



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 46

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Second Session

Twenty-Sixth Legislature

Wednesday, August 30, 2006

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

Speaker's Comment

The Speaker quoted the words of Calgary writer George Koch, from 35 years ago, on August 30, 1971, as found in the book "The Sixties Revolution and the Fall of Social Credit," pages 298 and 299. My changes to the text are the inclusion of the full names of the individuals mentioned.

"Yet even on August 30, election day, most Socreds remained hopeful. The Calgary *Albertan* had endorsed the incumbents, calling their overall record "the convincing argument for their party's re-election on Monday." Even the blatantly pro-Lougheed *Edmonton Journal* still thought the Socreds would win. Peter Lougheed himself compared the election to a Grey Cup kickoff; once the ball was in play, anything could happen - but had booked a vacation to start immediately after the election. For most of the day, Lougheed and his top aides were convinced they had lost. "I don't think we made it," he said glumly around 4:00 p.m. But as final returns trickled in, they began showing the PCs picking off even strong Socred candidates like Don Hamilton, who was running in a very conservative Edmonton riding. David Wood had keyed on Stettler as a bellwether, a constituency with a mix of ranching, farming and petroleum, where the population lived on farms or in small towns and were reasonably prosperous but not rich. It too went Conservative.

One after another the Social Credit bastions fell and at 9:13 p.m. CBC television predicted a Tory majority. The party was elected or leading in 49 ridings, to the Socreds' 25. It was a vastly better result than any PC had dared hope for; the boldest prediction by the wildest optimists had been for a bare majority of 39 seats. By now, Lougheed's spirits had revived, and he changed into a clean shirt and tie. A "nearly hysterical" crowd began to gather outside PC campaign headquarters at Calgary's Westgate Hotel, wrote Alan Hustak, and a carnival atmosphere prevailed as Lougheed arrived to deliver an acceptance speech. Thanking both his supporters, and Social Credit for its "remarkable contribution," he ended up with "This is the best darn province in the world."

The Socred gathering at the Jubilee Auditorium in Edmonton was a funeral scene, as first Edmonton fell to the PCs, then much of Calgary. The party was shut out of the North. Central Alberta split. Only the rural south held, and not overwhelmingly. Eight cabinet ministers were defeated, and only eight of the 38 newcomers elected. "White-faced men bravely tried to look optimistic and women sat crying as they surveyed the wreckage on a large chalkboard," noted John Barr.

Harry Strom, who stayed in his Cypress riding long enough to be sure he had won his own seat, arrived at the Jubilee about 10:00 p.m. He mounted the stage, conceded defeat, congratulated Lougheed on his victory, thanked his party for their work, accepted responsibility for the outcome, and hinted he would soon resign. President Orvis Kennedy presented Strom with a statue of a horse. A planned victory party in Edmonton's west end turned into a brief, sparsely attended wake which soon ended with the host roaming his house putting away unopened bottles."

There are two footnotes. The results: Conservative, 49 seats, 46.40% of the votes; Social Credit, 25 seats, 41.10% of the votes; NDP, 1 seat, 11.42% of the votes; and Liberal, 0 seats, 1.01% of the votes.

Alberta nearly lost Peter Lougheed the night he became Premier. After celebrating his stunning upset in Calgary, Lougheed boarded a corporate jet and flew with his wife, Jeanne, and a few aides to Edmonton to greet supporters there. The plane was met on the tarmac by a boisterous crowd of 300 that had to be parted by a flying wedge of Lougheed aides. On the return flight the weather turned foul. The pilot had to try twice to land, the second time successfully, then noticed he had passed the control tower on the wrong side and nearly ploughed into the ground!

Members' Statements

Dr. Brown, Hon. Member for Calgary-Nose Hill, made a statement regarding the Beddington Heights Community Association in Calgary.

Mr. Johnson, Hon. Member for Wetaskiwin-Camrose, made a statement recognizing Wetaskiwin's centennial celebrations commencing with the rededication of Wetaskiwin's peace cairn.

Dr. Swann, Hon. Member for Calgary-Mountain View, made a statement regarding Alberta's social welfare policies.

Mr. Danyluk, Hon. Member for Lac La Biche-St. Paul, made a statement regarding the 20th annual Special Olympics softball tournament held on August 26-27, 2006, in St. Paul.

Ms DeLong, Hon. Member for Calgary-Bow, made a statement regarding GlobalFest 2006, a festival and fireworks competition held from August 18-26, 2006, in Calgary.

Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, made a statement regarding the process used to determine resource royalties.

Presenting Petitions

Mr. Martin, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview, presented a petition from 335 Albertans urging the Government to include complex decongestive therapy in the list of accepted therapeutic procedures covered by Alberta Health Care.

Introduction of Bills (First Reading)

Notice having been given:

Bill 214 Public Service Disclosure of Wrongdoing Act — Mr. Shariff

Tabling Returns and Reports

Hon. Mr. VanderBurg, Minister of Government Services:

Alberta Vital Statistics, Annual Review 2005

Sessional Paper 711/2006

Hon. Mr. VanderBurg, Acting Minister of Innovation and Science, pursuant to the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Science and Engineering Research Act, cA-22, s22:

Alberta Ingenuity Fund, 05/06 Annual Report

Sessional Paper 712/2006

Hon. Mr. Melchin, Minister of Energy:

Report dated August 2006 entitled "Alberta's Integrated Energy Vision" prepared by Alberta Energy

Sessional Paper 713/2006

Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar:

Letter dated July 12, 2006, from Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, to Hon. Mr. Melchin, Minister of Energy, requesting information regarding the Natural Gas Royalty Regulation, 2002

Sessional Paper 714/2006

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, on behalf of Dr. Taft, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition:

Letter dated August 14, 2006, from Miloslav B. Bozdech, M.D., President, Peace Country Health Regional Medical Organization, to Hon. Mr. Graydon, Minister of Gaming, Hon. Ms Calahasen, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development, Mr. Goudreau, Hon. Member for Dunvegan-Central Peace, Mr. Knight, Hon. Member for Grande Prairie-Smoky, and Mr. Oberle, Hon. Member for Peace River, expressing concern regarding a lack of physicians in northwestern Alberta and urging the Legislative Assembly to remedy this situation

Sessional Paper 715/2006

Mr. Martin, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview:

Canadian Institute for Health Information website chart entitled "Table 2: Average Length of Inpatient Hospital Stay (in Days) for Canada (Provinces and Territories), 1995-1996, 2003-2004, and 2004-2005"

Sessional Paper 716/2006

Open letter dated August 28, 2006, from the Alberta Association for Community Living to all Members of the Legislative Assembly requesting an increase in funding for persons with developmental disabilities

Sessional Paper 717/2006

Mr. Miller, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Rutherford:

E-mail message dated August 15, 2006, from Maureen Slater of Edmonton to Mr. Miller, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Rutherford, expressing concern regarding increasing rental rates

Sessional Paper 718/2006

E-mail message dated August 17, 2006, from Stephanie Ibach of Edmonton to The Right Honourable Stephen Harper, Prime Minister, James Rajotte, Member of Parliament for Edmonton-Leduc, Mr. Miller, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Rutherford, and Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, requesting federal and provincial tax laws be amended to allow post-secondary students to transfer all tuition credits to their parents or other eligible persons

Sessional Paper 719/2006

Hon. Mr. Melchin, Minister of Energy, on behalf of Hon. Mr. Boutilier, Minister of Environment:

Pamphlet entitled "Approved Water Management Plan for the South Saskatchewan River Basin - Highlights" prepared by Alberta Environment
Sessional Paper 720/2006

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills and Orders

Committee of the Whole

According to Order, the Assembly resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, and the Speaker left the Chair.

(Assembly in Committee)

Adjournment

Pursuant to Standing Order 4(4), at 5:30 p.m. the Committee recessed until 8:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2006 — 8:00 P.M.

(Assembly in Committee)

The following Bill was taken under consideration:

Bill 44 Appropriation (Supplementary Supply) Act, 2006 (No. 2) (\$) — Hon. Mrs. McClellan

Pursuant to Standing Order 64(4), at 10:45 p.m. the Chair interrupted the proceedings and immediately put the question on the Appropriation Bill standing on the Order Paper referred to Committee of the Whole.

The Acting Speaker assumed the Chair.

The following Bill was reported:

Bill 44 Appropriation (Supplementary Supply) Act, 2006 (No. 2) (\$) — Hon. Mrs. McClellan

Mr. Johnson, Acting Chair of Committees, tabled copies of an amendment considered by Committee of the Whole on this date for the official records of the Assembly.

Amendment to Bill 44 (Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition) — Defeated
Sessional Paper 721/2006

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 10:47 p.m. until Thursday, August 31, 2006, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski,
Speaker

Title: Wednesday, August 30, 2006