sheriffs and prison wardens.

But anyone who was formerly exempted may apply to the sheriff for exemption on the grounds that service would cause him serious inconvenience. And anybody may ask for exemption on the basis of illness or hardship.

If the sheriff refuses exemption, the applicant may apply informally and without prior notice or proceedings to the presiding judge.

The new act will come into effect July 1. One reason for it is that changes in the County Courts Act may lead to many more trials, with consequent heavy demand for jurymen.

Bill will enforce illegal suites ban

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—No more illegal suites will be permitted in Vancouver, under a bill to amend the city's charter which got second reading in the legislature Monday.

The bill allows some relaxation of zoning regulations, as asked by the Vancouver council, but it definitely specifies that this will apply only to existing suites and no more can be created. They must be so used or occupied at April 1, 1964.

Vancouver had asked power to allow discretionary "hardship suites" in specific cases, as for an aged father or mother.

It was estimated during the private bills committee hearings which considered the charter changes that there are 10,000 to 15,000 of the so-called illegal suites in Vancouver.

Many were installed during the housing shortage in and

immediately following the Second World War. City officials said 4,000 of the original 19,000 have already been checked.

The new regulations aim to prevent "block busting" by people who instal such suites illegally in one-family districts, and to prevent trafficking in illegal suites.

Final reading was given to bills:

- Removing the tolls from the Oak Street Bridge and Deas Island Tunnel April 1.

- Amending the Fair Employment Practices Act to forbid job or hiring discrimination against persons 45 to 64 years of age.

- Prohibiting excessive interest charges on contracts for money.

Second reading was also given bills:

- Amending the Shaughnessy Heights Act to allow the return of a bowling green to residential property status.

- Setting up the B.C. Motorists Insurance Act sponsored by the B.C. Automobile Association.

- Providing for the temporary licencing of private detectives.

- Requiring university entrance instead of junior matriculation standing for chiropractors.

Bills to amend the Supreme and County Court Acts to permit county court judges to serve as local judges of the supreme court were given committee hearing.

Tuesday, March 17, 1964

Angry house adjournment brings opposition outcry

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier Bennett angrily adjourned the Legislature several hours early Monday night after a day of bickering in which he accused NDP MP Bert Herridge of being part of a communist alliance against the Columbia River Treaty.

After the adjournment at 9:10 p.m., opposition leader Strachan said: "This was a

petulant Premier at his childish worst."

Pat McGeer (Lib., Pt. Grey) said: "It makes me ashamed to be a member of the House." He called it a childish rumpus.

The breakup came when Leo Nimsick (NDP, Cranbrook) said he felt hurt. "The Premier promised me there would be no night sittings this week. He didn't keep it. I guess it must have been a threat, not a promise."

(On the third night sitting in a row last week, Bennett

angrily adjourned at 1:10 a.m. after Nimsick made remarks about "legislation by exhaustion.")

Just after 9 p.m. Monday, Bennett asked Nimsick if he wanted the vote on Lands Minister Williston's salary withdrawn. Nimsick finally said he did, and the Premier withdrew it.

Ran Harding (NDP, Kaslo-Slocan) asked for debate to be resumed, but when Bennett asked if Harding spoke for the NDP, John Squire (NDP, Alberni) said he didn't.

That was the end of that for the evening.

Wednesday, March 18, 1964

Williston survives blasts by Gibson

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Gordon Gibson (Lib., North Vancouver) has accused Lands and Forests Minister Williston of "being more or less on the side of Macmillan Bloedel & Powell River Co."

He criticized the fact that a letter from Williston went out as part of a company brochure recently, after the company had applied for a new tree farm licence in the Kitimat area.

Said Gibson, an MBPR shareholder: "Macmillan and (chairman) J. V. Clyne can do very well themselves without us finding out that he is more or less on their side. It has appeared that way for a long time."

Williston said he wasn't at all chagrined. He said the letter wasn't designed to go to shareholders. It went with an ARTICLE last summer in the company magazine The Digest.

The purpose was to explain the responsibilities of a TFL to employees and the public allowed access to company roads.

"The fact that they sent it out latterly to their shareholders makes it look like a very damaging document," the minister continued.

"But if you take the timing of the document and the purpose for which it was put in, I have no apology to make."

While the minister's \$15,000 salary vote was up for debate, Gibson also said that because not one cabinet minister knew the value of a tree, the people didn't get enough profit from their timber resources.

They got only \$14 million

net from stumpage last year instead of \$100 million, Gibson said. He offered to show the government which pocket of industry to get the rest from.

Williston replied that B.C. and Ottawa took \$256 million from the forests last year, compared with an outlay of \$21.7 million.

* * *

The minister said he didn't know where to move next after the recent policy announcement that the government would help buy land for lower mainland parks if municipalities would set up a metro park authority.

Ralph Loffmark (S.C., Point Grey) had urged him to help stop sub-division of park land and keep prospective park areas under public domain until a metro authority could get into action. He mentioned Shaughnessy, Langara, Kitsilano, Spanish Banks and Boundary Bay as problem areas.

