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**Legislative Notes.**

The House met, after the Easter recess on Tuesday 14th at 3 p. m. Petitions relative Fox Companies were presented by Hon. Mr. McNeill and Hon. J. A. McDonald and bills founded on them were introduced after questions. An act to amend the act for the better government of Tignish was then read a second time, committed to a committee of the whole, reported agreed to and ordered to a third reading. The Phoenix Fox Company was further considered in committee of the whole reported and ordered to a third reading. The Companies act was then recommitted to committee of the whole for further consideration. Progress was reported and the House took recess.

When the House resumed at 8.45 the committee stage of the companies act was resumed. After some time in committee progress was reported. The budget debate was then resumed by Mr. Myers. He spoke about three quarters of an hour touching the principal phases of the Government's progressive policy. He also alluded upon the course pursued by the Leader of the Opposition in his criticism of the transactions of the Government.

The debate was continued by Hon. Mr. McKinnon. He contrasted the budget speech delivered by Premier Mathieson with those that had been delivered in our Legislature by previous Leaders. For a long period of years while the Liberals held office, we had heard budget promises but no performances. Now everything foreshadowed in the budget speech comes to pass. When Premier Mathieson delivered his speech last year, he pointed out that revenue and expenditure would meet. Not only that; but a surplus was promised, and the surplus realized exceeded the one promised. This was quite different from what had happened for so many years by the Liberals. This is a satisfactory condition of affairs and is a fair sample of the way the present Government propose to do the peoples business. He showed the falsity of the attitude assumed by the Leader of the Opposition. This gentleman said the Government deserve no thanks for having a surplus seeing they have such a large revenue. Mr. McKinnon considered this the highest compliment that could be paid the present Government. One of the duties of a Government is to provide a revenue, and if the late Government had made anything like the effort put forward by Premier Mathieson and his colleagues they would have secured the greater part of the amount obtained by the present administration. He compared the incompetency of the administration of the department of Agriculture under the Liberals with the progressive and competent manner in which that department is now carried on. Hon. Mr. McKinnon said that hereafter it will be possible for students to enter Prince of Wales College and secure second class license without a knowledge of Latin and other classical languages. But for these classics would be substituted a knowledge of

natural science, a knowledge of agricultural science. He referred to the work undertaken by the Government in the matter of raising mussel mud and placing it within the reach of the people at cost. He had no doubt this undertaking would be successful and very advantageous to the farmers.

The next speaker was Mr. L. L. Jenkins. After speaking for a short time he adjourned the debate. The House then adjourned at 10.30.

On Wednesday the House met at 11.20. After the usual routine the following Government bills were introduced and read a first time: By the Premier, a bill to amend "The Income Tax Act," a bill to amend "The Fox Tax Act," a bill to amend "The Public Roads Act 1912." Hon. Mr. McKinnon introduced a bill "to incorporate the Prince Edward Island Sheep Breeder's Association."

When the orders of the day were called, Mr. Richards asked if it was the intention of the Premier to fill the vacancy in the Executive Council, and when. He expected that the Premier would state the reasons for the vacancy. In reply Premier Mathieson said it remained with a Government to give these explanations. Sometimes it was done and sometimes it was not. He said moreover that the matter was now engaging the attention of the Government. Several private bills were then put through the committee stage, reported and ordered to a third reading. Other bills were advanced a stage before the House took recess.

The House sat but a very short time in the afternoon; but resumed again at 8.30 p. m. The Premier stated that if the members would attend to business as constantly as possible, the House might be prorogued this week. The debate on the budget was then resumed by Mr. L. L. Jenkins. He continued speaking for nearly half an hour.

Hon. Mr. Stewart continued the debate on the budget. Referring to the statement of the Leader of the Opposition to the effect that the Government only followed in the footsteps of their predecessors in office, he reviewed the record of the Liberal Government. He showed that the Government accumulated deficits totalling, during their twenty years of office, \$924,645.05. Another disaster almost brought upon the Province by the late Liberal Government was the support they had given to the Dominion Packing Company. This arrangement would saddle on this Province a financial liability of \$375,000. It was only the indignation of the people that compelled the Government of that day to withdraw from the arrangement. Under the late Liberal Government the Oyster industry of our Province was allowed to go to destruction. The Liberals created practically all the debt now borne by this Province; they undertook to commit us to the disastrous Packing House arrangement; they had failed to guard our rights at Interprovincial conferences, and they spent \$14,726.72 for delegations to Ottawa, although they accomplished absolutely nothing. That was part of the record of the Liberal Party in the administration of our Provincial affairs, and this is the Party and the Government whose example we are asked to follow. What do the people think of such a proposition? He referred to the tortuous conduct of the Patriot

and Mr. J. J. Hughes on the Federal representation question, and reviewed that question from the inception of Confederation. Contrasting the condition of our Provincial affairs at present with what it was under the Liberals, he showed what wonderful things for our advantage had been done in the brief space the Mathieson administration have held office. He concluded his speech with an eloquent peroration in praise of our beautiful Province.

