

The Budget—Mr. Pouliot

March 11th, 1925
Province of Quebec

Municipality of the County of Temiscouata

At a general quarterly meeting of the municipal council of the county of Temiscouata held at the court house at l'Isle-Verte on Wednesday the eleventh day of March nineteen hundred and twenty-five at ten o'clock in the forenoon and held in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Code of the province of Quebec, and at which meeting there was a quorum, the following resolution was carried:—

"Moved by Mr. Alphonse Beaulieu seconded by Mr. J. A. Beaulieu:

"Whereas the county of Temiscouata is one of the largest and most thickly populated rural counties in the province of Quebec;

"Whereas the county of Temiscouata suffered heavily in the forest fires of 1923 which caused property loss and damages estimated at three million dollars;

"Whereas the crops harvested by the farmers of the county of Temiscouata in 1920, 1921, 1922 and 1923 were very poor and that trade was seriously affected thereby;

"Whereas, on this account, the farmers of the county of Temiscouata were compelled to incur heavy indebtedness during many years in order to live, purchase seed grains and winter their stock;

"Whereas, the county of Temiscouata faces a peculiar and critical situation and urgently requires assistance from the Dominion government in order to protect the farmers and to ensure of their living happily on native soil rather than migrating to the United States;

"Whereas, in 1923 the Dominion government gave monetary aid amounting to \$100,000 to the earthquake sufferers of Japan;

This council prays the Right Honourable W. L. Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada, and his honourable colleagues to deign include in the supplementary estimates of each department concerned, before the close of the present session, substantial amounts for each of the demands that shall be made by our member, Mr. Jean-François Pouliot, in the interests of the county of Temiscouata—Carried.

JULES LIZOTTE,

Warden.

J. W. ROY,

Sec.-Treas.

In the first place I should like to say something about the most urgent needs of my constituency. It is very important that we should have repairs made to the public buildings, all of which should be inspected by the officers of the department concerned, because a stitch in time saves nine. We need daily mail service everywhere. I wish to express my gratitude to the Postmaster General for the improvements he has made in this direction, but there is still something to be done in the southern part of the county, and I am sure he will give his attention to the matter. We need also a new station at Rivière du Loup. The present one is very old and too small for the traffic. We require a bigger station because Rivière du Loup is the terminus of the Temiscouata railway which connects the Intercolonial with the Transcontinental railway, New Brunswick and the state of Maine. We also require a new post office and customs office at Trois Pistoles and a customs office [Mr. Pouliot.]

at Cabano. There is no proper post office at Trois Pistoles. The post office is in a small building, and a new post office should be built at that place. There should be some dredging done in my constituency at Rivière du Loup and Isle Verte. The wharves should be repaired, and there should be a telephone between Notre Dame de l'Isle Verte and Cacouna, because there is a powerful lighthouse on Notre Dame de l'Isle Verte and there is no connection between the lighthouse and the mainland. These are some of the needs of my constituency; I will insist upon them, and I hope that the government will give us a favourable answer to all our demands.

With regard to the tariff, we have listened to some very interesting speeches on both sides of the House, but experiments should be made in normal times only. The Acting Minister of Finance (Mr. Robb) deserves great credit for making the speech that should be made under the circumstances. He understands that, with the debt as big as it is, it is very dangerous to make a change without full consideration and without being sure of what will happen after a change in the tariff is made. The Acting Minister of Finance spoke as a bank manager and gave a clear and true statement of the financial standing of Canada. Could there be a standard tariff? I do not think so. The struggle between free traders and protectionists is a struggle between the Little-endians and the Big-endians. One does not remember that the government ever promised to establish free trade in this country; but the government promised to reduce taxes, and acted accordingly. It is impossible to reduce all taxes at the same time, but there is a good start made in that direction. Free trade had been established by England when she was mistress of the seas and when she had a big fleet to carry products to and from the British isles. This is the reason why free trade was established in England. But, on the contrary, when, after the war the United States had a surplus of production, it was impossible for them to sell those products outside of the country, and they established protection in order to sell them at home. The conditions in both countries were absolutely different. For example it is not reasonable to say that we should establish such a tariff, that we should lower the tariff or raise the tariff, simply because a certain tariff exists in another country. What suits one country might not be good for another one. The United States are favoured by tropical climates, semi-tropical climates and temperate climates; the United States are in a position to provide for