

Hon. A. J. Leger Brought Down The Budget in the House

His Sixth Financial Presentation and for the First Time in Four Years Was Unable to Announce a Surplus—An Able Review of the Financial Situation of the Province.

Forecasting a revenue of \$280,905 less than that of last year and a deficit of \$437,833 on the year's operations, Hon. A. J. Leger, Provincial Secretary-Treasurer, brought down his sixth successive budget in the Legislative Assembly yesterday afternoon. He also forecasted a reduction of expenditure as compared with last year of \$478,161, the cut having been made chiefly in the Department of Public Works. The Provincial Secretary-Treasurer was in good form, and spoke an hour and fifteen minutes, his telling points eliciting frequent outbursts of applause from the government benches.

Hon. J. E. Michaud, chief financial critic of the opposition moved the adjournment of the debate, and has the floor this afternoon. He is expected to move an amendment to the supply motion. A number of other speakers will follow and the Assembly chamber is expected to re-echo the sound of political music for another week or ten days.

The House adjourned early in the afternoon to allow the members to attend the reception held by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, but resumed at eight o'clock in the evening and disposed of a number of government bills. The most important was a bill which restores the Chancellor of the U. N. B. to the presidency of the senate in place of the Chief Superintendent of Education. This bill provoked some discussion, but was passed after Premier Baxter, Hon. C. D. Richards, Col. Harrison and Dr. White had spoken strongly in its favor.

The Official Report

Assembly Chamber,
3rd. March, 1931.

The House met at 3 p.m.
The following bills were read a third time,—to amend the act respecting certain expenses in criminal prosecutions; to amend the Crown Lands Act; to amend the Rates and Taxes Act; to amend the act respecting County Courts; to amend the act respecting Cemetery Companies.

MR. ATKINSON submitted the report of the Municipalities Committee.
MR. MELVILLE moved the suspension of the Rules to permit the introduction of a bill relating to the Town of Hartland.

MR. TWEDDIE presented a petition for a bill relating to the Southwest Boom Company.

HON. MR. STEWART presented a petition for a bill respecting the Town of Dalhousie.

HON. MR. STEWART submitted correspondence regarding the dismissal of certain bridge and road superintendents, and regarding the purchase of the Smith Foundry Company property by the Government.

MR. BORDAGE gave notice of inquiry as to money expended under Federal Employment Aid in Kent County.

MR. DOUCET gave notices of inquiry regarding the Connell Bridge; the sale of automobile titles by the Provincial Police; work done on the Rovers Bridge; the new road from Point Brule to the shore; pay sheets of Road Supervisor Michael Savoie and other supervisors.

MR. DOWNIE gave notices of in-

quiry regarding the sidewalk at Edgett's Landing, and regarding Solomon Steeves and Alfred Jonah.

MR. DYSART gave notices of inquiry regarding trunk highways in York County; and regarding Bartholomew Mazerolle.

MR. COLPITTS gave notices of inquiry regarding Dr. L. S. Doyle, W. T. Chapman, and George Robertson.

MR. MICHAUD gave notices of inquiry as to the amount paid for road machinery during the last fiscal year; as to James P. Jardine, of Campbellton; as to the Provincial Garage in Campbellton; as to the highway road in front of Peter Foster's garage; as to the provincial garage at Benjamin River; as to the provincial garage at Black Point; as to cars provided for road men in the Parish of Colborne.

MR. MICHAUD said that when he inquired last evening as to why the financial statement had not been made up to the first of March that the Provincial Secretary replied that February last was the customary date. He (Michaud, however, noted that last year it was up to the first of March.

HON. MR. LEGER said on account of the session being earlier than usual this year the statement for submission to the House was prepared in February before all the accounts for that month were submitted, but he could assure his hon. friend that the statement for the month of February would shortly be laid before the House.

THE BUDGET

HON. MR. LEGER presented a message from His Honor, the Lieutenant Governor, wherein His Honor submitted the accounts of the Province and the estimates for the current year, commending them to the favorable consideration of the House. He then moved that the message from His Honor and the estimates contained in the same, be submitted to the Committee of Supply.

HON. MR. LEGER, in moving the House into Committee of Supply said: Mr. Speaker: The Government of the seventeenth Legislature of New Brunswick, since Confederation, its content to be returned to continue its work of progress and prosperity strengthened by a confidence emanating from a satisfied electorate.

It is glad to tender a hearty welcome to the newly elected members and give them cheerfully the necessary assistance to make their stay, in this House, equally pleasant and useful.

