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No. 23

Wednesday, March 27, 1996.

8.30 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Documents Tabled

Hon. Mr. MacIntyre laid upon the table of the House a document entitled 1995 Public Perception Survey - Department of Advanced Education and Labour.

Bills Introduced

The following Private Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. Johnson,

Bill 39, An Act to Amend La Société d'Assurance des Caisses Populaires Acadiennes Act.

Ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. MacIntyre,

Bill 40, An Act to Amend the Human Rights Act.

By Ms. Weir,

Bill 41, An Act to Amend the Elections Act.

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

Notices of Motions

Mr. Mockler gave Notice of Motion 33 that on Tuesday, April 2, 1996 he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Sherwood:

That an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the house a copy of the 300 page Environmental Impact Assessment done for the Department of Transportation respecting the proposed route of the highway that will pass through Grand Lake Meadows. Also, all correspondence, memos, reports, studies, files, tenders, proposals and any other material relating to this project.

Mr. Mockler gave Notice of Motion 34 that on Tuesday, April 2, 1996 he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Robichaud:

WHEREAS the government has made the objective of the Balanced Budget Legislation the cornerstone of its "cut and slash" economic and fiscal policy;

WHEREAS this government should always be mindful of the need for fiscal restraint in discharging its responsibilities towards New Brunswickers;

WHEREAS this government has undertaken major reforms in various departments with the view of streamlining them and making them more efficient, yet it has not addressed these same issues in the structure of government;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT to allocate the impact of cuts to public services this Assembly recommend to the Government that it consider, among other measures, reducing the size of cabinet significantly with the view of making government more efficient and less costly to New Brunswickers.

Government Motions re Business of House

Hon. Mr. Frenette arose and announced the government's intention to continue with the consideration of the estimates in Committee of Supply; in particular those of the Departments of the Environment, Health and Community Services, and Transportation.

Committee of Supply

The House according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with Mr. O'Donnell in the Chair.

And after some time spent in Committee, a quorum was called but a count determined a quorum was present, and the Committee continued.

And after some further time spent in Committee, Mr. Chairman declared it to be 12.30 o'clock p.m. and left the Chair to resume again at 2 o'clock p.m.

2 o'clock p.m.

Mr. Chairman resumed the Chair.

During consideration of the estimates of the Department of the Environment, Ms. Weir moved the following motion:

THAT the Committee of Supply request the Minister of Environment table the list of projects to be funded out of the Environmental Trust Fund at this sitting of the House so that Members may question the Minister on the projects funded.

Mr. Chairman, after hearing the arguments of Members, took under advisement the motion of the Member for Saint John Harbour.

And after some time, several members having commented on the matter before the Committee, unanimous consent was granted for the Member for Saint John Harbour to withdraw the motion.

The Committee continued.

And after some further time spent in Committee of Supply, Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair and Mr. O'Donnell, 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 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:

MAIN ESTIMATES - ORDINARY ACCOUNT

1996 - 1997

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$12,925,300 to defray the expenses of the Ordinary Account program allocations of the Department of the Department of the Environment for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1997.

The said items were concurred in by the House.

And then, 6 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.

The following document, having been deposited with the Clerk of the House, was deemed laid before the Table of the House pursuant to Standing Rule 39:

Public Accounts Volume 3

for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1995

March 25, 1996