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Yesterday completed the seventh week since the opening of the Legislative session, and the most pronounced execution of the Government during all these weeks has been the execution of time. Certainly they have slaughtered time at a wonderful rate. The sittings of the House, with the exception of two or three evening sessions, have varied from two hours to fifteen minutes. Very little in the shape of practical legislation has been accomplished. As the Leader of the Opposition said the other day, this session will stand out unique in our political annals as the most barren in the Province's legislative history. The Government's conduct, so far as the operations of the present session are concerned, may truthfully be characterized as scandalous imposition and inexcusable waste of time. This is the session the Government called with such precipitancy; on the plea of urgency. Is there anyone now who will not own that the Governments hurry in calling the session was for the purpose of saving some of their members from the exposure of the election courts?

A large and enthusiastic convention of the Conservative electors of the first electoral district of Queen's County was held at Bradalbane on Saturday last. They met for the purpose of nominating an Opposition candidate for the vacancy in the Legislature caused by the death of the late Hon. Matthew Smith. After the convener had called the meeting to order and explained the purpose of the convention, Mr. Arthur Simpson, who had been a candidate at the general election, addressed those assembled. He thanked the electors for the splendid support they had given him, and regretted that the condition of his health would not permit him to be a candidate now. He concluded his remarks by nominating Mr. John Myers as a man especially fitted to be the Conservative standard bearer. The nomination was enthusiastically seconded by Mr. Edward Boswell, of Victoria, and supported by Mr. John Bradley, Mr. Michael Ready, Mr. William Campbell and other prominent delegates. The nomination was then made unanimous by a standing vote. Mr. Myers accepted the nomination in a speech that roused the greatest enthusiasm. A vote of confidence in the Leader of the Opposition and the opposition platform was given by a unanimous standing vote. The Leader of the Opposition delivered a rousing speech in reply to the vote of confidence, and the convention closed in the midst of enthusiastic cheering.

In the course of his speech on the budget Mr. Prowse pointed out, among other things, the extravagances and unlawful expenditures of the Government last year: For bridges \$25,000 were voted by the House; but the Government expended \$32,428.60, an excess of \$7,428.60, over the vote of the Legislature. For roads \$24,000 were voted; but \$33,061.71 were spent, an excess of \$9,061.71. For wharves \$4,000 were voted; but the Government spent \$5,400, an excess over the Legislative vote, of \$1,400. For other public works, the Legislature voted \$29,258;

but the Government spent \$32,716.94, an excess of \$3,458.94. Altogether the Government expended for Public Works alone \$21,349,34, more than the Legislature gave them authority to spend. This is but a sample of the way the Government defies the authority of the people's representatives in the Legislature. Surely it is time to put an end to this kind of business.

SESSIONAL NOTES.

After matters of routine, in the Legislature, on Tuesday the 16th, the budget debate was resumed. Mr. McKinnon made a valuable contribution to the discussion. Mr. McMillan had addressed the House, on the Government side, and Mr. McKinnon pointed out that that gentleman had endeavored to show that everything in connection with our public affairs was lovely. The ship of state was said to be sailing along in good style; but he (Mr. McKinnon) was of the opinion that unless a new crew were placed on board, the craft would soon founder, in charge of the present sailors. He wondered what members on the other side of the House would find to talk about if the \$200,000 was not trotted out. But a curious fact about this matter is that the Government made no mention of the members now supporting the administration, who were Conservatives when the \$200,000 was withdrawn and long afterwards. There was Mr. Hughes, the senior member for Charlottetown; there was the Hon. Captain Read; there was Mr. Cox, the member for Morell; and others. These men had no fault to find with the withdrawal of that money, at that time nor for years afterwards. What a wonderful change had come over the spirit of their dream. Mr. McMillan had claimed credit to the Government for everything in sight and out of sight. Indeed he did know where he was going to land. He even claimed credit to the Government for the large increase of lunatics in the asylum. Mr. McMillan had nothing to say about the defects in our education. He had voted two years ago, to side track any investigation into this system, and last year again he voted, to continue the schoolbook monopoly, by the appointment of a commission that had not yet reported. The Conservatives, Mr. McKinnon pointed out, had reduced the salaries of the Executive Council, and had reduced the salaries attached to the remaining offices and had made other savings equal to the amount of the Davies tax act. Twenty years ago, the public works were carried about as well as they are now; there were more works of a permanent nature, and the money was not squandered on political favorites. The Leader of the Government, when the elections were on two months after the close of the fiscal year, knew the condition of our finances; but he took good care to conceal that knowledge from the people. He did not tell the people what the deficit was. Had he done so he and many of his supporters would have been left at home. This was not an election year; therefore the Leader of the Government admits, to start with, a deficit of \$23,000. Mr. McKinnon next read from the official report of the meeting of the Maritime board of trade, at which Hon. George E. Hughes, the member for Charlottetown was a delegate. This report represented Mr. Hughes as throwing cold water on the tunnel. Mr. Hughes denied the correctness of the report; but Mr. McKinnon pointed out that the report had gone broadcast over Canada and Mr. Hughes had never contradicted it in the press. Mr. McKinnon also read an extract from a paper supporting the Government, which showed its lack of interest in the tunnel by referring to the gentlemen from this Province who went to Ottawa, to press that question on the attention of the Federal Government, as a "woe-begone delegation." Captain Bead was a leading member of that delegation, and we can only conclude that the public estimate his influence about as much as the people of Beadeque do.

