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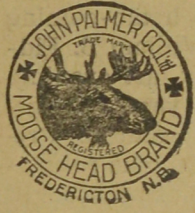
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THE BUDGET BROUGHT DOWN IN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Able Exposition of Provincial Finances by the Provincial Secretary-Treasurer—A Wonderful Showing Made by New Brunswick in Connection With the War—All Records Broken Last Year in the Matter of Agricultural Production—A Surplus of \$10,000 Estimated for Current Year.

Hon. Robert Murray, Provincial Secretary, delivered the budget speech in the Legislature yesterday afternoon. The hon. gentleman was in good form and performed his task in a most agreeable manner and was warmly congratulated on his effort. He estimates a revenue for the year of \$2,064,830.19 and an expenditure of \$2,054,187.84, leaving an unappropriated balance of \$10,642.36.

The bill to confer the franchise on women was taken up by the House in committee and advanced a stage.

There was an interesting discussion on the measure. Assembly Chamber, March 25, 1919. The House met at three o'clock.

Notices of inquiry were given as follows: By MR. SMITH (Carleton): As to amounts paid to Concrete Buildings, Ltd., and the Hartland Cement Block Company for pipe furnished last year.

By MR. PINDER: As to amounts paid P. J. Hughes for professional services last year and as to the cost of the McQueen inquiry.

By MR. SMITH (Albert): As to the tenders for the Salmon River Mouth Bridge; as to the purchase of wood from one A. R. Carter; as to details of expenses of the office staff of the St. John and Quebec Railway.

By MR. MERSERAU: As to the office of Registrar of Kings County and as to whether Fred M. Sproul the late Registrar, was under bonds to the province, the date of his appointment and who recommended him for the position.

By MR. MELANSON. As to the amounts paid directors, engineers and for legal expenses in connection with the St. John and Quebec Railway for the years 1916 and 1918.

HON. MR. TWEEDDALE presented the annual report of the Director of Agricultural Elementary Education.

MR. CAMPBELL presented the petition of the City of St. John for the passage of a Bill to amend the act relating to rates and taxes.

HON. MR. TWEEDDALE introduced a bill to amend the act to encourage the use of mussel mud as fertilizer. He explained that the original act authorized an appropriation of \$500 a year. Last year, owing to the high cost of fertilizer the amount had been increased by order-in-council to \$1000 and the object of the present bill was to confirm that increase.

MR. BAXTER introduced a bill to amend the act relating to sewers in the Parish of Lancaster.

MR. MICHAUD presented the petition from the town of Edmundston for the passage of an act providing for an issue of debentures.

HON. MR. VENIOT introduced a bill to provide for the sale to the federal government of certain short lines of Railway. He explained that the object of the bill was to confirm the title in rights of way of such railways and to authorize the sale of branch lines to the Federal government by companies which at present have no status to sell such roads.

MR. GRIMMER introduced a bill to incorporate the citizen's Gas Co.

THE BUDGET.
HON. MR. MURRAY presented a message from His Honor the Lieutenant Governor submitting the estimates for the ensuing year, and moved that such estimates together with His Honor's message be referred to the committee on supply. The estimates will be found on another page of this issue.

HON. MR. MURRAY, in rising to move the House into Committee of Supply, took occasion to extend his congratulations to the Speaker on his appointment to that important office. He felt sure that all predictions which had been made by previous speakers in regard to the fitness of the Chief Commissioner had been fully verified.

