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THE STRONGEST MAN IN THE WORLD

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New Time.

Wed.—GERALDINE FARRAR and WALLACE REID in
"THE DEVIL STONE."

THE GOVT. SHOULD CONTROL WATER POWERS OF PROVINCE

(Continued from page 6.)

The ordinary expenditure in 1913 was \$2,166,903 but for purposes of comparison there must be deducted from this the Valley Railway interest charged to ordinary expenditure for the first time. In the year 1916 ordinary expenditures totalled \$1,568,342, but to this must be added \$178,000 of unpaid bills, which were paid in 1917, making the total charges for that year \$1,746,342; as against this the present administration carried over an amount of \$45,000. The result shows a very little difference in the figures of the auditor general's report.

MR. SMITH (Carlton) — "Mr. Speaker—

MR. MAGEE—I know what the hon. member is about to say and I will deal with that later."

MR. MAGEE continuing said that the amount carried over at the end of 1915 was not known, but that in the Public Accounts Committee it had been estimated at the same total as that at the end of the following year. The best the opposition members could show, by actual comparison, was an increase of expenditure of about \$220,000. From this may be deducted also other items of increase for which the government cannot be held responsible. For education \$4,400 more was spent; no one would bridge it. The sum of \$11,000 extra was spent for elections, which was not the fault of the government. Provincial Hospital maintenance had cost \$16,500 more, but the government could not control the increased cost of living.

An additional sum of \$50,000 had been spent on ordinary roads, but in 1915 the amount spent had been about the same. For ordinary bridges the increase was \$7,000, but in 1911 the amount spent was \$20,000 more than in 1917.

Taking into consideration these and other justifiable increases, it will be found that no reasonable fault can be found with the amount expended by the Foster government.

He would not be doing his duty if he did not say something on the subject of Ways and Means. Last year, in speaking on this subject, he had expressed the opinion that it would be possible to secure \$250,000 additional revenue. He wished to congratulate the government on the increase in stumpage, on the Wild Lands Tax, the increased royalties on coal mining, and the amount to be secured by means of the theatre tax.

The estimated revenue for 1918 was placed at \$2,135,000, an amount which would be reduced by the elimination of some cross-entries. He believed that the estimated amounts to be received from motor vehicles and by the theatre tax were too low, and that with other increases in revenue the total would be nearer \$2,175,000. But the province of New Brunswick still needed more money and the question was where it was to come from. References had been made, during many years, to the possibility of securing an increased Federal grant. He believed that the premier had made certain representations to the government and that the case for Nova Scotia also had been presented, but without result in either case.

He would like to draw attention to certain figures. The Federal grant received by New Brunswick is \$633,000; by Nova Scotia \$637,000, but Saskatchewan receives \$1,710,000, Alberta \$1,589,000 and British Columbia \$723,000. He could not understand why these differences should exist. In 1907 British Columbia had been given an additional \$100,000; Prince Edward Island had received an increased grant and the governments of Saskatchewan and Alberta had received grants of land. He could not understand why the Federal government could refuse to listen to claims of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and if an yone thing would bring these provinces together to attain the desirable result of Maritime Union, he believed that it was the question of Federal subsidies. The grant was made on the basis of eighty cents per capita, based on tariff income of the province at the time of Confederation. To compare tariff and economic conditions in this province then and now, would be to show justification for a demand for an increase of from 300 to 400 per cent. He wanted to urge upon the government that a larger grant must be secured, so that the province could expend a sufficient amount for education, good roads and the other public services of the province.

He had noticed a sum of \$1,800 for water power. He believed this was for investigating their possibilities; if so, he was in hearty accord with the idea. He believed that New Brunswick should have absolute control of its water powers and that they should

be exploited by this province as in Ontario. Hydro-electric development would well conform to the ideals of this province. If the power at Grand Falls and this half-million horse power, (of which the House had heard recently) were harnessed, electricity could be sent to every corner of the province. There was a scheme on foot to electrify the railways of Canada from one coast to the other. Grand Falls could furnish sufficient power to provide for the railways of this province. The matter of harnessing water power had been gone into extensively by the president of Acadia University, who had studied the harnessing of the tides and had announced that there was sufficient power at Cape Split to provide electricity for all purposes required within a radius of one hundred and seventy-five miles. He believed that Grand Falls was tied up, but he wanted to say, as a citizen of New Brunswick, that the investigation of all water powers in the province would be fully justified. He believed the government would be justified in going further and giving to the people the electric current available from these powers. These were his own sentiments.

He would like to draw the attention of the government to the fact that there are in New Brunswick two hundred and fifty men who might as well be employed in work on the roads as in expending their time within the walls of Dorchester Penitentiary. Convict labor had been used in western states and good roads showed the results of their work. Under the Prison Act of Canada no convict can leave the prison. An attempt was made in British Columbia to use convicts for road work but this was stopped by the authorities. In one state the parole system had been used and while a great many gangs had been sent out he understood that not one convict had attempted to escape even in the cases where they were sent out without guards. He believed the convicts would prefer to work in the open rather than to remain where they are, and he felt that if an amendment to the Federal Act could be secured, it would be an advantage both to the prisoners and to the province.

The hon. member from Charlotte— from Grand Manan—had mentioned municipal aid for provincial roads. He believed the suggestion was a good one and that the minister of Public Works would make no mistake if he sought the co-operation of municipalities for this purpose.

He had some further facts and figures which he would like to lay before the House, but he would defer their presentation to some other time. He wished to express his hearty thanks to hon. members for the attentive hearing which they had given him.

MR. POTTS said that owing to the lateness of the hour, and it being the first day of the week, he would move the adjournment of the debate.

HON. MR. FOSTER said that while he did not object to the motion of the hon. member for St. John, he thought the debate should have continued until midnight, still as the daylight saving plan was being given its first trial he would offer no opposition to the motion. He moved that supply be made the order of the day for tomorrow at 3 p. m.

Arjourned at 11.30 p. m.

Woman Suffrage

(Continued from page 6.)
MR. MURRAY (Kings) then moved, seconded by Mr. Tilley, the resolution of which he had given notice, and asked leave to introduce a bill entitled an Act to confer the electoral franchise upon women and in amendment of the Act 6 George V, Chapter 15, "An Act respecting the elections to the Legislative Assembly." He said that the question of extending the franchise to women had been so much discussed of late that it was not necessary for him to go into it at any great length. The bill he had introduced was based on the principle to which hon. members of the House had subscribed only a few days ago. He believed that the time had arrived when the women of the province should have the right to vote for candidates to the Legislative Assembly. He hoped that in view of the very active part which women had taken in connection with the war that the House would deal with the matter, not on party lines but as the conscience of each individual member dictated.

HON. MR. FOSTER said that when a bill to grant the franchise to women had been before the House a year

(Continued on page 4.)

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