

# Hon. Mr. Richard Estimates Another Surplus For This Year

Mr. Speaker: It is now my privilege to present to this House the third budget of the present administration. The past year has witnessed many notable events. Among them, and perhaps the most important to the peoples of the British Empire, and certainly the most significant in the cause of democracy, was the crowning of a King.

On May 12, last, amidst wars and rumors of wars, a turbulent world, seething with Fascism and Communism passed in the midst of such chaos to witness the greatest Empire the world has ever known:—a democratic Empire, crown a new King. Surrounded by all the ceremony and customs of an ancient people, with all due pomp and splendor, as is befitting such an occasion, George the Sixth was crowned King of Great Britain, Ireland, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Union of South Africa, according to their respective laws and customs.

The Crown and mantle of Edward the Confessor, has descended upon a man created by destiny and called to assume it, by the loving hearts and wishes of the peoples of His Empire. Long may he reign!

And now Mr. Speaker to use the apt words of the immortal Kipling: "The tumult and the shouting dies. The captains and the kings depart."

And the Empire linked and bound together, still closer, by the strings of loyalty and affection for our King, and united by the ties of democracy, moves on to even greater things. Its movement may at times be slow, yet the Empire and its component parts, founded most surely, and without the dangers of disturbances.

This great Empire will continue to be the Protector of the weak and the oppressed, the guiding force which will yet direct a troubled world towards sane thinking and the much desired haven of universal peace and goodwill among nations.

## TRIBUTES

We have been called upon during several previous sessions of the Legislature to pay tribute to departed members—distinguished sons of the Province who had been called away during recess.

This, in the past has never been a perfunctory matter, but rather an obligation of respect to those who had served their Province well. During my many years in this House, I do not recall when I have had to make such expression of sympathy with more profound sorrow than on this occasion, when I pause and pay tribute to our distinguished colleague, the Honourable Dr. William F. Roberts, whose seat is now vacant. To me, it is a personal loss and one which even at this date I can hardly healize. Though a man more advanced in years than I am, his friendship was so enthusiastic that he made me feel younger. That friendship was so genuine, that one could not but realize his enjoyment of it. He showed the same interested desire



HON. C. T. RICHARD  
Provincial Secretary and Treasurer,  
who announces another probable surplus

when approached in any matter pertaining to his Department and he made one feel, when any request was made to him, that it was not a matter of giving, but a pleasure for him to have been reminded that such co-operation was needed.

As an individual, he was a person of noble character, sterling qualities, generous, sympathetic and kind, but it is as the public man that he will long be remembered by the people of this province. Without intending to create any envy amongst those to whose profession he belonged, I think I can safely say, that Honourable Dr. Roberts will go down in history as having accomplished more in this Province, in his profession, than anyone else. Humble as he was, he would not have cared for any monument to be built to his memory, and yet he built for himself, not only in this Province but in the entire Dominion, not a monument that time could wear away but one which will grow and loom larger and more splendid to his memory than any which man could erect for him.

The thousands of sufferers of tuberculosis, cancer and other preventable diseases will have an image of him in their hearts and when, as he always predicted, these scourges of humanity have been completely irradiated by teachings and measures, the people of this Province will continue to remember him as having been a great benefactor who, at great personal sacrifice and despite almost insurmountable obstacles contributed largely to the stamping out of such diseases. We little visualize today what he built. We have the remembrance of the great obstacles which he had to surmount, in the way of prejudices of the day, when he first announced his policies regarding health, but now that the fruits have been almost attained, we realize that only a man of his great vision and

devotion to the cause could have accomplished what he did. To the members of his bereaved family, I deeply extend my sincere sympathy. To those who bear his name is left an enviable heritage.

Another great name appears on the list of those whose death also struck. I refer to that distinguished son of New Brunswick, Sir John Douglas Hazen, who served his Province so long in such a varied way. He too, brought fame to his name and to his Province, without personal interest except the wish to be of service to his country. Possessing the courteousness of a cavalier, he will long be remembered by those in the legal profession as a member of the Bench of this Province, especially by those who took their first steps whilst he occupied that position.

Another brilliant career was cut short in the passing of William A. Ryan, Federal Member from Saint John City. To those who knew his ability, opinion was unanimous, that the Province had suffered the loss of an illustrious son, who would have gone far in his chosen field. To the bereaved members of both of these families, I extend my profound sympathy in their loss.

