

**J A N**

**1961**

## Strachan challenge

# CCF tries to block Gagliardi from House

## Bitterness looming

By PADDY SHERMAN

VICTORIA — The right of Highways Minister Gagliardi to sit in the B.C. Legislature was challenged at Thursday's house opening by Opposition Leader Strachan. Mr. Gagliardi was recently fined \$1,000 for contempt of court.

The CCF leader later rose and attempted to alter a motion setting out a course of debate on unemployment.

Both moves pointed the way to the hard bitter debate that looms on major issues this session.

The first interruption came when Assistant Clerk George MacMinn read the formal list of members elected at the Sept. 12 election.

### COURT JUDGMENTS

Before they could be approved, Mr. Strachan rose and said: "Since the election to which this document refers, there have been some court judgments affecting the member for Kamloops.

"Many members of the general public are questioning the right of the member to take his seat in the legislature. I personally would not presume to offer an opinion. But I would suggest that you, Mr. Speaker, either now or in the next few days, inform us as to the eligibility of the member to sit."

Speaker Hugh Shantz, sworn in just a few minutes before, immediately said he would withhold judgment.

Things quietened down, and Lieut.-Gov. Pearkes came in and delivered his 27-minute throne speech to almost 600 members and guests. But barely had the doors closed behind him and his retinue than Mr. Strachan was up again.

### TAKE PRECEDENCE

This time, Premier Bennett had read a traditional motion that the matters in the speech should take precedence over all other business except the introduction of bills.

Mr. Strachan wanted to change this to include "such business as may relate to unemployment and its alleviation". He said he did this because once before the Speaker had refused to allow a special debate on unemployment because it was not specifically covered by the throne speech.

If the amendment was approved, he said, the house could discuss unemployment and specific steps to cure it. Mr. Bonner said the government opposed this because the speech was broad enough to permit debate on unemployment. The move was defeated.



Robert Strachan and Premier Bennett escort speaker Hugh Shantz

## Big issues sidelined

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The 3,000-word speech from the throne read Thursday by Lieut.-Gov. George Pearkes at the opening of the Legislature was notable mainly for the things it did not say.

It omitted or skipped lightly over such controversial topics as unemployment, labor legislation, welfare problems and the government's power policies.

But first, the main points that it did name:

- A provincial institute of advanced technology will be built, as recommended by the Chant report on education. Changes will be made in the Public Schools Act to implement other recommendations.

- The government will "take measures designed to encourage establishment" of a blister copper smelter in B.C.

- A government office to promote investment, trade and tourism will be opened in California this year.

- Farms now operated by the mental health services at Exsondale and Tranquille will be taken over by the department of agriculture for demonstration and experimental husbandry.

- There will be measures "to encourage the building of fall-out shelters throughout B.C. and to establish lines of responsibility in municipal government in case of war."

- Changes will be made in the Credit Unions Act, the Securities Act, the act governing the department of recreation and conservation and various acts covering expropriation of land will be consolidated to provide uniform compensation.

The speech also promised that the Ross report on provincial mental health services will be placed before the legislature.

As part of the program to train workers to higher standards, a vocational school will be operating at Prince George by September.

Also in September, there will be a program "to assist those persons whose high school education has been interrupted . . . through night schools."

About power, the Speech said: "My government is conscious of its responsibility to all future generations to seek wise and impartial counsel in the formation of policies leading to the development of the province's hydro-electric power resources."

"Accordingly it has asked the B.C. Energy Board to report on a variety of matters pertaining to development of the Columbia and Peace Rivers."

## The speech from the throne . . .

While the speech from the throne opening B.C.'s 26th Parliament indicates a busy session, it remains silent on points about which there has been much speculation.

There was nothing specific about unemployment, the much-rumored "improvements" in B.C. labor laws or the provincial social welfare department, which was the centre of the recent storm of protest.

This does not mean that the government doesn't plan any legislation in these areas. It means the government isn't going to tip its hand on these issues just now. It prefers to keep the opposition guessing.

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Some of the Chant Commission recommendations have been put into effect and others will be implemented immediately. Further study will be given to commission proposals which do not lend themselves to speedy adoption. Under this heading probably will be those which involve expenditure of large sums of money.

The government will ask for changes in the Public Schools Act to authorize funds for a provincial institute of advanced technology as recommended by the Chant Report. And a new vocational training school is planned for Prince George.

Evidently ratification of the Columbia power agreement with the U.S. will have to mark time until Premier Bennett and

his advisers are certain that the agreement is the most provident one for B.C. The speech says financial arrangements on the Columbia project must await the conclusions of the B.C. Energy Board (studying the Peace and Columbia programs) and discussions with the federal finance minister.

The plan to open an office in California this year to promote "investment, trade and tourism" seems a good one. This was promised last year but the government never got around to it.

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Proposals to introduce a new Teachers' Pension Act to improve retirement benefits of teachers will be welcomed, pensions in this area not being generous.

Of wide interest is the forecast of measures to encourage the construction of fall-out shelters. With disclosure of plans to build shelters for Canadian government agencies the public's interest in shelters has been reawakened. It is expected that the government's "encouragement" will take the form of some sort of municipal tax exemption on domestic shelters.

So far not a very exciting legislative menu. But if previous sessions are any yardstick, the big debates will be over issues that don't show in the throne speech. At this moment the big storms are only little clouds in the sky, no bigger than a man's hand.

## 59 welfare workers quit during year, says report

By PADDY SHERMAN

VICTORIA — Indications of unrest within the provincial social welfare department appeared Thursday in the annual report of the department.

It showed that in a total staff of 215 social workers, 59 resigned during the year ending last March 31.

During the period, the number of persons obtaining social welfare was up six per cent, from 68,818 to 72,518. But the number getting social allowances, mainly those out of work, shot up 12 per cent, from 17,188 to 19,281.

Director J. A. Sadler said "a marked increase" in these payments was due to prevalent unemployment.

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## Liquor profit \$13 million

VICTORIA — The Liquor Control Board has a markup of about 50 per cent. A financial statement for the six months ended Sept. 30, 1960, showed the board bought its liquor for \$33,756,000, and sold it for \$49,219,000.

This gave a gross profit of \$15,463,000 for six months. After deducting operating costs of \$2,331,000, a net profit of \$13,131,000 remained.

A total of 10,507 persons was convicted in Vancouver in one year for being drunk in a public place. The liquor report shows that 4,141 went to jail and the rest paid more than \$30,000 in fines in the year ending last March.

Victoria had 800 drunks, Prince George 580, Kamloops 462 and Prince Rupert 305.

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## B.C. tourist revenue cut

VICTORIA — Revenue from B.C.'s tourist trade dropped \$2.6 million in 1960 compared with the year before. Reasons suggested for the decline were the distraction of a U.S. presidential election and tougher competition for the tourist dollar.

Total revenue last year was \$100.4 million compared with \$103 million.



## Facing the session

# Mr. Gaglardi due for more fireworks

By PADDY SHERMAN

VICTORIA — More fireworks over the way Highways Minister Gaglardi handles his department are due in the legislature.

Both Liberal Leader Ray Perrault and Opposition Leader Robert Strachan are tackling the minister, by means of notices of motion and questions respectively.

Mr. Perrault has filed notice that Monday he will move that all correspondence be filed that relates to dealing between the government and L and M Logging, Union Contracting Co. and sub-contractors. He also wants any letters from Mr. Gaglardi to anybody else dealing with the financial affairs of Union Contracting and payments to this firm. Union is the company involved in the court case in which Mr. Gaglardi was fined \$1,000.

Mr. Strachan will ask how much money has been paid to the following individual companies and officials, and what

contracts, bids and services were involved:

J and M Construction Co., Michael Moran, Lloyd Jordan, Fritz Jordan, R. H. Miller, Reg Pearen Ltd., Jordan Construction Co., R. L. Construction Co., L and M Logging Ltd., Union Contracting Co., Burton Lymburner, Clyde Thornton, Bonanza Construction, Continental Contractors Ltd., Mid City Construction, Gresty Bros. Ltd., Vincent Lawrence Gresty, E. J. Gresty, Hemlock Equipment Ltd., Ben Ginter Construction Co., Ben Ginter Construction Co., (1958) Ltd., Atlas Construction Ltd., Western Sand and Gravel Ltd., E. V. Merrick, G. A. Fennings, R. M. W. Brigolliss, Henry George Garfield, Windsor Construction Co., North River Construction Co., McClay Construction Co. Ltd., Casco Tire Co., A. H. Cassidy, C. E. Cosens, Perini Pacific Ltd., Midwest Construction Co., Circle Construction Company, Cleaveley Construction Co., A. Cleaveley, Merit Construction Co., and View Construction Co.

## CCF seeks showdown on Smith appointment

VICTORIA—The opposition wants to know if Works Minister Chant told the truth about the appointment of Walter J. Smith as superintendent of public works at Kamloops.

Mr. Smith, former campaign manager to Highways Minister Gaglardi was appointed to the \$500-a-month job by cabinet order in council last November.

Mr. Chant said recently that all appointments at this level were by order in council.

Cedric Cox (CCF, Burnaby) will formally ask Mr. Chant who the civil service commission recommended for the job, and where Mr. Smith was on the commission's rating. He

will also ask the names of all public works superintendents in B.C. and how many were appointed by order in council.

Randolph Harding (CCF, Kaslo-Slocan) will ask if any government contracts or payments have been given since 1958 to a company involved in the Sommers bribery-conspiracy trial.

The question names C. D. Schultz and Company Ltd., and Consolidated Services Ltd., and C. D. Schultz Appraisal Co. Ltd. C. D. Schultz and Co. was a defendant in the Sommers trial, but the jury could not agree on the charges. No retrial was ever ordered.

# Heavy load of queries awaits welfare minister

VICTORIA—David Barrett, the new CCF social welfare critic, is off to a flying start in his one-man probe of the provincial welfare department.

On the very first order-paper of the session he has filed notice he will ask 22 questions, splitting up into 54 sub-questions of Welfare Minister Wesley Black.

Mr. Barrett, a professional welfare worker with a master's degree, is in the house for the first time. He was fired by the government from his job at Haney Correctional Institution when he announced he planned to seek office.

Last September 12 he unseated Labor Minister Lyle Wicks in the Dewdney riding.

Mrs. Camille Mather, new member for Delta, will ask four questions about Woodlands school for retarded children and the size of the waiting list there and about staffs at Willingdon School for Girls, the Boys' Industrial School and the child welfare services.

Her fellow-member James Rhodes, also in for his first time, asks four about how total welfare costs are shared.

New Liberal Leader Ray Perrault has also filled one question in four parts asking the same information.

## Liquor chaos feared

VICTORIA — Two Social Credit MLAs fear there will be chaos if federal liquor laws are implemented for B.C. Indians, and want the B.C. Liquor Act changed to avoid the problems.

Dan Campbell (Comox) and William Murray (Prince Rupert) said the federal system permits liquor votes by Indian bands, but it wouldn't work in B.C.

"They are having trouble in Ontario where there are 164 reservations and 111 bands. In B.C. we have 1,629 reservations and 204 bands."

He said a liquor vendor wouldn't know whether the Indian buying liquor came from a "wet" or "dry" band.

So the MLAs are sponsoring a motion that would permit the B.C. cabinet to set the boundaries for an Indian liquor vote. Then the cabinet could hold a vote in a separate agency, of which there are only 15 in B.C.

Mr. Campbell said the problem would still exist, but not to anything like the same extent.



# Delinquency starts at home

## Parents need training course more than juveniles, women members agree

By NIKKI MOIR  
Province Staff Reporter  
VICTORIA — Treatment of parents as a preventive to juvenile delinquency was put forth as the answer to today's welfare and correctional problems by Mrs. Lois Haggen, CCF member for Grand Forks-Greenwood.

"We've got to start treating the parents," she said in Victoria as she gave her opinions on matters which may turn out hot issues on the floor of the House this 26th legislature.

She and Mrs. Camille Mather, CCF for Delta had been in caucus with Opposition Leader Robert Strachan and party members for two days plotting their course of action. Both

women were of course unable to divulge what had been discussed, but both freely gave their opinions to questions asked.

"I think all our correctional institutions should be under one authority. At first I thought it should be under the attorney-general, but now I feel it should be under welfare."

About education today: "School has taken over from the home. We have to find a way to make parents do the things they should," she said, adding she did not like to see children going to pre-school before six.

About sex education—"it should be taught in the schools. Many parents are unable to do this properly

themselves."

Her views differ here with Mrs. Mather who feels it is worthless in schools unless taught by a doctor.

"Sex education is not enough. We should teach morality," said Mrs. Mather.

Government policy on welfare with its recent child adoption upheaval due to the storm raised by the retirement of Miss Ruby McKay, is sure to come under fire from the opposition.

Both women members agree that hold up on adoptions is detrimental to the children.

"A child should be adopted after birth when it goes to a welcome home," said Mrs. Mather. "Batting around from foster home to foster

home leaves its imprint.

"We can't expect anything of the generation, if this happens. It is a matter of self-preservation that we do something."

As a woman member, one of three, she feels that the women owe it to their constituencies to present the father's view on such matters as well.

Commenting on Miss McKay's reasons for retirement—lack of staff, co-operation, etc., Mrs. Haggen said most civil servants are true to their oath.

"They must suffer a great struggle with themselves. Ruby McKay just couldn't have taken it any longer."

Mrs. Mather makes her maiden speech to the House

week after next. In the meantime, she will "sit back and listen."

She backs Mrs. Haggen when she says, "A woman has to be doubly sure of her facts when she speaks. A man can say things that are stupid and get away with it."

Asked for her opinion on the child adoption controversy she said this problem of hold-ups was general everywhere and that she has "great confidence in the ability of Miss Mary King to do a fine piece of work."

Miss King is the new superintendent of child welfare and has worked for many years in the department.

"I feel keenly for the wonderful people who want to

adopt children," says Mrs. Buda Brown who is grandmother to two.

She pointed out the need for caution with adoptions to make sure that suitable children get suitable parents.

"I get many letters from persons—not concerned with adoption — worried about their natural children who have shown signs of physical and mental abnormalities after a year."

"No government can keep up with everything," she replied answering accusations that nothing was being done.

About education, she feels the Chant Report was right down the line of her own thinking.

"I'm old fashioned. Extras such as dancing and dating

on the school curriculum are amazing.

"I don't like to pinpoint sex. I think it is just as natural as our growth and discussions on this should be in the home. Don't tell me they are waiting until high school to get their sex education," she remarked.

"There are other things more important in school, to learn the subjects they need to face life, to make better citizens and better businessmen."

At the moment, the new minister without portfolio is treading carefully, attending cabinet meetings, listening and getting around to the various departments to learn how they operate.

Her interests will lie al-

ways, she said, with welfare and the things about which women feel most keenly.

"Public works, highways, mining, that's man's work."

"I want to see whether criticisms are justified," she inferred in her pursuance of welfare situation.

She is not sure whether she will actually be making a speech, "because I haven't a department and don't feel I can encroach on others, but I will speak if I feel strongly about something. Mostly I'll be representing the women and their world," she ended.

One thing she is sure of, along with her two compatriots, it will be a hot and heavy session, this first of the 26th legislature.

## Victoria comment

By PADDY SHERMAN

VICTORIA — There can be no doubt now which way the ball will bounce during this session of the legislature. It will bounce high and often, propelled by some very vigorous kicking by the opposition.

To the people sitting at the opening ceremony, listening to what must have been the most dismal opening speech ever written (and this is the premier's doing, not the lieutenant-governor's), things may not have seemed too exciting.

But tradition has it that opening day shall glide along smoothly, and even the most important controversies shall be held off until at least the next day.

Nothing like the double-barrelled outburst from Opposition Leader Robert Strachan has been seen on opening day in recent years, certainly not during the life of the Social Credit government.

There have been one or two hassles about officials of the legislature, and they had to come on opening day when the officials were being sworn in. But to bring up two key issues before the sitting is even under way shows how hard the CCF, particularly, means to fight this one.

(Mr. Strachan made his first move — challenging the right to sit in the House of Highways Minister Gagliardi — during the roll call which precedes the throne speech. Despite the criticisms of this unusual step, it is the proper time for a member's eligibility to be questioned).

One long-term MLA confided the other day: "It's obvious that Social Credit will get the roughest ride this session it has ever had. I'm sure at least a few government members will wish they had never been born."

The opening speech traditionally doesn't tell too much about what the gov-

ernment plans to do, but this one was a masterpiece of saying nothing at length.

One item was so vaguely phrased that reporters had trouble deciding whether it referred to the color bar sometimes applied at hotels or to public access to key logging roads.

One thing is certain: The main issues of this fiery sitting will be those not even mentioned in the speech. In fact, they quite likely will be issues that nobody has even given much thought to so far.

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A lively opening isn't always a good sign that the session will be a hot one. On the second day of the 1958 session, Mr. Strachan and Premier Bennett tangled bitterly.

Mr. Strachan told the premier: "If he is looking for a dogfight in this session, he is going to have it." The red-faced premier angrily snapped back: "The leader of the opposition cannot threaten the prime minister of this province."

Yet by comparison with the 1959 session, the 1958 one was a sleeper. The only major excitement came when Sacred Mel Bryan quit the party and walked across to join the opposition. Cyril Shelford the independent character from Omineca almost followed him, but stopped himself right at the fence.

The feeling is abroad that anything could happen, and at any time.



## Strachan urges new welfare setup for B.C.

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Formation of a new B.C. department of social welfare and rehabilitation was proposed Monday in the legislature by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan. The new department would take over welfare, alcoholic and drug addiction and correctional services. Mr. Strachan charged the present department had suffered demoralization and deterioration under the Social Credit government.

