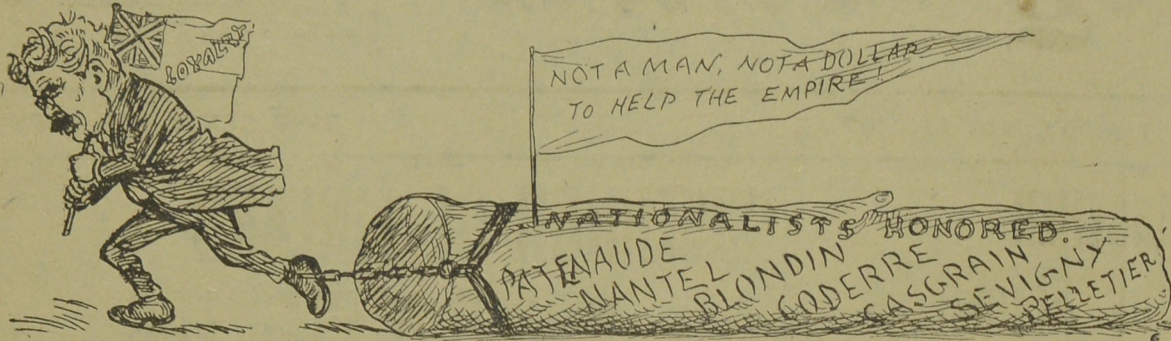


"A HEAVY LOAD" IN TIME OF WAR



BUSINESSLIKE SPEECH BY PREMIER W. E. FOSTER

Leader of Provincial Government Made an Excellent Impression in Maiden Effort-- Debate on Address Was Continued-- Premier Dealt With Record of Predecessors and Mentioned Intentions of Present Administration--House Adjourned Until Monday at 8.30 p. m.

Speeches by Mr. J. A. Murray, the opposition leader, and Premier Foster were the outstanding features of the meeting of the Legislature on Friday afternoon. Mr. Murray spoke for an hour and was followed by the Premier, who had the floor about half an hour. A number of bills were given their first reading and a number of reports were brought down, including that of the Auditor General, the Crown Land report, the reports on schools and agriculture.

The opposition came to the front with a number of notices of enquiry, one of which related to the cancellation of the Carten contract for the Perry Point bridge. Mr. Smith, of Carleton, asked for information as to the number of officials dismissed or replaced since the present government took office.

Mr. Potts, the new member for St. John, who stated during the recent election that it would only be necessary to consult the daily newspapers to know that he was on the job in the House, moved the adjournment of the debate, which was made the order of the day for Monday evening at 8.30 o'clock.

HON. MR. FOSTER

The Premier Delivers His Maiden Speech and Creates an Excellent Impression.

Hon. Mr. Foster said that every new Member of the House since the day of its institution had he was sure on rising for the first time asked for the indulgence of the Members and he believed because of the position which he occupied, and in not before having had the honour of occupying a seat in the legislature, and because of the fact that without that experience he was in the position of Leader of the Government, that he would receive kind consideration from the Members on both sides. His position, in that respect was unique, but he was confident that not only his supporters but his opponents as well would exercise towards him that spirit of fairness which is so characteristic of the people of New Brunswick.

Well Deserved Praise

He wished first of all to congratulate the mover and seconder of the address on the very interesting and able way in which they had performed their duties. He could well understand how they felt when rising in their places for the first time to fulfil their duties and to accept the honour on behalf of their constituencies. He of course was not able to make any comparison with the way in which that duty had been performed by many others in years passed, but he felt safe in saying that they had more than met the expectations of their friends and their constituents might well be proud of them. He had listened with a great deal of interest to the speech of his honourable friend the leader of the opposition, and he would like to take this first opportunity he had had to congratulate him upon the position which he now occupied, and to express the wish that he might long continue to perform the pleasant duties of Opposition Leader. His own occupation of that position while of a short duration, was he could tell him rather strenuous, and he could further tell him that considerable would be expected of him, more especially should he occupy it while a general election was in progress. Reports, however, said that his friends are already busy, saying themselves on his account, and if the government in Dominion affairs clung to office for a sufficient length of time, he might be transferred to some larger field of usefulness. His speeches were always interesting and contained many good words and intentions, but the results he hoped or wished for apparently were not always attained. The people on February 24th decided on a change; they wanted something better than words.

The Connaughts' Departure.

