

FROBISHER BAY, MONDAY, JUNE 3, 1957

3 o'clock P.M.

The Second Session of the Council for the year 1957, being the Thirteenth Session of the Council of the Northwest Territories, was convened at Frobisher Bay, at 3 o'clock P.M. on Monday, June 3, 1957.

All members were present.

A choir consisting of about twenty Eskimo school children sang God Save the Queen.

PRAYERS.

The Commissioner addressed the Council. His address is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 1.

Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Audette, moved that the Council express to the Commissioner its appreciation for his opening address.

During the debate on the motion, the following subjects were discussed:

- (1) the resignation from the Council, effective January 31, 1957, of Mr. Frank Carmichael, and the valuable contributions made by him since he first became an elected member in 1951;
- (2) the appointment of Mr. W.G. Brown as a member of the Council and Deputy Commissioner in the place of Mr. F.J.G. Cunningham; regret was expressed at the loss of Mr. Cunningham from the Council and tribute was paid to his past services; Mr. Brown, a former District Administrator of the Mackenzie District, and a former Commissioner of the Yukon Territory was welcomed;
- (3) the fact that this was the last meeting of the present Council and a brief review of the progress in the Territories during the past three years:
 - (i) it was suggested that there has been an improvement in the economic circumstances of the residents of the Mackenzie District. Fort Smith is now expanding rapidly, largely the result of a new lumber industry which is commencing in the area. Due to increased mining activity, the economic situation in Yellowknife is somewhat improved and the prospects for the future are bright. Along the Mackenzie River and on the Arctic coast construction projects have contributed greatly towards providing employment for the local residents;
 - (ii) it was suggested that while there has been great progress in the field of education, much more has yet to be done. There are still a number of areas where children do not receive the most elementary instruction, and in other areas facilities are required to provide a higher level of education;

- (iii) the incidence of tuberculosis is declining rapidly as the result of the active case finding and treatment program being carried out;
 - (iv) a start has been made on the provision of vocational training;
 - (v) new welfare programs have been introduced and welfare problems in general have received greater attention;
- (4) a suggestion that the next three years will be a period of large mineral developments, provided a railway is constructed to Great Slave Lake;
 - (5) a recommendation that arrangements be made whereby funds standing to the credit of the Territorial Government in the Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada be transferred to a branch of a chartered bank in the Territories. It was suggested that this action would encourage the banks to be more liberal in their lending policy, and that a more liberal loan program would in turn stimulate private enterprise in the Territories;
 - (6) the fact that the only existing roads between Fort Fitzgerald and Fort Smith are now controlled by corporations and are not freely available to the public; it was suggested that the Federal Government should take action to provide a public highway over the whole of the portage route from Fort Fitzgerald to Bell Rock;
 - (7) the importance of health insurance to the people of the Territories and the hope that the Territorial Government will be able to participate in the national health insurance program and at the same time preserve the present division of financial responsibility for Indians, Eskimos, and others;
 - (8) the fact that this was the first meeting of the Council in the Arctic Islands, that this was the first time the Council had met in the Territories outside an electoral district, that it was the first time the Council had met north of the eastern provinces, and that it was the first time many of the local residents had an opportunity to witness a parliamentary form of government in operation;
 - (9) the co-operation and harmony existing between representatives of the U.S. Air Force, the R.C.A.F., and federal departments of the Government of Canada at Frobisher Bay;
 - (10) the excellent progress being made by Eskimo trainees at the Vocational Training Centre at Leduc, Alberta;
 - (11) a suggestion that the name "Northeast Territories" would be a more appropriate description of Baffin Island and that part of the Territories lying east of Hudson Bay;
 - (12) a suggestion that an area be set aside in the vicinity of Great Slave Lake for the exclusive use of Indians;
 - (13) a proposal that a royalty be levied on fish taken from Great Slave Lake for commercial purposes;

- (14) a suggestion that the large decrease in the rabbit population in the Fort Simpson area has been responsible for the decline in the numbers of other animals, such as mink, lynx and fox, because the rabbit was one of the main sources of food for these other animals;
- (15) a recommendation that the scale of rations issued to families who are destitute only because the breadwinner is in hospital should be revised upward;
- (16) a request that the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation be asked to take immediate action to improve radio facilities in the north;
- (17) a suggestion that because there are no "reserves" in the Territories, the natives therein are not as well provided for as are the Indians in southern Canada. In southern Canada Indians on a reserve share in any revenue that may be obtained from the natural resources therein. It was suggested that a percentage of the revenue obtained from natural resources in the Territories be set aside for the beneficial use of the Indians;
- (18) the desirability of improving the water supply at Hay River;
- (19) the need for additional classroom facilities in the Hay River school;
- (20) problems peculiar to the Eskimo people and particularly those relating to their transition from a life of hunting and trapping to wage employment;
- (21) the education program as it relates to Eskimos, and the excellent reaction of the Eskimo people to this program;
- (22) a reminder that the aborigines, whether Indian or Eskimo, are in no way a second class people, and that they should be helped to make the change to a wage economy with a feeling of equality, pride, and self-respect. It was suggested that if this could be done, the Council and other responsible legislators would be entitled to a feeling of real accomplishment; and
- (23) a petition signed by a large number of residents of Aklavik (East 3) requesting that a beer canteen be not established in that community this year.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider further the motion on the Commissioner's opening address, Mr. Boucher in the chair.

