

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN**  
**First Session — Thirteenth Legislature**  
**1st Day**

**Thursday, February 14, 1957**

10 o'clock a.m.

This being the first day of the meeting of the First Session of the Thirteenth Legislature of the Province of Saskatchewan for the despatch of business, pursuant to a Proclamation of His Honour the Honourable William John Patterson, LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, dated the Eleventh day of January, 1957, George Stephen, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Commissioner designated by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor for administering the Oath to the Members of the Legislative Assembly, attending according to his duty, Horace Stanley Lee, Clerk of the Executive Council, delivered to the said George Stephen a Roll containing a list of names of such Members as had been returned to serve in this Legislature, as follows, viz:

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, SASKATCHEWAN**  
**REGINA, JANUARY 15, 1957**

To: George Stephen,, Esq.,  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan:

This is to certify that by reason of the dissolution of the Twelfth Legislative Assembly of the Province of Saskatchewan, and by virtue of Writs of Election dated the eighth day of May last, and addressed to the hereinafter mentioned persons as Returning Officers for the Constituencies in the Province set opposite their respective names, for the election of Members to represent the said Constituencies in the Legislative Assembly, the following persons have been gazetted as duly elected to represent the Constituencies set forth below, as appears by the Returns to the said Writs deposited in my office, viz:

Constituency	Member Elected	Returning Officer
Arm River	G.H. Danielson	J. Flynn
Athabaska	J.J. Harrop	R. King
Bengough	A.L.S. Brown	W. Surdia
Biggar	W.S. Lloyd	A.G. Vetzal
Cannington	R.A. McCarthy	N. Wallace
Canora	A.G. Kuziak	P.E. Crokenko
Cutknife	I.C. Nollet	A. Bullock
Cumberland	W.J. Berezowsky	E.B. Arnason
Elrose	M.J. Willis	W.D. McKaig
Gravelbourg	L.P. Coderre	R.H. Baragar
Hanley	R.A. Walker	S. Dwornik
Humboldt	M.J. Batten	O.J. Buschmann

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Constituency	Member Elected	Returning Officer
Kelsey	J.H. Brockelbank	R. Wilson
Kelvington	P.A. Howe	R.H. Boyes
Kerrobert-Kindersley	E.A. Johnson	W.H. Chrysler
Kinistino	H. Begrand	H. Paine
Last Mountain	R. Brown	W. Hamilton
Lumsden	C.H. Thurston	H. Witkowski
Maple Creek	A.C. Cameron	J.A. Trew
Meadow Lake	A.P. Weber	C. Woodman
Melfort-Tisdale	C.G. Willis	D.J. Vansickle
Melville	J.W. Gardiner	D. Senft
Milestone	J.W. Erb	E.B. Moats
Moose Jaw City	W.G. Davies	
	D.H.R. Heming	N. McKinnon
Moosomin	A.H. McDonald	N.W. Noren
Morse	J. Gibson	P. Unroe
Nipawin	L.N. Nicholson	J.A. Kuchapski
Notukeu-Willowbunch	K. Klein	O. Knops
Pelly	J.R. Barrie	A. Klimchuk
Prince Albert	L.F. McIntosh	J.J. Wheaton
Qu'Appelle-Wolseley	D.T. McFarlane	D.K. Ramsay
Redberry	B.L. Korchinski	D. Michayluk
Regina City	M. Cooper	
	C.M. Fines	C.S. Martin
	C.C. Williams	
Rosetown	J.T. Douglas	J.M. MacEachern
Rosthern	I. Elias	A.G. Dyck
Saltcoats	A. Loptson	V. Rooke
Saskatoon City	A. T. Stone	
	J.H. Sturdy	D.S. Newsham
Shaunavon	T.J. Bentley	S. Hanna
Shellbrook	J. Thiessen	V.W. Davies
Souris-Estevan	K. Thorson	C.M. Ching
Swift Current	E.I. Wood	L. Carefoot
The Battlefords	E. Kramer	A. Peterson
Touchwood	F. Meakes	F.N. West
Turtleford	F.E. Foley	A.E. Jacques
Wadena	F.A. Dewhurst	C.W. Roberts
Watrous	J.A. Darling	J. Riben
Weyburn	T.C. Douglas	P.G. Barrett
Wilkie	J. Horsman	W.A. Haight
Yorkton	F. Neibrandt	J. Popoff

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Clerk of the Executive Council.

