

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN
FIRST SESSION — FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE**

Thursday, February 9, 1961.

10 o'clock a.m.

This being the first day of the meeting of the First Session of the Fourteenth Legislature of the Province of Saskatchewan for the despatch of business pursuant to a Proclamation of His Honour the Honourable Frank Lindsay Bastedo, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, dated the Thirteenth day of December, 1960, Charles Beverley Koester, 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, Roy Borrowman, Chief Electoral Officer, delivered to the said Charles Beverley Koester 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 CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER,
REGINA, OCTOBER 19, 1960.**

To: C.B. Koester, Esq.,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan:

This is to certify that by reason of the dissolution of the Thirteenth Legislative Assembly of the Province of Saskatchewan, and by virtue of Writs and Election dated the fourth 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 appeared by the Returns to the said Writs deposited in my office, biz:

CONSTITUENCY	MEMBER ELECTED	RETURNING OFFICER
Arm River	G.H. Danielson	E.F. Mittleholtz
Athabaska	A.R. Guy	M. Linskog
Bengough	H.R. Dahlman	T.E. Muldoon

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CONSTITUENCY	MEMBER ELECTED	RETURNING OFFICER
Biggar	W.S. Lloyd	W. Brown
Cannington	R.A. McCarthy	N. Wallace
Canora	A.G. Kuziak	P.E. Crotenko
Cutknife	I.C. Nollet	A. Bullock
Cumberland	W.J. Berezowsky	D.D. Campbell
Elrose	O.A. Turnbull	C. Reed
Gravelbourg	L.P. Coderre	L.W. Boe
Hanley	R.A. Walker	A. Casement
Humboldt	M.J. Batten	A. Stangel
Kelsey	J.H. Brockelbank	R. Wilson
Kelvington	C.B. Peterson	R.H. Boyes
Kerrobert-Kindersley	E.A. Johnson	W.H. Chrysler
Kinistino	A. Thibault	E.J. Brunyanski
Last Mountain	R. Brown	W. Hamilton
Lumsden	C.H. Thurston	M.S. Hesla
Maple Creek	A.C. Cameron	J.A. Trew
Meadow Lake	M. Semchuk	G.L. Paproski
Melfort-Tisdale	C.G. Willis	D.J. Vansickle
Melville	J.W. Gardiner	D. Senft
Milestone	J.W. Erb	J. Hubbs
Moose Jaw City	W.G. Davies	L.C. Nelson
	G.T. Snyder	
Moosomin	A.H. McDonald	G. Bettschen
Morse	W.R. Thatcher	N. Beach
Nipawin	R. Perkins	H. Rempel
Notuken-Willowbunch	K.F. Klein	O. Knops
Pelly	J.R. Barrie	A. Klimchuck
Prince Albert	L.F. McIntosh	F. Allen
Qu'Appelle-Wolsley	D.T. McFarlane	D.K. Ramsay
Redberry	D.W. Michayluk	W.T. Lucyk
Regina City	A.E. Blakeney	J. Gebhard
	H.E. Cooper	
	E. Whelan	
	C.C. Williams	
Rosetown	A.L. Stevens	J.M. MacEachern
Rosthern	D. Boldt	A. Thiessen
Saltcoats	J.E. Snedker	V. Rooke
Saskatoon City	A.M. Nicholson	S. Dixon
	A.T. Stone	
	G. Strum	
Shaunavon	A. Kluzak	S. Hanna
Shellbrook	J. Thiessen	V.W. Davies
Souris-Estevan	I.H. MacDougall	C.M. Ching
Swift Current	E.I. Wood	P. Nodge
The Battlefords	E. Kramer	C. Robertson
Touchwood	F. Meakes	F.N. West
Turtleford	R.H. Wooff	A. Rohr
Wadena	F.A. Dewhurst	A. Johnson
Watrous	H.A. Broten	A. Hassan
Weyburn	T.C. Douglas	D.S. Shelton
Wilkie	J.W. Horsman	W.A. Haight
Yorkton	B. Gallagher	C. Pachal

Roy Borrowman, Chief Electoral Officer.