The Committee considered a suggestion that the Districts of Keewatin and Franklin should be given elected representation on the Council.

Mr. Boucher reported progress on the Committee's consideration of the motion on the Commissioner's opening address.

The Council adjourned at 6 o'clock P.M.

TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 1957

10 o'clock A.M.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to continue its consideration of the motion on the Commissioner's opening address, Mr. Boucher in the chair.

A number of the subjects mentioned in the formal debate were discussed in greater detail and in addition the Committee considered the following:

- (a) mosquito control in the Fort Smith area;
- (b) plans for the operation of rehabilitation centres throughout the north;
- (c) a request by the ratepayers of Fort Simpson that the motor vehicle speed limit in that settlement be fixed at fifteen miles per hour.

Mr. Boucher presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended favourably on the motion on the Commissioner's opening address. The question being put on the motion, it was carried unanimously.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

Mr. Brown tabled the following documents:

- (a) Orders and Regulations issued by the Commissioner under various Ordinances between November 26, 1956, and May 27, 1957, and not previously laid before the Council. These Orders and Regulations are set forth in Sessional Paper No. 2.
- (b) Annual Report of the Commissioner for the fiscal year 1956-57. This report is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 3.
- (c) Annual Report of the Officer in Charge of the Workmen's Compensation Office in Edmonton for the year 1956. This report is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 4.
- (d) Annual Report of the Superintendent of Liquor for the fiscal year 1956-57. This report is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 5.
- (e) Statement of Revenue and Expenditure for the fiscal year 1956-57. This statement is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 6.

Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Drury, moved

"THAT Rule No. 2 of the Rules of the Council be suspended from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesday, the 4th day of June, 1957, except to discuss matters relating to Rule 2."

The question being put on the motion, it was carried unanimously.

On motion by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 1, An Ordinance to Amend the Business Licence Ordinance, was read the first time.

On motion by Mr. Goodall, seconded by Mr. Audette, Bill 2, An Ordinance to Amend the Old Age Assistance and Blind Persons Allowance Ordinance, was read the first time.

On motion by Mr. Porritt, seconded by Mr. Nicholson, Bill 3, An Ordinance to Amend the Disabled Persons Allowance Ordinance, was read the first time.

On motion by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Goodall, Bill 4, An Ordinance Respecting the Floral Emblem of the Northwest Territories, was read the first time.

On motion by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Porritt, Bill 5, An Ordinance Respecting a Financial Agreement between the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada, was read the first time.

On motion by Mr. Drury, seconded by Mr. Audette, Bill 6, An Ordinance to Amend the Liquor Ordinance, was read the first time.

On motion by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Goodall, Bill 7, An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service of the Northwest Territories for the Financial Year Ending the 31st day of March, 1958, was read the first time.

The Council adjourned at 1 o'clock P.M.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 1957

10 o'clock A.M.

On motion by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Porritt, Bill 1, An Ordinance to Amend the Business Licence Ordinance, was read the second time.

On motion by Mr. Goodall, seconded by Mr. Audette, Bill 2, An Ordinance to Amend the Old Age Assistance and Blind Persons Allowance Ordinance, was read the second time.

On motion by Mr. Porritt, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 3, An Ordinance to Amend the Disabled Persons Allowance Ordinance, was read the second time.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider Bills 1, 2 and 3, Mr. Goodall in the chair.

Mr. Goodall presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended Bill 1 with amendment, and Bills 2 and 3 without amendment.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee

On motion by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Goodall, Bill 4, An Ordinance Respecting the Floral Emblem of the Northwest Territories, was read the second time.

On motion by Mr. Drury, seconded by Mr. Porritt, Bill 6, An Ordinance to Amend the Liquor Ordinance, was read the second time.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider Bills 4 and 6, Mr. Porritt in the chair.

Mr. Porritt presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended Bill 4 with amendment and Bill 6 without amendment.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

On motion by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Nicholson, Bill 5, An Ordinance Respecting a Financial Agreement between the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada, was read the second time.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider Bill 5, Mr. Nicholson in the chair.

The Committee adjourned at 1 o'clock P.M.

3 o'clock P.M.

The Committee continued its consideration of Bill 5.

Mr. Nicholson reported progress on the Committee's consideration of Bill 5.

