



NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

THE COUNCIL OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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E I G H T E E N T H   S E S S I O N

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Ottawa, January 11 - January 20, 1960.

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VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OTTAWA, MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 1960

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3 o'clock P.M.

The First Session of the Council for the year 1960, being the eighteenth Session of the Council of the Northwest Territories, was convened at Ottawa, at 3 o'clock P.M. on Monday, January 11, 1960.

All members were present.

PRAYERS.

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

Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Lang, 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) an expression of regret that Mr. Audette, on his appointment as Chairman of the Tariff Board, had found it necessary to resign from the Council, and an expression of appreciation for his contribution to the deliberations of the Council;
- (2) an expression of congratulation to Mr. Gall on his election by acclamation as the member for the Electoral District of Mackenzie North;
- (3) the desirability of having Indian and Eskimo representatives on the Council, and the opinion that Indians and Eskimos should be given an opportunity for greater participation in the administration of Territorial affairs;
- (4) the view that the Territories should advance step by step towards responsible government and provincial status by increasing the number of elected representatives and changing the composition of the Council gradually from a majority of appointed members to a majority of elected members;
- (5) the fact that transportation is the key to greater development in the Territories and the necessity of providing roads and railways;

- (6) a statement that the resources of the Territories should be considered a trust for future generations which should be administered according to the best conservation principles;
- (7) a statement that the Indian Affairs Branch of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration had instituted a program to increase the amount of fish taken in the Mackenzie District thereby relieving the pressure on the caribou. It was reported that this had resulted in an additional 298,000 pounds of fish being made available for Indians in 1959;
- (8) a review of fur prices over the years and a statement that the Territories were experiencing a period of increased fur production and better prices;
- (9) a growing public realization that there is no substitute for fine quality fur and the likelihood there will always be a market for this product;
- (10) a statement that the Delta Group Area was working satisfactorily;
- (11) the view that it was disastrous to provide an elaborate educational system for children in the Territories without also providing some means of employment when their education was completed;
- (12) the fact that approximately half the young Indians and Eskimos in the Delta cannot rely on trapping as a means of livelihood and something must be done to provide them with alternative means of making a living;
- (13) the need for more social workers in the Mackenzie District;
- (14) the need for better medical and health services in the Delta area;
- (15) the fact that the Indian and Eskimo people were handling their new liquor privileges very well and there had been no more convictions for intoxication than in the previous year despite the increased volume of purchases. This seemed to indicate that the Indian and Eskimo people were actually more concerned with the rights involved than the liquor itself;

- (16) the view that the people in the Keewatin and Franklin Districts had probably reached the stage where they could take some part in their own government;
- (17) a report that the caribou had returned to the barrens but this should not give rise to any loosening of present conservation policies because of the possibility of it being a temporary and cyclic situation;
- (18) a statement that the co-insurance charge in the Hospital Insurance Program would cause considerable administrative difficulty for the hospitals in the Territories and it should be removed from the scheme;
- (19) an expression of appreciation for the services rendered to the Territories by the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals and regret at their passing from the scene;
- (20) agreement with the proposed plan of decentralizing the administration of the Mackenzie District and the transfer of a large number of government functions from Ottawa to Fort Smith;
- (21) comment on the military air fields in the North gradually being taken over by the civilian authority and the view that this was probably necessary and desirable;
- (22) a statement that Fort Simpson should now be declared a Development Area for purposes of community planning;
- (23) a complaint that the airport at Fort Simpson was not being maintained to prevent it becoming unserviceable during break-up and after heavy rains;
- (24) the view that there should be greater use made of the timber resources of the Territory both as fuel and as pulp-wood;
- (25) a statement that no new private enterprises had been undertaken in the constituency of Mackenzie River in twenty years because they were throttled at the source by high taxes;

- (26) a remark that the people of the constituency of Mackenzie River were experiencing unusual prosperity;
- (27) the existence of lamprey eels in the Mackenzie River and the Great Slave Lake and Great Bear Lake water systems;
- (28) the fact that water transportation was satisfactory as far as Hay River during the summer months, but was unsatisfactory for down-river communities in the weeks preceding freeze-up. It was suggested that instead of trying to bring back all the boats and barges to the Great Slave Lake area, some of them should leave for the Delta late in the season and freeze in some where down-river. This would give the river settlements some service until late in the season;
- (29) the fact that certain items listed in the schedules of the Pharmaceutical Chemists Ordinance are being sold without licence and the hope that some action could be taken to amend the schedules concerned. It was stated the Administration proposed to alter the schedules by order of the Commissioner after consultation with the Department of National Health and Welfare;
- (30) the desirability of incentives to encourage permanent residence in the Territories;
- (31) a suggestion that licences to hunt big game be made available to any resident;
- (32) the need for unemployment insurance for fishermen.

