

# THE LEGISLATURE

Fredericton, April 5.—The legislature is keeping up its record in transacting business. Good progress was made today in voting the supply to his majesty. There was enough discussion to bring out the details of each amount, but the usual long speeches were eliminated.

The amount of \$80,000 to conduct the forest services was fully explained by Hon. C. W. Robinson, who pointed out that the loss by fire last year had been heavy. The spruce-bud worm had also been destructive. He asked that all persons going into the woods exercise the greatest care in regard to fires. He referred to the small cut of lumber during the last season but pointed out that the cut of pulpwood and railway ties had kept the revenue fairly high.

Although federal authorities had offered airplanes for provincial forest patrols it was decided that the province could not undertake the expense this year.

F. W. Smith wished the stumpage increased to at least \$7 a thousand. He said as high as \$10 was paid on private lands.

Urges Support for U. N. B.

Hon. Fred Magee gave an outline of educational work in other provinces and advised that a survey be made in this province with a view to bettering the system. He spoke of the work of the University of New Brunswick and said that it should be upheld in its work and given every support. He suggested a board of education on a more comprehensive plan.

The house is to further consider supply tomorrow afternoon.

By a bill introduced in the legislature this afternoon the lieutenant-governor-in-council is to be given power to make regulations for the control of the roads.

Hon. Mr. Merseure said that he believed there were six in all and they were asked if the Dominion grant for three old cars this year and purchase two new ones, one for the apurist and the other for the poultry superintendent.

Mr. Pinder, speaking on an item of \$3,000 for the encouragement of stock raising and dairying, asked how much was paid by the Dominion.

Hon. Mr. Merseure said that the Dominion paid no part. The amount was salaries, bonus to stock, for judges at fair, etc.

Mr. Baxter, concerning an item of \$3,000 for the encouragement of poultry raising, asked if the Dominion grant to agriculture were contained in the public accounts.

Hon. Mr. Hetherington said that he did not think it was.

Mr. Baxter asked what an item of \$1,000 for stock crusher was for.

Hon. Mr. Merseure said it was for insurance, advertising and other items.

Mr. Baxter asked if he would be an annual charge. He had understood that the province was to be put to no more expense in this connection.

Hon. Mr. Merseure said that the plan was the property of the government and must be insured as it was of considerable value.

Mr. Baxter asked if the government was not required.

Hon. Mr. Merseure said that the province received 25 cents per ton on the output of the plant. In February 69 tons had been shipped on which \$170.62 had been paid in royalties. Since that time larger quantities had been shipped. Up to the first of April a total of 11,032.960 pounds of crushed lime had been shipped. In December and January the plant daily amounts to \$62.32. The plant would be self-sustaining. The Hon. member for Westmorland (Pawett) had indicated that lime was not used in his county. He would like to quote from a letter from Professor Andrews, of Seakville, concerning the acidity of marsh lands near that town, and the use of lime in retifying them. The hon. leader of the opposition in his speech on the address had said that farmers were getting fifty per cent more for their lime than they were getting for it. To ascertain the exact value of Brookville lime he had samples taken from an ordinary carload of the product and forwarded for analysis at the expense of a federal grant. They also had vocational work under the operation of a board, and kindergarten schools, which were under control of the educational department.

Forest Service.

Hon. Mr. Robinson on the item \$50,000 for forest service, made a statement in regard to the operations of his department. Personally he believed that every boy and girl up to sixteen years of age should be compelled to go to school. They had in this province the University of New Brunswick, which received the provincial grant and rightly so. That institution was giving, not only an arts course but a high class technical training. It was well thought of in Canada and in Great Britain, and its graduates were making names for themselves. The university was operated by a corporation of fifteen persons selected by different bodies. They had the public school system, and agricultural education was being carried on in the schools at the expense of a federal grant. They also had vocational work under the operation of a board, and kindergarten schools, which were under control of the educational department.

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It was announced by Hon. P. J. Veniot that it was the intention to establish speed limit zones for automobiles.

The resolution calling upon the federal government to hold a referendum in this province on the question of importation of liquor was explained by Hon. W. F. Roberts and passed without further comment, and no division was called.

The estimates for the present year were considered in committee and discussion centered on the number of automobiles owned by the department of agriculture.

One item for subscriptions to a provincial farm paper caused extended discussion. Members of the opposition and leader of the farmers' group contended that this publication had been used for political purposes, but government members explained that agricultural societies had approved of the department of agriculture issuing information through this paper instead of printing pamphlets.

George B. Jones, in answer to a question, said the arrangement should be cancelled.

Hon. D. W. Merseure showed that there was a great demand for crushed lime from the farmers of the province and for the three months of the present year more than \$460 had come to the province through the royalty of twenty-five cents a ton.

Three wheat mills in the province are to receive bonuses.

A. Chase Pawett, leader of the farmer group, called upon the government to give greater support to schools in the remote rural districts.

Hon. Mr. Veniot said if the school and assessment acts were properly carried out the rural schools would be in better shape.

Hon. Mr. Roberts introduced a bill for the purpose of winding up the Association of United Baptist Churches of New Brunswick; also a bill relating to the general public health, St. John.

Hon. Mr. Byrne introduced a bill to amend the Schools Act. He explained that under the present law, trustees were authorized by school meetings to borrow money to an extent not exceeding ten percent of the assessable property in the district. The object of the bill was to permit the amount to be increased to fifteen percent. The bill also authorized the chief superintendent to allow \$100 to districts which made provision for retarded pupils and for the allowance of \$100 to teachers who might take special training for the instruction of retarded pupils.

Hon. Mr. Foster introduced a bill to amend the act relating to the provincial hospital. He explained that it provided for an increase in the amount to be paid by municipalities for the support of patients in the provincial hospital. The rate at present was \$1 per week, and it was proposed to increase it to \$2.50, which was equal to fifty percent of the cost of caring for patients at the institution.

The house then went into committee with Mr. Hayes in the chair and took up further consideration of supply.

Hon. Mr. Merseure on the item of \$4,500 contingencies for the agricultural department, stated in reply to Mr. Jones that it was an increase of \$1,700 over last year. Part of the increase was due to an advance in the postage rate, but he