

# The Carleton Sentinel.

Board of Works, Jan 07  
No. 15

WOODSTOCK, N. B., FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 1909.

WHOLE No. 3225

## Easter Greetings

It is hard for you to think of a nice Easter Gift? Let us decide for you.

### LADIES

ROSARIES EARRINGS  
OPERA GLASSES ROSE HAT PINS  
GOLD AND PEARL BROOCHES  
LOCKETS AND CHAINS NECKLACES  
FOBS JEWELL CASES  
GOLD RINGS Gem Set and Plain

### GENTLEMEN

SCARF PINS FOBS  
CIGARETTE CASES MATCH SAFES  
CANE FOUNTAIN PENS etc

All these can be had at the

### BLUE FRONT JEWELRY STORE,

Marriage Licenses and  
Wedding Rings  
JEWELER  
H. V. Dalling  
30 MAIN ST.  
WOODSTOCK, N.B.  
OPTICIAN  
KODAKS  
and  
SUPPLIES.

## YOUR EASTER SUIT FROM US

will make you look and feel the best dressed man in town.  
Our Suits Fit Faultlessly, show Individuality; Express  
Styles that no other maker can produce.

Tailor Made Suits \$18.00 to \$30.00  
Ready To Put On \$5.00 to \$18.00  
Extra Trousers \$1.50 to \$8.00

### MEN'S HATS

from us Fit well, Wear well and are well worth the price because  
they keep this shape, color and freshness.

50c to \$5.00

**R. B. JONES Co., Ltd.**  
Manchester House.

## DISINFETANTS

Red Cross Chlorides  
Formaldehyde  
Chloride Lime  
Sulphur Torches  
Creolin  
Carbolic Acid, etc.

## GARDEN BROS.

DRUGGISTS,

Main St., Woodstock, N. B.

### News in Brief.

St Ives, a little Frenchman beat all the great runners in the marathon race of 26 miles and 385 yards in New York, Saturday evening. The time was 2 hrs, 40 min, 50 and 55 seconds. Longboat the Indian runner dropped out at the end of the 17th mile.

A bold robber smashed a plate glass window on St Lawrence Street, Montreal, Saturday evening and got off with \$3,000 worth of diamonds. The Street was crowded at the time, but drawing two revolvers the robber drove the crowd ahead of him

got into a waiting rig and drove away. The police have not any clue and no arrests have been made.

General Booth the founder of the Salvation Army will be 80 years of age tomorrow.

The Dominion Steel Company has a contract to supply 100 miles of rail for the Transcontinental.

Admiral Cervera, who commanded the Spanish fleet in the battle of Santiago died at Puerto Real, Spain, April 3rd.

Minard's Liniment Cures Garget in Cows.

## LOCAL LEGISLATURE.

### THE BUDGET DEBATE.

An Extra Grant Saves Mr. Flemming from a Deficit.

Fredericton N.B., April 2.—Hon Mr Flemming commenced his budget speech after the formalities of supply had been complied with at the evening session.

The speech consisted largely of a glorification of his own management of the financial affairs of the province. He spoke in the most glowing terms of the surplus of \$44,000, which he claimed to be real, but said nothing about the whereabouts of the cash, neither did he tell the house that had it not been for the increased revenue beyond the estimates there would have been a deficit.

He contrasted the expenditures of the old government with those of the present administration without giving any information concerning the increased dominion subsidy secured by the old government.

In the course of his remarks Mr Flemming also forgot to mention that they had started with a clean sheet, charging up to capital account such expenditures as they thought fit, adding in this way \$215,000 to the funded debt and this without making the slightest provision for a sinking fund.

If one part of Mr Flemming's speech was more boastful than another it was that part referring to the discounting of treasury notes. It was an idle boast, it is true, as everyone knows the rate of interest has been constantly dropping each month, but it pleased Mr Flemming vastly. The price he has paid for his temporary loans shows to anyone in close touch with the money market that the terms of the loans are not so advantageous after all, or not so good as given out.

As exhibiting the manner in which the money market has weakened Mr Flemming has been able to drop the interest rate 1-8 per cent on the loan from the Bank of Montreal during the present year.

