

JOURNAL
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF THE
ISLAND OF NEWFOUNDLAND



By His Excellency Sir WALTER EDWARD DAVIDSON, Knight,
Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and
Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the
Island of Newfoundland and its Dependencies.

Sixth Session of the Twenty-Third General
Assembly—Special Session, 1917.

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND.
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Legislative Council of Newfoundland.

Sixth Session of the Twenty-Third General Assembly.

THURSDAY, August 16th, 1917.

This being the day appointed for the meeting
of the Legislature,

The House met.

PRESENT :

The Honourable PATRICK T. McGRATH,
President.

The Honourables GEORGE SKELTON,
GEORGE KNOWLING,
SIR EDGAR R. BOWRING,
JAMES D. RYAN,
JOHN ANDERSON,
JOHN HARVEY,
SAMUEL MILLEY,
MICHAEL P. GIBBS, K.C.,
MARMADUKE G. WINTER,
JOHN J. MURPHY,
MICHAEL F. POWER,
SYDNEY D. BLANDFORD,
RICHARD A. SQUIRES, K.C.,
Colonial Secretary.
WILLIAM J. ELLIS,

At three o'clock, p.m., His Excellency the
Governor, Sir Walter Edward Davidson, Knight

Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, having arrived at the Council Chamber, and being seated on the Throne, commanded the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, through the Honourable the President of the Legislative Council, to let the House of Assembly know :

“It is His Excellency the Governor’s pleasure they attend him immediately in this House ;”

Who, being come thereto with their Speaker, His Excellency was pleased to speak as follows :

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council :

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Honourable House of Assembly :

I have called you together in this special session in order that proposals may be submitted to you, which will remove the possibility of the recurrence of the difference of opinion between the two branches of the Legislature, which arose at your last meeting. Proposals will be laid before you to define the relations between your two Houses, in order to secure the undivided authority of the House of Assembly over financial matters.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Honourable House of Assembly:

In order to provide additional Revenue for the war requirements of the Colony, you will be invit-

ed to consider a measure for the importation of a tax on business profits.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council :

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Honourable House of Assembly :

I trust, that in the consideration of these important measures, Divine wisdom may influence you to results advantageous to the Colony and its people.

Then the House of Assembly withdrew.

His Excellency was pleased to retire.

The Hon. the President reported His Excellency's speech, and the same was read by the Clerk.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Blandford, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Ellis.

*Ordered,---*That a Select Committee be appointed to draft an Address to His Excellency the Governor in reply to his gracious Speech at the opening of the present Session of the Legislature, and

*Ordered,---*That the Hons. Messrs. Blandford, Ellis, Milley, Anderson and Power be a Committee for that purpose.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary gives notice that he will, on to-morrow, move the suspension of the

33rd Rule and all other Rules of this House with regard to all Bills, amendments, addresses and all other matters that are now, or may come before this House, for the remainder of the Session.

On motion made the House adjourned until Monday next, August 20th, at half-past four o'clock, p.m.

MONDAY, August 20th, 1917.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT :

The Honourable PATRICK T. McGRATH,
President.

The Honourables GEORGE SKELTON,
MICHAEL P. GIBBS, K.C.,
JOHN J. MURPHY,
MICHAEL F. POWER,
SYDNEY D. BLANDFORD,
RICHARD A. SQUIRES, K.C.,
Colonial Secretary.

WILLIAM J. ELLIS,
FRANK J. McNAMARA,
SAMUEL K. BELL,
TASKER K. COOK,
ALEXANDER W. MEWS.

The Minutes of Thursday, August 16th, were read.

The Honourables Frank J. McNamara, Samuel K. Bell, Tasker K. Cook and Alexander W. Mews, took their seats, having been previously sworn in as Legislative Councillors.

Pursuant to notice, and on motion of the Hon. Colonial Secretary,

Ordered,—That the 33rd Rule, and all other

Rules of this House with reference to all Bills, amendments, addresses and all other matters now before, or to come before this House, be suspended for the remainder of the Session.

The Hon. Mr. Blandford, from the Select Committee appointed to prepare an Address in Reply to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor, reported a draft of the same, which was received and read a first time (short) and

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Blandford the said Address was read a second time (at length) and

Ordered,---That the said Address do now pass, and be engrossed, and presented to His Excellency the Governor by a deputation of the Whole House.

The Address is as follows :

To His Excellency SIR WALTER EDWARD DAVIDSON, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Island of Newfoundland and its Dependencies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY :

We, the Legislative Council of Newfoundland, in Session convened, beg leave to thank Your Ex-

cellency for the gracious Speech which Your Excellency has addressed to both Houses of the Legislature.

P. T. McGRATH,
President.

Council Chamber,
20th August, 1917.

The Hon. the President informed the Council that he had received the following message from the House of Assembly :

MR. PRESIDENT :

The House of Assembly acquaint the Legislative Council that they have passed the Bill, entitled, "An Act to Levy a Tax on Business Profits," in which they request the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

J. R. GOODISON,
Speaker.

House of Assembly,
August 20th, 1917.

On motion of the Hon. Colonial Secretary the Bill sent up, entitled, "An Act to Levy a Tax on Business Profits," was read a first and second time and

*Ordered,---*To be committed forthwith.

The Hon. Dr. Skelton in the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

The Chairman reported the Bill with a verbal amendment.