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

The following points were discussed:

- (1) a request that the Council receive a delegation from the Yellowknife Separate School District No. 2 which wished to present a brief on the payment of grants in respect of children in grades 10 to 12. The Committee agreed to

receive the delegation on the understanding it be reminded that the whole question of hearing such representations was a matter of discretion for the Council itself to decide;

- (2) the fact that Port Radium was closing because of the exhaustion of its ore body but that extensive explorations were being carried out in the area;
- (3) the necessity of advertising the value and economy of employing Indian and Eskimo labour in the Territories and the admirable example set by North Rankin Nickel Mines in this regard;
- (4) the operation of a tourist co-operative at Cape Dorset.

Mr. Nicholson reported progress.

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

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1960.

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10 o'clock A.M.

PRAYERS.

The Committee continued its consideration of the motion on the Commissioner's opening address, Mr. Nicholson in the chair.

The Committee considered the following points:

- (1) a statement that the licence plates of the Northwest Territories should have a symbol such as a raven with a gold brick in its beak. It was also stated that the slogan "Canada's Northland" and the colour could be improved. The Committee decided, however, that since the present colour scheme was based on conclusions reached through scientific investigations it should not be changed. It was also agreed that the slogan should not be changed unless an outstanding alternative could be found;

- (2) the commendation of the people in Yellowknife for their initiative in forming a tourist association and a statement that the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources was sending two representatives to attend its inaugural meeting;
- (3) a statement that the Indian Agency at Fort Smith was being raised to the status of a regional office reporting directly to Ottawa in the same way as the offices in each of the provincial capitals;
- (4) the question of additional medical and dental services in the Mackenzie Delta was discussed and arrangements were made for the elected members of the Council to meet officials of the Indian and Northern Health Service of the Department of National Health and Welfare. In the course of the discussions, it was recommended that the Administration consider the possibility of an itinerant dentist travelling on a Mackenzie River boat in the same way dental staff travels on the "C.D. Howe" in the Eastern Arctic;
- (5) a reference to the fact that the Council had approved the use of fluorine in the water supply at Fort Smith as a means of preventing tooth decay and a decision that fluorine also be added to the water systems at Fort McPherson and Inuvik as well as all other water supply systems over which the Council has control;
- (6) the matter of field training in prospecting for Indians and Eskimos. It was suggested the Administration might be able to make some arrangement with the Alberta and Northwest Chamber of Mines for this purpose or incorporate it into the vocational training program;
- (7) the failure to enforce compulsory school attendance and the high incidence of truancy in the settlements;

(8) the necessity of providing assistance for community recreational centres and the view that the initiative for such centres should come from the people in the localities concerned. It was decided that the Administrator of the Mackenzie and the Administrator of the Arctic should determine what communities require community halls and what support might be forthcoming from the local people. It was also agreed that the Administration should prepare a paper for presentation at a future session which would examine the feasibility of providing assistance for community centres and also set out the advantages and disadvantages of providing such assistance in the form of loans or grants. The Committee adjourned at 1 o'clock P.M.

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3 o'clock P.M.

The Committee continued its consideration of the motion on the Commissioner's opening address, Mr. Nicholson in the chair.

The Committee considered the following points:

- (1) the necessity of having placement officers conduct a follow-up of Indians and Eskimos graduating from the schools of the Northwest Territories with a view to creating a more sympathetic understanding of the problems confronted by these people in adapting to a wage economy. It was stated that the Northern Service Officers and officers of the Indian Affairs Branch had performed this service in the past and it was recommended that this was an important endeavour which should be continued;
- (2) a suggestion that consideration should be given to the possibility, at an appropriate time, of having the Mackenzie District become a separate territory. It was suggested that some of the islands north of the present Mackenzie District such as Banks Island, Victoria Island and King William Island should be part of any such new territory. It was



also suggested that the eastern boundary might be a northward extension of the Manitoba-Saskatchewan border but there was some objection to this because such an artificial line would not have regard to actual features of the ground. Furthermore, the eastern boundary should be more closely related to economic reality. It was stated that a better boundary would be a line which conformed with the geographic divisions between the Mackenzie River Valley and the rest of the Territories. There was an expression of opinion that the future development of transportation and communication systems such as the Great Slave Lake railway and its possible extension down river would enhance the economic unity of the Mackenzie Valley and emphasize the differences between the western and eastern parts of the Northwest Territories;

(3) the need for cold storage facilities at Hay River.

