

The Budget Brought Down In the Provincial Legislature

Receipts for the Fiscal Year estimated at \$2,135,780.15 Largest in the History of the Province---Estimated Surplus of \$10,071---An Able Exposition of Provincial Finances by Hon. Robert Murray ---Mr. Baxter Indulges in Some Fault Finding.

Hon. Robert Murray, Provincial Secretary-Treasurer, brought down the Budget in the Legislature Tuesday afternoon. In an address of nearly two hours he gave a clear and forcible presentation of provincial finances, which was followed with great interest. He gave the estimated receipts for the year at \$2,135,780.15, and the estimated expenditure at \$2,125,709.02, leaving an unappropriated balance of \$10,071.13 on the year's operations.

It was the Provincial Secretary-Treasurer's first budget speech, and he surprised both friends and opponents by his fluency and grasp of the subject.

There were a few interruptions from the opposition benches, but it did not take Hon. Mr. Murray long to demonstrate the fact that he was exceedingly well able to take care of himself. At the close of his speech he was very warmly congratulated. Mr. Baxter, the opposition financial critic, spoke for two hours after recess. He criticized the budget proposals and labored hard to show that the government was not carrying out its pledges. He devoted considerable attention to Valley Railway investigations, and also referred to the "dim recollection" incident, claiming that there has been a damnable plot to ruin him, which had failed in its purpose.

Assembly Chamber, April 9, 1918. The House met at three o'clock.

Bills to vest a water works system in the Town of Devon, to amend the Towns Incorporation Act relating to the Town of Sussex, to amend the act respecting Motor Vehicles, and to vest the title of certain wharves in the Dominion Government, were read the third time and passed.

MR. KING presented the report of the committee on Standing Rules.

Notices of enquiry were given as follows:

By MR. CROCKET, as to the amount of \$10,000 contributed by the Government to the Halifax Relief Fund, and correspondence relating to the same.

By MR. MURRAY (Kings) as to the disposition of fertilizer purchased by the Government.

By MR. SMITH (Carleton) as to the amount expended on permanent bridges since the close of the fiscal year.

MR. LeBLANC introduced a bill to amend the act relating to the Town of Dalhousie, and also a bill to enable the said Town to issue debentures.

MR. McGRATH introduced a bill to amend the act relating to the Town of Newcastle.

MR. PINDER introduced a bill to amend the act incorporating the St. John River Log Driving Company.

HON. MR. MURRAY presented a message from His Honor the Lieutenant Governor submitting the estimates for the current year, and moved that the consideration of such message and estimates be referred to the Committee on Supply.

The estimates will be found elsewhere in this issue.

THE BUDGET SPEECH.

Hon. Mr. Murray Looks Upon the Situation with Optimism.

HON. MR. MURRAY on rising to move the House into Committee on

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children
In Use For Over 30 Years

Always bears
the
Signature of *Chas. H. Hitchcock*

Supply, said that he desired to make a few observations with reference to the financial condition of the province at the present time. In doing so, he was glad to be able to say that notwithstanding the enormous drain that had been placed on the people by the terribly cruel and costly war, and the set-backs and difficulties which many industries have suffered, the people in a general way were in a flourishing and prosperous condition, and this notwithstanding the fact that the people had responded nobly to the call to arms, thus removing the best samples of manhood which New Brunswick or any other province could produce.

These men, in common with those from other provinces, have by their valor and heroism on the battlefield, made a name for this fair Dominion of which the people may be justly proud. As one of the results of the war, New Brunswick in common with other provinces, is being looked to by the needs of the Allies on the battle fronts, and he was glad to know that the response had been gratifying. Although deprived of the services of those young men in the matter of greater production, the province had done nobly, while the obligation the people owed to those who had gone overseas to fight for that liberty which all had enjoyed, to die on the battlefield, if such should be their lot, or to return to their homes crippled or broken in health, could never be repaid, yet all would treasure in their hearts the remembrances of those sacrifices.

With respect to those incapacitated from military duty, but whose labors were required in other spheres, he was happy to say that the great mass of them had acquitted themselves well. Of the grand and noble work of the women of the province and their untiring activities and energies in Red Cross and other patriotic associations, the people had every reason to be proud. The hearty and patriotic responses to the call for subscriptions to Canadian war loans by the people of the province, not only demonstrated their loyalty, but the large amount subscribed in New Brunswick showed that the inhabitants of the province have been financially prospering, notwithstanding the regrettable war conditions.

It was his duty as Provincial Secretary-Treasurer to point out that the mistakes of the late administration must be paid for and that it will take several years of business like treatment before those mistakes could be offset or overcome.

