

BUDGET DEBATE HAS BEEN CLOSED

Col. Sheridan was the Last Speaker---Addresses by Messrs. Murray and Tweeddale---House in Supply.

The budget debate came to an abrupt conclusion about 11 o'clock last night. During the afternoon it was reported that Surveyor General Grimmer was to make the closing speech, following Mr. Tweeddale, who was stated to speak after Mr. Murray. A change of programme was evidently arranged during recess and the honor and glory of winding up the debate fell to Col. Sheridan, of Kent county, who performed the office in a manner which was as satisfactory to the members on both sides. The gallant colonel does not speak often but when he does there is no doubt as to who has the floor. Last night he placed his leader in a somewhat embarrassing position by some of the claims he made on the highway act, which Mr. Robinson pointed out were not in the original act. The section was that making statute labor optional. This ruled Mr. Hazen, but Mr. Robinson refused to yield his point and referred to the fact that the speaker of the day had given an improper ruling when the opposition had introduced an amendment regarding this very section. Mr. Hazen is very touchy on some points particularly regarding matters where he knows he has committed an error.

The House met at three o'clock. The bills to incorporate the Congregation B-Nel Israel and relating to the Church of England Diocese of Fredericton were read a third time and agreed to.

Hon. Mr. McLeod presented the report of the standing rules committee. Mr. Slipp presented the report of the corporations committee.

Mr. Munro presented the report of the municipalities committee.

Hon. Mr. Grimmer in reply to Mr. Sornany's enquiry said that a decision would be arrived at an early date regarding the application of Rev. Ls. Gagnon on behalf of intending settlers in West St. Isidore, Gloucester county.

Hon. Mr. Grimmer introduced a bill to confirm a conveyance of land by the town of St. Andrews to the St. Andrews Land Co.

Mr. Pinder introduced a bill to amend the act incorporating the N. B. Railway Co.

Hon. Mr. Hazen introduced a bill to amend the trustee act, which he explained inserted a clause similar to that in the English act, providing that trustees appointed by a court had the same powers as if appointed at the creation of the trust.

Hon. Mr. McLeod introduced a bill to amend the act relating to Baptist Annuities located in New Brunswick.

Dr. Sornany introduced bills authorizing Gloucester county to issue \$25,000 bonds to assist the Northern New Brunswick and Sea-Board Railway Company in securing a right of way to Black's Cut; and to authorize Gloucester county to borrow \$6,000 on a temporary loan.

Mr. Munro introduced bills to authorize the town of Woodstock to borrow ten thousand dollars for permanent improvement of the streets; also to amend the act relating to the town of Woodstock.

Mr. LaBillois presented the petition of the Dalhousie Mercantile Co. and over 80 of the ratepayers against the bill relating to the town of Dalhousie.

Mr. Robinson gave notice of enquiry as to whether it was the intention of the government to build a bridge across the south branch of the Oromocto river at Mill Settlement.

Mr. Wilson presented the petition of the city council of St. John, favoring a bill relating to that portion of St. John Harbor in Courtenay Bay.

The House went into committee of the whole with Mr. Byrne in the chair and agreed to the bill to authorize the city of Moncton to issue debentures, etc., and also the bill to legalize an assessment in the city and county of St. John, the title of which was changed to read "An Act to change the date of holding Municipal Elections in the city and county of St. John."

After these bills were reported the House went into committee of the whole, with Dr. Taylor in the chair, and agreed to the bill relating to the Sackville Electric Light and Telephone Co., and also the bill to further amend the schools act.

MR. LABILLOIS' SPEECH.

Mr. LaBillois, the order of the day being called, resumed the budget debate and thanked the leader of the government for his kindness in allowing him to adjourn the debate last evening so that after a long days' travel he might be able to rest before continuing the debate this afternoon. Whatever feeling might exist politically the opposition appreciated any such act of courtesy and kindness.

