

Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2004

The House met at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Honourable the Speaker (Mr. Hodder) ruled on a point of order raised on March 24<sup>th</sup> by the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Byrne). The Speaker ruled there was no point of order but reminded all Members of the long standing tradition of respect for the integrity of all Members. The Speaker stated Members should not use offensive, provocative or threatening language. The Speaker repeated the authorities by stating that in dealing with unparliamentary language, he must take into account the actual words spoken including the tone, the manner and intention of the Member speaking, the person to whom the words were directed, the degree of provocation and if the words spoken caused disorder in the House.

The Member for Gander (Mr. O'Brien) made a Statement to advise Members that on April 6<sup>th</sup> an award ceremony would be held at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. to honour six members of the Cormorant helicopter crew from 103 Search & Rescue Squadron in Gander who rescued sixteen sailors from the badly listing deck of a stricken freighter *Camilla* in 2003.

The Member for Torngat Mountains (Mr. Andersen) made a Statement to congratulate the Labrador Inuit Youth Division of the Labrador Inuit Association on holding its annual Youth Conference in Hopedale. The Member stated that the youth discussed the importance of the May 26<sup>th</sup> vote whereby the Inuit of Labrador would vote on the ratification of an agreement between themselves and the federal and provincial governments.

The Member for St. John's North (Mr. Ridgley) made a Statement to congratulate Mrs. Elizabeth Cunningham on being named this year's recipient of the Grace Sparkes Woman of Distinction Award which honours women who have demonstrated strength of character and who have made an outstanding contribution to their community as well as the political life in the Province.

The Member for Twillingate & Fogo (Mr. Reid) made a Statement to recognize and congratulate local entrepreneur, Mr. Ches Penney, Chief Executive Officer of Ocean Choice International, who recently purchased six plants formerly owned by the Prince Edward Island Processor, Polar Seafoods.

The Member for Placentia & St. Mary's (Mr. Manning) made a Statement to pay tribute and to offer condolences to the family of the late Mrs. Bridget Foley of Point Verde, Placentia who was a licenced practical nurse at the Placentia Health Care Centre for almost fifty years.

Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2004

The Member of Signal Hill - Quidi Vidi (Mr. Harris) made a Statement to recognize the Seventh Annual SKIP A LUNCH Campaign sponsored by the School Lunch Association.

The Honourable the Minister of Government Services (Ms. Whalen) made a Statement to advise Members of new consumer protection information now available through her department.

The Honourable the Minister of Justice and Attorney General (Mr. Tom Marshall) made a Statement respecting the police officers' training program announced in the Throne Speech which will provide a long-term strategy for the training and development of police officers in the province.

The Honourable the Minister of Fisheries & Agriculture and Labrador Affairs (Mr. Taylor) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Loyola Hearn, the Member of Parliament for St. John's West on the successful passing of his Private Member's Motion respecting the extension of custodial management over the Nose and Tail of the Grand Banks and the Flemish Cap.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Sullivan) pursuant to section 55(3) of the **Financial Administration Act** tabled the Report of Corporate Loan Guarantees since the last report to the House.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Sullivan) pursuant to section 49(2) of the **Financial Administration Act** tabled the list of Temporary Loans raised under section 48 of the Act since the last report to the House.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Sullivan) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move: That This House Approves in General The Budgetary Policy of The Government. (Budget Speech)

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Sullivan) also gave notice that he would on tomorrow move that the House Resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on Supply to consider certain Resolutions for the Granting of Supply to Her Majesty (Bill No. 3).

The Member for Fortune Bay - Cape La Hune (Mr. Langdon) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District requesting the Government of the province to proceed with the improvements to and the expansion of the Bay d'Espoir Medical Clinic in St. Alban's without delay.

Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2004

The Member for Port au Port (Mr. Jim Hodder) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District requesting the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to direct the Western Health Care Corporation to maintain the obstetrical, surgical and laboratory services at the Sir Thomas Roddick Hospital at current levels and provide the Corporation with any additional funding necessary to maintain such services.

The Member for Bellevue (Mr. Barrett) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District requesting the Department of Transportation & Works to plow the road to Southern Point and the road to McCarthy's Point in the Community of Bellevue.

Pursuant to order and on motion the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Supply.

The Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Fitzgerald took the Chair of Committee of the Whole on Supply.