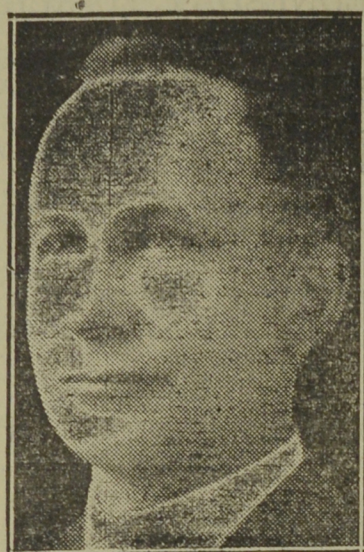
To the older members, we voice our appreciation for their loyalty and co-operation in the last Legislature, and, in the future, we count on their same faithful support and their assiduous application in the preparation of the tasks allotted to them.

Mr. Speaker, we wish, above all, to congratulate you, for the attachment of the high position which your fellow-representatives have conferred upon you. Although, the office bears with it grave responsibilities, it furnishes nevertheless large opportunities for public service.

The confidence now reposed in you, Sir, will be further augmented, as the judgments rendered by you as presiding officer of the Legislature will be known and appreciated.

An Optimistic Note

The Government may be preface, having received the enthusiastic sup-



HON. A. J. LEGER
Provincial Secretary-Treasurer who brought down his sixth budget in the Legislature yesterday

port of the people of the Province, finds itself in a mood to hope for, to expect very confidently still brighter and more prosperous years for New Brunswick.

The government believes that our Province is steadily coming into its own and will, before long, attain the place visioned by the Fathers of Confederation.

That belief is accentuated by the rapid growth, the abounding activity and the increasing prosperity which is generally prevalent all over the Province.

Unemployment

Whilst there is, admittedly, some unemployment in some particular sections, still, as a whole, due largely to the industrial development inaugurated by the present Government, the diversity of the economic life, the fact that the Province's revenue is derived from many sources, and the marked growth of the pulp and paper industry, we have not felt the depression to the same extent as some of the other Provinces, and our people remained cheerful.

Ever mindful of the welfare of the people the Government in the days of uncertainty, followed a corrective policy and spent more money for the advanced construction of roads and the betterment of the other public services than it would ordinarily have done, with the result that, taken collectively, the employment situation in our Province, during the summer months, continued practically normal.

Agriculture

For agriculture, we expended, last year, \$230,006.23 in intensive activity and in bringing scientific knowledge of agriculture to our farmers, including the \$6,000.00 paid to the marketing commissioner, or, more than double the amount paid in 1925, which was \$105,175.03.

For exhibitions, we granted \$27,545.67 or 50 per cent more than was given under the Liberal administration of 1925.

And, we may say here, in justification of these grants, that the exhibitions are rendering a great service in promoting organizations, in bringing together healthy competition of farm products, in the interchanging of ideas, and in the diffusion of rural education through actual vision.

We, therefore, feel that it is money not only very well spent, but, that the exhibition has a powerful effect on the development of the agricultural life; and a Province is made richer by the efforts made in bringing together these exhibits.

Mr. Speaker, if agriculture languishes, the other industries will necessarily be hindered in their development. History reveals the fact that farms have lain at the foundation of every country that ever flourished, whilst the lessening of enthusiasm for the overlying land has always been coincident with gradual failure.

If this principle be true, it therefore follows, that the primary duty of any Government is to examine the conditions under which the tillers of the soil live, work and carry on their business, and then adopt such methods as are necessary to adjust those conditions for the greatest possible prosperity to those who are first concerned and thus, to the welfare of the Province, as a whole.

Some Obstacles

Upon examination, our Government found that the lure of other lands, the lack of leadership, the want of co-operative marketing, and the indifference towards agricultural education were the principal obstacles to the advancement of agriculture.

Interest, then, in our own land had to be created. Our Government concerted its efforts, through the British Settlement Scheme and the Farm Settlement Board, to increase settlement and thereby, augment the wealth to which the extent and fertility of New Brunswick's farm lands are entitled.

And so, Mr. Speaker, immigration and settlement induced further establishment of our own people on the land. A new spirit, under a competent direction, was produced and co-operative marketing was organized. Our Government had realized that the agricultural industry had to be scientifically studied, not only from the marketing standpoint, but from the production as well, and so it appointed agronomists to impart scientific knowledge of agriculture, and assist in the marketing of the rural products.

Agricultural Education

It did more. Knowing that the Agri-

cultural future rests on the children of both sexes of our rural centres of today, it gave a high place to agricultural education in our elementary schools. Their education is exemplified by the formation of boys' and girls' clubs to instruct them in the proper methods of keeping, managing, exhibiting and marketing of the best live stock and also, by the establishment of school gardens, home gardens and school expositions.

