

OCT

1937

Forecast of New Legislation Revealed

By A. H. WILLIAMSON
(Staff Representative)

VICTORIA, Oct. 26.—The order of precedence, the matter of costumes—all the minute details—having been arranged; the government having waived all contentious legislation, and the opposition having not yet exposed its tactics, Victoria was ready for the opening of the first session of the nineteenth legislature at 3 o'clock today.

The involved matter of procedure—from the moment Hon. E. W. Hamber enters the assembly chamber to the adjournment—having been thoroughly and carefully prepared, the legislature will sit briefly, and then adjourn to Thursday afternoon.

Thus Premier T. D. Pattullo will be enabled to receive an honorary degree at the University of British Columbia and return to Victoria in time to hear the opening of the address in reply.

Weighty matters were settled on Monday as members-elect arrived from all over the province, pages scurried about the legislative corridors and attendants prepared the assembly chamber, and adjoining rooms for occupancy during the next few weeks.

There was, for instance, the swearing-in of the new members, which went on throughout the day in the office of Major W. H. Langley, clerk of the House.

Then there was the matter of dress, which was the subject of considerable discussion in a "caucus" of the Conservative group. It was generally conceded that Dr. F. P. Patterson, leader of the opposition, should be suitably attired in morning coat and striped trousers. Private members felt inclined to dress for the occasion also. There was a compromise—they all decided to dress.

Then they elected Captain MacGregor F. MacIntosh, member for The Islands, as Conservative whip; while Harold Winch was being given the same post in the C.C.F. quarters.

Captain C. S. Leary was expected to continue as whip in the Liberal ranks.

The House will open today with a feeling of uncertainty about some members and uncertainty about some legislation. Dr. Lyle Telford, it is fully expected, will be looked upon for some "exposures," and demands for public enquiries. Dr. Patterson, it is felt, will not be long in opening an attack on the government from the opposition ranks.

There was no uncertainty about some subjects. It was generally conceded that the supply bill to be presented by the government would be in excess of \$25,000,000. It was also known that the highest revenues ever known would be reported this session.

It was also generally expected that one financial issue would be a handsome increase in the grant to the University of British Columbia, while the "dark horse" of the session was admittedly the Trades Union legislation.

This was clothed in secrecy, Hon. George S. Pearson—who is still in Ottawa—has been working for six months on a special statute dealing with relations between employer and employee, but little is known about the details of it. Some few thought it would be a highly-contentious issue.

Hon. Gordon S. Wiemer, attorney-general, indicated that the Securities Act would be amended, but this also was lacking details.

Hon. George M. Weir said health insurance would not be discussed, and Hon. K. C. MacDonald said there would be no amendments to the Marketing Act, and thus, much of the sting was taken out of the session.

Colorful Ceremony As Assembly Opens

**Norman W. Whittaker,
K.C., Named Speaker
of Legislature**

By A. H. WILLIAMSON
(Staff Correspondent)

VICTORIA, Oct. 27.—The guns rumbled across James Bay, the officers in gold and scarlet and blue and white crowded their way into the narrow aisle; His Honor read the Speech from the Throne; a few formalities followed and the first session of the Nineteenth Legislature was underway here on Tuesday.

But the well known ceremony had some slight changes, some slight deviations from the usual formal course. There was first, of course, the retirement of His Honor while the House elected Norman W. Whittaker, K.C., to the Speaker's throne. There were new faces in the members' places and there was the premier's comments on them.

And then—and there was truly a note of personal interest and personal regret in it—there was the resolution moved by the premier and seconded by Dr. F. P. Patterson, expressing regret at the death of Hon. S. F. Tolmie, former premier.

Following the formal resolution, which was approved by a standing, silent House, Premier Pattullo spoke freely and informally of his great regret at Dr. Tolmie's death. Dr. Patterson said: "In Dr. Tolmie's death this province lost a very faithful servant. There was no doubt he accepted public office as a duty. One of our most distinguished native sons, he was a national figure, loved and respected by thousands."

The House stood for a moment in silence, also, in passing a resolution of regret at the death of C. K. Courtenay, for 30 years law clerk in the Legislature.

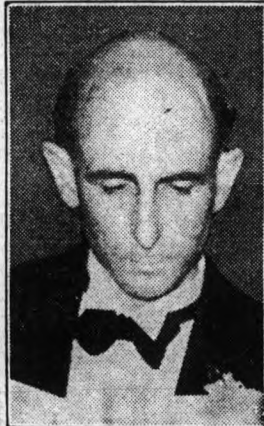
Reviewing the year in the Speech from the Throne, Hon. E. W. Hamber touched upon matters both international and provincial, saw much progress and the promise of more as a result of the members' deliberations.

As in past years, the Assembly Chamber was filled with distinguished guests, while visitors occupied every seat in the galleries.

Mayor G. C. Miller and Mrs. Miller headed a large body of prominent Vancouver residents who included Senator and Mrs. J. W. deB. Farris, K.C., G. G. McGeer, K.C., M.P., Brenton S. Brown, C. A. Cotterell, W. E. Payne, Hugh Dalton, Dr. L. S. Klinck, Mr. and Mrs. Mayne D. Hamilton, Col. and Mrs. R. G. Parkhurst, Charles E. Anstie, Lloyd Craig and Tom Brooks.

Overseas visitors included J. W. Collins, New Zealand Trade Commissioner to Canada, and Robert Firth, New Zealand Trade Commissioner in California. Representatives of the judiciary, the church, the bar and the consular corps also occupied seats of prominence.

Mr. Speaker



N. W. WHITTAKER, K. C.
Prominent Victoria lawyer
elected speaker of the Nineteenth
Legislature.

B.C. DEFICIT CREATED BY 2 HEAVY CHARGES

**Elasticity of Revenue Ex-
ceeds Record of Former
Years**

VICTORIA, Oct. 27.—An increase in excess assets over liabilities in the balance sheet of British Columbia was disclosed in the documents filed by Hon. John Hart, minister of finance, in the Legislature Tuesday.

This increase is set at \$1,485,683. Total outstanding debentures, bills, and other stock at the end of March last was set at \$183,029,247, against \$178,001,547 in the year previously.

This debt includes:
B. C. stock and debentures, \$125,386,236.

Treasury bills to the bank \$6,050,906.
Treasury bills to the Dominion Government, \$31,345,079.

Mortgage on British Columbia House in London, \$80,025.

Treasury bills owed to the Dominion increased \$3,800,000 during the year.

It appears that public conjecture with regard to the increase in income and personal property taxes was correct, an all-time record having occurred in the fiscal period under review, to \$6,777,424.

Government revenues aggregated \$28,102,612, which is \$3,790,081 more than the government had estimated, and \$2,480,081 more than the revenues of the previous year.

The government spent \$26,413,589. Thus while there was a theoretical surplus of \$2,689,022 the government went behind currently by the amount of \$5,297,324, representing written off amounts on unemployment relief expenditure, and short-

age in sinking fund requirements. The government contracted heavy capital expenditures, to the amount of \$6,156,167. This was made up of \$2,108,367 to complete the New Westminster Bridge; \$110,000 to improve the P. G. E. Railway; \$92,900 for public buildings, and \$3,844,000 for unemployment relief, borrowed from the Federal Government.

The current surplus of \$2,689,022 will be used to pay part of the cost of unemployment relief, it is expected.

Room for Improvement

Total provincial income for the fiscal year 1936-37 reached the record figure of \$28,102,000, roughly \$2,500,000 over last year. Mr. Hart told the Legislature Tuesday. To this the motoring public contributed \$5,347,000 in gasoline taxes and licence fees.

The expenditures of the year, however, were considerably over revenue, at \$34,259,000. The difference was made up by capital expenditures and relief, of which latter the claim is made that \$2,925,000 went into work of permanent value in the form of roads. Other items on the expenditure program were \$2,108,367 for the completion of the New Westminster bridge, \$110,000 for capital improvement on the Pacific Great Eastern Railway, and \$92,000 on public buildings.

These capital expenditures come to a total of \$5,235,367. The province needs roads. It would be fine if finances permitted double the present annual expenditure for the provision of work to men who need it, and for the opening up of the province to tourists, to industrial development, and to settlement.

The New Westminster bridge was an essential work. It could have been postponed to better times but the advantages of this course were largely outweighed by the low cost of materials and the value of the wages distribution occasioned by its construction at a time when wages were needed.

Capital improvement in the way of new bridges and other work on the Pacific Great Eastern Railway was fully justified.

The essential picture presented by Mr. Hart was that, without the burden of unemployment relief, there would have been a surplus on the year of \$2,689,000. The expenditures necessitated by relief, in road work and in direct relief, came to \$5,765,000. So, instead of a surplus there was a deficit on current account of \$2,608,302. Against this is placed the \$2,925,000 spent on road work as an asset of that value.

The total debt of the province went up by \$5,020,000, which is offset by the total estimated value of capital expenditures of \$5,235,000.

An obligation not met was the payment of \$2,467,000 due to the sinking fund. This was more than offset by the net loss on unemployment relief of \$2,830,000.

Thus the cost of unemployment continues to be the bugbear of provincial, as of Dominion and municipal, finance. An important part of this cost is for the maintenance of unemployable persons. For the support of individuals who are able to work there should be much greater work return than is shown.

On the whole, this statement of the province's finances for the year ending March 31st last, is satisfactory, but the next submission of public accounts should be much better. Employment is steadily improving.

What is necessary now is to concentrate upon measures to have a larger percentage of capital works done to the total outlay on relief than has been the case in the past.

CARSON CHOICE SPEAKER

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(By Staff)
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Monday, October 28, 1937

CARSON LIKELY CHOICE, DEPUTY SPEAKERSHIP

Three in Line for House
Appointment, Says
Rumor

SEATING PLANS

Alderman Crone to Open
Formal Proceedings
This Afternoon

(By Staff Representative)

VICTORIA, Oct. 28.—While Premier Pattullo was receiving honors at the University of British Columbia on Wednesday, members of the legislature worried about seating and office accommodation; appointments and speeches as they prepared to get in to the first business sitting of the House at 2:30 this afternoon.

At that time, Ald. Fred Crone, Vancouver, will open the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne. The debate will be adjourned by Dr. F. P. Patterson, leader of the Opposition, who will open it on Friday in what is expected to be a declaration of the Conservative policy for the ensuing weeks of this session.

Seating was the biggest business on Wednesday with the House at a standstill. The Government side of the House will be fully occupied by Liberal members. As in the past, the overflow of Liberals will be accommodated in front rows on the Opposition side, extending for some distance from the rear of the assembly chamber. The front row immediately to the left of Mr. Speaker will be occupied by the Conservatives with Rolf Bruhn, Salmon Arm, Independent, occupying a seat beside them.

Tom Uphill, Labor, will share a seat with the C.C.F. group to the left also of Mr. Speaker.

Chief subject for discussion as the House prepared to swing into action was the selection of a Deputy Speaker, and it was generally agreed that the list of eligibles had been reduced to three.

These were Robert H. Carson, Kamloops; E. T. Kenny, Skeena, and J. Howard Forester, Vancouver-Burrard. Rumor gave Mr. Carson the best chance of obtaining the post.

Friday, October 29, 1937

Crone Pleads For Bigger City Grants

Perry Breaks With Party,
Asking Separate
Accommodation

(By Staff Correspondent)

VICTORIA, Oct. 29.—In the legislature yesterday the main debate opened with two addresses from the Government side and the appointment of R. H. Carson, Liberal, Kamloops, as Deputy Speaker. No fresh legislation was offered.

Alderman Fred Crone, moving the Address, warned that British Columbia municipalities could not wait until the Rowell Commission reports two years hence for relief needed now. Tracing the history of provincial grants, Mr. Crone said that lowered grants and added social service charges had placed some municipalities in a precarious financial condition. He forecast legislation to compel automobile drivers to undergo tests for fitness.

Cecil R. Bull, seconding the Address, advocated renewed immigration to Canada; said British Columbia should play its part in resettling prairie homesteaders, and urged an economic survey of the province. He defended tree fruit control, and urged the government to maintain agricultural marketing measures.

Dr. Frank Patterson adjourned the debate for the day, the House rising until 2:30 this afternoon.

The Liberal caucus held its first workout after the House rose, re-electing Dr. J. J. Gillis as chairman and confirming C. S. Leary as chief whip. For an hour Liberal members conferred with an optimistic cabinet, pleased with the present march of events. No serious legislation was discussed.

In one respect relations between the administration and its caucus was somewhat less cordial. H. G. Perry, during the day, signified to Mr. Speaker his intention of standing apart, and asked for a separate office in the legislative corridors here. The cause of the coolness was not immediately apparent, though a year ago, Mr. Perry clashed with the premier over the issue of a belated Liberal convention.

Saturday, October 30, 1937

Definite Action

The session of the Legislature has developed support on the part of private members of the move under consideration to establish motor vehicle speed limits within municipal boundaries.

It has taken much agitation to convince the Government of the necessity of more strict regulations but the agitation now appears to be bearing fruit.

The Attorney-General's Department is reported to be making a careful study of speed regulations applied recently in many parts of the United States. This is commendable; the best information available on the subject can be taken advantage of in drafting the new restrictions.

But this session of the Legislature should not be allowed to pass without definite action being taken.

LIBERALS ARE CRITICIZED ON MANY GROUNDS

Higher Revenues But No
Tax Decrease
Claimed

In the main debate in the Legislature, Dr. Frank Patterson, leader of the Opposition, temporarily indisposed with an affection of the nose, gave way to Herbert Anscomb (Cons. Victoria) and Colin Cameron (C.C.F. Comox) who held a field day for the divided opposition.

Mr. Anscomb taunted the Administration with failure to produce "Work and Wages" declared the Yukon annexation proposals untimely if only \$125,000 of a yearly subsidy were received; held a department of trade to be a duplication of Federal effort; regretted the absence of practical forest conservation and criticized the government for enjoying a recovery of \$8,000,000 in yearly revenue without any substantial aid for hard-pressed municipalities.

With revenues of \$28,000,000 last year the province had spent millions more, Mr. Anscomb declared, warning the House against lack of provision against a possible return of hard times. The toll bridge deal he said was a "shuffle," leaving the province with all liabilities on the old structure.

In a first address Colin Cameron taxed the government with failure to solve the unemployment problem, stressing the plight of young men, who, listless and defeated, now felt the hand of all men against them. He charged high-handed action in sections of the logging industry, and complained he had been kept out of certain camps in his own riding when wishing to talk to the workers.

R. L. Maitland, K. C., in a brief but amicable exchange with Premier Pattullo won assurance that the Legislature will see the fuel report of the MacDonald Commission "sometime" this session. The cabinet itself had not yet read the document, Premier Pattullo said.

The adjournment followed, with Mrs. Paul Smith, Dr. J. D. Hunter, and Harold E. Winch to continue the main debate on Monday afternoon.

OCT

1937

Province Ends Year With Record Revenue, \$2,600,000 Deficit

**Enormous Relief Costs
Offset Ordinary
Surplus.**

DEBT UP \$5,000,000

By **BRUCE HUTCHISON**
The Daily Province Staff Correspondent.
VICTORIA, Oct. 26.—With record high revenues rolling into the provincial treasury, British Columbia went behind \$2,600,000 on current government financing in the last fiscal year. In the same period the gross provincial debt increased by \$5,022,700.

This is shown in the public accounts for 1936-37, the year ending March 31 last, as tabled in the Legislature today by Hon. John Hart, minister of finance.

The government's revenues in the last year were \$28,102,612. This is \$3,790,081 more than the government had estimated and \$2,480,081 more than the revenues of the previous year, which had broken all former records.

LACKS SINKING FUND.

In the last year the government spent on current account \$25,413,589. This left a current surplus of \$2,689,022. But as against that the government failed to set up required sinking funds to the amount of \$2,487,230, and in its unemployment relief expenditures it wrote off \$2,830,094 as a loss, there being no asset to show for it.

Thus as against the theoretical surplus of \$2,689,022 the government went behind currently to the amount of \$5,297,324, leaving a net deficit on current finance of \$2,600,000.

\$6,150,000 IN CAPITAL.

In addition to this, the government contracted heavy capital expenditures, to the amount of \$6,150,167. This was made up of \$2,108,367 to complete the New Westminster Bridge; \$110,000 to improve the P.C.E. Railway; \$92,900 for public buildings, and \$3,844,000 for unemployment relief, borrowed from the Federal Government.

The current surplus of \$2,689,022 will be used to pay part of the cost of unemployment relief, which totalled \$5,765,283 in the year. The sum of \$2,830,094 having been written off as lost in relief expenditures, the government claims to have spent \$2,925,189 on tangible assets in its relief programme, which included, for bookkeeping purposes, the entire road programme of this year.

ASSETS ARE UP.

The balance sheet shows an increase of assets of \$13,233,180 and an increase of liabilities of \$11,644,197, or an increase in excess assets over liabilities of \$1,488,983.

Total outstanding debentures, bills and other stock at the end of March is shown as \$183,022,247, against \$178,001,567 the previous year.

This debt includes:
B. C. stock and debentures, \$125,586,236.

Treasury bills to the bank \$6,050,000.

Treasury bills to the Dominion

Government, \$31,345,076.
Mortgage on British Columbia House in London, \$80,025.
Treasury bills owed to the Dominion increase \$3,800,000 during the year.

DEBT MATURITY PAID.

In a new statement put into the accounts, Mr. Hart says the aggregate revenue surpluses in the three years ending last March 31 were \$6,472,373. Out of this, a debt maturity of \$3,500,000 was paid on May 15, 1936, leaving \$2,972,373 to be applied on relief costs.

Income and personal property taxes reduced \$6,777,424, an all-time record, compared with \$5,986,834 in the previous year.

Hamber Opens First Session Of B. C.'s New Legislature

**Colorful Ceremony Is Replica In Miniature
Of Coincident Scene In London.**

(The Daily Province Staff Correspondent)

VICTORIA, Oct. 26.—In dull, threatening weather, Victoria today witnessed a replica in miniature of the pageantry enacted almost coincidentally in London when His Majesty opened the Mother of Parliaments. Here it was the opening of the Nineteenth Legislature of British Columbia.

Every ancient rite and custom inherited through the parent Parliament from mediaeval times was strictly observed. At 3 o'clock Lieut.-Governor Hamber drove down from Government House to find a guard of honor from the 16th Scottish, in scarlet tunics and kilts, drawn up before the front entrance of the Legislative Buildings.

WALKS OUT AGAIN.

As His Honor entered the Legislative chamber, followed by a special guard of military and naval officers, swords and spurs clanking, he found that the House had no Speaker. Refusing to inform the House why he had called it together, until it had elected a Speaker he immediately walked out of the chamber, his guard following him.

On motion of the provincial secretary, seconded by Dr. Patterson, opposition leader, Norman Whittaker was thereupon chosen Speaker and escorted to the chair. He left again to don his three-cornered hat and notify the Lieutenant-Governor of his election.

His Honor then returned to the chamber and seated himself in the Speaker's chair on the dais. Like every Speaker in a British Parliament, since the day when King Charles arrested the five members, Mr. Whittaker told the Lieutenant-Governor that if, at any time he should "fall into error" they should be imputed to him and not to the assembly, "whose servant I am here." He claimed for the assembly all its "undoubted rights and privileges."

READS THRONE SPEECH.

Dr. Weir announced that he had been informed by His Honor that he would grant all these privileges and that his person would be accessible to members of the assembly "on all reasonable occasions."

After reading his speech from the throne, the Lieutenant-Governor, bowing right and left, withdrew with his guard.

THRONE SPEECH REVIEWS WORKS

**No Programme Forecast In Address to
Legislature.**

(Special to The Daily Province.)

VICTORIA, Oct. 26.—Apart from the assurance that a department of trade and industry will be established under new legislation and the Securities Act amended, the speech from the throne, read by Lieutenant-Governor Hamber at the opening of the Legislature today, contained no forecast of government policy.

The speech, longer than usual, recited in some detail the government's work in the last year and stressed the improvement in conditions. Unless some untoward contingency arises, the speech added, "this improvement should be maintained."

Among the works of the government the speech cited assistance to mining and prospecting, improvement to the highway systems, completion of the New Westminster bridge, revision of public school curricula, physical and recreational training for youths.

REGRETS UNREST.

His honor said the new department would co-ordinate several activities now carried on by various departments, lay stress on the tourist industry, and assist industry generally in expanding business and expanding trade.

The Lieutenant-Governor said it was to be regretted unrest continued in many parts of the world, and "we now find several nations engaged in physical combat with its attendant suffering and destruction, and the great apprehension exists that other nations may become involved."

Three Party Whips Picked at Victoria

VICTORIA, Oct. 26.—Whips announced by three parties before opening of the House included Capt. C. S. Leary, chief whip for the Liberals; Capt. MacGregor F. MacIntosh, Conservative whip, and Harold E. Winch, C. C. F. whip. Choice of a deputy Speaker has yet to be announced, and a deputy whip on the government side.

Way for Mr. Speaker!

The do-nothing session, but not, of course, the know-nothing session!

Probably the difference between this legislative session and the others is that, this time, the government has said it will do nothing in advance.

A Mark Time Session

THE first session of British Columbia's Nineteenth Legislature, which opens at Victoria today, does not promise to be a very exciting one. The government, certainly, has no intention of doing anything unusual. So many controversial issues have been postponed, for one reason or another, that it would appear that the Legislature, in its weeks at Victoria, can do little more than vote supply, mark time for a space and go home.

Of course, there is the opposition to reckon with—two oppositions, in fact, and two new opposition leaders, both of whom will wish to try their wings. So, in spite of the meagre legislative programme, there may be some interesting debates. If the government's proposals can not provide food for discussion, at least its omissions can be subjected to bombardment.

The excuse for doing nothing, this session—and it may apply to next session, too—is one that

would never occur to anyone less politically astute than Mr. Pattullo. The Rowell Commission is the blessed alibi. The Rowell Commission has been appointed by the Dominion Government to look into and report upon the financial relations of the Dominion and the provinces, with a view to suggesting constitutional amendments.

The commission was never intended to do the thing Mr. Pattullo is trying to make it do. It is a fact-finding body, practical but more or less remote from immediate problems. It will be at work for a year or more. It may bring in a report when it has completed its investigations. Its members may be unable to agree on a report. Once the report is in, it may be acted upon or not. The reports of royal commissions have been pigeonholed before now. The report may be the subject of discussion for months or years. The constitutional question may go to a national convention on the plan Mr. Bennett has suggested; or it may become the issue at a general election, as Mr. Bennett fears it will.

In any case, its recommendations are not likely to find their way into the statute books for a very considerable time, and there is a great deal of nonsense in the suggestion that the ordinary legislative business of the provinces should wait on them. Mr. Pattullo would be consulting the interests of British Columbians more if he forgot about the Rowell Commission for the time being and got on with his job.

LOG OF THE HOUSE

Only Red Rose Tells Liberal From Opponent—First Day

Government Busy On Opening Ceremony Trying to Size Up Calibre of 19 New Members.

By BRUCE HUTCHISON.

VICTORIA, Oct. 27.—All new Legislatures look the same, like chicks newly hatched. You can never tell, in their day-old state, what they will grow into, what strange feathers they may sprout and what they may lose in their little life of four short years.

This Nineteenth Legislature, as we saw it from the galleries Tuesday, seemed precisely like the Eighteenth. And yet, under the surface, behind the morning coats, the grey ties and the gay buttonholes, how different! How different this calm, serene Legislature of prosperous times from its predecessor which came in here out of a depression four years ago, aflame with protest and heavy with gigantic solutions, which went out as softly as a sigh!

But who can tell, looking down in the new Legislature, in its Sunday clothes and party manners, how it will behave in its working clothes? How it may go out four years from now?

COSES FOR LIBERALISM.

Nobody could tell anything about it on its opening day. Here was party intermingled with party, friend and enemy elbow to elbow, Mrs. Smith, the Liberal, between Dr. Patterson, the Conservative, and Mrs. Steeves, the Socialist, to make room for distinguished visitors on the floor of the House. Here were Liberal members distinguishable only by the red roses in their lapels, C.C.F. men with red carnations (which are supposed to be less orthodox and certainly less expensive), Conservatives with humble primroses, quite free from the never-falling Esquimalt garden of good old Harry Pooley.

It was the new men in the crush that one tried to discover and calculate. Here was Dr. Telford, white-haired, smiling, amply built, the mildest-looking man on the floor, patting the back of that trust blue Tory, Mr. Ansoomb. What was behind his mild look? What assault on the government was he meditating, what cries that will ring through the provinces? That the government would like to know—the government which sat immaculate across the aisle and prepared to make this the least notable session on record.

