

BUDGET DEBATE.

(CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.)

Mr. Loggie

who followed, said he wished to take the opportunity to congratulate the member for Carleton on the very able and instructive address he had delivered in criticizing the provincial secretary's financial statement.

The premier twitted the member for Northumberland on several occasions, referring to him, Loggie, as the gentleman from Alnwick, to whom he would assign the task of looking after the people in that constituency. He had also said that he, Loggie, had taken issue with the attorney general on a point of law before he had been in the House forty-eight hours, and announced the other day that he might bequeath his coronation robes to him, styling him the deacon on that occasion. This was not the first time that reference had been made by the premier to his official position in the church. On the hustings he had referred to him as an elder. What his motive was in doing this he could not say, except he thought it might influence some votes. Such sarcastic statements as these are far beneath the dignity of a gentleman occupying the lofty position of premier of this province. He (Loggie) had discussed the financial affairs of the province in the last election and showed that a surplus of \$49,000 had been estimated when there would be only \$6,000. Taking up the budget debate of last year he told the electors that the leader of the opposition had been charged with being just as much responsible for increasing the debt as the government, because he had not opposed any item of expenditure in committee of supply. The debates show the leader of the opposition had opposed many items, and that he had wisely stated it was not the duty of the opposition to add to the cost of legislation by taking up the time of the House in opposing every item of supply.

The member for Restigouche had stated the Opposition had taken a stand detrimental to the interests of the province, because of their attitude on the Quebec resolutions in reference to better terms and the Halifax fishery award. It had been shown that the resolutions were not in the interests of the Province, that it would be unwise to demand the payment over of New Brunswick's share of the Halifax award until we are prepared to assume the burden of protecting and encouraging the fisheries. The Opposition are willing to go to the electors on the stand they have taken in these questions. The premier during the debate on the resolution favouring better terms, said that he, Loggie, had failed to grasp the meaning of the resolution. He fully grasped its meaning and this is what it means: It will take the interest of \$70,000,000 to provide for the increased subsidies demanded by the provinces, and in 1911 it will take the interest on \$30,000,000 more and at every decennial census as the population increases the bonded indebtedness of Canada will be increased by reason of the increased subsidies to the province.

In the recent appeal to the electors strong influences of a federal character had been called into requisition all over the province. This is presumably a Liberal administration, but it is nothing more than a coalition government, and had it not been for the Dominion influences in the last election the opposition would now be on the government side of the House. Having been returned to the House as a representative of Northumberland county, he would do his duty in a straightforward and honest manner, and he expected justice to be done to even the hard-hearted parishes of Alnwick and Hardwick.

Taking up the items of expenditure Mr. Loggie showed that there was an over-expenditure on the lunatic asylum account of \$13,087. On the credit side was found \$6,785. Although this appears as a balance to the credit of the account for the current year it is only fair that it should be deducted from the \$13,087, which would leave a deficit of \$6,301.

On account of the horse importation and seed transaction there appears \$8,800, the only assets being notes and other securities, amounting to \$6,840, which denotes a loss of \$1,920, making the deficit \$7,503. The government had estimated a surplus of \$49,000, the actual surplus was \$6,785. He claimed this was a misappropriation because under the act the money was only supposed to be used for repairing and replacing the bridges damaged and carried away by the freshet. Last year there had been actually spent outside of ordinary revenue the sum of \$85,203, which added to \$49,000, the estimated surplus, shows the provincial secretary to be a very bad estimator.

He regretted that the surveyor general had not furnished a further statement in reference to the collection of stampage.

What has been the result of the administration of public affairs during the past two years. Just this there has been added to the indebtedness \$560,000, beside an extraordinary amount of \$280,000 received on account of the Eastern Extension claim. These figures are alarming and certainly do not admit of a bright picture being painted.

Mr. Osman and Mr. Grimmer followed and Hon. Mr. LaBorde moved the adjournment of the debate.

