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NOTICE OF LEGISLATION

Public notice is hereby given that application will be made on behalf of the City of Fredericton to the next Session of the Legislature for the passage of an Act or Acts:

(a) To authorize a grant of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) to the University of New Brunswick and for the authority to issue debentures therefor;

(b) To change the date of the holding of the annual Civic Elections from the second Monday in March of each year to the second Monday in January of each year;

(c) To provide for the issue of Bonds to the extent of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) to provide for permanent side-walks; the proceeds of such bonds to be used to pay the proportion of the cost of such sidewalks payable by the property owners until such proportion is paid by such property owners;

(d) To amend the Act, Chapter 32, 57 Victoria 1894, entitled "An Act to Create and Establish a School District out of the parts of the City of Fredericton and of the Parish of Lincoln, Sunbury" by providing for the equalization of the assessment of the said School District.

Dated this 20th day of February, A. D. 1923.

C. R. PERKINS,
City Clerk.

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Debate on the Address Is Being Continued In the Legislature

Continued from Page One

to defend the Musquash transaction. In regard to the lands in dispute they compared very favorably with blue berry plains in Albert County after they had been burned over. He would like to ask about the valuation that had been placed on the lands by the parish assessors. He understood it was only \$40,000 yet the government had made an offer of \$60,000 for it.

MR. ESTABROOKS said he would like to ask the hon. member if his property at Hillsboro was assessed at its full value and if he would sell it at the assessed price.

MR. PECK said that hon. members opposite apparently did not know what they were talking about. He would now come to another matter referred to in the Speech from the Throne, which related to the taking over by the Federal Government of wharves in tidal waters. The same matter had been referred to the previous year, but he doubted whether the Federal Government would ever take them over. It had been stated by the Hon. Premier that there were 79 wharves in tidal waters and that they were costing a large sum each year. While in Ottawa in 1919 he had been told by an official that the Federal Government was taking over wharves in British Columbia. He was asked why New Brunswick's Minister of Public Works was not on hand looking after the interests of his Province and he replied that he was in St. John attending a banquet. At that time 48 wharves in British Columbia had been taken over and he said that it was the last opportunity. He held that the Hon. Premier was deserving of censure for not having taken the matter up with the Federal Government at that time.

Prohibition.

Referring to prohibition he said all would agree that it was a difficult problem. The Hon. Premier had stated that he was investigating the enforcement of the law, but if he had stated that he was going to nailing the people he would have come nearer to the truth. He (Peck) noticed a cartoon in the Journal which pictured the Hon. Premier sitting astride of a keg of whiskey.

HON. MR. MERSEREAU—He was on the keg.

MR. PECK said he felt sure the temperance people of the province could see right through the transaction. All they had to do was to refer to the purchase of a building at a cost of \$50,000 for the purpose of handling the business.

In regard to sinking funds, the Hon. Premier had admitted that they were represented by nothing except paper. To him (Peck) it looked like an easy way of getting money, but it was not his idea of what a sinking fund should be. He realized that it was common for some Municipalities to do such things, but the idea of a sinking fund was to give credit standing with investors. The governments plan was wrong in principle.

HON. MR. VENIOT—I never said that we used it, but that the money was invested.

MR. PECK said it was invested in New Brunswick bonds and the government had used the money. Some day the people will wake up to the fact that the money was all gone. He likened it to the case of a note which was useless until it passed to the hands of the third person.

He had noticed a paragraph in the speech making reference to electoral districts. In that connection he wished to point out to the government that all the brains of the province were not to be found in the County of Gloucester. That County had the Hon. Premier and the Hon. Attorney General and he could say that the last name gentleman stood high in the estimation of those on his side of the House. He considered it wrong for the County of Gloucester to have two members of the administration.

In regard to immigration he could see no advantage in bringing in immigrants when our own boys and girls were moving away. To his mind they should be encouraged to stay at home, even if it was found necessary to spend on them the money now devoted to immigration. He thought it would be useless to bring out people to settle in districts where the people had departed because of neglect of the roads. A new settler would hardly be impressed with a situation of that kind as it would be poor consolation for him to be told by the Hon. Premier that the government had bought a Hotel in Fredericton and had expended \$12,000 in fitting it up. Neither would he be impressed by the information that two million dollars worth of liquors had been sold during the past year for medicinal

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al purposes, and that reminded him (Peck) that the health of the people had since improved. The government evidently expected to sell enough liquor to put the province in a good financial condition.

He would say in conclusion that they had in New Brunswick one of the finest countries on earth. That statement had been made to him by the late Captain Henry Calhoun, who had travelled in all parts of the world, and was undoubtedly correct. They had a great lumbering industry, the Agricultural industry and valuable minerals, while the County of Albert was noted for its rich shale deposits. All that was needed was a government composed of business men who would give a good administration of affairs.

