

THE AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT IS ABOMINABLE, SAYS MR. PECK

ALBERT COUNTY MEMBER TELLS FOSTER HE TOOK TO THE WOODS

Possibly Premier's Backbench Supporters Restrained Him from Declaring in Favor of Aiding Hard Pressed Canadian Soldiers Across Sea—Mr. Peck Further Exposes Bungling Government—Hon. Mr. Robinson Staunch Admirer of Solomon and His Proverbs—L. P. D. Tilley Delivers Strong Address.

(Continued from page 1)
Fredericton, April 10.—The House met at 3 o'clock.
Bills to authorize the town of Chatham to issue debentures and relating to the town of Woodstock were read a third time and passed.
Mr. Tilley moved for the suspension of the rule to permit of the introduction of a bill to enable the city of St. John to appoint a commissioner to act in the matter of the New Brunswick Power Company. He explained that the city wanted authority to appoint a commission of three members to investigate the whole matter in dispute. It was proposed that the commission should have authority to appoint an expert accountant or valuator. Leave having been granted, the petition was presented to the House.
Hon. Mr. Murray, provincial secretary, moved that the order for the third reading of the bill to amend the Schools Act be rescinded, and the bill be referred to a committee of the whole House for further consideration. He explained that subsequent to the bill having been dealt with by the committee, a bill relating to schools in the city of St. John had been forwarded to him. The legislation asked for would be covered by a section which he proposed to add to the bill now before the House.

Hon. Mr. Robinson.
Hon. Mr. Robinson, on the order of the day being called rose to continue the debate on the budget. He said he wished to take advantage of the opportunity to compliment the hon. provincial secretary on the able manner in which he had presented his budget speech to the House. He said the hon. member for St. John county had certainly paid the hon. provincial secretary a fine compliment when he declared that the estimates submitted to the legislature had been prepared by a master mind, and knowing as he (the speaker) did that the provincial secretary was the master mind, he wished to say that he heartily concurred in the remarks of the ex-attorney-general.
The only conclusion that could be drawn from the labored attempt of the hon. member who had followed the hon. provincial secretary in a two hours speech was that he thought too much money was being expended. The government was required to accept a full measure of responsibility for its acts, but responsibilities for the financial transactions of the last year could not all be placed on its shoulders. When the government took office, five months of the year had elapsed and the financial momentum was so great that it was impossible to check it and bring about the needed change. Had the administration thought it necessary to conceal items of expenditure and leave accounts unpaid, it might of shown a fictitious surplus, but it did not wish to do that. The government was certainly commended on the full and frank statement of affairs that it had given to the public. It had been found necessary to take a dispassionate audit of the accounts, and the government had gone out of the province and brought in the firm of Price, Waterhouse & Co. and had instructed the auditor to make up an audit of the accounts. That firm had performed its work well, and its report was now in the possession of the House.

Moncton Bible Reader.
He believed that hon. members would pardon the ex-attorney-general for having taken up so much time in dealing with his own efforts on behalf of the province. He said that Billings, Mark Twain, Dr. McGrath or some other noted humorist, who had said that "if a fellow did not root his own horn, that horn would not get so big," he believed that the ex-attorney-general had remained in power, it would have abolished the commission on succession duties and do many other things to the benefit of the country. Someone had said that "hell was paved with good intentions" and he hoped that the ex-attorney-general would never assist in the paving of that city, and that no hon. member of the House would ever drag his feet along that pavement. The hon. member for St. John county in showing a disposition to reform reminded him of Solomon of old, who after having passed through a reign of thunder, in his last days was willing to give up his post as well as his wives.
Hon. Mr. Smith (Carleton).—"You must have been reading the Bible last night."
Hon. Mr. Robinson—"We have Bible in our hotel, and I am sure no harm can come from reading them occasionally. It would be a good thing if all hon. members would read the Bible, as it might assist them in their legislative efforts. The hon. member, who had spoken on the budget, had declared that the old government was not defeated on its merits. He also said the Clarke government was a good government and let it go at that. Personally the speaker had fault to find with the gentlemen who composed the Murray government, but the electors had shown wisdom in taking the control of affairs out of their hands and placing it in the hands of a government which he believed would deal frankly and honestly with the people.
The hon. member for St. John county had been somewhat at fault in

from some of his own constituents. His reply was that the government would stand by it for the present year and if the opposition turned out the administration for taking that course, they were quite welcome to do so.
Increase in Estimates.
Coming to the matter of the increase in the estimates, he said that the increased expenditure over last year would total \$1,770,000. The greater part of that sum was accounted for by the agriculture department which had made extensive purchases of seeds and machinery for the same to the farmers. This action had provoked some criticism, but he firmly believed that it was a step in the right direction.
He had shown that the increased expenditure of \$1,770,000 was largely accounted for in the agriculture department, the other items were largely the same as in previous years. The government set it to hold over a number of accounts it might have made it appear that the expenditure was the same as in 1916. From sale of timber interest charges of \$93,000 was a large amount, but the present government was in no way accountable for it.