Williston said he didn't think the provincial government could force municipalities to accept the offer, and didn't know if municipalities would get together in the public interest.

* * *

Hunter Vogel (S.C., Delta) warned that unless firm action were taken soon, the lower mainland would have a smog situation worse than Los Angeles' in 15 years.

He urged air and water pollution control on a regional if not a provincial basis, otherwise, Vogel said, a competitive situation would develop, with industry going to areas that did not enforce costly control.

Deep sea grain docks for Boundary Bay?

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The possibility of deep-sea docks to move grain from the Boundary Bay area is under study nationally, says Lands and Forests Minister Williston.

The idea is to see if a scheme can be set up without spoiling the future recreational amenities of the area to get grain cars away from Vancouver harbor.

Efficient as Vancouver harbor is, he told the Legislature

Tuesday, there is not enough rail trackage around Burrard Inlet to handle all the rail cars.

It seemed clear that most of Canada's grain markets in future would be in Asia, and Vancouver would be the shipping port, he went on. This posed a real problem.

So far as the Boundary Bay idea was concerned, the minister went on: "There will be hearings. Everything will be brought out."

Wednesday, March 18, 1964

Victoria comment



Leo's humor not for WAC

By PADDY SHERMAN
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A puckish sense of humor and a thin skin that seems unduly sensitive recently, brought the conduct of our legislature to a pretty ridiculous level the other night.

The offbeat sense of humor belongs to Leo Nimsick, the NDP member for Cranbrook.

The sensitive skin belongs to Premier Bennett.

Combine these attributes with the fact that they are perhaps two of the most stubborn members of the House and you have all the ingredients of an impasse that could mean sitting after Easter.

WHERE FROM HERE

Nothing was talked about here Tuesday morning, in the wake of the surprise adjournment Monday night, except the psychological clash involved, and where we go from here.

There's little doubt that the premier's sensitivity dates back to the death of George Hobbs, the NDP member for Revelstoke, who had a heart attack during the 1962 session.

At the end of that session, Opposition Leader Strachan quoted from the speech Hobbs was to have given. It dealt with the wild session of 1961 that followed the B.C. Electric

takeover.

It said: "The performance that went on last spring should never again be repeated in this House. Those of us who wouldn't make interesting studies for cardiologists were almost ready for Crease Clinic."

The following session, in 1963, there were only eight night sittings. There have been 16 so far this session.

UNNECESSARY TALK

However, they haven't been really late ones. Despite occasional lapses, it seemed that Bennett was trying to behave, and wasn't trying to pressure the House. One night we reached midnight without any fuss.

Then last week we got to 1:10 a.m. on the parks controversy. There was a lot of unnecessary talking, and points were made over and over again. However, the estimates were just on the point of going through, winding up business for the night.

Then Nimsick mildly suggested that he hoped we were not going back to legislation by exhaustion. That phrase did it. The furious premier recalled the vote.

In the corridors, Nimsick joked about the incident. At least, he thought it was a joke.

Bennett grimly told him there would be no more night sittings.

Monday night, the first night sitting after that, Nimsick rose at 9.10 and essayed another funny. Why, he said, the premier had broken another promise. Nimsick had made other arrangements, but here was a night sitting.

The balloon was up again, with petulance and bad temper on both sides. Business finished in a huff. Tempers reached a new high, forecasting longer and more bitter arguments to come.

Nobody was sure just what the premier's strategy was. He told his MLAs last week he was prepared to come back after Easter.

Has he decided to teach the NDP a lesson — that unless somebody cracks the whip they'll talk in circles for many extra weeks?

Or has the distant voice of George Hobbs persuaded him a longer session makes more sense now government is such big business?

Only one man knows, and he isn't telling yet.

New bill to wipe out timber sales blackmail

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Legislation intended to wipe out the practice of "blackmail bidding" at timber sales has been introduced to the Legislature.

The bill, brought in by Lands and Forest Minister Williston, gives him power to set a bidding fee for everybody who submits a tender, except the operator who applies for the sale in the first place.

No specific fee is set in the bill. However, it is understood that the Legislature's forestry committee, due to report on

the problem today, will suggest a fee.

It presumably would be high enough to deter anyone except an operator really interested in buying. The minister may refund all or part of the fee paid by the successful bidder.

The committee has heard several complaints that "blackmail bidders" have tried to shake down operators with the threat that unless they paid up, the sale price would be forced up to uneconomic levels.

Socred asks Sunday, law amendment

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—J. Donald Smith (SC, Victoria) has made an abortive attempt to get a Municipal Act amendment to permit Victoria and other municipalities local option on Sunday activities.

Chairman William Speare ruled the amendment out of order.

Smith said later Tuesday he'll make another attempt by introducing a private bill.