### LACKED CANDOR.

His explanation of the reason for borrowing \$200,000 to meet current expenses was lacking in completeness and candor. Part of this money is necessary to pay the \$43,000 illegally expended on the roads to help the Conservative candidates in the dominion elections and for other purposes.

With the largely increased revenue at their disposal it is remarkable that such a loan should be necessary two months after the receipt of the federal subsidy. He closed his speech on the financial position of the province by stating there was not an over-expended account at the close of the fiscal year. This was rather surprising as he had stated a short time before that the estimated expenditure of the Provincial Hospital was \$50,000 and the expenditure \$61,208.

Agriculture and immigration came in for a laudatory notice from the provincial secretary who must have shocked some of the older members of his own side when he said that the government proposed to take a risk and subsidize a railway in some way to aid in the development of the great iron industry.

In concluding he promised to keep the ordinary expenditures within the ordinary revenue.

Mr Flemming gave a detailed statement as follows:—

REVENUES.  
Hon Mr Flemming gave comparison between estimates and actual revenue for 1908, showing an excess in actual receipts over estimated receipts of \$46,555.58, as follows:

	Estimated.	Actual.
Dominion subsidy	\$ 621,860 96	\$ 621,860 96
Territorial revenue	300,000 00	343,292 77
Fees provincial secretary's office	16,000 00	15,275 41
Private and local bills	1,000 00	2,510 00
King's printer	1,300 00	1,510 82
Taxes incorporated companies	30,000 00	34,494 19
Liquor licenses	20,000 00	19,680 54
Miscellaneous	2,500 00	3,123 59
Succession duties	25,000 00	32,480 37
Surplus probate fund	10,000 00	10,000 00
Transcontinental Railway forest protection	3,000 00	3,000 00
Public wharves, dominion government share	5,741 28	.....
Refund fishery leases dominion government	15,389 82	.....
School books	.....	1,691 71
Total	\$1,059,832 76	\$1,086,738 34

It was said that the province had gone to the very limit of expenditure on capital account and while he would not criticize increased expenditure it was certainly time to consider whether or not it was not time to call a halt. The interests charges approaching nearly a quarter of a million annually it was a question whether honorable members should not say that these great public expenditure should cease and show they were in earnest in stopping increase of the debt.

Turning to the expenditure he gave the following comparative statement of estimated and actual payments.

	Estimated.	Actual.
Administration of justice	\$ 21,730 00	\$19,770 76

Agricultural	35,465 00	33,355 40
Auditor-general and department	2,200 00	2,150 00
Agent general, London	1,000 00	1,000 00
Boys' Industrial Home	1,500 00	800 00
Contingencies	17,000 00	14,800 13
Educational	251,444 48	254,836 18
Elections	11,400 00	11,490 57
Emmerson vs Maddison	500 00	500 00
Executive government	33,707 40	34,731 14
Factory inspection	1,000 00	848 39
Fish, forest and game protection	29,500 00	19,451 69
Free grants act	150 00	240 00
Guarantee bonds	900 00	924 39
Hospitals	19,700 00	9,390 17
Hospitals	9,700 00	9,700 00
Immigration	2,000 00	1,900 50
Interest	20,000 00	232,944 91
Legislation	28,677 50	28,200 20
Mining	7,000 00	7,129 41
Natural History Society	650 00	600 00
New Brunswick Historical Society	125 00	125 00
Public printing	12,000 00	11,978 97
Provincial hospital	50,000 00	61,208 09
Public works	294,830 00	225,133 71
Refunds cross lands	350 00	1,332 39
Revisors	1,820 00	1,839 74
Surveys and inspection	8,000 00	6,524 58
Stampage collection	12,000 00	11,972 04
Succession duties collection	1,250 00	1,286 83
Superannuation	600 00	600 00
Tourist Association	2,500 00	2,500 00
Rifle Association	300 00	300 00
Portrait of lieutenant-governor	1,625 00	1,634 45
Prohibition commission	1,512 42	1,842 42
Unforeseen expenses	5,000 00	3,531 02
Disbursed notes horse purchases	.....	1,043 73
Library legislative	.....	750 00
N B Coal & Railway investigation	.....	1,515 09
School books	.....	11,588 57
Quebec battlefields	7,500 00	7,500 00
Total	\$1,046,451 89	\$1,042,196 49

Actual expenditure \$4,254 40 less than estimated expenditures.

