Friday, December 13, 2002.

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker paid tribute to the memory of Clarence F. Weber, a veteran of World War II (1943-1946) and a commissionaire at the Legislative Assembly (1987-2002).

Mr. Allaby rose on a point of order requesting that Mr. Speaker clarify whether the motion under Standing Rule 34 the previous evening was out of order as Mr. Speaker had already announced that the ordinary time of adjournment had arrived.

Mr. Speaker stated that as the time had expired, the motion in question was in out of order.

Hon. Mrs. Jardine laid upon the table of the House a report from the Sciences and Reporting Branch - Sciences and Planning Division, Department of Environment and Local Government, entitled *T2002-01 Environmental Reporting Series*, *Metz Farms 2 Ltd. Surface Water & Groundwater Monitoring Results 2000-2001*.

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Green,

Bill 23, Statute Revision Act.

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

Hon. Mr. Mockler gave Notice of Motion 67 that on Thursday, December 19, 2002, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Hon. Elvy Robichaud:

WHEREAS investing in public infrastructure is one of the cornerstones of *Greater Opportunity: New Brunswick's Prosperity Plan*;

WHEREAS the governments of Canada and New Brunswick have demonstrated the value of partnership in upgrading highways in this province, most recently with the announcement of a new \$400 million 50-50 cost-shared agreement to complete the twinning of the Trans-Canada Highway, for which the Prime Minister and the Premier should be congratulated;

WHEREAS further efforts are ongoing to finalize an agreement to upgrade our primary border trade corridors at St. Stephen-Calais and from Woodstock to Houlton;

WHEREAS Routes 11 and 17 play a vital role as trade corridors for northern and eastern New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the *Coalition des maires du nord du Nouveau-Brunswick*, a coalition of mayors from communities along both these highways, from St. Leonard across northern New Brunswick to Shediac, has endorsed Routes 11 and 17 as priorities for highway upgrading;

WHEREAS there have been public statements by the federal Cabinet minister for New Brunswick, Hon. Claudette Bradshaw, indicating her commitment to investing \$90 million in federal funds in improving Routes 11 and 17;

WHEREAS the Premier of New Brunswick publicly stated that the province is prepared to sign a 50-50 cost-shared agreement with Ottawa to improve Routes 11 and 17;

WHEREAS a letter was sent to Hon. Claudette Bradshaw and Hon. David Collenette indicating that the province is prepared to proceed with negotiations toward a \$180 million, 50-50 cost-shared, five-year agreement for improvements to Routes 11 and 17;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government of Canada to proceed immediately with negotiations with the province toward a \$180 million, 50-50 cost-shared agreement for upgrading Routes 11 and 17, which play a vital role as trade corridors for northern and eastern New Brunswick.

Hon. Mr. Mockler requested the unanimous consent of the House to add Motion 67 to the Order Paper to be dealt with during this daily sitting and unanimous consent was denied.

Mr. Richard rose on a point of order stating that Motion 67 was almost identical to a motion currently on the Order and Notice Paper and should be ruled out of order.

Mr. Speaker ruled the motion to be in order as there were differences in the motions in question and there can be more than one notice dealing with the same subject matter.

Hon. Mr. Green announced that it was the intention of government that following second reading of Bill 22, the House would resume the budget debate.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 22, Supplementary Appropriations Act 2001-2002 (3), a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, Hon. Mr. Green rose on a point of order stating that the Member for Bathurst had accused the government of "money-laundering" which is improper as it imputes wrongdoing by another Member.

Mr. Speaker requested the Member for Bathurst to retract the statement which she did.

At 12.30 o'clock p.m., Mr. Speaker left the chair to resume again at 2 o'clock p.m.

2.04 o'clock p.m.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

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, Mr. Ashfield, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

And the debate being ended and the question being put that Bill 22 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 22, Supplementary Appropriations Act 2001-2002 (3), was read a second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

The Order of the Day for resuming the debate on the motion (Motion 54),

That this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government, having been read,

The debate was resumed.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

And after some further time, Mr. Ashfield, the Deputy Speaker resumed the chair.

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

And then, 6 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 55 and 57 Documents requested in Notice of Motion 61 December 10, 2002 December 12, 2002