## Business Activities

I shall now pass in review the business activities and developments of this Province during the last year. Divine Providence generously bestowed upon us, bounteous crops which heartened the spirits of our citizens who still felt the stress of the depression. Some crops, however, in some sections of the Province suffered losses, but our safe diversified farming methods prevented any hardship.

## Agriculture

Improvement generally was again witnessed in the price of primary products and the purchasing power of those engaged in agricultural pursuits was again advanced to a point ensuring them profitable returns. It is encouraging to note that more of our young men are adopting the soil and adapting themselves to it.

In the Junior Club competition at the Canadian Royal Fair held at Toronto last year, the New Brunswick team won over all Canada in Poultry Promoting. Other teams showed up well in the competition.

At the same Fair our Dairy Herds were amongst the leaders in prize winning. It is worthy of mention that our Dairy Industry showed a marked improvement.—Dairy Products having made a 42 per cent increase over the year previous.

This Government does not purport to take credit for fortuitous happenings beyond our control, nevertheless this marked improvement can be attributed in part to policies adopted by this administration.

I am much amused to listen to the remarks of our opponents on our accomplishment in opening a market for our seed potatoes and thus afford-

ing an output for some hundreds of thousands of barrels of potatoes and maintaining a better market price in those fields where we had already entered. This is one progressive step which they could not possibly ridicule, as they have done so many times when they could not criticize. Praising the success of that venture was beyond their power. Passing it in silence would have left in their breasts a little pain, and therefore, they had to pick at it in some fashion, consequently, they charge that the Government has now encouraged the farmers to over-produce. Apparently, their logic is, that to obtain wider markets for anything that we may produce is disastrous to the Province and it is better to shut our eyes to them. This is indeed a new philosophy and how my honourable friends can hope to bring happiness to our people by such teaching, I am sure I am at a loss to understand.

The improvements witnessed during the past year may be justly attributed to the efforts of the Department of Agriculture in promoting a better grade of crops and one more suitable to existing markets. Another factor is the policy of that Department to encourage young men to operate the farm more scientifically and the interest shown in the short courses, now given by the Department, is a clear demonstration that these courses, as well as the field instruction given by the field officials of the Department, work hand in hand and are the direct result of our improvement. The Province also presents the happy picture as being the only one in the whole Dominion to have unshackled itself of the yoke of relief. Again the policies of the Government in encouraging the unemployed to settle on the land has contributed largely to that happy situation.

## Lumbering

I pass from the great industry of Agriculture, which is so vital to the people of this Province, to another which is equally important and that is, Lumbering. Again a pronounced improvement was made in this industry. Fortunately fair market prices prevailed and those engaged in this industry were able to increase their output and greater employment as well as profitable operations. A problem, the solution of which has been greatly discussed, is that of increasing to a greater degree, the processing of the raw material coming from our forest lands. The Government recognizes the great economic drain resulting from our raw material moving out of the Province to be processed elsewhere, robbing our workmen of wages which are earned in other Provinces or foreign countries. Recognizing the economic principle, that we must strive continually to encourage processing of this raw material as much as possible in this Province, this administration took steps to attract capital here, took measures to regulate the Crown Lands that lumber cut on these lands might be processed here. It is therefore, gratifying to note that the consumption of pulpwood by our mills reached an all time high of 745,614 cords or an increase of 25 per cent over the previous year. One mill in our Province practically doubled its capacity during the last year. It is true there is still too much raw material in the shape of pulpwood going out of this Province to be manufactured elsewhere and the processing of this pulpwood, especially in the Miramichi district, would solve a situation there which the Government have been constantly endeavoring to remedy.

Financial conditions alone have perhaps so far prevented a complete carrying out of the Government's programme, but the situation is closely watched and the Government will not fear when the time comes, to take steps to ensure that the pulpwood going out of the Miramichi district shall be processed in that locality.

## Hardwood Industry

An important plank of our programme was to enhance the value of our Crown Lands by developing the hardwood industry. This cannot be accomplished overnight, but it is gratifying to note that from the very moment that steps were taken by this Government to carry out that policy, improvements accrued every year, and the cut of our hardwood has increased materially. Last year some 22,000,000 feet of hardwood were cut on our Crown Lands as compared with 2,000,000 feet in 1934. Not only has the cut been increased, but the processing of this wood in the province is also on the increase, due to measures taken by the Department of Lands and Mines in giving favorable terms to those who would process this wood here as against the higher stumpage for wood exported to be processed elsewhere. The result has been that a veneer plant in the City of Saint John has been able to supply a considerable quantity of processed wood and bids fair to become a prosperous industry.