The teacher links up these practical tasks with the ordinary class studies, and so, Mr. Speaker, in ten years from now, the agricultural problems which appear hard to solve today will be easy to the present students.

In sum, the agricultural future of the Province is already brightening. There is, undoubtedly, a continuous effort going on to increase production and to produce a better food product.

This year, for the fourth year in succession, a satisfactory crop has been gathered and the markets for farm products, although variable, on the whole, have been satisfactory.

Some Statistics

A more than average yield of nearly all field crops of the best quality, is indicated by the department of agriculture. The acreage of staple farm crop was 334,000 acres, or 5,120 acres more than last year. A better than average potato crop was produced; orchards were fruitful; hay beautiful and root crops plentiful. And the same report concludes: "All farm crops are abundant; the Province experiencing, perhaps, the most productive year in its history."

In short, after four consecutive seasons of more than average yield of agricultural products, our Province may record with some satisfaction, the visible signs of growing production, increasing interest and encouraging progress in a number of lines of agricultural activities.

Help to Continue

The Government, in proportion to its revenues, will continue to give material assistance to the farming avocation of our Province. By contributing to render agriculture more prosperous we are making possible the re-occupation of our abandoned farms, we are inculcating a greater love for the land to the farmer's son, we are encouraging those of the City and town who would return to the farm, and we are dealing with, if not settling the unemployment problem.

While agriculture is, and we trust, will always continue to be our great industry, yet, the increasing production of the other industries should help to stabilize our economic structure and should make towards a better balanced condition for both producer and consumer. It will therefore be found natural that coincident with the growth of agriculture, there should also be found the industrial development.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, during the five years of our administration, substantial developments have occurred; many undertakings of magnitude were completed, whilst other made promising progress.

Grand Falls Power

The Grand Falls power development, the largest in the Maritime Provinces, is veritably completed; and the Newprint Mill at Dalhousie, started in September 1928, was officially opened on the 14th day of March, last. Since then, operations have been successful; and we are informed that plans are underway to double the daily output. As the timber limits for this mill have been carefully assembled, we are assured that under the adopted method of scientific cutting, exacted under the Crown Land leases, the available supply of wood is more than sufficient for the continuous operation of this mill.

A Pulpwood Market

In fact, the pulp and paper industry is active, and there is, at present, every indication that the employment situation, in that industry, will be further augmented as the price of newsprint will increase and the mills continue to convert, in a greater amount, the resources of the forest into a commodity for which there should be a world-wide demand. Consequently, also, upon the expansion of this industry, there has, naturally, been created a greater domestic market for pulpwood.

Grand Lake Power

The Musquash and Grand Falls development have, in recent years, extended a network of service line in many sections of the Province. In addition to the usual programme, covering extension of the transmission system, authorization has been given, by the Government, to the New Brunswick Electric Power Commission, to establish a steam power plant in the Grand Lake Coal area; and it is expected that this new plant, utilizing the pulverized coal from the mines, will be ready to distribute electricity before the end of the year.

This extension and improvement will, in a great degree, widen the use of power and it will perfect the electrification of our Province.

So, Mr. Speaker, the conditions of life, in hitherto, regarded lonely and isolated rural places, will continue to advance, as the extension of the wonderful supply of electric facilities will continue to give to the farmer and his family their share of progressive things.

A Great Improvement

The industrial movement, as evidenced by the report recently issued by the manufacturers of the Maritime Provinces, has been strongly progressive. In our own Province, we find, in recent years, a substantial improvement in manufactures, noticeable particularly as regards gross value of products, capital invested and number of employees given employment.

According to the report published in the industrial edition of the Telegraph-Journal, there were, this year, 864 manufacturing establishments giving employment to 18,560 workers, with yearly salaries of over \$15,000,000. Particularizing, we find that the rise to

the production of manufactures is 21 per cent; in capital invested, the increase is 16 per cent; and in the number of employees, the augmentation is over forty per cent.

Whilst the extent of manufactures, in our own Province, may yet be considered relatively small, still, with the introduction of new capital, greater exploitation of natural resources, and the extension of markets actually goes on, industrialization will continue to assume in our economic activities a very important position.

A Holiday Country

Mr. Speaker, in addition to keeping side by side with our neighboring Provinces, in the march of commercial and industrial activities, New Brunswick, has created for itself an enviable reputation as being a charming holiday country where a greater variety of attraction and recreation, than in any other district is available, at moderate costs, to the visitor.

This reputation was obtained through the efforts of the Government, in providing facilities for easy and convenient travel throughout all sections of the Province, combined with an aggressive publicity policy carried on by the Provincial Bureau of Information and Tourist Travel, on a business like basis, and by the development of our recreational resources.