His bill would permit local option on theatre and movie performances, concerts, lectures and exhibitions after 1:30 p.m. Sundays and amateur public games and sports, with a charge, between 1:30 and 6 p.m.

Wednesday, March 18, 1964

Tax relief voted for homeowners in high rise areas

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The Legislature plans to give tax relief to homeowners surrounded by apartments or other high-tax properties.

An amendment to the Assessment Equalization Act, given second reading Tuesday, will allow their assessment on the ordinary residential basis.

But it provides that the owner must have used it as his home for the five years previous to Jan. 1, 1964 — to prevent speculation.

A similar assessment principle is applied to farm land.

NDP Leader Strachan said he supports the bill.

Bennett said the act would be interpreted liberally. But he said it wouldn't cover big areas.

He took issue with a newspaper story quoting cases of George Redcliffe and Donald Fish of the Gabriola area who said their assessments have jumped as much as 1,400 per cent because of high priced sales of nearby property.

He said Redcliffe's taxes are now \$156 a year for his home and a whole island on which it is situated. Fisk's taxes were \$500.92 for his home and an island of 132 acres.

"These are not legitimate complaints," said the premier.

The House heard a lot about "private eyes" as a bill to

amend the Private Detectives Licencing Act got second reading.

It allows appointment of persons on a temporary basis without bonding, fingerprinting or identification cards.

Dave Barrett (NDP, Dewdney) said detective business often became "sordid" because of archaic divorce laws.

Tony Gargrave (NDP, Mackenzie) said the question of industrial spying, both for bosses and unions, came into the picture. NDP Leader Strachan said under this bill an employer could hire one of his own employees temporarily as a spy on his fellow employees.

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) said, "This kind of stool pigeon investigating can eat away at the Bill of Rights."

"This is sheer comedy," said attorney-general Bonner.

Only the NDP MLAs were opposed.

A bill to raise jury fees from \$8 to \$10, and remove exemptions from duty was passed.

Final reading was given bills to amend the Vancouver charter (involving illegal suites) and incorporation of the B.C. Motorists Insurance Co.

Schedule for Peace speeded

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — B.C.'s demand for electricity is growing so rapidly that the schedule for putting generators in the Peace River dam is being stepped up, says Lands and Forests Minister Williston.

Even then, by the time the Peace project is complete, B.C. will be out of power by 1973-75, he told the legislature. This means generators must be installed in Mica Creek dam on the Columbia River as soon

as possible.

After that, other Columbia dams at Revelstoke Canyon and Downie Creek must go in quickly.

Exporting surplus power from them to the U.S. will help keep B.C. costs down, he went on. But if this isn't done quickly, nuclear power installations in the U.S. might make this uneconomic.

Williston said that when the first Peace Power comes on line in 1968, about 50 or 60 per cent of it will be sold in the North.

He said members are still obsessed with the idea that Peace power is expensive, although it will cost less than two mills per kilowatt-hour at the dam site and less than four mills in Vancouver.

Burrard thermal station at Vancouver now produces power for more than six mills, he said.

Two groups turned down

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Attempts by B.C. accountants and real estate operators to regulate their occupations have been rejected by the Legislature's private bills committee.

The accountants sought to merge various categories and provide a common training program.

A report signed by committee chairman Alex Matthew (S.C., Vancouver Centre) said the bill should not be proceeded with now because individuals and groups had not had enough time to study it.

The report said the attempt by the Real Estate Institute of B.C. to incorporate should not be proceeded with, that the aims of the bill could be achieved under existing legislation.

Thursday, March 19, 1964

Victoria comment

War clouds over Ottawa



By PADDY SHERMAN
(Province Victoria Bureau)

VICTORIA — With the legislature almost over (Saturday now seems likely, thanks to a late spurt) the government is preparing for fireworks in another forum.

In fact you might say not only preparing but busily setting the fuses.

The result is likely to be a virulent, two-sided session of character-assassination in Ottawa soon after Easter, when the Columbia Treaty is before the External Affairs Committee.

Resources Minister Williston and Attorney-General Bonner will go east to testify. From the preparation Premier Bennett did for them in the legislature this week, they can expect a pretty violent reception.

Chief opponents of the treaty back there are H. W. Herridge, NDP member from Kootenay West and T. C. Douglas, national leader of the NDP.

Bennett did a hatchet job on them both this week that predictably produced the cry of McCarthyism from the opposition.

Ran Harding (NDP, Kaslo-Slocan) had told the House that NDP MPs would simply subject the treaty to a careful review. "We wouldn't be doing a job if we let one of the major pieces of legislation in our time go through Ottawa without close scrutiny."

See it all in Hansard

Bennett scathingly said Douglas was not a B.C. MP. He was simply an obstructionist. "He says so himself. Read Hansard."

But it was Herridge he was really after. Herridge recently called the treaty, referring particularly to High Arrow Dam, a "political blasphemy against the work of creation."