Continuing, he said that each year since 1914 Canada in common with many other countries had been engaged in the greatest, most terrible and disastrous war which the world had ever experienced. It was not necessary for him to relate that the inhabitants of New Brunswick had long ago become familiarized with the circumstances and fully approved of the course and policy of the British Government. Great Britain had declared war on August 4th, 1914, sending immediately to France 150,000 troops which the German Kaiser had styled "England's contemptible little army." Great Britain and her Allies fought against tremendous odds and the Germans, though meeting with success at first were foiled in their purpose by a signal battle fought at the Marne. The war, however, went on and while fighting for several years against great odds, Great Britain put forth her energies, made enormous progress in the manufacture of munitions, and increased her army to 8,000,000 men, no inconsiderable portion of which were furnished by the overseas dominions. The Colonies had rallied to the support of the motherland, and with the aid of the British Navy, that bulwark of freedom, the war was brought to a close by a victory for the Allies. The Germans were overcome and her main army being in danger of annihilation sued for an armistice, which was granted and hostilities ceased. The result of the war was hailed with joy by New Brunswick in common with most of the Nations of the world. New Brunswick has just cause to be proud of the part Canada took in the war, and of the noble support given

to the Allies by the Canadian Expeditionary Force. Canadians made a name for themselves and shed lustre on their country. For heroism, efficiency, and fortitude they were not excelled by any troops in the various theatres of the war. New Brunswick furnished a proportion of the Expeditionary Force of whose numbers and deeds the people of the province had every reason to be proud.

Those who were not considered suitable for work in the ranks remained at home and contributed nobly in various ways of their means and assistance in furthering the good work being done by the valiant troops in their fight for freedom. In that connection special mention might be made of the grand work accomplished by the women of the province, who so nobly devoted their time and energy in the Red Cross and other patriotic undertakings.

Work of the Navy.

To the British Navy must be accorded supreme credit for the successful outcome of the war. Had it not been for the Navy and its noble work the probability is that defeat instead of victory would have been the portion of the Allies. To the merchant marine and the seamen who so heroically manned the merchant vessels, the greatest credit is also due. Had they not faced the dangers so greatly enhanced by the treacherous under-sea boats, and succeeded in transporting such immense quantities of provisions and munitions as well as troops across the dangerous seas, there might have been a different and more disastrous end of the war. While it was right that everything possible should be done for the returned soldiers, the men of the merchant marine and dependents of those who had sacrificed their lives should not be overlooked.

While the war had ended in victory they had yet to deal with the results of that war. Speaking of Canada, people should not allow themselves to fall into the habit of supposing or believing that there was no further necessity for their effort. Those who had remained at home pursuing their usual vocation and had not experienced the dangers and suffering on the battle fronts and the high seas, should feel that their bounden duty to see that those who had served in the cause of freedom should be properly provided for. Those who have returned suffering from wounds or disease have claims upon the people which must not be ignored. It was the duty of the Federal Government to look after those men and he was glad to know that it was wide awake in the matter. Although mistakes might be made, he hoped and believed that the government would make wise and suitable provisions along lines he had indicated. All institutions as well as the public generally should see that everything possible was done to ameliorate the condition of Returned Soldiers. Those who had suffered through the ravages of war should be properly cared for to the best of the ability of the people financially and otherwise, and he trusted those who had so fearlessly manned the merchant marine would not be forgotten. He had every confidence that the people of New Brunswick would rise to the occasion, and do their part.

Prosperity Reigns.
Notwithstanding the terrible war,

Mothers! An Appeal For Your Children

Look back at your childhood days. Remember the physic that mother insisted on—castor oil, salts or cathartics. How you hated them. How you fought them. How you dreaded their after-effects. That was all wrong, but then nobody knew better.

With our children it's different. The day of harsh physics is over. We don't force the bowels now; we coax them. We have no dreaded after-effects. And the dose is a candy tablet.

Mothers who cling to the old form of physic simply don't know what they do. The children's revolt is well-founded. Their tender bowels are harmed by them. The modern way is to give a gentle laxative more frequently. To keep the bowels always active. The best method is Cascarets.

