

BYRNE MAKES TELLING POINTS IN SPEECH IN THE ASSEMBLY

Gloucester Member Shows How Hazen Government Juggled to Produce a Paper Surplus--Great Deficit on Central Railway Under Government Which Said Road Should be Run at a Profit--Growing Dissatisfaction With Debt-Increasing Ministry--More of Speech Tomorrow.

Much of the time in the House yesterday was taken up with routine business but in the evening the budget debate was resumed by Hon. Mr. Maxwell. As usual there were a good many words uttered while Mr. Maxwell had the floor but there was not much else. The St. John man was followed by Mr. J. P. Byrne of Gloucester. Mr. Byrne is one of the members of the House who does not often take the floor but when he does he is listened to with close attention.

In the hour which he occupied before adjourning the debate about 11 o'clock Mr. Byrne showed how great had been the deficit on the Central Railway since the Hazen government came to control it. He drew attention also to the easy manner in which Mr. Fleming predicts a large surplus for the fiscal year whenever he is discussing finances at the beginning of a year and seeks as easily to explain how it is that the alleged surplus at the close of the year is so much smaller than it was to have been.

In an effective way Mr. Byrne showed that had the Hazen government set aside \$30,000 a year for a sinking fund to wipe out the public debt in each year since the ministers took office they would not have faced an alleged surplus but a large deficit. But these gentlemen, who did not set aside any such large amount for this purpose, when they were in opposition blamed the former ministry for not doing this very thing and has said that Mr. Robinson and his friends should be defeated. If the old government should have been condemned for its course in this connection how much more the present ministry which so censured the ministers who preceded Premier Hazen and his associates?

Another point on which Mr. Byrne was very effective was in respect to the gross misrepresentation in regard to the public debt which were indulged in by Mr. Hazen and his friends in the campaign of 1908. At that time these gentlemen told the people that the debt was about \$10,000,000 and that the province was facing bankruptcy. Yet in the first year after they took office their own reports showed a debt of but \$3,999,775. By such misrepresentations of fact as those which on behalf of Mr. Hazen put the debt at \$10,000,000 did the present ministry gain office.



MR. J. P. BYRNE, M.P.P.

The House met on Monday at 3 o'clock.

Hon. Robert Maxwell arose to a question of privilege regarding errors in the synopsis report which he desired corrected.

In his speech on Friday in speaking of the Attorney General of the late government he wished all after the words "performed them" struck out and the following substituted: "but he had an open account running from year to year against which he had checks drawn for advance of money as he wanted it."

Hon. Mr. Hazen introduced a bill to amend the bills of Sale Act.

Mr. Wilson presented the petition of the city of St. John in favor of a bill to amend an act relating to the temporary closing up of streets in that city.

Mr. Munro presented a petition in favor of a bill relating to the will of the late Lewis P. Fisher.

Hon. Mr. Hazen introduced a bill to amend the act respecting assignments.

Mr. Munro presented a petition in favor of bill to incorporate the Bel River Heat, Light and Power Company.

Hon. Mr. Hazen introduced a bill to amend the Act respecting the Society Prevention Cruelty to Animals.

Mr. LaBille gave notice of en-

quiry regarding the erection of a new flour mill in Restigouche County.

The House went into committee of the whole with Mr. Munro in the chair and agreed to the bill to increase the salaries of school inspectors.

The bill to amend the act respecting rates and taxes was then taken up, its purposes being to repeal section 2 of the act passed at the last session of the House exempting from taxation property used for water purposes for another municipality.

Hon. Mr. Maxwell explained that the schools and other necessary undertakings of the parishes outside St. John city had been interfered with and declared that the amendment to the act was necessary.

Hon. Mr. Hazen moved an amendment to safeguard the interests of communities taking properties for water purposes hereafter.

Hon. Mr. Grimmer explained that the act as it stood wrought a hardship in Charlotte County, where the town of St. Stephen had expended about \$100,000 in water system improvements and the parish of St. David was unable to accept the taxes on the assessment of \$5000 which had been agreed upon. The bill was agreed to with amendments.

The bill to provide increased aid for the University of New Brunswick, and the bill to provide for two councillors being elected by the ratepayers for the town of Marysville as members of the York County Council were agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Hazen moved that the time for the introduction of private bills be extended for one week.

The House went into committee with Mr. Dickson in the chair.

The bill to fix the assessment of James Pender Co., Ltd., was on Mr. Wilson's motion stood over until the St. John bills were taken up. He thought the bill should specify that it fixed the assessment on the property used for manufacturing purposes only.