Ordered,—That the Report be received.

The said Bill as amended was then read a third time and passed, and the Hon. the President signed the same.

Ordered,—To be sent to the House of Assembly with message that this House had passed the said Bill with a verbal amendment, and requesting concurrence therein.

The amendment is as follows :

Section 3, 5th line, after the words "tax or," at the end thereof, insert the following words, "at the option of the said Bank or Banking Corporation shall pay."

The Hon. the President informed the Council that he had received the following message from the House of Assembly :

" MR. PRESIDENT :

The House of Assembly acquaint the Legislative Council that they have passed the Bill, entitled, " An Act to make Provision with respect to the Powers of the Legislative Council in Relation to those of the House of Assembly," in which they request the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

J. R. GOODISON,
Speaker.

House of Assembly,
August 20th, 1917.

On motion of the Hon. Colonial Secretary the Bill sent up, entitled, "An Act to make Provision with Respect to the Powers of the Legislative Council in Relation to those of the House of Assembly," was read a first and second time, and

Ordered,—To be committed forthwith.

The Hon. Dr. Skelton in the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

The Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.

Ordered,—That the Report be received.

The said Bill was then read a third time and passed, and the Hon. the President signed the same.

Ordered,—To be sent to the House of Assembly with message that this House had passed the said Bill without amendment.

The Hon. the President informed the House that His Excellency the Governor would receive the Address in Reply on to-morrow, Tuesday, at a quarter after three o'clock, p.m.

The Hon. the President informed the Council that it is the intention of His Excellency the Governor to prorogue the present Session of the Legislature on to-morrow, Tuesday, August 21st, at four o'clock, p.m.

On motion made the House adjourned until to-morrow, Tuesday, August 21st, at three o'clock, p.m.

with respect to the powers of the Legislative Council in relation to those of the House of Representatives, and

The Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.

The said Bill was then read a third time and passed, and the Hon. the President signed the

Order—To be sent to the House of Representatives with message that this House had passed the said Bill without amendment.

The Hon. the President informed the House that His Excellency the Governor would receive the Address in Reply on to-morrow, Tuesday, at a quarter after three o'clock, p.m.

The Hon. the President informed the Council that in the intention of His Excellency the Governor to prorogue the present Session of the Legislature on to-morrow, Wednesday, August 21st, at four o'clock, p.m.

TUESDAY, August 21st, 1917.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

PREENST :

The Honourable PATRICK T. McGRATH,
President.

The Honourables GEORGE SKELTON,
JOHN J. MURPHY,
MICHAEL F. POWER,
SYDNEY D. BLANDFORD,
RICHARD A. SQUIRES, K.C.,
Colonial Secretary.

WILLIAM J. ELLIS,
FRANK J. McNAMARA,
SAMUEL K. BELL,
TASKER K. COOK,
ALEXANDER W. MEWS.

The Minutes of Monday, August 20th, were read.

At a quarter past three o'clock, p.m., the House proceeded to Government House with the Address in Reply to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor.

At half-past three o'clock, p.m., the House having returned, the Hon. the President reported that His Excellency had been pleased to receive the said Address, and returned an answer thereto in the following words :

*Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the
Legislative Council :*

I thank you for your Address in Reply to the Speech with which your present Session was opened.

W. E. DAVIDSON,
Governor.

Government House,
St. John's, Nfld.,
21st August, 1917.

The Hon. the President informed the Council that he had received the following message from the House of Assembly :

MR. PRESIDENT :

The House of Assembly acquaint the Legislative Council that they have passed the verbal amendment sent down in and upon the Bill sent up, entitled, "An Act to Levy a Tax upon Business Profits," without amendment.

J. R. GOODISON,
Speaker.

House of Assembly,
August 21st, 1917.

The House adjourned during pleasure ; after some time the House was resumed.

At four o'clock, p.m., His Excellency the Governor, Sir Walter Edward Davidson, Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, having arrived at the Council Chamber, and being seated on the Throne, commanded the Gentleman Usher of the Black

Rod, through the Honourable the President of the Legislative Council, to let the Honourable House of Assembly know:

“It is His Excellency’s pleasure they attend him immediately in this House;”

Who, being come thereto with their Speaker, His Excellency was pleased to give His Assent to the following Bills, entitled, respectively:

“An Act to Levy a Tax on Business Profits,”
and—

“An Act to make Provision with Respect to the Powers of the Legislative Council in Relation to those of the House of Assembly.”

After which His Excellency was pleased to speak as follows:

*Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the
Legislative Council:*

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Honourable
House of Assembly:*

I thank you for the promptness with which you have disposed of the business submitted to you at this Special Session.

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Honourable
House of Assembly:*

The additional financial provision made by you for the needs of the Public Service will assist my

Ministers in meeting the demands on the Exchequer occasioned by the Colony's participation in the war, and will be employed with judgment and economy.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council :

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Honourable House of Assembly :

In relieving you from this second attendance within so short a period, I trust that Providence may bless your individual concerns, and those of the country as a whole, with a generous measure of prosperity.

The Honourable the President then said :

“It is His Excellency the Governor's will and pleasure that this General Assembly be prorogued until Thursday, the twentieth day of September next: then and here to be holden, and this General Assembly stands prorogued accordingly.”

HUGH H. CARTER,

Clerk of the Legislative Council.

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