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Tuesday, November 26, 1996.

9.30 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Prorogation

Her Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor was announced, and having been bidden to enter, took her seat in the chair upon the Throne.

Her Honour was pleased to close the session with the following speech:

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members of the Legislative Assembly:

I consider it a privilege and a very pleasant duty to preside over the closing of the First Session of the Fifty-third Legislative Assembly.

I would like to thank each and every one of you for your continued kindness and consideration. I also wish to commend and thank you, honourable members, for your diligent attention to the public business of the Province of New Brunswick.

The citizens of our province have entrusted you with the very serious task of shaping their futures and representing their will. You have embraced these responsibilities with vigour and have demonstrated great respect for both this House and the people of New Brunswick throughout this session.

You have devoted yourselves to lengthy preparation, deliberation and debate on issues of great importance to this province. The people of New Brunswick will benefit from your conscientious and pragmatic approach to the business of the House.

You have given legislative approval to initiatives that will serve to enhance the social fabric of this province, with emphasis on job creation, education, health-care, and prudent government spending. You have approved ventures designed to further the economic development of all regions of New Brunswick.

It was an honour for me to give Royal Assent to your work, thus bringing all your efforts to fruition.

As we approach the holiday season, we must be grateful for the rights and privileges we and our families enjoy. We must also be conscious of the less fortunate among us, and charitable to their needs during this season.

With the completion of the business of this session, it is my privilege and responsibility to issue the command of Her Majesty that this Legislature stand prorogued.

May Divine Providence continue to guide and bless the people of New Brunswick.

The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Loredana Catalli Sonier, then said:

It is Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor's will and pleasure that the Legislative Assembly be prorogued until 3 o'clock p.m. today, and this Legislative Assembly is hereby prorogued accordingly.

The House prorogued at 9.50 o'clock a.m.