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**Daily Sitting 22**

Wednesday, March 29, 2000.

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Richard gave notice of his intention to raise a Question of Privilege concerning the inadequacy of information provided in the Main Estimates 2000-2001, and concluded his remarks by giving notice of his intention to move the following motion:

THAT since the Estimates tabled yesterday in this House do not contain comparative data with respect to expenditures for the previous year and lack comparative data for full time equivalent positions for the two years, adversely affecting the ability of Members to have sufficient information for full and complete debate, as has been the tradition in this House, that Members of this House direct the Minister of Finance to provide full comparative data for the previous year for all items in the Estimates for the fiscal year 2000-2001.

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Ms. Fowlie laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of New Brunswick residents urging the government to take the steps necessary to immediately remove video lotto terminals from all locations within the province. (Petition 3)

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During Statements by Members, Hon. Mr. E. Robichaud, having risen on a Point of Order, submitted that the use of the word "mislead" by the Member for Bathurst was unparliamentary. Mrs. Mersereau apologized and withdrew the remark.

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It was agreed by unanimous consent to extend the period allotted for Oral Questions.

During Oral Questions, Mr. Speaker reminded Members that all questions and answers should be directed through the chair.

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The following Bill was introduced and read the first time:

By Hon. Mr. Furlong,

Bill 33, *An Act to Amend the Prescription Drug Payment Act*.

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

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Mr. S. Graham gave Notice of Motion 98 that on Thursday, April 6, 2000, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Kennedy:

That an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House the names of all new appointments to boards, agencies and commissions since June 7, 1999.

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Mrs. Mersereau gave Notice of Motion 99 that on Thursday, April 6, 2000, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Haché:

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 detailed list of costs paid and copies of all invoices received to date by the government in connection with the *Firearms Act Reference*, including all costs incurred in connection with presenting the case before the Supreme Court of Canada.

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Mrs. Mersereau gave Notice of Motion 100 that on Thursday, April 6, 2000, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Lee:

That an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House the names of all secretarial and/or administrative staff employed by, assigned to or reporting to each Minister as of June 21, 1999, prior to the reorganization of departments announced last week and as of today's date as a result of the departmental reorganization.

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Mrs. Mersereau gave Notice of Motion 101 that on Thursday, April 6, 2000, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. S. Graham:

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 list of all programs and services that have been reviewed as part of the review announced on December 16, 1999, and an indication of the recommendations and decisions made with respect to each such program and service including all documents, memorandums, correspondence, electronic mail, minutes of meetings, recommendations, reports and/or analyses relating to such review.

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Mrs. Mersereau gave Notice of Motion 102 that on Thursday, April 6, 2000, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Allaby:

That an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House the names of all middle and senior managers hired or promoted since June 7, 1999, with an indication of their department, location of employment, gender, language.

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Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 103 that on Thursday, April 6, 2000, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. C. Thériault:

That an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House the names of all executive assistants, special assistants and/or political assistants reporting directly to each Minister.

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Ms. Weir gave Notice of Motion 104 that on Thursday, April 6, 2000, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Richard:

That an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House copies of all correspondence, including electronic, or other documents between MDS Inc. and the Department of Health, and the Department of Finance.

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Hon. Mr. Green gave Notice of Motion 105 that on Wednesday, April 5, 2000, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Hon. Mr. Lord:

THAT notwithstanding Standing Rule 29(1), the time for the daily meeting and sitting of the Assembly shall be as follows:

Tuesday 1.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

7.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.

Wednesday 10.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

2.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

7.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.

Thursday 1.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

7.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.

Friday 8.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

2.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

That this Special Order shall come into effect on the first sitting day following the conclusion of the Budget Debate and shall remain in effect until such time as the House has concluded its consideration of the estimates in the Committee of Supply.

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On motion of Hon. Mr. Green, seconded by Hon. Mr. Lord,

RESOLVED, that when the House adjourns, it stand adjourned until Thursday, March 30, at 10:30 a.m.

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The required two hours' notice having been given earlier in the sitting, Mr. Speaker invited the Member for Shediac—Cap-Pelé to state his question of privilege.

In stating his question of privilege, Mr. Richard noted the long-standing practice and tradition of the House and other Legislatures of including comparative data in the tabled estimates and maintained that this information allowed Members to better understand the changes proposed and allowed for a fuller debate during consideration of the estimates.

Several Members rose on points of order in relation to the procedure to be followed in hearing the question of privilege.

Mr. Speaker advised that he would hear several Members at his discretion, to assist him in deciding whether there was a prima facie case of privilege.

Several Members spoke on the matter.

Mr. Speaker advised that he would take the question of Privilege under advisement and report back to the House at the earliest opportunity.

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The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Mental Health Act*.  
Bill 22, *An Act to Amend the Family Services Act*.  
Bill 30, *Special Appropriation Act 2000*.  
Bill 31, *Special Appropriation Act 2000 (2)*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

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And then, 12.12 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.

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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 Notice of Motion 76 - February 25, 2000  
Documents requested in Notice of Motion 79 - March 17, 2000  
Documents requested in Notice of Motion 80, 90, 92 - March 28, 2000  
Documents requested in Notice of Motion 88 - March 27, 2000  
Documents requested in Notice of Motion 89 - March 8, 2000  
Documents requested in Notice of Motion 91, 93, 94 - March 13, 2000  
Documents requested in Notice of Motion 95 - March 15, 2000  
Documents requested in Notice of Motion 97 - March 23, 2000  
Annual Report, Justice - Co-operatives 1998 - March 2, 2000  
Volumes 3 and 4 of the Public Accounts for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1999 - March 7, 2000  
Annual Report, Advisory Council on the Status of Women 1998-1999 - March 13, 2000  
The New Brunswick Economy 2000 - March 28, 2000  
Budget 2000-2001 - March 28, 2000 Changing our future together 2000-2001 Budget - March 28, 2000  
Budget Papers 2000-2001 - March 28, 2000  
Financial Update 1999-2000 - March 28, 2000