The Committee of Supply considered and passed a certain Resolution and a Bill entitled, AAn Act For Granting To Her Majesty Certain Sums Of Money For Defraying Certain Expenses Of The Public Service For The Financial Year Ending March 31, 2005 And For Other Purposes Relating To The Public Service" (Bill No. 2).

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee (Ms. Osborne) reported that the Committee of Supply had considered the matters to them referred and had directed her to report that they had passed a certain Resolution and a Bill consequent thereto and recommended that Bill No. 2 be introduced to give effect to same and asked leave to sit again.

On motion the report of the Committee was received and adopted and on motion it was ordered that the Committee have leave to sit again on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion the following Resolution was read a first and second time:

"That it is expedient to introduce a measure to provide for the granting to Her Majesty for defraying certain expenses of the public service for the financial year ending March 31, 2005, the sum of \$1,287,423,900."

Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2004

The Opposition House Leader (Mr. Parsons) rose to make two points of order. Firstly, he noted that the rules relating to a Member posing a question to a Minister in Committee of the Whole were not followed correctly by the Chair. The Opposition House Leader sought direction from the Speaker.

Secondly, the Opposition House Leader observed that the Chair of the Committee of Supply had not put the motion to adjourn the Committee.

After a short recess, the Speaker ruled that he would review the procedure in Committee relating to Members posing questions to Ministers. The Speaker also ruled that in order to clarify matters the House would revert back to Committee of the Whole in order that the motion to adjourn the Committee be properly put.

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Byrne), the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Supply.

The Speaker left the Chair.

Ms. Osborne took the Chair of Committee of the Whole on Supply.

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee (Ms. Osborne) reported that the Committee of Supply had considered the matters to them referred and had directed her to report that they had passed a certain Resolution and a Bill consequent thereto and recommended that Bill No. 2 be introduced to give effect to same and asked leave to sit again.

On motion the report of the Committee was received and adopted and on motion it was ordered that the Committee have leave to sit again on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion the following Resolution was read a first and second time:

"That it is expedient to introduce a measure to provide for the granting to Her Majesty for defraying certain expenses of the public service for the financial year ending March 31, 2005, the sum of \$1,287,423,900."

Pursuant to order and on motion a Bill entitled, "An Act For Granting To Her Majesty Certain Sums Of Money For Defraying Certain Expenses Of The Public Service For The Financial Year Ending March 31, 2005 And For Other Purposes Relating To The Public Service" (Bill No. 2) was read a first, second and third time and passed.

Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2004

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 2 be printed being entitled as above and that it be submitted to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor for His Assent.

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Byrne) the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House.

The Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Fitzgerald took the Chair of Committee of the Whole House.

The Committee of the Whole House considered a Bill entitled, An Act To Amend The Student Financial Assistance Act (Bill No. 1).

During the debate, the Honourable the Minister of Education (Mr. Ottenheimer), the Opposition House Leader (Mr. Parsons) and the Member of Signal Hill-Quidi Vidi (Mr. Harris) proposed amendments to clauses 11, 16 and 19 of the Bill.

After some debate, the Committee passed clauses 1-10, clauses 12-15, and clauses 17 and 18. The Committee directed that Clauses 11, 16 and 19 be deferred until the next day after further consideration by Members.

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker (Mr. Hodder) resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole House (Mr. Fitzgerald) reported that the Committee of the Whole had considered the matters to it referred and had made some progress and asked leave to sit again on tomorrow.

On motion the report of the Committee of the Whole House was received and adopted and on motion it was ordered that the Committee of the Whole House have leave to sit again on tomorrow.

The Sergeant-at-Arms announced the arrival of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor the Honourable Edward Roberts, Q.C. took the Chair.

The Speaker addressed His Honour as follows:

"It is my agreeable duty on behalf of Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, Her Faithful Commons in Newfoundland and Labrador, to present to Your Honour a Bill for the

Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2004

appropriation of Interim Supply granted in the present Session."

Whereupon the Clerk read the following Bill:

A Bill,            "An Act For Granting To Her Majesty Certain Sums Of Money For Defraying Certain Expenses Of The Public Service For The Financial Year Ending March 31, 2005 And For Other Purposes Relating To The Public Service" (Bill No. 2).

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor then said, "In Her Majesty's Name, I thank Her Loyal Subjects, I accept their benevolence, and I Assent to this Bill".

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor then left the Chamber.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Monday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.