It would like to know, too, what lay behind the square, grey "poker" face of Dr. Patterson and his little band of Conservatives, as immaculate as the government, in strictly conventional cutaway coats. Between them, what would these two distinct oppositions do to the government, each striving to outstrip the other, each properly seeking to steal the show?

MIDDLE-AGED BOY.

And what of the new back-bench members? Have we material here for future governments, unknown leaders, giants yet untested?

Here was Sam Guthrie, that good old-time Socialist, his red hair now grey, but his working-class loyalty undimmed.

Here were Louis Lebourdais, that beloved native son of the Cariboo Road, middle-aged now, but looking like a boy, and handsome young Macgregor Macintosh, no longer a boy either, who left an arm in France, and Captain Bull, a bronzed outdoor man from the Okanagan, who carries also a coat-sleeve emped in war service, and Bill Straith, a fine, clean-cut young lawyer from Victoria, Mr. Eyres of Chilliwack, the keen-looking Conservative who beat old Ed Barrow, and jolly, round-faced Mike Finland, who inherited Esquimalt from Mr. Pooley, and Colin Cameron, lean and grim from Comox, and other serious men of the C. C. F.

Here were nineteen new members who have much to learn and many adjustments to suffer.

Here were many an old-timer, too—Mr. Pattullo himself, who starts his twenty-second session and who pauses with a fatherly, patriarchal smile, to remind the House that in years of service he has now reached a majority, which the House should note; and white-plumed Mr. Hart and smiling Dr. MacDonald, who came in with the Premier in 1916, but moved out later.

PETER PAN, K.C.

Here was a new attorney-general, Mr. Wismer, a grinning, happy Peter Pan of politics, who will never grow up, and behind him, in a higher sphere, his predecessor, Mr. Justice Sloan, now wearing black robes and judicial neckpiece, and probably glad of it. Here were the formidable Winches, father affable, son saturnine, handsome, dark, full of deep plans.

Here was a new Legislature reflecting, as accurately as a delicate instrument, the changed public psychology of the last four years, the better times, the lessening strains. Here was a government which has mellowed and become easy-going, and proposes to do as little as possible this session. And here was a touch of real neighborliness between parties, an opening-day sociability, when everyone agreed that the House should adjourn and remain idle over Thursday, so that Mr. Pattullo could accept a Doctor of Laws degree from the University of British Columbia.

In such an atmosphere the opening ceremonies did not take long, though a little longer than usual, because there are certain interesting old formalities required of a new Legislature—choice of a Speaker, able young Mr. Whittaker having wisely provided himself with hat and gown in case he might be chosen; certificates of election in all ridings; solemn vows to proceed with vigor against all who had been elected fraudulently; determination to work with "wisdom, temper and prudence."

FACADE OF WORDS.

And finally, speech from the throne, written by the government, an impressive facade of words to conceal thought, a very jungle of verbiage this year to hide the absence of any important business.

Yes, but while governments write speeches from the throne, oppositions largely determine the length, the temper and the character of sessions. Two oppositions can do much, may well make this session, which opens so peaceably and friendly, memorable in our long line of political battles.

We shall soon know. The gold braid, the distinguished visitors, the extra chairs, the morning coats and gay buttonholes are all gone now. When Dr. Pattullo, LL.D., K.C., M.L.A., so friendly now, so much the father of the House, the well-tried sword and buckler of his party, returns here to work Thursday, he may find a different sort of House.

Our Fin

It is possible that the latest balance sheet of British Columbia, as Mr. Macawber said on the occasion, "result in some great financial gain."

If you put Mr. Macawber's last budget, indeed. Probably the balance sheet in Mr. Hart collected 28 million of the government's money, four millions more than the 25½ million spent last year, a million more than a million ago, estimated.

Thus, still keeping only upon the balance sheet, and on any criticism, an say, and Mr. Macawber to agree, that there is that last year raised in the election, a balance sheet.

It was an excellent one, no mistakeably being on the upswing, almost without exception, had been any time, but the depression, tax, liquor tax, gas tax, all these so-called best returns could be taken as an account.

But there is a question of the best returns reflecting the best of our seven years past, our budgetary estimates, still we finished the year 183 million, we had started it, best year of our past, dropped out of everywhere—we need millions to our pocket.

Of course Mr. Macawber's statement than he has not met it, budget surpluses the last three years, millions of it on unemployment.

But still the British Columbia, like in better, is of debt. If we could best year we have with no assurance that good years are we going to pay not going to do it, suppose is to be to be only our job.

That, without unkindness toward

Our Financial Affairs

It is possible to look at Mr. John Hart's latest balance sheet of the public accounts of British Columbia, and to say, as Mr. Micawber said on a historic occasion, "result happiness." Or it is possible to say, as the same great financier also said, on the same occasion, "result misery."

If you put Mr. Hart's balance sheet against his last budget, the result is very cheerful indeed. Probably on any view, it is the best balance sheet in the last seven years. Mr. Hart collected 28 millions (approximately) on the government's operations, which was nearly four millions more than his estimates. He spent 25½ millions, which was something less than a million and a half more than he had estimated.

Thus, still keeping your gaze firmly fixed only upon the budget—and resolutely postponing any criticism of the budget itself—you can say, and Mr. Hart will be only too pleased to agree, that here is solvency, here is prudence, here is that last divine far-off event, so highly raised in the election speeches of all the parties, a balanced budget.

It was an encouraging year. Business was unmistakably revealed in this balance sheet as being on the up and up. The public revenues, almost without exception, were better than they had been any time since the boom times went out and the depression times came in. Income tax, liquor tax, gas tax, motor licenses, timber levies—all these sources of public income yielded the best returns for years past. If only this could be taken as the complete statement of account.

But there is another side of the picture. We had the best year in our public business (reflecting the best year in our private business) for seven years past, and we had a surplus on our budgetary estimates of 2½ millions. And still we finished that otherwise highly satisfactory year 183 million dollars in debt, whereas we had started it 178 millions in debt. In the best year of our public finance since the bottom dropped out of public and private finances everywhere—we managed to add another five millions to our public debt!

Of course Mr. Hart has an answer to make, and of course no one is more persuasive in its statement than he. He has had to meet the burden of unemployment relief, and he never bargained with us to meet it out of revenue, and he has not met it out of revenue. He has had budget surpluses aggregating 6½ millions in the last three years, and he has applied 3½ millions of it on the debt and the rest against unemployment.

But still the fact here is the chief that winna ding, and it is that what we are doing in British Columbia, alike in hard times and alike in better, is to sink further into a morass of debt. If we can not pay our way in the best year we have had in the last seven, and with no assurance worth any man's acceptance that good years are certain ahead of us, when are we going to pay our way? And if we are not going to pay our way, who do we suppose is going to do it for us, and what do we suppose is to be the end of it if it turns out to be only our job, and nobody else's at all?

That, without animadversion and with no unkindness towards Mr. Hart, is the thing

At Opening of Legislature



COLORFUL ceremonies which marked the opening of British Columbia's Nineteenth Legislature on Tuesday afternoon in Victoria included an official visit from Hon. Eric W. Hamber, Lieutenant-Governor of B. C. and representative of His Majesty King George VI. In this photo Hon. Mr. Hamber, in cocked hat and uniform, is shown ascending the steps into the Parliament Buildings, accompanied by his naval and military aides.

proper to be said about the revealed condition of the public accounts of this province.

Funds Short \$10,858,000.
VICTORIA, Oct. 27.—Provincial Government sinking funds were short \$10,858,000 at March 31 last year, according to public accounts tabled in the Legislature.

Everything as usual at the opening of the Legislature. The debt's a bit bigger—and that's also as usual.

The Speech from the Throne was a beautiful example of a government's golden memories of its forgotten past.

B. C. Drivers' Tests To Be Made With Robot Device

VICTORIA, Oct. 27.—British Columbia motorists will drive a motionless, wheelless automobile next year to prove to experts that they are capable of driving ordinary cars on the streets. If the Legislature approves the government's plan to test all drivers, as expected, the latest mechanical testing devices will be installed by provincial police in Victoria and Vancouver. All drivers will have to show a sufficiently quick reaction in driving the dummy cars before they get a driving license.

Cabinet Ministers and Speaker



FIVE of British Columbia's cabinet ministers were caught in a jovial mood at the opening of the Legislature on Tuesday afternoon. From left to right they are Hon. K. C. MacDonald, minister of agriculture; Hon. George M. Weir, minister of education; Hon. John Hart, minister of finance; Hon. Gordon S. Wismer, attorney-general, and Hon. A. Wells Gray, minister of lands.

Below is Norman Whittaker, M.L.A. for [unclear] who was unanimously elected Speaker of the Provincial Legislature at the opening session in Victoria on Tuesday.

MOTIONS BY C. C. F. HALT HOUSE ACTION

Rulings By Speaker Are Awaited.

(By Daily Province Staff Correspondent.)
VICTORIA, Oct. 27.—First parliamentary manoeuvres of the present session of the Legislature, were halted today, temporarily at least, when Mr. Speaker held up three C. C. F. notices of motion.

It was indicated that Mr. Speaker was considering whether these motions, by which the C. C. F. seeks among other things to put the government on the spot for the health insurance fiasco of this year, were in order or not. To the surprise of opposition members, the motions did not go on the order paper of the House today pending Mr. Speaker's ruling.

By filing a want of confidence motion regretting the government's failure to inaugurate health insurance, the C.C.F. members sought to get ahead of the Conservatives and to prevent any discussion of health insurance in the debate on the speech from the throne.

This would concentrate health insurance in one full-dress debate. The other two motions call for medical aid to old-age pensioners and an investigation of operations of the Elections Act.

B. C. FUEL PROBE COST WAS \$95,651

Bill Up to End of March Submitted to House.

(Special to The Daily Province.)
VICTORIA, Oct. 27.—The Royal Commission on coal and fuel oil problems had cost the taxpayers of British Columbia \$95,651 up to the end of March 31 last, according to the provincial public accounts tabled in the Legislature Tuesday. How much has been spent on the enquiry since then will not be shown until the next public accounts are issued, a year hence.

The commission has been working three years, and the government has received a report from it. Whether it will table the report in the House has not been decided yet. Members of the opposition intend to demand it, and are interested particularly in its references to gasoline prices in this province.

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(By Daily Province Staff Correspondent.)
VICTORIA, Oct. 27.—Fred Crone, Vancouver City councillor, declared that specifically as treasuries of suggested from side of the I. Fred Crone, Vancouver City councillor, declared that specifically as treasuries of suggested from side of the I. Fred Crone, Vancouver City councillor, declared that specifically as treasuries of suggested from side of the I.

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Mr. Crone speed limits c cities, towns s the first thing appalling ac province.

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CRONE URGES NEW B. C. TAX TO AID CITIES

No One Will Object To Levy, He Tells Legislature.

ASKS SPEED LIMIT

(By Daily Province Staff Correspondent.)
VICTORIA, Oct. 28.—Special new taxation in British Columbia, specifically ear-marked to help the treasuries of municipalities, was suggested from the government side of the Legislature today by Fred Crone, Liberal member for Vancouver Centre, who opened the debate on the speech from the throne.

Vigorously championing the cause of municipal government, Mr. Crone declared that "there is not one citizen in British Columbia who would object to the raising of additional provincial revenue if it were levied for the express purpose of helping the various municipalities. This is particularly so as it is common knowledge that while the relief problem will grow small as years go on, the indigency problem will increase and that, together with education and hospitalization every municipality will require revenues adequate to cope with them."

OPPOSES DELAY.

Mr. Crone said he hoped the government would be able to act on the long-standing problem of municipal finance at this session and not wait for results of the Rowell Commission, which might be years in coming.

The municipalities, he believed, did not care whether the government restored their old grants or took over a larger share of the cost of hospitalization and education, "but one of these things has to be done, or both, in a big enough way to help them survive the critical period they are going through."

Mr. Crone came out flatly for speed limits on motor traffic in all cities, towns and villages as one of the first things needed to halt the appalling accident toll in this province.

ACCIDENT INCREASE.

Latest provincial police figures showed that accidents had increased this year by 28 per cent., injuries by 11.9 per cent., deaths by 7.5 per cent., property damage by 40 per cent., while motor vehicles on the road had increased only 10 per cent.

As a further step in the safety campaign, Mr. Crone advocated compulsory automobile insurance, or alternatively, a law by which the owner of a car would be responsible for any damage it caused, even if he was not driving it.

"We have passed the time," he said, "when we should be sympathetic because of some isolated cases that can not stand insurance or that can not pass physical or mechanical examination. When you think of the list of widows, widowers and orphans that is the heritage of doing nothing, I think we all must realize that the time has come when drastic steps have to be taken."

BETTER ROADS.

He also advocated strong tests of drivers and cars and indicated that Attorney-General Wismer would have more to say on this matter during the session.

Better roads, said Mr. Crone,

would also help to cut down accidents as well as building a huge new tourist industry. He congratulated Hon. F. M. Macpherson, minister of public works, on the progress of his highway construction programme this year.

"Let us concentrate," he urged, "on better roads for British Columbia during the next four years. We shall scarcely recognize this as the same province when good roads are an actual fact. I do not believe that money can be better spent than by liberal allowances in all constituencies for roadwork and bridges. It would be poor policy in my judgment to starve the services rendered by the public works department."

C.C.F. INTRODUCES MOTION OF CENSURE

Speaker Allows Three Party Measures.

VICTORIA, Oct. 28.—With slight amendment Mr. Speaker Whittaker has allowed three C. C. F. motions to go on the order paper of the Legislature.

These motions condemn the government for failure to go ahead with health insurance, ask for an investigation of the Elections Act and urge medical service for old age pensioners.

Mr. Crone held the motions up until he could consider them, and finally ruled that Mrs. Dorothy Steeves' motion on health insurance was slightly out of order in attempting to condemn the government and at the same time advocating a comprehensive plan of health insurance.

A dual motion of this sort is not admissible under House rules, and Mrs. Steeves agreed to remove the last clause urging a new health insurance system.

The want of confidence motion stands and will be debated in the House.

BRIDGE SHOULD PAY FOR SELF, SAYS ANSCOMB

Conservative Policies In House Outlined By Spokesman.

HITS TRADE POST

By BRUCE HUTCHISON
The Daily Province Staff Correspondent.
VICTORIA, Oct. 29.—The Conservative party, in its first declaration of policy to the present Legislature, came out today:

(1) For strict economy to halt British Columbia's drift into debt and deficit.

(2) For less interference by government in business.

(3) For immediate financial aid to municipalities.

(4) And for a strong forest conservation programme.

It declared emphatically:

(1) Against amalgamation of British Columbia and the Yukon.

(2) Against a new provincial department of trade and commerce.

(3) Against "such extravagances as an expensive health insurance commission with no work to do."

(4) Against unloading the cost of the New Westminster bridge on the taxpayers as a whole.

These points of policy were laid down in the House this afternoon by Herbert Anscomb, Conservative of Victoria, speaking on behalf of Dr. F. P. Patterson, opposition leader, who was ill.

Dr. Patterson, ordered to bed with sinus trouble, will probably return to the House next week. He will speak on the address in reply to the throne speech then.

The present government manoeuvres over the New Westminster bridge, Mr. Anscomb believed, were an attempt to set tolls that would not cover the cost of the project, leaving the taxpayers carry the difference. He said he was as opposed to the whole project as formerly.

TO COST MILLIONS.

Mr. Anscomb opened with a strong attack on the government's handling of the unemployment problem, in which it had promised work and wages, had ended by putting the unemployed youth of Vancouver in jail and now was asking the Federal Government to release these boys.

The "death bed repentance" of Premier Pattullo in promising amalgamation of British Columbia and the Yukon was sure to cost British Columbia untold millions in the development and administration of the northern territory. Already British Columbia could not properly supply itself with roads and services, without adding the needs of the Yukon to its burdens.

In any annexation contract, Ottawa should agree to expenditures for development of the Yukon before handing it over.

There was no need for an expensive new provincial trade department Mr. Anscomb asserted, as the federal department does this work adequately, "and," he added, "it is my view that if governments generally would do a good deal less in interfering with business the country would be much better off."

TO RESIST EXPORT.

Mr. Anscomb opposed the proposed export of raw logs to foreign countries for manufacture. He urged also the reservation of scenic timber along highways.

Mr. Anscomb ridiculed the government's health insurance "fixle" and said the collapse of the Insurance Act occurred exactly as Conservatives had predicted a year ago, because it was unsound actuarially, while the plebiscite on it had been quite unintelligible. But when the Legislature passed an act and the government refused to implement it, "what kind of democracy is that?" he asked. And now with the insurance scheme gone, a group of experts on high salaries were "still on the job, twiddling their thumbs and doing nothing."

B.C. LABOR TO MEET OVER TRADES CODE

Two Bills to Be Made Ready for Legislature.

VICTORIA, Oct. 29.—(CP)—Representatives of British Columbia's trade unions will meet here Saturday and Sunday to frame a Trades Union Act to be placed before the Provincial Legislature.

The convention, called by the Victoria and District Trades and Labor Council, will be the first province-wide assembly of labor since the dissolution of the British Columbia Federation of Labor in 1921. About 100 delegates are expected to attend.

Four Canadian provinces have already enacted legislation assuring workers of the right of freedom of organization. They are Nova Scotia, Quebec, Manitoba and Alberta.

Two acts have been prepared for British Columbia, but have not yet been approved finally by provincial labor bodies. One is a bill drafted by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

The second is a Trades Union Act drawn up by Harold Winch, M.L.A. The latter was to have been submitted to the Legislature at its present session, but has been withheld until after the union meeting in Victoria.

Another matter to be discussed by delegates is the possible re-establishment of an organization similar to the B. C. Federation of Labor.

HOUSE MAY ADOPT SPEED LIMIT PLAN

Wismer Studies "Common Danger" Rule.

(Special to The Daily Province.)

VICTORIA, Oct. 29.—Imposition of a definite automobile speed limit within B. C. municipal areas next year is being strongly advocated by members of the Legislature and the plan may be adopted by the government at the present session. It was learned that the attorney-general's department is making a careful study of speed limits imposed recently in many parts of the United States in place of the "common danger" rule, in effect here.

Two Maiden Speeches

IF the government at Victoria succeeds in getting by with a mark-time session, it will not, apparently, be with the full approval of its supporters. The speech from the throne, read at the opening of the Legislature, outlined no programme of legislation worth calling the Legislature together to enact. But the mover and seconder of the address outlined, in the first speeches of the session, a programme to which the government might well address itself.

It is the tradition that the mover and seconder of the address shall confine themselves pretty much to paying compliments to the government. Criticisms are taboo. Suggestions come only on large and general grounds—little more than an expression of pious aspirations.

In the Legislature on Thursday, however, both Alderman Crone of Vancouver and Mr. C. R. Bull of South Okanagan were quite emphatic in their demand that something should be done and done now to remedy defects and redress abuses.

Mr. Crone, who has had a long experience in municipal affairs in Vancouver, made a strong and well-reasoned demand that the government bear itself to relieve the necessities of the municipalities. Either the old grants should be restored or the government should assume the burden of social services. Whichever course was followed it should be followed in a large enough way to give substantial relief. To the idea that the municipalities should hold themselves in patience pending the report of the Rowell Commission, Mr. Crone was resolutely opposed.

Mr. Bull, who comes from an agricultural area, made a plea for resumed immigration, a policy which the government has endorsed in a mild and not very effective way. But it is action, not blessings that the South Okanagan member wants, and he sees that the drought in Saskatchewan, which has sent a tide of refugees this way, is laying both a problem and an opportunity on the government's doorstep. British Columbia will wait a long time before she will get a better type of settler than those now clamoring at her doors. If her government is alive to its opportunities, it will take these people in and get them settled.

The two new members of the Legislature who have spoken have done well in their maiden speeches. They have given evidence of courage, imagination and a close acquaintance with public problems. If those who follow do as well, the session may not be such a dull and uninspiring one after all.

LOG OF THE HOUSE

Asks Government Welcome For Prairie Unfortunates

Capt. Cecil Bull, From Okanagan, Would Fill Up Province—"Impossible" As Only Thing Worth Working For.

By BRUCE HUTCHISON.

VICTORIA, Oct. 29.—The new Legislature began on Thursday to reveal the quality and talent added to it by a wise electorate last June. The first two samples were cautious, unpretentious, but good.

The House heard them, as it always does, with that extraordinary geniality which it always displays to young members in its opening stages, but which tends to dry up as the session progresses.

And the government, for its part, sat back and listened to information which it has had for months or years as attentively and politely as if it were beholding a fiery new revelation from on high.

Mr. Crone of Vancouver, who led off the debate on the speech from the throne, spoke well. He will be a sound, useful and businesslike member of this House. He speaks quietly, simply, like a business man among colleagues, without flourish and without rancor. His pace is pedestrian, but he covers a good deal of ground, and evidently is a man with ideas of his own, which he will express whether the government relishes them or not.

PRaises THEM ALL.

As the first speaker, Mr. Crone was supposed to indicate the government's programme for the session and praise government's work. The former he was not able to do, for the obvious reason that this session's programme is to postpone a programme. The latter he did well, perhaps a little too well.

For every minister, one by one in long and glittering parade, Mr. Crone had some special commendation, some particular reason for thanks and praise. In the case of Mr. Hart he reached a climax of commendation, and finished with a smashing crescendo of rejoicing for the presence of Mr. Pattullo at the head of the state.

It was competently performed, and part of the first speaker's job, but tended to become a trifle saccharine and sticky.

MADE GOOD START.

The C. C. F. members appeared just a little cynical. Mr. Maitland laboriously re-commended the famous diary, which was rudely interrupted in the fall of 1933 and which contains already many gems—as, for example, when he recorded of a notable colleague that "there were long pauses between his sentences, nothing between his pauses." The House as a whole thought Mr. Crone had made a good start.

Capt. Cecil Bull of South Okanagan, who followed, undoubtedly will prove one of the most popular men in this assembly. He has the familiar look of the Okanagan about him, the outdoor, tanned, fruit-pickling, tea-at-5-o'clock look that is part of the agreeable little civilization of the orchard valley.

He speaks modestly, quietly and, even in a maiden speech, apparently without stage fright. Obviously he comes to the House with a high sense of opportunity which, alas, may suffer disillusionment in the tough game of politics, for he will

find that the House doesn't retain its first-day geniality and innocence very long. But Capt. Bull should make an excellent member, a distinctive, refreshing personality in these faded premises.

MUST HAVE IT.

His talk was mostly of his Okanagan, of the fruitmen's problems

of marketing—"anyone who has designs on our Marketing Act is wasting his time, because without it we're sunk"—and of the value of the fruit industry to British Columbia, the greatest purchasing industry in the province.

He thought, when primary producers in other branches of growing opposed marketing legislation, it must be because they were not sufficiently hard up, or more likely that they have not been through a first-class selling war.

But he boldly tackled larger issues. He is a young man and evidently an idealist, with a fine vision of Canada and of British Columbia, which he managed to convey rather strikingly in soldierly fashion, all the better for its simplicity and lack of ornament.

What Capt. Bull seems to want, no less, is a whole new attitude on the part of government and on the part of the public to the great overshadowing questions of the time.

WOULD WELCOME ALL.

Into the great valleys of British Columbia, which are evidently a real passion with him, Capt. Bull would pour people. He would not squabble about the poor immigrants from the drought areas of the prairies. He would welcome them, make them good British Columbians, fill up a province which has twice the area of Japan and a hundredth part of the population.

"The first responsibility which strikes me as being very imminent at the present time and one which I believe the government has under consideration," he said, "is our duty to put ourselves in a position to absorb cheerfully and adequately those unfortunate people who come to us from the drought-stricken areas of the prairies."

THREE A WEEK.

"The financing of this, I feel, is definitely a Dominion matter. Last week I was told by a member of the Legislative Assembly from Alberta, that people were being taken at the rate of three a week to the asylum, from the Alberta drought area."

"When things are as bad as this, when people are going mad because of the complete hopelessness of their environment, it would seem necessary that these people should be the invited guests of every province in the Dominion."

Lifting the House for a moment out of the rut of peanut politics, he asked it to take a look at British Columbia, at its vastness and richness and the fine freedom of his life, and he asked it to consider what the crowded, have-not nations think of us and our failure to use our land.

He asked it also to face the real economic condition of British Columbia, the destitution amid plenty, the insecurity of many of its people, the haunting fear of poverty, the inequality of wealth. Some "economic equalizer" must be found, he said, and wise governments will pave the way to reform by educating the people in advance to the

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changes they must expect, the sacrifices they must make, both here and, perhaps, in supporting Britain in war.

