

Thursday, December 2nd, 2004

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

The Member for Trinity North (Mr. Wiseman) made a Statement to congratulate the Neighbourhood of Friends Advisory Board for hosting an Open House to celebrate the establishment of a Family Literacy Centre for Clarenville and the surrounding area.

The Member for St. John's West (Ms. Osborne) made a Statement to offer greetings to her father Mr. Jim Ridgley on the celebration of his 94th birthday.

The Member for Twillingate-Fogo (Mr. Reid) made a Statement to recognize Dr. Mohammed Ravalia, a family physician from his District who was recently distinguished by his peers in the College of Family Physicians of Canada upon receiving the distinction of "Family Physician of the Year".

The Member for St. John's North (Mr. Ridgley) made a Statement to commend a group of students at Prince of Wales Collegiate along with their teachers and the Rotary Club who undertook to gather food for the Salvation Army Food Bank.

The Member for Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune (Mr. Langdon) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Brendan Collier and Mr. Gerald Cox who recently celebrated their retirement after thirty years of volunteer service to the Bay D'Espoir Emergency Health Board.

The Member for Signal Hill-Quidi Vidi (Mr. Harris) made a Statement to recognize the selection on Monday of Tommy C. Douglas as the popular choice for the Greatest Canadian. Mr. Douglas was a former Premier of Saskatchewan and the "Father of Medicare".

The Honourable the Minister of Municipal and Provincial Affairs (Mr. Jack Byrne) made a Statement to advise Members respecting a new program proposed by the Federal Government, namely the "New Deal for Communities" to provide extra funding for infrastructure to municipalities in Canada.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Sullivan) made a Statement to advise Members that December 3rd is declared the United Nations International Day of Disabled Persons, the purpose of this day is to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities. The Minister also spoke about the Open Doors Program in the public service.

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The Honourable the Minister of Transportation and Works and Aboriginal Affairs (Mr. Rideout) made a Statement inviting the public to attend the annual Christmas Lights Across Canada ceremony in the Main Lobby of the East Block.

The Member for Labrador West (Mr. Collins) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District asking the government to amend their policy immediately so that all residents of Labrador West may avail of the same medical services at the same cost as other residents living in Labrador in order to travel to Goose Bay for medical services.

The Member for Signal Hill-Quidi Vidi (Mr. Harris) rose on a point of order with respect to Standing Order 63(8) and his right to introduce a Private Members' Resolution during this Session of the House. The Member made the argument that his turn as an Opposition Member will occur on December 8th.

The Opposition House Leader (Mr. Parsons) and the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Ed Byrne) spoke to the matter and both agreed with the interpretation of the Standing Order 63. The Speaker agreed that the Member for Signal Hill-Quidi Vidi (Mr. Harris) would be able to introduce his new Resolution on December 8th with the notice of the Resolution being given on the Monday before the Wednesday.

Pursuant to order and on motion the following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

- A Bill, "An Act To Ratify And Give The Force Of Law To The Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement" (Bill No. 44);
- A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Forestry Act" (Bill No. 46);
- A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Municipal Elections Act" (Bill No. 55);
- A Bill, "An Act Respecting Court Security" (Bill No. 54);
- A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Public Tender Act" (Bill No. 53);
- A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Internal Economy Commission Act" (Bill No. 56).

On motion it was ordered that the said Bills be read a second time on tomorrow.

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On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Ed 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 Motorized Snow Vehicles And All Terrain Vehicles Act" (Bill No. 45).

After considerable debate, on motion the Committee rose.

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, had made some progress and asked leave to sit again.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Labour Standards Act" (Bill No. 38) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 38 be read a second time presently.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Labour Standards Act" (Bill No. 38) was read a second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 38 be referred to a Committee of the Whole House presently.

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Ed 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 and passed a Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Labour Standards Act" (Bill No. 38).

On motion the Committee rose.

The Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole House (Mr. Fitzgerald) reported that the Committee of the Whole House had considered the matters to it referred, had passed the Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Labour Standards Act" (Bill No. 38), without amendment and asked leave to sit again.

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On motion the report of the Committee was received and adopted.

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 38 be read a third time by leave.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Labour Standards Act" (Bill No. 38) was read a third time and passed.

On motion it was ordered that the said Bill be printed being entitled as above and that it be submitted to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor for His Assent.

By leave the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Ed Byrne) gave notice and by leave moved the following:

"That the evidence adduced by the Standing Committee of Public Accounts during the Fourth and Fifth Sessions of the Forty-Fourth General Assembly be referred to the current Committee and that all decisions made by the Standing Committee of Public Accounts of the last General Assembly relating to their deliberations during the Fourth and Fifth Sessions be deemed adopted by the Standing Committee of Public Accounts of the Forty-Fifth General Assembly."

The Speaker put the question on the motion and declared the motion carried.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Monday, December 6th 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.