The Chief Electoral Officer also delivered to the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly the following certificate:-

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

REGINA, January 31, 1961.

To: C.B. Koester, Esq.,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan.

This is to certify that I have received the report dated 17 January, 1961, of Chief Justice E.M. Hall of the Court of Queen's Bench for Saskatchewan who, following the trial of the petition of Franklin Edward Foley under the Controverted Elections Act, being Chapter 4 of the Revised Statutes of Saskatchewan 1953, found the respondent, Robert Hanson Wooff, was unduly returned or elected a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan, and declared the election invalid.

Roy Borrowman,
Chief Electoral Officer.

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. Walker, 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 Hon. Mr. Douglas, addressing himself to the

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Clerk, moved seconded by the Hon. Mr. Lloyd, that Everett Irvin Wood, Esquire, Member for the Constituency of Swift Current, do take the Chair of this Assembly as Speaker.

The question being put by the Clerk, it was

Resolved, nemine contradicente, that Everett Irvin Wood, Esquire, do take the Chair of this Assembly as Speaker.

The Clerk having declared Everett Irvin Wood, 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 reentered 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 fulfil the important duties thus assigned to me.

If, in the performance of those duties, I should at any time 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 Hon. Mr. Walker, 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 privilege.

I am commanded also to assure you that the Assembly shall have ready access to His Honour upon all reasonable 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 Fourteenth Legislature of Saskatchewan.

The birth of a second son to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness the Prince Philip was the occasion of general rejoicing everywhere in the Commonwealth.

The Progress of the Canadian economy over the past year has been disappointing. Instead of maintaining a strong recovery from the recession of 1958, the advance of the economy came to an end early in 1960. National production failed to make significant gains, capital investment declined, and unemployment rose to a new post-war peak. In December last, official federal statistics reported that over eight percent of the Canadian labour force was out of work and seeking jobs.

Although somewhat higher than one year ago, unemployment in Saskatchewan remained below the average for the national as a whole. In order to stimulate employment opportunities, My Government has proceeded with the construction of important public projects including the largest highway program in the history of our province. Activity at the Squaw Rapids power site continues at maximum levels. Announcement has been made that construction of the new Saskatchewan Power Corporation Head Office Building and the new Liquor Board Warehouse and Head Office will proceed immediately. My Government

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has consciously followed a policy of scheduling the maximum amount of construction work during winter months in order to maintain employment in industries that are habitually plagued by seasonal fluctuations. All municipalities are being encouraged to take advantage of the assistance available under the Federal-Provincial Winter Works Program. Unemployed persons desiring further training are being urged and assisted to attend vocational training classes. To alleviate the hardships which unemployment has imposed on workers and their families, substantial social aid payments have been made.

The bumper grain crop harvested in 1960 resulted in a sizable increase in the value of agricultural production. The wheat crop averaged almost twenty-two bushels per acre. A record acreage was sown to rapeseed and the yield exceeded four hundred million pounds. More high quality feed was harvested than in any previous year and livestock producers were able to partly restore fodder reserves which were depleted following two years of poor hay crops. Favourable climatic conditions prevented severe grasshopper damage. In spite of increased agricultural production, however, cash income from the sale of farm products declined from the previous year.

My Government will continue to encourage diversification in farming. Emphasis will be given to pasture development in Northern Saskatchewan.

Considerable interest has been shown in the reports issued by the Agricultural Machinery Board on the performance testing of farm machinery. You will be asked to approve funds which will maintain this service to agriculture.

A crop insurance plan was formulated and submitted to the farms of Saskatchewan. In response to petitions more than forty thousand farmers were invited to participate in this plan. You will be asked to approve legislation to amend The Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Act which will extend the final date for receipt of applications for crop insurance in 1961 to the end of this month.

Serfer and water systems were installed on more than seven hundred farms during the first year of the program designed to improve rural living. You will be asked to provide for the installation of modern plumbing systems on an additional one thousand, five hundred farms.

