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No. 12

Friday, December 13, 1996.

8.30 o'clock a.m.

Petitions

Mr. Byrne, Member for Fredericton-Fort Nashwaak, laid upon the table of the House a petition signed by residents of Marysville, who urge the government to recognize the completion of the Fredericton Route 8 bypass as a priority. (Petition 5)

Documents Tabled

Hon. Mrs. Barry laid upon the table of the House a document entitled *Draft New Brunswick Policing Standards*.

During Oral Questions, Mr. Speaker advised the Leader of the Opposition, Hon. Mr. Valcourt, that he had posed several successive questions on one particular topic to the Minister of Advanced Education and Labour and suggested that the Leader of the Opposition proceed with another topic or question.

Following Oral Questions, Mr. Robichaud rose on a Point of Order to request that Mr. Speaker state the basis and principles upon which this decision was based.

Mr. Speaker stated that his decision was based on the rules and practices of the House and cited, as well, *Beauchesne's Parliamentary Rules and Forms 6th Edition*, paragraph 414 at page 122 which states that the extent to which supplementary questions may be asked is in the discretion of the Speaker.

Mr. Speaker commented that he had been tolerant in following the practice of the House in permitting one question and two supplementaries.

Hon. Mr. Frenette rose on a Point of Order, his point of order being that use of the term "BS Tax" by opposition members, when referring to the proposed harmonized sales tax, was unparliamentary. Hon. Mr. Frenette referred to *Beauchesne's Parliamentary Rules and Forms Fifth Edition*, paragraph 320 at page 105 which lists unparliamentary expressions. Ms. Weir also spoke to the point of order.

Mr. Speaker ruled that the abbreviation "BS" was associated with a certain unparliamentary term. Mr. Speaker advised in an attempt to maintain the decorum of the House he would no longer accept the use of the term "BST" but would accept "HST" or "Blended Sales Tax."

Bills Introduced

The following Bills were introduced and read the first time:

By Hon. Mr. King,

Bill 28, An Act to Amend the Family Services Act.

Bill 29, An Act to Amend the Judicature Act.

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

Government Motions re Business of House On motion of Hon. Mr. Frenette, seconded by Hon. Mr. Tyler, RESOLVED, that when the House adjourns, it stand adjourned until Monday, December 16, 1996, at 1 o'clock p.m. (Motion 62) Hon. Mr. Frenette announced that today the Order of Business would be third reading of Bills, followed by resumption of the Budget Debate and consideration of Bill 23 in Committee of the Whole House. **Third Reading** The following Bills were read the third time: Bill 24, An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act. Bill 25. An Act to Amend the Revenue Administration Act. Bill 26, An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act. Ordered that the said Bills do pass. **Budget Debate** The Order of the Day for resuming the adjourned debate on the Motion (Motion 61) that this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government, having been read, The debate was resumed, During debate Mr. Mockler rose on a Point of Order to state that the Honourable Minister should not refer to Members of the House by name but rather by their constituency.

Mr. Speaker ruled the Point of Order well taken.

And the debate continuing, it was on motion of Mr. Robichaud, adjourned over.

Committee of the Whole

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole with Mr. MacDonald in the Chair.

And after some time spent therein, it was agreed by unanimous consent to sit through the dinner recess.

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

And after some further time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Mr. O'Donnell, the Chairman, after requesting Mr. Speaker revert to the Order of Presentations of Committee Reports, reported:

That the Committee had directed him to report progress on the following Bill:

Bill 23, An Act to Amend the Municipal Assistance Act.

And the Committee asked leave to make a further report.

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.

And then, 1.32 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.