

# The Pukon Legislative Assembly

Number 24

4th Session

24th Legislature

# **HANSARD**

Monday, December 14, 1981 — 1:30 p.m.

Speaker: The Honourable Donald Taylor

## **Yukon Legislative Assembly**

SPEAKER — Honourable Donald Taylor, MLA, Watson Lake DEPUTY SPEAKER — Grafton Njootli, MLA, Old Crow

#### **CABINET MINISTERS**

NAME Hon. Chris Pearson CONSTITUENCY Whitehorse Riverdale North PORTFOLIO

Government House Leader — responsible for Executive Council Office, Public Service Commission, Land Claims

and Intergovernmental Relations.

Hon. Dan Lang

Whitehorse Porter Creek East

Minister responsible for Renewable Resources, Tourism

and Economic Development.

Hon. Geoffrey Lattin

Whitehorse North Centre

Minister responsible for Municipal and Community Affairs, Highways

and Public Works, Yukon Housing Corporation

and Yukon Liquor Corporation.

Hon. Meg McCall

Klondike

Minister responsible for Health and Human Resources,

Education and Information Services.

Hon. Howard Tracey

Tatchun

Minister responsible for Justice, Consumer and Corporate Affairs, Government Services and Workers' Compensation Board.

#### **Government Members**

#### (Progressive Conservative)

Al Falle

Hootalinqua

Robert Fleming

Campbell

Doug Graham

Whitehorse Porter Creek West

Peter Hanson

Mayo Old Crow

Grafton Njootli Donald Taylor

Watson Lake

#### **Opposition Members**

#### (New Democratic Party)

Tony Penikett

Whitehorse West

Maurice Byblow

Faro

Roger Kimmerly

Whitehorse South Centre

(Liberai)

Ron Veale

Whitehorse Riverdale South

Alice P. McGuire

Kluane

Clerk of Assembly

Clerk Assistant (Legislative) Clerk Assistane (Administrative)

Sergeant-at-Arms

Patrick L. Michael

Missy Follwell Jane Steele

G.I. Cameron

Dave Robertson

**ERRATA** 

Hansard Administrator

Page 285, left column, line 27: speaker should read, "Mr.

Penikett;"
Page 285, left column, line 38: speaker should read, "Mr.

Penikett;"
Page 287, right column, line 46: speaker should read, "Mr.

Penniket;"
Page 288, right column, line 66: speaker should read, "Mr. Penikett;"

Page 288, left column, line 4: speaker should read, "Mr. Penikett."

#### Whitehorse, Yukon

Monday, December 14, 1981

Mr. Speaker: I will now call the House to order. We will proceed at this time with Prayers.

Prayers

#### **INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS**

**Mr. Njootli:** I would like to take this time to welcome some constituents of mine to the House today. They are seated in the Public Gallery.

**Applause** 

Mr. Speaker: Are there any Returns or Documents for Tabling?

#### **TABLING OF RETURNS**

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I have for tabling today the answer to a written question from the Honourable Member for Kluane.

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** I have for tabling a report, entitled "Report on Regulations".

Mr. Speaker: Are there any Reports of Standing or Special Committees?

Mr. Hanson: I have for tabling the Second Report of the Standing Committee on Statutory Instruments.

Mr. Speaker: Are there any further Reports of Committees?

Mr. Hanson: I also have for tabling the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Statutory Instruments.

Mr. Speaker: Are there any further Reports of Committees?

Mr. Hanson: Following Second Reading of Bill Number 75, Wildlife Ordinance, a Motion was passed, referring the Bill to the Select Committee established by the Assembly. The Motion directed that the Committee submit its report to the Legislature, not later than December 14, 1981. The Committee has not found it possible to complete its deliberations on the Wildlife Ordinance at this time. It has, however, made substantial progress and recommends that a further 48 hours be granted to the Committee for the preparation of this report.

Mr. Speaker: Are there any further Reports of Committees?

Are there any Petitions? Introduction of Bills?

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

#### **Bill Number 81: First Reading**

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Mayo, that Bill Number 81, An Ordinance to Amend the Landlord and Tenant Ordinance, be now read a first time.

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the Honourable Minister of Justice, seconded by the Honourable Member for Mayo, that a Bill, entitled An Ordinance to Amend the Landlord and Tenant Ordinance, be introduced and read a first time.

Motion agreed to

#### Bill Number 83: First Reading

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Mayo, that Bill Number 83, An Ordinance to Amend the Judicature Ordinance, be now read a first time.