Bennett dug back through the files to 1945 for a report on the expulsion of Herridge by the CCF's provincial executive. He quoted former CCF

national leader M. J. Coldwell as saying of Herridge that there was no room in the party for both himself and people with Communist leanings.

Said Bennett: "That's the reason I am alarmed at this alliance in Canada between the Communist party and Herridge against the treaty."

Well, it's possible some people will take this seriously, though it isn't likely to be the hard-headed politicians on the Ottawa committee.

Herridge won't back down

They are more likely to be impressed by the fact that the people who know Herridge and his policy best, Nakusp Chamber of Commerce, recently withdrew their objection to High Arrow.

However, the attacks from B.C. are bound to inspire the sharp-tongued Herridge to retaliate in kind.

To add another straw, Williston blamed Gen. A. G. L. McNaughton for the fact that B.C. is entitled to only half the flood control benefits, though

virtually all of them accrue to the U.S. by backing and filling he managed to avoid saying this made it a poorer treaty.

Couple this with his previous description of McNaughton as an old man past his prime, and Bennett's pitch on Herridge and the Communists, and the stage is set for a lot of action back there.

It may not add much to the sum of knowledge about the treaty implications, but those who like their politics personal and rough may expect an orgy.

House may wind up Saturday

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—With the prospect of a weekend windup in sight, the Legislature gave final reading to a score of bills Wednesday. Here are the major ones:

● Jury pay was raised from \$8 to \$10 a day.

● Minimum motor vehicle insurance coverage was raised from \$35,000 to \$50,000, effective July 1965.

● Assessment procedure changes will keep down home

taxes on property adjoining apartments.

● Amounts people can retain when wages are garnished are raised from \$120 to \$150 a month for married men, and from \$60 to \$75 for single men.

BCE bill draws sparks

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The government's fourth attempt to clear up the B.C. Electric takeover tangle caused another shower of sparks in the legislature Wednesday.

It was called a Frankenstein measure, a farce, and an attempt to legalize the illegal, authorize the unauthorized, and rationalize the irrational.

But when the vote was called on approval in principle, only the Liberals voted against it.

AMATEUR JOB

The Power Measures Act validates everything done by the government and B.C. Hydro since the 1961 takeover of B.C. Electric.

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) said of the bill: "It reminds me of the amateur electrician who fused the circuits four times and is now running back for another fuse."

He suggested no government in history could have done so bad a job of the takeover. However, the NDP supported this bill because "we do not want to endanger the success of public power in this province."

Opposition Leader Strachan said: "We condemn the government for what they did, but don't want public power in jeopardy."

UNHAPPY MESS

Alan Macfarlane (Lib., Oak Bay) called the bill "the final act of arbitrariness in this whole unhappy mess."

The worst feature, he said, was the government's treatment of preferred shareholders in the power company.

He said a Mrs. Ada Payne, widow of a First World War veteran, held \$1,000 worth of these shares. She didn't want the 25-year Hydro bonds the government substituted, had lost \$150, and the government wouldn't give her cash to reinvest.

Yet a big preferred shareholder who could afford good lawyers got \$311,623 back through the courts.

Such things made him wonder "when and to whom justice is available in B.C."

Peace power bill approved in House

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A bill permitting Peace River Power Development Corp. to appeal the \$8 million it received when the government took over its surveys in 1961 was approved in principle by the Legislature.

But it produced a bitter 45-minute battle before it passed 33-13 with only the NDP opposed.

The original settlement, covering only the money spent on surveys of the river, permitted no appeal.

Opposition Leader Strachan said it was a "special privilege bill" intended to bail out the Wenner-Gren interests. "This Wenner-Gren group has raided the public treasury long enough," he said.

Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) asked: "Does every promoter who comes in like a snake oil salesman get bailed out by this Legislature?"

Arthur Turner (NDP, Vancouver East) saw the bill as a

special invitation to sue the government.

"It means," said John Squire (NDP, Alberni) "that someone who has already got their pockets lined now gets them lined with fur."

"Just another Santa Claus deal to help out some of the friends of this government," said Leo Nimsick (NDP, Cranbrook).

Attorney-General Bonner said this merely restated the principles on which the House agreed in 1961, and provided an opportunity to review the figures.

"The hatred shown toward Wenner-Gren by the opposition was almost pathological at the time, and now they pursue it after his death," Bonner said.

Harry McKay (Lib., Fernie) said his party supported the bill as every subject must have the right to go before the courts if he feels expropriation compensation has been inadequate.

MLAs ask bidding fee for timber

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The bidding fee imposed at timber sales to discourage "blackmail bidders" should be between one and five per cent of the bid price, the Legislature's forestry committee has suggested.

The committee report, signed by Chairman Cyril Shelford (SC, Omineca) said members were concerned with trafficking of quotas in managed timber units, since they were assets created by crown action.

Thursday, March 19, 1964

Mental health

Price raps bill—votes for it

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Socred Whip Bert Price (Vancouver Burrard) says his government's new mental health legislation destroys individual rights that have been deteriorating for 20 years.

