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THE BUDGET DEBATE

(Continued from page one)

terest, but which had taken away from this province amounts which should be coming into the Provincial Treasury and which would have swelled the receipts from year to year. This government has not been afraid to spend, and he said, fearlessly that so long as they were in power they would not be afraid to spend so far as the money was available for the upkeep of the important public services of this country. The administration had set their face to keeping the ordinary expenditure within the ordinary revenue, and this they had been successful in doing.

The foes of the Provincial Secretary's office were increasing and that was indicative of the increased mercantile and industrial activity throughout the province. The King's printer's office was now on a paying basis and the contract under which that work is carried on is the most favorable in the history of the province. Liquor license receipts were decreasing annually as the prohibition area increased. He would not be sorry when the time came that they could eliminate altogether from the receipts of this province the item for liquor licenses.

The receipts during the past year reached the record amount and so did the expenditure, and as long as the government was able to increase the revenue, there would be greater demands for expenditures on the various public services of the country.

The Provincial Secretary spent some time endeavoring to answer criticisms of the press on the financial condition of the province.

He said the following table would show the expenditures on permanent bridges during the last four years under the administration.

1909.....	\$185,102
1910.....	148,522
1911.....	156,028
1912.....	178,623

He desired to refer very briefly to the school book question, and he would like to point out that the government had not gone into the school book business to make money, but primarily to give the people school books at about half the cost to them under the old government. It was true that there had been a loss, and he expected that there would always be such a deficit, but who got the benefit? It was the man in the back settlement who was seeking to give his boys and girls the best possible equipment to face life.

In speaking of the management of the provincial hospital at St. John he could not express too high commendation of the good work done by Dr. Anglin, and he felt that the government would find it a difficult matter to secure a man having a medical, executive and administrative ability that Dr. Anglin possessed. The estimate in connection with the provincial hospital had been \$84,000 while the expenditure had been \$85,212.03, and over expenditure of \$1,212.03.

It was a prolific cause of heated comment by the gentlemen who formerly occupied seats opposite, that the expenditures from the close of the fiscal year down to the opening of the session was large. This criticism was particularly marked last year. It was always true that she expenditure in the first months of the fiscal year was largely augmented by accounts that were late in coming to the Public Works Department for payment, but this government had paid every account to the end of the fiscal year, and kept their books open ten days longer. Hon. members who formerly sat opposite had rather roundly abused the government at the last session because of the large expenditure from the close of the fiscal year to the opening of the session. Last year the expenditure in the Public works department in the first three months amounted to \$184,639, while this year the expenditure for the same period was \$119,927, a decrease of \$64,714. That meant that the province was in a healthier financial condition by the amount of \$64,714, as far as the Public Works department was concerned than was the case last year.

The estimated income from succession duties was placed at \$50,000. This was an item that the province could not very well control but \$141,000 had been already received and he felt that the estimate was in sight.

It would be noticed that the estimated increase from liquor licenses was \$12,500 while the receipts from that source for the past year had been \$45,056.54. The difference was accounted for by the fact that more prohibitive territory had been added and four or five additional licenses had gone out of existence.

SALARIES INCREASED.

The government had found it necessary to increase the salaries of many of the officials of the departments on account of the increased cost of living and it was felt that the government should not expect the officials to work at salaries less than what they would receive from private concerns. Of the estimated expenditure the amount of \$2,400 had been placed

as the premier's salary in addition to his present emolument. At the present time the position of premier carried with it an immense amount of additional work in the interests of the province without any commensurate remuneration and as it was necessary that the premier in performing the duties of the combined offices was called on to give practically his entire time to the public service. Hon. members felt that he should be paid for the extra amount of work which devolved upon him. He was sure that no hon. gentleman nor right thinking citizen of New Brunswick would want the premier to give up his entire time and to give unselfishly of his ability and to live poorly because he was premier and he doubted if these was a man in the province so bitter in his opposition to the government that they would say they had acted unwisely and inexpediently in doing what should have been done long ago in adding \$2,100 to the premier's emolument.

THE U.N.B. GRANT.

It was a matter of great gratification that an additional amount had been placed in the estimates to the grant to the University of New Brunswick and as a graduate of the old institution on the hill, he felt proud that they had been able to add even a small amount to the grant of good old U.N.B. For more than a century this institution had been doing more than its part in fitting the young men of the province and lately the young women also, for successful careers. With a grant always small, the University had through all the years men who had borne no mean part in the life of this country. Its graduates had graced this Legislature while in the Commons of Canada it was an off year that no U.N.B. man was the peer of the best minds there.

IMMIGRATION.

He desired to refer for a few minutes to the matter of immigration. The government had placed in the estimate \$2,000 more than last year for colonization roads so that in their desire to bring new people to New Brunswick from the old land the government did not forget the settlers in this province and had placed this additional amount towards the assistance of those who desired to go out and open up new territory. For immigration proper the province was spending about \$12,000 a year, and he wished the amount was even larger because as the hon. premier had said a day or two ago, what New Brunswick wants is men to come into this province and take advantage of the great opportunities which are offered here and carry on the latent development of the rich resources of New Brunswick.

A FORWARD MOVEMENT

New Brunswick had been backward he regretted to say, in some things. The mover of the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne on the opening day of this Session, had in the course of his eloquent remarks told of the spirit of optimism and new feeling of hope among all that he had found not only on his own city but in the various parts of the province which he had visited. There was a reason for that spirit of optimism and that feeling of confidence in what the future would bring for this province. When men made up their minds that they would make their country great, and no country was possessed of such great natural resources as was the province of New Brunswick, there was nothing which stood between these people and the goal of their ambition. If there had been the boasting and advertising spirit of the west in this province the past ten years, New Brunswick would be far and away ahead of where it is at the present time. But it was only lately that the people of this province realized the great opportunities they had at their very doors. Now with the Gibson & Minto Railway to open up the rich district which it would tap, and the St. John Valley Railway passing through a country which was second to nothing in Canada for fruit growing and the prosecution of the general pursuits of agriculture, and the Grand Trunk Pacific bringing down to the port of St. John the through traffic from the great Western provinces of this Dominion where could there be a country with as bright an outlook for the future as has this province of New Brunswick, which all love so dearly. For all this great development he wished to claim some credit for the Government of which he had the honor to be a member, for it was at least partly due to their progressive administration that New Brunswick is now going ahead as it never did before.

The motion carried without division and the House went into Committee of Supply with Mr. Pinder in the chair.

The Committee reported progress and supply was made the order of the day.

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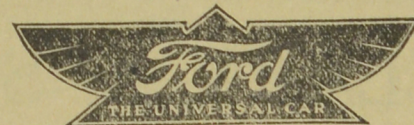
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