The said Commissioner having previously administered the Oath to the Members who appeared, and the Members having subscribed the Roll containing the Oath, they took their seats in the Assembly at 3 o'clock p.m.

3 o'clock p.m.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor entered the Chamber and took his seat on the Throne.

The Honourable Mr. Brown, Provincial Secretary, then said:

"I am commanded by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to inform you that he does not see fit to declare the causes of the summoning of the present Legislature until later today, when the Legislative Assembly shall have elected a Speaker, according to law."

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor then retired from the Chamber.

The Honourable Mr. Douglas (Weyburn), addressing himself to the clerk, moved, seconded by the Honourable Mr. Fines, that James Andrew Darling, Esquire Member for the Constituency of Watrous, do take the Chair of this Assembly as Speaker.

The question being put by the Clerk, it was

Resolved, nemine contradicente, that James Andrew Darling, Esquire, do take the Chair of this Assembly as Speaker.

The Clerk having declared James Andrew Darling, Esquire, duly elected, he was conducted to the Chair, where, standing on the upper step, he returned his humble acknowledgements to the Assembly for the great honour they had been pleased to confer upon him by choosing him to be their Speaker.

Thereupon he took the Chair, and the Mace was laid on the Table.

3:15 o'clock p.m.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor re-entered the Chamber and took his seat upon the Throne.

Mr. Speaker then addressed His Honour to the following effect:

May it please Your Honour, —

The Legislative Assembly have elected me as their Speaker, although I am but little able to fulfill the important duties thus assigned to me.

If, in the performance of those duties, I should at any time

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fall into error, I pray that the fault may be imputed to me and not to the Assembly whose servant I am, and who, through me, the better to enable them to discharge their duty to their Queen and country, hereby humbly claim all their undoubted rights and privileges, especially that they may have freedom of speech in their debates, access to your person at all seasonable times, and that their proceedings may receive from you the most favourable consideration.

The Honourable Mr. Brown, Provincial Secretary, then said:

Mr. Speaker, — I am commanded by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to declare to you that he freely confides in the duty and attachment of the Assembly to Her Majesty's person and Government, and not doubting that their proceedings will be conducted with wisdom, temper and prudence, he grants, and upon all occasions will recognize and allow, their constitutional privileges.

I am commanded also to assure you that the Assembly shall have ready access to His Honour upon all seasonable occasions, and that its proceedings, as well as your words and actions, will constantly receive from him the most favourable construction.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor was then pleased to open the Session with the following Speech:—

Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:

It is my privilege to welcome you to the First Session of the Thirteenth Legislature of Saskatchewan.

Last year the third largest crop in the history of the Province was harvested. Due largely to low wheat quotas farmers reduced their wheat acreage from the previous year. Continued restrictions on grain deliveries plague the agricultural industry with a shortage of ready cash to meet current farm expenses. It is regretted that the request of this Assembly for cash advances on farm-stored grain has been ignored. However, on a long-term basis the most serious threat to agricultural solvency is rising farm costs and falling farm prices.

Last year the Select Special Committee on Marketing and Farm Income made recommendations to meet an emergency situation in respect of declining farm income and to meet chronic or recurring farm income problems related to pricing and marketing. My Government regrets that the Government of Canada has not seen fit to adopt the measures recommended by this Committee and approved by the Legislature.