He also charged the B.C. government had deliberately wrecked a better Columbia River agreement than was finally signed so that Wenner-Gren interests and the B.C. Electric could achieve a power monopoly.

In another attack, Mr. Strachan asked what had happened to the 10,000 jobs promised to B.C. on the eve of the last provincial election by "oil baron" Frank McMahon.

He made the welfare suggestion during a hard-hitting attack on the policies of the present social welfare department and its minister Wesley D. Black.

Since Social Credit came in, Mr. Strachan said, there has been "complete deterioration and demoralization of the social welfare department."

He said the opposition had tried hard to bring out the facts during recent sessions, but it has taken the resignation of one of the finest civil servants B.C. ever had to arouse province-wide condemnation of the situation.

"I refer, of course, to Miss Ruby McKay, superintendent of child welfare, who has virtually given her life to the cause of social welfare and

child welfare in particular."

Mr. Strachan went on: "In the face of the irreproachable record of Miss McKay, I feel I am voicing the sentiments of the people . . . when I say I feel nothing but disgust for the bitter personal attack made on Miss McKay by the vociferous Highways Minister Gagliardi on behalf of the government."

"Coming from a man with the minister's record in courts, his criticism can only be described as sanctimonious cant."

The man responsible, Welfare Minister Wesley Black, said nothing, Mr. Strachan went on. He suggested this proved the government had no confidence in his ability to deal with it.

"This is eight years of progress?" he asked scornfully.

On the Columbia he said Canada has been forced to accept a second-best agreement, and the blame was entirely on the Social Credit government.

He said there was general agreement that the best Columbia plan for Canada included the Dorr Dam on the Kootenay. This would have ruled out permission for the U.S. to build the Libby Dam on the river.

If the present agreement was the result of give and take in international bargaining, it would be bad enough, said Mr. Strachan.

But, he said, U.S. negotiators had agreed to permit the Dorr diversion and forego Libby Dam.

Then, he said, the B.C. government "deliberately walked in and wrecked the agreement reached."

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## Perrault meets defeat in maiden House effort

Province Victoria Bureau  
VICTORIA — Liberal Leader Ray Perrault made his 45-minute maiden speech in the legislature Monday, then sat down to applause from all sides.

When the clapping finished, he stood up again, and tried to amend the motion approving the speech from the throne.

This was to show the four Liberal members' disapproval of the way the government glossed over unemployment and social welfare problems.

Speaker Hugh Shantz gently pointed out that once a member sits down, his speech is finished. But as he was a new member, said the Speaker, he would overlook it.

Mr. Perrault tried again, and read his amendment.

This time the Speaker, not so gently, ruled that the motion was to all intents the same as the CCF no-confidence motion that the government had defeated minutes earlier by 31 votes to 20.

So the amendment was never put, and Mr. Perrault met his first defeat in the legislature.

Earlier, he did creditably in the task of making not only his first speech in the House, but having to make it as a party leader. He dealt chiefly with unemployment and power.

On unemployment, Mr. Perrault suggested a plan of his own which he admitted might have wrinkles in it, and might be destroyed, but was at least better than blaming everything on Ottawa.

Every house in B.C. could use \$500 worth of repairs, he said, and the construction trade was the main centre of

unemployment, accounting for 19 per cent of the unskilled men out of work.

He proposed an 18-month crash program, with makers of B.C. products cutting prices 10 per cent, labor cutting its rates 10 per cent, and the B.C. government chipping in another 10 per cent. The municipalities would not tax the improvements for three years.

This way, he said, there would be a \$75 million self-starter program available at once for B.C.'s economy.

On power, the 34-year-old Liberal leader said the Columbia River development is the greatest issue in Canada since confederation, but he thought the Canada-U.S. agreement was second best.

He said the B.C. Energy Board, now studying comparative costs of the Peace and Columbia schemes, should do it all in public. All those who made great claims for either should be cross-examined carefully in public.

"It's time the facts came out, and were not kept hidden or distorted," he said.

He welcomed the hearings, but was sorry they came so late, as this meant putting off 5,000 B.C. jobs this year.

Mr. Perrault said the throne speech was disappointing. "At a time when unemployment is at a peak, and more than one in ten is out of work, there was no suggestion that the government realized the magnitude of the challenge before it."

"This is the time that B.C. should reassess its whole position not only in connection with export markets, but in the field of labor-management relations," he said.

### Seat in doubt

## Gaglardi may spur big debate

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The legislature may stage a full-scale debate on whether or not Highways Minister Gaglardi is entitled to sit there.

This prospect loomed Monday when Speaker Hugh Shantz refused to rule on whether a \$1,000 contempt of court fine disqualifies the highways minister from sitting.

He had been asked to make the ruling on opening day by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan. Giving his decision Monday, Mr. Shantz said: "I am of the opinion that it is not within my competence to express any such opinion and the request is therefore not in order."

But he said he was prepared to discuss with Mr. Strachan ways in which a debate might be brought about on the question.

**J A N**

**1961**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 1961-

# B.C. Education Changes Pledged in Throne Speech

## Pearkes Opens House Session

By FRANK RUTTER  
Times Legislative Reporter

The first session of the new provincial legislature was officially opened in a blaze of color and sun this afternoon.

Lieutenant-Governor George Pearkes read his first speech from the throne, which foretold little in the way of new legislation plans by the Social Credit government.

However, the comparatively brief speech did promise changes in the Public Schools Act, expected to follow recommendations made in the report of the Chant Royal Commission.

One specific recommendation which will be accepted, it said, is to build a provincial institute of advanced technology, which will train technical experts after high school.

There was also one major proposal in the field of industry: measures to encourage a new copper smelter in the province.

Skies were sunny, gold braid glittered, as the traditional ceremony of pomp and pageant unfolded from the front steps of the Legislative Buildings to the sombre walls of the legislative chamber, crowded with 593 guests, including the 52 MLAs, 14 of them "new faces."

Gen. Pearkes inspected a 100-man army guard of honor, and cannon cracked out a 15-gun salute before he entered the chamber to officially open the first session of the 26th Assembly.

There were few firm indications of actual legislation in the throne speech.

Specific proposals include:

- Study of new laws to encourage utilization of pulpwood through public working circles;
- A new teachers' pensions act, providing better benefits;
- Measures to encourage building of radioactive fallout shelters and set up lines of government responsibility in the event of an emergency;
- A revamp of the Securities Act and revision of the Credit Union Act;
- Development of new park and recreation areas and a new act concerning access to public accommodation;
- A new approach to agricultural policy including revision of the 4-H Club program and encouragement for young farmers starting out;
- Extension of community health centres and additions to the provincial mental hospital at Essondale.

## No Hint of Labor Legislation

The speech contained no hint of labor legislation. It commented that there is "a heartening improvement in industrial relations" and the only specific mention of action to ease unemployment is for an increase in adult educational facilities.

Before Gen. Pearkes read the speech, he retired from the chamber while the House went through the formality of electing a Speaker. North Okanagan Social Creditor Hugh Shantz was reappointed after his nomination by Premier

W. A. C. Bennett, seconded by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan.

The official result of the Sept. 12 general election was also read.

The throne speech, commenting on the Chant report, said:

"Some of the recommendations have already been put into effect, others will be implemented immediately, while still others, because of their far-reaching implications, will be given further study."

Recommendations already in effect, it was learned, are minor ones implemented before the report was actually made.

The institute of advanced technology, as proposed by the Chant report, would include courses on engineering, forestry, mining, commerce and also science, and arts courses.

The speech also promised the House will receive results of another inquiry—into mental health services. It was conducted by the American Psychiatric Association.

Construction of a new industrial therapy building at Essondale and a surgical wing at Crease clinic will also be undertaken this year, said the speech.

There was some reference to the hot issue of hydro electric power.

Noting that the Columbia River treaty has been signed with the U.S., the throne speech said:

"Financial arrangements for the project must, however, await the counsel of the British Columbia Energy Board and discussions with the minister of finance of the government of Canada."

The energy board is conducting a study into costs and benefits, and is due to give an interim report by March 1.

Noting a marked increase in copper mining and milling in B.C. the speech said: "Installation of smelter facilities to produce blister copper within the province may shortly be feasible. You will be asked to consider measures designed to encourage the establishment of such a smelter."

On trade in general, the speech promised continued efforts to secure overseas markets, and a trade and investment promotor office in California. (Premier Bennett has said this will be located in San Francisco.)

Highways, last year the biggest spending department of government, were mentioned briefly, in a reference to improving roads to the U.S. border and more money for "other highway projects."

Vocational and academic training for the unemployed, set up in Vancouver, Nanaimo and Victoria late last year, will be extended and there will be new high school night courses next September, said the Throne Speech.

In agriculture, which has a new minister, Frank Richter, wide revision of youth training programs such as 4-H are proposed. Farms at mental institutions near Tranquille and Colony will be turned over to the agriculture department to be run as experimental stations with co-operation of the University of B.C.

An animal pathology laboratory will also be built at Abbotsford.

The standing committee on forestry will study the possibility of logging of pulpwood through public work circles, said the speech.



## Hard Session Ahead

**THE BRITISH COLUMBIA** Legislature opens today with traditional ceremonies and an important and difficult session in prospect.

Hydro power development, changes in the educational system, sharply controversial social welfare policy and prospective amendment of the labor code will provide a heavy agenda.

The government, returned to power with a reduced majority and a smaller minority popular vote, faces stiffer opposition. The strength of the CCF has grown and once more the Liberal leader is in the House, where the energies he has shown since election should find fruitful expression.

How the government deals with the serious issues before it will affect the course of British Columbia's development for years to come.

Nowhere is this more apparent than in the power field. Mr. Bennett must do better than he has done so far to prove his determination to get for British Columbia the lowest-cost power available from our river systems. He must convince a skeptical public that he is not delaying progress on the Columbia for the benefit of private promoters seeking to develop the Peace River. No picayune argument on minor variation in a 3.77 mill cost at the border will be good enough.

Changes in the system of public education based on the Chant commission recommendations will be awaited with keen interest by the parent of every school child in British Columbia.

The changes can be vastly important. But amendments arising from the recent royal commission will not be sufficient. During the session the premier must give some indication of the government's wil-

lingness to re-examine the financial structure on which the public schools stand.

It is obvious, from municipal pleadings in recent years, that the present method of overloading the municipal taxpayer with education costs cannot continue. The Chant commission has designed the suit. Now it is up to Mr. Bennett to provide the cloth—or at least to pay a great deal more of its cost than he is at present.

The public has been told that Mr. Wesley Black will explain the government's position on social welfare. He must do more than explain. He must outline the means by which the provincial service can be restored to the international eminence it held before Social Credit took over. The shame of the service's recent deterioration—imputed to government financial policies—is a blot on the government and public conscience. It must be removed.

In a climate of high unemployment, and in the gestation period of a new trade union-socialist political movement, labor matters assume particular significance. Of general concern will be government policy involving its own employees, the civil servants. But the issue will range far beyond that domestic field and may touch such matters as "check-off" among unions at large.

Beyond detailed items of labor legislation, a more significant problem looms. It concerns the great need to stimulate the British Columbia economy and to make this province—so critically dependent on exports for its prosperity—more competitive in world trade.

Mr. Bennett says that he expects a quiet session. If the legislature deals with the matters to which it should devote attention, he could be wrong again on that forecast.

## WELFARE SPENDING LISTED

The B.C. government spent \$26,070,635 on social welfare in the last year for which figures are available, 1959-60, it is disclosed in public accounts tabled today in the Legislature.

With the welfare department currently in the spotlight amid a storm of criticism about government policy, a detailed examination of the accounts shows that \$476,361 more than estimated was spent on social assistance allowances, which totalled \$18,398,361.

More than estimated was also spent on field service, costing a total of \$1,213,989 and maintenance of dependent children and foster homes, \$2,343,613.

### LESS SPENT

However part of these underestimates was made up by spending less than planned on institutions.

At Tranquille, near Kamloops, home for the mentally retarded; total spending was \$30,836 out of an appropriation of \$104,490.

At Willingdon industrial school for girls the \$265,280 appropriation was underspent by \$35,030.

Brannen Lake industrial school for boys got \$398,342, or \$20,674 less than estimated needs.

The New Denver Pavilion cost \$22,841, which was \$18,158 below the estimate.

Total overspending was \$609,029. Total underspending \$156,944.

That leaves \$452,085, or less than the amount of extra payments on social assistance.

## RAE EDDIE NAMED CCF PARTY WHIP



RAE EDDIE  
... crucial post

New Westminster MLA Rae Eddie has been picked party whip for the CCF during the session of the legislature opening today.

The decision was made at the party's first caucus meeting, held Tuesday afternoon.

Veteran CCF member Arthur Turner of Vancouver East was named deputy House leader, to act in the absence of Opposition Leader Robert Strachan.

Mr. Turner was formerly the party whip. Kaslo-Slocan MLA Randolph Harding remains caucus chairman.

Mr. Eddie, 60, was first elected to the provincial legislature in 1952.

## \$27 Million Profit On Liquor

The B.C. government's liquor business is nearing the \$100,000,000 mark.

Total sales by the Liquor Control Board in fiscal 1959-60 reached \$96,309,693, according to public accounts tabled in the Legislature this afternoon.

This was an increase of \$1,700,000 over the previous year.

The government's profit on this was \$27,281,514, compared to \$26,857,984 the previous year.

Actually the total spending by the public on liquor was far in excess of the \$96,309,693 collected by the government since in addition to individual bottle sales, this total only covers the wholesale price of beer sold to beer parlors, and the price of hard liquors paid by cocktail bar and other outlets to the board. These are then resold to the public in individual drinks at a considerably larger amount.

THURS., JAN. 26, 1961



**ONE OF THE TALLEST** members ever to sit in the B.C. legislature is six-foot six-inch George Hobbs, CPR locomotive engineer from Revelstoke. Mr. Hobbs, as one of 14 new MLAs

in the House, is greeted by his new chief, Opposition leader Robert Strachan. Mr. Strachan is fully six-foot himself, yet seems dwarfed by the 212-pound new CCFer.

## TOP SPENDER TITLE GOES TO GAGLARDI

Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi is back at the head of the provincial cabinet's list of expenses.

Last year, it was Premier W. A. C. Bennett who spent the most on expenses over and above his salary as reported in the Public Accounts for 1958-59.

This year, in the accounts for 1959-60, Mr. Gaglardi is top spender, with \$4,303.

Second is former Agriculture Minister Newton P. Steacy, defeated in the Sept. 12 election, who spent \$3,898.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner comes next, with \$3,721.

The premier is fourth, with \$3,674.

Low man is Recreation Minister Earle Westwood, \$1,681.



# Seat for Gaglardi At Issue in House

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## STURDY ACTION FULLY WITHDRAWN

VANCOUVER (CP)—A British Columbia Supreme Court action to have Highways Minister Gaglardi removed from the legislature has been withdrawn by Vancouver lawyer David Sturdy.

Mr. Sturdy said today he withdrew the action at the request of the Opposition. He did not say who in the Opposition made the request. However, Mr. Sturdy said he is free to resume the action at any time.

Mr. Sturdy's suit is on the allegation that under the Provincial Elections Act, Mr. Gaglardi cannot sit as a member of the legislature, having been convicted of an unlawful offence when fined \$1,000 for contempt of court.

★ ★ ★

## PERRAULT WANTS LETTERS

# Details Asked On Road Deals

Highways Minister Gaglardi is under attack again today—and this time Liberal Leader Ray Perrault has joined Opposition Leader Robert Strachan in demanding details of highway deals.

Mr. Perrault has filed notice of motion calling for disclosure to the Legislature of details leading to Mr. Gaglardi's \$1,000 contempt of court fine. Two motions he will intro-

duce Monday call for filing of all correspondence between Mr. Gaglardi, government officials and Union Contracting Co. and its sub-contracts, particularly those dealing with finances.

Clyde Thornton, of Union, received \$25,000 from the department of highways while there was a court order barring payments to the firm until a creditor was satisfied.

This drew the fine for Mr. Gaglardi and a jail term for Thornton.

Mr. Strachan's attack comes in the form of a series of question to the minister.

He repeats the list of 40 individuals and companies which he alleged at the last legislative session had received favors from Mr. Gaglardi.

Among them is Clyde Thornton and his firm.

Mr. Strachan asks the minister to tell the Legislature what money has been paid to these people and firms in the last year, and what contracts have been awarded them since his original charges.

On Thursday, at the opening of the session, Mr. Strachan challenged the right of the minister to sit in the House because of his fine.

The right of Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi to sit in the Legislature became a formal issue on the session's first day Thursday.

Mr. Gaglardi's right to be in the House, after being fined \$1,000 for contempt of court, was challenged as Opposition Leader Robert Strachan shattered the traditional calm of ceremony before the Speech from the Throne was read.

Mr. Strachan won from the Speaker a promise that he will take the matter "under consideration."

Outside the House, Speaker Hugh Shantz told the Times: "Offhand I would say it was a matter for the Legislature to decide, not the Speaker. However I'll check into it."

## JUST WAIT

Also outside, Mr. Gaglardi's comment:

"You just wait. Every dog has his day."

Mr. Gaglardi was convicted of contempt of court and fined \$1,000 for allowing his department to pay off a highways contract to a firm subject to a court order restraining payment until a creditor was satisfied.

He appealed unsuccessfully to the B.C. courts. He now is expected to go to the Supreme Court of Canada.

