

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN
Fourth Session — Thirteenth Legislature
29th Day

Tuesday, March 22, 1960

The House met at 2:30 o'clock p.m.
On the Orders of the Day:

ANNOUNCEMENT

Hon. J.T. Douglas (Minister of Highways): — Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day are proceeded with, I think it would be of interest to this Assembly to know that we just received word that the steel bridge over the Churchill River at Otto Rapids has been completed. This was no small feat, because it meant the construction of a 250-foot span of steel across open water. I think you will all be glad to know that that work has now been completed successfully.

WELCOME TO STUDENTS

Mr. Cliff H. Thurston (Lumsden): — Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day are proceeded with I would like to draw the members' attention to a group of fine young students in the Speaker's gallery. They are from Westlake Rural School, in the Moose Jaw Unit. They are here with their teacher, Mrs. Wells, and I am sure that we all welcome them here this afternoon, and hope that their trip has been an enjoyable one.

While I am on my feet, I might also say that Mrs. Wells, along with her husband last summer, had the honour of playing host to Her Majesty and Prince Philip when they were here on their royal tour. I had the privilege of being at their farm that day, and can say they carried themselves with distinction.

Mr. A.T. Stone (Saskatoon City): — Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day are proceeded with, I would like to draw your attention to the group of school children from St. Phillips' School in Saskatoon, with their teacher, Mr. Hett. I am sure all members will join with me in saying how happy we are to have them with us today, and hope their trip will be an enjoyable one.

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SECOND READINGS

Bill No. 79 – An Act to amend The Mineral Contracts Re-Negotiation Act, 1959

Hon. R.A. Walker (Attorney General): — Mr. Speaker, this Bill is an amendment that has been found necessary as the result of experience in the year during which the Mineral Contracts Re-Negotiation Board has been functioning. First of all, there are no basic or important principles involved in the legislation except one, and that is contained in Section 3. This provides in substance that where a contract has been re-negotiated between an owner and an oil company, pursuant to the good offices of the Mineral Contracts Re-Negotiation Board, that such re-negotiated contracts shall be deemed to be final, and will not be subject to attack on the grounds of fraudulent or innocent misrepresentation. In other words, so far as the causes of action are concerned which would give this Board jurisdiction, those causes of action are extinguished when the contract has been re-negotiated. The other changes are merely of a technical nature, and with this explanation, I would move that Bill No. 79 be now read a second time.

The question being put, it was agreed to, and the Bill referred to a Committee of the Whole at the next sitting.

Bill No. 80 – An Act to amend The Limitation of Actions Act

Hon. R.A. Walker (Attorney General): — Mr. Speaker, in previous years we have extended the time under The Limitation of Actions Act during which a land owner, or mineral owner could bring action to have his contract set aside on the grounds of fraud or misrepresentation. that six-year period was extended in 1957 for one year, and in 1958 it was extended for another year. In 1959 it was extended again for another year. this time it is proposed to extend it to January 1, 1961. This means that anyone who has taken no action on a cause which originated, and which was not barred at the time of the first amendment in 1957, will have to the end of the current calendar year to bring his action. If his complaint has resulted in filing an application to the Mineral Contracts Re-Negotiation Board, then his time will expire six months after the Board has disposed of his application, so that it is December 31, or six months from the time the Board finished the application, whichever is the later. When that date is passed, the period will revert to the normal period of six years. Those are the only principles involved in the Bill, Mr. Speaker, and with that explanation I move the said Bill be now read a second time.

The question being put, it was agreed to, and the Bill referred to a Committee of the Whole at the next sitting.

The Assembly adjourned at 10:00 o'clock p.m. without question put.