The speech from the Throne contained a reference to the departure from the Dominion of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught after faithfully serving the Crown as Governor General of this Dominion under most trying circumstances. During his stay here His Royal Highness visited nearly all parts of the Dominion, acquainting himself with the customs and characteristics of the people; with the result that he endeared himself to the people of this country and with his departure he left behind him a spirit of loyalty and devotion. But since returning to the Old Land bereavement had visited his household, and he, the speaker, wished to refer to the death of Her Royal

Highness the Duchess of Connaught and add his simple tribute to those of other speakers who have previously alluded to this event. It was his (the speaker's) fortunate privilege to have been presented to Her Royal Highness upon the occasion of their visit to this province shortly after their coming to Canada, and he presumed it was because of that that he had watched and followed all that had been said and written of her noble work on behalf of those who were making sacrifices on the fields of Flanders. All sympathized with Her Royal Highness in the position she occupied, by the fact that the land of her birth was at war with the land she lived in; but that did not deter her from carrying out her duties and supporting all movements within her power for the comfort and help of the Canadian soldiers. He believed he was expressing the unanimous opinion of the Legislature when he said that they conveyed to His Royal Highness their deepest sympathy.

As leader of the government, he regretted the lateness of the assembling of the members of the House at a season of the year when activities in all lines of commerce and work are at their height, but such being the case he could only express the hope that unnecessary discussions would be eliminated and the business of the House might be put through with dispatch, having in view, however, the proper criticism and the proper consideration which each and every measure deserved.

Accounts to be Audited.

Pursuant to promises to the electors of the province made previous to the general election, a thorough audit of the accounts is now in progress in order that we might ascertain if the surplus shown by the statement as it appeared in the Royal Gazette for the end of the fiscal year ending October 31st, 1916, was a real surplus or only a fictitious one shown for the consumption of the electors. Statements were frequently made by speakers during the campaign on this side of the House and indignantly denied by the government, that large amounts and accounts contracted previous to that time were not taken into account but held over for later payment, thereby not showing the true state of affairs as they actually existed. If the statements we made with respect to this matter are true, then he would say some improved methods of book-keeping must be inaugurated whereby a true statement of the liabilities as they exist at the end of the fiscal year shall be forthcoming for the information of the public, and not one gotten up and trimmed up for the occasion. Then there is the Audit Act that has been boasted so much about since 1908 and which was to prevent over-drawn accounts and extravagant expenditure. He believed that that Act needs revision and the powers of the Auditor General strengthening. These and other matters will be fully investigated by the auditors.

Mr. Smith (Carleton)—A rather serious reflection on the Auditor General.

The Valley Railway.

The speech from the throne refers to the construction of the Valley Railway. He did not wish at this time to enter into a discussion with respect to the merits or the demerits of the methods employed in its construction nor the route it is to follow, except as one who has taken an interest in it from its earliest inception, to express the keenest disappointment at the decisions arrived at at various times to

so far depart from the original intention. Rumors have been current, rightly or wrongly he was not prepared to say, that all the money obtained for this purpose did not go into the actual construction of the road, and to set these rumors at rest it is due to the taxpayers that an inquiry should be held for this purpose and the full facts ascertained. A Commissioner for this purpose has been appointed, and his report will be placed before the House as soon as received. If it shows that there is no foundation for the insinuations, then he hoped the last would be heard of them, but if on the other hand money belonging to the people has gone into other channels than the proper one, then he could say it will be the duty of this Legislature to compel the return of that money into the treasury of the

Province.

Prohibition.

The hon. leader of the opposition had cited the Royal Gazette to show that the Chief Inspector under the Prohibition Act had been appointed on the recommendation of the Dominion Alliance. It was true that the appointment was made on the recommendation of the Alliance, but they had simply followed precedent, as it was the Dominion Alliance that gave the old government the draft of the bill. Having practically given the Alliance charge of the bill, he did not think his predecessors in office could raise any objection to the course pursued by the present administration. While on this subject, he might say that the appointment of Mr. Wilson as Chief Inspector was an answer to those who had claimed that if we were placed in power that the Act would not go into force for eighteen months and that the only solution of the difficulty. He did not wish to take away any of the credit from those who passed the Prohibition Act, but he would repeat for the information of the public that the Act can be enforced in so far as it lies within the government's power to enforce it, and he had faith that his friends opposite will give it all their assistance not only as a party, but as individuals, to bring into full force and effect all the provisions of it which they claim to their credit. It has been openly charged against him (Foster) both in the press and from the public platform, that he had no use for prohibition, and like a merchant who had a stock of goods on hand for the convenience of his customers, kept this special article in stock only for those who had use for it and who handed it out when the