You will be asked to approve legislation to place the administration of ground water resources under The Water Rights Act. Amendments to The Provincial

Lands Act and The Conservation and Development Act will be submitted for your consideration.

Work continued on the development of the multi-purpose South Saskatchewan River Project. Construction of the main dam and reservoir proceeded on schedule. Further engineering and economic studies were undertaken to determine the areas most suitable for irrigation. You will be asked again to provide funds for the provincial share of construction costs during the coming year.

Industrial growth in Saskatchewan continued to maintain an encouraging pace. The value of manufacturing production in 1960 was comparable to 1959. During the year, thirty-two new industries located in the province. The majority of these firms represented new types of industry being established in Saskatchewan and are evidence of the diversification that is taking place. In addition, many firms undertook major expansions. Industrial history was made when steel was first poured by the Interprovincial Steel and Pipe Corporation in the spring of 1960. A large steel fabricating plant and a major paint factory were established in Regina. The munitions firm, Gevelot of Paris, opened a shotgun shell plant in Saskatoon. A factory to manufacture aluminium windows and school furniture and a feed mill to produce more than seventy lines of feed were established in Saskatoon. In Moose Jaw, a steel fabricating firm is now manufacturing steel buildings. In the same city, the largest floral greenhouse between Medicine Hat and the Lakehead has been brought into operation. The range of items manufactured in Saskatchewan expanded to include agricultural implements, snow plows, telephone cable and plastic pipe. My Government welcomes the announcement that Interprovincial Co-operatives Limited intends to establish an agricultural chemical plant in Saskatoon.

Despite adverse national trends in the mining industry, the value of minerals produced in Saskatchewan in 1960 shows an increase over 1959.

Production of potash ceased during the year due to engineering difficulties. Good progress has been made towards the solution of the problem of water seepage and prospects are bright for production of potash from two mines within this year.

More than four thousand, four hundred oil wells produced approximately fifty-three million barrels of oil, exceeding 1959 production by more than eleven percent.

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The Boundary Dam Power Station at Estevan was officially commissioned last year. The facilities of this station together with those of the Queen Elizabeth Power Station at Saskatoon have doubled electrical generating capacity in the province during the last two years. The Saskatchewan Power Corporation now supplies electric power to approximately one hundred and eighty-seven thousand customers. The farm electrification program is now in its final stages. Last year three thousand, five hundred farms were connected. This year electric power will be extended to an additional one thousand, four hundred farms.

My Government proposes to make further assistance available to local governments to assist them to meet rising costs of education and to improve standards. Accordingly, grants for school purposes will be increased.

Twenty-four additional urban centres were served with natural gas in 1960. More than seventy-one thousand homes, business establishments and industries in ninety-three urban centres are now supplied with this fuel. Steps have been taken to assure a long-term supply of natural gas for Saskatchewan consumers. A number of communities will be newly served during the coming year.

Teachers' Scholarship Funds, introduced for the first time last year, are enabling teachers to return to university to complete their training qualifications for the Professional Certificate. In view of the value of this program in improving the quality of secondary education in Saskatchewan, you will again be asked to vote funds for this purpose.

The Student Aid Fund, established in 1949 has during the years of its operation made more than eight thousand loans available to students. The service supplied by such a fund is so significantly in the interests of our youth that provisions for an increase in the capital of the Fund will be requested.

All major construction and equipping of the Saskatchewan Technical Institute at Moose Jaw has been completed and programs of instruction are available for more than one thousand, four hundred students.

Although the enrolment in the vocational training program for the Metis youth in Northern Saskatchewan is relatively small, the progress of the students has been most encouraging. My Government considers it desirable to extend this program in order to provide opportunities for these young men to be better equipped

to take part in the economic progress of the province.

Construction of university buildings to serve the needs of growing student enrolment continues. Last year, two major projects, a new Biology building and a new Arts building, were brought to completion. In the coming year the University plans major building undertakings on the Regina campus.