The bill respecting the levying of rates and taxes in the city of St. John was agreed to and the bill to amend the act for supplying the town of Grand Falls with water was amended so as to provide for a sinking fund.

The bills to authorize the city and county of St. John to issue debentures to pay for the installation of

a water supply service for fire protection purposes at the General Public Hospital; to incorporate the St. Leonards' Electric Company and to incorporate the Carleton County Hospital was agreed to.

A bill to incorporate the town of Edmundston for light and power purposes was considered.

Hon. Mr. Maxwell suggested in connection with the issue of bonds that some provision might be made for the guarantee or insurance of a town's bonds, so that there would be no possibility of danger to the bondholders and the Legislature would not then be called upon to guarantee the bonds and see that they were paid in case of misfortune such as occurred at Campbellton.

After agreeing to several sections as amended progress was reported.

The committee adjourned till tomorrow. The House took recess.

MR. BYRNE'S SPEECH

Mr. Byrne on rising said he would not transgress very long on the time of the House. He had agreed with many of the sentiments expressed in the Speech from the Throne, especially the sympathetic reference at the demise of the late King Edward VII. He thought the British government had acted very wisely in giving South Africa responsible government and trusted it would soon see fit to grant Home Rule to Ireland. The hon. member from Kings had said his (Byrne's) voice was not often heard on the floor of the House. He wished to say that whenever the interests and welfare of the people are in issue his voice will always be heard.

THE CRITICISM OF THE GOVERNMENT BY HIS FRIEND FROM NORTHUMBERLAND (BURNCHILL) HAD GREATLY PLEASED HIM SINCE IT CAME FROM AN INDEPENDENT SOURCE. THE ATTACK AGAINST THE HON. GENTLEMAN MADE BY THE HON. PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL, (MR. MAXWELL) WAS VICIOUS AND UNCALLED FOR.

The hon. President of the Council in 1908 had told the people of the country that if he and his friends were placed in power they would conduct the Central Railway at one half of what it was then costing. The people had listened to the cry of hon. gentlemen opposite and in what condition?

It was passed over at a time when its traffic was increasing. This increase was due to several causes beyond the control of either the present ministry or its predecessors.

In 1908 the road had carried over 27,000 tons more of freight and over 8,000 passengers more than in 1907—things which made clear the fact that the traffic was increasing. Yet what has been the record of this government which took control of the Central at this time when traffic conditions were so promising?

Between June 30, 1905 and March 1, 1908, the latter being practically the time when the former government went out of power—the road showed a surplus, not a large surplus but nevertheless a surplus. What was the record after Mr. Hazen and his friends took office? Between April 1, 1908 and June 1, 1910 was there a surplus on the operation of the Central? No there was a deficit, and a deficit of how much? Over \$21,000 under a ministry which condemned the surplus producing old government for not meeting with greater success in its management of Central affairs. A deficit of over \$21,000 was created under this economical government whose predecessors, styled reckless and extravagant by the present ministers, were able so operate the road as to produce a surplus.

The budget, said Mr. Byrne, is an important matter with the people of the province who looked to see whether the administration of their affairs has been carried on in an economical or extravagant manner and no doubt the Provincial Secretary had made out the best case that he could this year. It is the duty of any government to justify its expenditure and it is the right of an opposition to offer criticism. There was a marked difference in the budget of 1908 compared with that of 1911. The hon. Provincial Secretary had made reference to the old government to their faults and failings, but he had been careful to avoid any reference to the faults of his own. THE RECORD OF THE OLD ADMINISTRATION IS NO JUSTIFICATION FOR THE BROKEN PROMISES AND UNFULFILLED PLEDGES OF THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION IS THE ONE WHICH IS NOW BEING WEIGHED IN THE BALANCE.

In the estimates for 1911 the hon. Provincial Secretary had told of an expected increased revenue which would be gratifying if it turned out to be true. After providing for the public services he expected to have a balance of \$24,182.89, but in the estimated income he had included the Quatawamkewick fishery lease amounting to \$15,167.53. These had been included for years and he would like to know if the hon. Provincial Secretary had any assurance that this amount would be received during the year.