He couldn't understand why it would bring in such a bill at this time, he said, Wednesday urging Health Minister Martin to delete the section he didn't like.

Then he voted for the section when the opposition demanded a recorded vote.

Three other Social Credit members followed his example, speaking against a section, then voting for it.

The bill is intended to decentralize the mental health services, with communities and voluntary groups gradually assuming a larger role.

Basic cause of Wednesday's objections was Section 21. This gives the superintendent of an institution such as Woodlands School for the Mentally Retarded absolute discretion over who shall be

admitted.

This right was previously given by a cabinet order. A court decision ruled recently that this order was invalid, and that Woodlands must admit those who are ordered in by a court.

Section 7 says everybody is entitled to treatment—subject to Section 21.

Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby) said this really meant nobody was entitled to treatment. He called it a backward step by a government that had failed to meet its responsibilities in providing proper facilities.

Price said the act had a joker in it — that somebody could pick and choose who should be admitted.

"I'm afraid of this section," he said, "I can't help feeling there is something being definitely taken away from the afflicted individual and his relatives.

"I can't help questioning the right of this Legislature to take away rights that have been accepted for many years.

"We have a waiting list (at Woodlands) that is a mile long. Many have been there for years. Many should be institutionalized.

"What's the matter? How is it these people are not getting the help they need, the help that society has decided over generations is a social responsibility?

"It's unfair and inhumane, and something should be done about it, but nothing has been done."

Price said that generally the act was supposed to be a good one, and he favored it. But he hoped Martin would change the section.

Liberals voted with the government when the measure went through final reading.

Hansard approved, 6 Socreds opposed

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Six Social Credit backbenchers were the only opponents to the principle of a B.C. Hansard when the Legislature adopted a resolution by NDP leader Strachan favoring it.

Premier Bennett said the government would accept the resolution but would make no commitment on when it would start.

The premier and Municipal Affairs Minister Black said the government wanted to investigate the matter fully before starting a verbatim report.

Arguments on the legislative Hansard included its being valuable as an accurate record, a curb on chitchat and a historical document.

Those opposed argued that

it would prolong debates and increase absenteeism.

Opponents were Socreds, Herbert Bruch (Esquimalt), Cyril Shelford (Omineca), Bert Price (Vancouver Burrard), Waldo Skillings (Victoria), Jacob Huhn (North Peace River) and Willis Jefcoat (Salmon Arm).

Strachan said Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick already have Hansards, and Alberta has just voted 60 to 1 in favor of the principle.

"Newspapers can't carry a full story of everything in the House, because of shortage of space," he said.

Liberal Leader Perrault recalled he had introduced a similar motion last year which had been adopted, but nothing was done.

"I'm tired of the battle of

newspaper clippings," he said. "The winner is the one with the most scrapbooks and clippings. This leads to all kinds of charges of misquotations."

Alex Matthew (SC, Vancouver Centre) said he felt a permanent record would add to the dignity of the House.

Frank Calder (NDP, Atlin) distributed copies of the Manitoba and Saskatchewan Hansards to all MLAs. He said it cost about \$4,500 a week in Saskatchewan and about \$2,000 a week in Manitoba.

J. Donald Smith (SC, Victoria) said it would show how individual members stood on votes, and would reveal NDP somersaults.

Premier Bennett said B.C. had the best House attendance in Canada, partly because members couldn't stay away and read Hansard later.

Victoria comment

Fatuity lost to posterity



By PADDY SHERMAN
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — It is a pity the Legislature has no Hansard, if only because posterity cannot savor the full flower of fatuity that bloomed in some of the arguments against one.

One day the Legislature is bound to come of age and record the climate that surrounded the measures and laws enacted during its formative years.

It may be after Premier Bennett has left the scene, of course. This week marked the fifth year in a row he has agreed to "consider" a Hansard-type full report of House debates. This year, he even had the backing of a resolution from the Social Credit party convention.

When the first edition is eventually printed — provided the day of thought transference doesn't come first — the immortal words of H. J. Bruch (S.C., Esquimalt) should go on the flyleaf.

He told the House the important thing should be the debates in the chamber "and not debates to be put on the record for public consumption."

How about digging turnips?

If our MLAs are not talking for public consumption, they might just as well stay home digging turnips.

Are they there to convince each other, so that the NDP will vote Sacred and so on? What absurdity, under our system of party discipline. When did he last absorb a valid point from the opposition?

For years, he was referred to jocularly as the minister-in-charge of springing to the defence of. It didn't matter what, provided it was government policy.

When the premier got into the fray, he produced a list of the perils inherent in telling the voter and the future voter

what our lawmakers actually said, in full and in context.

Attendance of MLAs would drop if they could read Hansard next day, he said. Soon speeches would be no longer spoken, but inserted into the record. The great thing, he said in ringing tones, is to have debate in our assemblies.

If Winston Churchill had been a member here his great speeches might have remained so much exhaled air.