That's it! Clean and—
—Free from Dust
"SALADA"
TEA
Sealed Packets Only - Never in Bulk
BLACK - MIXED - NATURAL GREEN

occasion required. He had no reason to sail under false colors or act the part of a hypocrite and pose as a total abstainer; but would say, if we are going to have prohibition, let us have it. As it stands today, it is in operation in but six counties. He did not believe that the proper regulation of the liquor traffic can be had with a dual law in force. The Scott Act is in force in nine separate counties. Are we to have nine separate and distinct elections to repeal this act? Let us ask the Dominion government to repeal the Scott Act by one enactment so the Prohibition Act will have every chance to prove its worth, until such time as the electors will have an opportunity to say whether they desire total prohibition or not.

The Great War.

So much has been said and so much

has been written regarding the world-struggle that he felt that any reference he could make to it would be feeble in the extreme, but he wanted in his humble way to pay his respects and in the name of the people of the province do honor to those who have performed the highest form of patriotism by offering their services to the

(Continued on page 3.)



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Cold, Calculating Common Sense



"A business that tends to produce idleness and disease, pauperism and crime."—U. S. Supreme Court.

The Situation in United States

(From New Jersey "Issue")

These States are "Dry."

Maine
Kansas
North Dakota
Oklahoma
Georgia
Mississippi
North Carolina
Tennessee
West Virginia
Virginia
South Carolina
Alabama
Arkansas
Iowa
Arizona
Idaho
Colorado
Oregon
Washington
Michigan
Montana
Nebraska
South Dakota
Utah
Indiana

Total—25

Preparing to Vote

Wyoming
Florida
New Mexico
Minnesota
Texas
Kentucky
Ohio
Illinois
Nevada
Delaware
New Hampshire
Vermont
Maryland
California
Missouri
Massachusetts
Rhode Island
Connecticut
Louisiana
Wisconsin
Pennsylvania
New Jersey
New York

Total—14

We print in this announcement a list of the states showing the great progress that Prohibition had made on its own merits in the United States before the Union entered the war. In connection with that list we want you to see what is the view of a business man's periodical devoted to commercial, economical and other financial questions (The Analyst, New York). Its Kansas correspondent writes:

"To-day the argument for Prohibition is simple and direct—namely, that human experience and medical research and experimentation have showed beyond doubt that alcohol is a poison, and that in its toxic qualities and effects it differs in degree, and not in kind, from cocaine and opium. This conviction is the strength and support of Prohibition, and the cause of its uninterrupted progress. It is clearly seen to be an economic measure rather than one of morals only."

"All the pleas and arguments of personal liberty, of the social delights of alcohol, of the charm it adds to life, of the employment it affords to thousands, seem futile and ineffective in the light of the fast-spreading belief that alcohol is the greatest known deterrent to economic efficiency. The fight against its use is no longer a matter of emotionalism, but of cold, calculating common sense."

A Comparison

Here is the plight of a large city still under license:

The result of alcohol is to breed vice and crime and to cause both mental and physical inefficiency among men. The license system has been a sickening failure. For a typical instance, listen to Governor Foss of Massachusetts: "In the last fifteen years (Boston) the arrests for drunkenness have increased from 18,000 to 57,000, 300 per cent. Over 60 per cent. of all the arrests in Boston are for drunkenness. It is very evident that our license system in Boston has increased drunkenness instead of checking it."

The Sheriff of Denver testifies for Prohibition, which went into effect there January 1st:

"We have about three-fifths the arrests we had formerly. The police court record for drunks and disturbances has fallen over forty per cent., the habitual loafer has disappeared, the can-rusher, the old soak who came home with a quarter in his pocket and sent his eight-year-old, ragged, barefoot girl to the saloon for a can of beer and then tossed her a crust of bread while he swigged the beer and snarled at her through his drunkenness, is no longer a resident of Denver."

Help to Enforce Prohibition

Does New Brunswick want to go back to license? If not, then she must, right now, **enforce** the Prohibition laws with all her might. It must be enforcement by the **whole people** in co-operation with the appointed officers of the law.

Dominion Temperance Alliance

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