The hon. member for Albert had gone out of his way to find fault with the work of the former members representing that county in the House. During the past year twenty thou-

sand dollars had been spent in that small county on the roads and bridges. He had visited the county shortly before his retirement at the will of the people from the position of chief commissioner of public works and in all his travels of the province in the many years he had held a portfolio in the government he had never visited a county where there was such proof of good bridges as in that county. The only case he could recall of where the engineer had driven stakes and they had later been withdrawn without any work being done was at a point near Riverside, where it was suggested that the road might be diverted and a bridge built so as to escape having to use several large hills and the bridge had fallen down and a change of the site had been suggested. He had refused to have the work asked for done after receiving the estimates on the ground that there were many hills in the province that had to be travelled over and which were in as bad shape as those referred to.

Mr. Dickson asked if the ex-chief commissioner did not know of stakes being driven and measurements being made at Mill Creek and that no work was afterwards done?

Mr. LaBillois said he did not. If such was the case, conditions were probably the same as those he had referred to before. If there were representatives who looked after the interests of Albert county they were those gentlemen who represented that constituency before the election of March, 1908. The large expenditures in that county had been made since then not because of the needs of the county but to keep the friends of the present administration together and to help the present representatives at the next election. The figures presented by previous speakers showing the cost of inspection would open the eyes of the ratepayers. In King's county a former St. John businessman, who knew nothing about bridge building, was the structural superintendent and it was no wonder that under inexperienced men the cost of construction of public works was much more than it should be. While the revenue was about twice as large as in 1885, the government was having difficulty in getting along and paying the ordinary expenditures, and if it had not been for the juggling of some accounts which was done under the new audit act, a deficit would have occurred last year.

There had been discrimination in the building of public works and in Restigouche county bridges that were destroyed last May by forest fires had not been rebuilt by day's work, but had been held up on the ground that tenders would have to be called for. The policy put forward by the present leader of the opposition to place \$30,000 annually from the increased Dominion subsidies as a sinking fund showed that he was a statesman, looking to the future and the plan should have been adopted.

As the result of the recent forestry convention it had been said by those who should know that if the present state of affairs continued there would be no lumber left in forty-five or fifty ears.

Hon. Mr. Grimmer said that prominent lumbermen attending the convention had said that if the present arduous conditions were continued there was more lumber than would ever be used in the province.

Mr. LaBillois said that in order to have the lumbermen properly protect he forests, the government should make known to them their policy with regard to the handling of the Crown lands; but they were withholding that policy like that regarding the Valley Railway.

The Province also needed a colonization policy that would cause the young men born in the province to settle on its fertile lands instead of going away. In the Province of Quebec a book was printed which was a guide to settlers. He did not find fault with the surveyor general as he knew he was giving careful attention to this matter, but he felt very earnestly about it and thought steps should be taken without delay to keep the young men in the province. When the International Railway was being built it was said that it would open up a good section for settlement purposes and he wanted to see this carried out.

He was glad that the commissioner for agriculture had accepted the opposition's proposal and had increased the grant to agricultural societies. While it was a good idea to circulate ten thousand copies of the report of the agricultural commission he was disappointed that so little had been done to carry out the recommendations of the report. The agricultural department did not deserve credit for the number of agricultural societies increasing. The praise should go to the farmers who raised themselves together. The wheat policy had been neglected. In 1898 the wheat crop in the province was 409,000 bushels while in 1908 it

had dropped off to 292,000, but in that year the weather had been against a good crop. There should be one wheat expert at each Farmers' Institute meeting in the province to stimulate an interest in the growing of wheat.

As to education we spent upwards of \$260,344.48 this year. In this regard enough is not yet being done. The salaries paid to teachers are not such as to secure the best. The salary should be raised or good teachers could not be expected to remain in the profession.

Forty thousand dollars is put down in the estimates for fish, forest and game protection. He desired to call the attention of the surveyor general to the tremendous slaughter of game which was taking place in Restigouche. The game wardens were not doing their duty as they ought, because there was no one there to see that they did. Under the late government the chief game warden lived in the county and attended to his duties. He regretted that so little was being done to induce the young men to take up grants of land but as long as the roads were so bad as they are there was little inducement for colonization.