Mr. Dobie thought the man who would invent a new speech for members on the Government would make a fortune. Every one of them who rose to speak spent most of his time discussing the \$200,000. This manner of discussing the public questions of the day was simply killing time. Why not deal with things

as we find them rather than seek to divert attention by reference to ancient political history? Surely it was high time we now came to business, after wasting seven weeks. No confidence or trust could be placed in the Government; because they were not in earnest. Politicians who are not in earnest are a dangerous commodity. Mr. Dobie here quoted a resolution submitted to the Dominion Parliament by Hon. Alexander McKenzie, setting forth that "It is HIGHLY CRIMINAL in any minister or ministers, or other servants of the Crown, directly or indirectly to use the power of office in the election of representatives to serve in Parliament." What we had seen during the election campaign last November, said Mr. Dobie, makes these words of the great Liberal Leader applicable to the commissioner of Public Works and other Government officials. Everything possible was done to influence the people to vote for the Government. Why should a man pay \$5 or \$6 for a day's work, when he can get it done for \$2? Why should the Government do this any more than an individual? But that is just what the Government did with the people's money at the last election. So far as any platform of the Government is concerned, such a thing had never been seen in his district, until it was introduced by his colleague at a public meeting. Whatever platform the Government had, they copied from the platform issued, months before by the Leader of the Opposition. For thus copying they were to be commended. The Liberals, he said, were not in earnest; but the time is fast approaching when they will be sent to the right-about, and then there will be a revelation, such as we have never seen before. Referring to the Stock farm, Mr. Dobie pointed out that when the Liberals came into power the buildings were in a good state of preservation and the stock were in good condition. Even since then everything about those premises deteriorated rapidly, until the stock disappeared pretty much and the building went from bad to worse. On the occasion of the visit of the members there, a week or two ago, he saw a decent looking cow there; but according to the number of rings on her horns, she must have been there when the Liberals came into power. In the matter of education, the Government should have acted directly and secured some relief for the people in the matter of prices of school books. A good deal had been heard about permanent public works. He himself, could say very little on that point: he did not know where these permanent public works were, he had not seen any of them. The concrete culverts had not been properly made and defeated the object for which they were intended. The Opposition had done their best to assist the Government, and if the Government would accept their services matters would go along ever so much better.

In the afternoon, sitting Wednesday, debate on the fishery resolution was resumed. Several members on both sides of the House expressed their views on this important resolution. The resolution provided for opening the lobster fishing season on the first day of May, on all portions of our Island shores where the season now commences of the 29th of April. Mr. James Kennedy said he had been consulting some of the fishermen on the north side, and they were satisfied to begin operations on either the first or fifteenth of May. A compromise amendment had been submitted, providing for opening on April 26th, and making nine o'clock in the forenoon the hour for commencing to set traps.