"What can we in British Columbia do to discover a new economy of abundance and still retain the old social order?" he asked. "What can we do to see our province used to its full capacity for humanity?" Colonel Lawrence in his book Seven Pillars of Wisdom said: "There is only one thing in the world worth working for, and that is the impossible." That, Mr. Speaker, is the answer to my question. We have not the authority, as I have already stated, so we have the setting for the job worthwhile."

FIGHT OVER OPPOSITION.

This wound up an easy day within an hour, and everybody felt very neighborly and on a high plane.

But the parliamentary manoeuvres of the session already are under way. The C. C. F. has started to steal a march on the Conservatives by an opening deluge of motions and questions. Clearly one of the most interesting fights of the session is going to be within the ranks to the left of Mr. Speaker, to decide who are to form the real opposition, the Conservatives or the Socialists. The Socialists think they have beaten the Conservatives at the starting gun, but the session is young.

LOG OF THE HOUSE

Opposite Counsels to Pattullo Come from Opposing Parties

Anscomb Thunderously Demands More Orthodoxy In Government Policy, and Cameron Passionately Pleads for Less.

By BRUCE HUTCHISON

VICTORIA, Oct. 30.—The House began on Friday to look more like its old earthy, belligerent, human self. It had recovered from what Dr. Weir, our only trained psychologist, would call its "euphoria" of Thursday and started to sink into its more familiar state of misoneism: which, in layman's language, means that the opening pleasantries are over, the air of strained respectability relaxed, and the opposition is getting down to its constitutional job of opposing the government.

The opposition, on this first anti-government day, came from two opposite poles, which indicated the enflaming fire sure to sweep the ministry from the Conservatives on one side and the Socialists on the other. From one pole came Mr. Anscomb's thundering demand for more orthodoxy in government policy. From the other came Mr. Cameron's demand for less.

SCRAPE TO BONE.

Between the two of them they covered a good deal of ground and some of the government's sins, but there was nothing to make the cabinet very uncomfortable. The dual position will have to warm up a good deal more than this before the session will really come to life.

Mr. Anscomb, of course, is a seasoned parliamentarian, a first-rate debater and a competent financial critic of the old school, whose memorable watchword is "cut to the bone, scrape the bone and remove the marrow." It was in this spirit that Mr. Anscomb regarded the finances of his close friend and fellow Victorian, Mr. Hart, who listened with a good-natured smile, perhaps reflecting to himself that he might be listening to his successor four or eight years from now.

One felt that Mr. Anscomb, thick jawed, thumbs hitched in his vest pockets, each word thundered out clearly and distinctly, was more fluent than he used to be, and perhaps happier because he had little chance of preparation. He was pinch-hitting at the last moment for his leader, Dr. Patterson, who was ill, and did it completely, trenchantly, but with marked good nature.

DR. WEIR INTERESTED.

It was when he came to the health insurance fiasco that he produced the first, frail exchange of compliments between government and opposition. Dr. Weir, the human sacrifice of the government's health insurance policy, showed signs of repression as soon as the subject was mentioned, as if he could hardly contain within himself a true account of this sad, sad story. He will have more to say of it later, and took copious notes to that end.

But meanwhile, when Mr. Anscomb said the Insurance Act itself was actually unsound, Dr. Weir couldn't help reminding him that he wasn't an actuary, to which Mr. Anscomb replied that Dr. Weir wasn't either.

Dr. Weir then ventured the considered opinion that Mr. Anscomb didn't know what he was talking about, and it looked for a moment, though both gentlemen were quite friendly, as if we might have a spell of weather.

However, Mr. Speaker Whittaker, asserting his authority for the first time in this House, insisted that this kind of thing wouldn't do under his regime, much to the sorrow of Mr. Anscomb, who said all the joy was being taken out of parliamentary debate these days.

NEW FORCE IN PARTY.

The maiden speech of Mr. Cam-

eron of the C. C. F. marked him as a considerable new force in the Socialist party. He is young, lean, greying, rather grim, a soldier who hasn't found this a land fit for heroes. He speaks fluently, with a slight English accent, a most precise pronunciation and a good command of the language. But his speech is edged with a bitterness, faintly disguised, and with a sarcasm perhaps a little too heavy—a speech of passionate protest from a man who has been deeply moved by the evils of our civilization.

His ridicule of the speech from the throne, and the government's general attitude towards the poor people of this province was delicate and whimsical, but a little too subtle for the appetite of the House, which likes its humor broad and undiluted.

BOX CAR TOURISTS.

So far as Mr. Cameron could see, the only thing the government could claim in the way of accomplishment in its speech from the throne was that Lord Tweedsmuir, Governor-General, had viewed British Columbia's scenery this year. There were, said he, other tourists not mentioned in the speech—tourists who viewed the country from end to end from the tops of box cars and now, like His Excellency, were housed at government expense.

It was particularly appropriate, he added dryly, that some of the unemployed boys now in jail were returned soldiers, who thus were being rewarded for overseas service by a free domicile in crown quarters.

Behind this biting persiflage Mr. Cameron's passionate hatred of these human tragedies of the times soon became apparent. He was eloquent and rather moving as he told about the condition of the lost generation of boys who wander, homeless and penniless, about the country, the boys who were utterly amazed if you gave them a meal or a night's lodging, or even a friendly word.

From these two speeches it seemed clear that both oppositions are purposely starting slowly in developing their own policies. Mr. Anscomb gave only a general idea of Conservative attitude towards finance. Mr. Cameron gave no inkling of the C. C. F. programme, which evidently is to be developed by some of the older members later. There is plenty of time. This opening debate may well stretch beyond next week and yet produce explosive material.

M.L.A. ATTACKS PRIVATE TOWNS

B. C. Petty Kingdoms Assailed by C.C.F. Member.

(By Canadian Press)

VICTORIA, Oct. 30.—A Co-operative Commonwealth Federation member charged in the British Columbia Legislature Friday that large corporations had set up "petty kingdoms" in the province.

Colin Cameron, member for Co-mox, said employees of large logging companies were compelled to live on company property, forfeiting many rights and privileges, and were not permitted to speak to their elected representatives in their homes.

(Cameron recently brought a charge of assault against Pete Harambourne, Elk River Timber Co. superintendent. Cameron entered company property and was stopped by Harambourne, who refused to let the legislator proceed further. During the discussion, Harambourne put his hand on Cameron's shoulder. The case was dismissed at Campbell River last week by Stipendiary Magistrate R. J. Walker.)

INTERPRETATION FANTASTIC

"I am not going to dwell on the circumstances in which I was assaulted in my endeavor to contact and interview my constituents," Mr. Cameron continued. "I wonder, though, if it is consonant with the dignity of this Assembly that one of its members should be forcibly prevented from carrying out the duties for which he was elected. The right of these corporations to use force is derived from an interpretation of the meaning of private property, which is nothing short of fantastic."

"The idea that we must place in the same category as private property and individual dwelling-houses the huge holdings of a logging company is, to my mind, patently absurd. These people, exploiting the natural resources of this province, now seek the unquestioned right to set up forbidden areas throughout the whole of the lower mainland and Vancouver Island, areas on which members of the governing body of British Columbia may go only at the risk of bodily assault."

Mr. Cameron then told the House his purpose in interviewing men in the camps was to ascertain their attitude towards the proposed Trade Union Bill to be presented at this session.

PRIME PROBLEM.

There will, he said, have to be a recognition of the fact that unemployment is the major question of the day, and that nothing must stand in the way of its solution.

"We must," he added, "be prepared to overcome any and all obstacles in the way. It will be necessary to subject all our existing institutions, all our hallowed traditions to a most searching, critical examination. The prime test for such institutions and traditions must be: 'Do they stand in the way of solving this fundamental problem of modern society?' If they do, we must be prepared to give them short shrift or blind forces of economic pressure will deal with them in a manner not to our liking."

The City and the Harbor

WHILE the private bills committee of the Legislature is still to be reckoned with—and it is a body whose decisions are not always predictable—the city of Vancouver seems to be on the point of winning its long fight for the taxation of harbor lands. It has reached a compromise with the National Harbors Board and that should give it a considerable advantage.

It will be a good thing to have the issue out of the way, even if, as a result of the compromise, there will be no important increase in city revenue at first. The uncertainty of the situation has offered encouragement to those indisposed to pay taxes. The city has been at a disadvantage when compared with other cities in the province and outside. The owners of waterfront property in Vancouver have been at a disadvantage when compared with people who leased from the Harbor Board.

Besides, the dispute, while it continued, created an unhappy atmosphere and made difficult the co-operation of two bodies which should be in constant and friendly co-operation for the benefit of the city and the port.

MAITLAND DEMANDS FUEL PROBE REPORT

Premier "Hasn't Had Time to Read It."

(Special to The Daily Province.)
VICTORIA, Oct. 30.—Conservative members started their fight in the Legislature Friday for the production of the report of the royal commission on coal and oil problems.

R. L. Maitland, Conservative of Vancouver-Point Grey, asked Premier Pattullo when he proposed to file the report of the commission, which has been working since November, 1934. The Premier said the report had been received, but he had not had time to read it yet. When he had done so, he would file it in the House before the end of the session, he said.

Mr. Maitland retorted that the opposition wanted to see the report long before that.

R. W. Bruhn Is Only "Independent"

(Special to The Daily Province.)
VICTORIA, Oct. 30.—R. W. Bruhn, member for Salmon Arm, intends to preserve his complete independence of any party in the present Legislature. This was indicated when he was placed between the C.C.F. members and the Liberals, a long way from his former Conservative colleagues.

He is the only independent member and will be given an office of his own.

Winch Asks Aid For Mental Cases

VICTORIA, Oct. 30.—(CP)—E. E. Winch (C.C.F.-Burnaby) filed notice of motion in the House asking for early provision of adequate facilities for psychopathic observation and treatment of mentally sick persons.

LABOR PARLEY UNITES FOR ACT

Rejects Winch Plan in Favor of Canada-wide Measure.

(By Daily Province Staff Correspondent.)
VICTORIA, Nov. 1.—All represented shades of labor, from radical to moderate, presented a solid front here Sunday by agreeing upon legislation aimed to protect the workingman's right to organize without interference by employers.

Without dissent and amid wild applause, 115 delegates from ninety labor unions, meeting in the Forsters' Hall, were resolved that the Freedom of Trade Union Association Act be presented in the Legislature this week.

The meeting also authorized efforts to revive the British Columbia Federation of Labor, defunct since 1923. Two committees were delegated to draw up a constitution for the proposed federation.

The proposed act has already been adopted in Nova Scotia and Manitoba, while Alberta, Quebec and Ontario were reported to have enacted legislation in the same direction.

FOR COLLECTIVE EFFORT.

It provides that a trade union shall mean any association or organization of employees "free from undue influence, domination, restraint or interference by employers."

It empowers employees to bargain collectively and makes it unlawful for any employer, either verbally or in writing, to restrain an employee from exercising his right to organize.

It makes any individual employer violating these terms by threat or intimidation liable to a fine of \$100 or thirty days' imprisonment, while a corporation is liable to a fine of \$1000.

In the case of a corporation, where any fine is imposed but not paid, the responsible officer or officers would be held as personally liable.

UNIFORM MEASURE.

Unanimous approval of these terms followed a recommendation by Delegate E. H. Morrison, chairman of the resolutions' committee, who pointed out that they had been drawn up by the Trades & Labor Congress of Canada as a uniform act for all provinces.

The committee, he said, had carefully considered this act side by side with the Winch Act, prepared by Harold E. Winch, C. C. F. member for Vancouver East. The Winch Act seemed to them less suitable at the present stage, since it compelled collective bargaining and permitted "peaceful picketing" as well as providing penalties.

"The committee feel that it might be attacked legally with success," said Mr. Morrison.

TO PRESS FOR PASSAGE.

Various delegates spoke in support of the committee's view, and it was pointed out that if the suggested legislation were adopted, necessary amendments could be introduced, year by year.

V. R. Midgeley, secretary of the convention, took the matter another step forward by moving that a committee of five should present the bill to the government.

Of the nine members nominated to serve on this committee the five named were W. S. Atkinson, United Mineworkers, Nanaimo; Charles Chivers, Carpenters' Union, Victoria; Edward A. Jamieson, president Trades and Labor Council, Vancouver, and chairman Musicians' Union; W. H. Youhill, president Victoria Trades and Labor Council, and

William Page, Building Trades Council, Vancouver.

This committee, with five provincial executives of the B. C. Trades and Labor Councils, will meet the government Tuesday morning.

The provincial executives are E. H. Morrison, Electrical Workers' Union of Vancouver; Percy Bengough, vice-president Trades and Labor Congress of Canada; Charles Stewart, Street Railwaymen's Union, Vancouver; Birt Showler, Teamsters' Union, Vancouver, and Harry Pearson, Pressmen's Union, Vancouver.

YOUTH NOT REPRESENTED.

First note of dissent crept into the meeting with an objection that youth was not represented on either committee.

"We know the old-timers have the experience but they need the enthusiasm of the youngsters," said one delegate.

"We must have young blood," said another.

"Yes," answered Birt Showler, "but the youngsters have not had their fingers burned, as the old-timers have. And they are bound to get them burned until they have had more experience."

Rival merits of youth and age gave way to a suggestion that the committee of five appointed by the convention should be instructed to draw up plans for the formation of a B.C. Federation of Labor.

COMMITTEE FROM FLOOR.

Several delegates objected on the ground that at Saturday's meeting it was decided a committee should be chosen from the floor of the house for that purpose, but their objections were not sustained by the vote. Mr. Midgeley, who was first elected to the committee, said he would be unable to serve, so Mr. Page was appointed in his place.

Proceeding to other business, the convention unanimously adopted a motion that all schoolbooks should be printed by the King's Printer in Victoria and issued, at cost, to students; and that the government should purchase their copyright.

MOTION REJECTED.

It was moved that, owing to the increased cost of living, the former provincial public works scale of 50 cents be restored.

The resolutions committee, however, voted non-concurrence and submitted a substitute resolution to the effect that all work by the provincial public works be done under a fair wage clause, the same as Dominion public works. This met with approval.

DEFEAT BY UN

Government To Re-Labor

(By Daily Province)

VICTORIA, government chairman last minute, to reject the Trade

ove: the week labor of British

It was learned morning that the prepared to accept at present any would only end

At a meeting sentatives Tuesday the ministry will on the question delayed until the Legislature, which a labor act desirable to all concerned

STUDIES ARE

The government considering for so which would cost employers to all labor dispute that instead of sponsored by the fraction act should the House.

No final decision been reached considered likely to in accordance tullo's announcement commitments during the report mission, will important action before next year

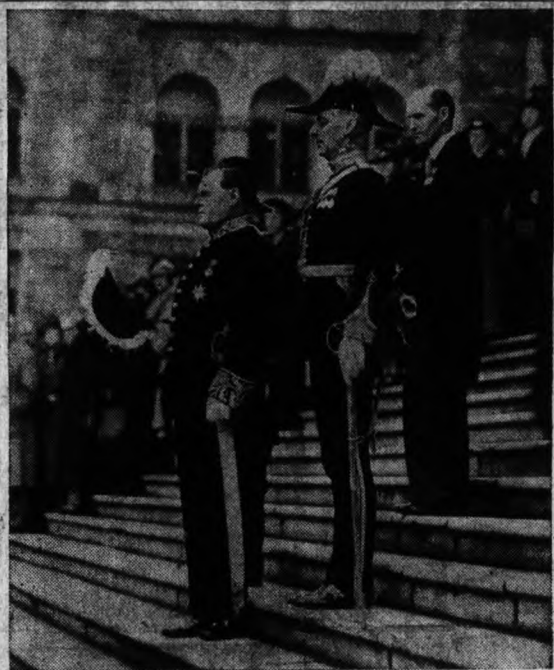
FACE DISAPPEAR

The attitude is going to pointment to la hoped to secure new act. Actual serious objections, but that it only a mental problem no real solution

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1937

Lieutenant-Governor Opens Legislature



Hon. E. W. Hamber, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, is shown above inspecting his guard of honor in front of the Parliament Buildings, yesterday afternoon. He is preceded by his two aides, Lieutenant-Commander F. R. W. R. Gow, R.C.N., and Major M. W. Turner; and walking beside him is Captain W. S. Oliver, in charge of the guard of Firs' Battalion, Canadian Scottish Regiment. Below, the Governor is taking the salute with Major Turner and A. M. D. Fairbairn, the Governor's private secretary, on the steps of the Buildings.

REVENUES AT RECORD PEAK

B.C. Collected \$28,102,612 in 1936-37, but Total Outlay Was More

Public accounts for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1937, were presented in the Provincial Legislature yesterday by Hon. John Hart, showing the highest known revenues in the history of the Treasury, but an actual deficit due to expenditures on unemployment relief, debt retirement and other factors, including omission of sinking funds.

Total revenues were reported at \$28,102,612, for an increase of \$2,480,271 over the fiscal year 1935-36. Ordinary budgeted expenditures amounted to \$24,756,237, debt redemption provision to \$657,352, and expenditures on capital account (including relief), \$6,156,167. The Treasury pointed out, however, that surpluses on ordinary account over the last three years totaled \$6,472,373, providing \$3,500,000 for debt retirement on May 15, 1936, and leaving \$2,972,373 from revenue to be applied to unemployment relief and other costs in the period.

Sinking funds provision was fully maintained on inscribed stock in Britain, but omitted with respect to \$2,487,230 in sinking funds not set up during the year.

BRIDGE OUTLAY

Expenditures attributed to capital account were detailed as follows: Highways, bridges and ferries, \$900; the new toll bridge over the Fraser River, \$2,108,367; P.G.E. Railway, \$110,000; public buildings, \$92,900; unemployment relief, placed at \$3,844,000; totalling \$6,156,167. If tolls are charged on the bridge when it is opened next month, the item of \$2,108,367 shown under that head would become recoverable.

Unemployment relief continued as the greatest single expense during the year. Total Dominion and provincial outlay for relief, including advances to municipalities, were reported at \$9,489,930, of which the total provincial outlay was placed at \$5,785,283, reduced as explained by surplus in revenue account. Dominion contributions were \$3,724,646, of which \$2,476,667 were grants-in-aid for direct relief.

Relief accounting does not match the fiscal year exactly, going backward and forward with respect to Federal advances to the Province on the one hand, and to provincial advances to municipalities on the other. The gross sum of \$9,489,930, however, is shown as expended by all agencies in British Columbia for relief during 1936-37. Municipal loans are held recoverable.

Unfunded debt as at March 31, 1937, included temporary loans to the extent of \$37,395,986, secured by Treasury bills of the Province.

The accounts will be referred to the public accounts committee of the Legislature, when standing committees have been chosen.

SESSION ADJOURNS FOLLOWING FORMAL OPENING OF HOUSE

Trade Department, Changes in Securities Law, and Extension of Mines' Training Plan Indicated in Speech From Throne—Standing Tributes—Debate to Start Tomorrow Afternoon

CREATION of a Department of Trade and Commerce, unstated amendments to the British Columbia Securities Act, and consideration of a plan to extend mines training camps to include lode operations, were indicated as Government policy in the Speech from the Throne, read by Hon. E. W. Hamber in opening the first session of the Nineteenth Legislature yesterday.

The session was opened with traditional form, appointed Norman W. Whittaker, K.C., M.P.P., as Speaker; Robert S. Yates as law clerk, took a minor Bill one stage, and adjourned until 2:30 p.m., Thursday, when the main debate will begin.

By standing, silent votes, the House expressed its deep regret at the loss of Hon. Dr. S. F. Tolmie, former Premier of the Province, and in the death of Knox Courtney, law clerk of British Columbia Assemblies since 1906; and passed resolutions of condolence which will be forwarded to those bereaved.

TRIBUTES PAID

Premier Pattullo and Dr. F. P. Patterson, Leader of the Opposition, joined in brief, sincere eulogies to the memory of Dr. Tolmie, referring to the former Premier's long and honorable association with public life in British Columbia and to the great esteem in which he had been generally held.

The Premier paid tribute to the late Mr. Courtney for long, able and unobtrusive services in many British Columbia Legislatures.

Opening day ran its usual course, with an overflow attendance on the part of the public in all galleries and by invitation on the floor of the assembly. Government supporters wore red roses in their button-holes. Conservatives attended with primroses from R. H. Pooley's garden. C.C.F. members wore red carnations. The two women members of the House, Mrs. Paul Smith and Mrs. E. P. Steeves, kept up the tradition by wearing bright corsage bouquets.

GIVES REASONS

Premier Pattullo took the House into his confidence with respect to the one-day adjournment. He intimated that as he was to receive an honorary degree as Doctor of Laws at the University of British Columbia today, he believed many members of the House would like to attend that ceremony; while, in addition, he himself desired to be present in the House to hear the addresses of the mover and seconder on the Address in Reply. With those considerations in mind, the Premier, as House leader, moved adjournment until 2:30 p.m. on Thursday.

Captain Sidney Leary, M.P.P., was named at the head of a committee to choose the customary standing committees of the Legislature.

Motions on the order paper started immediately. Harold E. Winch, M.P.P., C.C.F. whip, announced after the sitting that his group had filed motions dealing with health insurance and pensions and labor

matters which, he claimed, would insure opportunity to the C.C.F. to speak first on those subjects.

VISIT RECALLED

Read by His Honor in a clear, firm voice, the Speech from the Throne had referred to the Coronation of Their Majesties, King George and Queen Elizabeth; mentioned the visit of President and Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt on their recent goodwill mission to Victoria, and reviewed the policies of the administration accruing out of the four sittings of the Eighteenth Legislature. Indication of Government policy for the future was contained in a few brief sentences towards the close of the speech.

After the filing of routine reports, the House adjourned at 3:50 p.m., until 2:30 p.m. on Thursday.

LEGISLATURE RECONVENES

Main Debate Will Get Under Way Today Shortly After 2:30 P.M.

Opened Tuesday and adjourned, the British Columbia Legislature will resume its sittings at 2:30 p.m. today when the main debate on the Address in Reply will commence. Ald. Fred Crone (Lib., Vancouver Centre) will move and Cecil R. Bull (Lib., South Okanagan) will second the motion that His Honor be thanked. Dr. Frank P. Patterson, Leader of the Opposition, will move adjournment of debate for the day, after two members on the Government side have been heard.

Choice of a deputy speaker and introduction of minor first bills will probably follow. In the morning the committee on standing committees will meet under the chairmanship of Capt. C. S. Leary (Lib., Kaslo-Slocan), to draft standing panels for the session.

ONE DAY STAY

The House stood adjourned yesterday, while Premier Pattullo, Hon. Dr. G. M. Weir and Liberal members generally attended the convocation at the University of British Columbia, where the Premier received the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

Meanwhile, Hon. Norman W. Whittaker, K.C., newly appointed Speaker, checked over seating arrangements in the House with the sergeant-at-arms. R. W. Bruhn (Ind., Salmon Arm), was moved up beside the Conservative Opposition at his own request, and will follow this with a statement in the House as to his status at this session.

CONSIDER MOTIONS

Under advisement by Mr. Speaker, but not yet on the order paper, were three notices of motion filed by the C.C.F. opposition group. One will ask for appointment of a select committee of the House to suggest changes in the Provincial Elections Act; a second seeks increased medical services for old age pensioners; while the third is a want-of-confidence motion asking the House to declare that the administration forfeited confidence by failure to implement the provisions of the British Columbia Health Insurance Act, C.C.F. members said.

After the House adjourns for the day, the first Liberal caucus of the session will be held, it was indicated by party whips.

Deputy Speaker To Be Chosen in B.C. Legislature

R. H. CARSON (Lib., Kamloops), J. H. Forester (Lib., Burrard) and E. T. Kenney (Lib., Skeena) were being mentioned in Liberal circles yesterday as among those from whom the Legislature, resuming today, may choose a Deputy Speaker. The choice, however, rests with the Government, expected today to propose its nominee for the post in the House. Mr. Kenney was also mentioned for the post of assistant whip.

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Legislature Warned Municipal Help Is Needed Immediately

**Drivers' Tests for Fitness on Roads Forecast by
Government Spokesmen as Main Debate Opens
—Dr. Frank Patterson Adjourns Debate**

WARNING that British Columbia municipalities could not wait for the Rowell Commission to report in two years' time but would require additional assistance now was given in the British Columbia Legislature yesterday by Alderman Fred Crone (Lib., Vancouver Centre), launching the main debate.

British Columbia municipalities, he said, were still in a bad way, after reduction of provincial grants and addition of new social service charges. As Alderman Crone moved the Address in Reply, his remarks were taken to mean that there will be some measure of municipal aid offered at this session.

Elsewhere in his address, the member for Vancouver Centre forecast Government action to present legislation leading to examination of drivers for car operation licences, as well as continuation of present tests for defects in cars on the highways. He praised the Government generally for what he said was

capable management of the province's affairs in the last four years.