The Council adjourned at 6 o'clock P.M.

THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 1957

10 o'clock A.M.

Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Porritt, moved the following resolution:

"THAT the Commissioner be requested to discuss with the appropriate persons the desirability and possibility of obtaining an amendment to subsection (1) of section 8 of the Northwest Territories Act to increase the number of elected members of the Council so that provision could be made by amendment to the Elections Ordinance for extending the franchise to residents of the Districts of Franklin and Keewatin, and alternatively the desirability of re-defining the electoral districts under the said Ordinance to meet the same end,

"AND FURTHER THAT the Commissioner report to the Council at its next session the results of his discussions as well as his recommendations if any."

Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Brown, moved that Mr. Parker's resolution be amended as follows:

- (a) by insertion of the word "all" before the word "residents"; and
- (b) by replacing the words "Districts of Franklin and Keewatin" with the words "Northwest Territories."

The question being put on the motion, the resolution as amended was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Brown, moved the following resolution:

"THAT notwithstanding the provisions of Rule No. 2 of the Rules of the Council, the Council adjourn at 4 o'clock P.M. on Friday, June 7, 1957, and the Mace be removed;

THAT the Council reconvene at 4:10 P.M. on the same day and after reconvening it receive representatives of the Eskimo people of Frobisher Bay."

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider Mr. Nicholson's resolution, Mr. Parker in the chair.

Mr. Parker presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended that the resolution be adopted. The question being put on the motion, it was carried unanimously.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to continue its consideration of Bill 5, Mr. Nicholson in the chair.

The Committee adjourned at 1 o'clock P.M.

3 o'clock P.M.

The Committee continued its consideration of Bill 5, Mr. Nicholson in the chair.

Mr. Nicholson presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended Bill 5 with amendments.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

On motion by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 7, An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service of the Northwest Territories for the Financial Year Ending the 31st day of March, 1958, was read the second time.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider Bill 7, Mr. Drury in the chair.

Mr. Drury reported progress on the Committee's consideration of Bill 7.

Mr. Audette, seconded by Mr. Drury, moved the following resolution:

"THAT notwithstanding the resolution previously adopted by the Council respecting the suspension on Friday, June 7, 1957, of Rule No. 2 of the Rules of the Council, and notwithstanding Rule No. 2 of the said Rules, the first meeting of the Council on Friday, June 7, 1957, be commenced at 4 o'clock P.M.; and

THAT on the same day the Council receive representatives of the Eskimo people at Frobisher Bay."

The question being put on the motion, it was carried unanimously.

The Council adjourned at 6 o'clock P.M.

FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 1957

4 o'clock P.M.

The Council received Eskimo representatives Simonie, Akeeshu and Sageaktuk. The text of the Commissioner's address of welcome is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 7, and the text of the reply made by Eskimo representative Simonie on behalf of his colleagues is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 8.

Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Porritt, moved the following resolution:

"WHEREAS this Council has had placed before it and has made use of a "Report on the Northwest Territories, 1957" compiled by a Federal Interdepartmental Committee on Federal-Territorial Financial Relations, and

WHEREAS this Council has found the said Report to be comprehensive, carefully prepared and most useful.

THEREFORE this Council wishes to record its satisfaction with the said Report and its appreciation to those who compiled it."

The question being put on the motion, it was carried unanimously.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to continue its consideration of Bill 7, Mr. Drury in the chair.

Mr. Drury presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended Bill 7 with amendments.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

On motion by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Boucher, Bill 1, An Ordinance to Amend the Business Licence Ordinance, as reported by the Committee, was read the third time and passed. Bill 1 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 9.

On motion by Mr. Goodall, seconded by Mr. Audette, Bill 2, An Ordinance to Amend the Old Age Assistance and Blind Persons Allowance Ordinance, was read the third time and passed. Bill 2 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 10.

On motion by Mr. Porritt, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 3, An Ordinance to Amend the Disabled Persons Allowance Ordinance, was read the third time and passed. Bill 3 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 11.

On motion by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Goodall, Bill 4, An Ordinance Respecting the Floral Emblem of the Northwest Territories, as reported by the Committee, was read the third time and passed. Bill 4 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 12.

On motion by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Nicholson, Bill 5, An Ordinance Respecting a Financial Agreement between the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada, as reported by the Committee, was read the third time and passed. Bill 5 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 13.

On motion by Mr. Drury, seconded by Mr. Brown, Bill 6, An Ordinance to Amend the Liquor Ordinance, was read the third time and passed. Bill 6 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 14.

On motion by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 7, An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service of the Northwest Territories for the Financial Year Ending the 31st day of March, 1958, as reported by the Committee, was read the third time and passed. Bill 7 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 15.

The Commissioner assented to Bills 1 to 7, inclusive, as passed by the Council.

PROROGATION.