

The unsatisfactory condition of the Branch Railways in the Province connecting with the Intercolonial is such as to call for serious consideration. These railways have been constructed largely by means of Dominion and Provincial subsidies, and are not giving that accommodation to the public which was anticipated when their construction was provided for.

If some arrangement could be made by which these roads could be worked as a part of the Intercolonial system it would be greatly to the public advantage, and there is reason to believe that they would become valuable feeders of the trunk line. You will be invited to consider whether the Dominion authorities might not properly be urged to make arrangements for their operation upon a fair and equitable basis.

I have directed that the Accounts of the Income and Expenditure for the past fiscal year, as well as a statement of the Receipts and Expenditures of the current fiscal year, up to the opening of the present Session, shall be laid before you.

Estimates of the probable Income and Expenditure for the current year will be submitted to you, and I think you will find the Estimates of Expenditure have been prepared with due regard to economy and the public requirements.

Bills to amend the Public Health Act, providing among other things for the compulsory vaccination of children attending school; to amend the law regarding investments by Trustees; a Workman's Compensation for Injuries Act; a Bill to provide for the more equitable distribution of Estates of Insolvent Debtors; a Bill to provide a Forest Reservation; a Bill to provide for the Importation of Horses; and other measures of importance will be submitted to you; and I am sure that your deliberations will, under Divine Guidance, be conducted with a sole desire to promote the public welfare.