Hon. Mr. Arseneault followed. He said he had always taken a deep interest in the matter of education. He quoted from reports of School Inspector's in the latter part of the Liberal regime, showing the decline of our schools. In contrast to this he showed from the report of 1913 the improvements that have already been effected under the present Government. The present Government he said, had done more for education in two years than the Liberal Government had done in twenty years. He went on to show the progress, improvements and future prospects under this Government in connection with the oyster industry. Mr. Eneas McDonald adjourned the debate and the House then adjourned.

House met on Thursday at 11.15. After petitions, questions and other preliminaries, some private bills were introduced, read a first time and referred to the private bills committee. Dr. Dewar made enquiries regarding the lighting of the Hillsborough Bridge. He moved for all papers and correspondence between the Government and the Electric Light Co. The motion was seconded by Mr. Feehan. In reply Premier Mathieson said all the papers would be brought down. He said there were so many urgent requirements in connection with our Public Works in consequence of the neglect of the late Government, that it was difficult to reach them all. He approved of the action of Dr. Dewar and Mr. Feehan for moving in this matter. They were doing their duty to their constituents.

Hon. Premier Mathieson moved a resolution on which to found a bill to be entitled "The School Supplies Act," to authorize the Board of Education of this Province to purchase School Books and School Supplies for the use of the Public Schools of this Province and for that purpose to use such parts of the revenue of the Province as may be necessary, and to return to such revenue the proceeds to be derived from the sale of such books and supplies, and also that the Board of Education shall be empowered to make such orders, rules and regulations as may be necessary for the purpose of giving full effect to said Act." He explained the scope and intention of the bill. It was hoped by the beginning of the next school year to have inaugurated the new departure from which most beneficial results are hoped. The resolution was reported and concurred in, and a bill founded thereon was introduced by the Premier and read a first time.

Mr. L. L. Jenkins presented a petition asking for the passage of a bill to enable a motor truck to run in connection with the P. E. I. Railway from Hunter River to Rustico and other places. The Sheep Breeders Association bill was read a second time and committed to a committee of the whole. At one o'clock the House took recess.

When the House resumed at 3.15 committee on the

Sheep Breeders Association bill was resumed. Several bills were advanced a stage. Recess was taken at 6 o'clock.

The House resumed after recess at 8.35. The bill to amend the Charlottetown Incorporation Act was read a second time and committed to a committee of the whole. The bill was reported with some amendments. Some more private bills were advanced a stage. The debate on the budget was then resumed by Eneas A. McDonald. Reviewing the condition of our public affairs he pointed out how great a change for the better had taken place in our finances since the change of Government a little over two years ago. He said the Government gave back to the people 60 per cent. of the taxes in public works, agricultural improvements and education. He said that, under the arrangements the Government were making, the mussel mud could be supplied to farmers at about one half the price it costs now, or about \$6.00 or \$7.00 a car load. He said the late Government did not spend any money to speak of on the roads. He hoped the Commissioner of Public Works would do something towards repairing the bridge at Head of St. Peter's Bay. He hoped something might be done towards shipping our fresh fish as expeditiously as possible.

Hon. Mr. Dalton followed in the debate. He reviewed at some length the conduct of the Government to the advantage of the people since they came into power. He eulogized the Government for what they had done in the different departments.

The debate was continued by Mr. Dobie, commencing at 10 o'clock. He said that in order to retain the confidence of the people, a Government must accomplish good deeds; but the present Government has accomplished so many good and beneficial deeds that the confidence of the people cannot but be held in the strongest possible way. Referring to the sheep industry, he praised and congratulated the Commissioner of Agriculture on the legislation he has initiated for the advancement of this industry. He praised all that had been done in connection with the Agricultural and Educational Departments. He praised what the Conservatives had done and were doing in the matter of transportation. Now, our young people are not obliged to leave the Province because conditions have so improved that they can do better here than almost anywhere else. Most praiseworthy, he said, was the legislation now introduced by the Government regarding the procuring of school books and other school supplies.

When the House resumed at 8.30, Hon. Mr. McNeill continued the budget debate. He presented a statement of the operations of his department and controverted the criticisms of the Leader of the Opposition. He was sure that the Liberals in their twenty years of office had not in any year done anything like as much work on the roads as had been done during last year. Under the Liberals the road system of the Province had been allowed to go into complete decay. He pointed out how much more could have been done in improving our roads had the Liberals in the Senate not blocked the Federal grant for the highways of the Provinces. He referred to the manner the Liberals had allowed the oyster fishing industry of our Province to go to decay. The present Government found this industry almost completely wiped out and grappled with the difficulty in such a manner that now a great boom had been given to this industry and a considerable revenue therefrom accrues to the Provincial Treasury.

