

Farmers of New Brunswick Must Receive a Fair Price Says Tilley

He Declares That He Is Ready To Aid the Men of the Land and the Fishermen in Efforts for Better Living—The Port of Saint John—New Industries Needed—Other Speakers: Dr. Jewett, Mr. Tweedie and Mr. Doucet.

At the Legislature yesterday afternoon the debate was continued during the afternoon and ran into the first evening session of the present sitting of the House. The session, however, adjourned fairly early getting away shortly after ten o'clock when Hon. Mr. Cockburn, president of the Executive Council moved the adjournment of the debate until this afternoon.

In opening the debate, yesterday afternoon Hon. Premier L. P. D. Tilley spoke at length. He replied to many of the charges made by Hon. Mr. A. A. Dysart on the previous day.

The Premier continued until nearly five o'clock, when Mr. Tweedie of Northumberland took the floor. Mr. Tweedie resumed after supper and was in turn followed by Dr. Jewett, M. P. P., for York County. Mr. Doucet of Gloucester County, one of the lieutenants of the Opposition, came next, then Hon. Mr. Cockburn who moved the adjournment of the debate.

The following is the report of the speeches taken from the official report and also by The Daily Mail staff reporter in the press gallery.

OFFICIAL REPORT

ASSEMBLY CHAMBER.

February 20th, 1935.

House met at 3 p.m. MR. WHITE submitted the report of the Contingencies Committee.

MR. MELVILLE submitted the report of the Agricultural Committee.

HON. MR. TAYLOR presented a petition for a bill relating to the town of St. George.

HON. MR. COCKBURN presented a bill to amend the Act incorporating the town of St. Stephen.

HON. MR. REILLY presented petitions for bills as follows:—

To confirm an agreement between the town of Moncton and the Swift Canadian Company; to authorize the city of Moncton to sell certain lands taken for taxes and mortgages due; to convey certain other lands; to amend the Moncton Assessment Act; to enable the city of Moncton to issue debentures; to amend the Act combining the several Acts relating to the city of Moncton.

MR. VIOLETTE presented a petition for a bill to enable St. Leonard to issue debentures.

MR. NILES presented a petition for a bill to enable Victoria County to make temporary loans.

MR. TWEEDIE presented a petition for a bill to amend the Act incorporating the Bathurst Boom Company.

MR. BROOKS presented a petition for a bill to authorize the town of Sussex to issue debentures; also for a bill relating to payments from the town of Sussex to the municipality of Kings County.

HON. MR. LEGER submitted a report of the St. Basil Hospital, 1934; also the report of the Fire Prevention Board.

MR. ANDERSON gave Notice of Inquiry as to particulars for supplying gravel in Northumberland County since October 31st, 1934.

MR. DYSART gave Notices of Inquiry as to the building of a bridge across the south branch of the Rusagornish Stream and as to the amount the Port Royal Pulp and Paper Company owed the Bank of Nova Scotia on the account guaranteed by the province of N. B. as at December 31st last.

HON. MR. TILLEY

HON. MR. TILLEY, resuming the debate on the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, said that anyone who occupied a responsible position in any Government in any country would realize that his duties and obligations were no sinecure. While N. B. was a component part of Canada, it must be realized that in addition to its own affairs the public men of N. B. could not overlook the consideration of matters that more properly pertained to the Federal Parliament. At present there were four major problems before the people of Canada; (1) the growing public debt of the Dominion and of the individual provinces; (2) the tremendous problems of the maintenance of the country's railways; (3) the problems of marketing Canadian wheat; (4) the problem of unemployment relief.

These four problems alone were sufficient to make us stop and ask

how? when? and where? were they to be solved. A change of Government could not do it because world-wide conditions entered in and no one Government nor no one country could control world markets and problems. Fortunately for us we were part of the great British Empire and to deal within that Empire, where we might have some small measure of control was our best bet. But even that great combination was not all sufficient. Take, for instance, the question of wheat marketing; there was a World Conference last year in London where an effort was made to arrange for the placing of wheat on consuming markets in sufficient quantities only and in an orderly manner, but the Argentine Republic refused to enter into an agreement, with the result that that country resorted to the building of some forty or more elevators for the storing of wheat and was now selling wheat on the British market at 27c. per bushel under the pegged price.