He was disposed to support any legislation that would help enforce the liquor law. The provincial secretary had held an enquiry at Campbellton with regard to one of the hotels there and there was nothing could be charged against the owner except that he was a Liberal, but shortly after that the liquor commissioners took away his license.

Hon. Mr. Flemming said he was sure his hon. friend didn't want to convey a wrong impression by saying that his license was taken away because he was a Liberal. He (Flemming) had made a report on the investigation which would show why Mr. Donovan lost his license.

Mr. LaBillois said no matter what was contained in the report it was generally felt in Campbellton that that Donovan lost his license because he was a Liberal and people were so disgusted with the way in which the licensed commissioners were doing their work that there was now a petition favoring local option which would be voted on in April.

With regard to the pensions for school teachers he had had an opportunity in the last few days of conferring with quite a number of teachers, and as a result of what he had learned he hoped the government would reduce the length of service necessary to qualify and if possible increase the amount of the pension. If the government could not increase the salaries he hoped they would at least give a good pension.

MR. MURRAY OF KINGS

Mr. Murray said he felt like apologizing to the House for taking part in the debate at its present stage. The ground had already been well covered and the members supporting the government had explained clearly and definitely the reasons for continuing that support. Members of the opposition dwelt mainly on one view that there was a good deal of over expenditure and waste of public money by the government.

He desired to congratulate the member for St. John County for the very fair and impartial manner in which he had addressed the House and for the calm and reasonable way in which he had dealt with the government's policy.

When the late government was in power it was said by hon. members opposite that any over-expenditure which became necessary was authorized by order in council. It was nothing of the kind. It was simply incurred by the heads of the various departments writing letters to the bank managers authorizing their subordination to overdraw to a certain amount.

Another complaint they had to make was that the cost of Executive government had increased. The salaries of the ministers at the present time with the exception of two were precisely what they were in the time of the old government. The only difference was that two of the members here now receiving the paltry sum of four hundred dollars each but as an offset to this the travelling expenses of the present executive were less by some two thousand dollars than they were in 1907.

With regard to roads and bridges the leader of the opposition had said that in 1907 the late government had spent \$179,326 on bridges. This appeared to him (Murray) as being a very large amount for that purpose so he looked it up in the accounts, and found that in that year 325 bridges had been built and repaired.

Opposition speakers had blamed the provincial secretary because he said he was honest. That gentleman had not claimed he was exceptionally honest after the "holier than thou" principle, but he possessed the honesty of the ordinary business man not only in his private character but in his conduct of business affairs, a statement in which all the government supporters were prepared to heartily endorse. The opposition had severely criticised the payment of \$15,679 on permanent bridges, which had that amount been paid out of ordinary revenue as they said should have been, instead of having a surplus, there would have been a deficit. The construction of permanent bridges out of capital was justified from every standpoint.

The highway act called for some attention. How well it was working was shown by the difficulty the opposition had experienced in finding any criticism which was worth consideration. He could not answer for the roads in Gloucester county, to which

the hon. member for that county had referred, but as far as Kings was concerned, even gentlemen opposed to him in politics had expressed their appreciation of the excellent way in which the act worked and they had never seen the roads in such good condition as they had been in the past season.

The House took recess.

The House resumed at 8 p. m.

Mr. Bourque presented petitions in favor of a bill to amend the act relating to peddlers; also in favor of an act to authorize certain license fees for the county of Kent.

Mr. Murray resuming the budget debate said that the opposition had given a great deal of uncalled for and unjustified criticism regarding expenditures for public printing during the past year. In 1907, \$13,697 had been spent for public printing and last year this service cost \$11,663 which was somewhat of a saving and that more work was being obtained for the money expended was evident from the fact that included in this reduced expenditure were the unusually large payments necessary for the 10,000 copies of the agricultural commission report, the enlarged book made necessary by the voluminous acts passed last session, the large number of copies of the highway act which had been distributed throughout the province, the large number of copies of the game act which had also been distributed, not only in the province and the Dominion, but to many outside sportsmen who wished to become familiar with its provision and also a new handbook on fishing and hunting in this province. These unusual expenditures accounted for a large portion of the amount and showed that there was little ground for serious criticism.

