

## C. T. RICHARD REPLIES TO PROVINCIAL SECRETARY TREASURER'S BUDGET SPEECH IN THE LEGISLATURE

**Accuses Government of Making Gift of \$150,000 To Large Lumber Companies — Advocates Greater Economy in Controllable Departments; Eight Bills Introduced.**

C. T. Richard, opposition, Gloucester, charged that the government had not practiced economy in those departments where economy was controllable and that they had given away gifts amounting to \$150,000.00 to the large lumber operating companies through the present arrangements they have with these companies on the 50 year lease contracts for stumpage. Mr. Richard was speaking in reply to the budget speech presented by the Hon. A. J. Leger, Provincial Secretary Treasurer, on Friday last.

Mr. Richard in the course of his remarks and rather scathing criticism, reviewed again the progress of the government since 1925 and with a most admirable use of words, phrases and figures woven around the Provincial Secretary-Treasurer's Friday's speech presented to the House what improvements he thought the people of this province were clamoring for.

Mr. Dysart gave Notice of Enquiry regarding hard surfacing roads between Fredericton and Woodstock; regarding work on the Pond Brook Bridge in the County of Sunbury; regarding the cost of the Premier's trip to England last summer; as to whether Thomas Stinson, W. K. Galbraith, Ernest McDowell, and Rupert, Hawkins were employed as road supervisors in 1934; as to whether Alfred Sheppard and Wallace Galbraith were similarly employed; as to money spent on roads in the Parish of Blissville, as to the salary and expenses of James A. Murray as Superintendent of Immigration.

Mr. Niles gave Notice of Enquiry as to the scale of wages during the year 1934 for provincial road work; as to flour and wheat mill bonuses; and as to survey of site for the Monquart River Mouth Bridge.

Hon. Mr. Reilly submitted a report from the Standing Rules Committee.

Hon. Mr. Taylor moved the suspension of rules to enable introduction of a bill to incorporate the Maria F. Ganong Old Folks Home.

Mr. Brooks moved the suspension of rules for the introduction of a bill relating to payments from Sussex to Kings County; also to authorize Sussex to issue debentures.

Hon. Mr. Harrison introduced a bill to amend the Barristers' Society Act. The object being to permit the reduction in size of certain Committees and as to evidence taken by affidavit.

Hon. Mr. Leger introduced a bill to amend the Act incorporating the R. C. Bishop of Saint John.

### Congratulates Governor

In opening his speech Mr. Richard extended congratulations to the Hon. Murray MacLaren, the new Lieutenant Governor and paid tribute to the many years of active service served by the Hon. H. H. McLean.

Following his customary practice, the Honourable Provincial Secretary-Treasurer has again presented a masterly product of his imagination and a colourful picture of prosperous conditions which do not in fact exist. He has again displayed a rare ability, an ingenious use and manipulation of figures.

The Honourable Provincial Secretary-Treasurer's enthusiasm in presenting his budget has become proverbial and this year he has excelled his past utterances. Last year, characterizing us as a bragging opposition, he launched his attack upon this side of the House and dared a comparison of the accomplishments of the previous government. Alarmed, no doubt, at superficial feet, \$2.00; for railway present day conditions, and the utter ties, cedar and hemlock, 8 ft. in

length (culls included) each .12; for telegraph poles, 20-29 ft. per lineal ft. .02; for telegraph poles, 30-39 ft. per lineal ft. .02½; for telegraph poles, 40 ft. and over per lineal ft. .03; for piling 20-29 ft. per lineal ft. .02; for piling 30-39 ft. per lineal ft. .03; for piling 40 ft. and over per lineal ft. .05; for fuelwood, hardwood, per cord .60."

What prompted the Government to abrogate that clause? What inducements did these Companies offer on the very morrow of the execution of these contracts to relieve them from their obligations? Did the Companies themselves forego any rights which they had derived from these contracts? No, they disregarded their obligations to construct mills on the Miramichi, and notwithstanding this default, they received upwards of \$150,000 as a pure gift from the Province.

### Provincial Credit

The Honourable Secretary Treasurer takes great pride and great credit for having sold long-term issues of bonds at what he calls a very favorable price and he points this out as an indication that the credit of the Province is looked upon by the investing public as sound. Certainly the credit of the Province is still sound, but at the rate we are going how long will it remain so? How long will it be before our interest and fixed charges will absorb practically every cent of our current revenue?

If the investing public has eagerly sought the purchase of government bonds, ours included, it is due to the glut of frozen credits and not in any way to any improved financial standing of our government. The Government boasts of having obtained a good price for our bonds. How does this price compare with that obtained by our other neighboring provinces? This will indicate how good our credit actually is. The three issues sold last year cost the province 5.7 percent, 4.14 percent and 3.99 percent respectively. During the same year the Province of Nova Scotia sold an issue at a cost of 3.71 percent, another at 3.15 percent and Ottawa an issue at 1.97 percent. This indicates therefore that all the provinces which enter the money market in 1934 obtained a very favorable price for their bonds, and these satisfactory results were obtained on account of surplus funds awaiting investment.