C. R. BULL, M.P.P.

Cecil R. Bull (Lib., South Okanagan), in seconding the Address in Reply, advocated a renewed policy of immigration into Canada; said British Columbia should take a lead in assisting resettlement of farmers from the stricken area of the Middle West; urged an economic survey of British Columbia's resources and assets, and defended agricultural marketing control as applied to tree-fruit areas of the province.

Mr. Bull challenged mildly Canada's unstated position in Empire counsels, saying statesmanship lay in preparing the people for eventualities they might some time have to face.

DEBATE CONTINUES

The debate was adjourned by Dr. Frank Patterson, Conservative chief-tain and Leader of the Opposition, who will make his maiden contribution in the House this afternoon. Colin Cameron (C.C.F., Comox) will follow.

R. H. Carson (Lib., Kamloops) was appointed deputy Speaker by the Legislature, on motion of Premier Pattullo. No legislation was offered.

The House adjourned for the day at 3:42 p.m., until 2:30 this afternoon. The Liberal caucus held its first session immediately afterwards.

**Is Deputy Speaker
Of Legislature**



ROBERT HENRY CARSON, M.P.P.

LIBERAL member for Kamloops in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Legislatures, who yesterday was the unanimous choice of the House for the post of deputy Speaker. Premier Pattullo moved the successful nomination.

INTERROGATIONS START IN HOUSE

**Motions, Calls for Returns, and
Questions Are Placed on
Order Paper**

Motions, calls for returns, and questions reached the order paper in the Provincial Legislature yesterday in a burst of activity by members of the C.C.F. opposition. Original notices of motion dealing with the Provincial Elections Act, old age pensions and a want-of-confidence move for alleged failure on the part of the Government to introduce health insurance were placed on the order paper for Monday.

The Treasury is being asked what sums, if any, were raised under authority of the B.C. Loan Act, 1936, and if so how such sums were disposed, what securities, if any, were issued under the Fraser River Bridge Act of 1935, and details of such issues.

Thomas Uphill (Labor, Fernie), is questioning the Minister of Labor as to transfers of men from his riding in 1936 and 1937, if any; and the Minister of Public Works as to what men were employed on the Wild Horse Road near Fort Steele this year.

Under consideration by Mr. Speaker was a request by Dr. Lyle Telford (C.C.F.-Vancouver-East), for a return of all correspondence, tenders and contracts in connection with timbers used for construction of the P.G.E. Railway. Also under advisement by Mr. Speaker was a C.C.F. motion seeking extension of silicosis aid under Workmen's Compensation Board control to other industries as well as metalliferous mines.

**Dr. J. J. Gillis Is
Elected Chairman
Of Liberal Caucus**

IF there are surprises in store for this session, they did not develop yesterday, when the Government met the Liberal caucus in its first work-out after the Legislature adjourned for the day. The caucus lasted an hour, but did not develop word of any major legislation. Dr. J. J. Gillis (Lib., Yale), was re-elected chairman of the caucus, while Captain Sidney Leary (Lib., Kaslo-Slocan), was reappointed chief whip.

B.C. Legislature Hears Opposition In First Attacks

Conservative and C.C.F. Groups Open Guns on Administrative Policies, as House Recesses for Week-End—Standing Committees Named, But No Fresh Legislation Advanced

RISING for its first week-end recess, the Nineteenth Legislature adjourned yesterday until 2:30 p.m. on Monday, with no fresh legislation and little indication of Government policy before its members. Ministerial benches received their first baptism of fire during the day in a two-way broadside from Conservative and C.C.F. Opposition groups. Herbert Ansoncomb (Conservative, Victoria) and Colin Cameron (C.C.F., Comox) spoke on the main debate, which was adjourned by

Mrs. Paul Smith (Liberal, Burrard). Standing committees were named.

Dr. Frank Patterson, Conservative chief and leader of the Opposition, will speak later in the debate, being prevented yesterday by minor indisposition. Speaking without much notice in his place, Herbert Ansoncomb delivered a vigorous and telling attack, which won him a hearty round of desk-thumping from all sides of the House at the close of a thoughtful address.

HERBERT ANSONCOMB, M.P.P.

The Government, said Mr. Ansoncomb, was a minority one, with less than 40 per cent of the electorate behind it. The Speech from the Throne had given little explanation of intent for the future, while performances on the pledges of the past had left much to be desired. The Government had not produced "work and wages"; no practical solution had been forthcoming for unemployment, and jobless men had, on the contrary, been jailed for begging on the streets.

Yukon annexation had been held out before the electorate as a prize, but if British Columbia took over the Yukon with an annual Federal subsidy of \$125,000 for five years, it would find the liabilities outweighed the advantages of that arrangement, in his opinion. With the scheme would go provincial taxation for unwilling Yukoners, and a separate-schools issue for the people of British Columbia.

DUPLICATION

A Provincial Department of Trade and Commerce, continued Mr. Ansoncomb, would be merely duplication of efficient present Federal services, and, perhaps, a few more government jobs for friends of the administration in power.

Though warned by its own forestry corps of serious depletion of timber stocks, the Province has done nothing effective to bring about a practical measure of conservation. Cathedral Grove was still in private hands, and virgin timber on the West Coast of Vancouver Island was being removed, with prospect of further extended raids in future. Six miles of timber along the projected route of the West Coast road should at least be preserved, he suggested.

Deferring the detailed case for municipal aid to be dealt with by Alderman Dr. J. D. Hunter later, Mr. Ansoncomb reminded the Administration that its revenues had recovered from \$20,000,000 to \$28,000,000, with a restoration of less than \$700,000 to the municipalities, in the face of added actual and putative social service costs for civic taxpayers to

VICTORIA CASE

He stressed the need for a Capital City grant to Victoria, in lieu of unrecognized public services paid for by the city on large holdings of Provincial property here.

Aid given seventy-eight British Columbia municipalities as a whole had measured less than the Province had received in the interim subsidy of \$750,000 per annum, secured by the former Administration from Ottawa, after representations to Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett, then Prime Minister.

The Rowell Commission offered no solution to the municipalities, but might bring official delay in the Government's promised aid to a total of six years, counting from the date of the initial election pledges. Meanwhile, some municipalities were in a bad way; and every possibility of repudiation would weaken the credit of the Province itself, Mr. Ansoncomb said.

BACK CIVIC AID

"The Conservative party will support any sound legislation which will place the municipalities of the province on a sound basis; and since the revenues of the Province have improved by \$8,000,000 since the pit of the depression, there is no valid reason why this should not already have been done. We say it should be done now, at this session, and before the municipalities budget for next year," Mr. Ansoncomb declared.

"We think that there should be a redivision of taxation now, by the Legislature itself, without waiting for the Rowell Commission to report," the member for Victoria added.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Turning to health insurance, Mr. Ansoncomb declared the Government had launched an unworkable scheme by statute, and let the statute lie idle, while \$100,000 had been advanced to foster the plan and an expensive commission set up with high salaries and virtually nothing to do. A meaningless plebiscite had been taken, and after the Government had that result in hand nothing could be done with it.

In traveling expenses, the ministry had excelled itself, the member for Victoria continued. Public accounts for the year closed showed that a total of \$22,000 had been spent by ministers in trips to various destinations. This perambulation has cost the taxpayers at the rate of \$9.25 per minute for each working day of eight hours.

STILL GOING BEHIND

"The Conservative party is pledged to support every possible reduction in the cost of government, where such reduction is sound and equitable

We say that it is nothing short of outrageous that with revenues \$8,000,000 more than they were during the depths of the depression, the Government should still be going behind millions per year," Mr. Ansoncomb declared.

Dealing briefly with the toll bridge over the Fraser River at New Westminster, the member for Victoria said the administration had sought unsuccessfully for a \$2,000,000 grant at Ottawa, and now proposed to sell the existing rail bridge and ask a transfer of part of the new debt to the general taxpayers, without any relief from old liabilities on the original structure still in daily use. Was this, he asked, a bait put before the House to facilitate fulfillment of election pledges to new Westminster?

In general, concluded Mr. Ansoncomb, the administration had taken great credit for the recovery of semi-prosperous times, while all facts showed such recovery was the result of Dominion treaties and world markets.

COLIN CAMERON, M.P.P.

Colin Cameron, following for the C.C.F., made a vigorous speech in which he decried lack of attention to unemployment, and the realization on the part of the Province that that constituted a major problem which had to be faced. He quoted Hon. W. D. Herridge in a speech in which the latter had said that there could be no compromise on the issue; that countries could only go forward by new economic planning to an era of abundance, or back to "scandalous scarcity," with the assurance that the threat of unrest would become an active, dangerous force.

The member for Comox asserted he had been blocked from visiting workers in some logging camps in his riding by reason of company action. If democracy was to mean anything, it would have to be used in daily practice, and not saved for an election tidbit once every four years, Mr. Cameron concluded.

Mrs. Paul Smith adjourned debate for the day and will be followed on Monday by Alderman Dr. J. D. Hunter (Conservative, Victoria), and, in turn, by Harold E. Winch (C.C.F., Vancouver East).

Replying to a question by R. L. Maitland, K.C., M.P.P., Premier Pattullo undertook to place the Macdonald Commission's report on coal and fuel oil before the Legislature as soon as the Government has read the document. The report would be tabled at this session, the Premier volunteered. Mr. Maitland asked that the House have access to the report at an early date. The House adjourned at 4 p.m. until 2:30 p.m. on Monday.

Showing Forestry Films — Films dealing with work under the British Columbia Forest Branch will be shown before the Forestry Committee of the Legislature on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. at the Maple Room, Legislative Buildings. Captain Sidney Leary, M.P.P., chairman of the committee, said yesterday. Members of the House are invited, generally.

Members Returning—Two members missing from the British Columbia Legislature may be back in their seats on Monday, it was said yesterday at the Legislative Buildings. Hon. George S. Pearson is returning from Ottawa, where he discussed relief and labor matters with the Dominion Government; and George M. Murray (Lib., Lillooet) is crossing the Pacific from the Far East, where he went on a private trade mission.

COMMITTEES ARE CHOSEN

Government Offers Chairmanship of Private Bills To H. G. Perry

The Government extended an olive branch to H. G. Perry, M.P.P., former Speaker of the Legislature and mentioned at one time as possible choice for Minister of Trade and Commerce, yesterday by naming him first on the legislative committee on standing orders and private bills, a position which usually implies chairmanship of that important committee.

Captain Sidney Leary, M.P.P., reporting to the House from the committee on committees, produced the following line-up, which the Legislature forthwith approved:

COMMITTEES

Standing Orders and Private Bills—Messrs. Perry, Crone, Straith, (Mrs.) Smith, Forester, Connelly, Bryan, Tupper, Henniger, H. E. Winch, (Mrs.) Steeves, Telford, Maitland and Ansoncomb.

Municipal Matters—Messrs. Burns, Putnam, Henniger, Carson, (Mrs.) Smith, Gillis, Tupper, Straith, Forester, Shepherd, (Mrs.) Steeves, Hunter, Ansoncomb and Eyres.

Public Accounts—Messrs. Kenney, Burns, Asselstine, Crone, Putnam, King, Bull, Tupper, Leary, Carson, Johnston LeBourdais, Straith, Bruhn, Telford, H. E. Winch, Patterson, Maitland and Ansoncomb.

Mining—Messrs. Asselstine, LeBourdais, Burns, Kenney, Putnam, Henniger, Connolly, Johnston, Leary, Murray, Uphill, Bruhn, Guthrie, Cameron, Paton and Finland.

FORESTRY

Forestry—Messrs. Leary, Johnston, Connelly, King, Braden, Carson, Straith, Bruhn, Cameron, Guthrie, Patterson and Macintosh. Fisheries—Messrs. Gillis, Bryan, Forester, Kenney, Murray, Asselstine, Cameron, E. E. Winch, Macintosh and Paton.

Agriculture—Messrs. LeBourdais, Bull, Connelly, Braden, Murray, Gillis, Shepherd, Telford, Eyres and Macintosh.

Railways—Messrs. Tupper, Murray, Perry, King, Braden, Crone, Forester, E. E. Winch, Telford and Finland.

Printing—Mrs. Smith, Messrs. Bryan, Murray, Perry, Bull, E. E. Winch and Paton.

Reject Beer Vote—Announcing a plebiscite on beer by the glass in licensed premises taken by the Province in the Popkum and Rosedale divisions of Chilliwack electorate district recently, the Provincial Secretary reported eighty persons voted in favor of the measure and 304 against it. There will be no beer sale in Popkum and Rosedale divisions, in consequence.

ORDER P HOUSE

Opposition Asks National Facilities Are Me

Provincial cre facilities for pres tion and treatm persons, is the motion filed t speaker by E. (Burnaby). Onl paper at presen to amend the t ants' Act. Que however, are b volume.

Dr. Lyle Telf (ver East) wa Legislature to i tion of the Na keting Act. Legislature dic ago. He has the order pape the statute a the House c culture.

R. L. Maitlan (Grey), catchin tion, has given questions to I Public Works General, on Maitland is q construction, sums spent c press, as well of road projec The question in proof, and Mr. Speaker.

ORDER PAPER IN HOUSE SWELLING

Opposition Asks Creation of Additional Facilities for Those Who Are Mentally Sick

Provincial creation of "adequate facilities for psychopathic observation and treatment of mentally sick persons, is the subject of notice of motion filed this week with Mr. Speaker by E. E. Winch (C.C.F., Burnaby). Only one bill is on the paper at present, being a measure to amend the Landlords and Tenants' Act. Questions and motions, however, are being filed in some volume.

Dr. Lyle Telford (C.C.F., Vancouver East) wants the Nineteenth Legislature to investigate the operation of the Natural Products Marketing Act, as the Eighteenth Legislature did in its turn a year ago. He has placed a motion on the order paper asking reference of the statute and its operation to the House committee on agriculture.

R. L. Maitland, K.C. (Cons., Point Grey), catching up on his information, has given notice of forty-four questions to Ministers of Finance, Public Works and the Attorney-General, on Tuesday next. Mr. Maitland is questioning loans, road construction, club licences and sums spent on advertising in the press, as well as going after work of road projects by separate ridings. The questions occupy four galleys in proof, and have been allowed by Mr. Speaker.

LEGISLATURE WILL RESUME

Victoria's Third Member Will Be Heard on Debate Tomorrow Afternoon

After a quiet first week, in which it was suggested in the House that the Province would test automobile drivers, and outside the House that half of the tolls may be lifted from the Pattullo Bridge, the Legislature will resume its sittings at 2:30 p.m. tomorrow. Mrs. Paul Smith (Liberal, Burrard), Alderman Dr. J. D. Hunter (Conservative, Victoria), and Harold E. Winch (C.C.F., Vancouver East) are to join in the main debate in that order.

It is unofficially expected that the coming week will exhaust the debate, and that the budget may be brought down early in the week after that.

TALK REORGANIZATION

Rumors of Cabinet change, revolving about long-announced intention to create a Department of Trade and Commerce, are current in circles close to the ministry, but have not been mentioned by spokesmen for the Government. William J. Asselstine (Liberal, Atlin) has more than once been mentioned as a possible successor to Hon. G. S. Pearson in the portfolio of mines on the unofficial assumption that Mr. Pearson, now carrying three departments, may wish to lighten the load.

Decisions, however, will rest with Premier Pattullo, when and if reorganization of the Cabinet takes place. The Premier so far has said merely that a Department of Trade and Commerce would be created at this session, with charge also over tourist trade activities.

LITTLE LEGISLATION

In legislation, the House has before it Bill No. 1, being an amendment in the Landlords and Tenants Act, to change "and" for "or" in one clause of the existing measure. This was the measure used for ceremonial purposes on the first day.

The Liberal caucus will hold its next meeting on Monday evening, party whips have said.

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1937

NEW B.C.

LEGISLATURE OPENS

SESSION

Throne Speech Delivered By Lieutenant-Governor As House Gathers Here

Light List of Legislation
Foreshadowed in Throne
Address

Debate Thursday

Formation of the new Department of Trade and Industry, forecast months ago by Premier Pattullo, and amendments to the Securities Act and Mining Act were the only definite pieces of legislation foreshadowed in the Speech from the Throne at the opening of the British Columbia Legislature this afternoon.

In the new department, the Speech said, "stress will be laid upon the tourist industry, and endeavor will be made to assist industry generally in expanding business and extending trade."

Following is the full text of the Speech delivered by Lieutenant-Governor E. W. Hamber:

"Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:

"I welcome you to the first Session of the Nineteenth Parliament of British Columbia.

"A year ago reference was made to the unrest prevailing in many parts of the world. It is to be regretted that this unrest continues and we now find several nations engaged in physical combat with its attendant suffering and destruction, and the greatest apprehension exists that other nations may become involved. Notwithstanding these unsettling events, business conditions in our Province of British Columbia continue to show improvement, and, unless some untoward contingency arises, this improvement should be maintained.

"The year was marked by the Coronation of our Most Gracious Sovereign King George VI and also that of Her Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth. In no part of

the commonwealth were the ceremonies, attendant upon the Coronation, observed with greater affection and loyalty than in this Province. It was my privilege and pleasure to represent British Columbia at the Coronation ceremonies in London.

"His Excellency The Lord Tweedsmuir, Governor-General of Canada, accompanied by Her Excellency, The Lady Tweedsmuir, has again visited British Columbia, and upon this occasion it was our privilege to be able to show Their Excellencies something of the scenic grandeur of the park in Central British Columbia which bears His Excellency's name.

"Last month my Government had the pleasure of entertaining Franklin Delano Roosevelt, President of the United States, and Mrs. Roosevelt, upon the occasion of an informal visit to British Columbia. I am sure that our people deeply appreciate the goodwill visit of the President and Mrs. Roosevelt.

"My Government made various representations to the Dominion Government regarding the necessity of appointing a Royal Commission to investigate the financial relations of the Provinces and the Dominion, and to review generally the jurisdictions of the federal and provincial authorities. Such a Royal Commission has been appointed by the Dominion Government and my Government will present its case fully to the Commission.

"The mining industry experienced the best year in its history through a broadening diversification in mineral production. Our mining industry is today in a better position to meet changing world conditions and consequently to assure stabilization in the industry than at any time in the history of the Province.

"Encouragement to go into the hills prospecting has been given to a number of men who were on relief.

By the purchase of gold, assistance has been given to the small prospector and operator.

The establishment of placer training camps has encouraged numbers of our people to interest themselves in the mining industry.

The lecture courses in mining continue to attract great interest.

We are experimenting in the establishment of ore purchasing and sampling plants to help the small operator to get into production by making it possible for him to sell his small ore production to advantage.

Consideration is being given to the establishment of lode prospecting and training camps to supplement the work carried on in the placer-mining camps.

A great deal of progress has been made in opening up mining areas through a programme of road and trail construction, carried on jointly by the Dominion and provincial governments.

Amendments will be made to various Mining Acts. This is essentially to meet changing conditions, and our Mining Acts will be consolidated in order to make it easier for prospectors and operators entering the mining industry thoroughly to understand the rights and obligations existing under our mining laws.

In the field of labor, it is gratifying that no untoward events have occurred in our province during the year. Our laws and the administration of them have been beneficial to employers and employees alike.

My government has continued its progressive policy of road improvement and surfacing, and during the year there was a marked increase in the number of visitors using our highways. A joint programme of main road construction was carried on by my government under arrangement with the Dominion Government.

My government is pleased to announce that the highway bridge

over the Fraser River at New Westminster is nearing completion and will be open to traffic some time in November.

Revision of the programme of studies for all standards of schools has been completed. The new programme has been warmly welcomed and it is hoped will in practice give general satisfaction.

The physical and recreational training for youths over school age, now furnished in 58 centres, continues to meet with much favor, and there has been an enrolment of more than 10,000.

In the field of health and welfare services, much advancement has been made.

Improvement in business conditions has been reflected in the revenues received by the Provincial Treasury.

A measure will be laid before you to create a Department of Trade and Industry. Several activities now carried on by various departments will be co-ordinated in a single department. Stress will be laid upon the tourist industry, and endeavor will be made to assist industry generally in expanding business and extending trade.

Amendments will be made to the "Securities Act," and already there has been much improvement in the administration of the act through the appointment of a

special officer to give his time exclusively to this work.

Amendments to various acts will be submitted to you.

The public accounts will be submitted and estimates for the ensuing year will be laid before you.

In leaving you, I pray that Divine Providence may guide you and bless the fruit of your labors.

Constitutional Ritual Is Carried Out in Legislative Chamber Speaker Elected

Before crowded galleries and a large number of guests on the floor of the House, His Honor Lieutenant-Governor E. W. Hamber this afternoon opened the first session of British Columbia's 19th Legislative Assembly.

The ancient traditions of Parliament were observed, and Norman W. Whittaker, K.C., member for Saanich, chosen Speaker of the House.

After hearing the Speech from the Throne and carrying out the customary formalities, the new assembly, elected June 1, adjourned until Thursday when the opening debate will commence with Alderman Fred Crone, Liberal, Vancouver Centre, and Capt. C. R. Bull, Liberal, South Okanagan, moving and seconding the address in reply.

Colorful ceremonies marked the opening, heightened by the scarlet, blue and gold uniforms of the guards and honorary aides to His Honor.

In Windsor uniform the Lieutenant-Governor reached the Legislative Buildings from Government House promptly at 3. He was accompanied by his two aides, Major M. W. Turner and Lieut-Commander F. R. W. R. Gow, R.N.

15-GUN SALUTE

As His Honor's car drove into the entrance to the grounds, two sections of 18-pounders drawn up along the curb on Belleville Street boomed out a 15-gun salute. The saluting unit was provided by the Fifth Heavy Battery, Royal Canadian Artillery, in charge of Lieut. M. F. McIntosh.

The dull boom of the guns resounded in the Legislative Chamber where the members and general public awaited the arrival of His Honor.

Before entering the buildings the Lieutenant-Governor inspected a kilted guard of honor at the entrance. It was furnished by the First Battalion, Canadian Scottish Regiment, and was in charge of Capt. W. S. Oliver.

Premier T. D. Pattullo, starting his 22nd consecutive session, met His Honor at the top of the entrance steps. Between lines of uniformed officers they walked to the executive chamber until informed by the deputy-sergeant-at-arms that the House was ready.

Going into the assembly hall, the Lieutenant-Governor was preceded by his two aides and private secretary, with the Prime Minister following behind and the procession of officers, headed by the heads of the naval and military headquarters.

CHOOSING THE SPEAKER

The formula for choosing the Speaker was then carried out. Hon. G. M. Weir, Provincial Secretary, announced that His Honor did not see fit to read the Speech until the House had named a presiding officer, and Mr. Hamber went out again, back to the executive chamber.

As soon as he left, Premier Pattullo moved, seconded by Dr. Frank Patterson, Leader of the Opposition, that Mr. Whittaker be the Speaker. Mr. Whittaker, after

expressing his thanks for the honor, declared a short recess while he went out to his chambers to don the black robes and tri-cornered hat of office.

After the ceremony of the Speaker taking his seat, the Premier left to escort His Honor back. This time the Sergeant-at-Arms, carrying the mace, met His Honor at the bar of the House and preceded him to the throne.

Then came the little dialogue in which Mr. Speaker assured the Lieutenant-Governor that he has but small qualifications to fill the high office and that if he ever falls into error the fault shall be his and not the Assembly's. He also made the claim for freedom of speech in debates and "seasonable access to Your Honor's person," to which the Provincial Secretary, replying for the Lieutenant-Governor, promised full recognition of all constitutional privileges.

Upon reading the Speech from the Throne, the Lieutenant-Governor, followed by his retinue, left the chamber. Prayers were said by Right Rev. H. E. Sexton, Bishop of Columbia.

The certificate of election of the members was read by Clerk of the House Major W. H. Langley, and entered upon the journals, and Attorney-General Gordon S. Wismer, who holds that portfolio for his first session, introduced Bill No. 1, "An Act to Amend the Landlords and Tenants Act." This piece of business signifies that the affairs of the people are of first importance.

The other formalities were resolutions setting out that the Speech should be considered next sitting, authority for the printing of votes and proceedings and the appointment of select standing committees.

Annual reports of various departments were filed and, after a resolution of sympathy with the family of the late Hon. S. F. Tolmie, former premier of the province, the House adjourned until 2.30 on Thursday.

Big Part of Relief Paid From Revenue

Public Accounts Show Improvement in Government Finances Last Year

Provincial revenues, reaching a new high level, placed British Columbia's finances at the end of the last fiscal year, March 31, in a more favorable position than for years, according to the public accounts tabled in the Legislature today by Hon. John Hart, Minister of Finance.