Mr. Nicholson reported progress.

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

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1960.

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10 o'clock A.M.

In the absence of the Commissioner, Mr. Brown presided.

PRAYERS.

The Committee continued its consideration of the motion on the Commissioner's opening address, Mr. Nicholson in the chair.

The committee received the delegation representing the Yellowknife Separate School District No. 2 which consisted of Mr. Norman Byrne, Chairman of the District, and Mr. J.S. Cormack, Solicitor. A brief outline of the ensuing discussion is set out in Sessional Paper No. 1A.

The brief presented by the delegation is set out in Sessional Paper No. 1B.

The Committee agreed that the separate school right under the School Ordinance to educate pupils without limitation as to grades did not automatically carry with it any right to financial assistance from the Territorial Government. The question of such assistance, the amount and the grades to which it should apply was a matter for the judgment of the Council. It was decided that the application for financial assistance beyond grade IX should be given further consideration in the Committee on estimates and the delegation was informed that the conclusions of the Committee would be sent to it after a decision had been reached.

The Committee continued its consideration of matters arising out of the Commissioner's opening address. The following subject was discussed:

- (1) the need for a water and sewer system at Hay River to bring this community into line with other settlements of comparable size in the Mackenzie District.

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

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3 o'clock P.M.

The Committee continued its consideration of the motion on the Commissioner's opening address, Mr. Nicholson in the chair.

The Committee considered the following point:

- (1) the peculiar problems confronted by the people of Hay River in the establishment of utilities and other public works because of such difficulties as flooding, perma-frost and lake silt filling the harbours. The Committee thought the time had come to make a full investigation of the problems at Hay River to determine what development should take place.

Mr. Nicholson 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.

Mr. Nicholson's report is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 1C.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

Mr. Goodall asked what action was being taken by the Administration to provide classrooms at Fort Simpson for retarded children.

Mr. Brown reported that two special classrooms for retarded children were to open at Fort Simpson in the fall of 1960.

Mr. Gall asked what had been done towards establishing a minimum wage scale for the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Brown accepted the question as notice.

Mr. Brown tabled the following documents:

- (a) Orders and Regulations issued pursuant to the Ordinances of the Northwest Territories between July 25, 1959, and December 31, 1959, inclusive, and not previously tabled. These Orders and Regulations are set out in Sessional Paper No. 2.
- (b) Miscellaneous papers and reports pertaining to the business of the Council and not previously tabled. These papers and reports are set out in Sessional Papers Nos. 3 to 17, inclusive.

Mr. Goodall tabled an exchange of correspondence concerning optometrists whom he alleged were entering the Territories and charging outrageous fees for prescribing glasses which were not required. These letters are set out in Sessional Paper No. 18.

Mr. Porritt tabled a picture and a short description showing the dangerous proximity of the Mackenzie Highway to the Alexandra Falls. The picture and description are set out in Sessional Paper No. 19.

On a motion by Mr. Goodall, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 1, An Ordinance to Repeal the Archaeological Sites Ordinance, was read the first time.

On a motion by Mr. Gall, seconded by Mr. Jones, Bill 3, An Ordinance to Amend the Liquor Ordinance, was read the first time.

On a motion by Mr. Porritt, seconded by Mr. Nicholson, Bill 4, An Ordinance to Amend the Motor Vehicles Ordinance, was read the first time.

On a motion by Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 5, An Ordinance Respecting Expenditures for the Public Service of the Northwest Territories for the Financial Year Ending the 31st day of March, 1961, was read the first time.

On a motion by Mr. Goodall, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 1, An Ordinance to Repeal the Archaeological Sites Ordinance was read the second time.

On a motion by Mr. Gall, seconded by Mr. Jones, Bill 3, An Ordinance to Amend the Liquor Ordinance, was read the second time.

On a motion by Mr. Porritt, seconded by Mr. Nicholson, Bill 4, An Ordinance to Amend the Motor Vehicles Ordinance, was read the second time.

On a motion by Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 5, An Ordinance Respecting Expenditures for the Public Service of the Northwest Territories for the Financial Year Ending the 31st day of March, 1961, was read the second time.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider Bills 1, 3, 4, and 5, Mr. Drury in the chair.

Mr. Drury presented the report of the Committee on Bill 1 and reported progress on Bills 3, 4, and 5. The Committee recommended Bill 1, without amendment.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

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

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 14 , 1960.

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10 o'clock A.M.