There will come a day of payment but we will not stand in the pay line but at the paying wicket.

### Yearly Deficits

Let us look at the other side of the picture.

The bonding of deficits has now become a chronic affair, five having been presented in this house in as many years. And this is the administration which was to put a stop to the "slope" down which we were going, to "our frenzied finance."

With revenues buoyant ever since 1925 we find that a total revenue of \$50,664,961.84 has been collected up to the year 1934. Yet during this last five years we have, and we will have to bond total deficits to the amount of \$3,726,165.28. And yet our friends opposite would want us to rejoice over the financial standing of this Province. Yet our friends characterize us as the Blue Ruin opposition when we demand a halt in this ruinous habit of bonding deficits.

### Agriculture

In 1925 with a total revenue of \$3,667,610.99 the late Administration spent \$125,561.02, or 3.7 per cent of the total revenue. In 1934 this Government with a total revenue of \$5,436,568.40 spent the sum of \$177,942.86 or only 3.3 percent of the total revenue. Moreover, practically every Department in 1934 had over-expenditure. The only three Departments that had an under-expenditure—first, the items of Legislation with an estimated expenditure of \$65,911, and an actual expenditure of \$65,646.34, thus showing an under-expenditure of \$284.66; Vocational Education with an estimated expenditure of \$58,846 and an actual expenditure of \$57,371.77 showing a negligible under-expenditure of \$1,475.28; Agriculture had an estimated expenditure of \$191,413 and an actual expenditure of \$177,942.86 or an under-expenditure of \$13,470.14. In this way curtailment was made at the expense of Agriculture and the farmer suffered.

### The Sinking Fund

Notwithstanding the ever increasing bonded debt one would expect in the sinking fund contributions and the contrary has taken place, and for the

past two years a decrease to the fund is noticeable. Thus in 1932 under the Motor Law requirements, there was contributed to the sinking fund the sum of \$448,618.00 and on the renewal sinking fund the sum of \$303,112.00 or a total for that year of \$751,730.00. In 1933 the amount set aside under the Motor Vehicle Law was diminished to \$26,000.00, and under the general sinking fund the sum of \$155,384.00 or a total for that year of \$181,384.00, showing a decrease over the preceding year of 1932 of \$570,346. In 1934 this amount set aside under Motor Vehicle Law Requirements to the sinking fund was \$134,925.00 and under the general sinking fund the sum of \$170,835.00 or a total for that year of 305,760.00, and it can thus be seen that the amount set aside from current revenue for sinking fund purposes during the last two years, that is to say the years 1933 and 1934 totals \$486,184.00 or \$265,586.00 less than in the single year of 1932, when the public debt was much lower than it is today.

Indeed, where a Government has to have resource to the cashing in of assets as was done a year ago where the amount of \$525,543.00 held to our credit at Ottawa, was a ear-marked for sinking fund purposes, when the amount should have been taken out of current revenue, then it is time to question whether our financial standing is being bettered or not.

### Comparison

In his comparison of what might have happened if in 1925 the people had not decided on a change of Government, the Honourable Minister indulges in a little sarcasm and much exaggeration. He had no doubt to change mood otherwise he might have converted this province to a second garden of Eden where the milk and honey flowed freely. Amongst the many calamities that might have befallen this province, he mentions that we probably would be interested in millions of dollars spent in the development of Grand Falls. We handed it away as a free gift to the big lumber interests which today are exploiting the same for their own benefits. But, why conjecture on what might have happened had a change not taken place in 1925? We can deal today with cold realities.

### Retrenchment

It is quite evident that this administration is unable to carry on the business of the province without incurring deficits. The results of the past five years clearly demonstrate this.

The Department of Lands and Mines was in the past and for many years the source of the bulk of our revenues. In 1925 the records show that this Department produced a revenue of \$1,213,296.49. That same year the expenditures in the same Department amounted to \$204,829.42. Of late years the revenue from our Crown Lands has been gradually declining.

The Department salaries alone were almost four thousand dollars more in 1934 than in 1925. Forest Service expenses have almost doubled.

Passing on to the Department of the Attorney General, we find that the Administration expenses were in 1925, \$62,116.60. Today these expenses have reached a grand total of \$161,885.28. There are legions who believe that a province the size of New Brunswick cannot continue to pay \$100,000.00 yearly for the maintenance of R. C. M. P. force.

In the Department of Health, the increase of expenditures during 1934 as compared with 1925, is \$34,219.26.

In the Department of Public Works, Departmental salaries and expenses have increased by almost eighteen thousand dollars since 1925, and miscellaneous expenses by almost \$25,000.

### Liquor Control Board

From an all-time high of a million and a half in revenues, the operations of the Liquor Control Board show a decided shrinkage to the low figure of \$557,572.99. It is difficult to explain the sudden drop in revenues.

