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**Daily Sitting 25**

Monday, March 5, 2001

*8.30 o'clock a.m.*

Prayers.

Ms. Weir rose on a Question of Privilege claiming that the Premier had made statements outside the House to announce to the media that a tentative agreement had been reached with the province's hospital workers and that such actions were disrespectful of the Members and showed a lack of respect for the House and its traditions. Ms. Weir maintained that it was a well-established tradition that while the House was in session and the government had important announcements to make, such announcements were made first in the House to the Members of the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Speaker ruled that in accordance with the precedents of the House and previous rulings of the chair, announcements of public interest made by Ministers of the Crown outside the House while the House is in session cannot form the basis of a question of privilege.

Mr. Speaker acknowledged that under such circumstances there may be a question of courtesy but there cannot be a question of privilege.

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Hon. Mr. Betts gave Notice of Motion 47 that on Tuesday, March 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by the honourable the Premier:

THAT this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government.

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

RESOLVED, that when the House adjourns at the end of this sitting day, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, March 6, 2001, at 8.30 o'clock a.m.

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The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole with Mr. Ashfield in the chair.

And after some time, the Chairman declared a recess at 9.50 o'clock a.m.

*10.30 o'clock a.m.*

The Committee resumed.

And after some time, at the request of Hon. Mr. Betts, it was agreed by unanimous consent to withdraw a certain amendment to section 13 of the Bill proposed earlier in the sitting by Hon. Mr. Betts.

And after some further time, it was agreed by unanimous consent to recess the House between 12 o'clock and 1 o'clock p.m.

*1 o'clock p.m.*

The Committee resumed.

The Chairman having informed the Committee that a certain amendment to section 11 of the Bill adopted earlier in the sitting neglected to delete the heading preceding the section, and the Chairman having ascertained that there was consensus, it was agreed by unanimous consent to substitute a corrected amendment deleting both the heading preceding section 11 and section 11.

And after some further time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Mr. Ashfield, the Chairman, after requesting that Mr. Speaker revert to the Order of Presentations of Committee Reports, reported:

That the Committee had directed him to report the following Bill agreed to as amended:

Bill 30, *An Act to Ensure the Continuation of Certain Public Services in the Public Service*.

And the Committee asked leave to make a further report.

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.

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It was agreed by unanimous consent that Bill 30 be read a third time forthwith.

And the order being read for third reading of Bill 30, *An Act to Ensure the Continuation of Certain Public Services in the Public Service*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 30 be now read a third time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 30, *An Act to Ensure the Continuation of Certain Public Services in the Public Service*, was read a third time and passed.

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His Honour the Administrator was announced, and having been bidden to enter, took his seat in the chair upon the Throne.

Mr. Speaker addressed His Honour as follows:

May It Please Your Honour:

The Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick has passed a Bill at the present sittings of the Legislature to which, in the name and on behalf of the said Legislative Assembly, I respectfully request Your Honour's assent.

The Clerk Assistant then read the title of the Bill as follows:

Bill 30, *An Act to Ensure the Continuation of Certain Public Services in the Public Service*.

His Honour signified His Assent as follows:

*It is the Queen's wish. La reine le veut.*

To this Bill, His Honour's assent was announced by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly in the following words:

In Her Majesty's name, His Honour the Administrator assents to this Bill, enacting the same and ordering it to be enrolled.

His Honour then retired and Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

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Mr. Speaker, at the request of Hon. Mr. Green, reverted to the Order of Government Motions for the Ordering of the Business of the House,

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

RESOLVED, THAT when the Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, March 27, 2001, provided always that if it appears to the satisfaction of Mr. Speaker, after consultation with the Government, that the public interest requires that the House should meet at an earlier time during the adjournment, Mr. Speaker may give notice that he is so satisfied and in such notice shall state a time at which the House shall meet, and thereupon the House shall meet at the time so stated and shall transact its business as if it had been duly adjourned to that time, and

THAT in the event of Mr. Speaker being unable to act owing to illness or other cause, either of the Deputy Speakers shall act in his stead for the purpose of this order.

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Motions 42 and 43 by Hon. Mr. Green were, with the unanimous consent of the House, withdrawn.

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It was agreed by unanimous consent to dispense with the notice requirement for Motion 47 (Budget Motion) to be proposed for Tuesday, March 27, 2001.

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And then, 2.18 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.