Except for \$2,467,230 not provided in the sinking funds, and \$1,706,603 in direct relief costs, the government paid out of its revenues the entire cost of government exclusive of capital borrowings for works.

Capital expenditures amounted to \$6,156,167.41, including \$3,844,000 for unemployment relief and \$2,108,367 on the Fraser River Bridge.

In brief the following summary is given of the year's financing: Total ordinary expenditures, including debt redemption, \$25,413,589.91; revenue surplus spent on relief, \$2,689,022.57; capital expenditure of all kinds, including part of relief costs, \$6,156,167.41; grand total of all expenditure, \$34,258,779.89.

To meet this expenditure there were current revenues of \$28,102,612.48 and the remainder was paid out of borrowings.

The gross increase in debt, as shown by the balance sheet was \$5,022,700.

The balance sheet shows also an increase of assets amounting to \$13,230,180 with an increase of liabilities of \$11,644,197, giving an increase in excess assets over liabilities of \$1,485,983.

Total outstanding debentures, treasury bills and other stock at the end of March is shown as \$183,022,247, against \$178,001,547 the previous year.

This debt includes the following items: B.C. stock and debentures, \$125,386,236; treasury bills to the bank \$6,050,906; treasury bills to the Dominion Government \$31,345,079, and \$80,025 in the mortgage on B.C. House in London. Treasury bills owed to the Dominion increased \$3,800,000 during the year.

In a new statement put into the accounts, Mr. Hart reveals that the aggregate revenue surpluses in the three years ending last March 31 were \$6,472,373. Out of this a debt maturity of \$3,500,000 was paid on May 15, 1936, leaving \$2,972,373 to be applied on relief costs.

The swelling provincial revenues last year were reflected all down the line.

The income and personal property tax produced \$6,777,424, an all-time record, compared with \$5,986,834 in the previous year.

The government liquor board turned over \$3,607,315 in profits against \$3,061,908.

The gasoline tax produced \$2,719,710 and the motor license fees \$2,627,179, or a total of \$5,346,889 collected from the motoring public, compared with \$4,823,846 the previous year.

The various levies on timber produced \$2,983,391, against \$2,822,456.

One important source of revenue showing a decrease was

the succession duties, which were off from \$1,067,101 to \$825,047, but land taxes were up from \$1,434,500 to \$1,507,502 and rural school levies produced \$663,757, against \$596,764.

The provincial revenue as a whole was \$3,800,000 better than estimated in the provincial budget, estimates being \$24,312,541 and actual collections \$28,102,612.

Ordinary expenditures exceeded estimates by \$1,300,000, being \$25,413,589, against an estimate of \$24,192,594.

The ordinary expenditure was \$2,170,000 higher than in fiscal 1935-36, and revenues were \$2,250,000 higher than in that year.

The largest increases in expenditure over the previous year were: \$1,000,000 more on public works, \$686,000 in the provincial secretary's department, largely for hospital grants, pensions to mothers, superannuation costs, mental hospitals and the provincial board of health, and \$330,000 more for education, mostly in per capita grants for teachers' salaries.

Legislature Pays Tolmie Tribute

A standing silent vote of tribute to the late Hon. S. F. Tolmie, Premier of British Columbia from 1928 to 1933, was passed by the British Columbia Legislature at the opening this afternoon.

Moved by Premier Pattullo and seconded by Dr. Frank Patterson, Leader of the Opposition, the resolution read:

"That this House expresses its sincere regret at the death of Simon Fraser Tolmie, for many years member for Victoria in the House of Commons, formerly Minister of Agriculture in the federal House, and Prime Minister of British Columbia from 1928 to 1933, and who for so long devoted himself to the services of the Dominion and of this province; and that the clerk do convey to the family of the late Simon Fraser Tolmie the condolences and sincere sympathy of the Legislative Assembly."

The members stood silent, with bowed heads when the resolution was put to the House.

Opens House



Lieut-Governor E. W. Hamber in Windsor Uniform.

HIGHLY OPEN

The spacious Parliament Building well ordered and quiet, this morning with the echo of stenographic papers and boys scurried sages and as cabinet ministers leagued, whom for many months for the Legislature to

The Legislature packed with description this were comfortable solid oak, swivel in blue leather dozens of the of them a little wear, for they the opening discussions. The closely there walk between

So many invitations for B.C. Legislature officials this necessary to front rows of which in other open to the public

Getting ready the 12 pagebook morning in the one of the brass buttons, red uniforms and them, the several previous parliament rookies on the duties

The C.C.F. first into the things this morning at work in the

Dr. Patterson room occupied four sessions by nell, who was in position in the

As members the corridors of of them pause Speaker's chair address which the signature of sent to King Queen Elizabeth of their Coronation

The new Whittaker, K.C. callers in his late him on his post of arbiter of the House.

HIGHLIGHTS OF OPENING DAY

The spacious corridors of the Parliament Buildings, usually so well ordered and comparatively quiet, this morning resounded with the echo of many footsteps as stenographers made their way from one office to another, with papers and notebooks, as pageboys scurried along with messages and as the members and cabinet ministers met their colleagues, whom they had not seen for many months, as they assembled for the opening of the B.C. Legislature today.

The Legislative Chamber was packed with chairs of every description this morning. There were comfortable armchairs, in solid oak, swivel chairs finished in blue leather and there were dozens of theatre chairs, many of them a little the worse for wear, for they have done duty on the opening days of many sessions. The chairs were packed so closely there was hardly room to walk between the aisles.

So many people accepted invitations for the opening of the B.C. Legislature this year that officials this morning found it necessary to reserve the two front rows of the west gallery, which in other years, have been open to the public.

Getting ready for the opening the 12 pageboys were busy this morning in their tiny room in one of the turrets, shining the brass buttons on their blue and red uniforms and as they polished them, the seven "veterans" of previous parliaments posted the five rookies on the details of a page's duties.

The C.C.F. members were the first into the Parliament Buildings this morning and were early at work in their committee room.

Dr. Patterson took over the room occupied during the last four sessions by Rev. Robert Connell, who was Leader of the Opposition in the last Legislature.

As members walked through the corridors this morning, many of them paused next to the Speaker's chamber to read the address which the province, over the signature of Premier Pattullo, sent to King George VI and Queen Elizabeth on the occasion of their Coronation last May.

The new Speaker, Norman Whittaker, K.C., received many callers in his rooms to congratulate him on his elevation to the post of arbiter of the proceedings of the House.

Our Unbeaten Premier

WHEN HON. THOMAS DUFFERIN PATULLO met the 19th Legislature of British Columbia as its Prime Minister this afternoon it would not be surprising if he took his memory back to March 6, 1917, when the late Sir Frank Barnard, then Lieutenant-Governor, opened the first Assembly in the province to be controlled by a Liberal government. Mr. Pattullo then was Minister of Lands under Hon. Harlan Carey Brewster and today he is the only Minister of the Crown who has held office continuously in subsequent Liberal administrations. He was elected as Prince Rupert's representative in the general election in the late summer of 1916, when the Bowser regime was almost completely snowed under.

From the swearing in of the Brewster government in November, 1916, Mr. Pattullo occupied the portfolio of Lands in that and the Oliver and MacLean regimes. The defeat of Dr. MacLean, his party as well as himself, in 1928, resulted in the choice of Liberal leader falling upon the former Minister of Lands. During the longest time any government had clung to office—more than five years—the member for Prince Rupert carried out the more or less thankless duties of Leader of the Opposition with a quality of toleration and skill which obviously convinced the electorate they had made a mistake at the polls when, in 1928, they felt it was "time for a change." They made no mistake when they elected Mr. Pattullo and his party to office in 1933 with an overwhelming majority and repeated the job last June. Mr. Pattullo can look back on the unique record of holding the same ministerial post under three Premiers, from the early winter of 1916 to the summer of 1928, and that of Prime Minister himself from the early winter of 1933 to the present.

It is to be noted in recalling these facts that to keep Mr. Pattullo company as real old-timers of the Legislature are Hon. John Hart, Minister of Finance, and Hon. K. C. MacDonald, Minister of Agriculture, the former one of "Victoria's Four" elected at the general election in 1916 and the latter chosen by the electors of North Okanagan as their representative. On the death of Hon. Ralph Smith, first Liberal Minister of Finance in British Columbia, Mr. Hart was selected to fill the post. The by-election was lively, between the Minister and the late Dr. Ernest Hall, Mr. Hart gaining his victory with a comfortable majority on a small poll. Dr. MacDonald was not as fortunate when, having been appointed to the portfolio of Provincial Secretary in the summer of 1924, he went back to his constituents but was not successful at the polls. He declined the nomination in 1928 solely on that account. But North Okanagan sought his return to the fray in 1933, elected him then and again last June. Mr. Hart retired from public life before the 1924 contest and resumed his private business. Like Dr. MacDonald, however, he was prevailed upon again to try his luck in the battle of ballots. He won handsomely and since November 15, 1933, he has earned for himself a reputation as keeper of the public purse of this province of which he may well be proud.

Premier Pattullo's ministerial record boasts an interesting feature in that he is the first Liberal Minister in British Columbia never to have been defeated. Prince Rupert has been as loyal to him as he has been to the electors of that highly-important and thriving section of the province. This makes him also the first Liberal Prime Minister who so far has not had to look elsewhere for a seat after polling on a general election day. The late Premier Oliver, at the height of his career, was turned down by the electors in Victoria in 1924, the Liberal victor in Nelson voluntarily vacating his seat in his favor. Premier MacLean, after only a year in office as the head of the government, was also defeated in Victoria when his party was eclipsed in 1928.

Thus after 21 years of active service to the public of the province—12 as Minister of Lands, five as Leader of the Opposition, and four as Prime Minister—Premier Pattullo, despite his 64 years, must have looked to the large assemblage which filled the Legislative Chamber today good for many more sessions. At any rate, those who agree with him and those who differ from him will wish him well—many years of usefulness and continued good health.

Shocked Into Action

THE FIRST BIT OF ENCOURAGING news from the B.C. Legislative halls as the members assemble for another session, is that Hon. Wells Gray, Minister of Lands, will move to have the export of unmanufactured logs from this province stopped.

Mr. Gray says he is shocked at the prospect of the huge export to Japan, particularly. His reaction can be no more shocking than that of persons who for some time have been noting the loading at up-land ports of ocean vessels with our No. 1 fir—our best timber going out as raw logs to keep mills busy and employ labor in other parts of the world. This is the timber of which our forestry department tells us we have only 12 to 15 years' supply left. It is hard to believe that we have been so shortsighted as to have tolerated such an industrially suicidal policy without moving to do anything. It must be admitted that until now no real effort has been made to stop it.

It has been said on behalf of preceding administrations, which have been inert in the matter of conserving our resources in this respect, that the provincial authority was powerless to stop the export. Lack of power has been offered in the past as a reason for inaction on other matters that required attention. But the record would seem to indicate that such a reason has held good only until pressure of public opinion or other circumstances forced authorities to find a way.



To-morrow

Debate on the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne starts; to be moved by Alderman Fred Crone, Liberal, Vancouver Centre, and seconded by Capt. C. R. Bull, Liberal, South Okanagan. House meets at 2.30.

With the color and glamour of the opening ceremonies over, the Legislative Chamber was darkened today. The house was having a day's recess while the Premier and several of the members attended the University of B.C. congregation in Vancouver.

The new assembly has three members of the Liberal "old guard," who swept the province in 1916. When he mentioned this in the House yesterday Premier Pattullo probably knew he was setting to rights on the point newspapermen who had mentioned him as the only one left of the 1916 Liberals. The others are Hon. John Hart, Minister of Finance, and Hon. K. C. MacDonald, Minister of Agriculture. The Premier's record of service is unique in that it has been continuous since that time. The other ministers were absent from the House for some years.

Provincial law-making costs the public of British Columbia slightly more than \$100,000 a year. The expenditures in 1936 were \$108,043.

About 30 cents of every tax dollar collected by the provincial government last year went for repayment of debt. The treasury collected \$28,100,000 and from this paid out \$8,556,440 in interest and debt redemption.

It costs a lot more to elect a member from a city riding than from a country seat. Last year's by-election in Vancouver-Burrard cost \$12,215, but the Omineca by-election bill was but \$2,760.

Expenditures on the government's oil, petroleum and coal fuel commission up to last March 31, had reached a total of \$95,651, spread over three years.

The old age pension bill is mounting in British Columbia. Last year \$2,441,320 was paid to pensioners in British Columbia, up \$200,000 from the previous year. Net cost to the province was \$555,376, the rest being paid by the Dominion Government and other provinces.

The bill for mothers' pensions is rising similarly. Last year \$932,588 was distributed, an increase of \$66,000. The province got back \$238,785 of the total from municipalities.

The members of the House who got down to work this week and the cabinet ministers, are the only provincial employees now under depression pay cuts. All civil service cuts were restored last week but the members and

ministers are worrying along on a 20 per cent cut. The indemnity for members is \$1,600. It used to be \$2,000. The cabinet get \$6,000 each, where they once got \$7,500 a year.

A sincere tribute to the late C. Knox Courtney, former law clerk of the House, was paid by Premier Pattullo.

Mr. Courtney served in that capacity for many years. One of the first pieces of business was the ratification of an order-in-council appointing Robert S. Yates as the new law clerk.

In what was explained as a strategy move, the C.C.F. block of the Opposition stole a march on the Conservative wing by filing notices of motion immediately dealing with health insurance, the Elections Act and old age pensions.

The health insurance motion, under the name of Mrs. D. G. Steeves, North Vancouver, is a straight want of confidence motion in the government for failing to put health insurance into force after the favorable result of the plebiscite June 1.

A select committee of the House to study the workings of the Elections Act and recommend changes is urged in a resolution by Harold Winch, Vancouver East. The third motion calls for the House to consider the provision of medical aid for old age pensioners. It stands in the name of Ernest Winch, Burnaby.

As explained by Harold Winch, C.C.F. whip, these motions will reserve the right to the C.C.F. to speak first on the subjects covered.

Loose Ends

By BRUCE HUTCHISON

DAY-OLD CHICKS

ALL NEW legislatures look the same, like chicks newly hatched. You can never tell, in their day-old state, what they will grow into, what strange feathers they may sprout and what they may lose in their little life of four short years.

This 19th Legislature, as we saw it from the galleries Tuesday, seemed precisely like the 18th. And yet, under the surface, behind the morning coats, the grey ties and the gay buttonholes, how different! How different this calm, serene Legislature of prosperous times from its predecessor which came in here four years ago, aflame with protest and heavy with gigantic solutions, which went out as softly as a sigh!

But who can tell, looking down on the new Legislature in its Sunday clothes and party manners, how it will behave in its working clothes, when the gold braid has disappeared and all its early illusions have been rubbed thin? Who can tell how this Legislature may ignite before it dies, in what condition it may leave the statute books and the treasury, how it may go out four years from now?

Nobody could tell anything about it in its opening day. Here was party intermingled with party, friend and enemy elbow to elbow to make room for distinguished visitors on the floor of the House. Here were Liberal members distinguishable only by the red roses in their lapels, C.C.F. men with red carnations (which are supposed to be less orthodox and certainly are less expensive), Conservatives with humble primroses, quite free, from the never-falling Esquimalt garden of good old Harry Pooley.

NEW FACES

IT WAS the new men in the crush that one tried to discover and calculate. Here was Dr. Telford, white-maned, smiling, amply-built, the mildest-looking man on the floor, patting the back of the truest blue Tory, Mr. Anscob. What was behind his mild look? What assault on the government was he meditating, what eries that will ring through the province? That the government would like to know.

It would like to know, too, what lay behind the square, grey, poker face of Dr. Patterson and his little band of Conservatives, as immaculate as the government, in strictly conventional cut-away coats. Between them, what would these two distinct oppositions try to do to the government, each striving to outstrip the other, each properly seeking to steal the show?

And what of the new back-bench members? Have we material here for future governments, unknown leaders, giants yet untested?

Here was Sam Guthrie, that good old-time Socialist, his red hair now grey, but his working class loyalty undimmed.

Here were Louis Labourdais, that beloved native son of the central plateau, off the Cariboo Road, middle-aged now, but looking like a boy, and handsome young McGregor Macintosh, no longer a boy either, who left an arm in France, and Captain Bull, a bronzed outdoor man from the Okanagan who also carries a coat sleeve emptied in war service, and our own Bill Straith, and Mr. Eyres of Chilliwack, the keen-looking Conservative who beat old Ed Barrow, and jolly, round-faced Mike Finland who inherited Esquimalt from Mr. Pooley, and Colin Cameron, lean and grim, from Comox, and other serious men of the C.C.F.

OLD-TIMERS

HERE WERE 19 new members who have much to learn and many disillusionments to suffer. Here were many an old-timer, too—Mr. Pattullo himself, who starts his 22nd session and who pauses with a fatherly, patriarchal smile to remind the House that in years of service he has now reached a majority, which the House should note; and white-plumed Mr. Hart and smiling Dr. MacDonald, who came in with the Premier in 1916, but moved out later.

Here was a new Attorney-General, Mr. Wismer, a grinning, happy Peter Pan of politics, who will never grow up, and behind him, in a higher sphere, his predecessor, Mr. Justice Sloan, now wearing black robes and judicial neckpiece and probably glad of it. Here were the formidable Winchs, father affable, son saturnine, handsome, dark, full of deep plans.

Here was a new Legislature reflecting, as accurately as a delicate instrument, the changed public psychology of the last four years, the better times, the lessening strains. Here was a government which has mellowed notably. And here was a touch of real neighborliness between parties, an opening-day sociability, when everyone agreed that the House should adjourn over Thursday so that Mr. Pattullo could accept a Doctor of Laws degree from the University of British Columbia.

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Sinking Funds Over \$32,000,000

Investments for Debt Redemption Shown in Public Accounts

British Columbia sinking funds, invested for redemption of debt, amounted to \$32,620,668 at last March 31, according to the public accounts tabled in the British Columbia Legislature yesterday by Hon. John Hart, Minister of Finance. This was an increase of \$1,552,710 over the amount in sinking funds at the end of the previous fiscal year. The increase is made up of interest earned during the year and \$224,052 in sinking funds on inscribed stock set aside.

The comptroller-general, in his certification of the balance sheet says:

"Deposits for the fiscal year to the credit of the Minister of Finance as trustee for the sinking funds were in arrears at March 31, 1937, to the extent of \$2,467,230.75. The aggregate arrears to March 31, 1937, amount to the sum of \$10,858,636."

The highway system of British Columbia is carried on the provincial books at a value of \$67,900,360, which is described as the replacement value. Bridges are valued at \$9,300,905, the sum of \$1,736,037 have been added during the year, which marked partial construction of the new Fraser River bridge.

Driving Tests In B.C. Planned

Bill Expected to Go Before Liberal Caucus Soon

Legislation to enforce tests on automobile drivers in British Columbia will go before the Liberal caucus shortly, it is understood at the Legislative Buildings.

This is to be part of a government campaign to cut down on the mounting toll of accidents and highway fatalities.

It is expected that, for a start, the establishment of testing stations in Victoria and Vancouver will be proposed.

Drivers would be tested by special machines, not just in ordinary automobiles. Sitting in them as if in a car, they would be tested for eyesight, reflexes and reactions to particular driving situations.

An important feature of the proposed tests would be an examination on traffic laws and driving rules. Traffic enforcement officials believe that disregard of the traffic rules, often through ignorance, is the cause of many accidents.

Notes of the Legislature



Tomorrow:
Debate on the Speech from the Throne continues; speakers, Dr. Frank Patterson, leader of the opposition; Colin Cameron, C.C.F., Comox.

Yesterday the House did not sit.

This week in the debate maiden speakers are being featured. The mover and seconder of the address in reply today are both appearing in the House for the first time and will be followed tomorrow by the Conservative leader and first C.C.F. speaker, also making their initial bows.

The address of Dr. Patterson will be followed with keen interest. The Vancouver medico was chosen by the Conservatives to rebuild their fortunes after the disaster of 1933 and in his first attempt at the polls leads a group of eight into the Legislative fray.

While Dr. Patterson has only lately appeared in the public eye since being chosen Conservative leader, he has been closely connected with political circles for years.

Party groups spent the day's recess yesterday getting their organizations in shape and settling in their quarters. The whips, as usual the busiest men on the scene, are Capt. C. S. Leary for the Liberals, Capt. Macgregor Macintosh for the Conservatives and Harold E. Winch for the C.C.F.

While the various party members shift around from one part of the sessional rooms to another as political lineups change, the perennial Labor Party from Fernie, Thomas Uphill, retains his well-known cubbyhole just over the front entrance to the buildings.

Alderman Dr. J. D. Hunter, Conservative member for Victoria City, follows his maternal grandfather and his father into the Legislature of British Columbia. His mother's father, Hon. John Robson, was Premier of British Columbia from August 3, 1889, until June, 1892, when he died in London when on government business.

Dr. Hunter's father, the late Joseph Hunter, was member for Cariboo in the first Parliament after British Columbia entered Confederation.

One of the most interested spectators in the House on opening day was Mrs. Joseph Hunter, daughter, wife and mother of members of Parliament.

Charles A. Banks, mining magnate of London, who is managing-director of the Bulolo Gold Dredging Company, was among the spectators on the floor of the House on opening day. With Mrs. Banks, he accompanied Mrs. T. D. Pattullo and Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Collison. Mr. and Mrs.

Banks will sail for New Guinea Saturday on Ss. Empress of Japan.

Urges Traffic Be Controlled

Fred Crone, Vancouver, Tells House Strong Measures Should Be Taken

Strong measures to control traffic, curb automobile accidents and curb highway fatalities were urged in the British Columbia Legislature today by Alderman Fred Crone, Liberal, Vancouver Centre, moving the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

He suggested the following methods for consideration of the government:

Examination of drivers to test their ability to drive. Testing of cars to ensure their mechanical safety. Fixed speed limits in villages, towns and cities. Compulsory insurance of cars, or ultimate ownership liability, which makes the owner of a car responsible for an accident whether he is driving or not at the time.

"This year," he said, "has seen the greatest number of traffic accidents and the greatest number of fatalities that we have ever seen in any one year since motor vehicles have been in operation in this province."

Mr. Crone, an alderman of Vancouver, made a strong plea for municipal aid, reviewing the desperate financial plight of cities and towns. While recognizing that the government has given some assistance to them and plans to put the whole problem before the Rowell commission, he said, their need was urgent and something should be done this session. He went to the length of proposing a special provincial tax to help municipalities.

As mover of the address, Mr. Crone was regarded as forecasting for the government when he talked of more liberal allowances for public works in the constituencies, particularly for bridges which are in need of restoration. He complimented the works minister on his four-year plan to produce a surfaced highway from one end of British Columbia to the other.

Touching only briefly on health insurance, he said, the favorable plebiscite vote was "a foundation for whatever steps may be taken to realize this project in the future."

Plan to Cut Toll On Bridge

Levy May Be Made on Only Part of Capital Expenditure

To keep the tolls low on the new Pattullo Bridge over the Fraser River, the provincial government is tentatively planning to ask the Legislature for permission to levy for only a portion of the \$4,000,000 capital expenditure on the structure, Premier Pattullo disclosed today. The bridge will open on November 15.

The province expects to sell the old Fraser River bridge to the Dominion Government for railway use.

The amount to be paid is not disclosed but it will be earmarked against the cost of the new bridge and the plan now is that the Legislature be asked to waive tolls on an equal amount of the capital cost.

Thus, if the Dominion pays \$500,000 for the old bridge and the Legislature agrees to waive tolls on a corresponding \$500,000, the capital for which tolls must be levied would be reduced by \$1,000,000 all told. This would bring it down to \$3,000,000 and tolls would be lower accordingly.

The amount the Legislature agrees to waive would go from the bridge loan into the consolidated debt of the province to be repaid out of general revenue.

The Premier said he expects word soon from Ottawa on its decision to buy the old bridge.

Pending this, of course, the tolls for the Pattullo Bridge cannot be settled.

Their size will depend on three main factors: the average traffic over the bridge, the amount of the capital cost to be repaid by toll, and the life of the funded bridge bonds.

Figures obtained by the Premier show that the number of cars going over the old bridge to date this year is 1,707,000. This compares with 1,434,000 in the whole of last year and 1,258,000 in 1935, and 1,826,000 in the previous peak year of 1930.

The Premier indicated he favored making the bridge bonds of comparatively short term instead of spreading them over a long period. It is expected they will probably be 20-year bonds, as one issue of \$1,000,000 of the bridge loan has already been issued on a 20-year basis.

The third factor in computing tolls, which is the amount of capital to be repaid by levy, depends, of course, on the negotiations with Ottawa over the old bridge and the plan indicated today by the Premier.