It remained for one of his own members, not an opponent, to give the premier a lesson in logic — Dan Campbell, schoolteacher MLA from Comox.

Some speeches are priceless

The critics had a weak argument, he said, because they were criticizing not Hansard, but the wilfulness and irresponsibility of MLAs. The important thing, he said, is that a record of debates is a historical document.

As Leo Nimsick pointed out: "Some of the speeches here are priceless." So very, very true. In fact, many of them are antiques, taken out and lovingly polished year after year.

Ran Harding put it better: "This is what history books are made of, the contributions of people in public life."

Dr. Patrick McGeer poked the last finger through the wholecloth of the premier's stand. In all his praise of the British parliamentary system, he said, the premier hadn't mentioned that Hansard is part of the great tradition.

Of course, he said smoothly, after Bennett's argument, he could expect to see the premier and his ministers always in their chairs listening when the opposition spoke.

And he stared long and hard at the empty chair the premier had vacated some time before.

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Friday, March 20, 1964

Welfare debate fails to stir up much fuss

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The debate on B.C.'s \$33 million welfare spending, expected to be the hot spot of the Legislative session, fizzled out in an hour and 40 minutes Thursday night.

The sudden collapse of debate cleared the way for pro-roguing the Legislature tonight or Saturday morning.

Almost from the start, Thursday's debate focussed on Mrs. Bridget Moran, Prince George social worker suspended after she wrote a public letter to Premier Bennett about the standard of welfare services.

She sat in the Ladies Gallery as opposition members vainly tried to find out about her future.

After Welfare Minister Black refused to name reinstatement conditions he said she had been offered, Alan Macfarlane (Lib., Oak Bay) said: "This is absolutely disgusting, and the most arrogant situation we have run into."

Herbert Bruch (S.C., Esquimalt) said the principle was one of loyalty. Nobody should be allowed to use information gained in government service to make a public attack on the government.

NDP welfare critic Dave Barrett (Dewdney) condemned government policy as punitive, negative, non-understanding and wasteful.

Aquarium \$\$ coming

IT'S A PROMISE

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Vancouver Aquarium has no finance problems, insists Premier Bennett.

Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) said he understood the federal government's promised \$250,000 contribution to its addition wasn't included in the budget because the province hadn't pledged its \$250,000 in writing.

"There's no problem," said Bennett. "We intend to carry it through. The premier always keeps his promises."

Education Minister Peterson backed him up. He said he conferred in Ottawa with Federal Fisheries Minister Robichaud, who told him the federal aquarium grant would be carried in supplementary estimates.

Loyalty expected by gov't

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The B.C. government has a right to expect loyalty from its civil servants, says Provincial Secretary and Welfare Minister Black.

"Civil servants sign an oath of allegiance," Black said in the Legislature Thursday. "If they can't conscientiously sign it they should probably look for work elsewhere."

He was answering questions from Dave Barrett (NDP, Dewdney) who had asked if civil servants could make public statements about their departments, and if they could enter politics as candidates.

NO CRITICISM

"I would judge by the papers that the Dewdney MLA has an audience today," said Black obviously referring to the fact that Mrs. Bridget Moran, recently suspended by the welfare department for public statements criticizing it, was sitting in the gallery.

"It is not normal for a civil servant to criticize his department, or the government," said Black. But they were freely trusted to make speeches to clubs, churches and the instances of abuse were "rare indeed."

REDISTRIBUTION

Serious consideration is be-

ing given to the question of redistribution of constituencies, Black said in answer to other questions.

Barrett charged that B.C. not only had the usual discrimination against urban voters, but there was discrimination among urban areas. For example, he said, his Dewdney riding has 38,000 voters, nine municipal governments and one MLA. But Victoria has three MLAs for 32,000 voters and one municipality.

Arthur Turner (NDP, Vancouver East) said that between 1941 and 1960 elections Burnaby had grown from 17,000 to 56,000 voters, Delta from 16,000 to 73,000 and North Vancouver from 14,000 to 49,000.

The NDP members asked for an impartial judicial commission to survey population and geography for redistribution.

Black chills Metro

B.C. minister doubts need

By PADDY SHERMAN
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Prospects for metropolitan government in the lower mainland have virtually vanished.

Municipal Affairs Minister Black said he could not recommend such a course.

"Nor could I recommend it if I were asked if it was the right course to follow," he added.

Black said he based his reasons on a study of controversies that have raged in Metro Toronto and Winnipeg.

As a result of this study, he said: "I am not sure this is the right course to follow. I have very serious doubts about whether this type of two-tier government ought to be recommended to the people of the lower mainland."

ONCE URGED

The government has taken the attitude that it won't stuff Metro down people's throats, he said. He had urged it on local governments, but "I am beginning to doubt whether I was right."

The minister said he can't recommend any type of government for the area "until we are sure that the type of thing we do will be acceptable to the people, because in the long run they have to pay the piper."