Mr McKeown following the Provincial Secretary said he desired to make a few remarks but not in critical or fault-finding strain. The address to which the house had just listened, coupled with the financial statement which was circulated amongst the members, should be studied thoughtfully and carefully, not simply with the idea of picking holes in it, but with the view of ascertaining whether the expenditures proposed would be wisely made and under circumstances which would deserve the approval of the people. The funds which the government were handling were the property of the people of whom they were the trustees or the time being and they should be careful to see that all matters relating to expenditure were undertaken with a single eye to the welfare and development of the province. He had no desire to approach the expenditure of the past year otherwise than in a helpful spirit and in a kindly way and not with any idea of finding fault for the sake of it.

In the past year the government had made greater expenditure than had ever been the case under any other government in the history of the province. That they were able to do this was entirely due to successful culmination of the efforts of their predecessors and the present government were to be congratulated that their predecessors had given them so much money to spend.

When considering the present financial conditions of the province the people should understand that it was due to the late government that the finances were so satisfactory.

The position which the present government took up was that their predecessors were reckless and imprudent in dealing with the provincial finances and when they came into power, according to their own statement, the financial condition of the province was precarious in the extreme. If this was a fact it would have been better for the present government with the extra money which had been placed at their disposal to call a halt and make some attempt to stem the downward rush which they said the province was making.

It was said that the province had gone to the very limit of expenditure on capital account and while he would not criticize increased expenditure it was certainly time to consider whether or not it was not time to call a halt. The interests charges approaching nearly a quarter of a million annually it was a question whether honorable members should not say that these great public expenditure should cease and show they were in earnest in stopping increase of the debt.

### QUARTER OF INCOME TO PAY INTEREST.

If a business man in balancing up his books found that he was piling up debt upon debt for borrowed money which required 25 cents in

interest on every dollar he owed would he not soon come to the conclusion that it was time to stop adding to the capital expenditure? Every dollar paid out in interest meant that much less in carrying on the ordinary business and it was getting more difficult year after year to balance the expenditure with the revenue. It was no doubt a difficult matter for the government to refuse members who came to them for extra public services in their various constituencies, still there was not a man of them but would agree with him that when they reached a point where it took twenty-five per cent of their income to pay interest on their debts whether it was not time to stop.

He desired to point out a way by which these public works could be continued and interest charges on revenue could not be increased. There was not in the whole of the province a single levy made upon the people. The people of this province were subject to no taxation whatever. In many states of the union governments had to resort to direct taxation to help fill up the public coffers and it seemed to him that in this province they had almost reached the point when honorable members would have to take into consideration whether public funds would not have to be replenished and increased by some such method.

### WOULD HAVE BEEN A DEFICIT.

Expenditure could not go on in the future as it had in the past and he hoped that the provincial secretary would direct his attention along that line. But for the fact that the present administration fell heir to a large extra subsidy where would they have landed? Would they have had a surplus of over \$40,000? Not much. But for the addition of \$65,000 in the subsidy they would have been \$10,000 to the bad. Anybody could finance with an increasing revenue. The provincial secretary took a lot of credit to the government that the changed conditions were on account of the different system of book-keeping. No doubt the old system was antiquated and a new one wanted but that alone would not have given them a surplus. In addition to the increased subsidy they put the accumulation of the probate fee fund, amounting to \$10,000, into ordinary revenue which made \$75,000 in all over and above what the old government received.

In the course of his remarks the provincial secretary had seized upon every little item which could count to his credit for satisfactory position shown by the accounts but he had carefully refrained from any mention of increased subsidy and the probate fund. The house had a right to expect a fair and impartial statement of the province's affairs but every item which could by any means cast a reflected glory on the government was brought out and anything which would have shown them up as losers but for the old government was calmly covered up by silence.

But for the efforts of the man who had been more vilified by honorable members opposite than any other public man in this province the present government would be covered with failure and it was simply due to the efforts of that man that the province had a bigger revenue at the present time than ever before.