Was Well Maintained

And, whilst a decline in tourist traffic is reported from some other parts of the Dominion; we are in the happy position of having seen added to the already long succession of annual increments of revenue derived from this source, a further increase of 40 per cent over last year.

In no other parts of Canada, has there been such a proportionate increase in the importance and volume of the tourist trade as in New Brunswick since the advent to power of our Government.

This result, coming especially at a time when it was so desirable to conserve and to increase an income from such a source, is very gratifying and reflects great credits on those who officially, and privately have interested themselves in the task.

We wish, particularly, to extend our sincere thanks to the Press which, on all occasions, has done its very best to make known the recreative attractions of our Province. And it is, we believe, with gratification, that the Press, unaccustomed to receive the praises often merited, will accept our tardy testimony of recognition, with the assurance, on our part, that it is as sincere as it is late.

Fishing Industry

Mr. Speaker, another industry, which can always be depended upon to produce its reasonable share of employment and of wealth, is the fishing industry. We are pleased to note that conditions, in this industry, as follows:

REVENUE		EXPENDITURE	
Estimated	Actual	Estimated	Actual
\$1,266,766	\$1,266,765.76	Dominion Subsidy	
		Public Debt	\$1,802,717
		Legislation	70,437
28,000	23,204.32	Deputy Attorney General	263,475
15,000	19,637.56	Dept. Agriculture	297,758
1,090,100	1,074,493.20	Dept. Lands & Mines	259,400
16,250	16,320.50	Dept. Public Works	1,361,147
15,000	14,491.22	Dept. Public Health	157,440
3,200	3,586.25	Dept. of Education (G)	531,021
52,775	44,448.27	Dept. of Education (V)	105,446
945,688	857,452.77	Dept. Prov. Secty-Treas.	345,242
		Executive Council	10,875
1,500,000	1,544,303.08	N. B. Liquor Con. Board (net	
113,000	115,163.21	Provincial Hospital	209,000
65,500	68,081.54	Jordan Memorial San.	125,000
		Tuberculosis Aid	45,000
18,750	9,990.62	Boys' Industrial Home	30,000
885,000	874,997.97	Motor Vehicle Law	
600,000	650,808.00	Gasoline Tax	959,263
\$6,615,029	\$6,583,726.35		903,975.73
		Service to Farmers, Deficit on Ordinary Revenue	\$635,129.27

during the last years, have been fairly attractive.

With the rapid freezing methods advocated and adopted, the fresh fish trade is being quickly improved; and we can truly say, that the fresh and cured fish commodities are making steady progress.

With the creation of a separate Governmental Department of Fisheries, under a Minister who has charge of it alone, the interests of the fishermen will not only be well looked after, but the fisheries of Canada, and consequently those of New Brunswick, should continue to bring wealth to our people.

Deserves Support

We are glad to see this industry given the measure of public support which it justly deserves and a consideration given to the fishermen equal to that granted to our citizens in other lines of endeavours.

We have, therefore, every faith that in the next few years, our fisheries will be developed on such scale as the value warrants it, with the resultant result on an increased prosperity in that important source of revenue; the productive value of which is now nearly six million dollars.

Mineral Wealth

Mr. Speaker, since our avenue to power, over five years ago, one of our consistent purposes has been to create a greater practical interest in our mineral potentialities.

To this end, our mining laws were revised; a provincial mineralogist was appointed; and a provincial Building, at the University of New Brunswick, was constructed to provide for the proper training of men in this branch of geology. These radical improvements are an indication of the interest taken in the advancement of our mining enterprises. Prospecting, which heretofore had fallen into desuetude, has lately been pursued more energetically with encouraging results. Forty eight prospecting licenses were issued in the year 1927; one hundred and thirty four in 1928; one hundred and nine in 1929 and ninety nine in 1930. The number of licenses issued

indicates that the mineral wealth of our Province is being better surveyed; and, enough progress has been made to show that we have important resources which, a few years ago, were considered of very little value.

Provincial Finances

Mr. Speaker, coming more particularly to the finances, it has been the aim of the Government, since it assumed office, to place the finances of the Province on sound economic basis; to balance the budget by the stimulation of the productive possibilities of the Province, rather than by the increase of taxation as was practiced under former Governments.

Our policy, then, has been to make the current revenue derived from the taxation of natural resources and industries meet the current expenditure.

