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Thursday, December 20, 2001.

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

The Honourable the Premier laid upon the table of the House a document entitled *A Progress Report to New Brunswickers, December 2001*.

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Hon. Mr. Green, the Government House Leader, announced that the House would resume the adjourned debate on the motion for second reading of Bill 21, followed by second reading of Bills 22 to 25 and that following Private Members' Motions, it was the intention of the government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider legislation; in particular, Bill 17.

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The House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*, be now read a second time.

And after some time, due to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker, Mr. Bernard, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

And after some further time, Mrs. Mersereau rose on a point of privilege and stated that Hon. Mr. Mockler, the Minister of Transportation, had engaged in a personal attack.

Mr. Bernard, the Deputy Speaker, stated that he would review the transcript and report to the House if necessary.

Mr. Lee rose on a point of order and requested to clarify certain remarks made in the House.

Mr. Bernard, the Deputy Speaker, stated that points of clarification are not valid points of order and that it was not his intention to continue to allow such interventions where the ability of Members to speak freely and without intervention is interfered with.

Hon. P. Robichaud rose on a point of order and requested that Mr. Haché, the Member for Nigadoo-Chaleur, withdraw a certain unparliamentary remark; namely, an assertion that the Minister of Natural Resources and Energy had lied to the House.

Mr. Bernard, the Deputy Speaker, called the House to order and made several requests for the Member to retract the unparliamentary remark.

Mr. Haché having stated that he would not oblige the request, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Rule 20(1), Mr. Bernard, the

Deputy Speaker, ordered the Member for Nigadoo-Chaleur to withdraw from the Assembly for the remainder of the sitting day, which he did.

Mr. Richard rose on a point of order and stated that the Minister of Transportation was not speaking on the principle of Bill 21.

Mr. Deputy Speaker advised that the chair was exercising leniency in debate for all Members; however, Members should limit remarks to the principle of the Bill.

And the debate being ended and the question being put that Bill 21 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

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

Bill 22, *Capital Appropriations Act 2002-03*.

Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*.

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The Order being read for second reading of Bill 24, *An Act to Amend the Civil Service Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended and the question being put that Bill 24 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 24, *An Act to Amend the Civil Service Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

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The following Bill was read a second time and referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

Bill 25, *An Act to Amend the Electric Power Act*.

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Debate resumed on the amendment to Motion 5, moved by Hon. Mrs. Blaney, seconded by Mr. McFarlane, as follows:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 5 be amended by:

In the first resolution clause, by deleting all the words after the word "government" and replacing them with the following: "to continue to implement pay equity in all parts of the public service through the collective bargaining process as is currently being done";

And in the second resolution clause, by deleting the words “bring forward for” and replacing them with the word “encourage”; and by deleting the words “a white paper” and “of the province before the next election.”

And after some time, Mr. Ashfield, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

And after some time Mr. Allaby, seconded by Mr. Richard, moved a subamendment, as follows:

SUBAMENDMENT

THAT the amendment to Motion 5 be amended as follows:

In the first resolution clause after the word “government” delete “to continue” and delete all the words after “public service”.

In the second resolution clause after the word “government” insert “to issue a white paper.”

Mr. Ashfield, the Deputy Speaker, ruled the first part of the subamendment to be in order and the second part of the subamendment to be out of order as it pertained to the original motion and not the amendment.

Accordingly, it was agreed that the subamendment would read as follows:

SUBAMENDMENT

THAT the amendment to Motion 5 be amended as follows:

In the first resolution clause after the word “government” delete “to continue” and delete all the words after “public service”.

And the question being put on the subamendment, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Mr. Deputy Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the ordinary time of daily adjournment had arrived.

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And then, 6 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.