Across the Bay

By BRUCE HUTCHISON

NEW TALENT

THE NEW Legislature began on Thursday to reveal the quality and talent added to it by a wise electorate last June. The first two samples were cautious, unpretentious, but good. The House heard them, as it always does, with that extraordinary geniality which it always displays to young members in its opening stages, but which tends to dry up as the session progresses. And the government, for its part, sat back and listened to information which it has had for months or years as attentively and politely as if it were beholding a fiery new revelation from on high.

Mr. Crone of Vancouver, who led off the debate on the Speech from the Throne, spoke well. He will be a sound and useful member of this House. He speaks quietly, simply, like a business man among colleagues, without flourish and without rancor. His pace is pedestrian, but he covers a good deal of ground, and evidently is a man with ideas of his own, which he will express whether the government relishes them or not.

As the first speaker of the session, Mr. Crone was supposed to indicate the government programme for the session and praise the government's work. The former job he did not attempt to do very exhaustively. The latter he did well, perhaps a little too well.

For every minister, one by one in long and glittering parade, Mr. Crone had some special commendation, some special reason for thanks and praise. It was competently performed, and part of the first speaker's job, but tended to become a trifle saccharine. The cabinet listened attentively at first and looked as if it were no more than it expected or deserved, but toward the end it began to look a trifle self-conscious, seemed to think that perhaps it wasn't quite as sublime as Mr. Crone imagined.

The C.C.F. appeared just a little cynical. Mr. Maitland recommenced the famous diary, which was rudely interrupted in the fall of 1933 and which contains already many gems—as, for example, when he recorded of a notable colleague that “there were long pauses between his sentences, nothing between his pauses.” The House as a whole thought Mr. Crone had made a good start.

OKANAGAN MAN

CAPT. BULL of South Okanagan, who followed, undoubtedly will prove one of the most popular men in this assembly. He has the familiar look of the Okanagan about him, the outdoor, tanned, fruit-picking, tea-at-5-o'clock look that is part of the agreeable little civilization of the great orchard valley.

He speaks modestly, quietly and, even in a maiden speech, apparently without stage fright. Obviously, he comes to the House with a high sense of opportunity which, alas, may suffer disillusionment in the tough game of politics, for he will find that the House doesn't retain its first-day geniality and innocence very long. But Capt. Bull should make an excellent member and distinctive, refreshing personality in these faded premises.

His talk was mostly of his Okanagan, of the fruit men's problems of marketing—“anyone who has designs on our marketing act is wasting his time because without it we're sunk”—and of the value of the fruit industry to British Columbia, the greatest purchasing industry in the province.

But he boldly tackled larger issues, rushing in where the tired angels of politics often fear to tread. He is a young man and evidently an idealist, with a fine vision of Canada and of British Columbia, which he managed to convey rather strikingly in soldierly fashion, all the better for its simplicity and lack of ornament. What Capt. Bull seems to want, no less, is a whole new attitude on the part of government and on the part of the public to the great, overshadowing questions of the time.

POPULATION

INTO the great valleys of British Columbia, which are evidently a real passion with him, Capt. Bull would pour people. He would not squabble about the poor immigrants from the drought areas of the prairies. He would welcome them, make them good British Columbians, fill up a province which has twice the area of Japan and 100th part of the population.

Lifting the House for a moment out of the ruck of small affairs, which largely form our business here, he asked it to take a look at British Columbia, at its vastness and richness and the fine freedom of his life, and he asked it to consider what the crowded, have-not nations think of us and our failure to use our land.

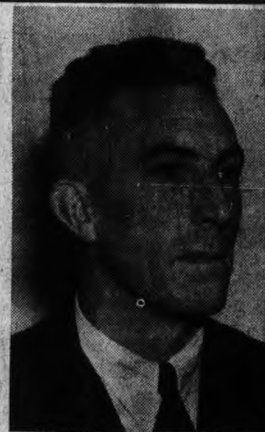
He asked it, also, to face the real economic condition of British Columbia, the destitution amid plenty, the insecurity of many of its people, the haunting fear of poverty, the inequality of wealth. Some “economic equalizer” must be found, he said, and wise governments will pave the way to reform by educating the people in advance to the changes they must expect, the sacrifices they must make, both here and, perhaps, in supporting Britain in war.

This wound up an easy day within an hour, and everybody felt very neighborly and on a high plane. But the parliamentary manoeuvres of the session already are under way. The C.C.F. has started to steal a march on the Conservatives by an opening deluge of motions and questions. Clearly one of the most interesting fights of the session is going to be within the ranks to the left of Mr. Speaker, to decide who are to form the real opposition, the Conservatives or the Socialists. The Socialists think they have beaten the Conservatives at the starting gun, but the session is young.

and the will to work. Of their number a great many were forced to clear out, after losing all they had. Those who made it stick, he said, were those who had more outside resources on which to draw, made an income looking after other properties, or practiced extreme thrift, which, he said, meant a reduced standard of living, far below that which one would expect an employed workman to accept in a city.

New Faces In The House

A Vancouver Island Stump-rancher Makes His Debut in Legislature



COLIN CAMERON

C.C.F. member in the Provincial Legislature for Comox, was born in Exeter, Devonshire, England, in 1897, and came to Canada with his parents in 1907. They settled in North Vancouver, where the new member's father was appointed district engineer for the municipality. Mr. Cameron went overseas with the Canadian Engineers, and when he returned went stump-ranching on Vancouver Island. In recent years he has made his home in Port Alberni, but after the first of the year expects to take up residence in Comox. He is married, has one son and three daughters. While the House is in session he and his family will reside on Battery Street, not far from the Parliament Buildings.

Should Receive Prairie People

Capt. C. R. Bull of Okanagan Tells House Farmers Going Mad

British Columbia had need of a larger population and should absorb “cheerfully and adequately those unfortunate people who come to us from the drought-stricken areas of the prairie provinces,” Capt. C. R. Bull, Liberal, South Okanagan, said in the Legislature yesterday when seconding the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. It was his maiden speech in the House.

The financing of the settlement of prairie people in this province, Capt. Bull said, was a Dominion matter, but the province must press continuously its support.

Dealing with the Okanagan, Capt. Bull said “the tree fruit industry is its very heart and soul. This industry is far the most reliable in the whole province as a distributor of purchasing power and as such, deserves great appreciation and consideration. Our industry has not depleted the natural resources of the country but, on the contrary, has continually built them up. In 10 years our productions of tree fruits has increased by 50 per cent, and that, in spite of the fact that in 1931, 1932 and 1933 the average price received was only about 2 cents a box over the cash outlay.”

Capt. Bull said he believed the farmers were the anchor, the bulwark, and the backbone of the province. He said the farmers in his part of the province had a very difficult time to keep going, noting a great many people went to the Okanagan after the war, with a fair amount of money

LIQUOR HERE

Turnover at Shown in A to H

At the two Vic liquor stores in year, \$987,752 of all kinds was sold in the annual report of the Control Board of the Legislature yesterday. Net profits to the Government were \$261,839.

The six Vic liquor stores turned over \$4,285,370 for a business for a year.

The sales and island points for Port Alberni, \$277,221; Courtenay, \$144,937; Ladysmith, \$184,811; Sidney, \$144,937; Ladysmith, \$144,937.

The report states that parlor licenses were issued for the year; 71 club licenses and 11 veterans' club licenses.

In the administration of liquor laws last year, 100 convictions were laid amounting to 779 cases.

LIQUOR SALES HERE MILLION

Turnover at Victoria Stores
Shown in Annual Report
to House

At the two Victoria government liquor stores in the last fiscal year, \$987,752 worth of liquor of all kinds was sold, it was shown in the annual report of the Liquor Control Board tabled in the B.C. Legislature yesterday by Attorney-General Gordon Wismer.

Net profits to the liquor board from the Victoria sales were \$261,839.

The six Vancouver stores turned over \$4,651,516 worth of business for a net profit of \$1,285,370.

The sales and profits at various island points were as follows: Port Alberni, \$181,499; Nanaimo, \$277,221; Courtenay, \$85,864; Cumberland, \$55,951; Campbell River, \$67,604; Parksville, \$14,879; Qualicum, \$20,324; Esquimalt, \$184,811; Sidney, \$19,523; Duncan, \$144,937; Ladysmith, \$77,223.

The report states that 376 beer parlor licenses were issued during the year; 71 club licenses and 30 veterans' club licenses.

In the administration of the liquor laws last year, 2,890 prosecutions were launched and fines amounting to \$27,080 collected. Jail sentences were imposed in 779 cases.

Notes of the Legislature



Tomorrow: The House will not sit; debate resumes Monday.

Yesterday: The debate on the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne was opened by Alderman Fred Crone, Liberal, Vancouver Centre, and Capt. C. R. Bull, Liberal, South Okanagan, and adjourned by Dr. Frank P. Patterson, Conservative leader, Dewdney, who speaks this afternoon.

The new members took over their official seats in the House yesterday and were lined up before Mr. Speaker as they will be for the next four years.

On the Speaker's right, of course, are the solid Liberal benches, the eight cabinet ministers occupying the four seats in front and back rows nearest the dais.

The Conservatives, eight in number, sit in the corresponding seats on the left of the House, with Dr. Frank Patterson, leader, stationed immediately opposite Premier Pattullo.

The C.C.F. bloc of seven had the next group of seats, three in the front row and four in the back. Next in order on the front row are Thomas Uphill, the Labor member, and R. W. Bruhn, Independent. The new Liberal members fill in the rest of the left side to balance the House.

Victoria's four members are distributed all over the House. Hon. John Hart, Minister of Finance, sits, of course, in the treasury benches.

His running mate, Alderman W. T. Straith, has a seat among the new left-side Liberals.

Herbert Anscomb, with one term behind him, has a front row Conservative seat as one of Dr. Patterson's lieutenants and Alderman J. D. Hunter sits among the back-line Conservatives.

Speculation as to the status to be taken by Mr. Bruhn among the Opposition is going on in the corridors. Some think that Mr. Bruhn, who was a minister in the Tolmie cabinet, will align himself with the Conservatives, but so far his seat is separated from that group. Mr. Bruhn's only reply to questions on the subject is: "Wait till I speak in the House."

R. H. Carson, Liberal, Kamloops, was chosen deputy speaker yesterday on the nomination of Premier Pattullo. He succeeds in this post L. Arnold Hanna, who sat for Comox in the last House but was not returned.

Dr. J. J. Gillis, Yale, has been reappointed chairman of the Liberal caucus.

First questions directed at the government were on the order paper today in the name of E. E. Winch, C.C.F., Burnaby, who asks for details of loans to finance the Fraser River bridge and of any

loans made under the 1936 Loan Act.

Organization of standing committees was complete this morning for report to the House. It is expected H. G. Perry, Liberal, Fort George, will be made chairman of the private bills committee, and E. T. Kenney, Liberal, Skeena, chairman of the public accounts committee.

G. M. Murray, Liberal member in the House for Lillooet, who has been on a tour of the Orient with Mrs. Murray, is expected to reach Victoria next Monday aboard Ss. Empress of Asia and will take his seat in the Legislature immediately.

Anscomb Flays Cabinet Plans

Keynotes For Conservatives
in Throne Speech Debate
in Legislature

For the first time in four years Conservative guns, as such, were trained on the Liberal government in the British Columbia Legislature this afternoon by Herbert Anscomb, Victoria, speaking in place of Dr. Frank Patterson, the party leader, who was ill.

Keynoting for the party as its first speaker in the throne speech debate, Mr. Anscomb charged the government with extravagance which he claimed had caused the province to go millions behind every year while enjoying record revenues, opposed the suggested Yukon annexation, called the new Trade and Industry Department unnecessary, criticized the proposal to place part of the Fraser River bridge cost in the general debt, said health insurance was a "fizzle" as he had predicted, demanded a proper reforestation policy and called upon the government for immediate financial aid to municipalities with special consideration for Victoria because it is the capital.

Mr. Anscomb said there was \$3,000,000 worth of provincial property tax free in Victoria and it was eminently unfair that the city got no compensation by way of an adequate yearly grant.

The municipalities as a whole must have assistance, and right away, he said. Their grants had been taken away when provincial revenues were less than \$20,000,000. Now with the revenues close to \$30,000,000 the cities were still floundering hopelessly for help. It was too long to wait for the Rowell commission's report.

Mr. Anscomb said the only condition he thought under which B.C. should accept the Yukon would be if the federal government undertook to provide funds for development.

The government has utterly failed to implement its work and

wages policy, the Victoria member said, and while the government had record revenues, unemployed men were sent to jail.

The federal unemployment commission had done nothing but provide lucrative posts for political friends, he said, an instance being a defeated Liberal federal candidate from British Columbia sitting on that commission traveling around the country drawing a living allowance of some \$15 to \$20 a day plus traveling expenses.

On his demand for a forestry programme, Mr. Anscomb said the government and the country had been repeatedly warned by the forestry officials that within 15 or 20 years some types of timber will be completely depleted, but nothing definite was done to forestall it. The government, he insisted, should also do something about preserving such timbered beauty spots as Cathedral Grove at Cameron Lake and along the new West Coast Road.

The government, he said, quite plainly has not known where it was going on health insurance. And where the House had been told the only cost out of general revenue would be \$50,000, an additional \$100,000 had been voted, very expensive machinery had been set up, and so far as he could find the high-priced executives were still on the job twiddling their thumbs and doing nothing.

"The Conservative party," he said, "is pledged to support and will support any and every possible reduction in the cost of government where such reduction is sound and equitable. We say it is nothing short of outrageous that with revenues \$8,000,000 more than they were during the depths of the depression that the government should still be going behind millions per year. There has been no semblance of a suggestion by this government at any time to economize."

Across the Bay

By BRUCE HUTCHISON

BACK TO EARTH

THE HOUSE began on Friday to look more like its old earthy, belligerent, human self. It had recovered from what Dr. Weir, our only trained psychologist, would call its euphoria of Thursday and started to sink into its more familiar state of misoneism; which, in laymen's language, means that the opening pleasantries are over, the air of strained respectability relaxed, and the opposition is getting down to its constitutional job of opposing the government.

The opposition, on this first anti-government day, came from two opposite poles, which indicated the enflaming fire likely to sweep the ministry from the Conservatives on one side and the Socialists on the other. From one pole came Mr. Anscob's thundering demand for more orthodoxy in government policy. From the other came Mr. Cameron's demand for less.

Between the two of them they covered a good deal of ground and some of the government's sins, but there was nothing to make the cabinet very uncomfortable. The dual opposition will have to warm up a good deal more than this before the session will really come to life.

Mr. Anscob, of course, is a seasoned parliamentarian, a first-rate debater and a competent financial critic of the old school, whose memorable watchword is "cut to the bone, scrape the bone and remove the marrow." It was in this spirit that Mr. Anscob regarded the finances of his close friend and fellow-Victorian, Mr. Hart, who listened with a good-natured smile.

One felt that Mr. Anscob, thick jaw out-thrust, thumbs hitched in his vest pockets, each word thundered out clear and distinct, was more fluent than he used to be, and perhaps happier because he had little chance of preparation. He was pinch-hitting at the last moment for his leader, Dr. Patterson, who was ill, and did it competently, trenchantly, but with marked good nature.

FIRST BREEZE

IT WAS when he came to the health insurance fiasco that he produced the first frail exchange of compliments between government and opposition. Dr. Weir showed signs of repression as soon as the subject was mentioned, as if he could hardly contain within himself a true account of this unhappy business. He will have more to say of it later, and took copious notes to that end.

But meanwhile, when Mr. Anscob said the insurance act itself was actuarially unsound, Dr. Weir couldn't help reminding him that he wasn't an actuary, to which Mr. Anscob replied that Dr. Weir wasn't, either.

Dr. Weir then ventured the considered opinion that Mr. Anscob didn't know what he was talking about and it looked for a moment, though both gentlemen were quite friendly, as if we might have a spell of weather. However, Mr. Speaker Whittaker, asserting his authority for the first time in this House, insisted that this kind of thing wouldn't do under his regime, much to the sorrow of Mr. Anscob, who said all the joy was being taken out of parliamentary debate these days.

FIGHTING MAN

THE MAIDEN SPEECH of Mr. Cameron, of the C.C.F., marked him as a considerable force in the Socialist party. He is young, lean, greying, rather grim, a soldier who hasn't found this a land fit for heroes. He speaks fluently, with a slight English accent, a most precise pronunciation and a good command of the language. But his speech is edged with a bitterness, faintly disguised, and with a sarcasm, perhaps, a little too heavy—a speech of passionate protest from a man who has been deeply moved by the role of our civilization.

His ridicule of the Speech from the Throne, and the government's general attitude toward the poor people of this province was delicate and whimsical, but a little too subtle for the appetite of the House, which likes its humor broad and undiluted.

So far as Mr. Cameron could see, the only thing the government could claim in the way of accomplishment in its Speech from the Throne was that Lord Tweedsmuir, Governor-General, had viewed British Columbia's scenery this year. There were, said he, other tourists not mentioned in the speech—tourists who viewed the country from end to end, from the tops of box cars, and now, like His Excellency, were housed at government expense.

It was particularly appropriate, he added dryly, that some of the unemployed boys now in jail were returned soldiers, who thus were being rewarded for overseas service by a free domicile in Crown quarters.

Behind this persiflage, Mr. Cameron's passionate hatred of these human tragedies of the times soon became apparent. He was eloquent and rather moving as he told about the condition of the lost generation of boys who wander, homeless and penniless, about the country, the boys who were utterly amazed if you gave them a meal or a night's lodging or even a friendly word.

On his recent adventure in an island logging camp, Mr. Cameron said he wouldn't dwell, but he delivered a bitter attack on large companies which, he said, seek to set up petty kingdoms and keep their workers incarcerated there, free from the wiles of a wicked world—an affront to democracy and to the Legislature.

From these two speeches it seemed clear that both oppositions are purposely starting slowly in developing their own policies. Mr. Anscob gave a general idea of Conservative attitude toward finance. Mr. Cameron gave no inkling of the C.C.F. programme, which evidently is to be developed by some of the older members later. There is plenty of time. This opening debate may well stretch beyond next week and may yet produce explosive material.

Coal Report To Go to House

Premier Pattullo announced in the British Columbia Legislature yesterday afternoon that the Macdonald Royal Commission's report on its coal, oil and petroleum industry inquiry will be submitted to the House before prorogation.

Replying to a question from R. L. Maitland, K.C., Conservative, Vancouver-Point Grey, the Premier said the government had received the report, but as he had had to go to Ottawa on public business he had not had time to study it.

"I hope it will be submitted to us before long," said Mr. Maitland.

"It will be presented before the end of the session," said the Premier. "I feel that I should have time to peruse the report and consider it."

Criticism Of Logging Camps

Workers' Rights Curtailed, Says C.C.F. Speaker

Attack on the lumber magnates of British Columbia for the way they "sought to incarcerate their employees safe from the corrupting influences of this wicked world," was made by Colin Cameron, C.C.F., Comox, when speaking in the House yesterday in debate in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

Mr. Cameron explained the part he played in a recent disturbance at an up-island logging camp. He said employees of the large lumber corporations were obliged to live on the company's property, and by so doing forfeited many of the rights and privileges of free citizens of a free country. He said men and women living in the camps found themselves unable to talk to the men they elected to parliament. He said the logging interests had set up petty kingdoms.

The logging companies, Mr. Cameron said, were exploiting the natural resources of British Columbia and now the owners of the province's timber were seeking the unquestioned right to set up forbidden areas throughout the whole of the lower mainland and on Vancouver Island—"areas into which, you and I, Mr. Speaker, notwithstanding the lustre of our exalted positions as members of the governing body of British Columbia, can only venture to go at the risk of bodily assault." He noted also that previous governments, in their wisdom, allowed the ownership of these public resources to slip out of the hands of the people.

Mr. Cameron said he was glad to see in the Throne speech that Lord and Lady Tweedsmuir had visited British Columbia and were shown something of the scenic grandeur of the province.

"One hopes that Their Excellencies thoroughly enjoyed it," Mr. Cameron said, "and we can all breathe freely and rest assured all is well now that our scenery has received the viceregal approval."

He added Lord Tweedsmuir was not the only one to view the scenery of British Columbia, but there were others who spent most of their time viewing the scenery—from the tops of box-cars. He said the government had taken just as much interest in them as in the Tweedsmuir's.

COMING HOUR

New Chances Leg

Standing British Columbia appointed day.

In the changes created from Perry, Lill, named the important committee; Skeena, Frank P. Creston, fee; and Rossland-committee.

The other unchange Fisheries, Yale; for Liberal, P. J. Assel printing, eral, Vay ways, C. Ilkameen.

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Straith, Telford Patters and He Railway Murray G. Brader, ester, J. ford an

COMMITTEES OF HOUSE NAMED

New Chairmen For Four of Legislature Groups

Standing committees of the British Columbia Legislature were appointed by the House yesterday.

In the nine committees four changes of chairmen were indicated from the last House. H. G. Perry, Liberal, Fort George, was named at the head of the important private bills committee; E. T. Kenney, Liberal, Skeena, the public accounts; Frank Putnam, Liberal, Nelson-Creston, the agriculture committee; and R. R. Burns, Liberal, Rossland-Trail, the municipal committee.

The other chairmen indicated unchanged from last session are: Fisheries, Dr. J. J. Gillis, Liberal, Yale; forestry, Capt. C. S. Leary, Liberal, Kaslo-Slocan; mining, W. J. Asselstine, Liberal, Atlin; printing, Mrs. H. D. Smith, Liberal, Vancouver-Burrard; railways, C. H. Tupper, Liberal Similkameen.

Following is the full personnel: Agriculture, Mr. Putnam, L. Le Bourdais, C. R. Bull, M. Connelly, G. Braden, G. M. Murray, Dr. J. J. Gillis, L. Shepherd, Dr. Lyle Telford, L. H. Eyres and Capt. Macgregor Macintosh.

Fisheries: Dr. Gillis, J. M. Bryan, J. H. Forester, E. T. Kenney, G. M. Murray, W. J. Asselstine, Colin Cameron, E. E. Winch, M. Macintosh and J. A. Paton.

Forestry: Capt. C. S. Leary, H. Johnston, M. Connelly, Tom King, G. Braden, R. H. Carson, W. T. Straith, R. W. Bruhn, C. Cameron, S. Guthrie, Dr. F. P. Patterson and M. Macintosh.

Mining: W. J. Asselstine, L. Le Bourdais, R. R. Burns, E. T. Kenney, F. Putnam, E. C. Henniger, M. Connelly, H. Johnson, C. S. Leary, G. M. Murray, T. Uphill, R. W. Bruhn, S. Guthrie, C. Cameron, J. A. Paton and E. V. Finland.

Municipal Matters: R. R. Burns, Frank Putnam, E. C. Henniger, R. H. Carson, Mrs. H. D. Smith, Dr. J. J. Gillis, C. H. Tupper, W. T. Straith, J. H. Forester, L. A. Shepherd, Mrs. D. G. Steeves, Ald. J. D. Hunter, Herbert Anscamb and L. H. Eyres.

Printing: Mrs. H. D. Smith, J. M. Bryan, G. M. Murray, H. G. Perry, C. R. Bull, E. E. Winch, and J. A. Paton.

Private Bills: H. G. Perry, Fred Crone, W. T. Straith, Mrs. H. D. Smith, J. H. Forrester, M. Connelly, J. M. Bryan, C. H. Tupper, E. C. Henniger, H. E. Winch, Mrs. D. G. Steeves, Dr. Lyle Telford, R. L. Maitland, K.C., and Herbert Anscamb.

Public Accounts: E. T. Kenney, R. R. Burns, W. J. Asselstine, Fred Crone, Frank Putnam, Tom King, C. R. Bull, C. H. Tupper, C. S. Leary, R. H. Carson, H. Johnson, L. LeBourdais, W. T. Straith, R. W. Bruhn, Dr. Lyle Telford, H. E. Winch, Dr. F. P. Patterson, R. L. Maitland, K.C., and Herbert Anscamb.

Railways: C. H. Tupper, G. M. Murray, H. G. Perry, Thos. King, G. Braden, Fred Crone, J. H. Forester, E. E. Winch, Dr. Lyle Telford and E. V. Finland.

Notes of the Legislature



Monday: Debate on Speech from the Throne continues. Speakers: Mrs. H. D. Smith, Liberal, Vancouver-Burrard; Ald. J. D. Hunter, Conservative, Victoria; Harold E. Winch, C.C.F., Vancouver East.

Yesterday: Herbert Anscamb, Conservative, Victoria, and Colin Cameron, C.C.F., Comox, spoke in the debate.