"The people of this province will get a full report on my conduct at any time, at all times," said Mr. Gaglardi afterwards.

"I'll act in a responsible fashion when the time comes."

Mr. Strachan's action in the House came when Provincial Secretary Wesley Black moved that the roll of MLAs read by clerk-assistant E. G. MacMinn be entered in the journals of the House—in other words they would be officially seated after the election of last Sept. 12.

## QUESTIONED

The Opposition Leader jumped up: "Since the election to which this document refers there have been some court judgments affecting the member from Kamloops."

"Many members of the general public are questioning the right of the member for Kamloops to take his seat in this legislature."

"I personally would not presume to offer an opinion."

He asked the Speaker to give his opinion on whether Mr. Gaglardi is eligible to sit in the House.

"I will take it under consideration," was the answer.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner, quickly intervened to cut further discussion. He said it was a matter for the House in committee to consider. He called for a vote on the original motion on the election, which was granted and the vote unanimously "aye."



FRIDAY, JAN. 27, 1961



**BEFORE OPENING** the B.C. Legislature Thursday Lieutenant-Governor George Pearkes inspected a royal guard of 100 men of the 1st Battalion, PPCLI, accompanied by guard commander, Maj. A. G. W. Harbord-

Harbord, holding drawn sword. Mr. Pearkes wore a full dress civil uniform consisting of plumed cocked hat and dark blue coat with gold oak leaf embroidery. (Times Photo by Irving Strickland.)

## The Speech Keeps the Secrets

**IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT** the Speech from the Throne reveals little of the legislative substance of the new session. Such speeches seldom do.

At this time, particularly, with hard and controversial issues confronting him, Mr. Bennett is perfectly entitled to say nothing until he has cleared through caucus the policies and bills he plans to divulge later.

Mention is made of School Act changes along some of the lines recommended in the Chant commission report, and improved benefits are forecast under the Teachers' Pensions Act.

References to modification of terms for the disposal of pulpwood in public working circles are so nebulous they are meaningless to

the general public. Expansion of parks plans hinted in the speech will be taken to mean provision of extended recreation facilities for our people.

Other matters of public interest are mentioned in guarded phrases, but the speech gives no clear indication of program on such major issues as labor, power and social welfare.

The latter are, of course, subjects on which the Government can expect no general agreement; matters, also, which should not come as a surprise in the Legislature to the benches on the right of Mr. Speaker.

Doubtless for these reasons, any substance which might reside in the Throne Speech is lost in the excelsior of words with which it is packed.

## Carrother's Report Still Under Wraps

Some 30 reports were tabled in the legislature on opening day Thursday; but one that everyone is awaiting keenly was missing.

Each cabinet minister read the title of his reports. When Provincial Secretary Wesley Black, responsible for the civil service, came to the end of his list, Arthur Turner, CCF, Vancouver East, flung out:

"Isn't there the Carrothers Report?"

There was no answer.

The Carrothers Report on civil service bargaining rights was filed with the government in January, 1959. Its contents have never been disclosed.



## NORMAN CRIBBENS IN THE LEGISLATURE

How polite everyone is the day the B.C. Legislature opens.

All is sweetness and light . . . Premier Bennett and Opposition leader Robert Strachan exchanging smiles and handshakes. The Opposition beaming on the government, the government beaming on the Opposition. Bows and smiles on every side.

Then the august entry of the lieutenant-governor, a magnificent figure in blue and gold braid . . . no hint of disharmony until Mr. Strachan rises to suggest that Highways Minister P. A. Gagliardi should perhaps be deprived of his seat.

But even Mr. Strachan is dignified and restrained. He personally would not presume to suggest that Mr. Gagliardi should lose his seat. He only asks Mr. Speaker (Hugh Shantz) to give his opinion.

Mr. Shantz reserves his opinion, but Attorney-General Robert Bonner suggests that any question touching the rights of a member to sit in the House should be discussed by a parliamentary committee.

Just that—no disharmony, no angry outbursts. The ceremony proceeds with Lieutenant-Governor George Pearkes reading the customary Speech from the Throne.

Everyone knows that the Speech from the Throne, according to British parliamentary tradition, has been written by the premier. Yet General Pearkes reads it with such eloquence and feeling you might think it was his own.

It is his first appearance in the Legislature as the Queen's representative and he is a resplendent military figure in plumed cocked hat and official gold-braided uniform decorated with the crimson ribbon of the Victoria Cross.

There is a hush as he enters the crowded chamber accompanied by his aides—Lieutenant-Commander H. Plant, Major R. Frost, Wing Commander W. D. Foster, RCMP Inspector P. Bazowski and Commander Garfield Dixon.

With bright sunshine streaming through the high windows of the chamber, the many-colored hats worn by the women guests create the effect of a riotous flower garden.

One of the 14 new MLAs, Mrs. Camille Mather, is particularly fetching in a red hat. Mrs. Lois Haggan from Grand Forks is charming in a high-crowned cloche and Mrs. Ruda Brown from Point Grey catches the eye with a picturesque white creation.

The welcome to the governor on the steps of the legislature is truly spectacular with crisp sunshine bathing the flag-decked lawns. Some 400 men, women and children gather to watch the ceremony.

A 15-gun salute is fired by a gun crew of the 5th Independent Medium Battery under Lieutenant D. Elcoate as the band of HMCS Naden plays God Save the Queen.

There is spontaneous applause from the crowd as General Pearkes steps from his car and proceeds to inspect a 100-man royal guard of honor formed by the 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, commanded by Major A. G. W. Harbord-Harbord, with Lieutenant E. M. Canfield as color bearer.

The governor is welcomed to the Buildings by Premier Bennett and escorted to the executive council chamber where he waits until it is time for him to enter the legislature.

The opening ceremonies over, there was a huge tea party in the Empress Hotel, where Premier and Mrs. Bennett and several cabinet ministers received upwards of 3,000 guests—1,000 more than were expected.

But only the early arrivals were able to get any sandwiches and the tea ran out in less than an hour.

Health Minister Eric Martin was seen nursing a strained hand after a too-hearty handshake from one of the guests.

"I never knew this work was so dangerous," he quipped.

# Strachan Fails To Win Priority For Job Action

Opposition leader Robert Strachan made an unsuccessful attempt Thursday to gain precedence in the Legislature for a debate and action on unemployment.

It was his second interruption of the staid opening day's ceremonies. Earlier he challenged right of Highways Minister P. A. Gagliardi to sit as an MLA.

His foray on unemployment was rebuffed, but he won a technical victory over Premier W. A. C. Bennett by forcing him into a position where he had to withdraw a proposal.

What trapped the premier was his suggestion that there be a recorded vote by division on the requests for precedence of unemployment over all other matters of business.

### ON RECORD

He made it after Mr. Strachan bitterly commented that a voice vote showed "all the nays on the government side" and he wanted that on record.

The premier jumped up. "I would ask for a division; I think it's sufficiently important."

But Speaker Hugh Shantz had to tell him it would be necessary to clear the House of all 320 guests on the floor in order to call a division. He would not call a show of hands, he added.

The premier bowed: "In deference to the ruling I withdraw."

Mr. Strachan was trying to amend a routine motion that the Throne Speech debate have precedence over all other issues except new bills, by inserting that unemployment "and its alleviation" also get top priority.

"It is in essence setting the agenda for this legislature," he told the House.

### TRIED BEFORE

He said he tried a few years ago to get a debate on unemployment and was ruled out of order by the Speaker because the routine motion on precedence had already been passed.

(Outside the House, he told reporters it had been 1958 and he had tried on the second day of the legislature.)

The legislature has "an obligation to direct deliberations," said Mr. Strachan, "to the specific problem of unemployment in B.C."

He said he would "leave the door open" on specific measures to ease the problem.

Mr. Bonner hit back that the Throne Speech was "sufficient" indication the government plans action.

Finally, the original motion on precedence was passed without dissent.

"Unanimous already," quipped the Premier.



# Barrage of Questions Lands As Welfare Takes Spotlight

Social welfare has been officially launched as a major issue in the B.C. Legislature: 36 out of 93 questions filed after opening day are addressed to Welfare Minister Wesley Black.

They run the gamut through the operations and policies of the government's social welfare

department, under a barrage of criticism since its child welfare superintendent, Ruby McKay, resigned complaining of "restrictive policy."

Main questioner in the new Legislature is the CCF's new welfare critic, David Barrett of Dewdney, himself a social worker with a master's degree.

He has 22 queries. James Rhodes (CCF-Delta) has four; Camille Mather (CCF-Delta) also has four; Mrs. Lois Haggan (CCF-Grand Forks) has one and Liberal leader Rav Perrault has one.

However, the Social Credit government member for Esquimalt, Herbert Bruch, may steal some of the opposition thunder and deaden some of the hot questions.

He has filed the first six questions on the order paper, and they are all about welfare.

## INCREASED

He asks his own minister about cost of social allowances and how they have increased since the Socreds came to power, about staff increases in the past year, increases in average payments in various categories.

Mr. Barrett asks about medical care and the government's cutoff of it for people receiving unemployment insurance as well as social assistance, about qualification, case loads and turnover of social workers

and the amount of overtime they work.

Mr. Perrault's question is about social assistance rolls, and the cost and coverage of free medical care.

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## Kamloops Job Questioned In Legislature

Full details of the widely-publicized appointment of Walter James Smith as Kamloops public works superintendent for the B.C. government are asked in a CCF question filed in the Legislature.

Cedric Cox, of Burnaby, asks how many people applied for the job, how they finished in examinations and what was the rating of the "winner."

## 1,100 Miles Of 60-MPH Zones in B.C.

There now are 22,871 miles of provincial highways handling traffic increasing annually at the rate of 8 per cent.

These figures were given in the annual report of the B.C. highways department for the 1959-60 fiscal year.

As the traffic jumps, so do the problems associated with it, says the report, tabled in the legislature Thursday.

Speed is one problem, and 1,100 miles of 60 mph highways were designated during the year.

New projects included 125 miles of contract construction, including 55 miles of Trans-Canada Highway; 172 miles of day labor construction plus 421 miles of improvements.

Twenty-two bridges were completed and 52 ferries in service.

## B.C. Race Tracks May Get Break From Lawmakers

Amendments to the Jury Act, Pipelines Act and Horse Racing Regulations are among 14 new bills to be introduced to the legislature by the provincial government.

They are among notices of motion filed today.

Details of the bills are not generally available until first reading is given.

However, there is strong speculation that the Horse Racing Act amendment will cut provincial taxes on betting, worth \$1,250,744. This would be an answer to complaints about declining crowds and tight wallets at B.C. tracks.

On the Jury Act, it is believed there will be an increase in compensation for jurors. During the past year there have been a number of pleas for increased jury pay.

## EGAD, AN OAK BAY CAD!

Out of the 20,387 violations of B.C.'s liquor laws there was only one "drunk in a public place" in Oak Bay in the year ended March 31, 1960.

Statistics released in the legislature Thursday by Attorney-General Robert Bonner show Victoria had 800 guilty of that offence.

The annual report of the Liquor Control Board also discloses that there were 36 drunks in Saanich and 13 in Esquimalt district.

## MANY IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED SAYS OFFICIAL

# Money for Jails Urged in B.C.

Provincial government jails were roasted Thursday in the annual report of corrections branch director E. G. B. Stevens.

He called for widespread improvements in jails at Kamloops, Prince George, Oakalla Prison Farm and Haney Correctional Institute.

His report, to the end of the fiscal year at March 31, 1960, hit a number of defects at Oakalla, including poor staff quarters, "entirely unsatisfactory" administration, observation and classification facilities.

Mr. Stevens also urged the government to spend more money on such projects as a new short-term offenders' building at Oakalla. An old jail annex currently in use is quite inadequate, he said.

"It is urgently recommended that sufficient funds be allocated to provide for the construction of adequate quarters for this type of inmate," he said.

He also proposed a new, separate women's jail near Ruskin.

Another recommendation is for an improved vocational program at Prince George.

Mr. Stevens said chaplains in jails do not have adequate facilities, and he wants chapels built.

As for Haney, newest of the correctional institutes, Mr. Stevens said refrigeration and garbage disposal facilities never were completed after the

building was occupied some two years ago.

Altogether there are 1,907 inmates at B.C. jails, which

cost the taxpayer a total of \$5,346,522, said Mr. Stevens. Jail population the previous year was 1,775.

## 'AS YOU WERE . . .'

Lieutenant-Governor George Pearkes was the picture of dignity at the opening ceremony for the legislature Thursday—but he had a narrow escape on the glassy-surfaced tile floor.

As he turned the corner toward the golden gate by the rotunda he gave a smart military salute to his waiting escorts.

Just as he did, his foot slipped on the tiles and he almost lost his balance.

But five seconds later you wouldn't have noticed a ruffle on his brow.



## UNIVERSITY-TRAINED LEAD EXODUS

# 63 Social Workers Quit As B.C. Caseload Climbs

University-trained social workers are leading the exodus in an extremely high annual turnover of B.C. government welfare staff.

Sixty-three social workers left the government's social welfare department in the fiscal year ended March 31, 1960. Total staff at that time was

215, so the turnover is between one-third and one-quarter.

Annual report of the department, tabled in the legislature Thursday, shows that while 18 university-trained social workers were lost, only 14 were gained during the year.

### ONLY SIX ADDED

Over-all increase in social workers for the year was only six. But cases increased by 3,095 to 72,141.

Costs also soared from \$14,980,981 to \$18,296,728.

Staff, caseloads and money were all reasons for sharp criticism of government policies by child welfare superintendent Ruby McKay, who resigned at the end of the year in protest over restrictive policy.

### CUTBACK

Also in the report, a general cutback in medical benefits for social assistance cases is recommended.

Medical services director G. Wakefield suggests "client participation in the cost."

His report shows that medical services to the province's social assistance recipients totalled \$3,697,606 in the 1959-60 fiscal year.

That is up more than \$500,000 from the previous year.

### ONLY FRACTION

The government has already announced it is cutting off medical care for people receiving unemployment insurance as well as social assistance. They represent only a fraction of the total of 40,708 receiving social allowances.

Mr. Wakefield says that some more or less completely and permanently disabled people warrant full free medical care.

"Despite them, is it not consistent with good social case-work practice to have the client accept some financial responsibility in all matters including health as well as those pertaining to food, lodging and clothing?" he adds.

He says there is a responsibility on the part of all concerned to keep costs down.

## Chronic Care Plan Expansion 'Coming'

Expansion of the B.C. government's chronic care hospital program will be achieved as soon as feasible, according to the annual report of the B.C. Hospital Insurance Service.

The report, to Dec. 31, 1960, was tabled in the legislature Thursday.

It says the chronic care program, launched last September, is "progressing satisfactorily."

Hospitals covered in the plan which gives free beds for patients with serious ailments which shows hopes of cure or rehabilitation, include Gorge Road and Queen Alexandra Solarium in Victoria.

"Planning and study are continuing and expansion will take place as soon as it becomes feasible," says the report of deputy minister Donald Cox.

The BCHIS provides chronic care beds for \$1 a day, same as for acute cases.

Over-all claims in all hospitals for 1960 totalled \$43,533,502. There were a total of 249,841 hospital patients discharged during the year.

Coverage, says the report, extends to 96 per cent of all people in acute hospitals.

## B.C. SCHOOL ENROLLMENT UP 14,614

There was an increase of 14,614 children enrolled at B.C. schools during the last school year.

Annual report of the education department on public schools, tabled Thursday in the legislature, shows a total enrollment of 305,837 at June 30, 1960, compared with 291,223, the year before.

One of the big shifts in class adjustment was an increase of 16 per cent in pupils attending special classes, mostly for slow learners.

A blot on the department's copybook was loss of more than \$100,000 last year on textbook rentals. They totalled \$633,108.

## Lung Cancer On Upsurge In Province

Lung cancer is increasing annually in B.C., according to a vital statistics report for the provincial government.

Latest figures available are for 1959, when there were 332 cases. In 1958 there were 279; in 1957, 301; in 1955 and '56 there were 264 cases.

All types of cancer accounted for 16.3 per cent of all deaths in the province in 1959, a mortality rate of 149.2 per 1,000.

Chief cause of death was heart disease, which claimed 36 per cent of all deaths, or 360.1 per thousand.

Accidents rank quite low, claiming 6.6 per cent of deaths. Suicides account for another 1.3 per cent.

According to the report of the vital statistics branch of the trade department, tabled in the legislature, the average B.C. family size is 3.5 people. Average Canadian family is 3.9.

## 45% Markup on Liquor

The B.C. government marks liquor board sales totalled up the price of liquor and beer it buys by more than 45 per cent for sale to the general public. It also shows the liquor board's cost of drink before sale was \$33,756,637.

Liquor Control Board's annual balance sheet for April 1 to Sept. 30, 1960, shows that in other words, a gross profit of \$15,463,020. This works out to a mark-

up of more than 45 per cent on the wholesale price.

Earlier, public accounts of the province showed that the liquor board's actual profit for the entire year once operating costs were subtracted was \$27,281,514.

## THRONE SPEECH DEBATE LAUNCHED

# Bruch Hits Trade Unions

Social Creditor Herbert Bruch took a poke at trade union members Friday when he launched the Throne Speech debate in the legislature.

"You would almost think it is a crime for some industries or businesses to make a profit," said Mr. Bruch, MLA for Esquimalt.

"Certain people are trying to use the labor movement that no longer recognize those basic concepts," he added.

He accused opposition parties of advo-

cating "the world owes me a living." Social Credit, he said, advocates "the world owes me a chance to make a living."