Canada pegged the price of wheat. The Argentine under-sold to the British market, and so the merry war goes on. Today, Argentine wheat was selling at 27c. a bushel less than the Canadian pegged price. If Canadian wheat producers sold wheat in the British market at Argentine prices there would be a heavy loss to the producer. The question therefore arose which of the two courses was it better to pursue, stand fast to the pegged price, or to go right to it and compete with the Argentine, selling even at a loss, which would mean that both countries would be selling at a heavy loss, but it might be advisable to take that loss until the Argentine realized that it was high time for her to acquiesce in quota and prices for world wheat.

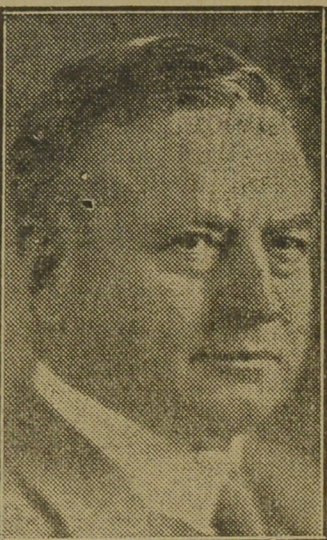
He could name a place not far from here where the rates for electric power were out of all reason. Better port facilities were required for some of our products and provision for the increase of shipments through the Port of Saint John must receive attention. Arrangements to increase the tourist industry and to provide the hard-surface roads essential to that increase were other problems and last but not least at the moment was the provision of relief for unemployment.

We were all living in a time of stress when we should get together irrespective of political parties and work for the common good. Today country should come before party. He did not mean to say that the Opposition should disband, for a good Opposition was a necessity for good Government under our system. But he felt that the members of that party might work with the Government in the common cause for the improvement of conditions.

Referring to the matter of lumber he would briefly relate some matters that had occurred since the last Session, when legislation was passed to provide for the Forest Products Commission. That Commission had met twelve times. It had fixed a minimum wage for skilled woods labor at \$32 per month and board. A large delegation of lumber operators appeared before the Government and asked that there should be a reduction in stumpage from \$3 to \$2 per thousand, and some of the operators asked that the minimum wage should be reduced. His (Tilley's) answer was that the minimum wage rate was settled, but so far as stumpage was concerned the Government would hear all their representations and give an immediate answer. This answer given within a half hour after the delegation had been heard was that if the price of lumber was not maintained to the level of last year a rebate extending to \$1 per thousand would be handed back, but if prices were maintained that the full \$3 would be exacted. He might mention in this connection that if any lumberman, looking for a rebate, was found not to have been paying the minimum wage of \$32 per month that he would not have much chance to get a rebate.

On the whole, the Minimum Wage Act had been working very well and he wished to compliment the operators of the province who had so heartily fallen in line with the spirit of the Act and many of whom commended it as a good business proposition. To show how well the Act was being lived up to, he might mention figures from different employers whose returns showed the number of men getting the minimum wage and the numbers getting less under special arrangement. One operator with four hundred and twenty-four employed, had only fifteen men getting less than the minimum. Another

THE PREMIER



HON. L. P. D. TILLEY

Premier, whose speech on the Address we publish herewith.

with two hundred and four employed, had none getting less than the minimum. Another with three hundred and fifty-four men on the payroll, only had fifteen receiving less than \$32. Still another, with two hundred and seventy-nine men, had forty-three below the minimum. Another, with seventy-two men, had none below the minimum and one of the largest operators, with six hundred and two men employed, only had forty-five on by special arrangement. This was a good showing, in fact only one man in Gloucester County, had thus far failed to meet the requirements of the Act.

MR. DOUCET: "What are you going to do?"

HON. MR. TILLEY: "What are we going to do? That is not the question it is what are we doing? The Commission has already acted and the operator in question has changed his rate of \$26 per month to the \$32."