I have briefly passed in review the salient points of our expenditures during the last fiscal year, and of the financial standing of the province as I view it, and I am certain that I voice the opinion of many who are only awaiting the opportunity to pass judgment upon the actions of this Government.

The Honourable Premier and his followers may scoff at the idea of establishing a Department to deal with Federal matters. Had we had such a Department, the decision on the

## Of Interest to Women

### PITY THE BRIDE WHO CANNOT COOK

Valentine Day is a favorite time to announce an engagement. I wonder how many of the girls who are so happy over their engagement and are so busy planning trousseaus and filling hope chests are able to cook. It always passes my understanding how girls can go blithely ahead and plan to be married without being able to fill their end of the bargain. Some of them are inclined to boast about it as if it were something of which to be proud. Others think it is a big joke. How would these same girls feel if their husbands-to-be boasted of the fact that they were not able to earn a living. Any woman who cannot cook starts married life under a severe handicap. People who have never cooked seem to think that there is nothing to learn; all you need is intelligence and a good cook-book. You need both but a little experience is a great help. You, who are to be brides soon, make it your business to be able to cook. Most girls can learn at home if they really want to. If there are cooking classes by all means take advantage of them because a Domestic Science teacher can teach you many things that mother does not know. If it is not possible to learn at home nor at school, appeal to one of your married friends for help. Most married women will be rather proud of being able to teach you and will willingly give you an opportunity to practise. And will you be popular with the boy-friend? To make a comfortable home is your end of the partnership, so play the game.

### A SMALL BUDGET

When every penny counts on the small budget, buy first milk, then in

order, fruits, vegetables, breads and cereal. So often filling articles are bought and the safeguards for family health are neglected.

### THE CLEANING WOMAN

After the cleaning woman has been at the home for a day's work, it is wise to look over all windows and doors to see that they are locked securely. So often in the window cleaning process one or two windows are left unlocked.

### A BED TABLE

If the kiddie is confined to bed for a lengthy period, a play table is an absolute necessity. Daddy can make one for him by removing the side of a packing box, leaving the ends for support and then giving the whole a coat of bright paint. This little table will hold soldiers, games, and all the things that help out a fellow in a bad fix like this.

### ADULTS ARE RUDE TO CHILDREN

What a pity grown-ups cannot be as courteous to children as they are to other grown-ups. Possibly they do not realize that they are rude but they are just the same. Today a youngster comes in just bubbling over with excitement and started to tell about something. She had not finished the first sentence when a grown-up rudely interrupted with, "Is that a hole in your sweater? You had better take it off and mend it before it gets any larger. Why have you been wearing it this long?" All the pleasure in telling the tale was gone. As a matter of fact, she just turned away without trying to tell her story. Then parents complain that their children do not confide in them. Watch yourself and see that you are not rude to your children.

## NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is Hereby Given that pursuant to the provisions of the Towns Incorporation Act 1927, and amending Acts and under and by virtue of a Warrant to me directed dated the 29th day of January, A. D. 1935, and issued by the Town Treasurer of the Town of Devon, in the County of York for taxes against the Charles Bolster Estate, assessed in the name of Mrs. Charles Bolster, I will sell at Public Auction in front of the Town Office, in the Town of Devon, in the County of York and Province of New Brunswick on SATURDAY the SIXTH DAY of APRIL, A.D. 1935, at TEN O'CLOCK in the FORENOON, all the right, title, interest, claim and demand of the said Charles Bolster Estate in and to the following lands and premises, namely: "ALL that certain lot, piece or parcel of land situate lying and being in the Village of Gibson in the Parish and County aforesaid and described as follows: Beginning at a stake in the Northwest side line of Gill Street sixty-six feet Southwesterly from the centre of the C. P. Railway and the Southwesterly corner of Lot No. 1 now occupied by Percy E. Jewett, thence North twenty-two degrees, fifteen minutes West along said Jewett's line ninety-nine feet six inches (99' - 6") to a stake, thence South sixty degrees forty five minutes West fifty feet to a stake, thence South eighteen degrees East eighty-seven feet to a stake on the Northwesterly side line of Gill Street, thence along said side line North seventy-four degrees east fifty feet (50 ft.) to a place of beginning containing four thousand six hundred and sixty-two feet more or less."

Terms—Cash. Dated at the Town of Devon, in the County of York this Fifth day of March, A.D. 1935.

LEO F. HAYES, Marshal, Town of Devon.

question of increased subsidy would have been settled long ago.

The Maritime Provinces were prosperous before Confederation was ever thought of. We willingly took the risk of placing that prosperity in jeopardy so that a new nation might be born, but let us not forget and forego the benefits which we were told would accrue to us on this province becoming a member of this Confederation.

The House adjourned at 5 p.m., and it was moved that the debate on the budget be made the order of the day for Wednesday.

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