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the Honourable Minister of Justice, seconded by the Honourable Member for Mayo, that a Bill, entitled An Ordinance to Amend the Judicature Ordinance, be now introduced and read a first time.

Motion agreed to

Mr. Speaker: Are there any further Bills for Introduction?
Mr. Speaker: Are there any Notices of Motion for the Production of Papers?

Notices of Motion?

#### **NOTICES OF MOTION**

Mr. Hanson: I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Whitehorse South Centre, that the Interim Report of the Select Committee on the Wildlife Ordinance be concurred in.

Are there any further Notices of Motion?

Mr. Graham: I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Riverdale South, that the membership of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts be revised, by rescinding the appointment of Mr. Byblow, and by appointing Mrs. McGuire to the said Committee.

Are there any further Notices of Motion? Are there any Statements by Ministers?

#### STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

Hon. Mr. Tracey: I have the pleasure today to announce the appointment of a new Territorial court judge for Yukon. Mr. Geoffrey L. Bladon, of London, Ontario, will assume his new posting on March 15, 1982.

He fills the vacancy created when the Honourable Member for Whitehorse South Centre resigned to pursue a career in private law practice and also to join us in the House.

Mr. Bladon was selected from a number of applicants from across the country and was highly recommended by the Search Committee commissioned by this Government.

I do not wish to slight the other five candidates interviewed by the committee, because those candidates were also well qualified for consideration. Mr. Bladon's credentials are quite impressive and I am sure all Members will understand why we eventually selected this candidate for such an important post.

Mr. Bladen is 41 years of age and graduated from the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1962. He obtained a Bachelor of Laws degree from Queen's University, Kingston, in 1965, and was called to the Bar of Ontario in 1967.

Mr. Bladon has been a partner in the London, Ontario, law firm of Giffen, Pensa since 1970; his practice has been devoted exclusively to criminal and civil litigation, with an emphasis on the latter. He has had the opportunity to appear at all court levels throughout Ontario, including the Supreme Court of Canada and various administrative tribunals. He has been a Member of the London Legal Aid Area Committee for the past ten years, and is a Member of the Advocate's Society.

Mr. Bladon is an instructor in the Civil Procedure Section of the Ontario Bar Admission Course in London, and teaches trial process at the University of Western Ontario Law School. He has also on a number of occasions lectured on behalf of the Law Society of Upper Canada to fellow practitioners, with respect to recent developments in the law.

Mr. Byblow: In response to the Minister's announcement, I would first like to make note of the historical occasion of this knowledge in the Legislature, in that, after three years of back bench silence, I am now afforded front bench oratorial opportunity by being permitted to reply to a Minister's statement.

On the subject of the Minister's announcement, I believe it is fair to commend the Government for finally making a decision, though I do find it somewhat difficult to understand why it would take over a year to recruit a candidate, since it is at least that long since the ministry was aware of the need.

Since we have had to wait for over a year for an appointment to this position, I would remark that the appointment is appreciated by the people involved in the criminal justice system as well as by the people of Yukon as a whole. I understand that court dockets are backed up as much as three to four months, and certainly this inconvenience will be alleviated by a permanent appointment.

In view of the requirements for the post — particularly the need for criminal experience, experience with northern conditions, and northern circuit work — it is unfortunate that the candidate does not have vast experience in this area; however, we are certainly pleased to see the experience in the legal aid

It would be noteworthy to remark on the coincidence of the appointment with decisions by the Minister to adopt at least two of the recommendations of the Deschenes Report. One of these recommendations directly affects this appointment, in that the previous standard probationary period will no longer apply.

I would also note to the Minister to take heed of another of the recommendations of the Report, whereby the power to appoint judges to specific cases and to circuits be granted to the chief judge, namely the chief Judge of the Territorial Court. Therefore, in the spirit of that Report and of the law, the independence of the judiciary must be preserved and protected: political interference must not even seem to take place.

Having said that, I have one small regret: that no Yukoner was seen fit to be appointed.

I sincerely hope that the day will come when Yukon judges are appointed from within the ranks of the Yukon's legal profession.

In conclusion, I would extend a warm welcome to Mr. Bladon, and would express optimism about the judicial development in Yukon.

Mr. Veale: I wonder if the Minister would enlighten us as to the terms of tenure for the new appointment?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am afraid that the Honourable Member has one more time to speak. Does the Honourable Member for Whitehorse Riverdale South wish to speak further on this subject?

Mr. Veale: No.