What did this increased payment mean to the country? From information received from the Workmen's Compensation Board, logging pay rolls including the cutting and hauling of logs, pulpwood, ties, etc., submitted by 286 operators for the six months period, ending February 1st, 1935 totalled \$1,151,626, as compared with \$523,592 for the same six months period one year ago.

MR. DYSART: "Was there the same number of operators?"

HON. MR. TILLEY: "The production of lumber was considerably better this year than last and the amount of money distributed through the men was making a marked improvement in conditions."

Since the last Session the Woods Products men of Quebec and Nova Scotia had met with those of N. B. several times and had agreed to send a representative to England to advertise and arrange contacts for the exporters of Eastern Canadian lumber. To provide for the expense of this representation, N. B., Nova Scotia and Quebec were each contributing \$5,000. Mr. Fensom, the representative in question, would be in Fredericton later in the month for a conference and he would be glad if all members of the House would sit in at the conference. The production of lumber this year would be about one hundred thirty-five million feet which was twenty-seven millions more than last year. In addition to this there were a hundred and fifty thousand cords of pulpwood cut, making a total of 210,000,000 feet for the present season.

Municipal Conditions

Referring to the serious conditions which had transpired throughout Canada in regard to municipal financing during the years of depression he wished to compliment the municipalities throughout N. B. on the excellent financial showing they had made compared to municipalities in other parts of Canada. In this province and in the other two Maritime Provinces, not one single municipality had defaulted while in the province of Ontario, where the total debts of the municipalities, were over 504 millions of dollars, 98 millions of this debt was in default, equal to 19.5 per cent of the total. In Manitoba, 13 per cent was in default; Saskatchewan, 8.6%; British Columbia, 8.6 per cent; Quebec, 3.8 per cent; while in the Maritimes not one dollar was defaulted by any municipality.

The financial situation of the municipalities in the province was as follows:—Total valuation \$94,014,646, made up of real estate \$82,603,467 and personal property, \$11,411,179. The bonded debt on this property was \$4,112,955, with temporary loans of \$803,398. And against this debt there were sinking funds totalling \$609,900. He thought this was a good showing considering the times we had come through and the relief that had to be administered. He would say, however, that in some instances municipal officers had not realized their full responsibility in regard to relief. He was getting almost daily appeals for assistance from persons who should have attention from their county councillors and alms house commissioners. These officers must do their duty, no one could be allowed to starve. The Dominion Government was forwarding monthly money for

relief and the provincial Government was prepared to see that it was forwarded when proper application was made and he would warn officials who neglected their duty in this respect that steps would have to be taken to compel their attention.

The bonus to the Hake and Pollock fishermen, first given last year, had been continued, as the season, although pretty good for herring, had not been good for Hake and Pollock. In Charlotte and St. John Counties 416 fishermen had participated and in Gloucester, 337. There had been paid in the former counties \$7,502.98 for Hake and \$4,459.28 for Pollock with \$3,543.59 for Hake in Gloucester a total of \$15,505.

Colonizations Roads and Lots had received much attention by his Department. \$65,214.62 had been expended; 482 lots had been taken up and for three years since he had been head of the Department, 1518 colonists had been settled, approximately 7,000 people. The Dominion Government had given some help towards this work and the colonists, who needed it, had been furnished with free seed and some food. In the past fall, potatoes had been distributed to those in need and the 27 cabins burned by forest fires had been rebuilt by the Department. He believed in the value of good colonization and did not intend to overlook it.

The leader of the Opposition had referred to the over-expenditure in the Crown Land Department of \$141,000. He might have known why this expenditure, devoted to fire fighting, was unforeseen. Provision was not usually made for what might not occur. Last season the fire hazard was one of the worst for many years, and adequate steps had to be taken to protect the public domain, and he thought the money was well spent.

