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No. 31

Friday, April 12, 1996.

8.30 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Message from Lieutenant-Governor

Hon. Mr. Blanchard, Minister of Finance, delivered to Mr. Speaker, a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and the said Message was read by Mr. Speaker, all the Members standing, and is as follows:

The Lieutenant-Governor transmits *Supplementary Estimates 1994-1995 Volume II*, and *Supplementary Capital Estimates 1994-1995 Volume II*, not otherwise provided for, for the year ending March 31, 1995, and *Supplementary Estimates 1995-1996 Volume II*, not otherwise provided for, for the year ending March 31, 1996, and in accordance with the provisions of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, recommends these estimates to the House.

Margaret Norrie McCain,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Government Motions re Business of House

Hon. Mr. Frenette rose and announced the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to consider the remaining estimates.

Second Reading

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 83, Clean Air Act,

Hon. Mr. Frenette moved in amendment, seconded by Hon. Mr. Blaney:

AMENDMENT

THAT the motion for second reading of Bill 83, Clean Air Act, be amended by deleting all the words after the word "that" and substituting the following:

Bill 83, *Clean Air Act*, be not now read a second time but that the order for second reading be discharged and the subject matter of the Bill referred to the Standing Committee on Law Amendments.

And the question being put, the amendment was carried.

The following Private Bills were read a second time:

Bill 32, An Act Respecting the Law Society of New Brunswick.

Bill 38, An Act to Amend the Université de Moncton Act.

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

Pursuant to Standing Rule 121, Mr. Speaker ordered Bills 32, 38 and 39 for third reading forthwith.

Third Reading

Accordingly, the following Private Bills were then read a third time.

Bill 32, An Act Respecting the Law Society of New Brunswick.

Bill 38, An Act to Amend the Université de Moncton Act.

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

Ordered that the said Bills pass.

Committee of Supply

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

And after some time, the Chairman noted the presence in the Chamber of Mr. Paul Kenny, a former Liberal Member of the Legislative Assembly who represented the constituency of Bathurst from 1982 to 1991.

And after some time, Mr. O'Donnell took the Chair.

And after some further time, Mr. O'Donnell declared a 5-minute recess at 10.26 o'clock a.m.

10.31 o'clock a.m.

The committee resumed with Mr. O'Donnell in the Chair.

Prior to commencing consideration of the estimates of the Legislative Assembly, the Chair ascertained agreement to consider votes 52 01, 52 02, and 52 04 first.

Hon. Mr. Valcourt rose on a Point of Order questioning the propriety of having the estimates of the Auditor General, the Office of the Ombudsman, and the Supervisor of Political Financing, defended in the Committee of Supply by a Member of the Executive Council.

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 then put the question on the motion deemed to be before the House, that the report be concurred in.

Hon. Mr. Valcourt rose on a Point of Order regarding the propriety of having the estimates of the Offices of the Auditor General, Ombudsman, the Supervisor of Political Financing defended in the Committee of Supply by a Member of the Executive Council. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition submitted that the Speaker should be responsible for presenting those estimates as these officials are officers of the Legislative Assembly and independent of the Executive Branch of government. Hon. Mr. Valcourt asked the Speaker to determine how these estimates should proceed before they are considered in Committee of Supply.

Hon. Mr. Frenette spoke on the Point of Order noting that amendments were required to the *Legislative Assembly Act* in 1993 to enable the Speaker to defend the estimates of the Legislative Assembly.

Hon. Mr. Frenette suggested that further amendments may be required to effect the changes suggested by Hon. Mr. Valcourt.

Mr. Speaker informed the House that he would take the matter under advisement and report back to the House on Tuesday next, following which the Speaker put the motion of concurrence in the report of the Committee and it was resolved in the affirmative.

The following are the items reported:

MAIN ESTIMATES - ORDINARY ACCOUNT

1996 - 1997

DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPALITIES, CULTURE AND HOUSING

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$199,919,800 to defray the expenses of the Ordinary Account program allocations of the Department of Municipalities, Culture and Housing for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1997.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Voted, Supply in the following amount to defray the expenses of the following program:

32 20 Advisory Council on the Status of Women 429,800

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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

52 01 Members' Allowances and Committees 1,158,900

52 02 Office of the Legislative Assembly 2,050,100

52 04 Leaders of Registered Political Parties 909,200

LOANS AND ADVANCES

DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPALITIES, CULTURE AND HOUSING

Voted, Supply in the following amount and to defray the expenses of the following program:

55 71 Housing 2,595,000

WORKING CAPITAL - MAXIMUM BALANCES

1996 - 1997

Voted

PETTY CASH ADVANCES

Municipalities, Culture and Housing 25,000

INVENTORIES

Municipalities, Culture and Housing 200,000

The said items were concurred in by the House.

Government Motions re Business of House

Hon. Mr. Frenette requested Mr. Speaker revert to Government Motions for the Ordering of the Business of the House and announced the government's intention to enter into Committee of Supply to continue with the estimates of the Department of the Solicitor General.

Committee of Supply

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

And after some time, the 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.

The Committee resumed with Mr. MacDonald in the Chair.

And after some further time spent in Committee of Supply, 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 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 SOLICITOR GENERAL

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$67,581,800 to defray the expenses of the Ordinary Account program allocations of the Department of Solicitor General for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1997.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Voted, Supply in the following amount to defray the expenses of the following program:

32 19 New Brunswick Police Commission 147,800

WORKING CAPITAL - MAXIMUM BALANCES

1996 - 1997

Voted

PETTY CASH ADVANCES

Solicitor General 15,000

The said items were concurred in by the House.

And then, 3.51 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.

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

Documents requested in Notice of Motion 38 April 11, 1996

Report of the Chief Electoral Officer

- Thirty-third General Election - September 11, 1995

April 11, 1996