Black said some Vancouver area services were already under a Metro board. The government has also proposed a regional parks board, which would be "a quasi-Metro type of board."

"I don't expect this to be the last word," he said — but he didn't recommend any further steps.

NDP QUERY

The minister made his remarks after being needled by Arthur Turner (NDP, Vancouver East) on the govern-

ment's failure to do anything about Metro.

Turner said the important thing was to get people talking about a solution to urban sprawl. The answer might be Metro, amalgamation, or even doing nothing, provided people knew the cost of letting things drift.

J. Donald Smith (S.C., Victoria) said he supported Black, since Metro was not the cure-all many people believed.

Opposition Leader Strachan urged urban reforms before it was too late. The government must provide the leadership, he said.

Former Burnaby Reeve Charles MacSorley (S.C., Burnaby) said some day Metro would come about, but forcing it would bring worse trouble than there is now.

Amalgamation of Burnaby, Vancouver and New Westminster would be a first step, he said. The North Shore could form a unit, too. But Surrey, Delta and other places were not ready for Metro and didn't want it.

MacSorley said that more Metro-type service is being given even now in Greater Vancouver than in Winnipeg or Toronto.

BCE takeover cost Hydro \$1 million

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Taking over B.C. Electric cost B.C. Hydro a total of \$1,048,361 Premier Bennett says.

He told Opposition Leader Strachan that of the total, \$605,026 has been paid so far.

These are the chief litigation payments listed in his return:

Davis Hossie Campbell Brazier and McClogh, barristers, \$214,006, Harmon McKenzie and Murphy, barristers, \$50,805, Paine Edwards Mercer and Williams, barristers, \$45,332.

H. Zinder and Associates, utility consultants, \$71,381.

McDonald Currie and Co., accountants, \$54,650, Royal Trust Co., \$49,947, B.C. Power Corp., \$35,979, Marshall and Stevens Ltd., valuation engineers, \$31,611, and Dr. H. L. Purdy, who acted as receiver of assets, \$22,158.

Litigation costs for Hydro in connection with taking over surveys of Peace River Power Development Corp. were \$5,000. So far, none of this has been paid.

Strachan termed the litigation costs "a magnificent monument to the bungling and bad legal advice this government got" on the takeover.

He said the total doesn't include heavy costs to the attor-

ney-general's department in connection with the case.

His remarks came as the House gave final reading to a bill validating the government's actions since the takeover.

Premier Bennett retorted that without the takeover there would have been no Columbia or Peace River projects.

Because of the takeover, rates had been cut \$30 million in three years, he said.

206 nurses quit mental health last year

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A total of 206 psychiatric nurses resigned from the B.C. mental health services last year, including 59 from Woodlands.

Health Minister Martin gave the figure in a written answer in the Legislature Thursday.

His figures showed that 92 resigned for personal and family reasons, 29 to go to other jobs, and 42 left B.C. or the area in which they had worked.

Final reading for Peace bill

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Final reading has been given a bill to permit the Peace River Power Company to appeal the \$8,020,328 compensation paid it by the province in 1961.

The bill, allowing the appeal for survey costs, was approved 34 to 14, with only the NDP opposed.

Also given final reading was an act to amend the Forest Act which, in effect, seeks to eliminate "blackmail bidding" among those seeking timber.



Saturday, March 21, 1964

MLAs pick up cheques, after 43 days of routine

By PADDY SHERMAN
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The first session of B.C.'s twenty-seventh legislature prorogued Friday night, ending 43 sitting days that were mainly dull and routine.

Before the 52 MLAs collected their \$6,400 cheques, they had approved 74 bills and a budget of \$396 million for the coming year.

The new Bank of B.C. was the major item of the session, but when the House rose the MLAs knew no more about it than they did five weeks ago.

All Premier Bennett's bill told the house was that the government would buy up to

one-quarter of the capital stock of a new bank with headquarters in Vancouver. Full details await the presentation of a petition to the federal government. This may take up to a year.

Other bills take the tolls off Deas Island tunnel and Oak Street bridge April 1, raise minimum auto insurance coverage from \$35,000 to \$50,000 from July 1965, and give the courts power to revise "harsh and unconscionable" loan transactions.

The whole approach to mental health planning will be revised under a bill providing for decentralization of facilities.

A new constitution for B.C. Hydro was approved, but will not become effective until

cabinet proclaims it. This is likely to be done only if the government loses its appeal against a decision that its takeover of B.C. Electric in 1961 was illegal.

In the last few minutes before closure at 7:45 p.m., eight private bills were rejected or ruled out of order.

Alex Macdonald (NDP, Vancouver East) had brought in one that would make cigarette packs carry a warning that nicotine is dangerous to health.

Attorney-General Bonner said while both sides had sympathy with the idea, it was more properly in the field of federal law. The bill lost on a voice vote.

So did an attempt by David Barrett (NDP, Dewdney) to ban the sending of children under 12 to such training schools as Brannen Lake school at Nanaimo.