The Provincial Secretary might fairly cut down his balance by that amount. The expenditures are growing and it would be no surprise to him, if at the end of another year, the estimated surplus of the Provincial Secretary turned out to be very much astray. In 1909 the estimated surplus was \$32,000, but at the end of the year, the surplus claimed but a little over \$4,000. Last year the surplus was estimated at over \$24,000 but the amount announced at the end of the year was only about \$6,000. This discrepancy was not due to a falling off in the revenue, which was \$73,000 more than the estimates in 1909 and \$66,000 more than in 1910. There was a leakage in the expenditures. Where would his hon. friends opposite have been if it had not been for those increases in revenue. In 1909 at the very close of the fiscal year in the effort to show a surplus they borrowed over \$15,000 to pay for bridges under a resolution of the Treasury Board of the much lauded Audit Act. They saw a deficit staring them in the face and realized that it would never do to disclose it to the people of the province so they disposed of it as a "Special Permanent Bridge Account." That showed that this government is at least as bad as the old government were alleged to be. The former ministers never had thought of opening a special bridge account to carry along expenditures over the close of the fiscal year. But this government had on October 26th secured a certificate from the Chief Engineer that the work was of a permanent nature and two or three days before the fiscal year had closed they opened a new account, a "Special" account to save them from showing a deficit on the ordinary business of the year. THIS IN SPITE OF THE ACTION OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL IN POINTING OUT THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO LEGISLATIVE PROVISION FOR THIS SUM OF \$15,679 AND THAT HITHERTO OUTLAYS OF THE KIND WHICH IT WAS PROPOSED TO CHARGE TO PERMANENT ACCOUNT HAD BEEN CHARGED TO ORDINARY EXPENDITURE. But this was one way by which the Hazen government tried to produce a surplus.

HEAVY WORK IN A WESTERN QUARRY

Brought on Kidney Trouble That Dodd's Kidney Pills Cured

There is a Lesson for Workmen in the Story Told by John McMullen of Robinson's Camp, Alberta.

Robinson's Camp, The Gap, Alta., March 20.—(Special)—Men who work hard and make heavy lifts have learned that the back is the first part of the body to call for help and John McMullen, who works in the quarry here has proved to his own satisfaction and that of his fellow workmen that it is really the Kidneys that require relief. "Last summer," says Mr. McMullen, "I had some heavy work in the quarry here, which was hard on my back. My head also ached, and I got so that I was always tired and nervous, and was often dizzy. I sent for two boxes of Dodd's Kidney Pills and they fixed me up."

The Kidneys are the first organs to feel heavy wear and tear on the body. If you cure them when they first call for help all will be well. If you neglect them Rheumatism, Bright's Disease, Gravel or Diabetes will be the result. Dodd's Kidney Pills always give the help they need. They always cure.

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Mr. Byrne said that up to this year the hon. gentlemen opposite had said that the Auditor General was worthy of all praise, but now, because he had pointed out that the provisions of the Audit Act are being violated by the government, the press supporting the government has attacked this official. The history of the surplus of 1911 was that only \$13,000 of the \$24,000 voted for the subsidy had been paid to such a fund. The members of this government had scored the old administration for not paying \$30,000 annually from the increased subsidy to the sinking fund account and said that for that reason they should be put out of office. Where would the surpluses of the hon. gentlemen opposite be, if they had done as they said the old government should have done? While he did not stand to justify the old administration, it must be remembered that they had a limited revenue for an excuse, but with the increased revenue the hon. gentlemen opposite have not lived up to their promises. Had they done the very thing for which they condemned the old government for not doing they would have wiped out their alleged surplus in 1909 and the alleged surplus in 1910. But so it goes. This government has been doing and is doing the very things for which it condemned

(Continued on page two)

12.—The secrecy of the ballot and an honest carrying out of the election laws, believing that every citizen of the province entitled to the franchise should be free to vote as his conscience directs.

13.—The improvement in quality and the reduction in price of our school books so that our people shall not be robbed of hundreds of thousands of dollars but shall get the best possible value for their money.

14.—The extension and encouragement of local schools so that every man in the province who has a family may have an opportunity to give his children an elementary education.

15.—An increase in the provincial allowance to school teachers.

16.—The inauguration of an agricultural and immigration policy as well as the promotion of the settling of our own lands by our own people.

17.—The enactment of a highway law that has almost doubled the taxation for roads and places the real control of the highway affairs in the hands of the government through its appointment of the secretary treasurer of each Highway Board.

18.—The enactment of a law which, while not diminishing the amount of provincial money given to the roads, shall vest the management of the roads and the appointment of all officials in the county councils.

19.—The survey and valuation of our crown lands, so that the interests of the province may be conserved and the lumber operators both large and small have encouragement and fair and honest treatment.

20.—The adherence along general lines to the agricultural policy of the former government; the appointment of a medical doctor for Commissioner of Agriculture; the expenditure of about \$7,000 of the people's money on a useless agricultural commission composed of friends of the government; the increase in 1910 over 1909 of the expenses of the staff of the Agricultural Department.