PRAYERS

In answer to Mr. Gall's question concerning minimum wages, Mr. Brown reported that there was already a certain amount of labour

legislation in the Territories such as Workmen's Compensation, Public Health, Boiler Inspection, Mining Safety, Lien Ordinances for Warehousemen, Miners and Garagemen, and a Wages Recovery Ordinance. He stated that the Administration was presently studying the possibility of introducing a number of other labour statutes dealing with shop and factory standards, fair employment practices, equal pay for women, employment of children, pay periods, vacations with pay, hours of work and overtime pay, and minimum wages.

The Council resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to continue its consideration of Bills 3, 4, and 5, Mr. Drury in the chair.

Mr. Goodall asked what arrangements, if any, had been made by the Administration to establish a liquor store at Norman Wells.

Mr. Brown reported that discussions were under way with Imperial Oil and it was likely a store would be opened during the summer of 1960.

In connection with the question of whether or not liquor rationing presently in effect at the Aklavik liquor store should be continued when the new store opens at Inuvik, the Committee recommended that no change be made in the legislation so that when the new store opens, rationing will automatically fall into abeyance. It was agreed, however, that the policy of not stocking over-proof rum at the Aklavik store should be continued at Inuvik.

There was a brief discussion concerning the desirability of denying liquor privileges to people on relief. It was the view of the Committee that this would infringe certain basic individual liberties and should not be considered.

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

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3 o'clock P.M.

The Committee continued its consideration of Bills 3, 4, and 5, Mr. Drury in the chair.

Mr. Drury reported progress.

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

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 1960.

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10 o'clock A.M.

PRAYERS.

Mr. Nicholson asked the Administration if he could obtain the number of employees engaged on game and conservation work in the field.

Mr. Brown tabled a reply. This is set out as Sessional Paper No. 20.

Mr. Brown tabled a report on Welfare Services in the Mackenzie District. This is set out in Sessional Paper No. 21.

Mr. Brown tabled a report on Co-operatives in the Northwest Territories. This is set out in Sessional Paper No. 22.

Mr. Porritt, seconded by Mr. Goodall, moved the adoption of the following resolution:

"In view of the needs and demands of economic growth in the Northwest Territories, it is essential that the proposed railway to Great Slave Lake be constructed as soon as possible.

It is essential that the railway should provide the North with the lowest possible transportation costs so that the consequent reduction in costs would act as a stimulant to the development of the North.

As we consider this a matter of the greatest importance we urge that our Commissioner bring this to the attention of the Federal Government immediately."

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

The Committee resolved itself into Committee of the Whole continue its consideration of Bills 3, 4, and 5, Mr. Drury in the chair.

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

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3 o'clock P.M.

The Committee continued its consideration of Bills 3, 4, and 5, Mr. Drury in the chair.

Mr. Drury reported progress.

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

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MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 1960.

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10 o'clock A.M.

PRAYERS.

Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Drury, moved

"That the rules of the Council be suspended between 3 o'clock and 6 o'clock on the afternoon of Monday, January 18, 1960."

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

The Council resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to continue consideration of Bills 3, 4, and 5.

Mr. Drury reported progress.

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

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 1960.

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10 o'clock A.M.

PRAYERS

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

"BE IT RESOLVED that the present method of calculating the mill rates in the Local Improvement Districts be revised in accordance with the recommendations set out in Sessional Paper Number 10 to come into effect in the fiscal year 1961-62."

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

Mr. Brown tabled an extract from the Report of the Royal Commission on Education in Alberta. This is set out in Sessional Paper No. 23.

The Committee resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to continue its consideration of Bills 3, 4, and 5, Mr. Drury in the chair.

In its consideration of the Main Appropriation Ordinance, 1960-61, the question of grants to the Yellowknife Separate School Board for pupils in grades 10 to 12 was discussed again. In view of the complexity and importance of the issues raised in the brief presented by the delegation, the Committee requested the Administration to undertake a detailed investigation of the whole question and present a report at a later Session of the Council.

Mr. Drury presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended Bills 3 and 5 with amendments, and it recommended that Bill 4 not be read a third time. Bill 4 is set out in Sessional Paper No. 24.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

On a motion by Mr. Drury, seconded by Mr. Nicholson, it was moved that the proposals contained in the Reference for Advice on Compulsory Insurance for Automobiles be adopted. This Reference for Advice is set out in Sessional Paper No. 25.

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

On a motion by Mr. Lang, seconded by Mr. Porritt, Bill 6, An Ordinance to Amend the Motor Vehicles Ordinance, was read the first time.

On a motion by Mr. Porritt, seconded by Mr. Jones, Bill 7, An Ordinance to Amend the Insurance Ordinance, was read the first time.