He proposed more works projects, lower interest rates, and called public and private power projects "the most important phase of our development."

Of Peace and Columbia projects: "We should not only be doing our utmost to develop both immediately, we should be starting to survey and plan further power development sources in the immediate future."



## Canada 'Owes' B.C. Ferry Run to U.S.

B.C. is "owed" a ferry service to the U.S. under terms of union, Esquimalt Social Credit MLA Herbert Bruch said Friday.

Mr. Bruch, in moving the address in reply to the Throne Speech, advocated a ferry between Sooke and Crescent Beach, near Port Angeles.

It would connect U.S. highways from Mexico to a proposed new U.S. ferry to Alaska from Prince Rupert. Traffic would travel up Vancouver Island by road to Port Hardy, by ferry to Kitimat, by road from there to Prince Rupert via Terrace.

"I'd settle for one road to the west coast of Vancouver Island," chipped in John Squire (CCF-Alberni).

Terms of confederation laid out in 1871 are that the Dominion shall provide B.C. with fortnightly steam mail service to San Francisco and twice-weekly passenger and freight service to Olympia.

### ADVICE FOR TOURISTS

Mr. Bruch urged the government to place tourist counselors aboard the Swartz Bay-Tsawwassen ferries to help tourists map out routes and places to visit in B.C.

"This would increase tourist expenditures," he said, adding that Mexico has a three-year course for tourist counsellors who are granted a degree when they graduate from university.

Mr. Bruch also took issue with reports that 63 social workers left the B.C. government's social welfare department in the 1959-60 fiscal year. Only four of them were seeking other outside jobs, he said, while 15 left "for domestic reasons" and 10 to get more education.

One left to run as a CCF candidate, said Opposition Leader Robert Strachan, referring to social worker Dave Barrett (CCF-Dewdney) fired by the government for standing as candidate.

Resuming reading his list of departures, Mr. Bruch added: "Not known, one. I guess that's the one."





## NORMAN CRIBBENS IN THE LEGISLATURE

Way back in the 1830s Charles Dickens sat in the press gallery of the British House of Commons and wrote: "This interminable wrangle over the plight of the unemployed seems to have no solution and no end . . ."

Were he sitting in this legislature today, Dickens might well have written those self-same words; for the session was hardly begun when Opposition Leader Robert Strachan demanded that debate on unemployment should take precedence over everything else.

He failed to interrupt the formalities of opening day, but the spectre of unemployment intruded again Friday when two members opened debate on the Speech from the Throne.

Herbert Bruch, the Social Credit member for Esquimalt, insisted the government had done all possible to alleviate distress. He added, however, that the government did not believe "the world owes me a living," but rather "the world owes me the chance to make a living."

The government members applauded what seemed to be a rather slender distinction.

Cyril Shelford, the slim, sharp-voiced envoy from Omineca, seized the opportunity to put over a little Social Credit theory.

He proclaimed that what could be done in wartime could be done in peacetime (an oft-repeated statement by Premier Bennett), and said Canada had never been more prosperous than it was during the war when money was spent freely.

In short, Mr. Shelford blamed the federal government's "tight money" policy for all Canada's peacetime ills.

In the corridors I asked Gordon Gibson (L—North Vancouver) if he was going to make his threatened attack on the government's financial morality. He replied:

"If I am provoked I shall—and I provoke easily."

Thus far, it seems, he has not been provoked.

Mr. Shelford confessed he had learned a few things since he first took his seat in the House in 1953. He had found that democratic government works slowly.

"I thought then that if a member had a good suggestion it would be adopted unanimously. But democracy doesn't move that fast."

In these early days of the session an air of gaiety lingers over the chamber . . . Mrs. Buda Brown, the new minister without portfolio, laughing merrily behind her flower-banked desk, her brilliant blue bracelet winking in the lamp-light . . . all the CCF members wearing red carnations donated by Victoria CCF Ladies' Club . . . Premier Bennett joking with Attorney-General Robert Bonner . . . Mrs. Camille Mather, the new CCF member, chatting with her long-limbed neighbor, George Hobbs from Revelstoke.

At the far end of the government benches—as far away from Premier Bennett as possible—sits Waldo Skilling, the newly-elected member for Victoria.

Opposite him are the four Liberal members headed by suave good-looking Ray Perrault. The House is better-balanced now with no overflow of government members on to the Opposition side. The rival ranks are more evenly drawn with 32 Social Credit members on one side and the 20-man Opposition on the other.

Up in the ladies' gallery a wise elderly woman followed the proceedings with particular interest. She was 88-year-old Mrs. W. F. Gibson, mother of Liberal MLA Gordon Gibson.

"The proceedings are more dignified than I had been led to expect," she remarked.

## TOUCH OF RED SAYS SHELFORD

# Liberals Chided On Veer to Left

By FRANK RUTTER

John Squire (CCF-Alberni)

The Liberal party is a relic of the "Model T" era touched up with a little red paint, says Omineca Social Crediter Cyril Shelford.

He treated the legislature Friday to some homespun political philosophy—culled from all the parties—as he seconded the reply to the Throne Speech.

When he congratulated Liberal leader Ray Perrault for winning a seat in the House, all sides pounded desks in applause.

However, the recent national Liberal rally, he said, daubed on some red paint to Liberal policies.

### CHANGE OF NAME

"It might be suitable if you should change your name like the CCF," he suggested.

"And like the premier did," shot back Leo Nimsick (CCF-Cranbrook).

The CCF is becoming the New Party and Premier W. A. C. Bennett was once a Conservative MLA.

When Mr. Shelford commented there were no Conservatives in the legislature Opposition Leader Robert Strachan replied: "They're all around you."

### PRAISE FOR CCF

For the CCF, a bouquet from Mr. Shelford: "I think you are an excellent opposition and that's why we fought like tigers to keep you there."

He didn't ignore his own party—the government, patting them on the back for works projects and "the valuable assets we have gained."

Mr. Shelford said both Peace and Columbia River power projects are needed.

"I think the government was very wise in getting the B.C. Energy Board to carry out an independent study to find out what is best for the province."

He hailed agriculture, and rural electrification policies and noted there will be welcome changes in the laws respecting expropriation of land.

"If any of you can come up with a constructive suggestion on how we can have full employment in this province I'll be glad to hear it," he said.

called out: "Step number one—get rid of Social Credit."

Mr. Shelford said somehow billions of dollars are spent on federal projects in war times.

"The nation is never more prosperous. Why can't it be done in times of peace?"

# Gaglardi 'Just a Pawn' In House Controversy

Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi said Friday night he is a pawn in a controversy over which he has no control.

He made the statement in a television appearance in reference to the controversy over his eligibility to sit in the B.C. Legislature because of a conviction on a charge of contempt of court.

Mr. Gaglardi said he never passed any opinions personally on a matter for which he was subsequently convicted of contempt of court.

He was fined \$1,000 in a contempt action last fall, started after he allegedly disobeyed a court order by allow-

ing his department to pay off a highways contract to Union Contractors Limited. The order restrained payment until a creditor was satisfied.

"Every opinion that was passed was passed by the legal department of the government," Mr. Gaglardi said. "Therefore we acted in accordance with all of the legal necessities that were imposed upon us."

"I'm a pawn. I am the centre of a controversy over which I have no control and must allow myself to be subjected to."

"But there will be a day when right is right and it will

be declared and stated in most emphatic terms."

Mr. Gaglardi also was asked for his opinion on an attempt by CCF Opposition Leader Strachan Thursday to have him unseated in the legislature because of the judgment.

He said as a responsible elected representative and as a minister of the Crown, he must take his place in the House.

"It is mandatory that I do so as an elected representative," Mr. Gaglardi said. "Secondly, any charge that has been brought against me is not as an individual but as a minister of the Crown."

## Exchange Plan Urged For Truck Licensing

A system of reciprocal truck licensing between B.C., other provinces and the U.S. states, is urged in the final report of the Royal Commission on Road User Charges.

The commission's report was tabled in the legislature Tuesday by Transport Minister Earle Westwood.

It backs up its earlier contention that an exchange in licensing agreements is needed. The commission made that report last year.

These agreements, says the report, would be based on the proportion of over-all mileage a truck travels within B.C. boundaries.

The move would boost revenues from trucks which drive into B.C. from the east and south, says the commission.

Dr. H. F. Angus, chairman of the Public Utilities Commission headed the road users' inquiry.

Other recommendations:

Maximum gross vehicle weight of 85,000 pounds;

No overweight permits except where public roads link private ones such as logging roads;

A tax based on the amount of gasoline used by extra-provincial trucks in B.C. over 20,000 pounds;

A limit of \$10 a year or 3 per cent of the gross weight licence fee for municipal trucks restricted to areas of more than 10,000 population.

Despite recommending the 85,000 gross weight limit, the commission said it really is up to the highways department to set such restrictions. The limits should be subject to local road conditions, it said.

First report of the commission, last February, resulted in a quarterly licence fee for trucks, elimination of highway mileage fees for big trucks, and of oversize fees, and a cut of 75 per cent in overweight fees.

## Chant Report Gets Early Application

The B.C. government took swift action on two recommendations of the Chant Royal Commission on Education Friday when it announced plans in the legislature to lift administration of the provincial museum and public libraries from the shoulders of the education department.

The museum, under a bill introduced for first reading in the House, will go to the recreation department.

The Public Libraries Act will be administered by the provincial secretary.

Shifting the load of these branches off the education department was proposed in the Chant Report, which came out just after Christmas. This is the first legislation arising out of the report.



# Complete Revamping Asked for Welfare

## Strachan Roasts Gov't 'Neglect'

Complete reorganization of B.C.'s social welfare was called for today by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan.

Mr. Strachan proposed a new government department of social welfare and rehabilitation with its own minister. Currently, Welfare Minister Wesley Black also has the portfolios of provincial secretary and municipal affairs.

Mr. Strachan was speaking in throne speech debate in the legislature.

The CCF leader said the new department should assume responsibility for the social welfare services, alcoholic and narcotic drug treatment and correctional services.

"In setting up this new administration," he said, "all social welfare costs and administrative responsibilities must be removed from the municipalities as recommended by the Union of B.C. Municipalities."

### MCKAY LAUDED

Mr. Strachan was critical of the Social Credit government's welfare policies, which have been under fire for several weeks since Ruby McKay resigned as superintendent of child welfare, saying she could not carry on under present conditions.

The CCF leader paid tribute to Miss McKay as a person who had devoted her whole life to welfare work, and he attacked Highways Minister Gaglardi for remarks attributed to him the day after Miss McKay's resignation.

The highways minister had said the resignation was a political manoeuvre.

### DISGUSTED

"I feel nothing but disgust for the bitter personal attack made on Miss McKay by the vociferous minister of highways on behalf of the government," Mr. Strachan said.

"Coming from a man with the minister's record in the courts of this province, his criticism of Miss McKay can only be described as sanctimonious cant."

He said Mr. Gaglardi's remarks in contrast to the complete silence of Welfare Minister Black indicated the "government had no confidence in the ability of the minister of social welfare to deal with this matter."

### 70% TRAINED

Mr. Strachan said statistics show that while in 1952, the year the present party came to power, 70 per cent of the welfare staff in the province were trained welfare workers, only 40 per cent of the staff now was in the university-trained category.

"It might be possible to juggle figures around on paper and prove to the satisfaction of some people that you are debt free," Mr. Strachan said, "but this government can never eradicate the debt it owes to the unfortunate men, women and children who have suffered needlessly because of the policies of this government."

"In the case of the children, they will carry the effects of this neglect all their lives."

## BLAMES SOCREDS

# Columbia Deal 'Second Best' —Strachan

The British Columbia government was accused today of forcing the federal government into accepting a second-best agreement with the United States for development of hydro-electric potential on the Columbia River.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan, leading off the Opposition debate on the government's legislative program as proposed in the speech from the throne read at the House opening last Thursday, said:

"Canada has been forced to accept a second best agreement and the blame rests fairly and squarely on the shoulders of the Social Credit government of this province."

The Canada-U.S. treaty was signed about 10 days ago in Washington, providing for a 50-50 sharing of downstream power developed as a result of control dams to be built on the river in British Columbia at a cost of \$428,000,000. It also provides Canadian agreement to permit the U.S. to build the Libby Dam on the Kootenay River in Montana at a point between where the river leaves and re-enters B.C.

## TIED TO WENNER-GREN

Mr. Strachan said there was general agreement that the most favorable Columbia development plan for Canada would have included a diversion of the Kootenay into the Columbia, a move that would have refused the U.S. permission to construct Libby Dam.

The diversion would increase the flow of the Columbia and thereby its power potential.

Mr. Strachan said the U.S. had agreed to allow the diversion but "the Social Credit government of B.C. deliberately walked in and wrecked the agreement."

He said the government is firmly tied to the coattails of "the front man for Alfred Krupp—Axel Wenner-Gren."

"At all costs, even if it is to the detriment of Canada," the CCF leader said, "this government is determined to fight to the last in an effort to give Wenner-Gren and his associates including the B.C. Electric, a complete monopoly on the power resources of this province."

## MIGHT BE TODAY

## Fast Ruling Forecast On Gaglardi

By FRANK RUTTER  
Times Legislative Reporter

A speedy ruling by Speaker Hugh Shantz on Highways Minister Gaglardi's right to sit in the House was forecast today in legislative circles.

Political observers pointed out that such an issue could not be left unsettled for long since it had put a cloud over the minister's position in the legislature which needs settling without delay.

It was thought possible the issue would come up during this afternoon's sitting.

Unless the matter is cleared up, political observers feel it will become more acutely embarrassing to the government.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan and Liberal leader Ray Perrault are both gunning for the highways minister.

Mr. Strachan on Thursday asked the Speaker for a ruling on Mr. Gaglardi's eligibility as an MLA because of his conviction by the British Columbia courts of contempt, and subsequent \$1,000 fine.

## JAILED, FINED

The highways department paid contractor Clyde Thornton \$25,000 while there was a court order steering payments to a trust company until a creditor was satisfied.

Thornton was jailed, Mr. Gaglardi fined.

Mr. Shantz has indicated he may throw the issue on to the floor of the House for members to decide. Perhaps this will come through a committee.

Until the House stand is settled Vancouver lawyer David Sturdy has withdrawn his suit for a Supreme Court order declaring Mr. Gaglardi ineligible under the Constitution and Elections Acts.

The Constitution Act says a member "convicted of felony or any infamous crime" must forfeit his seat.

The Elections Act says every person convicted of "an indictable offence unless he has secured a free and unconditional pardon for the offence or has undergone the sentence imposed" is disqualified from voting. MLAs must be qualified voters.

## DEFINITION

The question at issue is whether the fine for contempt of court comes within the definition of offences laid down in these statutes.

When the B.C. Appeal Court turned down Mr. Gaglardi's appeal it did not decide any of these questions.

They were left open in case there should be further court action.

It is considered likely Mr. Gaglardi will go to the Supreme Court of Canada.



# Crash Works Scheme Unveiled by Perrault

A crash construction program to relieve unemployment in British Columbia was urged in the legislature Monday by Liberal Leader Ray Perrault.

Making his first appearance in the house, 34-year-old Mr. Perrault suggested a 10-per-cent reduction on prices of B.C. construction materials, a 10-per-cent contribution from the provincial government and the temporary abolition of municipal taxes on home improvements.

He said statistics showed that the average home in Canada could use about \$500 worth of structural repairs which were not being done because of the high cost of materials and taxation on improvements.

"That is the great challenge facing the government today—a constructive imaginative program to combat unemployment. It is not enough to blame Ottawa for this hardship."

## TELL THE TRUTH

Mr. Perrault promised a "constructive Liberal opposition" if the government would be more frank in its dealings.

"Tell the people the truth about our debt position," he said. "It is irrelevant whether the Pacific Great Eastern Railway is making money or losing it . . . What we want is a true picture of the PGE."

Mr. Perrault said the Liberal party supported extension of the government-owned railway, adding that Premier Byron Johnson had been responsible for completion of the PGE to Prince George. (It now reaches into the Peace River country.)

He suggested the B.C. government had tried to "downgrade" the Columbia River power project. He commended the appointment of an energy board, but said this step had been taken "far too late."

"They were kept in a glass cage for months and months



RAY PERRAULT  
... 'great challenge'

with nothing to do. Then suddenly . . . they were given the job of deciding the economy of the Columbia River project.

"No wonder the public is deeply suspicious. They remember how a few years ago this government wanted to give away the Arrow Lake storage to the Kaiser interests."

"This is no time to downgrade or obfuscate the Columbia River project. If that happens the whole enterprise may be destroyed."

Mr. Perrault said the Columbia River project was a "projection" of the work done by the Liberal government in Ottawa.

## RAPS GREEN

He added that Howard Green, the federal minister for external affairs, had "no reason" to go down into the United States on Dec. 2 and blame the B.C. government for obstructing the Columbia River project.

"He should not have suggested that the B.C. government was something divorced

from the rest of Canada—not of the same political stripe.

"The Americans might well ask 'What kind of a representative is this?'"

At the same time, Mr. Perrault urged that the people of B.C. should have the facts about the relative costs of Peace River and Columbia River power.

There was concern over the High Arrow dam.

## QUESTIONS HIGH ARROW

"We have had many letters from the Kootenay country expressing real concern over this High Arrow project.

"We don't believe the High Arrow is of sufficient benefit to the people of Canada. Let them prove, if they can, that power can be exported without loss to our own people."

Mr. Perrault claimed that the Liberal party had pioneered social reforms in "all parts of the North American continent"—with considerably smaller budgets than those of today.

