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No. 17

Thursday, February 29, 1996.

8.30 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Bills Introduced

The following Private Bill was introduced and read the first time.

By Mr. Allaby,

Bill 26, *An Act to Amend the Optometry Act, 1978.*

Ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills.

Government Motions re Business of House

Hon. Mr. Frenette rose and announced that it was the intention of the government that Private Bill 20 be read a second time today.

Second Reading

The following Bills were read the second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

Bill 24, *An Act to Amend the Research and Productivity Council Act.*

Bill 25, *An Act to Amend the Highway Act.*

The following Private Bill was read a second time:

Bill 20, *An Act to Amend An Act to Incorporate Atlantic Baptist College.*

Pursuant to Standing Rule 121, Mr. Speaker ordered Private Bill 20 for Third Reading forthwith.

Third Reading

Accordingly, the following Private Bill was read the third time:

Bill 20, *An Act to Amend An Act to Incorporate Atlantic Baptist College.*

Ordered that the said Bill pass.

Private Members' Motions

Debate resumed on Motion 1 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS the Government of Canada has proposed changes to the *Unemployed Insurance Act*, many of which will impact negatively on our province, but some of which will have a positive effect on our workforce;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick ask the Government of Canada to amend those parts of the Employment Insurance Reform that negatively impact on New Brunswick's seasonal workers, notably the calculation of benefits based on consecutive weeks, the intensity rule, and the divisor used to calculate benefits.

Mr. Robichaud moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. Mockler,

THAT Motion 1 as amended be further amended:

By striking the word "and" in the last line and adding the following at the end of the word "benefits":

, and by revisiting the provisions establishing a total number of hours required to qualify for employment insurance benefits in order to make them more compatible with the existing requirements under the unemployment insurance regime.

It was agreed by unanimous consent that a 10-minute recess be declared by the chair for the purpose of considering the amendment proposed by Mr. Robichaud.

At 9.44 o'clock a.m. Mr. Speaker declared a recess.

9.58 o'clock a.m.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

And the question being put on the proposed amendment of Mr. Robichaud, seconded by Mr. Mockler, to further amend Motion 1 as amended, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended and the question being put, the amendment to Motion 1 as amended was adopted.

And the debate continuing on Motion 1 as further amended as follows:

WHEREAS the Government of Canada has proposed changes to the *Unemployment Insurance Act*, many of which will impact negatively on our province, but some which will have a positive effect on our workforce;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick ask the Government of Canada to amend those parts of the Employment Insurance Reform that negatively impact on New Brunswick's seasonal workers, notably the calculation of benefits based on consecutive weeks, the intensity rule, the divisor used to calculate benefits, and by revisiting the provisions establishing a total number of hours required to qualify for employment insurance benefits in order to make them more compatible with the existing requirements under the unemployment insurance regime.

And the debate being ended and the question being put, Motion 1 as further amended was carried.

Motion 6 by Mr. Volpé was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

Motion 20 by Mr. D. Graham was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

Motion 23 by Mr. D. Graham was, by leave of the House, stood over until March 26, 1996.

Motion 24 by Mr. Volpé was, by leave of the House, stood over until March 26, 1996.

Motions 25 and 26 by Mr. Robichaud were, by leave of the House, stood over until March 26, 1996.

Motion 27 by Mr. Sherwood was, by leave of the House, stood over until March 26, 1996.

Motion 28 by Mr. Mockler was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

Government Motions re Business of House

Mr. Speaker, at the request of Mr. Frenette, reverted to Government Motions for the Ordering of the Business of the House.

Mr. Frenette announced that it was the intention of the government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Supply for further consideration of the Capital Estimates.

The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with Mr. MacDonald, the Chairman, in the chair.

And after some time spent therein, the Chairman declared it 12.30 o'clock p.m. and left the chair, to resume again at 2 o'clock p.m.

2.00 o'clock p.m.

The Chairman resumed the chair.

At 2.35 o'clock p.m. the Chairman declared a recess.

2.38 o'clock p.m.

The Chairman resumed the chair.

And after some further time spent in Committee of Supply, the Chairman declared a brief recess at 2.42 o'clock p.m.

2.55 o'clock p.m.

The Chairman resumed the chair.

And after some time further spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair and Mr. MacDonald, the Chairman, after requesting that Mr. Speaker revert to Presentations of Committee Reports, reported that the Committee had made some progress in the consideration of the matters referred to them, had passed several items and asked leave to sit again.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.1, Mr. Speaker then put the question on the motion deemed to be before the House, that the report be concurred in, and it was resolved in the affirmative.