Mr. Burlock

MR. BURLOCK extended his congratulations to the mover and second of the address. He was somewhat puzzled at the excellent speech delivered by the mover, he being new to public life, but the Hon. Premier had let the cat out of the bag, when he told about having campaigned with him in Kings. It was evident that the second had also taken some lessons from the Hon. Premier. The mover of the address had referred to Miss Canada's beauty and charming manner. He (Burlock) wished to add that she won the title of Miss Canada because of the fact that she did not smoke cigarettes or drink. He was glad of the fact that the men who acted as judges had taken note of that important matter. No doubt the fact that she was born in the County of Carleton was strongly in her favor.

He wished to congratulate the Hon. Minister of Public Works on his succession to the Premiership. He undoubtedly possessed ability and he believed that the change would work out in the interests of the province. His future would depend very largely upon the results which he achieved. He also wished to congratulate the retiring Premier. He had passed a lot of good legislation including the Workmen's Compensation Act and the Public Health Act. He had taken office at a trying time, brought about by the war, and he had reason to believe that he was actuated by the highest motives and did his best to advance the interests of the province.

Referring to the speech of the Hon. Premier, it had seemed to him that he had tried his best to terrorize the hon. leader of the Farmers' party and his followers, but hon. members who had been long in the House would scarcely take him seriously. The Hon. Premier had condemned the opposition leader as well as his (Burlock's) leader for their destructive criticism. He (Burlock) believed that the system of party government in vogue did not lend itself to any other course. If things were such that a government when preparing legislation invited cooperation from others in the House, there would be no ground for destructive criticism. The Hon. Premier claimed the government was economical, but had admitted that it had added a million dollars to the debt each year, and in defence of that he claimed that the old administration had an annual increase of a million and a half. He (Burlock) was willing to accept his statement, but he wished to point out that a change of government was sometimes a good thing. His hon. friends opposite had said that the change in 1917 had been the only thing that had saved the province and perhaps another change might be in the public interest. The Hon. Premier admitted taking part in the Kings election and if he was not there for the purpose of influencing the electors he would like to know why he was there. Had the hon. Premier been in Carleton County he might have found a difference, and he (Burlock) hoped that he would be there at the next election and make use of the same arguments he had used in his speech in the House.

In regard to the press he would admit that it was a great factor in moulding public opinion; it had in the past made and unmade governments. Unfortunately it was controlled by the old parties, and was striving to put the Farmers' party out of business. He agreed with his leader that the press should work to advance the economic and social life of the province. If it were to do that the result would be more beneficial. A paragraph in his Honor's speech referred to the improvements made in the highways and expressed the hope that the Federal aid contract would be continued. The question of roads opened up a broad field for discussion and personally he would like to have some authoritative word on their classification. Since coming to the House he obtained a road map from the Chief Engineer, but was told that it was not reliable as it did not show all of the roads. He would like to have the amount of mileage in proportion to trunk roads.

HON. MR. VENIOT—There are 1600 miles of trunk roads, 1684 of secondary, and thirteen thousand miles of branch roads.

MR. BURLOCK said it seemed to him that the per centage mileage of branch roads was very large. He believed the province had too many roads but they would have to get along with them. If Federal aid was for the benefit of the province he could not understand why discrimination was drawn so strongly in favor of trunk roads. They had in Carleton County a road from Bristol to Juniper which was very important, and had a big tourist traffic, yet it received no Federal aid. He hoped that the Hon. Minister would give it some attention.

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HON. MR. VENIOT said that the matter did not lie entirely in the hands of his department, as the standard was set by the Federal department. They looked upon the trunk roads as arteries connecting with the other province. As to the road referred to it had received some attention as a secondary and it was proposed to build it up to an eighteen foot surface.

MR. BURLOCK said it took too much of the money of the province to get the Federal aided roads up to the required standard. Instead of the broad shouldered roads, which were being built the people would be willing to accept roads fourteen to eighteen feet in depth if they were properly ditched.

HON. MR. VENIOT said that such roads would be dangerous.

MR. BURLOCK—Then we have lots of dangerous ones in Carleton.

HON. MR. VENIOT said that the trouble was due to the fact that the roads had originally been built too narrow and the government now had to widen them to make them safe.

MR. BURLOCK said that he had travelled over the Fredericton-Woodstock highway last year and had not met a single loaded team. On the Woodstock-Andover road there was a much heavier traffic. He believed that the government catered too much to tourist traffic, and neglected the interests of the farmers. He thought the patrol system would be all right providing it was successfully managed, and it was the only way that the roads could be kept permanent. In his county the roads suffered by allowing heavy cars to go over them before the frost was out of the ground. He did not know in what month the patrol system was going to commence.

HON. MR. VENIOT said they had not fixed the time as it would depend on conditions.