The Advisory Planning Committee on Medical Care is engaged in an examination of all aspects of an extension of health service benefits for the people of Saskatchewan. The large number of individuals and organizations that have responded to the invitation to submit briefs to this Committee is indicative of the widespread interest there is on the subject of medical care. It is expected that the Committee will present its report within a few months and that it will form the basis on which a prepaid medical care program can be established in 1962.

The Mental Health Act designed to bring the law respecting mentally ill persons into conformity with modern attitudes will be submitted for your consideration.

A decline in anticipated revenues required that certain projects planned for 1960 be postponed including the construction of a Regional Mental Hospital at Yorkton. Work on this hospital will proceed in accordance with the comprehensive policy of improving facilities for the mentally ill as soon as funds are available. A new facility will be available for mentally retarded persons when the Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Prince Albert is closed this summer. A transfer to Prince Albert of a number of patients now provided for will permit the Saskatchewan Training School at Moose Jaw to make greater use of its training facilities and to accommodate a larger number of mentally retarded persons who can respond to its educational programs.

Legislation will be introduced to amend The Social Aid Act to permit municipalities to join together for the administration of social aid. Amendments to The Deserted Wives' and Children's Maintenance Act will be placed before you.

The Government has continued to assist municipal and charitable organizations in the building of housing for senior citizens and homes for those requiring nursing care. At the end of 1960 this program provided accommodation for three thousand, seven hundred senior citizens. Over two hundred units will be available in similar projects presently under construction.

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One hundred and nine subsidized rental housing units are being constructed in the City of Regina through a partnership arrangement between the city and the Federal and Provincial Governments. My Government is anxious that other municipalities take advantage of the assistance available to provide housing accommodation of this kind.

Uncertainty as to whether the Government of Canada will implement the recommendations contained in the report of the Fauteux Commission on Penal Reform has made it difficult to plan the expansion of provincial correctional institutions. Proposals which will improve these facilities will be submitted for your consideration.

The response by the public to the provincial recreational program has been excellent. Improvements and additions to public facilities in provincial parks and additions to public facilities in provincial parks will be proposed. More land is being acquired for camp and picnic sites along the Trans-Canada Highway. Basic planning for a park in the vicinity of the South Saskatchewan River Project, including a tree-planting program, will commence during the year.

Improvements of the standard of the more frequently used forest access roads will be undertaken and tourists will be encouraged to holiday in the northern part of the province.

An abnormally dry summer created serious outbreaks of forest fires. Use of modern suppression techniques, including water bombing, a helicopter and smoke jumpers, assisted materially in reducing losses.

You will be asked to consider legislation which will amend The Provincial Parks and Protected Areas Act, The Forest Act and The Fisheries Act.

Further progress has been made in providing highways to meet the travel demands within our province. Over two thousand, five hundred miles of the provincial highway system are now dust free. The highway bridge at Prince Albert was opened to traffic. A start was made on the construction of the Petrofka Bridge.

The final report of the Continuing Committee on Local Government will be received in the near future. My Government wishes to express its appreciation to the Members of the Committee named by local government organizations for their work on this very important question. The report will undoubtedly be comprehensive and will likely shed light on many facets of the problem.

Before any legislation is introduced, the report will receive the most thorough study and consultations will be held with local government organizations. It is the hope of My Government that all concerned with this important question will co-operate in helping to establish the strongest and most effective form of local government.

There has been continued progress in the building of the grid road system. By the end of 1960, one-half of the twelve thousand mile grid road program was completed. A program for the regraveling of grid roads was commenced.

Nine towns and villages took advantage of the Government's assistance to install water and sewage disposal facilities. You will be asked to approve funds to make assistance available to other communities. A study of ground water resources was advanced. The requirements of the provincial economy for additional water supplies makes it necessary to expand this program.

Demand for local and long-distance telephone service continued to increase. The number of telephones in use increased by over ten thousand. This brings the total number of telephones in use to over one hundred and eighty-three thousand. New dial offices were placed in service in several communities last year. Meadow Lake, Wilkie, Unity, Outlook and Maple Creek are scheduled for conversion to dial operation in 1961.