The Valley Railway.

The Government had not yet reached the peak-load of overhead charges placed upon the province by their predecessors, nor would the full force of that be felt until the Valley Railway was completed. However, they had bright hopes that before long the efforts recently put forth by the Government would result in the taking over of that road and that New Brunswick would be relieved of the enormous overhead imposed on it by that extensive undertaking.

His purpose in directing attention to such matters was not primarily to criticize predecessors in office but to aid the people to arrive at a more intelligent understanding of the financial situation, having also in view the exposing of the numerous incorrect statements of the opposition press with regard to the finances and the policies of the government. He proposed to divide the budget speech into two parts, the first taking the form of a brief review of the financial statements as presented in the Auditor General's report and the second part being an explanation of the proposed expenditure as set forth in the estimates. It would be noted that the financial statement as contained in the Auditor General's report was presented for the first time in a new form and in such a manner as could be more easily understood. The capital asset and capital liability statement were shown on pages A44 and A45, while the current asset and current liability statement was shown on pages A46 and A47. In former years those two statements were ranged into one and did not show the true standing of capital and current account and the financial position of the province.

The Public Debt.

Referring to the capital asset and capital liability statement on the credit side as liabilities, it would be seen that the funded debt amounted to \$15,809,855.80, including \$5,950,000 as Valley Railway bonds and debenture stock. There was additional Valley Railway liability and bank overdraft of \$615,675.80, and contractors' deposits and hold-backs amounted to \$238,681.86. The next item was permanent bridge bills payable, amounting to \$42,038.36, and permanent road bills payable, amounting to \$29,478.41. It was also shown that capital account owed current account \$61,400.27 for advances made in payment of discounts on bonds prior to 1917 and redemption of bonds made during the same year. These items brought the total outstanding capital liabilities of the province up to \$16,797,050.50. The item of \$1,030,887.89 being put down as sinking fund simply offset the amount collected for that purpose as shown by the entry on the debit or asset side of the statement. The balance shown to the credit of the province at Ottawa was \$529,299.39, which amount was drawing interest at the rate of 5 per cent. He held that the interest rate should be 6 per cent., and the government would make an effort to have it increased. The total amount of the Valley Railway investment, less the sum of \$626,776.47 retained by the Prudential Trust Company, was \$6,177,501.19. There had been expended on the New Brunswick Coal and Railway \$1,246,431.77, on permanent bridges \$4,733,635.42, on permanent roads \$363,545.06, on the Farm Settlement Board \$150,000. Other expenditures provided for by bonds issued outstanding totalled \$2,878,576.85. The moneys available for capital outlay totalled \$718,060.81, and sinking funds totalled \$1,030,887.89. In connection with the latter item he wished to say that not one dollar of sinking fund money remained in consolidated account for current expenditures, and in addition the amount of \$427,000 retained by the old government in revenue account at 3 per cent. interest, had been put in its proper place as a sinking fund and was now drawing 4 per cent.

Outstanding Accounts.

Taking up the current asset and liability statement he said that the various items were so simple that very little explanation was required. He might, however, draw attention to the item of bills payable on the liability side of the statement for ordinary roads. This item amounted to only \$2,483.18 as compared with very large amounts for this service outstanding in previous years. The same might be said of the item of \$12,255.10 for ordinary bridges.

Further on in the statement were shown very large amounts set up as accruals in interest and he wished to explain the meaning of such item. Teachers' salaries and educational grants for the term ending December 31st are not paid until the months of January and February following. The fiscal year expired on October 31st and therefore two-thirds of the total amount for the six months had been charged to the fiscal year.

Provincial Subsidies.

Deferred credit meant that one-third of the Dominion subsidy representing the portion for November and December was received on the first of July and set up as a liability to 1917. The asset side of the statement showed the amounts due the province and also the sum of \$1,087,270.21 as a current liability in excess of current assets. It was the intention of the government to bond the greater portion of that amount, but he would say for the information of the House that no accruals would be bonded. The Audit Act, already considered by the House, provided for a new system of accounting, and in future the consolidated revenue fund which was really a statement of cash receipts and cash payments will be supplemented by an annual statement of revenue and expenditure. The revenue side of such statement would include all revenue received and due as well as stocks on hand, and on the other side would be shown all expenditures made and incurred. It was felt that Departments should have no difficulty in rendering all their accounts for payment within 30 days after the close of the fiscal year, and legislation was being enacted compelling that to be done. The proposed statement would show the exact standing of all services of government and no doubt would be pleasing to the people of the province.