The Marketing Board, yet in its infancy, was doing good work for both fish and farm products. 1,000 bags of potatoes had been shipped as a trial to Egypt, and this brought an order a week after the trial shipment was received for 6,000 bags more. One of the leaders of the Opposition, who had not a seat in the House, in a public address had rather sneered about those new markets, saying that the Government had "shipped potatoes to the mummies of Egypt". The Department, however, was now corresponding with dealers in that country, looking to business for next year's crop.

Hard Surface Roads

The leader of the Opposition had suggested that the hard surfaced roads policy of the Government was only a sort of hit and miss policy and he advocated the construction of a much cheaper type of road. He had more important matters to deal with at the moment and would refer to the Opposition leader's criticism later. He need not defend the type of road which had been decided upon by the Government, that would speak for itself. As to whether the expenditure for hard surfacing was justifiable or not depended largely upon the volume of traffic the road had to carry. He had consulted an experienced engineer as to the cost of keeping a gravel road in condition for different volumes of traffic, and received the information that experience had shown that to adequately maintain a gravel road, carrying up to 1200 vehicles a day, the average cost had been about \$806 per mile. This provided for renewal of servicing, dust layer, operating expenses overhead, etc., but would not pay for skirting, grassing, drainage or maintenance of signs.

When the traffic increased up to 2,000 vehicles a day, it was difficult to maintain gravel roads in a satisfactory manner and maintenance cost went up very rapidly to the amount of \$1167 per mile. Before this stage was reached a gravel road ceased to be an economical one and a better type of road surface was warranted. The hard surface roads now being installed were at an average cost of about \$16,000 per mile and expected to keep in condition for twenty years without repair. With money borrowed at four per cent it would be seen that the hard surface road would cost much less under heavy traffic than to keep up a gravel road with the elimination also of the dust nuisance.

Referring to the Provincial Hospital, he said that there had been reconstruction and reorganization in the management of the institution, and if his hon. friends were to pay a visit to it they would see that the nine hundred people who were receiving treatment were being well looked after by the most efficient methods.

He was sure that the promised legislation to regulate milk production and protect the consumer and distributor from harmful competition would have the favorable consideration of the hon. members of the House.

Other Legislation

Other legislation which he was glad to bring to the attention of the House included the proposed Housing Act. In certain localities of the Province there was certainly need for a betterment of housing conditions. Buildings which had become dilapidated would be torn down and the Government would assist on a fifty-fifty basis in providing new structures and thus provide employment for those engaged in the building trades.

Some time ago notice had been served on the Government by the Railway Commission that certain branch line railways in New Brunswick, including a position of the Shore Line road and the Elgin and Havelock Railway, were to be closed down unless cause could be shown that it should not be done. Quite recently the St. Martins Railway had been added to the list. He did not blame the Canadian National Railways for taking steps to economize but did not think they should deal with petty matters in New Brunswick. It was contended that \$15,000 would be saved in one case, and a similar amount in another. By making changes in the train service between Montreal and Toronto and Ottawa and Montreal, where trains pulled out of a depot five minutes apart, hundreds of thousands of dollars might be saved. The railways in New

Brunswick which it was proposed to close, handled considerable lumber, and there was no other way to get it to market. The Government was opposed to the closing of the railway lines he had mentioned and had employed counsel to deal with the matter at the proper time.

While his hon. friend, Dysart, had made no reference to the matter, he, the Premier, said he had no apology to offer for the action of the Government at the close of the fiscal year in restoring the salary cuts to members of the Civil Service and also to Members of the House.

Reference had been made by the hon. Leader of the Opposition to the Report of the Duncan Commission and to the action of the Government in preparing a brief on Maritime Claims for submission to Ottawa. His hon. friend had said the Government a compliment by saying that the brief had been carefully prepared. Other briefs had been prepared by the governments of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island and the case was now in the hands of a Royal Commission and he hoped for favorable results. He had been surprised to hear his hon. friend say that he had read the Nova Scotia brief but not that of New Brunswick, but he was sure that he would do so after the award was made.