At the close of his address, the Liberal leader proposed an amendment to the speech from the throne, which was rejected by Mr. Speaker Hugh Shantz because, he said, it duplicated an earlier amendment by CCF leader Robert Strachan, which was defeated by 31 to 20.

Mr. Perrault's amendment read:

## THRONE SPEECH HIT

That the address in reply to the speech from the throne be amended by adding the following words:

"This House regrets that the speech from the throne contains nothing which would indicate an awareness by the government of the serious unemployment situation prevailing, and contains no proposals designed to alleviate this condition; nor does it contain any indication that the government is prepared to take needed and immediate steps in the all-important field of social welfare; nor does it contain any proposal designed to restore business activity within the province."

# 'Socreds Ignore Vital Problems'

By FRANK RUTTER  
Times Legislative Reporter

First recorded vote in the B.C. Legislature came Monday afternoon with the defeat of Opposition Leader Robert Strachan's motion of non-confidence in the Social Credit government.

Mr. Strachan's amendment to the speech from the throne was that it failed to deal with the most pressing problems of the day: unemployment and social welfare.

The division was 31-20.

"The speech from the throne gave no indication that the movement is aware of the serious unemployment situation in our province or is prepared to institute the measures necessary to deal effectively with it," said Mr. Strachan's amendment.

## NO CONCERN

He also said the throne speech failed to show any concern for municipal problems or providing adequate social welfare standards. There was no concern either for such other social problems as drug addiction and mental sickness or providing "comprehensive medical care."

Mr. Strachan flayed the Social Credit government's power and welfare policies, then ripped into its politics.

"I can see that you are now showing all the signs of a crumbling decadent political machine," he said.

"With every passing day you're looking more and more like the late unlamented coalition government."

## 'TYRANNY'

He said Social Credit has become "a party of vested interests, perpetrating the tyranny of a well-fed party machine with a doctrinaire monopoly business approach."

Mr. Strachan promised the New Party, now being forged out of the CCF and Canadian Labor Congress membership, will introduce a fundamental realignment of Canadian politics. It "will meet the desperate needs of a new era," he said.

"Get off your big fat record and do something," he challenged the government.

Action on unemployment should be: 1, get as many people as possible back to work immediately; 2, rehabilitation and re-training of unemployed workers; 3, awareness of new problems, a "sharing of benefits from automation."

## OUTSIDE WORKERS

He criticized the throne speech for its claim that new pipeline projects in northeastern B.C. are providing new jobs. In fact, he said, most of these jobs have gone to workers outside the province, hired at cheaper wages.

He said "the infamous Bill



ROBERT STRACHAN  
... 'get off your fat record'

43"—the Trade Union Act—has taken away the workers' rights to protest such actions and has denied them means of ensuring better working conditions.

Another false lure, he said, was the Pacific Northern Railway planned by the Wenner-Gren interests to run from Summit Lake near Prince George to the Yukon border.

## 'PACK IT UP'

After the election, he said, the word from Victoria was: "Pack it up—the election's over."

He said he was pleased to see new Agriculture Minister Frank Richter.

"But there is one face missing from the cabinet; I just can't understand it. I'm thinking of Mr. Frank McMahon." He waved a newspaper headline saying "Oil baron tells B.C. to vote Socred."

The article said Mr. McMahon predicted millions of dollars and thousands of jobs would be lost if B.C. voted CCF.

"And now the people are asking—where are those 10,000 jobs?"



## NORMAN CRIBBENS IN THE LEGISLATURE

The government orchestra was almost silent Monday afternoon when the two long-awaited soloists took the stage—trombonist Robert Strachan and flautist Ray Perrault.

Mr. Strachan led the CCF brass in a stern attack on the government's handling of welfare, public power, unemployment, school costs, and other things.

Mr. Perrault, making his first appearance in the House as leader of the four-man Liberal group, sounded a plaintive theme with his proposal that the government initiate an 18-month construction program to create jobs.

The CCF leader sounded off by saying the B.C. Electric had won another election by pouring funds into a campaign for right-wing government.

It was big business, he thundered, which paid for expensive full-page advertisements in the newspapers. And one of them had, on the other side of the page, an advertisement which read:

"No. 1 Baloney—27 cents a pound."

This drew a mild note of protest from the government's string section in which first violin Premier Bennett was heard to say:

"That was in reference to the other side."

But the woodwinds were silent and the government's drum section held its strength for another day.

Mr. Perrault sustained his theme of plaintive criticism when he said of the recent throne speech:

"Historians will conclude from it that British Columbia in 1961 was a land of Milk and Money."

He emphasized that 16 per cent of workers in the construction industry are unemployed and urged the government to enact bold imaginative legislation instead of blaming Ottawa for its woes.

In reference to the Sept. 12 election, Mr. Perrault told of a woman who was training her budgerigar to say: "Vote Liberal."

Alas, he said, the budgie was eaten by a cat—he did not know whether it was a CCF or a Social Credit cat.

At the close of his speech, Mr. Perrault sat down amid applause, then popped up to propose an amendment to the throne speech.

Mr. Speaker Hugh Shantz warned him that when a member resumed his seat the speech was over. He allowed Mr. Perrault to continue but ruled his amendment out of order because, he said, it duplicated one made earlier by Mr. Strachan, which had been defeated.

There was some difference of opinion over the Speaker's ruling.

The public galleries were crammed when CCF leader Robert Strachan began his address at 2.10 p.m. and a small queue formed outside.

Some were devotees of Robert Burns, who heard Mr. Strachan's toast to The Immortal Memory at the Victoria Burns Club dinner last week.

They were not disappointed. Mr. Strachan used Burns to his advantage when, in a reference to the unemployed, he quoted:

See yonder poor, o'er-labour'd wight,  
So abject, mean and vile,  
Who begs a brother of the earth  
To give him leave to toil.

Mr. Strachan referred to Mrs. Buda Brown, the new minister without portfolio, as a rose among all the thorns.

"She is now den mother to the cabinet and, believe me, they need her."

Attorney-General Robert Bonner fell into a literary trap in the legislature Monday.

It was laid by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan, whose one-hour, 10-minute speech featured quotations from Robert and Gilbert Burns, J. M. Barrie—and the man who tripped up Mr. Bonner.

The quotation predicted "world cataclysm" due to overproduction in the frantic effort to provide a full employment.

"Galbraith," chipped in Mr. Bonner. "The Affluent Society." A well-known liberal book by a well-known U.S. liberal.

"No," said Mr. Strachan, grinning. "C. H. Douglas, 1931, as reprinted in the Oct., 1960, issue of the Canadian Social Creditor."



## MEETS WITH SPEAKER

## Strachan Makes Bid For Gaglardi Debate

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said today he is taking up the challenge to bring the Gaglardi case into open debate in the B.C. Legislature.

"I am going to take the Speaker's invitation," he told the Times.

"I want to see what he has in mind."

Speaker Hugh Shantz declined Monday to decide if Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi is eligible to sit as an MLA after being fined for contempt in the payment of a highway contract to a company instead of a creditor of the company, in defiance of a court order.

But he left the way clear for Mr. Strachan to discuss privately what action might be taken.

## FEB. 14 DEADLINE

Meanwhile, it was learned that Mr. Gaglardi has until Feb. 14 to seek leave to appeal his \$1,000 fine to the Supreme Court of Canada.

A legal source said there is a 60-day deadline to file a civil appeal from the date of judgment.

The B.C. Appeal Court rejected Mr. Gaglardi's appeal Dec. 16.

Sixty days from then is Feb. 14.

If, however, the case were a criminal one, Mr. Gaglardi's appeal deadline would have passed Jan. 6.

## NO DEFINITION

The Appeal Court did not define the case either way.

The money was paid despite an order which directed prior payment to a creditor of contractor Clyde Thornton.

The legal background of the bid to unseat Mr. Gaglardi lies in the Constitution and Election Acts.

It burst upon the legislature last Thursday, opening day, when Mr. Strachan asked the Speaker for a decision.

In reply Monday, Mr. Shantz said:

"I am of the opinion that it is not within my competence to express any such opinion and that the request is therefore not in order."

He added:

"Should the Leader of the Opposition wish to avail himself of the opportunity so to do I am prepared to discuss with him what appropriate procedures may be available to bring about a debate on any such question."

This, Mr. Strachan said, may pave the way for a House debate.

## MET ONCE

Mr. Shantz said today he has held one meeting with Mr. Strachan. Various procedures were discussed. Another meeting will be held shortly.

Among the ways to bring the case before the Legislature: A resolution either censuring Mr. Gaglardi or accusing him of being an "illegal" MLA; referral to the standing House committee on standing orders; setting up a special House committee.

Mr. Shantz also said that MLAs are quite free to discuss the issue in the throne speech debate.

## 'Child Export' Urged in Report

Shortage of homes available for adopting Roman Catholic children has prompted a recommendation from former B.C. child welfare superintendent Ruby McKay that some be sent to Oregon.

Miss McKay said just as great a problem exists in finding homes for children of mixed racial origin, increasing rapidly in Prince Rupert and Prince George areas.

"For a long time," she said in her annual report for the year ending March 31, 1960, "neither the department nor the Catholic Children's Aid Society has been able to place the many Roman Catholic children needing adopting parents."

## 'RIGHT AND HUMANE'

"If there are Roman Catholic families in Oregon wanting a child it is right and humane that the two be brought together."

She said she encouraged the society to "explore resources" in Oregon.

Miss McKay's report was made before she resigned, effective Dec. 31, complaining her main reason was "restrictive" government policy.

"Citizenship is important," she said in the report, "but it is second to a good, stable family life."

A total of 487 children was placed for adoption in the year.

She said 62 Catholic children

were included in this total. It is only a small percentage of those needing parents, she added.

The Catholic Children's Aid Society placed another 54 children out of 395 placed by all societies.

Another big problem she points up is that of finding homes for the children of mixed racial origin.

Present foster home facilities are seriously inadequate, she said. Racial origin often proves a bar to successful adoption equally as serious as religious background.

**J A N**

**1961**



FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 1961

# B.C. Will Shuffle School System

By PETER BRUTON

Reorganization of the B.C. public school system with establishment of an institute of advanced technology as an alternative to university is planned by the provincial government.

There will be further expansion of vocational and trades-training programs in order to develop a more highly-skilled labor force as well as immediate implementation of some of the recommendations in the Chant report on education.

The government will also establish a B.C. trade, investment and tourism office in San Francisco and will introduce measures to encourage the construction of home fall-out shelters.

## 2,500-WORD SPEECH

These and other points were briefly touched upon in the 2,500-word Speech from the Throne read by Lieutenant-Governor George R. Pearkes, VC, at the official opening of the first session of B.C.'s 26th legislature here yesterday afternoon.

(Full news and pictures of opening on Page 8.)

Observers viewed the speech as notable more for what was not said than what was. No mention was made of welfare or expected labor legislation.

## SIMILAR TO UNIVERSITIES

The voluminous Chant report, released late last year, recommended the establishment of institutes of advanced technology which would be similar to universities in everything except name. Training would include classes for engineering and scientific technicians to meet the challenges of the atomic age.

The packed legislative chamber was told that some of the recommendations in the Chant report have already been put into effect, others will be implemented immediately while the remainder, because of their far-reaching implications, will be given further government study.

## AMENDMENTS PLANNED

The lieutenant-governor said amendments to the Public Schools Act will be presented at the session. In addition the government, in co-operation with Ottawa, will expand the emergency vocational training program now under way in

Victoria, Nanaimo and Vancouver.

An investigation into provincial mental health services, conducted by a committee headed by Dr. Matthew Ross of the American Psychiatric Association, has been completed and the report will be presented to the legislature.

## MARKED INCREASE

Copper mining and milling activity increased markedly last year and construction of smelter facilities to produce blister copper (copper which has been smelted but not yet refined) in B.C. "may shortly be feasible." The government will introduce legislation designed to encourage the establishment of such a smelter.

A new Teachers' Pension Act will be introduced to improve benefits to all teachers now employed in the public school system as well as those now retired.

The government plans a fresh approach to rural youth development, based on revision of the existing 4-H clubs' programs, and a training course will be offered at senior levels of this program to assist young people who intend to remain in farming.

Arrangements will also be made to grant Women's Institutes complete autonomy with adequate financial assistance from the government. At present Women's Institutes are under the control of the agriculture department.

The administration of provincially-owned institutional farms will be transferred from the mental health services branch to the department of agriculture but acreage will be set aside for patients to continue to carry out recreational and agricultural activities.

"These farms, at Colony and Tranquille, will be used as development and demonstration farms or experimental husbandry farms for the benefit of the valuable areas they serve," said the lieutenant-governor.

## LABORATORY

The government will also establish an animal pathology laboratory at Abbotsford.

Measures to encourage the building of fallout shelters and to establish lines of automatic and legal succession to positions of municipal responsibility in the event of a national emergency will be presented to the legislature.

## Heart Disease Big B.C. Killer

Number one killer in B.C. is still heart disease, according to the annual report on vital statistics released yesterday in the legislature.

And the number of deaths from heart disease is rising.

The report said that heart disease accounted for 37.8 per cent of all deaths in this province. Cancer was the No. 2 cause of deaths.

# SOCIAL WORKERS QUIT IN DROVES

## *Trained Staff Dwindles While Caseloads Soar*

By PETER BRUTON

One social worker out of every four quit his job with the B.C. social welfare department during the year ending March 31 last.

Annual report of the branch, tabled by Welfare Minister Wesley Black in the legislature yesterday, shows that 59 social workers resigned during the year, three more died and one retired out of the total social worker complement of 215.

Another 85 clerical and technical workers also resigned.

The resignations are referred to as "separations" in the report of Miss Marie Riddell, assistant director of social welfare. She said an equal number of workers were hired to replace those who quit.

### DISSATISFACTION

The 25 per cent staff turnover during the year is further indication of staff dissatisfaction in the social welfare branch, recently rocked by charges of restrictive government policies.

A comparison of figures in the latest report with those tabled in 1952, when Social Credit came to power, shows:

- In 1952 there were 221 social workers on staff. In 1959 there were 215.

- In 1952 the total welfare caseload was 56,333. In 1959 it was 72,141, an increase of 16,000.

- In 1952, 155 social workers had university training while 66 did not. In 1959, 78 had university training, 137 did not.

- In 1952 the average caseload per worker (including supervisors and departmental officials) was 254. In 1959 it was 335.

The extent to which welfare expenditures have mushroomed during the past three years is graphically shown in the report.

Cost of providing social allowances and other benefits in 1957-58 totalled \$10,186,949. The next year it rose to \$14,980,981 while in the year ending March 31, 1960, the expenditure was \$18,296,728.

Ottawa paid \$7,197,169 of this total.

### REQUESTS MOUNT

Director of welfare J. A. Saddler said requests from all groups for services increased during the fiscal year.

"A marked increase has taken place in payments made to persons in receipt of social allowances due to the unemployment situation which has been prevalent throughout the year," he reported.

The report of the child welfare division is the last to be written by Miss Ruby McKay, former superintendent of the division who resigned in protest against the government's policies towards welfare at the end of last year.

Tables in her report show that 6,840 children were in the care of the superintendent of the three children's aid societies in Victoria and Vancouver during the year.

"The significant point in the above table is that 582 more children were in the care of the superintendent of child welfare during the year than in the care of the three children's aid societies," wrote Miss McKay. "This expansion of child welfare services within a government department is as progressive and positive a sign of our times as is the provision of public health or public educational services."

Miss McKay said she regretted to report the death of eight children during the year.

"The reports with respect to each death bears out the fact that the department is caring for an ever-increasing number of grossly handicapped, retarded, and (or) deeply disturbed children," she reported.

One of these children apparently committed suicide.

In the report of Dr. G. Wakefield, director of the medical services division of the branch, it was shown that the cost of providing medical services to those on social assistance rose by some \$500,000 to a total of \$3,697,606 during the fiscal year.

The government recently announced it was stopping the payment of medical benefits to "unemployed employables" on social assistance.

Dr. Wakefield suggested that further consideration be given to having those on social assistance paying premiums towards the cost of the medical benefits.

"We do have a certain number of persons in receipt of public assistance who are more or less completely and permanently dependent individuals," he said. "Despite them, is it not consistent with good social casework practice to have the client accept some financial responsibility in all matters including health as well as those pertaining to food, lodging, and clothing? This presents certain problems regarding current eligibility regulations, but I do believe our staff in general would accept such a challenge."



## May Gaglardi Sit? Query Stuns House

The calm of yesterday's opening of the B.C. Legislature was shattered with the session only a few minutes old when Opposition Leader Robert Strachan asked for a ruling on the right of ebullient Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi to take his seat.

There was stunned silence as Mr. Strachan asked Speaker Hugh Shantz to rule on whether a recent contempt judgment against the minister made him ineligible to sit in the House. Decision was reserved. (See full story, Page 8.)

## CCF Starts Fur Flying At Opening

Opposition leader Robert Strachan twice shattered the traditional procedure of B.C. legislature opening ceremonies yesterday when he asked for a ruling on Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi's right to take his seat and then demanded that debate on unemployment take precedence over everything else.

The sensational start to what promises to be a sensational session came out of the blue after assistant legislative clerk E. G. MacMinn read the list of 52 members elected in the Sept. 12 provincial election.

"Mr. Speaker," said the CCF leader as he rose to his feet. "Since the election to which this document refers there have been some court judgments affecting the member from Kamloops."

This was a reference to the contempt of court judgment against Mr. Gaglardi in which the minister was fined \$1,000 for disobeying a court order.