Cascarets are candy tablets. Children love their pleasant taste. They cost only 10 cents a box, with full directions for children's dosage at all ages. Babies too! Give Cascarets, then don't worry—they never disappoint.

he was glad to note that the people of the province had enjoyed prosperity. Proof of that could be found in the hearty response to the various calls made upon them, and particularly with reference to the war loan. While there had been drawbacks in business there were many counterbalancing advantages. The cost of living increased enormously, but wages and commodities increased in harmony. It was satisfactory to know that from commercial, financial, manufacturing, agricultural and other standpoints, the people at the close of the war were in the main prosperous and comfortably situated. They certainly had reason for thankfulness that they were not called upon to suffer as did those in the war theatres and were spared the devastation such as had occurred in the scenes of warfare.

As evidence of the prosperity of the people of New Brunswick he would point out that to the war loan of 1917 they had subscribed \$101,463,350, and for that of 1918, \$17,002,550, making a total purchase of war bonds amounting to \$27,465,900. The bank clearings of the province for the year 1917 were \$103,453,000, while for 1918 they amounted to \$117,133,000, an increase of \$13,680,000. In 1917 the estimated value of wheat grown in the province was \$602,836; in 1918 the total value was \$2,183,700, an increase of \$1,580,864. Oats grown in the province in 1917 had a value of \$4,470,453, while in 1918 the value was \$6,877,400, an increase of \$2,406,947. As for buckwheat there were no statistics available for 1917, but in 1918 the crop was valued at \$2,249,250. The value of barley grown in 1918 was \$293,652. In regard to potatoes the crop in 1917 was valued at \$6,143,849, and in 1918 at \$9,079,800, an increase of \$2,935,951. As for turnips the crop in 1917 was worth \$954,541, while in 1918 its estimated value was \$2,591,000, an increase of \$1,636,459. The total value of the crops he had named in 1917 was \$12,307,634, while in 1918 it was \$20,867,855, an increase of \$8,560,221. He felt sure that the showing made along agricultural lines was highly gratifying to the people of New Brunswick, and he had no hesitation in giving a great deal of credit for it to his hon. friend the Minister of Agriculture and his excellent staff.

Public Accounts.

HON. MR. MURRAY, continuing, said that the report on public accounts submitted by the government was more complete and comprehensive than any hitherto presented to the legislature. As had been promised there appeared in the report a new statement called the Revenue and Disbursement Statement. He wanted hon. members to be careful and not confuse that statement with the cash

expenditure and the cash receipts statement, better known as the Consolidated Revenue Account, which after all was made up of cash transactions only. In the new statement transactions belonging to the year were considered accounts receivable and accounts payable—so that a straightforward statement of revenue and disbursements was given to the House for the first time under the new system of accounting. He wished to say that under the Audit Act all public officials were required to submit their accounts within thirty days after the close of the fiscal year, but some outside officials had been tardy in that respect. As a result the comptroller general did not close his ledger until the 12th of January in order that a fair and full statement might be presented to the House. He hoped that in future some means would be found to insure greater promptness on the part of officials who had accounts against the government.

Valley Railway Interest.

He said that demands upon the important services of the province had been so great that after providing for the payment of \$174,000 in bond interest on that portion of the Valley Railway under operation there had been incurred a deficit of \$134,656.93. If they eliminated the Valley Railway transaction from the statement the deficit would be only \$207.12. With respect to the Valley Railway he wished to say that negotiations were now going on with the Dominion Government with a view of having the province relieved of that great financial burden. No government which had held office in the province since Confederation had ever been called upon to administer the affairs of the province under such conditions which had prevailed during the last two years, and which were the direct result of the terrible war.

Cost of Valley Road.

He was very glad to report that construction work on the Valley Railway was nearing the end. According to the report of the Chief Engineer the road should have been completed by the end of last November, and the contractors had obligated themselves under a penalty of \$300 per day to have the road completed on that date. They had failed in the undertaking and assuming that the road would be finished on June 1st, there would be liquidated damages under the agreement amounting to \$54,300. The cost of the road to March 1st was \$6,946,021.12. The estimated cost of the completion of the Gagetown-Westfield section was \$289,913.20, which in the Nova Scotia Construction Co. amounting to \$44,913.27, and the balance of the Company's deposit amounting

(Continued on page three.)

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