It is gratifying to note an increase in the acreage devoted to forage crops and a corresponding increase in livestock production. The Government will again submit for your approval clearing and breaking, irrigation and drainage programs designed to further develop the diversification and stability of our farm economy.

My Government continues to recognize that the construction of the South Saskatchewan River development project will contribute materially to the stabilizing of the provincial economy. The Government is willing to co-operate with the Government of Canada to undertake the construction of this project immediately and will pay its fair share of the cost as soon as the Federal Government is prepared to proceed.

My Government has continued to discuss federal-provincial financial relations with the Government of Canada. Legislation authorizing the Government to enter into a new agreement providing for the rental of personal and corporation income taxes and succession duties to the Government of Canada will be submitted for your approval.

Last December a conference was held with representatives of local governing bodies to discuss problems faced by local governments. It is gratifying to note that the delegates to this conference endorsed in principle the establishment of a continuing committee representing all the participating bodies to study re-organization and re-allocation of finance and responsibilities. It is hoped that all organizations representing local governments will agree to the setting up of the continuing committee.

During 1956 the number of wells capable of producing oil or gas increased at a rate of fifteen per week. The 1956 production of oil and gas in our province exceeded in value the total of all previous production. Approximately 2,500 wells produced over twenty million barrels of oil and almost twenty billion cubic feet of natural gas. It is expected that 1,200 wells will be drilled in 1957 and that oil production will reach thirty-five million barrels.

The number of mineral claims recorded continues at a high level. Claims staked last year reflect a shift from the concentration on uranium prospecting to a greater emphasis on the search for nickel and copper. The value of uranium production almost doubled in 1956. Uranium milling facilities in Northern Saskatchewan have been increased from 1,950 to 3,650 tons per day.

A third mill, designed to process uranium ore from other mines in the Beaverlodge area, will go into operation in the spring. The total production of minerals continues to set new records. Last year the value of mineral production in our province exceeded \$110,000,000.

Several industrial concerns interested in the production of wood pulp, blockboard and wallboard have signed option agreements. This is indicative of the changing emphasis in the forest industry of our province from that of a saw-timber economy to a more intensive utilization of our timber resources.

The fishing industry of our province continues to expand. The construction of a new filleting plant at Wollaston Lake will make possible a more continuous fishing operation and will bring a greater measure of economic stability to the people of this area. The completion of a new fish hatchery at Fort Qu'Appelle will enable the Government to carry on a more extensive program of fish culture.

Fur production remained at a high level in spite of the sharp decline in market prices. The number of fur farms increased during the year.

Last year the road construction program in Northern Saskatchewan was the largest ever undertaken. Development roads were constructed in the Buffalo Narrows, Otonabee, Lynn Lake, Martineau River and Swan Lake areas. This program will be continued in 1957 to facilitate the further development of resources in the North.

The industrial potential of our province continues to be developed. In 1956 a new record was established in the number of new companies incorporated. Last year a cement plant and a wire and cable plant were brought into operation. This year a pipe manufacturing plant, a wallboard plant, a paper bag plant and a sewer pipe plant will be completed and brought into production. The announced intention of the Potash Company of America to proceed in the spring with the construction of a mill and refinery near Saskatoon forecasts an important step in the development of our potash industry.

A provincial conference on industrial development was held last December. The large and representative attendance at this conference is indicative of the growing awareness of the industrial potential of our province.

The Government's objective to serve 40,000 farms with electricity by the end of 1956 was exceeded. Last year's farm electrification program brought power to more than 7,800 farms, a single-year record unequalled anywhere in Canada. The farm electrification program will be continued with a view to bringing power to a total of 65,000 farms by 1961.

This rapid growth of power consumption by farm, domestic, and industrial customers has made necessary an unprecedented expansion of generation facilities in the province. Additions were made to several existing plants and new major generation stations are being constructed at Estevan and Saskatoon.