"Many members of the general public are questioning the right of the member for Kamloops to take his seat in this legislature," continued Mr. Strachan. "I personally would not presume to offer an opinion. But at this time I would like to suggest that you, sir, either now or in the next few days, notify us of your opinion as to the eligibility of the member for Kamloops to sit in this House."

There was a stunned pause as some 350 members and special guests on the floor of the legislative chamber looked on.

### Speaker Defers Ruling

Mr. Speaker Hugh Shantz, who had been re-elected to his post only minutes before, said he would reserve decision on the matter at the present time.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner then rose to give his opinion.

"May I ask you to take into consideration at this time that questions touching upon the right of a member to sit in this House should not be on an observation but by motivation," he said.

Highways Minister Gaglardi was a silent witness to the affair.

Afterward he said: "Every dog has his day. I will have mine. You can't go off half-cocked on anything. Responsible people always act in responsible fashion. I will act in a responsible way when the time comes. The people of this province will get a full report

on my conduct on any and all occasions."

Attorney-General Bonner, asked for his comments after the hour-long ceremonies, replied: "Astonishing!" He walked off laughing loudly.

The second explosion erupted after Lieutenant-Governor George R. Pearkes had finished his 27-minute speech from the Throne.

Premier Bennett rose to move that the speech be taken into consideration at the next sitting of the House and that this order have precedence over all other business except introduction of bills, until disposed of.

Mr. Strachan promptly moved an amendment.

This should be amended, he said, by adding after the word "except" and before "until" the words: "such business as may relate to unemployment and its alleviation."

### Refused Once Before

Mr. Strachan said he was doing this at the time because once before the speaker had refused to allow a special debate on unemployment because it was not specifically covered by the Throne Speech.

Approval of the amendment would permit the House to discuss unemployment and specific steps to cure it.

Attorney-General Bonner said the government opposed the amendment because the Throne Speech was broad enough to permit debate on unemployment.

There was a voice vote and the amendment was defeated.

Mr. Strachan said he would not ask for a division in consideration of the guests attending the opening ceremonies. But he asked that the

Speaker record that all the "no" votes came from the government side.

Premier Bennett then asked for a division. The Speaker said there couldn't be a division unless the floor was cleared of guests and the premier reluctantly withdrew his request.

Mr. Bonner said the legislature would probably "learn in due course the reasons for the interruption of the formal opening of the House."

Only once before have the opening ceremonies been disrupted. In 1957 both the CCF and the Liberals forced debate

on a government decision to dismiss two officers of the legislature—law clerk W. B. Montiel and the late Edgar Jamieson, sergeant-at-arms.

Fri., Jan. 27, 1961

# Real Dreamy Opening For Oft-Rebuffed Sikh

**DREAMLAND:** A turbaned Sikh who did not have a ticket for the ceremonial opening of the legislature yesterday was turned away at several doors before he finally gained admittance.

It must have been an exhausting experience.

When next spotted, halfway through Lieutenant-Governor George R. Pearkes' reading of the Throne Speech, the Sikh was sitting in the public galleries—fast asleep.

**TAKE YOUR CHOICE:** The Speech from the Throne never was intended to give more than a vague outline of the measures the government plans to introduce in the session ahead.

But in recent years it's been getting more and more vague.

Take for instance one item in this year's speech. It reads:

"My government will place before you an act respecting access to public accommodation."

Reporters read and reread the sentence and are still scratching their heads.

Does it refer, they're asking themselves, to some form of

anti-discrimination legislation for rooming houses or is it legislation which will permit access to logging roads by the public.

**HAPPY HUNTING GROUNDS:** Back in Victoria for the opening of the legislature yesterday was Tom Irwin, the genial Mr. Speaker from 1953 to 1957 when he resigned to try his luck in federal politics.

He won a seat in the House of Commons that year but was one of the many casualties of the Tory landslide in 1958.

Mr. Irwin is the first to admit that he misses the political whirl and adds that he would run anywhere for Social Credit if asked. And that includes Esquimalt-Saanich.

We got to talking with Mr. Irwin yesterday about the differences between the provincial and federal Houses.

## Peter Bruton's Capital Notebook

For one thing he thinks the average MLA here stacks up pretty well against the average MP in Ottawa and certainly the dignity of the Speaker's office is not nearly as well respected in Ottawa as it is here.

Mr. Irwin said he favors a short question period at the start of each session of the B.C. legislature but alas there seems little chance of this. Time and time again the opposition has tried to get the government to answer oral questions but have always been ruled out of order.

**DOUBLE MEANING:** Shortly before the legislature rose for the day yesterday CCF member Leo Nimsick of Cranbrook said that on a point of privilege he wished to thank Premier Bennett for opening the House on his birthday. "It was opened on this day

for no other purpose," replied the premier amid laughter.

CCF'er Arthur Turner of Vancouver East also got into the act and said he thanked the premier for holding the election on his birthday—Sept. 12.

"We're anxious to please everybody," answered the premier.

**NOTES TO YOU:** B.C.'s own flag, rescued by Premier Bennett during his visit to London, fluttered proudly from the pole in front of the legislature yesterday. . . . They ran out of tea at the government reception in the Empress Hotel following the opening ceremonies. . . . Lieutenant-Governor Pearkes slipped on the tiles as he approached the Golden Gates leading into the legislative chamber but regained his footing with scarcely a falter. . . . The four Liberal members were easily identifiable, sitting side by side, in dark suits with a red rose in their lapels. . . . Mrs. Buda Brown, minister without portfolio, and Mrs. Lois Hagen (CCF, Grand Forks-Greenwood) had a basket of flowers on their desks but Mrs. Camille Mather (CCF, Delta) did not.

## Wartime Spawned Most Delinquents

Wartime children are the bad actors of B.C. society, according to the annual report of the director of correction, released in the legislature yesterday.

It observed there was an increase of 7.4 per cent in the number of crimes against property—mainly breaking and entering and petty theft—and that the increase was mainly in the age group of under-21s, which fall in the group referred to as wartime children.



## At the Buildings

# 'Help Tourists Spend'

## Bruch Offers Ferry, Road Programs

Provincial government was urged yesterday to place counsellors aboard the Swartz Bay Tsawwassen ferries to help tourists to map out routes and places to visit in B.C.

Herbert Bruch (SC—Esqui-

mal) told the legislature such a step would increase tourist expenditure. He said Mexico has a three-year course for tourist counsellors who were granted a degree when they graduated from university.

Mr. Bruch, moving the reply to the Speech from the Throne, also urged action on a B.C. Alaska marine highway stretching from Sooke, up the Island to Port Hardy, by ferry to Kitimat, a further road stretch to Prince Rupert and from there by ferry to Haines, Alaska.

He urged a ferry from Crescent Beach, near Port

Angeles, to Sooke. The highway could also tie in with West Coast Highway 101 which starts at San Diego.

## Resignations 'Cleared Up'

Herbert Bruch told the House there had been a misinterpretation over the resignation of 59 social workers from the staff of the social welfare branch during the last fiscal year.

He said 15 had resigned for domestic reasons, 10 to further their education, seven were fired, six left to travel, five were transferred within the government service, four left to take up other employment, two went into municipal social work, two accepted private social agency jobs, two went to welfare departments in other provinces, two left because of illness, two were casually employed only, one left for personal reasons and one left for an unknown reason.

## Departments Transferred

Two government bills transferring jurisdiction of the provincial museum to Recreation Minister Westwood and the provincial library to Provincial Secretary Black were given first reading. Both departments are at present under Education Minister Peterson.

The transfer was recommended by the Chant royal commission.

## Questioners Set Record

A record of 93 questions ranging in subjects from social welfare to highway contracts are already on the legislative order paper awaiting replies from cabinet ministers.

Social worker David Barrett (CCF-Dewdney), who defeated Labor Minister Lyle Wicks last September, filed 22 questions on social welfare matters.

Appointment of a former Social Credit candidate as superintendent of public works at Kamloops has also drawn some questions.

Cedric Cox (CCF-Burnaby) wants Works Minister W. N. Chant to tell him who the civil service commission recommended for the job and where the successful applicant was on the commission's rating.

## Avert Chaos Socreds Ask

Two Social Credit backbenchers are sponsoring a move to amend the B.C. Liquor Act to prevent "chaos" they say would ensue if federal laws relating to the sale and possession of liquor for native Indians were implemented in the province.

Dan Campbell (Comox) and William Murray (Prince Rupert) are convinced federal Indian Act provisions which permit the holding of plebiscites on liquor by Indian bands are unworkable because no liquor vendor would know whether the Indian he was selling liquor to came from a wet or dry band. They favor voting by Indian agencies.

## Hollow Pronouncement

AS usual, the opening speech in the British Columbia Legislature on Thursday is more noteworthy for what is omitted than what it contains. This time it is a singularly vapid disclosure of what the government proposes to do in the first session of the new legislature, but that should not be taken as a measure of the session's importance. One can be very sure that before prorogation various items of legislation will be introduced which will have a much wider impact on the province than the innocuous proposals sketchily outlined in the "speech."

This has been the practice of provincial legislatures for a long time, and one wonders what useful purpose it achieves.

The government must know long before the House convenes whether or not it intends to offer legislation on such matters as labor and social welfare, to mention only two of the issues much in the public mind these days. Would any harm be done by disclosing to the public through the speech given to the lieutenant-governor to read the fact that the government does intend to amend the relevant statutes?

At this early stage it is not necessary or desirable to reveal proposals in detail—that should properly come with submissions of the bills—but the public would be reassured by the knowledge that the government does intend to act on matters where action of some kind appears to be imperative.

This has become a sort of game that governments play; and in 1961 the B.C. government seems to have gone to more than usual lengths to

keep its intentions hidden and tease the people with ambiguities and vague suggestions which could mean much, little or nothing at all. It is a pointless game, tending to detract from the serious purpose for which the House is assembled.

There are times when it would be harmful for a government prematurely to expose its intentions—as, for example, in matters of taxation. But it is helpful to those who are to be affected by new laws or changes in existing laws to know that their interests are going to be taken up by the legislature.

There are numerous instances on record in which legislation sprung on the House without sufficient warning to enable interested professions, trades or organizations to make submissions has subsequently proved unworkable and had to be changed a year later.

A government which always professes that it keeps the province informed in all things should set a better example by being a little more specific in the opening speech.

As it is, the only really important matter stated in definite terms is the decision to implement that portion of the monumental Chant report on education dealing with the establishment of an institute of advanced technology to complement the university. But the report contained a vast array of other vital recommendations.

Apart from that it would be difficult to detect anything concrete in what is supposed to be program for the House. It is a hollow pronouncement.

## Bruton's Notebook

**BACKWOODS ODYSSEY:** Omineca MLA Cyril Shelford did it again yesterday.

Every session he has the other members convulsed as he relates some folksy anecdote from his backwoods riding in northern B.C.

Last summer, he told the House yesterday, it was announced at the Ootsa Lake Stampede that a neighbor of his, Smokey Naylor, was about to compete in the bronco-busting contest.

"Smokey's now in the chute and is riding Gagliardi," said the ring announcer.

"Well, you can just imagine the reaction of all those people when they heard the name of the horse was Gagliardi," drawled Mr. Shelford. "Everybody thought it would be a real fiery horse."

"Then they opened the chute and do you know what happened?" he continued. "Gagliardi stayed in the chute and just kicked."

**GIVE AND TAKE:** Several exchanges between government and opposition members of the legislature yesterday showed that the MLAs have indeed sharpened their wits.

Cyril Shelford (SC, Omineca) was talking about change of names for political parties, an obvious dig at the New Party.

"I guess the Conservatives started it some time ago by changing their name," said Mr. Shelford.

"Yeah, the premier did too," shot back Leo Nimsick (CCF, Cranbrook) referring to Premier Bennett's former allegiance to the Tory party.

Herbert Bruch (SC, Esquimalt) was reading a list of reasons why so many social workers quit the department last year.

"Illness, two . . . casually employed, two," intoned Mr. Bruch.

"For running as a CCF candidate, one," interjected Opposition leader Robert Strachan, in reference to the firing of social worker David Barrett (CCF, Dewdney) after he had been nominated by the CCF.

"That's the not known, one, I guess," continued Mr. Bruch.



# Gaglardi Attack

## 'Sanctimonious Cant'

Opposition leader Robert Strachan yesterday lambasted Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi for what he termed "a bitter personal attack" on former B.C. superintendent of child welfare, Miss Ruby McKay.

"Coming from a man with the minister's record in the courts of this province, his criticism of Miss McKay can only be described as sanctimonious cant," said Mr. Strachan, speaking in the Throne Speech debate.

Mr. Gaglardi charged some weeks ago that Miss McKay, who quit her post after 16 years' service because of what

she described "restrictive government policies towards welfare," had made her statement for political reasons.

The opposition leader urged the establishment of a complete new department of social

welfare and rehabilitation, with its own minister and deputy, to assume responsibility for the social welfare services, alcoholic and narcotic drug treatment and correctional services.

"We must cease to think of the latter three services as matters of law enforcement and put them where they belong, in the field of rehabilitation," he told the legislature. In establishing this new ad-

ministration, all social welfare costs and administrative responsibilities must be removed from the municipalities as recommended by the Union of B.C. Municipalities and from the children's aid societies.

"We can no longer afford to waste the potential of large numbers of our population who are capable of rehabilitation and at all costs we can no longer afford either morally or financially to neglect our helpless children," said Mr. Strachan.

The CCF leader compared figures given in reports from 1952 to 1960 to show how welfare services in the province have deteriorated during the past few years.

## Columbia Pact 'Second Best'

Provincial government deliberately forced Canada to accept a "second-best agreement" with the U.S. for the development of the Columbia River, CCF leader Robert Strachan charged in the legislature yesterday.

"Because of the deliberate action of this government we

now have an inferior agreement which includes the High Arrow Dam and Libby Dam," said Mr. Strachan. "The reason for this betrayal is not hard to find. This government is firmly tied to the coat tails of the front man for Alfred Krupp—Axel Wenner-Gren."

Mr. Strachan claimed that

the government was determined at all costs, even if it was to the detriment of Canada, to fight to the last in an effort to give Peace River promoters Wenner-Gren and his associates "including the B.C. Electric" a complete monopoly on the power resources of the province.

## Gaglardi Debate Certain

A full-scale legislative debate on Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi's right to sit in the legislature appeared virtually certain later this session when Mr. Speaker Hugh Shantz yesterday refused to rule on the matter.

Mr. Gaglardi's eligibility to sit as member for Kamloops has been questioned in the light of a conviction for contempt of court and \$1,000 fine.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan last Thursday interrupted the traditional opening day ceremonies in the legislature to ask Mr. Speaker Shantz to rule on the minister's standing in a few days.

### RESERVED COMMENT

When the legislature opened yesterday Mr. Shantz said:

"On Thursday last, the leader of the opposition requested me, as I understood him, to express an opinion as to the right of the minister of highways to take his seat in the House at which time I reserved any comment.

"I am of the opinion that it is not within my competence to express any such opinion and that the request is therefore not in order," he said.

### PREPARED TO TALK

"Should the leader of the opposition wish to avail himself of the opportunity so to do I am prepared to discuss with him what appropriate procedures may be available to bring about a debate on any such question."

Observers believe the last paragraph of the speaker's statement opens the way for a full debate on Mr. Gaglardi's status.

## Socred Foes Join But First Vote Lost

First division of the present session saw the government defeat a no-confidence motion moved by CCF leader Robert Strachan yesterday.

All members were in the house and the vote was defeated 31-20. The four-man Liberal group voted with the CCF.

Mr. Strachan's motion lashed government handling of problems of unemployment, municipalities, social welfare, drug addiction and mental sickness.

### BEAUTY AND THE BEASTS:

An embarrassed blush flitted over the cheeks of B.C.'s minister without portfolio, Mrs. Buda Brown, when CCF leader Robert Strachan congratulated her on her appointment yesterday.

"I suppose she has a pretty rough job ahead of her," said Mr. Strachan. "One rose among all those thorns. I see her acting as a sort of den mother to the cabinet. They certainly need it!"

Tues., Jan. 31, 1961

# Nothing Went Right At Perrault's Debut

**SLIPPERY FOOTING:** It just wasn't Liberal Leader Ray Perrault's day yesterday.

First of all he made his maiden speech following CCF leader Robert Strachan — and Mr. Strachan stole all Mr. Perrault's material.

Secondly Mr. Perrault sat down after his speech before he remembered that he had forgotten to move his motion of no confidence in the government.

Mr. Speaker Hugh Shantz reminded the Liberal leader he could not rise to speak in debate again after he had taken his seat. He said this time, however, he would overlook the slip.

Mr. Perrault presented his motion.

Not acceptable, ruled Mr. Speaker Shantz, on the grounds that it covered exactly the same ground of a no-confidence motion presented by Mr. Strachan and defeated an hour before.

## Unemployment

# Crash Plan Urged

Liberal Leader Ray Perrault, in his maiden speech to the legislature yesterday, urged the Socred government to begin an immediate 18-month crash program to alleviate unemployment.

His plan called for co-operation of labor, management, municipal and provincial government in a big drive to create \$75,000,000 worth of potential construction in B.C.

### TOTAL SACRIFICE

"It would be a total community sacrifice to stimulate construction activity," he said.

He said the average home requires \$500 in immediate home repairs . . . and these are the projects he said would give employment to the 19 per cent of the unskilled labor force and the 16 per cent of the construction union force now unemployed.

