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No. 35

Wednesday, February 18, 1998.

8.30 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Due to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker, Mr. O'Donnell, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker brought to the attention of the House an error on the Order and Notice Paper, at page 3, noting that Private Bills 49 and 50 should have appeared under the heading "Private Bills Awaiting to be Called for Second Reading Pursuant to Standing Rule 43."

Hon. Mr. Frenette informed the House of the resignation of Hon. Camille Thériault as Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, effective February 18, 1998.

Mr. Speaker took the chair.

Notices of Motions

Mr. Robichaud gave Notice of Motion 102 that on Tuesday, February 24, 1998, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Mesheau:

WHEREAS high levels of unemployment, presently at 13%, continue to cripple the economy of New Brunswick; and

WHEREAS this Government made a commitment to the people of New Brunswick in 1995 that they would reduce the unemployment rate to single digits; and

WHEREAS the people of New Brunswick are deserving of the opportunities and the quality of life which steady, meaningful employment brings;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislative Assembly urges the Government to immediately establish a special task force to analyze the chronic unemployment situation in the province and recommend possible new approaches to economic development for each region of New Brunswick.

Government Motions re Business of House

Hon. Mr. Tyler announced that it was the intention of the government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to consider the estimates of the Regional Development Corporation, the Department of Municipalities, Culture and Housing, and the Department of Human Resources Development-N.B. Continuing, Hon. Mr. Tyler announced that it was the intention of the government that Private Bills 8, 10, 13, 16, 18, 32, 34, 39, 40, 49 and 50 be read a second time at the next day's sitting.

Second Reading

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

Bill 60, *An Act to Amend the Elections Act.*

Bill 61, *An Act to Amend the Municipal Elections Act.*

Bill 62, *Greater Saint John Regional Facilities Commission Act*.
Bill 63, *An Act to Amend the Police Act*.
Bill 64, *An Act Respecting Pensions*.
Bill 65, *An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act*.
Bill 66, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 1997-98(2)*.
Bill 67, *An Act to Amend the Land Titles Act*.
Bill 68, *Livestock Operations Act*.

Committee of Supply

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

After some time spent therein, it then being 12.30 o'clock p.m., the Chairman left the chair to resume again at 2 o'clock p.m.

2 o'clock p.m.

The Committee resumed with Mr. O'Donnell in the chair.

And after some time, 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, and it was resolved in the affirmative.

The following are the items reported:

MAIN ESTIMATES - ORDINARY ACCOUNT 1998 - 1999

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$63,087,500 to defray the expenses of the Ordinary Account program allocations of the Regional Development Corporation for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1999.

MUNICIPALITIES, CULTURE AND HOUSING

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$199,681,600 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, 1999.

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

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

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

14 53 Capital Development Projects 10,675,000

DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPALITIES, CULTURE AND HOUSING

55 50 Housing 900,000

55 54 Local Service Districts 100,000

LOANS AND ADVANCES

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

DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPALITIES, CULTURE AND HOUSING

55 71 Housing 6,195,000

WORKING CAPITAL - MAXIMUM BALANCES 1998-1999 Voted

INVENTORIES

The said items were concurred in by the House.

Government Motions re Business of House

Hon. Mr. Frenette, the Premier, announced that Hon. James Lockyer, Minister of Justice and Attorney General, would assume additional responsibilities as Acting Minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Tyler, seconded by Hon. Mrs. Breault:

RESOLVED, that with the unanimous consent of the House, the third reading and passage of Bill No. 42, *Edmundston Act, 1998*, be rescinded and that the Bill be referred back to Committee of the Whole.

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, 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, 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.

And then, 5.59 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.

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

Documents requested in Notices of Motions 27, 81, 84, and 85 - February 17, 1998