Mr. McLean said that he would be sorry to move a resolution contrary to the interests of the fishermen, as this was a matter of great importance. He considered it would be impossible to get a better representation of the interests of the Province than that to be found in the people's representatives assembled in the Legislature. He had no objection to the compromise amendment submitted. If we could not decide this matter for ourselves, how could we expect satisfactory regulations to be made by a fishery commission at Ottawa? An unanimous expression of opinion on the part of the House would have influence with the commissioner, as well as with the Federal Government. He trusted the resolution would pass unanimously.

Mr. A. J. McDonald was well satisfied with the resolution setting May 1st, as the date to commence putting out traps; but if the amendment would meet with unanimous favor, he would vote for it.

Mr. Mathieson suggested that the members of the House, who are personally acquainted with the lobster business, and personally interested in its success, should get together and determine upon the course to be pursued. To facilitate this, he moved the adjournment of the debate. The motion carried and the debate went over to another day. Next day, the resolution as amended, making April 26th the opening day of the lobster fishing season, instead of May 1st, was unanimously adopted by the Legislature. A copy of the resolution was sent to Ottawa, and word has been received that it has been accepted there as the proper date to commence fishing. We have, therefore, this year April 26th as the opening day of the lobster fishing season, instead of May 1st and 9 o'clock in the forenoon of that day as the earliest hour for commencing to set traps.

The budget debate was resumed Thursday forenoon, Mr. A. P. Prowse made a sound practical speech. He was surprised to see how apparently well satisfied the Government members were with the increase of our Provincial debt. Mr. Frederick Peters asked for and received

debtentures to the amount of \$85,000 to provide for the debt. After that there were to be no more deficits; revenue and expenditure were to meet. In the face of that declaration we have now nearly a million dollars debt. The annual deficits have averaged \$45,000 to \$50,000. He considered it a scandalous thing that captain Read should be allowed to mislead the public, with his unintelligible jumble of figures about our debt. Had we not received the increase of subsidy, our deficit last year would have been \$124,000. The Leader of the Government and his followers have given up the hope, if they ever really had it, of making revenue and expenditure meet. What would the Government members have to say, at all, if they had not the \$200,000 to talk about? After all, the withdrawal of this money was not a bad thing. With this money, which had been drawing only 5 per cent interest, we paid debts bearing 6 per cent interest. It is all nonsense, he said, for the Leader of the Government to state that there is more than enough money to our credit at Ottawa to pay off our indebtedness. The interest account would readily show this. During the last fiscal year, we paid almost \$39,000 interest; while we received from Ottawa only \$34,919.48. This was conclusive proof that the Government were in the wrong and that the present debt of the Province overbalances the amount due at Ottawa. The Government openly avow their intention of increasing the debt, by borrowing money for public works. With our debt at a million dollars, and the assurance that it is to be increased, it was surely time to call a halt!

Mr. Murdock Kennedy continued the budget debate, in the afternoon, and made a racy lively speech, puncturing the Government's armour, at many points. Referring to the eternal wail of the Government about the \$200,000, he said, so far as he could understand from furnished data, the Liberals were responsible for the transaction. As to whether or not it was a good bargain, he would not undertake to say, as he and a number of members on the Opposition side were not born then. He showed that the debt of the Province in 1891 was \$128,000. Subtract from that \$52,000, inherited from the Davies Government, and it would be found the Conservatives were responsible for only about \$77,000. We have now, said he, a million dollars of debt, and a million dollars in taxes have been taken from the people. Mr. Haszard's boasted surplus of \$3,300 last year, turned into a deficit of \$35,000. How could we have any thing else than deficits, he asked, when the money is squandered as it was last fall. In his own district, for the purpose of defeating him, one man spent \$1,944 in six weeks. Another man, at the opposite end of the district likely spent as much more. There were all but \$4,000 wasted with the object of defeating him. For a little ten dollar bridge \$123 had been paid, and it was washed away by a freshet in a few weeks. He noticed a man by the name of Cook in the vicinity of that bridge before it was washed away, and in the public works report he observed that Cook was paid \$9. He made enquiries and found out that Mr. Cook had taken a photograph of the bridge. It was a good job he caught a snap shot of it before it was washed away, and he foretold that by this time next year, the whole \$70,000 increased subsidy

would be paid out in interest. As a matter of fact, we paid about \$60,000 in interest last year, he said, when we reckoned the interest on loans and the deduction for the Hillsboro bridge. Before six months, said he, the Government will be out of business and the Conservatives will be on the other side of the House.