He said hardware and building supply dealers should give a voluntary 10 per cent reduction on all building goods — plywood, nails, sewer pipe and all the rest.

### BY 10 PER CENT

Labor should reduce its labor cost by 10 per cent, government should chip in 10 per cent, and home improvement taxation should be abolished for the 18-month period, he said.

Mr. Perrault said British Columbia is facing its toughest challenge in the unemployment situation, but there is nothing in the Throne Speech to indicate the government appreciates how difficult times are.

"Many people in B.C. are hunting for jobs, with real frustration," he said. "This is a time to worry about people who are suffering and not to worry too much about costs. Social capital improvements are needed, such as slum clearance and some imagination to initiate programs to create employment, instead of blaming Ottawa, and saying it can't be done," he said.

### SELF-START

"We need some self-start projects with the resources at hand," he said. "If Diefenbaker's horse won't jump over the hurdle, we have to do some pushing."

The youthful Liberal leader from North Vancouver hit at other points in his speech, but promised the Liberals will work for any government measures that seem to have virtue and merit.

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**1961**

Thur., Jan. 26, 1961

# B.C. to Get 'Tech' College

## Moves on Chant Report Bared in Throne Speech

VICTORIA (Staff)—The legislature will be asked to authorize construction of a provincial institute of advanced technology in line with recommendations of the Chant report, the speech from the throne revealed today.

The institute described in the speech read at the opening of the first session of B.C.'s 26th legislature would provide technical and commercial training. It would be attended by students who graduate from Grade 13 but are not fitted for a university education.

The speech was released at noon today prior to delivery at 3 p.m.

### MAIN POINTS

The throne speech also disclosed that:

- Changes will be made in the Public Schools Act.
- An industrial therapy building will be built at the Essondale mental hospital and a surgical wing at Crease Clinic.
- B.C.'s mental health services have won a certificate of full accreditation from the American Psychiatric Association, first ever awarded in Canada.
- A report on a survey of B.C.'s mental health needs by the association will be presented soon.

### NO HINT OF PROBES

There was no indication the government plans to establish royal commissions, as urged by many groups, to investigate two major problems—school financing and social welfare policies and services.

Findings of the Chant commission report will greatly assist the government in improving educational facilities in B.C., the speech said.

Some of the recommendations have already been put into effect, it continued, others will be implemented immediately and others of a far-reaching nature will be given further study.

The legislature will also be asked to approve a new teachers' pensions act to improve benefits for teachers and retired teachers.

Funds will be asked for additional work on the Dean

tunnel-U.S. border freeway and other unspecified highway projects.

The speech also disclosed:

The Upper Levels highway will be completed in February.

A new rural youth development program will be undertaken.

Mental hospital farms will be transferred to the agriculture department for new experimental work, but space will be provided at Essondale and Tranquille farms for recreational and agricultural activities of mental patients.

### HOMES PLANED

National organizations are contemplating construction of large elderly citizen's homes in B.C.

Community health services will be expanded.

Measures to encourage building of fallout shelters and ensure municipal responsibility in event of a national emergency will be presented.

Other legislation forecast is amendment to the Securities Act, legislation to assure uniformity in compensation for expropriated land, a revision of the Credit Unions Act, changes in the Recreation and Conservation Act and an act concerning access to public accommodation.

An animal pathology laboratory will be constructed at Abbotsford.

The house standing committee on forestry will be asked to study proposals that would allow the government to enter into agreements for disposal of pulpwood from public working circles.

Community health services will be expanded and improved, with particular emphasis on control of communicable diseases, plans for home care and community rehabilitation, and construction of new health centres.

### COLUMBIA MUST WAIT

The speech noted that arrangements for financing the Columbia River hydro development scheme must await the study undertaken by the B.C. Energy Board, as well as discussions with federal Finance Minister Donald Fleming.

Pearkes said he is advised that the Pacific Great Eastern Railway will continue to seek a connection with the Northern Alberta Railways north of the Peace River.

He said he was also pleased to note that a detailed survey is being made by the federal government of a western rail route to Great Slave Lake, in the Northwest Territories.

A new connection between the PGE and the NAR would thus link B.C. with northern mining development.



## AT CAPITAL

House  
Opening  
Brilliant

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA (Staff) — Perhaps no January legislative opening was ever quite so brilliant as that of Thursday.

A warm sun shone in a cloudless blue sky; the new crocuses and snowdrops bloomed in the Parliament Square flower beds with the roses, and shasta daisies of last year, and the daffodils were poking through.

The ladies' hats blossomed, in all their glory, not an umbrella in sight; furs were carried. The top-hatted gentlemen discarded their overcoats.

Flags fluttered and bands played and cannon boomed and police motorcycles roared, and everyone from Vancouver couldn't get over the weather, what with their city blanketed in dank and dense fog.

\* \* \*

Lieut-Gov. George Pearkes looked gorgeous and distinguished in his new gold-overall uniform, and a row of medals on his chest that must have weighed three pounds.

He read the speech from the throne clearly and well, as if he had done homework by the light of the midnight oil. He was the first retired politician to be Lieutenant-Governor in more than 40 years; the last was E. G. Prior, in 1920.

Everyone was happy to see former lieut.-gov. and Mrs. Frank Mackenzie Ross there, and pleased, too, that the speech from the throne said of Ross: "I desire to express our gratitude to my predecessor — for his unselfish and devoted service to the people of our province."

\* \* \*

The throne speech, having been prepared by the government, suitably praised the government, saying what a fine job it has done, is doing and will continue to do.

Premier Bennett purred to himself as he listened to his accomplishments read out before the assembly.

Actually, the speech from the throne didn't say a great deal, but, then, a throne speech never does. No government shows its hand too far in advance.

I found it interesting to look down at the retired, or defeated politicians.

Three former Liberal federal cabinet ministers sat together — Ralph Campney, Jimmy Sinclair and R. W. Mayhew; two former Liberal members of the B.C. house were there—Charles W. Morrow and Joseph Clearihue, in the black robes of County Court judges.

The four Liberal MLAs sat huddled together, red roses, defiant symbol of their Liberalism, in their buttonholes.

'Twas easy to see Gordon Gibson, more belligerent-looking than ever, could hardly wait to get a hammerin' at Bennett and his government. That's going to be real fun.

Opposition Leader Strachan caused a ripple when he suggested Mr. Speaker Shantz express an opinion as to whether or not Highways Minister Gagliardi should be an MLA, in view of recent court cases.

The premier looked annoyed, but held his tongue; Gagliardi looked a little sheepish, but managed to grin.

Strachan patted himself on the back for what to him, and his CCFers, was a neat political manoeuvre.

The jam-packed legislative hall loved it, feeling, of a sudden, the unexpected quiver of political excitement.

Today the talk-fest gets under way, and, in the next six weeks there'll be explosion after explosion, though the premier says it's going to be a quiet session.

Bennett's  
Accounts  
No Surprise

VICTORIA (Staff) — Premier W. A. C. Bennett filed his public accounts in the legislature Thursday, but for the first time they drew scant attention.

The record of government spending up to March 31, 1960, had been widely distributed in condensed form prior to the election last year.

The premier noted this in an interview Thursday, but pointed out a few highlights which give him pride:

In the fiscal year fixed assets of the province increased by \$39,874,000 to \$473,478,000.

Liquidation of the province's direct debt was completed in 1959 and a debt liability of \$71,117,000 was written off the books. (However, the accounts now show contingent liabilities totalling \$555,790,352.)

There was a revenue surplus of \$3,147,000 which when added to previous surpluses created a reserve of \$26,909,000.

Some \$25 million of this was to be spent this year along with current revenues in the premier's record \$331 million 1960-61 budget.

Integration Again  
Hinted on Power

VICTORIA (Staff) — There were few hints in the legislature Thursday that the energy board will recommend integration of the Peace and Columbia hydro projects.

First annual report of the board, signed by chairman Dr. Gordon Shrum noted, "The value of integration is well recognized in electrical practice."

He said in the report that the board will follow the premise that the government has recognized the need for, and will insist upon, a high degree of co-operation between power producers and distribution agencies.

The report said the board's policy statement was sent to the provincial cabinet early last year.

The board recently was asked to study all ramifications and possible integration, of the Peace and Columbia projects.

CCF and Liberal spokesmen have suggested integration would benefit promoters of private power on the Peace.

Rae Eddie Named  
CCF Party Whip

VICTORIA (Staff) — New Westminster MLA Rae Eddie has been named CCF party whip for the legislature session.

He was chosen during a caucus.

Former whip, Arthur Turner, perennial MLA for Vancouver-East, will act as deputy House leader.

Chairman of the caucus is Randolph Harding, MLA for Kaslo-Slocan.

Fri., Jan. 27, 1961

## Ottawa Aid Helps B.C. Divert \$9.5 Million Hospital Funds

VICTORIA (Staff)—Approximately \$9.5 million earmarked for B.C. hospital insurance in 1959-60, was diverted to other use, public accounts showed Thursday.

Federal participation in B.C. Hospital Insurance permitted the government to make the switch.

The accounts also showed the government did not use all sales tax money for hospitals.

During the year ended March 31, 1960, the province paid \$28,360,417 for operation of hospital insurance.

### \$18 MILLION COST

The gross cost was \$13,799,192, but the federal government's cost-sharing grant was \$20,405,091.

At the same time, the accounts showed revenue from the five per cent sales tax to be \$87,364,125.

When the government increased sales tax from three

to five per cent, it stated the additional two per cent would be used to finance hospital insurance.

Two-fifths of the total sales tax money is \$34,965,654.

To this should be added \$2,922,572, proceeds of the amusement tax, earmarked for hospital construction.

This brings the provincial government's total income for hospitals to \$37,868,226.

### GOES INTO REVENUE

But the accounts show the government paid out only \$28,360,417 for hospital insurance operation. The balance of approximately \$9.5 million apparently was absorbed into general revenue.

A health department report showed the BCHIS settled accounts for 249,841 hospital patients last year.

The report tabled in the legislature by Health Minister Eric Martin said that in 12 years BCHIS has paid out \$340

million on behalf of 2,788,000 patients.

Daily payments to hospitals last year averaged \$130,000.

Hospital insurance covered 96 per cent of patients hospitalized in B.C. with acute illnesses.

## Expanded Facilities At B.C. Jails Urged

VICTORIA (Staff)—An appeal for more government spending on provincial jails was filed in the legislature Thursday.

Director of correction E. G. B. Stevens, in the annual report filed by Attorney-General Bonner, listed these needs:

- Better facilities for administration, observation and classification, and for chaplains at Oakalla.

- Additional, adequate quarters for short-term inmates at Oakalla.

- A separate women's jail at a new site near Ruskin.

- Completion of long-delayed facilities at Haney Correctional Institute.

- Space at Prince George jail to start a vocational program.

- Expansion of the probation service.

Stevens noted the cost of maintaining jails in the province in the fiscal year ended March, 1960, was \$5.3 million for a prison population of about 2,000.

## MARK-UP ON LIQUOR OVER 45 PER CENT

VICTORIA (Staff)—Mark-up on B.C. liquor sales is more than 45 per cent.

A liquor board balance sheet filed in the legislature Thursday showed a gross profit of \$15,463,020 on liquor which cost the government \$33,756,637.

The balance sheet, for the period April 1 to Sept. 30, 1960, showed a sales total of \$49,219,657.

Net profit returned to the government's consolidated revenue fund was \$13,212,947 for the six-month period.

## B.C. Tourist Revenue Slashed by \$3 Million

VICTORIA (Staff)—Foreign competition for North American travellers slashed B.C. tourist revenues by \$3 million in the last fiscal year, the legislature was told Thursday.

The annual report submitted by Recreation Minister Earle C. Westwood showed revenue

was \$100.4 million, compared with \$103 million the year previous.

A flood of foreign advertising was noted. Foreign visitors declined 7.5 per cent to 1.5 million persons.

Visitors from other parts of Canada totalled 550,000—a 10 per cent increase.

## Gagliardi Top Spender

VICTORIA (CP)—Highways Minister P. A. Gagliardi is back at the head of the cabinet's list of expenses.

Last year, it was Premier W. A. C. Bennett who spent the most on expenses over and above his salary as reported in the public accounts for 1958-59.

This year, in the accounts for 1959-60, Gagliardi is top spender, with \$4,303.

Second is former agriculture minister Newton P. Steacy, defeated in the Sept. 12 election, who spent \$3,898.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner comes next with \$3,721.

The premier is fourth, with \$3,674.

Low man is Recreation Minister Earle Westwood, \$1,681.

## HUNT GOOD FOR WARDENS

VICTORIA (Staff)—Game wardens bagged 370 prowling bears, 127 cougars, 167 coyotes, 24 wolves, 242 wild dogs, 139 raccoons and 183 skunks in the last fiscal year.

One cougar was held responsible for killing 38 sheep before it was caught in a snare, a fish and game department report said.

## Smokers Top Fire Menace

VICTORIA (Staff)—Careless smokers are the leading cause of fire deaths in British Columbia, a report filed in the legislature said Thursday.

B.C. Fire Marshal Basil Nixon reported that in the year ended March 31, 1960, there had been 86 deaths from fire in B.C., 15 due to smoking.

His report said there were 8,268 fires in 1959, an increase of 205 from the previous year.

## Text-Book Rentals Cost \$100,000

VICTORIA (Staff)—School text-book rentals cost the provincial education department \$100,000 last year.

Annual report on public schools said the department collected rental fees of \$633,108 from students, but expenditure was \$100,024 higher than the income.

However the department made \$88,983 on text-book sales which totalled \$1,083,717.



Fri., Jan. 27, 1961



—Ryan photo.  
**ENTERING LEGISLATURE** in Victoria Thursday before delivering throne speech, Lieut.-Gov. George Pearkes (left) was accompanied by Premier W. A. C. Bennett. Ceremony marked the 26th session of the B.C. legislature.

## HEAVY STAFF TURNOVER

# 562 Quit Mental Health Service During 1959-60

VICTORIA (Staff) — More than 560 employees left the provincial mental health service in 1959-60.

The social welfare department had 114 workers leave in the same period.

This was disclosed Thursday when annual reports for both departments were released in the legislature.

The mental health service report showed a 20 per cent staff turnover. A total of 562 persons left the service, 832 were recruited. Staff strength was 2,927.

There were 6,247 patients in residence in B.C. mental insti-

tutions at March 31, 1960—3,477 men and 2,770 women.

Total of 9,520 patients received treatment in institutions, and 1,603 out-patients received care.

Admissions totalled 3,292 compared with 2,293 the previous year.

Net cost per day per patient was \$5.63, for a total of \$12.7 million.

The welfare department report showed a 26 per cent staff turnover. Of 550 workers, 144 left and were replaced.

The case load increased by 2,000 to 19,503.

Social assistance cases in Vancouver alone jumped from 8,686 to 9,017.

The province cared for 4,942 children at a cost of \$2.34 million.

Total cost of social assistance was \$18.3 million, an increase of \$3.3 million from the previous fiscal year.

# CCF Challenges Seating Gaglardi

## Strachan Raises Question At Opening of Legislature

VICTORIA (Staff) — Opposition leader Robert Strachan challenged the right of Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi to take his seat at the opening of the legislature Thursday.

Strachan said he raised the question because of recent court judgments affecting the minister. Gaglardi was fined \$1,000 for contempt of court last year.

Speaker Hugh Shantz reserved his decision and Gaglardi took his seat.

A move by Strachan to have an early debate on unemployment was also defeated.

Strachan's move on Gaglardi startled members and about 600 guests who were crowded into the legislative chamber to witness the pomp and ceremony of the opening.

The House hushed as Strachan got to his feet after the clerk read the names of those elected in the 1960 election.

### CITES COURT CASE

Strachan said that since the Sept. 12 election there had been some court judgments affecting the member from Kamloops (Gaglardi).

"Many members of the general public are questioning the right of the member for Kamloops to take his seat in the legislature," he continued.

"I personally would not presume to form an opinion.

"But at this time I would like to suggest that you sir, (the Speaker) either now or in the next few days, notify us of your opinion as to the eligibility of the member for Kamloops," said Strachan.

Gaglardi, sitting almost directly across the House from Strachan, listened grimly.

The Speaker said he would reserve his decision on the matter for the present.

### TO COMMENT LATER

Later in the corridor, Gaglardi said he would comment at the proper time.

"Every dog has his day," said the minister. "Responsible individuals always act in

a responsible fashion. I'll comment in responsible fashion when the time comes."

(Gaglardi was fined \$1,000 for permitting his department to send money to the Idaho bank account of Clyde W. Thornton, head of the defunct Union Contractors, in defiance of a court judgment that stated \$25,000 was to go to an official receiver.

(Gaglardi's appeal was thrown out this month by B.C. Appeal Court. Thornton was jailed for two months for contempt for permitting the bank to receive the money.)

Lieut.-Gov. George Pearkes was delayed in reading his first throne speech by Strachan's action.

## Accelerated Schooling Shows Worth

VICTORIA (Staff) — The accelerated high school classes in West Vancouver are proving their worth.

The annual report on public schools Thursday noted that the classes produced:

Two of the leading students in grade 13 examinations last June.

Four out of 37 winners of B.C. government scholarships for first class marks in Grade 13.

Seven out of 33 second class scholarship winners in the same grade.

Six first class scholarship winners in Grade 12.

Ten second class scholarship winners in Grade 12.

Students in accelerated classes are on a special study enrichment program that allows them to complete four years of high school in three years, a West Vancouver school board official said.

Two hundred and forty of the 1,200 students at West Vancouver High School are in the accelerated classes.