With regard to the government's action in taking hold of the probate fees the public did not want the consolidated fund swelled by the addition of a single dollar from that source and they would watch with considerable interest the development of that fund in future.

The provincial secretary had said that he closed his accounts for the last fiscal year without a cent against it. The speaker wondered if when he made that statement there did not rise up before him the confessed account of the expenditure on roads and bridges. He accepted the statement that the accounts of the board of works were square as far as the bills had come in.

### ROADWORK AND POLITICS.

When the house had the admission, as it had that over \$10,000 of the appropriation for roads for the year had already been expended in the confessed work of the roads at the end of last year an unprecedented condition of things would be apparent. The proper time for repairing the roads had not commenced, yet half the money had gone, spent not for the good of the roads but on the contrary, funds of the public works department had been located for the purpose of helping a great political party. This the public were not prepared for and would not approve of as when they trusted the provincial government with the direction of affairs they did not expect the moneys

of the province to be subordinated to the interest of a political party. The public works department had been used for the purpose of drawing a Conservative card in the dominion election.

Mr McKeown, continuing the debate on the budget, Monday evening, said that since the house last adjourned he had opportunity of studying the estimates as presented by the provincial secretary, which called for some comments, in view of the statements and promises made by the government before coming into power. When the present government came into power they complained of a legacy of debt which was left by the previous administration, and they determined to start with a clean sheet. No great exception could be taken to such a course, as naturally each government would wish to stand on its own record and not be saddled with the faults of its predecessors. The late Mr Blair did the same and whilst he did not fund quite all of the debt he found when he took office he added nearly \$250,000 to the public debt and paid off some \$60,000 out of current revenue. This was a wise course and the honorable gentleman opposite followed his example and took authority to issue \$275,000 bonds to close up floating indebtedness of the province. Of this amount he noticed it was not yet fully issued. When the present administration came into office they found treasury notes amounting to a large sum afloat which had to be looked after and they followed the example of their predecessors with regard to paying off those maturing. The sum of \$1,907,888 was received from treasury bills floated by them, as against which they had those due in August last, amounting to \$1,387,130. After paying of these latter bills there remained a balance of nearly half a million dollars on hand. The amount of the debts which they funded appears from the auditor general's report to be \$215,761, and that sum, he gathered, was the amount which the present administration were compelled to meet in respect of expenditure incurred prior to the present fiscal year.

In addition there were some items for permanent bridges, wharves and grain elevators, International Railway subsidy and N B Coal & Railway, which made a total altogether with the funded debt of \$444,053. Deducting the funded debt from that amount the present administration might fairly be held responsible for the balance. He was well aware that liability was incurred before they came into office, but the present administration had had the spending of it.

### FOOLING THE PEOPLE.

The provincial secretary had made a strong point of the fact that the government was living within their income. He gave out a sort of warning that the capital debt of the province was increasing nevertheless, but he raised a very serious question as whether or not he was entirely candid with the house. He said that he was placed a loan of \$200,000 at so small an interest that it effected a considerable saving in that item. He, the speaker, could not understand how it was that if the government was living within its income they should need to borrow at all. When they came into power they took authority to borrow enough money to pay off all the debts then owing and they had done so. They had been in office one year and had received one year's revenue. If there were no old debts outstanding they had this revenue to the good, therefore, if living within their income why borrow at all? Very little examination showed that the government was not living within its means and was simply fooling the people by saying it was.

The honorable gentleman talked about the audit act but of all colossal frauds that audit act was the chief. On the government's own admission \$94,750 had been spent on roads without legislative authority and they could not be brought to see that they had done wrong.

Proceeding with the estimates he said he noticed that in the matter of administration of justice \$21,848 was estimated for the current year, against \$19,770 last year. This was one of the items about which the present government, when in opposition, complained the loudest, particularly as to the appointment of outside counsel, yet they had increased the amount by ten per cent and he thought in this connection that notwithstanding the house was in session one of the law officers of the crown should have been present at the important murder case in Victoria county last week. The late administration fed their lawyer friends pretty well but the present government was doing even better.

(Continued on fifth page)