

MR. ROBINSON'S MASTERLY SPEECH

Leader of the Opposition Trimmed the Government for its Misrepresentation of the Late Administration and for its Broken Pledges.

Special Auditors Jenkins and Hardy Recommended the Very Reforms for Which Mr. Hazen is Now Taking Credit.

(Concluded from Yesterday.)

The expenditure of the department of Public Works, said Mr. Robinson, caused much discussion in the late campaign, and then the present provincial secretary laid down the policy of keeping the expenditure within the revenue, and keeping each year's accounts by themselves. He believed this was a good policy, and no one would be pleased with himself if it was carried out. When he assumed office last May, he found however, that at the time the Public Works appropriation was exhausted, money was needed for the roads and other works and something had to be done. The chief commissioner did as any other good business man would have done, he arranged for an overdraft to carry on the necessary work. The present provincial secretary said that public works will not be starved, and this was the right policy. The provincial secretary had chided him with not telling the people at the meeting in St. John of these overdrafts. What he had said at that meeting was that as soon as he received the report of the auditor, he would publish it. In the statement sent to the Sun newspaper these overdrafts were stated. The present government would find that there were times when it was impossible to avoid overdrafts. They were, of course, in the happy position of having a much larger revenue, due to the efforts of the late government. With good luck the revenue would reach \$1,100,000 annually, and this should enable them to do much. In the past, the province had always been hampered for lack of means. He thought under the circumstances the late government did exceedingly well not to leave a larger heritage of debt to its successors. The debt per head on the people of the province was trifling compared with that of other countries. Under the regime previous to the Blair government, the debt was increased more in a single year than in many years under the Blair government and its successors. The debt of the province when the Blair government came in

WAS ABOUT \$2,000,000, and after twenty-five years it had only increased to between \$3,000,000 and \$4,000,000.

While it was necessary sometimes for the sake of comparison, to look backward, he believed that it was best to look forward. He was not there to defend the old government particularly. He regretted the overdrafts, but they had been unavoidable. With the increased revenue however, had the late government been continued in office, they would have wiped them out. He believed in development, in helping the province to go ahead. Ours was not a dying or a dead province, our people were enterprising and deserving success, and the country was progressive. He defended keeping open the revenue account after the close of the year because the increased subsidies were due and payable on the 1st of July and belonged to the year 1907. There could be no good argument why it should be credited to 1908, when the privy council definitely stated that it was due 1st July, 1907. It was said that the books for expenditure should also have been kept open, so they should if that had been the custom. It was not the custom, however, and to keep the book-keeping straight the original custom had been followed.

FLEMING'S INCONSISTENCY.

Before the elections the provincial secretary stated that he was opposed to issuing bonds, now he has changed his position and says that when bridges or other public works are required it is proper to issue bonds. In his first official utterance he proposes to continue the system which he previously condemned. If the government was going to violate all the pledges and promises they had made it was not fair treatment of the people. The late government had been charged with gross extravagance when they had asked for an appropriation of \$900,000. Now this government comes down with the unparalleled request for over a million dollars, they were asking for over one hundred thousand more than ever was asked before, in spite of the fact that they had claimed the old government was extravagant and that their revenue was more than sufficient if honestly expended.

TO KEEP UP THE PUBLIC SERVICES.

They had charged graft and extravagance, and now they were continuing what they called these bad practices in a greater degree. They would perhaps say that they were not responsible for this year's expenditure, but there was much of the year yet to run and with the superior ability which they claimed, surely they could have made an improve-

ment. Was there, he said, no consistency in politics at all? He had hoped this government would carry out its promises and be economical, but now that they have obtained power they have thrown their promises to the winds.

PRE-ELECTION STORIES.

The provincial secretary, in his budget still attempted to figure up that the province had gone behind over four hundred thousand dollars last year. He had one estimate last year, now he had another. The latter as published in his speech, showed an over-expenditure of one hundred and ninety-two thousand dollars only, and to make his pre-election story good, he had to go back over the aggregated debts of many years to find the balance. He had neglected to inform the House of the fact, and although he was now in a position to know the facts, he did not state that not one dollar of the overdraft on public works had been incurred in 1907, not that the provincial hospital overdraft was actually lessened during that year by over two thousand dollars. Talk, he said, about juggling and misrepresentation; but he asked reasonable people if this statement of a minister of the Crown was not one of the most scientific attempts at juggling figures ever made by a public man. The late opposition had had a good story to tell without dragging in unfair and misleading figures. They would stand much better before the people if they told the truth. He thought the condition of the provincial hospital was a credit to the late government. It had been greatly improved in the past two years, and the gentleman at its head was one of the most competent men in the Dominion of Canada. The late opposition had made much of the extravagance of the government in entertaining Prince Louis of Battenberg when speaking in the back woods districts. He would like to ask if when the next Royal visitor came along, this government, as it condemned all coaching bills, would go down to the dock to meet him with a wheelbarrow, and would they when they were taking him around the city of St. John in a wheelbarrow, show him the relics of the Harris car works, and would the hon. president of the council show him the Free Public Library, accompanied perhaps by music from a mouth-organ?