MR. BURLOCK said he was pleased to hear the statement that there would be no extension of the Grand Falls lease. He trusted that the Musquash development would be a success, and in regard to Grand Falls the government after the experience it had should know how to safeguard the public interests. Should they develop Grand Falls he hoped they would first procure the deeds and titles to the land that would be required.

He noticed that a paragraph in the address referred to Agricultural depression and proposed a remedy for it in Municipal loans. He was one of the delegation to wait upon the government and could say that they were all farmers.

HON. MR. VENIOT—Were there not some gentlemen on that delegation who deal in fertilizers?

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MR. BURLOCK—I believe there were, but they own and operate farms.

HON. MR. VENIOT said he thought such was the case; they handled fertilizer and the farmers owe them for it.

MR. BURLOCK said that the Hon. Premier might know more about roads than he did, but he (Burlock) was more familiar with affairs in Carleton County. The farmers there owed considerable for fertilizer and also for potato machinery. He was a member of the delegation and was surprised that the government had made no serious effort to find out the actual condition of affairs. It was now proposed to introduce a bill to provide for Municipal loans, which seemed to him as if the government was seeking to unload the responsibility on the Municipalities. The Councils had already held their meetings this year and would not convene again until July, so it would be too late then for action to be taken.

When the people of the southern part of the province wanted hydro development the government did not refer the matter to the Municipalities but promptly furnished the money. He held that that was just as much a local matter as was the present Agricultural depression. The Agricultural Department had done much to encourage potato growing and the result had been over production. There was no home market available and shipments had to be made to outside points. In his county hard working farmers were being sold out under executions, and the money realized would not pay the expenses of litigation. The ex-premier in replying to the farmers' delegation had said that he did not think the condition of the finances would warrant giving assistance and he also said that if the farmers were helped the door would be open to others. The Hon. Premier had asked when the fishermen did not come for assistance, he (Burlock) understood that a delegation of fishermen waited upon the government the same day.

HON. MR. VENIOT said that the fishermen's delegation had asked the government if they could not do something to encourage Agriculture on Deer Island.

MR. BURLOCK said that he was told that the government had promised to send a man down to make a report.

HON. MR. VENIOT said that the man was to report on the adaptability of the Island for sheep and poultry raising.

MR. BURLOCK repeated that he did not think the plan proposed by the government to assist the farmers would work out. He thought that the government should deal with the matter. The delegation had not asked the government to accept the Manitoba Farm Loan Act but had quoted from it to show what was being done by other provinces.

HON. MR. VENIOT asked if the hon. member had read the report of the commission which had investigated that act.

MR. BURLOCK replied that he had but it was the Rural Credit Act which was a different thing. He did not like to think about what would happen when the lumbering resources of the province became exhausted. Already fire and the bud worm had done much damage and the end was almost in sight.

An address lately delivered by the Chief Forester, Mr. Prince would bear him out in that statement. When the lumber gave out it would be necessary for the province to fall back on Agriculture, therefore, it was the duty of the government to pass measures that would alleviate the present condition of affairs.

In regard to the Health Act he saw it stated in the speech that the death rate among infants had been reduced and would like to have the figures with respect to that.

HON. MR. ROBERTS said that when the act came into force there were no statistics available but from church records and other sources they estimated that the death rate was three hundred for every thousand babies born in the province. Statistics of the department in 1920 showed the rate to be one hundred and thirty-seven per thousand, while last year it was reduced to one hundred and thirteen.

MR. BURLOCK, continuing said his contention was the same as last year, that the department of health was costing too much in proportion to the benefit obtained in the province. He wished to back up the hon. member for Kings (McKeena) in his plea for better education in remote rural districts.

The hon. minister the day before had mentioned the necessity for equalizing valuation. Personally he did not consider the matter of valuation. He would quote statistics to illustrate it. In the Parish of Sheffield Sunbury county, there were four school districts which had the following respective valuation, \$9,000, \$10,000, \$7,000, \$11,000. In the Parish of Lancaster, St. John County, there were districts with valuations as follows:—\$319,700, \$18,000, \$29,000, \$136,000, \$101,000. In Victoria county, Parish of Drummond, there were districts with valuation as follows:—\$36,200, \$19,325, \$10,000, \$47,000. In one parish of Carleton county six school districts had valuations as follows:—\$49,000, \$18,000, \$47,000, \$10,000, \$42,000, \$18,000. The inequality was most apparent. It was a matter for adjustment by a valuation Board with much wider powers in the matter of equalization than are possessed at the present time. There should be a body with county-wide, or possibly province-wide powers. He believed that if partisanship was dropped and all parties united something could be worked out on a basis of equalization of valuation. The hon. premier had criticized the leader of the Farmers' party for his reference to the rural telephones. He had attempted to intimate that the desire

(Continued on Page 5)

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