An intelligent application of that policy hath given us three successive balanced budgets and surpluses in current accounts; and, we would have finished the financial year with another surplus, as estimated, had it not been for the intervention of another equally imperative principle becoming a duty, the providing, at the expense of the State of work for those in necessity. When work ceases or diminishes, then arises the urgent obligation of the Government to see that the people are given an opportunity to earn their living. This obligation, unforeseen in our estimates of last year, caused by the unemployment conditions prevailing all over Canada, was also felt in our province. Our Government, true to the mandate of providing for the welfare of the people, did not hesitate to enlarge the different services to provide the needed work, at the expense of our public revenues, to equalize the economic situation, so that, Mr. Speaker, we should have no apology to offer for the small deficit of \$635,129.27 spent for the alleviation of what, otherwise, might have been distress and misery.

A Good Achievement

On the contrary, we claim, viewing the conditions elsewhere, and the problems which we had to face here, that the financial statement which we have to offer to this House is a highly creditable achievement and one which will appeal generally to the best judgment of the people of the Province.

Our total revenue for the year 1930 from all departments was \$6,583,726.35, which is an excess over the previous year of \$7,488.30, whilst our total ordinary expenditure for the same year was \$7,218,855.63, which is an increase over the previous year of \$651,995.37.

The result, therefore, is a deficit of \$635,129.27, instead of an estimated surplus of \$41,808.00, summarized that conditions, in this industry, as follows:

REVENUE		EXPENDITURE	
Estimated	Actual	Estimated	Actual
\$1,266,766	\$1,266,765.76	Dominion Subsidy	
		Public Debt	\$1,802,717
		Legislation	70,437
28,000	23,204.32	Deputy Attorney General	263,475
15,000	19,637.56	Dept. Agriculture	297,758
1,090,100	1,074,493.20	Dept. Lands & Mines	259,400
16,250	16,320.50	Dept. Public Works	1,361,147
15,000	14,491.22	Dept. Public Health	157,440
3,200	3,586.25	Dept. of Education (G)	531,021
52,775	44,448.27	Dept. of Education (V)	105,446
945,688	857,452.77	Dept. Prov. Secty-Treas.	345,242
		Executive Council	10,875
1,500,000	1,544,303.08	N. B. Liquor Con. Board (net	
113,000	115,163.21	Provincial Hospital	209,000
65,500	68,081.54	Jordan Memorial San.	125,000
		Tuberculosis Aid	45,000
18,750	9,990.62	Boys' Industrial Home	30,000
885,000	874,997.97	Motor Vehicle Law	
600,000	650,808.00	Gasoline Tax	959,263
\$6,615,029	\$6,583,726.35		903,975.73
		Service to Farmers, Deficit on Ordinary Revenue	\$635,129.27

Mr. Speaker, whilst the revenues have greatly augmented, the expenditures have also been proportionately increased, due largely to the result of normal expansion, the institution of new public services and the adoption of paternalism by the Government; as for instance, the assistance rendered to the farmers through district agricultural representatives, agricultural societies, exhibitions and other forms of contributions; the generous grants given to hospitals, sanatoriums and tuberculosis aid; the providing of a system of free school books for the whole of primary education; the medical inspection of schools; and other public health nursing.

Other necessary expenditures, which also account for a large part of the increase, are the expensive building of highways and the development of our natural resources.

However, as these expenditures are for the direct benefits of the people, and as the benefits rendered, far exceed the money involved, they become a subject of gratification to the Government, instead of a detriment.

Comparative Statement

As a matter of interest, we are giving herewith a statement showing the surplus or deficit of each year since 1921; making the comparison of the last five years of the late regime, with the five years of our own administration.

Late Administration		Our Administration	
Year	Surplus	Year	Surplus
1921	\$ 507,132.51	1926	\$ 61,523.44
1922	189,511.42	1927	15,792.64
1923	524,611.55	1928	198,209.36
1924	248,129.31	1929	9,377.80
1925	756,589.51	1930	635,129.27
\$2,225,974.30		\$223,379.80	
		\$696,652.71	

From these figures, it will be seen that under our administration, we (Continued on page three)

FREQUENT PAINS?



NEVER let a throbbing head interrupt your shopping! Or other pain that Aspirin ends so quickly. These harmless tablets are an antidote for the most acute pain. Relief is almost instantaneous. Taken in time, they will break up a cold and head off discomfort. They'll relieve your suffering from neuralgia, neuritis, or the like, at any time. Thousands of

women depend upon Aspirin tablets every month to spare them from those pains peculiar to women. These tablets do not depress the heart; they may be used as frequently as there is need of their quick comfort. So, it's folly to endure any pain that Aspirin tablets could relieve so promptly. Get the genuine, which is always to be had at any drugstore.

ASPIRIN
TRADE-MARK REG.
MADE IN CANADA