**Hom. Mr. Tracey:** I am happy that the Members opposite are in concurrence with our decision to appoint Mr. Bladon. As for his tenure, he is welcome here as long as he wants to stay. There is no restriction on his tenure at all. He is not on probation; he will be appointed, and until he is either removed for cause or until he retires or decides to move on, he will have this position.

Mr. Speaker: Are there any further Statements by Ministers?

This then brings us to the Question Period. Are there any questions?

#### **QUESTION PERIOD**

### Question re: Long range planning studies on energy in Yukon

Mr. Penikett: I have a question for the Government Leader. The Government Leader has referred in the House, on at least two occasions, to long-range planning studies being prepared on the energy situation in Yukon. He first referred to this in his initial speech of this sitting; then later, in response to a question, said that he was not certain whether he was free to table this information in the House, but that he would take that particular question under advisement.

I would like to ask the Government Leader whether he has made a decision, and if he can now make that information available to the House.

Hon. Mr. Lang: That responsibility falls within the portfolio of the Department of Tourism and Economic Development. We are seeking concurrence from the two other Federal departments involved, both in initiating that study and in the cost-sharing of it. Once we get that concurrence, it would be our intention to table it in this House.

Our position is that it should be made public, but at the same time we do have a certain responsibility to those other departments involved. I would like to think the information could be tabled some time this week.

Mr. Penikett: I thank the Minister for his answer.

When the information is tabled, I wonder if the Minister or the Government Leader will be prepared to advise the House as to whether they had any reason to question the major assertion mentioned by the Government Leader, in his address concerning the dramatic increase in the energy costs as a share of the territorial Gross National Product. In other words, have they had a chance to assess and review those figures: to offer

any judgement, as a matter of Government policy, as to their reliability?

Hon. Mr. Lang: Once that is tabled, I am sure that we will get some time to debate it; it would even go so far as to be an item of discussion in the forthcoming Spring Budget.

I think that it is fair to say that the report that the Member is referring to does paint a very dim future, as far as energy costs are concerned. We have a responsibility to attempt to resolve that particular problem and we will be debating it at a later time.

Mr. Penikett: I put this question to either Minister.

The Government Leader has also said that coal was being looked at as a possible energy alternative. I understand that Cyprus Anvil has been investigating the development of the coal deposit near Carmacks. Can the Government Leader or the Minister responsible for energy advise the House as to the status of that investigation?

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** I do not have any information on hand concerning the exact status of that. It is definitely an option that is going to be considered over the forthcoming years.

#### Question re: Worlds of Alaska and Canada's Yukon

Mr. Veale: I have a question for the Minister of Tourism regarding a publication entitled "Worlds of Alaska and Canada's Yukon". I am sure that the Minister is familiar with the publication.

Could the Minister indicate the cost of the Yukon portion of that publication, and whether or not it was prepared by the Department of Tourism or by the Yukon Visitors Association?

Hon. Mr. Lang: I am going on memory, but I believe in the past year the cost to this Government was approximately \$150,000, and the Government of the Northwest Territories put forward \$20,000, to jointly advertise through this particular medium.

I should point out, from discussions with the Yukon Visitors Association and the Department of Tourism, that it has been very successful in utilizing that amount of money, for the purpose of marketing, to attempt to encourage people to come to both Alaska and Yukon.

The philosophy behind it is very clear. Alaska has a market; we have a market to offer. We jointly cost-shared, and it would appear to me that it would be to the Territory's benefit.

The work done on the actual publication was done primarily through the Department of Tourism. I do not know how much the Yukon Visitors Association was involved. I could check for the Member opposite.

Mr. Veale: Can the Minister advise as to why there are so few advertisements by private businesses in the publication? There does not seem to be more than half a dozen. My first thought was that perhaps it was being limited to members of the Yukon Visitors Association, but, if it has been done by Government, why are there so few private advertisements?

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** I wish the Member would give me notice on questions of this kind, so that I could be more up to date and better able to answer.

I am going on memory now, that the YVA was jointly involved in the decision on going into "Worlds of Alaska and Canada's Yukon". They attended a meeting with me down in Juneau, when we went down there approximately a year ago to explore the possibilities. We came to the conclusion that it would be in the best interest of the tourism industry, both for businesses and for people employed in the tourism industry and for Government, to jointly go between the Alaska Visitors Association and the State of Alaska. The Yukon Visitors Association was that vehicle.

With respect to actual names of businesses in that publication, it is my understanding that they have to pay so many dollars to be included therein for the purpose of having their businesses advertised. I should point out that the same applies to those businesses within the State of Alaska.