Mr. Anscamb seemed to enjoy himself keenly as he clashed swords with the treasury benches, which interrupted him several times.

Premier Pattullo appeared to have got a bit the best of the following exchange when Mr. Anscamb said that the setting up of an unnecessary Department of Trade and Industry was about the only election promise the government was fulfilling.

"How about the Fraser River Bridge?" rapped the Premier.

"I'll talk to you about that later. And I'll buy you a lunch when you present it to us on November 12," retorted Mr. Anscamb.

"November 15," corrected the Premier, smiling, referring to the date set for the bridge opening.

The Conservative financial critic had the last word when he charged that the health insurance scheme, delayed by the government, was actuarially unsound.

"Who says so?" asked Hon. G. M. Welr, Provincial Secretary, sponsor of the measure.

"I do," said Mr. Anscamb. "You're not the actuary," retorted the minister.

"And neither are you," Mr. Anscamb shot back.

Hon. George S. Pearson, Minister of Labor, is returning from Ottawa, where he has been negotiating employment agreements, and G. M. Murray, Liberal, Lillooet, is returning from a trip to the Orient. Both are expected in the House Monday.

Demand for another investigation of agricultural marketing control has been filed by Dr. J. Lyle Telford, C.C.F., Vancouver East, in a notice of motion on the order paper.

E. E. Winch, C.C.F., Burnaby, in a notice of motion, asks for the government to consider psychopathic treatment for mentally sick persons.

A flood of questions under the name of R. L. Maitland, K.C., Conservative, Vancouver-Point Grey, hit the order paper today. Forty-four in number, the questions cover loans, road construction, advertising, club licenses and road contracts.

First committee meeting of the session is set for next Tuesday morning, when the forestry committee, under Capt. C. S. Leary, Liberal, Kaslo-Slocan, will hold a sitting to hear a talk, with moving pictures, from E. C. Manning, chief forester, on the forest situa-

tion, conservation and restocking plans.

New Faces In The House

Member for Delta Was Born in Oxford, England; Great War Veteran



L. A. SHEPHERD

C.C.F. member in the Provincial Legislature for Delta electoral district was born in Oxford, near the famous University, in 1897. When just a youngster he came to Canada with his parents and settled in Vancouver. He went to school and during the Great War went overseas with the Canadian Engineers. He returned from France to live in Surrey, B.C., where he is still a resident. He is married and has three daughters.

Mr. Anscomb Leads Off

WERE IT NOT THAT MR. ANSCOMB has had several years of experience in the Legislature, it might be fitting to sympathize with him in his role of "pinch-hitter" for his leader, Dr. Patterson, Friday afternoon. However, we cannot conceive of the second member for Victoria looking for or expecting any special consideration from the government benches. Since he was elected to the House in 1933, he has assiduously stuck to one type of speech. This is not to say that Mr. Anscomb has failed to present anything constructive for the consideration of the Assembly. But his pronouncement yesterday was by no means enough to disguise its foundation which, after all, has been unblushingly displayed on many occasions. So all he had to do yesterday, was add such garnishings as he considered appropriate to impart a more convincing 1937-model appearance to it. This was doubtless no great task for one so agile in verbal gymnastics as Mr. Anscomb. It is obvious, then, filling in for Dr. Patterson was no ordeal for him, not only for the reason that the Leader of the Official Opposition has yet to make his maiden speech in the Legislature, but also because the Victoria Conservative member had his "goods" nicely dusted and suitably arranged after their frequent handling during the last campaign, ready to place on show.

It is fair and justifiable to compliment Mr. Anscomb on the manner in which he presented his party's case. He long ago convinced the public that he was quite at home on his feet, whether in the council chamber, on the public platform or in the provincial tribunal. As well as complimenting Mr. Anscomb on his clear voice, his customary almost flawless phrasing, it is fitting to congratulate him on his comparatively new acquisition of a humorous touch which helped to balance his speech with light and shade. He was mellow, than has been his wont. But we fear that neither the new verbal trimmings which he tacked on to his somewhat worn anti-government diatribe, nor his very much less sombre mien can be regarded as indicative of anything particularly constructive or elevating coming from the Conservative section of the House.

In the meantime we join with the members of the Legislature in the hope that Dr. Patterson will recover rapidly from his indisposition and again take his place in the House. His postponed message will be looked forward to with more than ordinary interest.

Labor Of B.C. Will Ask Government For Legal Union Rights

Delegates Will Meet Cabinet Tomorrow and Ask For Government Measure

Representatives of an estimated 25,000 British Columbia workers, men and women, will meet the provincial cabinet tomorrow morning and ask it to adopt "an act to recognize in law the rights of employees to organize for the furtherance of their lawful interests," and submit it to the Legislature as a government measure.

This was unanimously decided at the week-end convention of labor, held in the Foresters' Hall. It marked the first time in 17 years that the trade unions of the province had met in convention for the purpose of dealing strictly with provincial matters. There were 127 delegates from 90 unions at the gathering, which met all day Saturday and Sunday morning.

The bill which the cabinet will be asked to adopt has already been made law in Nova Scotia and Manitoba. It was prepared by the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress.

COMMITTEE NAMED

A committee of five was elected by the convention to act with the provincial executive of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada in presenting the bill to the government tomorrow. The meeting is set for 10.30 a.m. Those named by the convention were Edward A. Jamieson, president of the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council, who was chairman at the convention; W. S. Atkinson of Nanaimo, United Mine Workers; Charles Chivers, carpenters, Victoria; W. H. Youhill, president of the Victoria Trades and Labor Council, and Victor R. Midgley, Lathers' Union of Victoria. Mr. Midgley was secretary of the convention.

On the B.C. executive are E. H. Morrison, electrical workers, Vancouver; Percy Bengough of Vancouver, vice-president of the Trades and Labor Congress; Charles Stewart, Street Railway-men's Union, Vancouver; Birt Showler, Teamsters' Union, Vancouver, and Henry Pearson, Pressmen's Union, Vancouver.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

The draft of the proposed bill says that the act shall be known as the Freedom of Trade Union Association Act and that it shall be lawful for employees to form themselves into a trade union and bargain collectively with their employers and to conduct such bargaining through the employees' trade union and through the duly chosen officers of such union.

Clause 5 says it shall be unlawful for any employer to insert any clause in any written contract of employment, or to impose any condition in any verbal contract, or to continue such clause or condition formerly in effect, whereby any employee was sought to restrain from exercising his rights under the act.

The bill says that "trade union" shall mean any association or organization of employees, whether employed by one employer

or more, which is formed for the purpose of advancing in a lawful manner the interests of such employees in respect of the terms and conditions of their employment, and which is free from undue influence, domination, restraint or interference by employers or associations of employers.

The proposed bill further states any individual employer, individual person, a firm or a corporation, who shall seek, by intimidation, threat of loss of position, or by actual loss of position or by threatening or imposing any pecuniary penalty, with the object of preventing an employee from belonging to a trade union, shall be liable, upon conviction, to a fine of \$100 and a term in jail of 30 days. A corporation would be liable to a fine of \$1,000 and, in the event of that not being paid, the officers of the corporation would be held personally responsible.

Outside of arguments at the opening meeting Saturday morning, when representatives of three Vancouver unions were unseated in a ruling against delegates of independent unions and those affiliated with the Canadian Federation of Labor and the All-Canadian Congress of Labor, the convention was practically unanimous in all matters. All delegates had A.F. of L. affiliation.

POPULAR DECISION

Discussion at yesterday morning's session, when the proposed bill was adopted as the one to go before the government, was entirely favorable and tremendous applause greeted the announcement from the chair that it had been accepted.

The resolutions committee recommended the Trades Congress Act, now known as Bill 62, in preference to one sponsored by Harold Winch, C.C.F. whip in the Legislature. Mr. Winch, speaking to the convention Saturday, noted his bill would compel collective bargaining and peaceful picketing. The resolutions committee told the convention the Winch bill might be attacked legally with success.

"We intend to put on an active campaign with a view to getting individual members of the Legislature to support the bill when introduced by the government and we already have promises of support from many members of the Legislature," Mr. Jamieson said following the convention.

Tom Uphill, M.P.P. for Fernie and a delegate to the convention from the mine workers of that district, told the convention on Saturday the word "demand" was the only word the provincial government understood and he advised the meeting to use it.

C.C.F. SUPPORT

Mr. Winch said he hoped organized labor of British Columbia would meet during each session of the Legislature to express the voice of the workers of British Columbia. He said any trades union bill must be non-partizan in character and that it would have the unanimous support of all C.C.F. members in the House.

One of the resolutions brought

OCT

1937

B.C. Finances Best in Years; Revenue Reaches \$28 Million; 'New High'

Entire Cost of Gov't Paid Out of Current Receipts
\$2,600,000 Spent On Jobless Relief

Special to The Vancouver Sun
 VICTORIA, Oct. 26.—British Columbia's financial position was disclosed as the best it has been in years, when the Hon. John Hart, Minister of Finance, tabled the public accounts for the fiscal year ending March 31, in the Legislature this afternoon.

Revenues, at \$28,102,612, reached a new high level, the accounts showed, leaving an excess over expenditures of \$2,689,022, which the government spent on relief.

The government paid out of revenues the entire cost of government, with the exception of \$2,467,230 in deferred sinking funds, another \$1,706,603 in direct relief costs and capital borrowings for public works.

The capital expenditures, it was shown, were \$6,156,157.41. They included some \$3,844,000 for unemployment relief and \$2,108,367 for the Pattullo Bridge.

This, in brief, was how the government did its financing:

Total ordinary expenditures	\$25,415,589.91
Revenue surplus spent on relief	2,689,022.57
Capital expenditures...	6,156,167.41

Grand total

\$34,258,779.89

Included in total ordinary expenditures are amounts provided for debt redemption, totalling \$657,352.38.

While the government's balance sheet for the fiscal year showed an increase in the gross debt of \$5,022,700, it also showed that assets had increased by \$13,230,180, while liabilities increased \$11,644,197, making the excess of the increase in assets \$1,485,983.

SURPLUSES FOR THREE YEARS

Mr. Hart made a new departure in this year's accounts by including a special table showing the aggregate of revenue surpluses for the three fiscal years ending March 31 last.

The total was \$6,472,373.55. Out of these moneys was made the redemption of the debenture issue of May 15, 1936, amounting to some \$3,500,000, leaving a balance of \$2,972,373.55 over the three-year period.

This entire amount was applied on relief costs.

The increase in government revenues was confined to no single source of revenue.

HOW REVENUE INCREASED

Income and personal property taxes brought in an all-time record of \$6,777,424, against \$5,986,834 in the previous fiscal year.

Another indication of prosperous times in the province was seen in the profits of the Liquor Board, \$3,607,315, as compared with \$3,061,808 in the previous year.

\$5,346,000 FROM MOTORISTS

From gasoline tax the government took \$2,719,710, which, with the \$2,627,179 from motor licenses, made a total from the motoring public of the province of \$5,346,889.

For the year ending March 31, 1936, this total was \$4,823,846.

Revenue from timber levies was up from \$2,822,456 to \$2,993,391, and land

taxes from \$1,434,500 to \$1,507,502. One important source of revenue only, succession duties, declined from \$1,067,101 to \$825,047. On the whole, revenues were up \$3,500,000 over estimates.

Unique Parallel of B. C. And London Parliaments

The King and Queen Preside 'Amid Gorgeous Display at Westminster; Victoria Observes Ancient Rites

The Mother of Parliaments opened in London today with The King and Queen in attendance, accompanied by a vast assemblage of peers and their ladies, in gorgeous panoply of state.

British Columbia's 19th Legislature opened simultaneously, with His Honor, Lieutenant-Governor Eric W. Hamber representing The King.

Studied in parallel the two events reveal in dramatic form how centuries old British parliamentary traditions have established democratic principles around the world.

With the notable exception that in London the ceremony divides between the House of Lords and the House of Commons, whereas in British Columbia there is but a single-chambered Legislature, the customs observed, and formalities carried out, were virtually identical.

Side by side below are stories written respectively by correspondents in London and Victoria. But for minor variations each might have been writing of either event.

By JAMES DYER
 Sun Staff Correspondent
 VICTORIA, Oct. 26.—"Make way for His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor!"

For the first time in the life of the nineteenth legislature of the Province of British Columbia the stentorian voice of Sergeant-at-Arms E. O. Weston sent the traditional warning echoing through the corridors of the legislative buildings this afternoon, and the legislative machinery of the province began to turn for a legislative session about whose probable length and importance there is considerable difference of opinion.

The opening was observed with the customary pompous yet impressive ritual, slightly varied this year, since this is a first session of a new legislature.

NEW SPEAKER

The members had to elect a new Speaker, Norman W. Whitaker, Liberal, Saanich, assuming the chair in the place of H. G. T. Perry, Liberal, Fort George, who this session will sit as a private member, and they departed from the normal to pay a standing tribute to a former Premier in this House, the late Simon Fraser Tolmie, P.C., M.P.

But for the rest—the 15-gun salute booming over James Bay, as His Honor arrived from Government House, the brisk inspection of the Highland guard of honor, the impressive entry of the stalwart Lieutenant-Governor, resplendent in his gold-faced Windsor uniform and plumed hat; the century-old formalities of installing Mr. Speaker, of hearing and receiving the Speech from the Throne, the introduction of the first bill—in this case a mundane communication concerning the Landlord and Tenant Act—all these went off in the clockwork fashion that they always have.

HISTORIC PROCEDURE

This procedure goes off in a fashion very reminiscent of the historic British struggle between Crown and Parliament. For as the Lieutenant-Governor enters and graciously orders the members to be seated, the Provincial Secretary, Hon. G. M. Weir, rises and remarks to the House:

"I am commanded by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor to announce that His Honor does not see fit to declare the cause of his summoning you at this time, and will not do so until you have chosen a Speaker to preside over your Honorable Body. His Honor hopes to be enabled to declare, during the afternoon, his reasons for calling you together."

This rather truculent message having been delivered, His Honor rises and stalks out, followed by his aides in brilliant array, the members rising meekly.

Then comes the naming of Mr. Speaker, Premier Pattullo nominating Mr. Whitaker, and Dr. F. P. Patterson, leader of the Opposition, seconding, as is customary.

W. H. Langley, Clerk of the House, puts the motion and then declares Mr. Whitaker duly elected. Whereupon Mr. Pattullo and Dr. Patterson escort Mr. Whitaker to the Speaker's dais amid the plaudits of the members.

In a few well-chosen words (used centuries ago and never changed) Mr. Speaker humbly acknowledges the honor, the Sergeant-at-Arms places the mace on the table and Mr. Speaker declares a short recess. He leaves the chamber and in a few moments comes back, wearing the traditional black robe and tripartite hat.

Now Mr. Pattullo leaves to inform the Lieutenant Governor that there is a Mr. Speaker; the sergeant-at-arms removing the mace from the table, goes to the bar of the House; his honor arrives in procession, and the business of the nineteenth legislature gets under way smoothly.

And now does Mr. Speaker make another speech, a humble speech directed to the Crown in the person of the stalwart Eric Werge Hamber. It begins:

"The House of Assembly have elected me as their Speaker, though I am but little able to fulfill the important duties thus assigned to me."

And in similar humble vein Mr. Speaker begs his honor to impute any errors into which the House may fall to himself alone, and to kindly grant to them "all their undoubted rights and privileges, especially that they may have the freedom of speech in their debates, access to your honor's person at all times, and that their proceedings may receive from your honor the most favorable interpretation."

Ever again there is an echo of the Parliamentary struggles of the seventeenth century, and it comes again a moment later when Provincial Secretary Weir, speaking for His Honor, promises to take account of what Mr. Speaker asks, and promises that their constitutional privileges will be observed.

Then the Speech from the Throne—which is after all the important thing, perhaps, for this document, written by Mr. Pattullo, and put into His Honor's hand—is no more and no less than the agenda for the session.

After this His Honor retires, and after a few moments of ease the House gets down to business. The mace goes back on the table, prayers are said, Mr. Speaker informs the members that "in order to prevent mistakes," he has obtained a copy of the Speech from the Throne. Then the clerk of the House reads a certificate of the deputy provincial secretary of the result of the election of members, it is entered on the Journals of the House, and Attorney-General Wismer introduces Bill No. 1.

TRIBUTE TO DR. TOLMIE

Then Mr. Pattullo moved, seconded by Dr. Patterson, that:

"This House expresses its sincere regret at the death of Simon Fraser Tolmie, for many years member for Victoria in the House of Commons, formerly Minister of Agriculture in the Federal House, and Prime Minister of British Columbia from 1898 to 1933, and who for so long devoted himself to the services of the Dominion and of this province, and that the clerk do convey to the family of the late Simon Fraser Tolmie the condolences and sincere sympathy of the Legislative Assembly."

This motion, honored by standing silent vote, the house adjourned to resume Thursday at 2:30 p.m., when two of the Liberal fledglings, Ald. Fred Crone, Vancouver-Burrard, and Capt. C. R. Bull, South Okanagan, will move and second the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

MANY NOTABLES

It seemed today that half the population of Vancouver had moved to Victoria to see the opening of the Legislature.

Mayor G. C. Miller was here. So were Mr. and Mrs. G. G. McGeer, Brenton S. Brown, School Trustee Tom Brooks; W. E. Payne, Secretary of the Board of Trade; Hugh Dalton, Secretary of the B. C. Division of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association; Magistrate H. S. Wood, J. Pitcairn Hogg and many more.

Throne Speech Forecasts Trade, Industry Dep't

VICTORIA, Oct. 26.—Creation of the new department of trade and industry, amendment of the Securities Act and amendment and consolidation of the various mining acts were shadowed in the Speech from the Throne, delivered at the opening of the Legislature today.

The speech was as follows:

Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly:

I welcome you to the first session of the 19th Parliament of British Columbia.

A year ago reference was made to the unrest prevailing in many parts of the world. It is to be regretted that this unrest continues and we now find several nations engaged in physical combat with its attendant suffering and destruction, and the great apprehension exists that other nations may become involved. Notwithstanding these unsettling events, business conditions in our Province of British Columbia continue to show improvement and, unless some untoward contingency arises, this improvement should be maintained.

The year was marked by the Coronation of Our Most Gracious Sovereign King George VI, and also that of Her Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth. In no part of the commonwealth were the ceremonies attendant upon the Coronation, observed with greater affection and loyalty than in this Province. It was my privilege and pleasure to represent British Columbia at the Coronation ceremonies in London.

His Excellency Lord Tweedsmuir, Governor-General of Canada, accompanied by Her Excellency Lady Tweedsmuir, has again visited British Columbia, and upon this occasion it was our privilege to be able to show Their Excellencies something of the scenic grandeur of the park in central British Columbia which bears His Excellency's name.

Last month my government had the pleasure of entertaining Franklin Delano Roosevelt, President of the United States, and Mrs. Roosevelt upon the occasion of an informal visit to British Columbia. I am sure that our people deeply appreciate the good-will visit of the President and Mrs. Roosevelt.

ROYAL COMMISSION

My government made various representations to the Dominion government regarding the necessity of appointing a Royal Commission to investigate the financial relationships of the provinces and the Dominion, and to review generally the jurisdictions of the Federal and Provincial authorities. Such a Royal Commission has been appointed by the Dominion government and my government will present its case fully to the Commission.

The mining industry experienced the best year in its history through a broadening diversification in mineral production. Our mining industry is today in a better position to meet changing world conditions and consequently to assure stabilization in the industry than at any time in the history of the province.

Encouragement to go into the hills prospecting has been given to a number of men who were on relief.

By the purchase of gold, assistance has been given to the small prospector and operator.

The establishment of placer training camps has encouraged a number of our people to interest themselves in the mining industry.

The lecture courses in mining continue to attract great interest.

LODE PROSPECTING

We are experimenting in the establishment of purchasing and sampling plants to help the small operators to get into production by making it possible for him to sell his small ore production to advantage.

Consideration is being given to the establishment of lode prospecting and training camps to supplement the work carried on in the placer-mining camps.

A great deal of progress has been made in opening up mining areas through a program of road and trail construction, carried jointly by the Dominion and Provincial governments. Amendments will be made to various mining acts. This is essentially to meet changing conditions, and our

mining acts will be consolidated in order to make it easier for prospectors and operators entering the mining industry thoroughly to understand the rights and obligations existing under our mining laws.

In the field of labor, it is gratifying that no untoward events have occurred in our province during the year. Our laws and administration of them have been beneficial to employers and ment and surfacing, and during the

My Government has continued its progressive policy of road improvement and surfacing and during the year there was a marked increase in the number of visitors using our highways. A joint program of main road construction was carried on by my Government under arrangement with the Dominion Government.

PATTULLO BRIDGE

My government is pleased to announce that the highway bridge over the Fraser River at New Westminster is nearing completion and will be open to traffic some time in November.

Revision of the program of studies for all standards of schools has been completed. The new program has been warmly welcomed and it is hoped will in practise give general satisfaction.

The physical and recreational training for youths over school age, now furnished in 58 centres, continues to meet with much favor, and there has been an enrolment of more than 10,000.

In the field of health and welfare services, much advancement has been made.

Improvement in business conditions has been reflected in the revenues received by the provincial treasury.

A measure will be laid before you to create a Department of Trade and Industry. Several activities now carried on by various departments will be co-ordinated in a single department. Stress will be laid upon the tourist industry, and endeavor will be made to assist industry generally in expanding business and extending trade.

SECURITIES ACT

Amendments will be made to the "Securities Act," and already there has been much improvement in the administration of the Act through appointment of a special officer to give his time exclusively to this work.

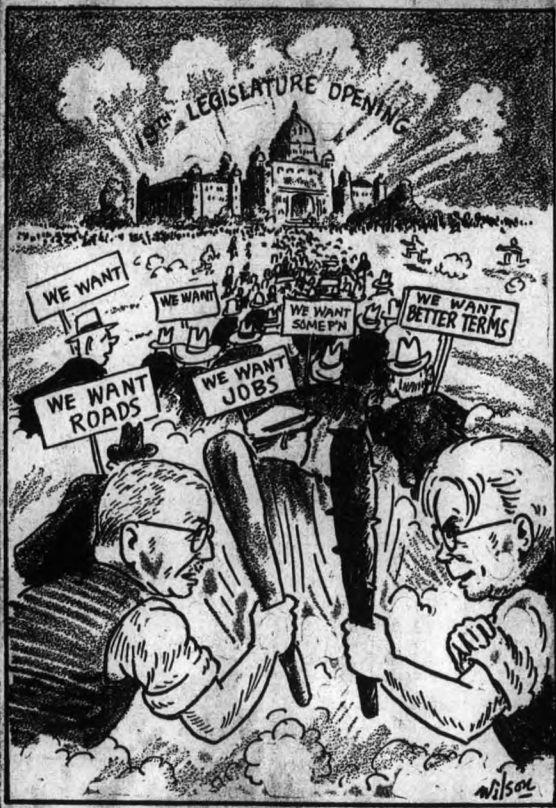
Amendments to various acts will be submitted to you.

The public accounts will be submitted and estimates for the ensuing year will be laid before you.

In leaving you, I pray that Divine Providence may guide you and bless the fruit of your labors.

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"Just the Usual Quiet Session"—



Driving Tests For Motorists

Gov't Legislation to Cut Down Accident Toll

Special to The Vancouver Sun
 VICTORIA, Oct. 27. — The Liberal caucus will be asked soon to express its views on legislation to compel automobile drivers to submit to driving tests.

As part of a Government campaign to cut down on the ever-increasing accident toll in British Columbia the proposal is expected to create a great deal of interest.

For a start, it is understood, testing stations in Vancouver and Victoria will be proposed, as approximately 80 per cent of the cars in B. C. are in the Greater Victoria and Vancouver areas.

Under the plan drivers would be tested by special machines which would automatically test vision, reflexes and control of drivers, and their reactions to any particular driving situation.

In addition, the testing plan includes a thorough examination in the traffic laws. Officials believe that ignorance of driving rules is very often a factor in accidents.

C.C.F. Asks Insurance Act

Non-Confidence Motion Ready for Legislature

Special to The Vancouver Sun
 VICTORIA, Oct. 27. — Declaration that the government of Premier Pattullo has forfeited the confidence of the people by its neglect to put the Health Insurance Act of 1936 into operation, is sought by the C.C.F. group in the legislature in a motion of which notice has been given Mr. Speaker.

The motion amounts to a demand for a straight want-of-confidence vote from the House.

It is a matter concerning which the Conservative group, which is the official opposition in this House, has ideas, too; but the C.C.F. forces believe that by getting their motion on the order paper first they will have prevented the Conservatives from referring to the matter until such time as the motion is taken up by the House.