Vancouver also has accelerated classes in some of its schools, the public schools report noted. Next year some of its accelerated students will advance to the Grade 13 level.

# Kamloops Leads in Snowplow Costs

More money is spent on snow plowing in Kamloops electoral district than in any other district in British Columbia, a provincial highways report shows today.

The government spent \$173,250 in the past fiscal year to clear 1,235 miles of Kamloops district roads.

Cost of clearing South Cariboo, with 115 more miles, was \$91,080 less.

Comparative snowfall in the same period, the public forecaster said today in Vancouver, was 35.8 inches for Kamloops, 57.2 inches for Quesnel.

Kamloops is the home riding of Highways Minister Philip Gaglardi.

The report released in Victoria said cost of keeping open 18,904 miles of provincial highway totalled \$2,024,645.

The second highest expenditure for snow clearing was in the Nelson - Creston district where 529 miles cost \$140,235.

Snowfall in the district's Crescent Valley for April 1, 1959 to March 31, 1960 fiscal period was among the province's highest—129.3.

## SCHOOL ENROLMENT UP BY 14,614 IN '60

VICTORIA (Staff) — B.C. school enrolment increased from 291,223 in the 1958-59 term to 305,837 in the 1959-60 term, the annual report on public schools said Thursday.

The report, presented to the legislature by Education Minister Leslie Peterson also showed 3,372 high school correspondence students, 1,276 elementary correspondence students, 7,697 vocational training students and 40,867 night school students.

Adults in recreational programs numbered 177,513, 1,257 adults attended credit courses at Victoria College and 5,068 at University of B.C.

## Population Rise Slowed

VICTORIA (CP) — There were 808,200 males and 761,800 females in B.C. during the 1959-60 fiscal year.

There were fewer marriages—11,910—than in any year since 1955 but there were also fewer divorces—1,452—than in any year since 1951.

Population increase hit a new low for the years since 1950—reaching a total of 1,570,000 compared with 1,544,000 the year before. The report of the vital statistics branch says the increase is only slightly higher than the net natural increase, indicating fewer people are moving to B.C.

## MUSEUM HAS WITCHES' BREW

VICTORIA (Staff) — Provincial museum workers could likely mix a potent witches' brew from gifts received last year.

Annual report of the museum, filed in the legislature Thursday, lists pages of donations, including a live brown bat, nine marten skulls, two mounted Chinese water deer, lizard, tadpole, toad and a garter snake, a one-eyed hawk moth, four human skulls, a human skeleton, a hagfish, a purple finch, a banded borer and a jumping spider.



## AT CAPITAL

Legislative  
Lullaby  
At Start

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA (Staff) — The speech-making started in the legislature on Friday.

It was a somnolent sort of day; everyone was tired and satiated after all the social events of the day before.

Two enthusiastic young Socreds, Herbert Bruch of Esquimalt and Cyril Shelford of Omineca, were given, by the premier, the high honor of moving and seconding the address in reply to the speech from the throne.

Time was when the two members so honored expanded on the speech from the throne, giving broad hints of what the government will do.

But nary a hint on Friday from Messrs. Bruch and Shelford. Mr. Bennett, their big boss, will give his own hints, in his own way, and in his own good time.

As was expected of them, and as everyone knew they would, Messrs. Bruch and Shelford praised the government — the finest government possible, in their view.

The premier sat back and pride swept him as he listened, but he remained modest and humble. That mood won't last too long with our Mr. Premier.

\* \* \*

Mr. Bruch stirred up CCFers a bit, but he was pleasant, and so were they, when he said they play politics with the province's water-power resources. CCFers laughed in soft derision, but no one attempted to shout down Mr. Bruch. That will come later.

The CCF's John Squire of Alberni butted in a couple of times, but Mr. Bruch, with great dignity and poise and forbearance, and waving a long finger, said: "Listen to me, my friend, and you might learn something."

Mrs. Camille Mather, CCF, of Delta, showed herself a domesticated type. Right in the middle of Mr. Bruch's speech she watered the flowers on her desk and perked them up. She looked very pert.

And someone sent Hon. Mrs. Brown a mash note, starting: "Buda dear, in your rose-red gown — and your crown of golden hue."

\* \* \*

Mr. Bruch spoke about 40 minutes, therefore, he was not boring. Any speech more than an hour is usually very boring indeed.

Mr. Shelford, who sometimes criticizes his government, couldn't find anything to condemn this time, nothing whatsoever. In Mr. Shelford's opinion this Social Credit government does a terrific job for everybody.

While he was in good mood, he said, before oppositionists make him mad, he'd like to congratulate everyone on getting elected, yes, even CCFers and Liberals.

The CCF's Mr. Nimsick of Cranbrook made a few wisecrack observations, which caused Mr. Shelford to pause, but, philosophy sweeping him, he said to Mr. Nimsick: "I guess I'll have to get used to your chatter sometime."

This struck Mr. Nimsick as very funny.

\* \* \*

Mr. Shelford expressed some sorrow for Liberal Leader Ray Perrault. There was poor Mr. Perrault, leading a party rejected by the people, and trying to camouflage it with red paint, in a desperate effort to sell it as something new. Mr. Shelford sighed for Mr. Perrault's sad plight.

Mr. Shelford had some advice for the Liberals: let them change their name, like the CCF, who are getting ready to call themselves New Party. Let the Liberals call themselves the Model T Party, was Mr. Shelford's advice.

And he took a whack at Liberal Gordon Gibson, and the fact he's said to be a millionaire lumberman: "Certainly the thinking of the second member for North Vancouver, with his cut-and-get-out philosophy, belongs in the Model T days."

\* \* \*

Mr. Gibson, just back from his Hawaiian estate, rumbled like a breeze from Oahu, but didn't say anything. Before long he'll make like a typhoon from the China Sea.

Mr. Shelford spoke not much longer than Mr. Bruch, and so it was easy to listen to him, too. Let's hope all other MLAs follow these two in brevity. They'll be much more effective if they do.

Yes, a pleasant, drowsy day Friday. Monday it will be different. Opposition Leader Strachan will speak, and he'll do his best to get the premier and his cabinet hopping mad.

## MLAs Pose 36 Queries On Welfare

VICTORIA (Staff)—Thirty-six of 93 questions filed by members of the legislature on House opening day are on social welfare.

Twenty-four of them are asked by Dave Barrett, CCF MLA for Dewdney, a social worker himself who will be the CCF's welfare critic.

Other CCF'ers joined the questioning of welfare matters, and questions have also been filed on the subject by Liberal leader Ray Perrault and government member Herbert Bruch, MLA for Esquimalt who moved adoption of the throne speech Friday.

Barrett wants to know the whole story behind the cancellation of medical care for employable unemployed, as well as details of welfare administration generally.

Mrs. Camille Mather (CCF-Delta) wants up-to-date figures on child welfare and industrial schools; James Rhodes (CCF-Delta) wants details on welfare cost-sharing and Perrault asks for the latest figures on social assistance grants.

## Guides Urged On Ferries

VICTORIA (Staff)—University-trained tourist counsellors should be placed on government ferries, Herbert Bruch (SC-Esquimalt), said Friday.

Bruch said such counsellors would map out travellers' routes and advise them of places to visit. He said that in Mexico such men are given a three-year university course and obtain a degree in tourism.

Bruch moved the reply to the speech from the throne—the first official address of the session.

## CCFer Asks Why Socred Given Job

VICTORIA (Staff)—Appointment of a Social Credit official to a public works post will be questioned in the legislature.

Cedric Cox (CCF-Burnaby), filed a question in the House Friday asking Works Minister Chant whether Walter J. Smith, Tranquille works superintendent, ranked last in civil service exams.

Cox also asked who was originally recommended for the post.

The matter arose after disclosures in The Sun last week that Smith, a former campaign manager for Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi, ranked last of six contestants for the job.

The article said the Civil Service Commission had recommended another man, but was overruled and Smith was appointed by order-in-council.

## Library, Museum Move Planned

VICTORIA (Staff)—The provincial government intends to remove the provincial library and the provincial museum from the education department.

Bills given first reading in the legislature Friday transfer the museum to recreation and conservation department and the library to the department of the provincial secretary.

The step will relieve Education Minister Leslie Peterson who recently was given the added labor portfolio.

## CCF, LIBERALS AIM QUERIES AT GAGLARDI

VICTORIA (Staff)—Opposition leader Robert Strachan has placed a question on the order paper for next Monday asking Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi how much money, if any, has been paid to certain construction companies.

Strachan named the companies last year and said they got road work through political patronage.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault also served notice he will attempt to get the full story of Gaglardi's contempt of court conviction. He will move Monday that all correspondence about the claim of sub-contractors of L. and M. Logging Co. and Union Contracting Co. be filed in the legislature.



MONDAY, JAN. 30, 1961

## Strachan Demands New Welfare Dep't

By PETE LOUDON

VICTORIA (Staff) — Opposition leader Robert Strachan called today for a complete new department of social welfare and rehabilitation.

He said the department should have its own minister and deputy.

The department should assume all responsibility for social welfare, alcoholic and drug treatment, and correctional services.

"We must cease to think of the latter three services as matters of law enforcement and put them where they belong, in the field of social services," the CCF leader said.

Speaking in the legislature, in reply to the speech from the throne, Strachan said the new department should remove all costs of social welfare and administration responsibilities from the municipalities and children's aid societies.

Strachan charged there has been complete deterioration and demoralization of the social welfare department under the eight years of Social Credit administration.

He said the CCF has tried to point this out since 1957, but, "it has taken the resignation of one of the finest civil

servants B.C. ever had, to arouse province-wide condemnation of the situation."

(Strachan was referring to former child welfare head Miss Ruby McKay who resigned last fall in protest against government dollar pinching which she said robbed her of staff and finances for proper work in this field.)

Strachan said Miss McKay virtually gave her life to the service over 21 years.

"I feel nothing but disgust for the bitter personal attack on Miss McKay by the highways minister (P. A. Gaglardi)," he said.

(When Miss McKay criticized the government, Gaglardi said she was playing politics.)

### NO CONFIDENCE

He said Gaglardi's remarks and the silence of Welfare Minister W. D. Black indicated the government had no confidence in Black to handle the matter. He promised the opposition in this session would go into the matter in detail.

For now, he quoted what he called basic facts:

In 1952 Miss Amy Leigh, assistant director of welfare (who resigned in 1958), said only 39 social service workers out of 221 were university trained.

The 1960 welfare report showed only 78 trained workers while the number of cases had increased by 16,000 since 1952.

Average number of cases per worker is 33, and one worker had 1,600.

"Is this eight years of progress?" asked Strachan, quoting the Socred election slogan.

## AT CAPITAL

Strachan  
Strafes  
Socreds

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA (Staff) — The leader of the Opposition, Robert Strachan, when he spoke in the House Monday, found Premier Bennett's Social Credit government pretty poor. /

He found it tyrannical, crumbling (the thought of which made him happy), decadent, nothing but a machine well-oiled with money from big business, chiefly the B.C. Electric, a government working only to fatten the money-bags of the capitalists, not caring a hoot about the common man.

Bennett sat placidly enough through all this, expecting Strachan to talk this way. For much of the Strachan speech the premier wasn't even in the House.

He had, in his view, more important things to do, such as working on his 1961 budget. The premier, being also minister of finance, dearly loves his annual budget.

\* \* \*

The premier these days must be a little worried about the future as he looks across the floor of the House to the increased opposition — a hefty, threatening-looking group with only 12 less House votes than he has himself, though that's enough to make him and his government completely safe in this legislature.

As Strachan was talking, and he didn't shout much, I thought it's not often a political party comes through an election absolutely unscathed, and, even more important, to it, with a greater than 50 per cent increase in its house membership.

Yet Strachan was able to accomplish that feat in last September's general election, and he rubbed the fact well into SCers. But they were not too impressed, the next election being a long way off.

The CCF lost not one member, either in the nominating conventions, or in the polling booths — quite an achievement. And, to boot, it added six members, largely because of the Strachan drive and initiative. Only once in its B.C. history was the CCF stronger.

That was after the confused 1952 election, when it had 18 MLAs.

The premier looks quite content, most buoyant, as he looks across at those who oppose him. Bennett doesn't believe in wearing his political heart on his sleeve. He believes in the bold front; the misgivings deep down in his political heart.

He must find the sight of four Liberals in the House disturbing, though he won't admit it. He had hoped that last September he'd wipe the Liberals right out of the House, as he has wiped out the Conservatives.

He wants no opposition but CCF socialism. The Liberal block in the House is small, but it could portend some future troubles for Social Credit — or so the Liberals hope.

Liberal leader Ray Perrault, following the well-seasoned Strachan, showed remarkable poise and self-confidence, considering he was making his maiden legislative speech.

This is supposed to be a great and nerve-wracking experience in anyone's life, but to listen to Perrault you'd think he had been making legislative speeches all his life.

\* \* \*

He has a fine voice, perhaps the best in the house. He showed pleasant personality, and wasn't the least boring, because he spoke from neat notes, not a prepared text.

He frequently folded his arms, now and then put his hands in his coat pockets, like any true orator. He didn't bark or growl, wanting, before he tries that, to have his feet firmly on legislative ground.

In this he was very wise. Now that we know he can make a good formal legislative speech, it's going to be interesting to see how he fares in the rough-and-tumble of spontaneous legislative debate.

However, it must be admitted the new Liberal leader's in a difficult position. He's trying to find a middle course, between Social Credit and CCF socialism, and there just doesn't appear to be any.

So one minute he talks like an SCer, the next like a CCFer. The public finds this confusing, the Liberals frustrating, because they'd like an identity of their own.

Jobs Plan Urges  
10-Per-Cent Cuts

By RON ROSE

VICTORIA (Staff) — A 10-per-cent-off scheme to provide employment was advocated in the legislature Monday by Liberal leader Ray Perrault.

Perrault, making his first speech to the House, proposed an 18-month crash program for making construction work by co-operation between management, labor, municipalities and the provincial government.

He also disclosed that interested groups have already met to sound out the plan.

He called for:

- A ten-per-cent reduction by suppliers of the prices they charge for B.C. construction materials.

- Hiring of unemployed workmen at 10-per-cent less than going wages.

- A ten-per-cent contribution by the provincial government to get the scheme under way.

- Foregoing of municipal improvement taxes.

He said the scheme would provide \$75 million worth of construction, based on an estimate of 150,000 B.C. homes which could do with \$500 worth of repair work each.

He stressed that co-operation in the scheme would be voluntarily and that management or labor would not be bludgeoned into it.

"People say we couldn't hold such a meeting, that we fight in B.C. all the time," Perrault said.

"But," he added, "a secret conference already held in this province, has drawn together a widely representative group."

Perrault said later outside the House that he could not give any more details at present on negotiations to implement the plan. The group is expected to approach the government for support.

He said that despite anticipated criticisms, such a plan would finally get management and labor together in a joint effort at combating unemployment.



## Strachan Calls for B.C. Program of Flood Control

**PETE LOUDON**  
**VICTORIA (Staff)**—A provincial program of flood control is one of the most important matters facing the legislature, CCF Leader Robert Strachan said Monday.

He had been asking the same thing annually since 1954, he said. "This time I want to see some action," he added.

He said flooding which hit the province in recent weeks can't be put up with again. He quoted numerous newspaper articles where municipal authorities in flood-hit areas charged the government with

dodging responsibility for river control.

"We are fortunate there hasn't been a great loss of life," he said, adding that it was a sad thing to see so much damage to homes. He called for immediate action to clear log jams created in river mouths by the high waters.

Strachan also:

- Forecast a backbencher would be appointed minister of labor soon to replace Education Minister Peterson.

- Charged the Soereds were allied with big money monopolists.

- Accused the government

of doing nothing to maintain full employment.

- Attacked the picketing restrictions in Bill 43 (the 1959 Trade-Unions Act).

- Moved the traditional vote on non-confidence in the government. The four Liberals stood with the CCF but the vote was lost 31 to 20.

The one hour and 35 minute speech was notable in the effect on the government side of the House. Soerod members kept silent as Strachan flayed the government for welfare and power policies.

There was a suggestion in the government behavior that members had been told to play it cool. In other years there have been flare-ups across the floor during major Strachan speeches.

Bull-voiced Highways Minister Gaglardi talked to the premier while he was attacked. Bennett looked serious but made no rejoinders to Strachan. Welfare Minister W. D. Black quietly took notes.

## Debate on Gaglardi Considered

**VICTORIA (Staff)**—Speaker Hugh Shantz is considering allowing a full-size debate on the right of Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi to sit in the legislature.

Shantz told CCF Opposition Leader Robert Strachan Monday he was prepared to discuss ways in which a debate on the question might be brought about.

Shantz said he as Speaker could not rule on Gaglardi's eligibility, in doubt since a recent contempt of court conviction.

Strachan met with Shantz today and Shantz said later the issue could be placed before the house by a motion referring it to the standing committee on orders or to a special committee.

Meantime, he said, members were free to refer to it in speeches during the throne speech debate.

Strachan had asked Shantz for the ruling the day the house opened.

## FATAL HIGHWAY GAP QUESTIONED IN HOUSE

**VICTORIA (CP)**—Two sections of a super-highway that don't quite meet are the subject of questions for Highways Minister Gaglardi filed in the legislature by the new Liberal MLA for Fernie.

The gap, over a 500-foot chasm, has proved fatal. Last September six persons died when their car zoomed off the end of the three-year-old highway south of Fernie, near the U.S. border.

Liberal Harry McKay has asked Gaglardi why the delay in building a bridge and engineering questions.