During 1956 major construction programs to extend natural gas to additional communities were completed. By the end of the year 20,500 natural gas customers were being served in five cities, eleven towns and thirteen villages. Plans are under way to supply natural gas to the City of Regina, the Town of Kerrobert, and several other communities this year.

In 1956 Saskatchewan Government Telephones set two new records in expanding telephone service. During the year more than 11,000 additional telephones were installed and 24,000 circuit miles were added to the Corporation's long distance network. Conversion to automatic operation will be completed in Kamsack and Eston in 1957. Preparation for later conversion is being made at Wynyard, Wadena and Shaunavon.

The Saskatchewan Government Telephones will complete its section of the Trans-Canada microwave radio relay system in 1957. This will result in additional long distance circuits being made available and in live television programs being relayed to television stations in Saskatchewan. Work has

commenced to make Regina one of the two regional centres in Canada for the continent-wide dialling plan.

It is expected that increased interest in preventive health services will result in the establishment of one or more additional health regions in 1957. Preventive programs in dental health will be expanded. Continuation of the Salk vaccine programs against poliomyelitis is planned as increasing amounts of vaccine become available.

My Government has consistently stated that the health needs of the people of Canada could only be met adequately by a comprehensive National Health Insurance Program. It is regretted that Federal Government's offer is confined to hospital insurance. It is noted that even this offer does not include hospitalization for patients suffering from mental illness or tuberculosis and therefore covers less than one-half of the hospital service required in Canada. Nevertheless, Saskatchewan was among the first of the provinces to indicate that it would be prepared to enter into the proposed plan.

The University Hospital has continued to improve the quality of medical and hospital care throughout the province. For the first time medical doctors will graduate from the University of Saskatchewan this spring.

Continued improvements have been made in mental hospital buildings. Extensive work which is proposed will further increase their efficiency. Constant advances are being made in treatment programs and in the training of professional staff. These programs have put Saskatchewan in the lead in this field and have resulted in a reduction in the mental hospital population despite the continued rise in the number of admissions. Intensive studies of the future needs for the mental health program are in progress. Research in to the fundamental causes of mental disease is continuing and hopeful signs of major discoveries are emerging.

Commendable progress is being made by a considerable number of towns in the installation of modern sewer and water facilities. Preliminary surveys now in progress indicate that this program will be accelerated with continued technical and financial assistance from the Provincial Government.

During the past year local housing projects for senior citizens were completed providing accommodation for some four hundred people in hostels and self-contained housing units. It is anticipated that during the coming year projects now in the construction, planning and development stages will provide living accommodation for an additional 2,000 senior citizens.

A committee appointed to enquire into the principles and procedures followed in the Remission Service of the Department of Justice of Canada reported to the Minister of Justice in April, 1956. This report contained a number of recommendations which, if implemented, would require fundamental changes in the province's correctional program. The recommendations of this Commission are being carefully studied by my Government.

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The new three-hundred-bed Provincial Nursing Home, situated on the Legislative Building Grounds, is expected to be ready for occupancy early in the new fiscal year. Fifty beds for rehabilitation purposes will be provided in this Home and will be operated in conjunction with the Physical Restoration Centre.

During the year the Murray Memorial Library at the University was completed. Construction was commenced on a building on the University campus to accommodate the Saskatchewan Research Council.

The Government welcomes the announcement by the Federal Government that increased financial assistance will be made available to Canadian universities. The proposed creation of the Canada Council is also welcomed. Useful as these measures may be, my Government feels that further federal aid to education particularly toward capital costs of school construction, is highly desirable and will continue to advocate this policy.

The problems of school administrators remain severe. Because of increased costs, the need for more facilities and the shortage of trained personnel, my Government has already announced its intention to recommend a large increase in school grants.

The traditional pattern of education in Saskatchewan has been to have Indian children attend schools separate from those attended by other children. However, during recent years several schools, providing for the education of all children in certain northern communities, have been erected and operated with costs being shared by the Provincial and Federal Governments. The most recent agreement of this kind will provide for additional school facilities at Lac La Ronge. These facilities will make possible some degree of vocational education in this area.