The total amount of outstanding bills on October 31st, 1917, was \$115,971.77 less educational accruals of

GIRLS! DRAW A MOIST CLOTH THROUGH HAIR, DOUBLE ITS BEAUTY

Try this! Hair gets thick, glossy, wavy and beautiful at once.

Immediate?—Yes. Certain?—that's the joy of it. Your hair becomes light, wavy, fluffy, abundant and appears as soft lustrous and beautiful as a young girl's hair. A Danderine hair cleanse. Just try this—moisten a cloth with a little Danderine and carefully draw it through your hair, taking one small strand at a time. This will cleanse the hair of dust, dirt or excessive oil, and in just a few moments you have doubled the beauty of your hair. A delightful surprise awaits those whose hair has been neglected or is scraggy, faded, dry, brittle or thin. Beside beautifying the hair, Danderine dissolves every particle of dandruff, cleanses, purifies and invigorates the scalp, forever stopping itching and falling hair, but what will please you most will be after a few weeks' use, when you see new hair—fine and downy at first—yes—but really new hair growing all over the scalp. If you care for pretty, soft hair, and lots of it, surely get a small bottle of Knowlton's Danderine from any drug store or toilet counter and just try it.

\$66,000.00 which makes the amount \$49,971.77 as against \$178,641.89 on October 31st, 1916, which amount was not shown in the accounts of that year. There was outstanding for Public Works on October 31st, 1917, the sum of \$30,042.73 as against \$97,558.58 on October 31st, 1916. The cash deficit on ordinary account for the year 1917 amounted to \$594,091.48 and was made up as follows:

(Continued on page 5.)

FACE NOTHING BUT RUNNING SORES FROM ECZEMA

No rest day or night for those afflicted with that terrible skin disease, eczema, or, as it is often called, salt. With its unbearable burning, itching, torturing day and night, relief is gladly welcomed.

There is no remedy like Burdock Blood Bitters for giving relief to such sufferers; no other remedy has done or can do so much for those who are almost driven to distraction with the terrible torture. Apply it externally and it takes out the stinging, itching and burning, and promotes a healthy healing.

Take it internally and it gets at the source of the disease in the blood and completely and permanently drives it out of the system.

Miss Mary V. Chambers, Anagance Ridge, N. B., writes: "I used Burdock Blood Bitters for eczema. I had it when an infant, but it left me. Two years later a running sore. I saw in the paper what B.B.B. did for people. I took it, and today I am free from that terrible disease."

Manufactured only by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

Ladies' Fine Boots

In tan and black, buttoned and laced, high cut and ordinary. A splendid range.

Men's Driving Boots

6 to 16 inch tops. Stream Drivers Supplies.

J. R. Monteith

North Devon.

'Phone 502

Our store closes at 6.30 each evening except Saturday

Substitute--Sink or Bath Tub Stopper

Milk Bottle Caps make good substitutes for the regular rubber stoppers in Basins and Bath Tubs. The water soon destroys them; but they will serve the purpose until a regular stopper can be obtained from D. J. SHEA & SON, who have a complete stock of Bath Room Specialties at their Store, Carleton Street.

Try "WITCH" SOOT DESTROYER.

D. J. Shea & Son

PUBLIC NOTICE

For the purpose of conserving coal, electric light and power will be shut off on Sundays from daylight to dark until further notice. It is not anticipated that this curtailment of electric service will continue for more than two months, probably not so long.

By order of the Directors of Fredericton Gas Light Co.
HARRY D. WHITE,
Manager.

MINSTREL

AND

VARIETY SHOW

OPERA HOUSE,

APRIL 11th and 12th.

Plan of Seats opens Monday Morning at 10 o'clock for Thursday Night's performance, and the plan for Friday night's show opens Tuesday Morning at the same hour at RYAN'S CENTRAL PHARMACY.

Entire proceeds to be used for patriotic work carried on by the

Anagwakade Chapter, I.O.D.E.

Admission, 35, 50, 75 Cents.

WRIGLEY'S

It's the great war-time sweetmeat.

- the benefit, the pleasure, the economy of a 5c package of WRIGLEY'S
- has made it the favourite "sweet ration" of the Allied armies.
- send it to your friend at the front:
- it's the handiest, longest-lasting refreshment he can carry.

CHEW IT AFTER EVERY MEAL.

The Flavour Lasts

Made in Canada

81

Sealed Tight

Kept Right

WRIGLEY'S SPEARMINT THE PERFECT GUM MINTLE FLAVOUR

WRIGLEY'S JUICY FRUIT CHEWING GUM THE FLAVOUR LASTS

WRIGLEY'S DOUBLEMINT CHEWING GUM MINTLE FLAVOUR