The motion also asks the House to put itself on record as favoring the principle of "a comprehensive health insurance scheme."

This little bit of C.C.F. strategy will—if the motion is ever reached by the House—put the Liberals in the curious position of having to save the government at the expense of seeming to oppose a measure that originally was a government measure—and still is so, officially.

Two other motions, referring to medical aid for old-age pensioners and the Provincial Elections Act, also have been put on the order paper by the C.C.F.

The motion regarding the Elections Act calls for the appointment of a select committee to investigate its operation.

Confidence in Government

The first session of British Columbia's nineteenth Legislature got under way in Victoria yesterday with the booming of guns, the parade of formal panoply and the reading of a Speech that might mean much or nothing at all.

Certainly, in the three items of prospective legislation stressed in this document there is ample scope for sound improvement in British Columbia's affairs.

The projected amendments to the Securities Act and the Mining Act will doubtless follow the line of those reforms promised by the Prime Minister when public clamor rose high during a recent mining scandal.

The establishment of the promised Department of Trade and Industry, linked in the Speech from the Throne with the third item, namely, the development of the tourist traffic in British Columbia, is a constructive and forward-looking step that possesses infinite possibilities for the creation of new business and new wealth in the province.

Thus, the forecast of the Speech will mean much or little, according to the spirit in which and the thoroughness with which the Government carries these projects to fulfilment.

We believe the people of British Columbia would be wrong to expect anything but the best from the efforts of this administration.

Indeed, we feel that the entire province would profit by steering clear of that sinister and cynical tendency, that has become fashionable in this generation, towards holding the good faith of all government in contempt and the good intent of all government up to ridicule.

Instead of brooding over those matters in which government has failed, it would be a good deal more wholesome were we to dwell a little more on those particulars in which government has achieved notable success.

It should be apparent to any thinking man that the Pattullo Government, if it has not worked the miracles we have demanded of it, has at least done a workmanlike job of re-establishing British Columbia so far as human enterprise and intelligence could make that re-establishment possible.

The greatest strength and support of any government is the confidence of the people.

The Pattullo Government has earned that confidence. It will continue to succeed insofar as the faith of the people is reposed in it and, conversely, insofar as it reposes confidence in the faith and good judgment of the people.

Tests for Drivers

The Pattullo Government will shortly submit to the Liberal caucus a plan for testing the driving ability of motorists with a view towards incorporating these tests into the traffic law of the province.

It is a sound, intelligent move. And its translation into accomplished legal fact will be facilitated by every modern-minded member of the Legislature.

It is a fact admitted by anyone with expert knowledge of traffic problems that the primary cause of accidents, congestions and blunders in traffic is the human element.

Any traffic system breaks down when there is permitted to operate motor cars those who by temperament, poor vision, physical defects or ignorance of the rules are incapable of driving safely and efficiently.

Driving tests will eliminate from the roads those motorists who are constitutionally unable to drive satisfactorily; they will temporarily banish those who have neglected to perfect their skill and knowledge.

This governmental move towards the establishment of driving tests is the most sound and practical effort that has yet been made to cope with traffic problems in this province.

Crone Favours 'Speed Limit'

M.L.A. Says Vancouver Must Get More Financial Aid

By JAMES DYER
VICTORIA, Oct. 28.—A speed limit within villages, towns and cities in British Columbia was advocated today by Ald. Fred Crone, Liberal, Vancouver Centre, in his speech opening the debate on the Speech from the Throne.

Consideration of legislation providing either for compulsory insurance of motor cars or for the establishment of the principle of "ultimate ownership liability" was also urged by the member as he moved the customary "Address in Reply."

Mr. Crone made a strong plea for immediate additional financial help for the municipalities, declaring that "municipalities, depending as they do mainly on taxation from real property, have not benefited directly from the improvement which has taken place in the economic life of the province, and, financially, their lot is not a happy one."

VANCOUVER NEED

Speaking for Vancouver, he said that city is not particular whether the Government restores its grants or assumes larger shares of the cost of hospitalization.

"But one or both has to be done," he said.

There is not a citizen who would object to additional provincial taxes if they were raised expressly for the purpose of helping municipalities, he declared.

Mr. Crone was to be followed later by Capt. C. R. Bull, Liberal, South Okanagan, with Dr. F. P. Patterson, opposition leader, due to adjourn debate.

He urged also not only for the sake of the growing tourist traffic, but for the convenience of business as well, that a four-year program of road and bridge building be embarked on.

RECORD MISHAPS TOTAL

"This year has seen the greatest number of traffic accidents we have ever seen in one year since motor vehicles have been operated," he said, referring to his speed limit plea. He added that while it is true there are more cars, the percentage of accidents is greater.

"Authorities agree that the worst

hazard is the man behind the wheel, the next worst, the condition of the car he is driving," and if we can correct those hazards by mental, physical tests, I have no hesitation in saying the police will soon eradicate the not more than 10 per cent of careless and reckless drivers, and the highway engineers will soon eradicate any road hazards there are."

There is sometimes room to wonder, so unconcerned are the veterans, whether perhaps parliamentary unconcern is not really a bit of a sham.

Some of the veterans, anyway—the newer ones, so to speak—seem to find it difficult to concentrate upon the business of being unconcerned.

Notes from the Gallery

Opposition Promises Fireworks in Assembly

By JAMES DYER
Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA, Oct. 29.—The legislative session of 1937 is now properly opened and on its way. Tuesday's proceedings with the Lieutenant-Governor, while important because of their constitutional significance—a significance whose importance is often overlooked because it is supposed to be more symbolic than real—were, after all, only formal. The real business began Thursday, with the opening of debate on the Speech from the Throne.

Ald. Fred Crone, second member for Vancouver Centre, though a little nervous at the start, acquitted himself well in his maiden effort and got in some good blows on behalf of the municipalities, particularly Vancouver.

Both he and Capt. Bull had the very best of Houses. And why not? It was the first sitting, and the restlessness which afflicts members, causing them to prefer a gossip in the corridors, or to find business elsewhere, will not begin to operate for several more days—when debate falls, as it is bound to do.

2 ABSENTEES

All the seats were filled but two—those of Hon. G. S. Pearson, Minister of Mines and Labor, who is still in Ottawa on departmental business, and G. M. Murray, Liberal, Lillooet, who is not back yet from his Oriental trip.

There are 19 new members in this House, few of whom have sat in it before. The new ones are pathetically obvious. They sit painfully erect, taking an intelligent interest in the proceedings, whereas the veterans sit around as unconcernedly as possible.

There is sometimes room to wonder, so unconcerned are the veterans, whether perhaps parliamentary unconcern is not really a bit of a sham.

Some of the veterans, anyway—the newer ones, so to speak—seem to find it difficult to concentrate upon the business of being unconcerned.

DULL PROSPECT

This session, judging solely by the profound emptiness of the Speech from the Throne, promises to be rather dull and unexciting. But just because there is little legislation afoot is no reason to be certain of this.

There is dark talk among the opposition, Conservatives and C.C.F. alike, of big things to come from their end. Taking them seriously, it would appear that the thing will be by no means dry and sweet, nor short.

The fact that the opposition, while stronger than for the last four years, is neatly split in twain, seems to pre-empt that there will be plenty of fun.

The C.C.F., besides having a little more experience than in the last House and a little more debating strength as well, must be more on their mettle if they are not to be outshone by the newly furnished Conservative Party, whose debating strength, what with Mr. Mattland, Capt. Mackintosh and Mr. Anscomb—is by no means negligible.

The government expects that there will be an interesting struggle between these two groups to gain the effective leadership of the opposition benches, and that means fighting spirit, and much thunder, on the left of Mr. Speaker.

GOVERNMENT'S BIG SLICE

Thursday, for the first time, we saw the members in their proper places. The government strength, as in the last House, is great enough to fill one entire side of the chamber and slop over on the other side. The slop-over comprises all the newly elected Liberals, including Mr. Crone.

The Conservatives, with their eight partisans, make a neat little group at the near-left of Mr. Speaker, four of them occupying the first four desks on the front bench, the others sitting immediately behind.

The C.C.F., pushed out of the place of honor, occupies seats in the centre of these two benches to the left; three, including Harold Winch, the party whip, Mrs. Steves and Dr. Telford, on the front row, the remainder the four seats at the rear.

There are only two independents in this House, which makes the seating problem that much easier for Mr. Speaker and the whip.

Nonetheless, the problem of providing for Mr. Bruhn, Salmon Arm's independent, has not been easy, and probably is not settled yet.

The former Conservative Minister of Public Works is still not entirely reconciled with his Tory friends. Yet he is close enough to them in sympathy to desire to sit with them and has strenuously objected to the fact that he is disposed of to the left of the C.C.F. and Tom Uphill, Fernie's veteran Labor man.

Mr. Bruhn promises that he will seek an opportunity to air his status the first time he speaks in debate.

What he will say is his closely-guarded secret, but it is rumored that he may go so far as to declare himself "Independent Conservative."

'Increase B.C. Population'

—Capt. C. R. Bull

"Be Ready to Take People From Drought Area"

By Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA, Oct. 29.—Efforts to increase British Columbia's population, and to improve the financial and economic set-up of the province so that the paradox of "scarcity in the midst of plenty" shall be abolished, were advocated by Capt. C. R. Bull, Liberal, South Okanagan, in an address to the legislature on Thursday.

He seconded the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne, moved by Alderman Fred Crone, Vancouver Centre.

With his plea for more population Capt. Bull coupled a suggestion that British Columbia be ready to absorb people from prairie drought areas.

British Columbia, he said, should try to prevail upon Ottawa to "come through" with financial assistance to help assimilate these people here.

"The question of more population and more capital to put that population to work is of paramount importance to B.C.," he went on.

Much of the world unrest today, he said, is caused by nations whose territories are too small to provide comfortably for their populations.

Mackenzie King, he said, has warned that in a general world holocaust Canada could not hope to escape, for this very reason.

British Columbia's economic situation also must be examined, he declared, for while "we are back to normal trade conditions we still have a great deal of poverty."

Capt. Bull lauded the efforts of Hon. K. G. MacDonald, minister of agriculture, to effect marketing control.

Anscomb Assails Pattullo Policies

VICTORIA, Oct. 29.—Herbert Anscomb, Conservative, Victoria, fired the first broadside of the official opposition in the B.C. legislature this afternoon in the resumed debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne.

He expressed bitter opposition to—

1. Annexation of the Yukon Territory.
2. Creation of a department of trade and industry, which, he declared, would only be an expensive duplication of federal activity and an added burden on business.
3. Passing on to the taxpayers of the burden of costs of the Pattullo bridge.
4. "Extravagance and expense" in connection with the unsuccessful administration of the now suspended Health Insurance Act.

Year's Liquor Bill \$6,170,000

Six Vancouver Stores Produced \$4,650,000

Special to The Vancouver Sun
VICTORIA, Oct. 29.—The six Government liquor stores in Vancouver produced a \$4,651,516 business last fiscal year, according to the annual report of the Liquor Control Board tabled yesterday in the B. C. Legislature.

Out of this the Government made a net profit of \$1,285,370.

In addition, wholesale beer returns through Vancouver are placed at \$1,523,352, making a total return in Vancouver of \$6,174,868 out of a total business in the province worth \$12,746,783.

The Hornby Street store in Vancouver does the largest business in the province with a turnover of \$1,499,804.

The Hastings Street store was next with \$1,045,785.

Third is the Pender Street store, \$817,059.

The report lists Vancouver with 64 of the 376 beer parlor licenses issued in the province, 18 of the 71 club licenses, and six of the 30 veterans' club licenses.

Dr. Patterson Ill; Defers Maiden Speech

VICTORIA, Oct. 29.—Dr. F. P. Patterson, leader of the opposition in the Legislature, was unable today to take his place in the debate on the speech from the throne, which he adjourned Thursday afternoon. The Conservative leader is afflicted with a recurrence of sinus trouble and his place in the debate was to be taken by Herbert Anscomb, Conservative, Victoria, according to present arrangements.

Only one other speaker, Colin Cameron, C.C.F., Comox, was scheduled for debate today. Mrs. Paul Smith, Liberal, second member for Vancouver Burrard, will adjourn debate until Monday.

Press Gallery Notes

Anscomb and Cameron Score Liberal Benches

Legislators Provide Fun At Expense of B.C. Ministry

By JAMES DYER

VICTORIA, Oct. 30.—Friday was a day of sour apples in the Legislature. The Opposition, both official and unofficial—that is, both Tory and Socialist—had its innings in the debate on the throne speech.

In other words, it was a much more entertaining day, from an oratorical point of view, than Thursday, for since it is always easier to attack than to defend in matters political, the speeches of the opposition are always better than those of the government.

Two masters of sarcasm, Mr. Anscomb, and member for Victoria, and Mr. Cameron of Comox, did the honors and did them well.

Mr. Anscomb was in joyous fettle, and so were the treasury benches, who always enjoy a joust with the burly former mayor of the capital city.

SPOKE FOR PATTERSON

Mr. Anscomb stepped into the breach left by Dr. Patterson, his leader, when the latter was taken "under the weather" by a touch of sinus, and right off he injected a sinister note by suggesting that a box of apples which the Liberals has sent as a gift to the Conservative members might have had something to do with Dr. Patterson's indisposition.

This jest, much to the taste of every one, was followed by the usual compliments, including one directed to the new Attorney-General, Mr. Wismer, whom Mr. Anscomb regarded as an excellent appointee.

"It means that at all times we shall see a smile as we look over the treasury benches," Mr. Anscomb explained.

These amenities disposed of, Mr. Anscomb proceeded to let some wind out of the Liberal sails and transfer it to the Tory canvas. This government, he assured the House, is distinctly a minority government.

40 PERCENT OF VOTE

"I see no endorsement in the fact that it secured less than 40 percent of the total recorded vote," he said.

"Why bring that up?" called out Capt. C. S. Leary, government whip.

It became apparent that Mr. Anscomb had merely done so in order to pave the way for the return of a Conservative government at the next election, an event made the more certain, as he was careful to point out, by the shortcomings of the Pattullo administration.

These shortcomings, as Mr. Anscomb sees them, are many and serious. There is the Yukon business, for example. Mr. Anscomb went thoroughly into the reasons why he does not favor Yukon annexation, and it was gathered that at least one reason has to do with the separate schools question. He reminded the honorable the premier that his colleague in Ontario had got himself into a hole over this very question.

"He got out of it, too," interjected R. H. Carson, the Deputy Speaker from Kamloops.

"Yes, he wriggled very successfully," conceded Mr. Anscomb.

ONE PROMISE KEPT

The atmosphere became more genial as Mr. Anscomb kindly conceded that the government apparently had kept one promise, to create a department of trade and commerce.

"What about the Fraser River bridge?" demanded Mr. Pattullo.

"I'll have a lot to say about that later," retorted Anscomb. "When we go to New Westminster, November 15, to open it, I'll buy you a lunch and explain it to you."

Mr. Hart got his ear in when Mr. Anscomb ribbed the government for its failure to restore all the grants that were taken from the municipalities.

"Who took them away from the municipalities?" asked Mr. Hart mildly.

"I'll tell you who did that. The

then Conservative Government had to do it because of the state in which the previous government had left the treasury," Mr. Anscomb came back.

"No! No!" grinned Mr. Hart, "you know that's nonsense."

MAIDEN SPEECH

Mr. Cameron, who followed, did not get the same verbal attention from the treasury benches that came to Mr. Anscomb. As it was his maiden speech he was heard in attentive silence, and made an excellent impression with his oratory, although he had little to say apart from his pungent remarks concerning his abortive attempt to get into certain logging camps up-island.

Cameron's sarcasm was particularly biting. He leaked Mr. Anscomb's effort to the example of "the grimy pot, pointing out the unappealingly sooty condition of the kettle."

Diving into the speech from the Throne, Mr. Cameron expressed his gratification that Lord Tweedsmuir, as that document had pointed out, enjoyed immensely his view of the scenic grandeur of British Columbia. Others, he said, had also enjoyed that pleasure—from the top of box cars.

And just as Lord Tweedsmuir had since returned to Rideau Hall these less august tourists, Mr. Cameron informed the House, also had taken up quarters in crown property.

This witty reference to the unhappy fate of the "tin-canners" was a fair sample of Mr. Cameron's art.

C. C. F. ACTIVITY

The C. C. F. members, by the way, are going great guns in getting resolutions and questions on the order paper.

In addition to the three put on Thursday, two others have come in, one requesting an investigation by the House Standing Committee on Agriculture into the workings of the Natural Products Marketing Act, and the other calling for "early provision of adequate facilities for psychopathic observation and treatment of mentally sick persons."

The first of these is sponsored by Dr. Telford, who is handling matters of finance and marketing for the group; the second by E. E. Winch.

Mr. Speaker, it may be added, has managed since Thursday to remove the sting from the C. C. F. resolution on health insurance. Originally the resolution not only asked the House to vote non-confidence in the government, but also requested them to re-endorse the principle of health insurance. Double-barrelled resolutions of this kind are dangerous for a government. To vote it down, as Liberal members must, would put them in the position of voting down a government baby.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, with the consent of the C. C. F. group, has ruled out the clause seeking re-endorsement of Health Insurance, so that the resolution becomes one of straight non-confidence. In other words, it becomes innocuous, for the government will vote it down with ease.

'Forbidden Areas in B.C.'

C.C.F. Member Denounces Actions of Logging Firm

Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, Oct. 30.—An echo of assault charges which Colin Cameron, C.C.F. member for Comox, brought against an employee of a logging company on Vancouver Island, was heard in the Legislature Friday, when Cameron, speaking in the debate on the Speech from the Throne, declared that such means as the Comox Company took to "prevent their employees from being given the opportunity" to sign a petition which Cameron took to them, is an affront to conceptions of freedom and democracy.

"I suggest that the attention of the government might well be directed to this evident antagonism on the part of large corporations to union organization among their employees," Cameron said, after explaining that the petition in question was concerned with the Trade Union bill which the C.C.F. members will present to the Legislature this session.

EXPLOSIVE FORCE

"I submit that this antagonism and the manner in which it is made evident constitutes an explosive force in our society," the speaker added.

Making his maiden speech, Cameron spoke excellently, devoting the greatest part of his time to a satirical review of the text of the Throne Speech and to the shortcomings of the government.

Vigorously, Cameron denied the right of the logging company to prevent his access to its property.

"The right of these corporations to use force is derived from an interpretation of the meaning of private property which is nothing short of fantastic," he said.

TIMBER OWNERS

"These people are exploiting the natural resources of this province—previous governments in their wisdom allowed these public resources to slip out of the public hands—now the privileged owners of our timber seek also the unquestioned right to set up forbidden areas. Areas into which you and I, Mr. Speaker, notwithstanding the lustre of our exalted positions as members of the governing body of B.C., can only venture at the risk of bodily assault."

Cameron said employees of large logging companies are compelled to live on company property, forfeiting many rights and privileges and are not permitted to speak to their elected representatives in their homes.

PETTY KINGDOMS

He declared that the large corporations had set up "petty kingdoms" in the province.

"The idea that we must place in the same category as private property and individual dwelling houses the huge holdings of a logging company is to my mind patently absurd."

"These people, exploiting the natural resources of this province now seek the unquestioned right to set up forbidden areas throughout the whole of the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island, areas on which members of the governing body of British Columbia may go only at the risk of bodily assault."

Perry Chairman Of 'Private Bills'

VICTORIA, Oct. 30.—Nine standing committees of the British Columbia Legislature were appointed Friday. In the nine are four changes in chairmanships from the last House.

H. G. T. Perry, Liberal, Port George, former Speaker, heads the important Private Bills Committee; E. T. Kennedy, Liberal, Skeena, Public Accounts; Frank Putnam, Liberal, Nelson-Creston, Agricultural; R. R. Burns, Liberal, Rossland-Trail, Municipal.

Other chairmen, unchanged from last year are: Fisheries, Dr. J. J. Gillis, Liberal, Yale; Mining, W. J. Asselstine, Liberal, Allyn; Printing, Mrs. H. D. Smith, Liberal, Vancouver-Burrard; Railways, C. H. Tupper, Liberal, Similkameen.

Robert Carson Chosen New Deputy Speaker

VICTORIA, Oct. 30.—Robert Carson (Lib., Kamloops) was unanimously chosen deputy speaker of the Legislature Friday.

Captain Sid Leary (Kaslo-Slocan) was reappointed chief government whip.

H. G. T. Perry, Liberal, Port George, former Speaker, is expected to be chairman of the all-important Private Bills Committee, with E. T. Kennedy, Liberal, Skeena, as chairman of the Public Accounts Committee.

Dr. J. J. Gillis, Yale, has been chosen chairman of the Liberal Caucus.

The Sound and Fury

That empty sound and fury which characterized the tenor of the Conservative attack during the last election campaign when opposition forces appeared to be paralyzed by the lack of iniquities to criticise in the Liberal platform, still pervades the eloquence of the Tories in the House.

For Dr. Patterson being indisposed, the torch of Toryism was seized and waved aloft yesterday afternoon in the Legislature by Herbert Anscomb who delivered an opening speech whose notable lack of meat was only saved from ineptitude by the force and prestige of the speaker.

Among other items of Liberal policy, Mr. Anscomb singled out for scholarly abuse the proposed creation of a Department of Trade and Industry.

This, he bitterly declared, would only duplicate the work of the Department of Trade and Commerce in Ottawa.

Mr. Anscomb appears to forget that British Columbia is in a peculiarly sensitive position with regard to trade and industry and that the imbalance of trade between East and West, fostered in the beginning by eastern Tory principles, renders it necessary for this province to bring in new commercial revenues by her own effort.

His inferred content with the prevailing trade system definitely places the Conservative seal of approval upon a policy which has permitted our British Columbia trade with the Orient to practically die out in the past ten years.

Mr. Anscomb waxed indignant, too, about the arrangement whereby Ottawa will contribute towards the Pattullo Bridge in a manner that will render tolls on that structure unnecessary.

He said that this arrangement passes on to the taxpayers the costs of this bridge.

Who does Mr. Anscomb think is going to pay for the bridge except the taxpayers?

Do the Conservatives still believe in good fairies who will aid governments in such matters? If the Tories do retain some such belief, it would explain some of the financial proposals advanced by their speakers during the last election.

Mr. Anscomb's party, it seems, clings fervently to the principle of tolls—a principle which is universally abominated by the general public.

Altogether, we cannot see that the cause of good government was much advanced by this first important Conservant salvo in the Legislature.

The Conservatives had a difficult enough time making out a case during the election.

Their difficulty seems to continue.

One Job in Two Places

The theory that one job is enough for any man is often expounded by critics of our government system.

It is disproved in practice, however, in one notable instance. Ald. Fred Crone, M.L.A., showed last week, when he moved the address in reply to the speech from the Throne at the opening of the Legislature, that singleness of purpose justifies his dual position.

He said plainly that municipalities must have assistance to escape bankruptcy and he said it with all the weight of his experience as a member of the Vancouver City Council.

He said it in the right place at the right time. It is hoped that the Legislature of which he is also a member will take cognizance of the serious situation which he outlined.

If he can persuade the Government to act before the municipal structure collapses he will have done a valuable public service.

We know that Vancouver has had to adopt risky and wasteful expedients to finance its public services, without paying the slightest regard to proven fiscal truths.

Sinking funds have been raided and capital funds have been used for operating expenses. Budgets have not been balanced and taxpayers have been gouged to the point where they gave up their property by the thousands rather than try to carry the outrageous load.

The Government in seven years has deprived the city of \$5,000,000, made up of grants withdrawn and new liabilities imposed.

Ald. Crone was speaking no more than the truth when he informed the Government that this system cannot continue.

The city does not care whether grants are restored or liabilities are removed. "But one or both has to be done."

Surely that must be obvious. He mentioned the cost of hospitalization as one charge that the cities should be exempted from. Why should landowners have to pay for hospitals that give service to landowners and others alike?

They not only should not have this burden, but they can't carry it. At this very session of the Legislature, Vancouver is asking authority to spread the cost of a new hospital heating plant over a five-year period because the money can't be found out of this year's revenue.

The Government admits that its revenues last year reached an all-time record. It admits that municipalities are entitled to a share in this rich harvest.

So far all that cities have obtained is a vague promise that something may be done if the Government can get a better deal at Ottawa.

That isn't enough. Ottawa will not act until the Royal Commission reports on its financial findings after a Dominion-wide study. Indications are that action will be delayed for three years.

Vancouver cannot wait that long.

Ald. Crone has warned the Government that a life line must be thrown to the city immediately.

If the Government permits us to sink in this gloomy slough of mounting deficits, Vancouver will know where to place the blame.

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