THE LIABILITIES.

It was proper that the people should have a fair statement of the liabilities of the province, and he believed the statement as handed out by the provincial secretary was correct to a certain extent. There were some items to which he took exception. The Amelia Morton claim for instance, was to be paid in 1908, not in 1907. In regard to the International Railway liability of \$400,000, the provincial secretary neglected to state it was protected by a mortgage on an expenditure of \$1,100,000. The cold storage liability of \$60,000 was secured by a mortgage on an expenditure of \$166,000. In regard to the liabilities for bridges yet to be built, it was not a fair liability because this government had the option of building them or not as they pleased. He believed they should be built. In regard to the New Brunswick Coal and Railway the provincial secretary said it was now to be prudently managed so it ought to be a good asset for the expenditure upon it. In regard to the \$875,000 guaranteed to the International railway, it was secured by a first mortgage. In presenting the statement to the world, that the province had liabilities of \$10,253,000, notice was given by the hon. gentleman that this was our debt, but he neglected to mention the assets which we had representing it, assets entirely independent of our Crown lands. He would endeavor to supplement the statement of the hon. gentleman by making a statement of the assets of the province. The auditor general's report showed assets of \$1,974,000, items which spoke for themselves. The deposit at Ottawa, bearing as it did, 5 per cent interest, was good evidence of the business management of the late government. The sinking fund was also evidence of good business management. The sum due the provincial hospital by the municipalities was described as an infamous tax by opposition candidates in Westmorland. Now the government propose to collect it. He thought it should be collected, and that the mistakes promises made by their candidates in Westmorland would not be carried out. The lands now held from the New Brunswick Railway company was a splendid asset, and worth at least \$250,000, a standing monument to the financial wisdom of the late government, which obtained them for less than one-fifth of that amount. In connection with

these lands he had not as yet heard of any attempt made by the government to straighten out the title which the solicitor general had stated was defective. If the title was now found to be good he hoped the hon. gentleman would confess his mistake.

CENTRAL RAILWAY ACCOUNT.

Members of the government expressed great surprise at finding an outstanding bill against the province on account of rails purchased from the I. C. R. but did they not know that the province had a claim against the Dominion Government for \$18,000 on account of a double subsidy on the road from Chipman to Miramichi? There was a dispute as to whether the branch lines should be included and this matter had not been settled so the claim was not adjusted. He thought no one would blame the old government for allowing the \$47,000 to stand when they had a counter claim of \$18,000. From the remarks of the Provincial Secretary, it looked as though he was going to abandon the claim.

VALUABLE ASSETS.

Mr. Robinson claimed that the Fisheries claims were also an asset as were also the Probate Court Fees, a small deposit which had been seized upon by the ruthless hands of the present government and put in the current revenue. There was also an asset of the amount due from the Dominion on account of wharves, making a total of over two millions and a half of assets. He thought this was a fair statement to put before the people and that the present government by omitting it was juggling with figures. He thought there was specially good value for the investment in the International Railway and in the St. John Cold Storage Building. Cold Storage was one of the most essential public services at the present time and would be an important factor in developing the winter trade.

Some means had to be provided for the storage of perishable products which should be up-to-date and modern in its methods. He considered that it was a wonderfully good investment to the province.

(Continued on third page.)

A HELPLESS CHILD.

A weak and puny child is badly handicapped in the battle of life. It is isolated from the healthy enjoyments of its little fellow-beings. It cannot partake either of their play or their sturdy work and progress. In the world its whole life is embittered by incapacity and weakness. Any woman who expects to become a mother ought to know what Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription will do both for her own health, and safety during her time of trial and also to insure her in bequeathing a fair measure of health and strength to the prospective little one.

Poet—I have a little poem here I would like to show you. It is so pathetic that when I read it to my mother, she cried.

Editor—You ought to be ashamed of yourself. Take your poem away and never make your mother cry again.

How is it you got back so late from your mother's funeral? It was a ten-inning game.

GOOD REASONS FOR ITS SUCCESS.

The majority of catarrh remedies are useless. But one that does cure is "Catarrhazone." It clears the head of all mucous discharge. Putrid matter in the nostrils, phlegm in the throat, and disease germs are completely swept away. The cause of the disease is destroyed, its result is destroyed, and the system so thoroughly cleansed of catarrhal poison that cure is permanent. All types of catarrh, throat and bronchial trouble, colds and coughs are more certainly cured by Catarrhazone than anything else. Two sizes, 25c and \$1.00 at all dealers.