He believed that the agricultural department was doing a great and good work and the object of the commissioner for agriculture was to put forth an honest endeavor to advance the farming interests of the province. Most of the criticisms had been directed at him personally rather than at the department, and he could go on in the honest way in which he had commenced and which was proving so beneficial to the province.

Notwithstanding that when they promised to reduce the school books they had been called primer politicians, the government had redeemed their pledge in full. It was never intended to have the government make a profit on the sale of school books. What they had done was in the interests of education, and the young people of this province and any reasonable man could find nothing to criticize. The Amelia Norton claim had been paid out of current revenue. It had not been paid to Amelia, and not to a supporter of this government nor of the opposition at Ottawa, but it had been paid to a staunch and sturdy opponent of this government, who happened to be a Liberal.

Mr. Copp—Who was the solicitor for the party to whom the claim was paid?

Mr. Murray said it was Mr. Geo. W. Fowler and he didn't think that that fact would influence the late government very much in making the order in council to pay the claim.

MR. TWEEDDALE.

Mr. Tweeddale said that in speaking ability and power this legislature compared favorably with any parliament in Canada. The gentleman opposite had sought to make the country believe that they were giving a better administration than ever before. They were engaged altogether in a comparison with the old government, and with the circumstances considered the people could see that the comparison was favorable to the late administration. They had departed from the facts and should retract their misrepresentation. The audit act was not the safeguard it was represented by the provincial secretary and the importation of the Kentucky horses without legislative authority was an illustration of the ineffectual conditions of the act, it was not as good a safeguard of the public treasury as existed under the old administration, as the approval of the whole executive council was necessary to get an additional appropriation, but now three members could order it, and the auditor general was compelled to unloose the purse strings. They carried on exactly the same things as suspense accounts and over-drafts. The gentlemen opposite had made unfair comparisons regarding interest charges and had compared the floating of loans issued by them under favorable conditions with those issued by the late administration under most unfavorable conditions. He quoted the remarks of ex-Premier Tweedie regarding the temporary loan of 1904 to substantiate his claim. The government of the present day was doing exactly what they condemned the old government for doing, and what they did they said was justifiable while the other was almost theft. If any bargain had been secured by the provincial secretary, including the recent issue of stock, it was because the credit of the province was good whereas the hon. gentlemen opposite when in opposition had gone about the country saying that the province was going into bankruptcy. That New Brunswick bonds had sold well showed that there had been good security and was evidence of the consistency of the gentlemen opposite. The solicitor general, when he criti-

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cised the leader of the opposition, failed to tell of his own experience in floating Fredericton bonds.

Hon. Mr. McLeod said that while he was mayor of the city a certain amount of debentures fell due. It was not his duty as mayor, but the duty

(Continued on page three.)



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Notice is hereby given that under and by virtue of a Power of Sale contained in a certain Indenture of Mortgage bearing date the first day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and five, recorded in the County Records in Book Y-5 pages 114-117, made between the said Odilon Fortin of the one part, and Henry Montgomery-Campbell of Apohaqui in the County of Kings, Esquire, of the other part, there in pursuance of the said Power of Sale and for the purpose of satisfying moneys secured by the said mortgage, default having been made in the payment thereof, he sold at Public Auction on Saturday, the ninth day of April, at twelve o'clock noon in front of the Post Office in the City of Fredericton, in the County of York, the lease and leasehold lands and premises described in the said mortgage as follows: "All that certain piece or parcel of land being known as lot number twenty six and south easterly two hundred and fifty links along the side line of lot number two, the said piece of land being known as lot number three containing one quarter of an acre, more or less, and being the same land lately under lease to the late James Daley" together with all and singular the buildings and improvements thereon and the said lease and all and all rights of renewal or other rights thereunder.

Dated at Fredericton aforesaid, this twenty fifth day of February, A. D. 1910.

J. J. F. Winslow
Solicitor for the Mortgagees.
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