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SOME MORE FINE SPEECHES ON THE BUDGET DEBATE

Hon. Mr. Dugal was Listened to With Great Attention by Both

Sides of the House—Congratulates the Government on Its

Excellent Record—Mr. Boudage Makes a Plea on Behalf of

Teachers—Mr. Carson Heard From.

Following is a synoptic report of the speeches on the budget delivered in the Legislature on Wednesday by Mr. Boudage of Kent, Mr. Carson of St. John, and Hon. Mr. Dugal:

Following is a synoptic report of the speeches delivered in the House on Thursday by Mr. Dugal and Messrs Boudage and Carson:

MR. BOURDAGE on the order of the day being called, continued the Debate on the Budget. He said he agreed with the hon. member for Albert that the people were looking for action instead of words. Action spoke louder than words, and if the contrary were the case he would not have been a member of the House as his constituency would have chosen his opponents. He had been pleased with the speeches delivered by the mover and seconder of the Address, and with regard to the latter he could tell him that his remarks had been well received by his constituents. The

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YORK STREET

The farmers of New Brunswick were in a prosperous condition and were keeping pace with those of the sister provinces. Last year 623,000 bushels of wheat were grown in the Province. A number of splendid flour mills had been built and equipped with the aid of a bonus granted by the Department. He was proud to say that a resident of the County of Kent had taken hold of the proposition and now owned a mill which could compete with any in Canada. It was located in the northern part of the County and was a great convenience to the farmers.

He heartily approved of the plan to provide ground lime for the farmers at a reasonable cost, though he wished to say, but not in a spirit of criticism, that there were some sections of the Province to which it was not adapted. He believed that burnt lime stone should be adopted in those sections. They had some kilns in the northern part of the Province and he believed that it would be a good plan for the Government to secure control of them and burn lime for the farmers. In farming districts adjacent to the sea mud was used with success, but it was not available to those in inland districts.

He was proud to say that the Government had assisted in establishing creameries, and that they were being liberally patronized by the farmers. In the southern part of Kent County the cream was sent to the factory at Moncton. In the northern section of the County the Creamery had been idle for a couple of years, but arrangements had been made to have it resume operations, and a bonus had been granted it by the Minister of Agriculture.

He agreed with other hon. members that school teachers were poorly paid. He had taught school himself for ten years and knew whereof he spoke. Many excellent teachers had gone to other provinces where their salaries had been doubled and trebled and he could not blame them for having made the change. He was glad that the government had taken action in the matter and hoped that a satisfactory arrangement would be made which would be made which would assure a good supply of teachers.

Mr. Carson's Speech

MR. CARSON said that it might not be out of place for him to make a few remarks. The Crown Lands of the Province had been pretty well discussed and there was little left for him to say. He believed that the holders of timber lands had been looking for an increase in stumpage and were surprised that their expectations had not been lived up to by the Government. He had done some lumbering and would say that he had bought stumpage at \$8 per thousand and had been glad to get it at that price. He could assure them that he would not have paid \$8 had he not seen an opportunity to make \$8 out of it. He considered the stumpage rate to be altogether too low. The lumbermen could well afford to pay double the amount and there would not be the slightest danger of them being put out of business with lumber selling at present prices.

With regard to Public Works he knew something about the roads of his County. Muck and gravel would not make permanent roads and that was all they were getting. A big expenditure had been made in St. John County, and there had been a great deal of money spent, but they would never get permanent roads from the method that had been adopted. He had been amused when the Minister of Public Works spoke about an effort that had been made by the old Government after the last election to secure supporters from the other side in order that it might hold on to office. He wished to say that two could play at that game. He knew of a member of the House who could have been paid for getting out in

order to make a seat for the would-be Premier. People who lived in glass houses should not throw stones. There was never an Act put on the statute books which met with so little favor as the Public Health Act. It might do for New York or some other big city, but New Brunswick was not rich enough. If the hon. minister of health wished to get some real information let him go out the Ben Lomond road. Good water, he always understood, was the basis of good health, and the water supply of the city of St. John came from that district. The hon. minister could learn that St. John was taking the drainage of barns and privies. Last fall the hon. minister of public works had sent a road crew to work on that section. That was all right, but the crew located its lavatory right near the outlet of the St. John city water system. He had informed the Chairman of the Board of Health of the fact, and that official had said "My good man, we have had tests of that water made." His reply to him had been "Well, my good man, that is what happened." If the officials of the department of health wanted to find out what conditions were let them use their eyes and their smellers. Sometimes when an epidemic occurred the people of St. John might wake up to what they are drinking, and when an epidemic does occur it would take the department of health about three months to find out what had happened unless some old farmer would come along and tell them.

Hon. Mr. Dugal

HON. MR. DUGAL asked the permission of Hon. Mr. Speaker to address the House in his own language and upon permission being given proceeded to speak in French.