Following that through, it would appear to be a relatively new program, and the more people become involved with it, the more they will discover the importance of this marketing tool and individual benefits of advertising in it. Once they go through that medium and advertise their business, they have a direct access to a computer print-out of those people who have indicated their interest in coming to the Yukon and Alaska—what they are looking for, and various other things. This will provide them with the information to be able to follow up on that bracket of people who are interested in coming.

I should add that the people who subscribe to "Worlds of Alaska and Canada's Yukon" are very well off. The business will be able to apply for that information, go forward with it, and follow up directly with the customer, in attempting to sell the product they have to offer.

I would say to you that it is to everybody's advantage if those businesses take that opportunity to get access to that information. It is there and it is available, and all they have to do is participate. I am sure that within the next couple of years you will see more and more businesses advertising through that medium and following up. It will be good for the businessmen, and in turn good for Yukon.

Mr. Veale: I acknowledge the advantages of the program and my question to the Minister is this: were all businesses in Yukon involved in tourism or outfitting or hiking and backpacking or river trekking advised of the fact that this publication was coming out and advised that they could have advertising space in it?

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** I am going on memory once again, but it is my understanding that the Yukon Visitors Association has done everything they possibly can to communicate with their members, and those people who are not members, as well, and has tried to encourage them to join the Yukon Visitors Association.

We, also, do what we can to advise those people in businesses that would benefit from this. It is going to be an ongoing program with the Government and the Yukon Visitors Association, to encourage these people to become involved in this marketing tool.

I am sure the Member opposite would more than agree with me that it was a wise decision of this Government and of the Yukon Visitors Association to go into a marketing program of this kind.

Question re: Negotiations for a new Tourism Agreement Mr. Byblow: I have a question for the same Minister on the subject of his trip to Ottawa last week.

Very specifically, can the Minister advise whether or not any negotiation has taken place towards a new Tourism Agreement; or, at least, whether an extension of the present \$6,000,000 program was reached?

Hon. Mr. Lang: I would just like to assure the Member opposite that it was a very tiring trip I undertook last week. I had a number of discussions with various departments and Ministers, as well as co-chairing the Tourism Conference for Canada, which was one of my major responsibilities while I was away.

It would be my intention to give a full briefing to the House in a Ministerial Statement tomorrow morning. I am sure the Member opposite will probably give me the necessary accolades, once he has had an opportunity to read it.

Mr. Byblow: Can the Minister then, at this time, advise whether or not his Department is planning a more aggressive tourism policy, in light of the falling-off of tourists visiting the Territory, and of the revenue, which is not even meeting the inflation increase?

Hon. Mr. Lang: I think that the Member opposite is misinformed. We did have a very good year, as far as tourism is concerned.

I am sure the Member opposite would agree that when this Government went into office one of our major platforms was that we would make tourism a major priority. We have done that. We have been successful. I will be outlining to the House some achievements which were, I believe, in the best interests of the Territory, and which were agreed to while we were in Ottawa.

Mr. Byblow: I will certainly be looking forward to the Ministerial address tomorrow.

It is my understanding that often Government policy, especially in the area of expenditure priorities, does not always coincide with the marketing plans of the Yukon Visitors Association. In light of this, could I ask the Minister whether he is planning any closer tourism planning process between his Department and the Yukon Visitors Association?

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** There the Member goes again. I do not know where he gets his information. I would appreciate it if he would check with me first.

This Government has made it very clear that it is the policy of this Government to work very closely with the Yukon Visitors Association, since this side of the House believes in the private sector.

Following that through, there has been a lot of consultation over the course of the last two years. We have been growing, as far as the tourism industry is concerned; we have been working closely together.

Yes, there is going to be a closer working relationship with the Yukon Visitors Association: a number of options are being looked at and it is going to be discussed with my colleagues at a later date.

### Question re: Drop-out of 56 students from F.H. Collins in a three-month period

Mrs. McGuire: I have a question for the Minister of Education.

It has been brought to my attention by cultural and educational groups that, during a period of three school months of this year, a total of 56 students have dropped out of F.H. Collins School, for undetermined reasons. My question is whether the Minister is aware of this fact.

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** I was not aware of the exact number. We are certainly aware that the dropping out of students is a large problem in Yukon.

Mrs. McGuire: If one were to use the figure of 56 as an average during a three month period of this particular school, one could very easily say that we can expect a total of 186 students to drop out during the school year.

With these alarming figures in mind, will the Minister immediately start an investigation into the matter, as well as doing an evaluation of this school?