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On Friday forenoon the House met at 11.20. During

questions in answer to Mr. Feehan, as to whether or not it was "the intention of the Government to open any more roads for the use of motor vehicles during the present Parliament," Premier Mathieson said it is the intention of the Government to adhere to their usual policy; to open no new road or route to automobiles unless requested by a large majority of the people. Answering a question asked by Mr. Dobie, the Premier said that in connection with the numerous amendments to the Prohibition Act asked for by the Temperance Alliance, it was the intention of the Government to prepare a bill and have it printed and circulated during recess. Then next Session the matter could be attended to.

When the orders of the day were called, Hon. Mr. McNeill Commissioner of Public Works, rose to a question of privilege. He read from the Summerside Pioneer an article animadverting upon the conduct of the Commissioner in connection with the Bedegue Bridge. He read a report contradicting the statement of the paper. He tabled the report he had just read.

Hon. Premier Mathieson introduced a bill in further amendment of the law and for the better advancement of justice, embodying provisions to render more simple and effectual the practise and procedure of the Supreme and Equity Courts of this Province.

After some private bills had been advanced from stage to stage, the bill to provide for the use of Motor Trucks upon the Public Highways of our Province was read a second time and committed to a committee of the whole. It is intended that this is to be put in operation by the Dominion Government in connection with the P. E. I. Railway to carry freight and passengers. It is expected that the service will be inaugurated between Hunter River and Rustico. Considerable discussion took place on the bill while in committee. The discussion was participated in by the Premier, Mr. J. A. Dewar, Mr. Richards, Mr. T. W. McDonald, Hon. Mr. Arseneault and others. At 1 o'clock the Speaker resumed the chair and the House took recess.

After recess the House reconvened at 8.20, Deputy Speaker D. his in the chair. Committee on the act relating to motor trucks was resumed, and in a short time reported and ordered to a third reading. The trust company's act was then recommitted to committee. The bill was reported with amendments. Several other bills were advanced to the third reading stage. The debate on the budget was then resumed by Dr. Jenkins. He concluded just before six o'clock.

When the House resumed at 8.30, Hon. Mr. McNeill continued the budget debate. He presented a statement of the operations of his department and controverted the criticisms of the Leader of the Opposition. He was sure that the Liberals in their twenty years of office had not in any year done anything like as much work on the roads as had been done during last year. Under the Liberals the road system of the Province had been allowed to go into complete decay. He pointed out how much more could have been done in improving our roads had the Liberals in the Senate not blocked the Federal grant for the highways of the Provinces. He referred to the manner the Liberals had allowed the oyster fishing industry of our Province to go to decay. The present Government found this industry almost completely wiped out and grappled with the difficulty in such a manner that now a great boom had been given to this industry and a considerable revenue therefrom accrues to the Provincial Treasury.

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**Legislative Notes**

(Continued from page 1)  
"But all this is but the beginning of the debate, congratulated the Government on the excellent industry in which they have our finances. As the Premier pointed out that we have before had a surplus Confederation. He referred to the roads to the effect that our farmers were back on their feet. This was no doubt in evidence of the attitude assumed in certain innovations. He ever, considered the farmers of this Province were doing well. They were progressing their calling. They were saving the city by their rate of money coming from their duce. He said we had no market; this was a farmers' try. If we had some markets we would be able to get our money here and also keep people here. It was his opinion that the farmers should be aided. There was a notion valent that the farmers were pessed to a certain movement in the air. It was the privilege the farmers to assert their rights and privileges. It was the farmer who opened out and built up country. They make our and cleared our lands. worked along perseveringly many of them have become well off. They deserve all prosperity they enjoy, and opinions should be respected.

Mr. Martin in resuming the debate, observed that there was member of the Opposition present in the House. He briefly reviewed the conduct of public affairs under the late Liberal Government to their everlasting disgrace. Now things are different. We have now a surplus and our departments are properly conducted.

At 9.20 the motion was carried and the House resolved itself committee of supply. At 10.15 the Speaker took the chair, the chairman reported the supply of \$522,927 had been voted. The Premier moved concurrence of the report which was read. The House then adjourned.

The House met on Saturday 11.45. After the usual routine the Sheep Breeders Association bill was further considered in committee of the whole. The Premier presented the supply bill which was read a first time. The Premier presented the reports of the Public Works Department at the Falconwood Hospital for Lassane, Mr. John A. Dewar if it was intended to amend roads act so that deputy masters could be appointed for purpose of attending to the roads. Premier Mathieson reported that it was the intention of Government to make that amendment. The House then adjourned till Tuesday 21st.

The House reassembled Tuesday 21st at 8.30. A collection of petitions praying for incorporation were presented. A large number of bills were introduced and read a first time. Several bills were left unfinished when House rose at six o'clock. The House resumed at 8.30 the proposition bill was read a second time, committed to a committee of the whole and ordered a third reading. A couple of were read a third time and read. The House then adjourned.

The House met this (Wednesday) at 11 o'clock. A few bills were read a third time and passed, and ever of session was remaining then finished. His Honor the Governor arrived at 12.30 and sending to the 65 bill a passed during session prorogued the House with usual ceremonies.

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