He congratulated the Speaker on the dignified manner in which he presided over the deliberations of the House. He also congratulated the mover and seconder of the address and said that he had much pleasure in seconding what Mr. Magee had said in favor of the development of the water powers of the province. In connection with this important question of water development the member for Westmorland (Magee) had made reference to the cost, which might probably be excessive for one province, and suggested that by the union of the Maritime Provinces this important problem would find an easy solution. He (Dugal) admitted that the question of Maritime Union was important from several standpoints, and deserved the consideration of all the public men of the province, but that it should be approached with great care for there were many viewpoints to be taken into consideration. It might be well to unite with Nova Scotia, but to some people their interest in New Brunswick in a sentimental way had more importance than the material benefit which would be derived from the union. It is true our province is small, but it has produced great men who have taken their place with credit in the public life at home as well as in the other provinces, and more particularly in the West. Our province is about the size of Belgium, which though small has proven to be one of the most generous countries of Europe. It might be possible to increase our influence without increasing our boundaries, if we gave more attention to increasing the population by immigration and also by the development of our natural resources, and more particularly in the development of our most important natural resources the minds of our coming generation. This could be done by remodelling our educational system from top to bottom.

The different heads of departments deserved credit for the manner in which they had administered the affairs of the province. The provincial secretary deserved the congratulations which had been extended to him for the honest and clear-cut view of the financial statement for the last year. It is true he had to acknowledge a deficit, but he admitted it frankly, and it was not necessary for him to keep the books open for two months after the close of the fiscal year to find some means of covering the deficit up, as was the practice in the past, more particularly in 1914. Even if the provincial secretary would have thought for a moment or having had resources to that practice the Premier would not have tolerated it.

The government was not responsible for the deficit of the year, and no unbiased person would for a moment accuse the government of mismanagement. The increase in the cost of material and labor, with the demand of the electorate for expenditure, are the chief causes for the deficit. The department of Lands and Mines was responsible for part of the over-expenditure, but it was justified by the precautions taken to safeguard our public domain.

The Minister of Lands and Mines deserved and had received the congratulations of members on both sides of the House for his able administration. He (Dugal) if he would be permitted would ask the minister to continue his progressive policy by the creation of a Colonization Branch of his department, with some official in charge who would give his entire time to the settlers. New settlers should not be allowed to go on the land for the purpose of stripping the land of timber, but to make homes and increase the wealth of the province.

Another department responsible for the deficit was that of public works, but the minister was capable of looking after himself and need not be defended by his colleagues. His intentions were not only good, but his actions were approved not only by the people of the province, but by the other provinces and the progressive men of the United States.

The minister of agriculture had ably replied to his critics, and the people of the province were pleased with the manner in which this department was administered. As an instance of the business-like methods of the minister of agriculture he would cite the purchase of seed grain to the extent of \$172,000 in which transaction the department had not lost a cent. This would favorably compare

with another transaction of the same department a few years earlier, the famous Patriotic Potato gift.

The opposition had criticized the government considerably for the creation of the department of health. They cared so little for the public health in our province that they compelled the present minister to declare in advocating the creation of that department, that he was solely actuated by his desire to serve the people, and for him it was not a question of indemnity. The department of health had proven a success, and would be of great benefit to this province, for "a healthy people is an intelligent people." He would not neglect the opportunity of congratulating the leader of the opposition for the dignified manner in which he had acquitted himself this year. Certainly his effort was intended to stimulate the courage and the energy of his supporters. He painted his new house with bright colors but it was easily seen that the foundation was still uncertain. It is to be regretted that some members opposite would not repent and change their political past. On the right of the Speaker there were no defections and the Premier had every confidence in his supporters. It was to be regretted that all the members could not understand his language, but he had no apology to offer as he was keeping pretty good company since His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, when visiting Canada, had freely made use of the French language, and that His Majesty, King George, as well as his predecessors, had honored the French language by using it on their coat of arms.

MR. POTTS said that he did not understand what the hon. member for Madawaska was saying, but that he was giving to understand that he had been referred to.

HON. MR. DUGAL said that he had suggested to his hon. friend to visit the cities of Quebec and Montreal to change his views, and that it would be a cure for his prejudices against the French language.

It being six o'clock hon. Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

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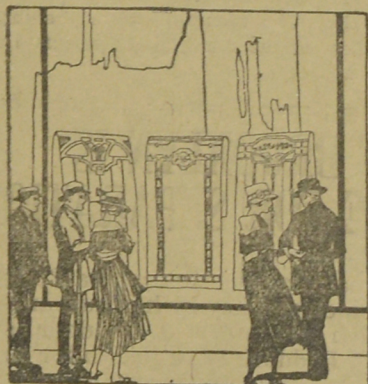
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