You will be asked to approve amendments to The Teachers Superannuation Act.

The municipal grid road program was well received, with 200 municipalities participating in the first year. This program will increase in 1957, for which you will be asked to provide additional financial assistance.

The Government of Saskatchewan has continued its efforts, in co-operation with the other western Provinces and the Maritimes, to resist the application of the railway companies for a further increase in freight rates. In spite of the strong representations made, a further rise in the general level of freight rates has taken place.

In accordance with the provisions of The Time Question Plebiscite Act, a vote was taken at the time of municipal elections last fall. The results of this plebiscite will be placed before a Committee of this Legislature for study and recommendation.

The growth and plans of many Saskatchewan communities make necessary a new Community Planning Act which will be submitted for your approval.



During the past year work on the provincial highway system made satisfactory progress. Work completed totalled 532 miles of grading, 100 miles of bituminous surfacing, 206 miles of oil treatment and 2,000 miles of gravel surfacing. Good progress was made in the construction and repair of provincial and municipal bridges. You will be asked to approve estimates to provide for another program of extensive highway improvements, which will include the completion of Saskatchewan's section of the Trans-Canada Highway. This project is an outstanding example of the benefits of Federal-provincial co-operation in the field of highway construction.

The co-operative movement made good progress during the year and continues as an increasingly important force for improving the economic and social life of the province. More attention will be given to research respecting the operating problems of co-operatives. Additional assistance will be given to agencies established for the training of managerial and administrative personnel for co-operative organizations. To meet the needs of Northern Saskatchewan and extension will be made in the program of co-operative education and organization.

As a result of the growth of the credit union movement, legislation to facilitate investments by credit unions and to outline more detailed procedures regarding certain phases of their lending operations will be introduced.

Trade union membership reached an all-time high of approximately 42,000 during the past year. Industrial relations remain good. During 1956 there was very little time lost due to industrial conflict in those areas of labour relations which come under the jurisdiction of the Province.

With a view to providing a greater measure of protection not only for employees but also for employers who pay fair wages, the Government will propose certain amendments to The Minimum Wage Act.

Increased interest in tourist development in our province has been evidence during the past few years. The formulation of regional tourist associations and the work of the province-wide tourist advisory council reflect the determination of our citizens to aid in the building of the travel industry.

The demand for accommodation at provincial parks continues to grow. Requests are increasing for various forms of assistance by local community organizations to help in the development of smaller resort areas.

Because of the growing importance and potential of our tourist industry and the necessity of providing extensive and accurate information about our province, an Act to establish a Department of Travel and Information will be introduced.

Amendments to The Conditional Sales Act and The Bills of Sale Act will ensure greater certainty of title for chattels by providing for central registration of all bills of sale, chattel mortgages, conditional sales agreements and lien notes.

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Legislation will be introduced to permit tenants whose leases have been terminated and who have been unable to dispose of their grain to remove it at any time before July 31st, 1957.

For the better protection of mortgagors and purchasers under agreement of sale, legislation will be introduced to amend The Land Contracts (Actions) Act to provide for notice to the Provincial Mediation Board of every intended foreclosure or cancellation action.

Amendments to The Provincial Lands Act, The Farm Security Act, The Automobile Accident Insurance Act, The Vehicles Act, The Real Estate Agents Licensing Act, the Cemeteries Act, The Saskatchewan Insurance Act, and The Companies Act will be submitted.

The Public Accounts for the last fiscal year, together with the estimates for the year beginning April 1, 1957, will be submitted.

I leave you now to the business of the session with full confidence that you will favourably discharge your duties and responsibilities. May Divine Providence continue to bless our Province and guide the Legislature in all its deliberations.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor then retired from the Chamber.

The Assembly then adjourned at 3:40 o'clock p.m.