Tuesday, May 11, 2004.

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers

Mr. S. Graham offered condolences to the families of Maurice Belliveau, Yves LeBlanc, Gaston Richard and Joline Richard, who lost their lives on May 9 in a tragic automobile accident near Bouctouche. Mr. Williams joined with the Leader of the Opposition in this regard. The House observed a moment of silence in memory of the four young New Brunswickers.

Hon. Mr. Huntjens welcomed to the Chamber His Excellency Jacques Van Hellenberg Hubar, The Ambassador of the Netherlands; Albert E. Moses, Consul General of the Netherlands; and Terrence Morrison, Honorary Consul General for the Netherlands.

Hon. P. Robichaud announced that it was the intention of government that Private Bills 40 and 41 be read a second time today, and following Private Members' Motions, the House would resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to resume consideration of the estimates of the Department of Education.

The following Private Bills were read a second time:

- Bill 40, An Act to Incorporate the New Brunswick Association of Medical Radiation Technologists.
- Bill 41, An Act to Incorporate the New Brunswick Institute of Agrologists.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 121, Mr. Speaker ordered Private Bills 40 and 41 for third reading forthwith.

The following Private Bills were read a third time:

- Bill 40, An Act to Incorporate the New Brunswick Association of Medical Radiation Technologists.
- Bill 41, An Act to Incorporate the New Brunswick Institute of Agrologists. Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 6, Mr. S. Graham moved the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Branch:

WHEREAS northeastern New Brunswick has an economic development deficit compared to the rest of the province;

WHEREAS the northeastern part of the province is experiencing an exodus of young people from the area, who leave to attend university or to pursue better job opportunities;

WHEREAS the region is plagued by the imminent closing of the Nordanda mine;

WHEREAS improved road infrastructure is vital to the economy of Northern New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the enhancement of the capability of the Port of Belledune in its role as the centerpiece of Northeast economic development is widely acknowledged;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the government to pursue the establishment of a Northeast New Brunswick Economic Development Strategy in cooperation with the Government of Canada to grow the region's economy.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

And after some time, Hon. Mr. Mesheau, seconded by Hon. E. Robichaud, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 6 be amended by:

In the BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED clause,

delete the words "urge the government to pursue" and replace them with the words "congratulate the government for pursuing"

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

And after some further time, Mr. Holder, the Deputy Speaker, resumed the chair as Acting Speaker.

And the debate continuing, after some time, Mr. Holder, the Deputy Speaker, interrupted proceedings calling for order and referring Members to Standing Rule 20(1) which permits the Speaker to order any Members whose conduct is grossly disorderly to withdraw immediately from the House during the remainder of that day's sitting. Debate continued on the proposed amendment to Motion 6, and after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, the amendment was carried.

Mr. Speaker put the question on Motion 6 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS northeastern New Brunswick has an economic development deficit compared to the rest of the province;

WHEREAS the unemployment rate, especially the seasonal unemployment rate, is very high in the northeastern part of the province;

WHEREAS the northeastern part of the province is experiencing an exodus of young people from the area, who leave to attend university or to pursue better job opportunities;

WHEREAS the region is plagued by the imminent closing of the Nordanda mine;

WHEREAS improved road infrastructure is vital to the economy of Northern New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the enhancement of the capability of the Port of Belledune in its role as the centerpiece of Northeast economic development is widely acknowledged;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly congratulate the government for pursuing the establishment of a Northeastern New Brunswick economic development strategy in cooperation with the Government of Canada, to develop the region's economy.

And the question being put, Motion 6 as amended was resolved in the affirmative.

The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with Mr. C. LeBlanc in the chair.

And after some time, Mr. Williams took the chair as Chairman.

And after some further time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Mr. Williams, the Chairman, reported that the Committee had had under consideration the matters referred to them, had made some progress therein, 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, 6 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.