At 5.30 in the afternoon his Honor, the Lieut. Governor came to the Assembly and gave his assent to the bill for consolidating the debt of the Province and the bill incorporating D. McKensie Company Limited. The debate was then resumed on the resolution regarding the killing, packing and exporting of hogs and other meats. Good speeches were made by Mr. Wyatt, McLean, Mr. McKinnon, Mr. James Kennedy, Mr. Mathieson and others. Finally Messrs. Read, McLean, J. Kennedy, Palmer and Richards were appointed a committee to bring in a new resolution upon which all could agree. The House then resumed committee of supply.

During the evening session, committee of supply was continued. The Leader of the Government, the Commissioner of Public Works and other members of the Government, were subjected to a merciless castigation by Mr. Mathieson, Leader of the Opposition. The Commissioner of Public Works, as well as the Premier, was unable to give any satisfactory explanation of the extravagance and waste of money evident from returns produced. The Government had simply to take the roasting so admirably given them by the Leader of the Opposition.

Saturday's brief setting of the House was devoted to routine and the consideration in committee of the bill for the removal of noxious weeds.

Mr. John A. McDonald made a clear cut, matter of fact speech that caused much uneasiness among the Government ranks. He proved up to the hilt all his statements relative to Government extravagance. No man, he pointed out, continues his business from year to year without making revenue and expenditure meet. But this is what the Government are doing. Much money is wasted and squandered. At his own very door, temporary repairs costing some \$900 were made to Cardigan Bridge by days work, without any tenders, the only qualification being that the workmen should be Liberals. He knew of road orders given to men for work which had never been performed. He was prepared to prove what he said, whenever the Government would appoint a court of enquiry. The reason the debt is a million dollars is because waste has been going on. He considered the accounts of the Province had been falsified, and he would prove the charge whenever the Government was ready to investigate. He said that a man who had \$25 million on hand offered them to the Government for the work on the bridge for one dollar each. But the Government refused them and bought piles from a political favorite for two dollars a piece. This is how our debt is run up to a million dollars. For other lumber for it the Government had been given to a millionaire for 6,000 feet without specified lengths. The consequence was that instead of 9,000 feet, the Government paid for 14,000 feet. Much of this lumber was of the most inferior quality. A man who owned a pile driver offered to let the Government use it for 25 cents a day; but the Government instead paid \$6 for trucking another pile driver from Georgetown and paid 50 cents a day for its use. At the time the Government were doing the work on Cardigan Bridge, another man was doing pile driving for the Government with four men under him, drove ten piles a day; but 14 men in connection with the Government pile driver drove only four piles a day. \$84 were paid for inspection of the work. Mr. McDonald pointed out several other cases of Government waste of public money. Is it any wonder, said he, that we are a million dollars in debt.