The following are the items reported:

CAPITAL ESTIMATES

1996 - 1997

Voted

Voted, Supply in the following amounts to defray the expenses of the following programs:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

21 50 Clean Water Control Grants 2,800,000

21 54 Solid Waste Management Program 4,850,000

21 60 Canada/New Brunswick Infrastructure Program 2,266,100

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

20 50 Public Schools - Capital Equipment 2,000,000

MARITIME PROVINCES HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

53 50 Capital Grants to Universities 0

53 60 Canada/New Brunswick Infrastructure Program 0

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

17 60 Canada/New Brunswick Infrastructure Program 673,400

The said items were concurred in by the House.

Bills Introduced

Mr. Speaker, at the request of Hon. Mr. Frenette, the Government House Leader, reverted to Introduction of Bills.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. King,

Bill 27, *An Act Respecting the New Brunswick Extra-Mural Hospital / Hôpital extra-mural du Nouveau-Brunswick*.

Bill 28, *An Act to Amend the Vital Statistics Act*.

By Hon. Mr. Frenette, on behalf of Hon. Mr. McKenna,

Bill 29, *An Act Respecting the Executive Council Act*.

Ordered that the said Bills be read the second time at the next sitting.

Government Motions re Business of House

Mr. Speaker, at the request of Hon. Mr. Frenette, reverted to Government Motions for the Ordering of the Business of the House. Hon. Mr. Frenette announced that it was the intention of government that the House resume debate on the motion for second reading of Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Schools Act*.

Adjourned Debate on Second Reading Motion

Debate resumed on the motion that Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Schools Act*, be now read a second time.

During debate, Hon. Mr. Frenette rose on a point of order, his point of order being that the Honourable Leader of the Opposition was not speaking to the principle of the Bill. Mr. Speaker noted the point of order well taken.

The debate continued,

And after some time, Hon. Mr. Valcourt moved the following amendment, seconded by Mr. Mockler:

THAT the motion for second reading of Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Schools Act*, be amended by deleting all the words after "that" and substituting the following:

Bill No. 23, *An Act to Amend the Schools Act*, be not now read a second time but that the order for second reading be discharged and the subject matter of the Bill be referred to the Standing Committee on Law Amendments.

And the question being put on the proposed amendment, a debate ensued.

During the debate, the Member for Madawaska-la-Valée rose on several points of order, his points of order being that Members' debate must be relevant to the amendment.

Mr. Speaker advised Members to confine remarks to the subject matter of the amendment.

And the debate being ended and the question being put, the amendment was negatived on the following division:

YEAS - 7

Mr. Sherwood Mr. Mockler Mr. Volpé

Mr. Robichaud Ms. Weir Mr. D. Graham

Hon. Mr. Valcourt

NAYS - 33

Hon. Mr. Duffie Hon. Mr. Savoie Mr. Olmstead

Hon. Mr. Frenette Mrs. Jarrett Mr. Flynn

Hon. Mr. Graham Mr. McAdam Mr. DeGrâce

Hon. Mr. Blaney Hon. Mr. Richard Mr. MacDonald

Mr. McKay Hon. Mrs. Day Mr. Byrne

Hon. B. Thériault Mr. Steeves Mr. MacLeod

Hon. C. Thériault Mr. Wilson Mr. Doyle

Hon. Mr. Tyler Mr. LeBlanc Mr. D. Landry

Hon. Mrs. Mersereau Mr. Jamieson Mr. Armstrong

Hon. Mr. Smith Mr. Johnson Mr. Devereux

Hon. Mrs. Trenholme Ms. de Ste-Croix Mrs. Kingston

Mr. Speaker then put the question on the motion that Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Schools Act*, be now read a second time, and Bill 23 was, accordingly, read the second time.

Second Reading

The following Bill was read the second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Schools Act*.

Government Motions re Business of House

Hon. Mr. Frenette moved the following motion, seconded by Hon. Mr. Tyler:

THAT when this Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, March 19, 1996, at 2.30 o'clock p.m. provided always that if it appears to the satisfaction of Mr. Speaker, after consultation with the Government, that the public interest requires that the House should meet at an earlier time during the adjournment, Mr. Speaker may give notice that he is so satisfied and in such notice shall state a time at which the House shall meet, and thereupon the House shall meet at the time so stated and shall transact its business as if it has been duly adjourned to that time, and

THAT in the event of Mr. Speaker being unable to act owing to illness or other cause, either of the Deputy Speakers shall act in his stead for the purpose of this order.

And then, 4.30 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.