In another respect the Government also took the lead. Formerly, thousands of dollars went out of the province for the purchase of iron pipes for the construction of culverts. This administration adopted the policy of

using creosoted hardwood, a much more durable material, and last year 4,674,583 feet of hardwood were cut for this purpose to be processed in the Province, thus retaining at home thousands of dollars for our own workmen. This wood, having been mainly cut from lots opened up and occupied for colonization, has been the means whereby hundreds of new settlers were able to maintain themselves, whereas they would have had to apply to the Province for relief.

## Fisheries

Let me now pass in review another great industry which is an important factor in the industrial life of our Province, that is Fisheries. As uncontrollable as it is hazardous, fishing has had its ups and downs during the last few years. The cod curing industry, a product of this branch, has suffered through disturbed conditions in two European countries where we possess very valuable markets. Moreover, the catch during the last few years has been far below normal, and with the low prices obtaining and our larger markets being closed, the fishermen engaged in this branch have suffered hardships. The Government, realizing their plight and also realizing that the future of the fisheries of this Province lies in obtaining wider markets, appointed a Commission of men experienced in fishing and marketing of fish, and it is to be hoped that the carrying out of the wide recommendations made by this Commission will greatly stimulate the Fishing Industry and enhance the price to such a point that it will become profitable. Fish is a valuable food product. It has an entrance in every market of the world and our proximity to the South American Continent, where the consumption of fish is great, affords us a market where the possibilities are extensive. Our problem is to so process and conserve the product of our seas so as to market same suitable to the demand. It seems a pity to see our fishermen idle for lack of a market when at certain seasons they have but to dip their nets for all kinds of fish, which might be well exported to the South American countries, if proper cooperative processing and canning improvements could be established and the requirements of these markets could be adhered to.

Experiments made in certain parts of the Province, with mackerel for instance, which is in abundance at certain times of the year, shows that this is one of the finest fish that can be canned. Another instance is that of

herring which goes to actual waste, and which if properly processed would become a valuable food, and might be easily marketed. Smelt fishing, if properly controlled, and better marketing methods employed could be made more profitable to the fishermen of the North Shore and the Gulf Shore where 85 per cent of the world's catch is made yearly. Lobster a delectable article and packed by hundreds of small canneries, could command a superior price if more cooperation was shown amongst the canners and better canning and marketing methods were employed. These are the numerous methods by which the fishing industry could be made to pay a more profitable return. Then again, there is the question of waste. The by-products that might be utilized are enormous, and scientific research may add considerably to the profit of the fishermen. As I said before, the Commission recently appointed, and which has already made its report has closely studied all these phases of the industry and the result of such studies, we believe will mean enlarged fields for the initiative of those who are engaged in the industry.

## South American Markets

I referred a minute ago to the South American markets. Our recent entry in this market for our potatoes is but the forerunner of what may be accomplished insofar as our fish is concerned. Trade relations in one product will naturally bring closer association of our business men with those of that country and this closer association will result in divulging to our enterprising business men what those markets require and to the people of that continent, what we have to offer. This Government did not stop at the stage of studying our ills and failures and the method whereby we might correct same, but following the recommendations of this Commission has sent emissaries, men who have a thorough knowledge of the fishing industry and we believe that the result of such mission will be as successful as that of our efforts in the sale of our potatoes.

Our other smaller and diversified industries have also shown as marked improvements as the three major ones, which I have already mentioned and such improvements have been so beneficial to our people that unemployment has greatly decreased. Moreover, smaller but new industries have established in the Province all of which process in one way or another raw material procurable here,

and which will not only accord employment to workmen and suppliers in these particular industries, but also enhance the value and demand for these raw materials.

It is therefore, with some pride that this Government is able to point to these improvements resulting from the adoption of these policies. We shall continue along this course, confident that greater improvements can be made in this Province, and confident also that we may bring more prosperity for the welfare of its citizens.