On a motion by Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Gall, Bill 2, An Ordinance to Amend the Fuel Oil Tax Ordinance, was read the first time.

On a motion by Mr. Lang, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 6, An Ordinance to Amend the Motor Vehicles Ordinance, was read the second time.

On a motion by Mr. Porritt, seconded by Mr. Jones, Bill 7, An Ordinance to Amend the Insurance Ordinance, was read the second time.

On a motion by Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Gall, Bill 2, An Ordinance to Amend the Fuel Oil Tax Ordinance, was read the second time.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider Bills 6, 7, and 2, Mr. Goodall in the chair.

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

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3 o'clock P.M.

The Committee continued its consideration of Bills 6, 7, and 2, Mr. Goodall in the chair.

Mr. Goodall presented the report of the Committee.

The Committee recommended Bill 6 without amendment, and Bill 7 with amendment and it recommended that Bill 2 not be read a third time. Bill 2 is set out in Sessional Paper No. 26.

On a motion by Mr. Nicholson, Bill 8, An Ordinance to Amend the Fuel Oil Tax Ordinance, was read the first time.

On a motion by Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Porritt, Bill 8, An Ordinance to Amend the Fuel Oil Tax Ordinance, was read the second time.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider Bill 8, Mr. Goodall in the chair.

Mr. Goodall presented the report of the Committee.

The Committee recommended Bill 8 without amendment.

On a motion by Mr. Goodall, seconded by Mr. Nicholson, Bill 1, An Ordinance to Repeal the Archaeological Sites Ordinance, was read the third time and passed. Bill 1 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 27.

On a motion by Mr. Gall, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 3, An Ordinance to Amend the Liquor Ordinance, as reported by the Committee, was read the third time and passed. Bill 3 is set out in Sessional Paper No. 28.

On a motion by Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Porritt, Bill 5, An Ordinance Respecting Expenditures for the Public Service of the Northwest Territories for the Financial Year Ending the 31st day of March, 1961, as reported by the Committee, was read the third time and passed. Bill 5 is set out in Sessional Paper No. 29.

On a motion by Mr. Lang, seconded by Mr. Goodall, Bill 6, An Ordinance to Amend the Motor Vehicles Ordinance, was read the third time and passed. Bill 6 is set out in Sessional Paper No. 30.

On a motion by Mr. Porritt, seconded by Mr. Goodall, Bill 7, An Ordinance to Amend the Insurance Ordinance, as reported by the Committee, was read the third time and passed. Bill 7 is set out in Sessional Paper No. 31.

On a motion by Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Gall, Bill 8, An Ordinance to amend the Fuel Oil Tax Ordinance, was read the third time and passed. Bill 8 is set out in Sessional Paper No. 32.

The Deputy Commissioner assented to Bills 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, and 8, as passed by the Council.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider the Reference for Advice on the Game Ordinance, Mr. Jones in the chair.

Mr. Jones reported progress.

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

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1960.

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10 o'clock A.M.

All members were present except Mr. Drury.

PRAYERS.

The Council resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to continue its consideration of the Reference for Advice on the Game Ordinance, Mr. Jones in the chair.

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

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3 o'clock P.M.

The Committee continued its consideration of the Reference for Advice on the Game Ordinance, Mr. Jones in the chair.

Mr. Jones presented the report of the Committee.

The Committee recommended the Commissioner be advised to prepare a new Game Ordinance incorporating the suggestions set out in the Reference for Advice with certain changes in respect to eligibility for general hunting and trapping licences and big game licences. The Administration agreed to look into these matters further. It also agreed to investigate the possibility of changing the opening date for the open season on mink from November 1 to November 10. This request arose out of the claim that the fur is not prime until November 10 in the Delta. The recommendation that the importation of fur-bearing animals be permitted was adopted subject to the proviso that nutria be excluded. This Reference for Advice is set out in Sessional Paper No. 33.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider References for Advice on Second Mortgages, a Brief on Indians, and the Time and Place of the Next Session, Mr. Gall in the chair.

Mr. Gall presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended the Commissioner be advised

- (1) that the question of second mortgages be given further study and another report be prepared. This Reference for Advice is set out in Sessional Paper No. 34.
- (2) that a Brief on Indians be submitted by the Commissioner to the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Indian Affairs. This Reference for Advice is set out in Sessional Paper No. 35.
- (3) that the next meeting of the Council be held at Resolute Bay commencing July 11, 1960, or at Inuvik if accommodation cannot be obtained at Resolute Bay. This Reference for Advice is set out in Sessional Paper No. 36.

PROROGATION