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** You cannot say that a rate of 56 students dropping out in the first half of the year will necessarily be comparable for the rest of the year. At different times of the year there are different numbers. The early part of the year is when you have the most students drop out: before Christmas, not in the last part of the year.

It certainly is a problem that we are constantly looking at and something that concerns us very much in the Department of Education. It is something that is constantly under study.

Mrs. McGuire: Will the Minister see that annual school reports contain such information as individual school drop out rates, and identify them as rural or urban students? It appears that this valuable information has been left out in previous reports, and therefore the public is unaware of what is taking place in the schools.

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** Not all the information can be included in these reports. The information is there for the public to read if they so wish.

# Question re: Effects of Cyprus Anvil expansion on sheep migration routes

Mr. Kimmerly: I have a question for the Minister of Renewable Resources.

I understand that the Wildlife Branch has prepared a report on the expansion of Cyprus Anvil, and the effect of that expansion on sheep migration routes. Is the Minister aware of the report, and is it the Minister's intention to table it in the House?

Hon. Mr. Lang: The Member opposite seems sometimes to have more information than what I am provided with. I am sure he would be more than happy to inform both myself and the public as to what his source of information is. Perhaps he'

might want to do that in the House, or perhaps outside the Chambers, because I would definitely be interested in finding out where he is getting his information.

It is no secret that there is a joint study cost-shared between Cyprus Anvil and the Government. I am sure that the Member for Faro knows that as well as I. My understanding is that it is under way. Perhaps it is completed; I will have to check with the Department — or perhaps the Member opposite will verify whether or not it has been completed.

Mr. Kimmerly: In answer to the Minister's question, it is my information that the Wildlife Branch has already proposed some changes which would alleviate the situation.

My supplementary question is this: is the Government agreed on what course should be taken about this problem?

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** I am tired of the Member opposite going around saying, "I have this information that is available." He is not even prepared to let the public know where he is getting the information.

I have indicated to him that it is under way. Once something comes up for my consideration, due consideration will be given to any recommendations that are brought forward. I am sure, and I am sure the Member opposite will agree, that once I have reviewed it, the proper decision will be made respecting the various recommendations put forward.

To be quite honest, I get tired of the Member opposite appearing to watch my every move, whether it be my private life or my responsibility as a Government Member. If the Member wants to play that way, I will have somebody follow him around, as well.

**Mr. Kimmerly:** Is there a Government policy on the question of mining interference with sheep migration routes? Does a policy exist?

Hon. Mr. Lang: The Member opposite obviously does not know anything about wildlife. First of all, you have to have a look at an area that is going to be developed, assess it, and see whether it is going to have any major impact upon a species of animal; if it is, whether you can mitigate it. Then we have to look at what steps can be taken to attempt to mitigate any adverse effects it may have on a species of animal, such as the Member's reference to the sheep in the Cyprus Anvil area.

I am sure that it will be given due consideration. As far as I am concerned, each situation is unique and is going to have to be considered in that way. It would be very difficult for me to say, carte blanche, that this is the policy, with respect to adverse effects upon a species of animal, when various areas of the Territory are so different.

Once the Member opposite becomes more informed, I am sure that he will agree with me.

### Question re: New leases for extraction of gravel from pits off South Access Road

Mr. Penikett: I have a question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Early in the life of this Government, new agreements were sought by this City and the Territory for the extraction of gravel from the pits off the South Access Road.

Mr. Penikett: I would like to ask the Minister if he could advise the House whether new leases for this purpose have been signed with the operators there, and whether the Territory collects a royalty from this resource, as was the original stated intention of the Department?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: Yes, we have signed agreements with these people concerning the South Access gravel pit.

Mr. Penikett: I thank the Minister for the half of my question that he answered. I would be curious about the question of royalties. I think it would have been an eventful day for us, to have collected a royalty on a non-renewable resource, but perhaps this has happened.

I would like to ask the Minister: what is the approximate term of the leases in question, and also, according to Government policy, who exactly is responsible for reclaiming this land when the leases come to an end?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: We estimate the life of the material there

and the length of time it would take to recover it to be approximately 10 years, plus.

What we have done is to take 10 years as the lease period, and the provision was made that we can realign the leases amongst the people so that they will all be out of that area at the same time. Once there is no material left to excavate, we can go ahead and use that area for other purposes. It will be the responsibility of the people holding the leases to clean up the pits, and to leave them in what we consider to be an acceptable manner, so that the area can be converted to other uses.

Mr. Penikett: I am still hoping the Minister will answer my question about the royalty on this resource.

