

sources of the Province, and with this object in view, it has been decided to bonus the more frequent use of the provincial diamond drill. A measure granting the necessary authority to the Minister of Lands and Mines will be submitted for your consideration.

The unprecedented rain fall in April and May caused very great damages to our roads and bridges, reaching the sum of seven or eight hundred thousand dollars. Notwithstanding the sudden interference of traffic caused by the floods the Department of Public Works was able to cope with the situation in such a manner as to prevent any undue interruption of traffic by the construction of temporary work and in many cases of a work of a semi-permanent nature. Up to the close of the fiscal year, the work occasioned by the freshets amounted to \$333,068.11 paid for out of ordinary revenue. You will be asked to make provision for the payment of the damages, thus occasioned, by means of an issue of bonds. There still remains considerable work to be done to replace the entire damages of last spring.

The work of improvement and reconstruction of our highways was carried on last year with marked success. Notwithstanding that there was no assurance of a continuation of Federal Aid to the different provinces for highway purposes, my Government deemed it wise to continue its programme of main highway reconstruction in order to complete certain very important work already begun under the system of aid from the Federal Government. You will be asked to make provision for a certain portion of the work done last year as well as for a continuation of such work as will be necessary to complete the reconstruction of the balance of our main arteries of traffic between the various centres of the Province.

During recess my Government has been able to organize, through its Department of Public Works, a patrol system on more than one-half of the Main Trunk Roads of the Province, and I am pleased to inform you that excellent results have been obtained. It is hoped that before the close of the present year the patrol system will have been extended to all of our main highways, and as far as possible to a certain mileage of our branch roads.

The damage caused to the Musquash hydro development by the very heavy freshets of last spring, has been repaired and it is a source of satisfaction for me to be able to inform you that this development is now proving a decided success, affording cheaper light and power to sections of the Province reached by the transmission lines.

My Government is desirous of adopting measures that will give a greater stimulus to Agricultural and Industrial development in this Province. Being fully convinced that the harnessing of the water powers of the Province would bring about the result so anxiously looked for, competent engineers have been engaged during recess, making the necessary investigation into the possibilities of the Grand Falls project. A report on the result of their work which is favorable to the development, and the decision of the Government thereon, will be submitted, at an early date, for your consideration, and you will be asked to pass such legislation as will be deemed necessary to carry into effect a much needed encouragement to the industrial life of the Province.

Attention has been called to the feasibility of harnessing, for electric power purposes, the tides of the Petitcodiac River. My Government will co-operate with the Dominion Water Power Branch with the view of obtaining the necessary information in order to ascertain whether this development is feasible, and should a favorable decision be reached, you will, at a later