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D Automobile and Gas Engine Material, 51 pages, illustrates and describes everything for Automobile and Gas Engines.
C Motor Boat Supplies, 35 pages illustrates and describes Motor Boat Fittings and Supplies.
D Tools and Machinist Supplies, 75 pages illustrates and describes High Grade Tools and Machinist Supplies.
E SPORTING GOODS—150 pages illustrates and describes, Fire Arms, Fishing Tackle, Bicycle, Tennis, Lacrosse, Golf, Skates, every requisite for outdoor and indoor sport. Every lover of sport should have one of these catalogues. Send 1 cent each for them. Or 25 cents for the five, to help pay postage. Send at once as the edition is limited. Our assortment is not complete and up to date and our trade is so large that we are able to sell to you at prices as low as those paid by many dealers.

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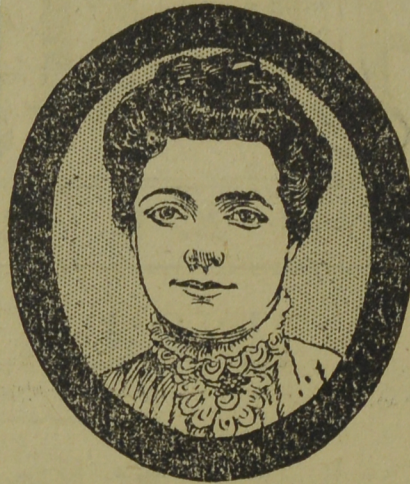
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More proof that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound cures female ills.

Mrs. John Scott, 489 Grand Trunk St., Montreal, writes Mrs. Pinkham: "I was very much run down in health from a female trouble, was thin, nervous, and very weak, and suffered from bearing down pains. Indeed I did not care whether I lived or died, I felt so badly sometimes."

"Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound completely cured me of all my troubles. I gained in flesh, and am free from backache, female trouble, sick headaches, and nervousness."

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For thirty years Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made from roots and herbs, has been the standard remedy for female ills, and has positively cured thousands of women who have been troubled with displacements, inflammation, ulceration, fibroid tumors, irregularities, periodic pains, backache, that bearing-down feeling, flatulency, indigestion, dizziness or nervous prostration. Why don't you try it?

Mrs. Pinkham invites all sick women to write her for advice. She has guided thousands to health. Address, Lynn, Mass.

GREAT FUR PRESERVE.

Enormous Quantity of Skins Shipped to Other Countries.

Mr. Harrison Young gave an interesting address before the National History Society of Edmonton the other day on the fur-bearing animals and fur trade of the north. He spoke from an experience of forty years spent among trappers and fur-traders. He states that the greatest fur preserve in the world lies within northern Alberta, in the Peace and Athabasca district. Said he: "When I first came to Edmonton in '69 the traders of the Northwest found their cash market in St. Paul. After 1870 this trade began to centre in Winnipeg, and when Edmonton became a town, the trade came to it, and some day it will find a new home in some of the towns that will surely arise in the north."

Mr. Young noted that the badger was the crest, so to speak, of the Edmonton district a hundred years ago. Comparatively few badger skins are now placed on the market. The ermine is now king, and has increased wonderfully in value. The beaver is becoming rare. Speaking of the quantity of North American furs annually sold in London, a great proportion of which come from Canada, he said:

I have with me the complete catalogues of all furs sold by three large firms, and from them I take the following totals. To these totals must be added a large number of skins and furs shipped to other countries and used by American and Canadian manufacturers: 14,469 badger, 13,833 black bear, 471 brown bear, 128 grizzly bears, 256 polar bears, 66,210 beaver, 7,213 fishers, 11,836 cross foxes, 3,140 kilt foxes, 132,645 red foxes, 2,439 silver foxes, 23,494 grey foxes, 31,120 white foxes, 3,974 blue foxes, 90,905 lynxes, 99,343 martens, 222,610 mink, 2,323,031 musquash, 17,536 otters, 1,158,212 skunks, 1,576 wolverines, 45 musk ox, 169,935 racoon, 582,041 opossum, 18,114 Russian sable, 564 sea otters, 37,701 wolf, 193,327 ermines, 22,335 rabbit.

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NOTICE OF LEGISLATION

The City of Fredericton will apply at the next session of the Legislature of New Brunswick for an Act to authorize the said City annually to present the University of New Brunswick a medal for competition among the students.

(Sgd) J. W. MCCREADY,
City Clerk.