I would like to ask him, as a final supplementary, if, under the existing arrangements, the companies extracting this resource pay some charge to offset the cost of restoring the site—the Minister knows that this was once an important recreational area for the City—or is it part of the lease that these companies must simply reclaim the land to some standards set by the Department?

**Hon. Mr. Lattin:** It is my understanding that it is part of their reponsibility to leave the pits in a condition that is acceptable to us, when they turn it over to us. If I remember correctly, that is part of the agreement with these people.

## Question re: Compensation to persons injured by uninsured negligent owners of vehicles

Mr. Veale: I have a question for the Minister of Justice.

Last spring, this Assembly adopted a resolution, which wa

Last spring, this Assembly adopted a resolution, which was actually amended by the Minister, urging the Government to consider the introduction of legislation to establish a system of compensation, for persons injured by negligent owners of vehicles without insurance. Would the Minister advise if he has completed the study of the best approach to establish this unsatisfied judgement fund?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** I cannot answer the Member across the floor. If he had given me notice on it, I might have been able to check it out.

I can tell the Member that all the insurance companies in Yukon are adding a clause to their insurance policies to make sure that everyone is covered. If the person who runs into you does not have enough liability insurance, your insurance company will automatically pick up the difference, on any claim.

**Mr. Veale:** Well, is it the Minister's intention that this requirement be legislated as part of the *Insurance Ordinance*, so that every company will have to do it?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** If the companies are already doing it, I do not see any need for us to legislate them doing it. They are doing it on their own.

Mr. Veale: My question is whether it is going to be a universal requirement of all insurance companies, or whether the Government is going to bring in a scheme to protect people who have insurance companies which do not have that provision?

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** I will have to go back to my Department and find out just where the investigation is. Right now I would say that all the insurance companies in Yukon, to the best of my knowledge, have this clause in there. It costs each person who has insurance four dollars to have it in there. As long as the insurance companies are doing it without legislation, I do not see any need for legislation.

# Question re: Disparity in high prices of petroleum products between Yukon and the rest of Canada

**Mr. Byblow:** I have a question for the Minister of Economic Development.

In addition to discussion of tourism matters that he has committed himself to reporting on tomorrow, I understand that the Minister, when he was in Ottawa last week, also dealt with energy issues. On that subject, I would like to ask the Minister if he can advise whether any proposals were put forth, or programs accepted, to eliminate the disparity in the high prices of petroleum products between Yukon and the rest of Canada

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** That will be part of the Ministerial Statement tomorrow.

Mr. Byblow: Can the Minister indicate, at this time, whether there is a more equitable pricing formula on the books?

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** I think it is fair to say that nothing is equitable when you live approximately 2,000 to 2,500 miles away from one of the major southern centres. I think there is a number of steps that can be taken to alleviate the situation, at least to a degree. I will be reporting on that in the House tomorrow.

Mr. Byblow: I will be awaiting the Ministerial address tomorrow, then, on those matters.

I would like to ask the Minister if he has reached any commitment from the Federal Government, towards continuation of the present Federal Power Support Programs which expire next March?

Hon. Mr. Lang: I did bring that program to the attention of the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and he recognizes the seriousness of it. It has been extended to March 1, 1982, and we have reinforced the responsibility that the Government of Canada has — at least at this time — with respect to that matter. The Minister recognizes the seriousness of it, and though he was not prepared to make a commitment, he is going to seriously have a look at it over the course of the next few months.

### Question re: Resource Corps Program for employable persons on Social Assistance

Mr. Kimmerly: I have a question for the Minister reponsible for social services and the Social Assistance plan.

Earlier in the Session, when asked about job training and job creation programs for employable Yukoners on Social Assistance, the Minister cited the Resource Corps Program, and called it very successful. There were 963 employable people on Social Assistance in 1980-81, and only 48 enrolled in the Corps. On what basis is the Minister's evaluation made?

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** Again, I am not sure where the Honourable Member opposite is getting his figures. The employable people are not necessarily employable in the sort of jobs that the Resource Corps offers. The program is very successful.

Mr. Kimmerly: Those enrolled in the Resource Corps during 1980-81 received less than three months' training and were employed in building campground shelters, garages, and a swimming pool. This is commendable, but it is not the type of training that will lead to full time permanent jobs. Is the Minister planning to expand on the training to include employment in more lucrative and permanent areas?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: The nature of the program is that whatever work involved in the project is the work that the people employed on that project learn. Another sort of project would involve other different skills and they would learn those skills. It just depends on the project that happens to be going at the moment.