A program to assist Rural Telephone Companies to replace poles and provide a better standard of maintenance was instituted last year. It will be proposed that this program be enlarged to provide further improvement in rural telephone services.

Contributory pension plans for employees are now very numerous. It is felt desirable to gather information regarding these plans in order to determine if portable contributory pension plans are practical and desirable. Accordingly, you will be asked to consider legislation providing for the registration and reporting of pension plans.

You will be asked to amend and revise The Workmen's Wage Act to provide for the more orderly payment of wages to workmen.

The Co-operative movement in Saskatchewan continues to progress. A co-operative feeder program

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has been supported and aided. Credit unions continued to develop rapidly. You will be asked to consider amendments to The Credit Union Act.

The Co-operative Fisheries Limited and Northern Co-operative Trading Services Limited have shown further strength during the past year. The use of the co-operative technique in Northern Saskatchewan is providing a useful method in furthering community development. At the request of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians, assistance will be given for the establishment of co-operative projects on Indian reserves. More co-operatives for the Metis people will be encouraged.

A unique step in the Provincial borrowing program is being taken this year. The Government plans to make available Saskatchewan Savings Bonds for sale exclusively to the people of this province. The primary purpose of this issue will be to provide an opportunity for the people of Saskatchewan to invest their savings and at the same time participate in the development of their own province. As well, the bond will make a new source of funds available for the financing investment in the Saskatchewan Power Corporation, the Saskatchewan Government Telephones and other activities.

Two Federal-Provincial fiscal conferences have been held since the Legislative Assembly last met. All provinces joined in requesting a fairer portion of the constitutionally shared tax field, in order to carry out their own responsibilities to give increased assistance to local government. At the last conference, the Federal Government proposed that the rate of equalization payments should be frozen and not permitted to increase with the growth of the Canadian economy. Saskatchewan will be represented at a further conference scheduled to take place in the near future. At this conference My Government will continue to urge the extension of the principle of equalizing major tax revenues among the provinces. Only in this way can all Canadian provinces continue to share in the economic and social growth of our nation.

Several questions of importance to Saskatchewan were referred by the Government of Canada to Royal Commissions and committees of inquiry. In its submissions to the Royal Commission on Transportation, My Government advocated a more equitable distribution of the burden of the cost of railway transportation in Canada. The Government's views were directed to the relief of the prairie region from the impact of post-war increases in railway freight rates and to the preservation of the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement rates

on grain and grain products at their present levels and under the control of parliament.

A brief was placed before the Royal Commission of Canada's Automotive Industry, stressing the importance of lower priced motor vehicles to our provincial economy and objecting to artificial restrictions on trade. My Government also urged the maintenance of the freest possible climate for the circulation of ideas and information by the periodical press before the Royal Commission on Publications and recommended public support for worthwhile Canadian journals of opinion. Preparations are underway on submissions to be presented shortly in Ottawa to a special Senate Committee making a study of manpower and employment conditions and to the Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture and Colonization inquiring into the cost of farm machinery in Canada.

During the past year, representatives of the Government of Saskatchewan have met with representatives of other provinces and of the Government of Canada to seek agreement on the best method of enabling Canadians to amend their own constitution. The Government of Saskatchewan has welcomed this effort to declare in law the independence which Canada has already achieved in fact by bringing to this country the formal power of amending her own constitution. Saskatchewan has expressed the view that any amending procedure should provide sufficient flexibility in the constitution to permit this nation to cope with future economic and social problems. It is earnestly hoped that the discussions will be successful in reaching agreement on a method of amendment worthy of the Canadian people.

You will be asked to approve amendments to The Farm Security Act extending the protection given in the case of crop failure and extending the protection given to farmers against a final order for foreclosure of the home quarter.

Legislation will be introduced consolidating and amending the law as to legitimacy by the introduction of The Legitimacy Act.

Amendments to The Court of Appeal Act, The Conditional Sales Act, The Distress Act, The Religious Societies Land Act and The Commercial Agents Act will be submitted.

The Public Accounts for the last fiscal year, together with estimates for the year beginning April 1, 1961 will be submitted.

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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.