FRENCH SCHOOL BOOKS.

Mr. Poirier Discussed the Need of Them in Public Schools.

In the legislature Friday. Mr. Poirier of Gloucester, in making inquiries as to the intentions of the government to provide a new series of French books for the use of pupils attending the public schools said: In making this enquiry I feel that I am but repeating certain questions that have been put to me on more than one occasion, and to which I could give no satisfaction further than that the government was disposed in every way to advance the progress of education. My own idea is that a child, having no knowledge whatever of a language foreign to its mother tongue will make greater strides from an educational standpoint if taught it first in his own language, than one that is entirely new. But in order to accomplish this end it must of necessity follow that books shall be given to the child which, while retaining his language in its purity, must not contain such expressions as his young mind cannot understand. If I am correctly informed, outside of the question of the adaptability of the books at present in use, to the mind of the young pupil there are not a sufficient number of grades.

It may be that when a French child has arrived at grade three of the French book, as they now are, he may be in a fair position to begin the study of the English language with much more success. But what of the pupil, French or English, who desires to make further progress in the latter language, the books are not there for him. It may be urged that the cost of a complete series of books would be large, but if so it cannot be greater than the ends to be gained. Education is the rap of our national life. It seems to me that the three provinces of New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, in each of which there are a large number of French speaking people, could well join together with the view of having a series of books suitable for the three provinces. I make these observations so that I may not be understood as desiring in any way to have French taught to the detriment of the English language, which is the language of this country. The desire of the government is to do justice to all classes is shown in the fact that we have now two French inspectors of schools in the province, and with a large number of schools attended by French pupils more progress would follow if a suitable series of French books were at once adopted.

Hon. Mr. LaBorde said that the matter of providing French books had engaged the attention of the government, the present system of books not being thought satisfactory. No decision had yet been reached but the government would decide shortly what was best to be done.

Most Artistic Organization.

It is impossible for us to speak in other than the highest tones of praise regarding the performance of the Bostonian sextette in this city yesterday. The visit of this most artistic combination is a conspicuous and culminating event in the annals of music in P. E. I. Every performer is an artist, every soloist received an irresistible recall. The tone productions and execution of Messrs. Staatsf Landeman and Loerd were a revelation; the ensemble playing throughout faultless and charming beyond description.—Charlottetown Patriot.—

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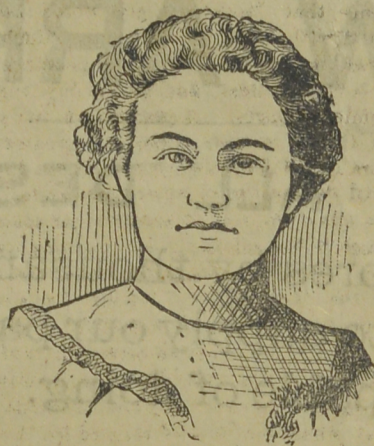
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"I took nerve tonics and pills without benefit. When I began taking Peruna I grew steadily better, my nerves grew stronger, my rest was no longer fitful, and to-day I consider myself in perfect health and strength.

"My recovery was slow but sure, but I persevered and was rewarded by perfect health."—Mrs. Lulu Larmer.

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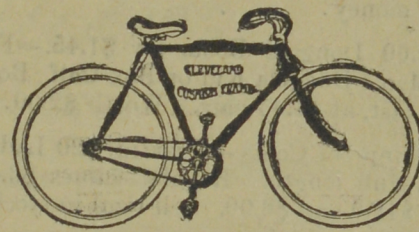
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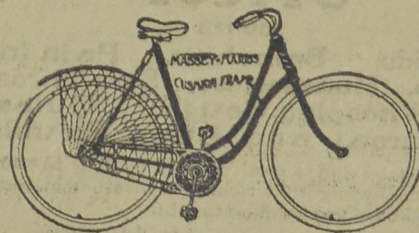
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