Mr. Kimmerly: The Minister's answers lead one to look at the Vocational School programs. What financial assistance does the Department currently offer the unemployed and low income earners, who cannot independently return to Vocational School?

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** Every individual's needs are assessed separately. I could provide the Member with more information if he would like to have further information.

### Question re: Monitors riding school buses to maintain discipline and ensure safety

Mr. Penikett: I have a question for the Minister of Education.

In view of the recently-aired complaints from my constituency concerning discipline and safety on school buses, I would like to ask the Minister whether she or her officials have had the opportunity of examining the possibility of having monitors ride the school buses with the children, as was once the case in this town.

Hon. Mrs. McCall: Yes, we have looked at the monitor situation very closely.

Mr. Penikett: Since the Minister has looked at it closely, we

look forward to hearing her report on the examination of this question.

Given that a school bus driver cannot safely discipline children while driving a vehicle, and given the recent complaints about big kids making life unpleasant for little ones on the buses, has the Minister considered, in connection with this examination of the monitors, inviting teachers who may live on the bus routes to travel to school with the kids, as a disciplinary and safety measure?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: The question of monitors has not necessarily involved teachers, but it has involved parents.

Mr. Penikett: The Minister has not yet indicated to the House what conclusions she has reached on the subject. Let me ask her specifically if she is planning to amend the insurance coverage on school buses, to permit either a nominated parent or teacher to ride on the school bus as a monitor?

**Hom. Mrs. McCall:** Conclusions have not been reached on that subject.

Question re: Status of Social Service Inventory Report
Mrs. McGuire: I have a question for the Minister of Health
and Human Resources.

On March 31st, 1980, a Social Service Inventory Report was prepared and released by the Economic Research and Planning Unit of the Tourism Department, giving descriptions and evaluations of the social service programs of YTG. Will the Minister tell us if this is an ongoing report each year?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: It would be brought up to date each year.

Mrs. McGuire: Contained in the 1980 report are recommendations that YTG provide specific financial information on social programs in annual budgets; that YTG identifies statutory basis on all programs; that YTG carry out yearly evaluations on all social programs.

Will the Minister advise this House if these recommendations were acted on, and if not, why not?

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** Our social service programs are constantly being evaluated. When it is found that a social service program is not effective any longer, then that program is deleted from the social service spectrum altogether.

### Question re: YTG assistance re: repair of Watson Lake arena

**Mr. Veale:** I have a question for the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs.

My question is in regard to the Watson Lake arena. It has been reported by the Watson Lake L.I.D. that the company that built the arena has not been very co-operative in advising or indicating how the arena should be repaired. What assistance will the Minister be providing to the community to ensure that the arena will be repaired?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: I have not seen the report yet. We have our Department going down tomorrow to look at the situation and, when they we get back, I will certainly be able to give the House more information on what necessary corrections have to be made and what the financial implications will be.

Mr. Veale: I take it, then, that the Minister will be doing an independent assessment, based on the information received from that company, and then indicating whether or not the company or the Government will be doing the repairs. Is that correct?

Hon. Mr. Lattin: At this time, it is very difficult for me to comment on something that I have not seen. It is pretty hard for me to comment on what my officials in the Department will come back and say what should be or should not be done.

So, until I get all the information, I am unable to say exactly which way we would go.

Mr. Veale: I take it, then, from the remarks of the Minister, that if it is required that the Government initiate the repairs, those repairs will be initiated by this Government on behalf of that community.

Hon. Mr. Lattin: When we find out where we are going, I will address that question.

Question re: Shortage of substitute teachers

Mr. Byblow: I have a question that I will direct to the Minister of Education.

I understand that children were sent home from school in at least one Yukon community recently because of a shortage of substitute teachers. Is the Minister aware of whether this is a standard occurrence in Yukon schools?

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** I think I could safely say that that is a very unusual happening.

**Mr. Byblow:** Can the Minister then advise me what Department policy is, with respect to what happens to students when there are no substitute teachers?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: The question of substitute teachers is a subject we are studying at the moment. Substitute teachers are not always easy to find, especially in the small communities, and it is a subject that has to be dealt with on an individual basis with each school.

Mr. Byblow: I appreciate that the subject has to be dealt with, but the Minister did not answer what Department policy is when they are not available. So, in light of her answer that she is studying the problem, I would like to ask her when she intends to examine the pay rates of substitute teachers, in order to encourage more of them to apply for those positions?

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** I see. The question is really the pay rates of substitute teachers. That is a question that is under study at the moment.