While it was his intention to deal with some observations made by the hon. Leader of the Opposition, he wished him to understand that there was no personal feeling in the matter. His hon. friend had attempted to belittle the so-called Payroll Convention held in Fredericton during the last summer. He, (the Premier,) was present at that convention, and all he could say was that if the terms used by his hon. friend was applicable there must be a tremendous number on the government's payroll. He was sure that many of those who attended the convention would resent the remark that they were on the government payroll but no doubt some of them would be glad to be there if there was any opening. His hon. friend had stated that the City Hall would not hold twelve hundred people, that it was a joke to say that that number had been present. He, the Premier, held in his hand a statement showing that 1055 people had registered, while 209 more were unable to do so on account of the rush and many others were compelled to remain in the corridors.

His hon. friend, during the course of his speech, created the impression that he was holding forth in some country schoolhouse along with his chief lieutenant, Mr. McNair. Perhaps he thought he might be able to break up the government party by making comparisons of former government leaders with the present Prime Minister. He, the Premier, had the pleasure of serving in the government under the present Chief Justice Baxter and Mr. Justice Richards and therefore had received a good schooling before taking over the leadership. He could assure his hon. friend that members of the Government and its supporters were not in the least worried over his comparisons. He was sure that all those holding seats on the Government side of the House honored the former Prime Ministers. His hon. friend had directed some criticism at the Chairman of the Hydro Commission, a gentleman who had the best interests of his own city and the province at heart and had never neglected the most minute detail in the management of the Commission. He (Dysart) wanted to know why the Commission when constructing the line from Minto to Newcastle, had not used New Brunswick poles instead of importing them from South Carolina. He had asked the question with some force and it appeared reasonable, but he had not given the real answer, and it was his (the Premier's) intention to supply the information.

(continued on page three)

Can you afford to waste one ton of coal out of every three or four you buy this winter? You are doing this very thing if your home is not insulated with

TEN-TEST

Most of the costly heat loss is through the roof. Insulate by lining the attic rafters and walls with TEN-TEST, thus utilizing valuable space to create a new room, a comfortable study, den or playroom for the children.

J. C. Risteen Co., Ltd.

PROFESSIONAL

DR. J. C. McMULLEN
Dentist
X - RAY

Hours: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 2 p.m.-5.30 p.m.
Phone 504 Loyalist Building

G. I. NUGENT, M. D.

333 BRUNSWICK STREET
Phone 808.
FREDERICTON, N. B.

Hanson, Dougherty and West

BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, Etc.
Carleton Chambers,
61 Carleton St. : Fredericton

DR. G. R. LISTER

: Dentist :
QUEEN STREET : Below Regent
Phone 531-11
Burchill-Wilkinson Building

Joe Kileel's

New Stock of Men's Suits and Ladies' and Gent's Fall Footwear

Come In and Get Fitted for Fall
289 KING STREET
Phone 718

ELECTRIC MOTOR and GENERATOR REPAIRS

OF ALL CLASSES
Harry C. Moore, E.E.
360 KING STREET

LANNAN'S Restaurant

WE SERVE A
SPECIAL 25c and 40c
DINNER Every Day
SPECIAL CHICKEN DINNER
SUNDAY, 40c

74 CARLETON ST. Phone 1138

SPECIAL

WAGSTAFF'S PURE SEVILLE ORANGE MARMALADE

16-oz. jars 23c
32-oz. jars 32c

Wagstaff's Cherry, Black Currant, Strawberry Raspberry Jams

PURE BEES' HONEY IN THE COMB—Also STRAINED

Wagstaff's Cherry, Black Currant, Strawberry, Raspberry Jams

A. E. EARDLEY Phone 618 and Be Satisfied,
Home-owned Store
Corner Brunswick and St. John Streets

SPECIAL - -

SUNKIST NAVEL ORANGES—19c dozen

They are Extra Good Value at this price, and are Full of Juice and Sweet.

HAROLD YERXA

PHONE 305

89 YORK STREET

INSURANCE
HOWARD H. BLAIR

RELIABLE BRITISH AND CANADIAN COMPANIES

PHONES—Office 291-21
Residence 345-11

68 YORK STREET

—You Can Rest Assured—

Adds Zest to the Meal

"SALADA"
TEA