

June 18/91

EVENING SITTING

ROYAL ASSENT

At 7:02 p.m. Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor entered the Chamber, took her seat upon the throne, and gave Royal Assent to the following Bills:

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| Bill No. 84 | -- An Act respecting the League of Educational Administrators, Directors and Superintendents |
| Bill No. 55 | -- An Act respecting Programs to Stabilize the Income of Agricultural Producers |
| Bill No. 56 | -- An Act to amend The Farm Financial Stability Act |
| Bill No. 82 | -- An Act to Implement Certain Provisions Respecting Pension Benefits and Annuity Plans for Teachers Agreed to in the 1990-91 Provincial Teachers' Collective Agreement |
| Bill No. 69 | -- An Act respecting Referendums and Plebiscites |
| Bill No. 70 | -- An Act respecting a right of access to documents of the Government of Saskatchewan and a right of privacy with respect to personal information held by the Government of Saskatchewan |
| Bill No. 71 | -- An Act respecting a right of access to documents of local authorities and a right of privacy with respect to personal information held by local authorities |
| Bill No. 58 | -- An Act to amend The Statutes Act |
| Bill No. 59 | -- An Act to amend The Interpretation Act |
| Bill No. 76 | -- An Act to amend The Coroners Act |
| Bill No. 77 | -- An Act to amend The Queen's Bench Act (No. 2) |
| Bill No. 78 | -- An Act to amend The Surrogate Court Act |
| Bill No. 80 | -- An Act respecting the Application in Saskatchewan of the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods |
| Bill No. 81 | -- An Act to amend references to the Criminal Code in Certain Acts and Regulations and respecting Consequential Amendments to Certain Acts and Regulations resulting from the enactment of the Criminal Code, R.S.C. 1985, c.C-46 |
| Bill No. 64 | -- An Act to amend The Income Tax Act (No. 2) |
| Bill No. 65 | -- An Act to amend The Corporation Capital Tax Act (No. 2) |
| Bill No. 66 | -- An Act to amend The Tobacco Tax Act |
| Bill No. 73 | -- An Act to amend The Oil and Gas Conservation Act |
| Bill No. 74 | -- An Act respecting the Registration of Leafcutting Beekeepers |

PROROGATION

Her Honour was then pleased to deliver the following speech:

Mr. Speaker,

Members of the Legislative Assembly:

It is my duty to discharge you from further attendance at the fourth

session of the twenty-first legislature. In relieving you of further attendance, I would like to congratulate you on the work that you have successfully completed.

At the opening of this fourth session, my government emphasized a commitment to consult with the people of this province, to ask them for their ideas, to listen to their suggestions, and to respond to their concerns. As you are aware, these consultations have been highly productive and have identified innovative ways to address the many challenges before us.

In addition, the consultations have demonstrated the correctness to the proposed solutions and buttressed resolve to carry them to completion. Consultation, in conjunction with the responsible and efficient management of resources, augments the security and stability of our communities and the growth and well-being of the province's citizens. By listening to what people are concerned about, my government was able to set priorities consistent with what people identified as important. This House, too, responded to the people's priorities by passing legislation to assist beleaguered farmers, protect increasingly threatened rural communities, and encourage expansion and diversification of the economy.

For agriculture, you passed The Agricultural Safety Net Act which has given farmers a financial plan to protect themselves from those outside forces which are not to their making and over which they have no control. You have, thereby, helped them for the first time to achieve a level of stability which ordinary citizens take for granted.

The dual objectives of economic development and stabilization of rural communities were addressed by your approval of The Community Bonds Act, an Act which provides the means for communities to raise funds for new businesses. You also approved amendments to The Labour-sponsored Venture Capital Corporations Act in order to enhance the availability of funds in the market-place. Both of these Acts lead to the new pools of funds for entrepreneurs and opportunities for investors.

Your concern for the responsible and efficient management of resources led to the passage of The Oil and Gas Conservation Amendment Act, 1991, which not only ensures further development by creating fair and equitable rules to cover the major new technology of horizontal drilling, but also created the self-financing Oil and Gas Conservation Board to ensure that the resources we are endowed with are wisely used.

This House has also fostered the growth and well-being of citizens by ensuring that the environment in all its aspects remain sound now and for the future. Such Acts as The Ozone-depleting Substances Control Act and The State of the Environment Report Act help to keep Saskatchewan one of the cleanest places to live in Canada.

Widespread consultations also revealed a significant element of demand for a less partisan government, the protection of democratic rights, and the accountability of elected governments. This spring the rules of the Legislative Assembly were changed and the first Speaker elected, to respond

to the first of these concerns.

The government's comprehensive package of legislation, including The Referendum and Plebiscite Act, The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, and The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, are reforms introduced to make the government more open and allow people to play a more direct role in the government.

The Referendum and Plebiscite Act introduces means by which the public can be consulted or make their concerns known by direct democracy, and outlines conditions under which such initiatives are binding on the government.

Finally, the two freedom of information Acts provide the public with the right to know the activities of government as it touches their personal lives, while at the same time safeguarding the information that government has on private citizens. They also make provision for the correction of erroneous information.

In taking leave of you, I commend you for the conscientious manner in which you have approached your duties, and wish you well for the future.

Hon. Mr. Hepworth: -- Mr. Speaker, and members of the Legislative Assembly, it is the will and pleasure of Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor that this Legislative Assembly be prorogued until it pleases Her Honour to summon the same for the dispatch of business. And the Legislative Assembly is accordingly prorogued.

Her Honour then retired from the Chamber at 7:10 p.m.