21.—Noteworthy increase in the cost of the Immigration Department by thousands of dollars—\$4,500 in 1910 alone—and the appointment of a lawyer as Immigration agent; the encouragement of settlers from other countries to take up lands here with no similar encouragement for our own young people.

22.—Some reductions in the prices of school books and the imposition of an accompanying burden upon the people of the province by the creation of offices for friends of the government such as Mr. A. D. Thomas and the son of a defeated government candidate in Carleton county, and others.

23.—Practically no extension of local schools and the creation of a state of affairs whereby the number of vacant schools in the province in 1910 was several hundred.

24.—Some slight increase in the allowance to school teachers, but an increase not as large as that to have been given by the old government had it continued in power.

25.—Absolutely no action in regard to the ballot and the election laws in addition to that taken by the former ministry though at last session a committee was appointed on motion of the government to consider the election laws, but did nothing.

26.—The potato was first grown as a hobby by Spaniards in the sixteenth century, but it was not until the eighteenth century that it was grown for food.

"Most women have but one idea and that's dress." "I don't know. My daughter has a dozen ideas on that subject."

Old Gent—"Do you know what becomes of little boys who swear?" Urchin—"Yes, they become golfers when they grow up."

Jones—"Had a tilt with your wife eh? Well don't feel so down-hearted over it. A thunderstorm clears the air you know." Brown—"Yes that may be true; but it doesn't help the man whose been struck by the lightning."

PROMISES OF 1908 AND PERFORMANCE OF PAST 3 YEARS

A Review of the Planks of the Hazen Platform of 1908 and the Record of the Government--An Interesting Comparison for the People--How Many Pledges Have Been Kept?--Contrasted Facts to be Considered by the Electors of York.

HAZEN'S PLATFORM IN 1908.

(From the Fredericton Gleaner of Jan. 2, 1908.)

1.—The honest collection of provincial revenues and the management of loans, not so much in the special interest of the moment or of the temporary needs of the government as upon a basis permanently of most advantage to the province.

2.—The keeping of the ordinary expenditure of the province within the ordinary revenue.

3.—The appointment of an Auditor General independent of the government, who shall have power to insist upon the accuracy and honesty of accounts before they are paid.

4.—The putting up of all public work to tender, and the giving of the contract to the lowest bidder.

5.—The cutting off of all needless extravagances in connection with the administration of the various departments and an absolute rule that public money shall not be paid out unless a proper voucher is first presented.

6.—The repeal of the present highway act and the enactment of a law which, while not diminishing the amount of provincial money given to the roads, shall vest the management of the roads and the appointment of all officials in the county councils.

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HAZEN PERFORMANCES SINCE 1908.

1.—The revenue still collected in the way followed by the old government and the mismanagement of loans so that in one case it cost the province over \$40,000 paid to the Bank of Montreal and its lawyer-friends for commission, etc.

2.—Annual additions to the public debt which total over \$600,000 since 1907, and the carrying over of accounts from year to year to avoid the necessity of paying all the bills incurred in a certain fiscal year in that year.

3.—The frequent over-ruling of the Auditor General by the Treasury Board, composed of three members of the government, even in cases in which the Auditor General declared accounts to be "Excessive" and declared that no attention was paid to the provisions of the Audit Act; and a present attempt to bring about the dismissal of the Auditor General because he has protested against the government's method of handling the public accounts.

4.—The adherence to the day's work system in regard to public works, the letting of contracts being the rare exception rather than the rule; seven pieces of contract work being done on York bridges in 1910 out of about sixty-three.

5.—The increase of the salaries of several of the Hazen ministers and the increase of the expenses of the ministers, their office staffs, etc., as compared with the similar expenses of 1907; and the payment of money under improper vouchers and for work done absolutely without departmental authority—facts proven in the Public Accounts Committee at the last session of the Legislature.

6.—The enactment of a highway law that has almost doubled the taxation for roads and places the real control of the highway affairs in the hands of the government through its appointment of the secretary treasurer of each Highway Board.

7.—Absolutely no steps taken whatever to have the promised survey and valuation made; and unfair treatment for the operators by practically compelling them in many cases to provide board and lodging for government scalars and counters for days at a time.

8.—The adherence along general lines to the agricultural policy of the former government; the appointment of a medical doctor for Commissioner of Agriculture; the expenditure of about \$7,000 of the people's money on a useless agricultural commission composed of friends of the government; the increase in 1910 over 1909 of the expenses of the staff of the Agricultural Department.

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