BCE grab cost gov't \$246,000 in legal fees

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Litigation involved in the takeover of the B.C. Electric Company cost the provincial government \$246,585.24, Attorney-General Bonner revealed in an answer placed on the Legislature's order paper Friday. This is in addition to the \$1,048,361 cost to B.C. Hydro, a Crown corporation, bringing total costs to \$1,294,946. Bonner's reply to NDP Leader Strachan said \$186,528 of the provincial money has been paid to date. Recipients included M. M. McFarlane, \$104,329; D. T. Braidwood, \$47,391; and G. G. Richardson, \$21,160.

Columbia to the last

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The "Battle of the Columbia" was fought in the Legislature almost up to the closing moments Friday.

When the House adjourned briefly, both Premier Bennett and Opposition Leader Strachan were on their feet, shaking their forefingers and shouting.

The final Columbia debate was precipitated by a resolution moved by Donald Brothers (S.C., Trail) asking the federal government and Par-

liament to ratify the Columbia treaty without delay.

The NDP made a last ditch attempt to amend this by adding the words "after a full and careful consideration by the external affairs committee and after beneficial changes arising from this consideration have been incorporated."

Premier Bennett said the NDP amendment was a red herring to get the party off the hook on its power stand.

Saturday, March 21, 1964

House briefs

Call to NORAD no big deal

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Dave Barrett (NDP, Dewdney) wasn't entirely impressed by a demonstration of civil defence communications given MLAs here.

At one point officials put through a call to NORAD headquarters in Colorado Springs to show how quickly it could be done in a crisis.

The call was placed, and the MLAs sat waiting for the instant reply by some high-ranking NORAD officer.

Instead, he said, a female voice came on the line saying: "Is this call fully paid for?"

Premier Bennett has been

offered free ski lessons to help him appreciate the problems of skiers on Vancouver's North Shore.

The offer came from Liberal Leader Ray Perrault as he and Dr. Pat McGeer (Lib., Point Grey) urged action to improve facilities there.

McGeer said he had never seen a park with such inadequate facilities as Mt. Seymour Park, yet each year the situation gets a little worse.

Highways Minister Gaglardi's specially equipped Chevrolet Impala has been involved in an accident, apparently, but nobody can blame "Flying

Phil."

Victoria RCMP were informed Friday that an Impala bearing the minister's plates sideswiped another car on No. 1A Highway, near Six Mile House between Langford and Victoria, during the night.

Gaglardi said his car was missing from its parking lot when he looked for it Friday morning.

Police are still looking for it. Asked how he was getting around Friday, Gaglardi said: "I'm really grounded — I'm walking today. The premier told me this is an awful sneaky way to get a new car."

Park-timber swap shady says MLA

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The government was accused Friday of a "suspicious" timber-for-park-land swap that made a middleman an unnecessary \$36,000 profit from the taxpayer. The charge came from Alan Macfarlane (Lib., Oak Bay)

who said the government had been duped.

He said that to acquire Rath-Trevor park at Parksville, the government gave Clearwater Timber Co. rights to timber in Wells Grey Park near Kamloops.

A cabinet order Oct. 3, 1963 gave timber worth \$186,000 to the company, although it, at that time, had only an option on the Parksville property, and swore it was worth \$150,000, the MLA said.

He urged the government to deal directly with owners in such cases, and avoid middlemen. Such deals should be handled in cash, he went on. The government should not exchange timber at very low prices.

Recreation Minister Kieran said the company would have to build a \$350,000 road for 30 miles to the timber, providing access to other places in the park.

Lands and Forests Minister Williston said he tried for three years to deal directly with the owners, but got nowhere. The new road would give firefighting access to a region where \$2 million worth of timber was lost for lack of a road.

SOCREDS THE TOP SPENDERS

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The Progressive Conservatives spent \$93,667 during last September's provincial election on a campaign that failed to win a seat.

The figures for election spending of the four parties were tabled in the legislature Friday.

They showed the Social Credit Party spent \$292,802 (for 33 seats); NDP \$49,417 (14 seats) and the Liberals \$57,915 (five seats). Total cost: \$483,801.

Utilities official to retire

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Public Utilities Commissioner Percy George will retire this month of his own volition and will not be replaced, Premier Bennett told the Legislature Friday.

This will reduce the PUC to a chairman and two commissioners as it was before it was raised by an additional member in 1961, when Lyle Wicks, defeated minister of labor, was appointed.

"This announcement is very interesting," NDP Leader Strachan told the House. "I remember when we increased the commissioners to three the premier said he had no one in mind for the new position. Within 48 hours he appointed Wicks. It is clear now it was a subterfuge."

"Well Wicks was unemployed," interjected Gordon Dowding (NDP, Burnaby).

The Premier's announcement came just prior to adoption of the PUC estimates, totalling \$375,893.

Dr. H. M. Angus, chairman, gets \$16,200 annual salary and the commissioners get \$13,380 apiece.