Courage may sometimes be futile when obstacles are insurmountable or the realization of one's dream is an impossibility, but well placed confidence when accomplishment is possible may be the reward of those who try. New Brunswick need not have an inferiority complex. A Province that has furnished the leading bankers of this Dominion and the ablest industrialists of this country as well as some of the leaders of the Empire can have the confidence that it may reach the heights of any other Province.

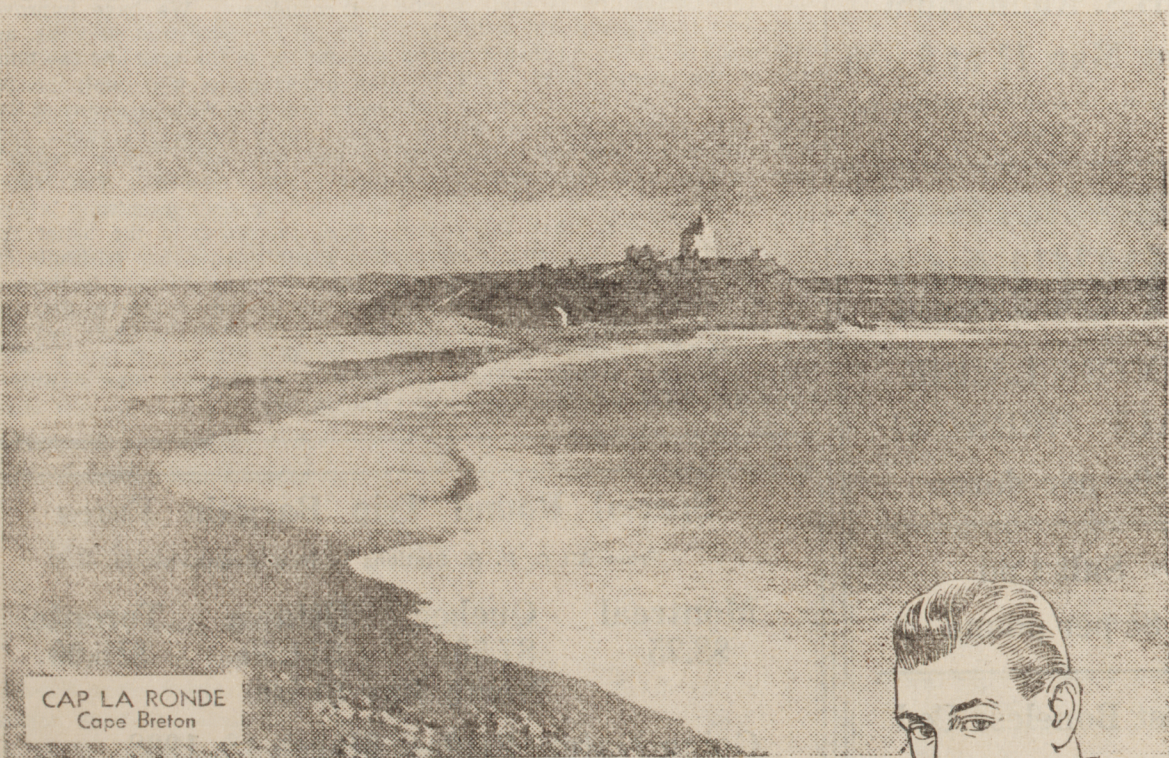
## Rowell Commission

The Rowell Commission on Dominion-Provincial Relations which sits here in this City next month will provide the first opportunity to present on behalf of New Brunswick a full review of economic and social trends in this Province since 1867. The presentation of the Government is being made not only to give a word picture of our problems and handicaps, but suggested remedies, as well, to place this province in a position of social and economic parity with the sister Provinces in the Dominion.

In our permanent road policy we have spent, to October 31st, 1937, the sum of \$13,483,908.66, of which \$2,852,976.46 was spent by the late Government to October 31st, 1935. Is this expenditure wise or necessary? Could we have further delayed the construction of hard surfaced roads? Could we stand alone, surrounded by the State of Maine and the Provinces of Quebec and Nova Scotia, all possessing hard surfaced roads, and expect to develop our tourist trade? There is such a thing as injudicious economy. Some may look upon the construction of hard surfaced roads as a non-productive debt, but I classify the type of roads which are being built today in this Province as a revenue producing asset. In this connection permit me to quote the Montreal Gazette in an editorial on January 13th last:

(Continued on Page Two)

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