Mr. Wyatt commenced speaking on the budget at 5.30; and resumed speaking at the evening session, and continued speaking until 11 o'clock. He said that the actual debt of the Province when the Liberals came into power in 1891 was \$102,000, with about \$70,000 liabilities additional. The debt now is \$850,000; but we don't know what the liabilities are. He pointed out the lack of administrative ability exhibited in different departments, as shown by accepting the dictation from Ottawa in regard to meat inspection. Regarding the agricultural department he quoted from the report of the commissioner for the year 1906, wherein it was shown that "the people perish from lack of knowledge." The whole trend of the education provided by the Government was to lead the boys away from the farm. He quoted from the school inspectors Kiely and Boulter regarding the inferiority of the schools now, as compared with ten years ago. He read a resolution adopted at a public meeting in Beadeque, condemning the present system and calling for the teaching of agriculture in our schools and colleges. He read other reports condemning the sanitation and ventilation of our schools showing the schools are a source of spreading disease, notably consumption. The Government is responsible for this spreading disease broadcast through the land. Last year the deaths from all causes in the Province had decreased; but the deaths from tuberculosis had increased from 15 to 16 per cent. One hundred and fifty deaths from consumption, a preventable malady, made loss far greater than the \$70,000, is a gain. Mr. Wyatt continued his criticism of the different Government departments and discussed the leading questions of the moment bearing upon our relations with the Dominion. He quoted from the fathers of confederation to show that it had been the intention to so arrange our financial agreement with Canada that we would not be obliged to resort to direct taxation for the purposes of carrying on our Provincial Government. He pointed out the wretched manner in which our delegates to the Ottawa conference of 1906 had managed the subsidy matter. He took Hon. G. E. Hughes severely to task for his alleged slighting remarks concerning the tunnel. Mr. Wyatt spoke for about three hours at the evening session, and poured abundant hot shot into the Government ranks. He left untouched very few public questions of importance affecting the welfare of our Province. Our limited space precludes the possibility of reporting his speech at any greater length. His excellent speech was a hard dose for the Government to swallow. He concluded his speech by moving the following amendment: "That all the words after 'that' to the end of the question be left out and the following words be added instead thereof: 'The expenditure of \$41,850 without the authority of this House during the past year by this Government is subversive to the principles of responsible government, taking from the people all control over the disposition of the public funds and encouraging reckless expenditures; and further, that before granting supply, a full disclosure be made by the Government of the debts and liabilities of this Province on the 30th day of September last, and also on the 31st day of December last.' This amendment was defeated on a strict party vote. The House then went into committee of supply.

At 12 o'clock when the House met on Friday. After routine business, several bills were advanced a Stage.

At the Kenors, Ont., Driving Club last meet on the 19th, a new world's record was made over a half mile straightway course. Little Pans, owned by H. B. Harrison, Winnipeg, covered the distance in one minute flat. The meet was a great success in every respect.

By an explosion at Sunnyside Coal Mine near Cranville, Indiana, caused by a windy shot due to an overcharge of powder, 67 men were killed and a score injured. The dead were all killed by the sulphuric fumes following the shot. The mine was swept as if by a whirlwind.

The train from Tignish was snow-bound in the vicinity of Elmdale on Monday. As the Speaker and other members of the Legislature were on board, the House simply met shortly before 1 o'clock and after prayers and reading of the Journal adjourned till 8 o'clock in the evening. The deputy Speaker officiated.

The "Forty Hours Devotion," opened in St. Dunstan's Cathedral at 9 o'clock yesterday morning with the Solemn High Mass of Exposition. Rev. Theodore Gallant was celebrant, Rev. Pius McDonald deacon, Rev. Maurice McDonald, Subdeacon and Rev. Dr. McLaughlin master of ceremonies. His Lordship the Bishop occupied the Episcopal side of the Sanctuary, assisted by Rev. S. T. Phelan and Rev. W. H. Hogan. After Mass, the Blessed Sacrament was borne in solemn procession round the Church and then, with appropriate ceremonies, exposed for the adoration of the faithful, on a throne above the tabernacle. The solemn High Mass pro ceed this morning was celebrated at the Sacred Heart Altar by Rev. J. C. McLean, with Rev. Father Gaudet decon, Rev. Maurice McDonald Sub. deacon and Rev. I. R. A. McDonald master of ceremonies.

The Market Prices.

Butter, (fresh).....	0.22 to 0.23
Butter (salt).....	0.21 to 0.22
Calf skins.....	0.09 to 0.10
Ducks per pair.....	0.90 to 1.00
Eggs, per doz.....	0.19 to 0.20
Fowls.....	1.00 to 1.25
Chickens per pair.....	0.60 to 0.75
Flour (per cwt.).....	0.75 to 1.00
Hides (per lb.).....	0.75 to 0.90
Hay, per 100 lbs.....	0.45 to 0.60
Mutton, per lb (carcase).....	0.06 to 0.08
Oatmeal (per cwt.).....	0.40 to 0.42
Potatoes.....	0.00 to 0.25
Pork.....	0.00 to 0.09
Sheep (per lb.).....	0.60 to 0.75
Turkeys (per lb.).....	0.18 to 0.14
Geese.....	1.00 to 1.50
Rik oats.....	0.51 to 0.52
Pressed hay.....	10.00 to 00.00
Straw.....	0.25 to 0.30

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