#### Question re: Progress on health transfer

Mr. Kimmerly: I have a question to the same Minister in her capacity as Minister of Health.

In the most recent Throne Speech, the Government said, "My Government is committed to the principle that we must achieve a greater control over matters which directly affect Yukoners. To this end we plan to continue our efforts to see the health transfer completed this year." Can the Minister report to us now what progress has been made in this transfer?

Hon. Mrs. McCall: The Minister of Northern Affairs, some time ago, notified us that, under the terms of a land claims settlement, we could expect a health transfer. Until there is a land claims settlement, we were given to understand that there would be no transfer of health responsibilities.

Mr. Kimmerly: YTG is currently paying 70 percent of all costs for these services, and Ottawa finances the rest. Y.T.G. expenditures, in 1980, increased over \$500,000.

Could the Minister describe what percentage of this increase went to administrative costs, and what percentage to actual improvements in medical care?

Hon. Mr. Pearson: With your indulgence, I would like to try and answer the question, and make it clear to the Honourable Member that what happens is that the Department of National Health and Welfare sends us a bill three or four times a year, and says, "This is what you will pay."

Probably tomorrow we will be tabling the Public Accounts, and I would specifically ask Members to address themselves to a section of the Auditor General's Report which is part of those Public Accounts, which refers to our payments to National Health and Welfare.

We do not have anything to say. We do not even dare ask what this money is going to be used for. They simply send us the bill and we pay the bill. It is an abhorrent situation that exists at the present time. It is morally wrong that we should be asked to pay these costs and then be expected to be politically responsible in this House for those payments, because we do not have anything to say about them whatever. We pay 70 percent of the costs; they pay 30 percent of the costs, but they, being the Feds, call the shots.

Mr. Kimmerly: I would like to ask either Minister if, after the eventual transfer of more responsibility, the Government finds it is able to administer programs and services more effectively, it will put the money saved towards reducing the Medicare premiums?

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Hospital health costs do not have anything at all to do with Medicare premiums save, in effect, that under the agreements that exist, we have to pay to the Federal Government, in our Medicare premiums, bed costs. We have to

pay so much a day for people in Yukon to use a hospital. Now, I am not sure what the cost is right now, but it somewhere very close to \$300 a day. That is what Medicare is charged for a hospital bed in the Whitehorse General Hospital for any Yukoner.

Mr. Speaker: The time now alloted for Question Period has expired and we will proceed to Orders of the Day.

Mr. Hanson: I would request unanimous consent to proceed with the Motion of concurrence on the Interim Report of the Select Committee.

Agreed

### MOTIONS OTHER THAN GOVERNMENT MOTIONS Motion Number 38

Mr. Hanson: I have already tabled the Notice of Motion asking for 48 hours' extension of the time needed to complete the work now in progress on the Wildlife Ordinance.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will then accept the fact that notice was given today, and I will read the Motion then from the Chair.

It has been moved by the Honourable Member for Mayo, seconded by the Honourable Member for Whitehorse South Centre, that the Interim Report of the Select Committee on the Wildlife Ordinance be concurred in.

Motion agreed to

**Mr. Speaker:** We will now proceed to Government Bills and Orders.

#### ORDERS OF THE DAY

#### GOVERNMENT BILLS AND ORDERS Bill Number 82: Second Reading

**Hon. Mr. Tracey:** I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Hootalinqua, that Bill Number 82, An Ordinance to Amend the Justice of the Peace Court Ordinance, be now read

a second time.

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the Honourable Minister of Justice, seconded by the Honourable Member for Hootalinqua, that Bill Number 82, An Ordinance to Amend the Justice of the Peace Court Ordinance, be now read a second time.

Motion agreed to

Mr. Speaker: May I have your further pleasure?

Mr. Hanson: I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Old Crow, that the House do now adjourn.

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the Honourable Member for Mayo, seconded by the Honourable Member for Old Crow, that the House do now adjourn.

Motion agreed to

The House adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

### The following Legislative Return was tabled December 14, 1981:

81-4-10

Public Service Commission information regarding recruitment, salaries, etc. for 1980-81

(Written Question No. 4 asked by Mrs. McGuire)

### The following Sessional Papers were tabled December 14, 1981.

81-4-35

Report on Regulations Prepared by Mr. P. O'Donoghue, Registrar of Regulations

81-4-36

Second Report of the Standing Committee on Statutory Instruments

81-4-37

Third Report of the Standing Committee on Statutory Instruments

81-4-38

Interim Report of the Select Committee on the Wildlife Ordinance