Roads and Bridges.
The increased expenditure in connection with roads and bridges was in his opinion a wise one. All over the province he had found so long as the road condition, due not so much to the old government perhaps as to climatic conditions. He wished to pay tribute to the hon. minister of public works for the energetic manner in which he had attended to the matter. Hon. member had travelled from one end of the province to the other and in that respect had accomplished more than had any of his predecessors.
The government has estimated the territorial revenue at \$490,000, an increase of \$18,000 from the previous year. Licenses expected to get \$40,000, and from renewals of licenses \$82,000. Stumpage was expected to yield under the new rate \$356,000, while receipts from wild land tax were estimated at \$90,000. In reference to stumpage returns showed last year a considerable falling off in the lumber cut as compared with previous years. He had always taken the ground that stumpage should be collected in a businesslike manner, and he was glad to see that the government had not neglected to collect the stumpage in a businesslike way.
It had been suggested that it was not possible for a government to be perfect, but he believed that the present administration managed the forest lands in a businesslike way they would receive the confidence and support of the people.

J. L. Peck of Albert.
Fredericton, April 10.—J. L. Peck of Albert followed the member for Moncton in his address. He was not a lengthy one, but it bristled with points and aroused considerable enthusiasm.
In opening he referred to the uncertain policy of the government in reference to the matter of stumpage. First he said that he was not prepared to support any government that neglected to collect the stumpage in a businesslike way.
He then referred to the enquiry by Hon. B. F. Smith, made in an effort to find out what Mr. Jones received for his services in that connection and to the premier's reply that the account was not audited. He said that it was an evasion and beneath the dignity of the premier of this province.
Referring to the minister of public works, Mr. Peck said he had spent large sums of money on the trunk roads in the parish of Hillsborough where by-roads to remain in such bad condition that the farmers had difficulty in getting their stuff to market. As an indication of the administration of the public works department he cited a case in the parish of Hillsborough where a road machine had been allowed to remain all winter covered with snow. The minister however had shown his interest in the welfare of the province by covering the road machine with a fire clothing pole, and that the people of this province wanted government by men qualified to govern. The present government was inexperienced and had come to power as the result of a political accident. They had no time or money to teach them and would take the opportunity of replacing them by qualified men as soon as possible.

Abominable Administration.
The agricultural department he thought had the most abominable administration of any department in the provincial service. Already the minister had been forced to show that farmers did not pay him for the seed they purchased and there were other delinquencies of respectable size. He extended his sympathy to the provincial secretary first because that gentleman's budget speech consisted of pages of auditor general's report which he was obliged to read from sheets of paper as large as automobile windshields. Consideration was due however to the provincial secretary for two reasons, first because he had the manliness to take a stand in the union government campaign, a characteristic in which other members of the government were lacking, and secondly because the premier of the province had sought to usurp the administration of his department. Premier Foster came into power on the flood tide. He had been a successful business man and the people had had a reasonable hope that he would be a success in the position to which he was called. The speaker could not forget, however, how at the opening of the session the premier in his speech had turned to his back bench supporters and had announced that he was proud of them. Looking to the back benches over Mr. Peck could not understand just what prompted the premier's pride, but finally he came to the conclusion that he referred to the



Scott Guptill
manner in which he (Foster) had stood by those back benches in the election of December, 1917.
Was a "Fraid Cat."
The eyes of the world were on Canada in that election, the Germans were watching her course, and yet Premier Foster of the Loyalist Province of New Brunswick was the only premier in Canada who did not come out on that occasion and take a determined stand. Possibly it was for that that he was proud of his back bench support.
An Acadian back-bencher—"He was right."
After Mr. Foster's advent to the leadership of the party he became a financial critic. Then he went out and floated a million dollar loan at a loss to the province of \$30,000 from the amount that could have been obtained for it if it had been sold over the counter. Mr. Foster also promoted an investigation into the affairs of the St. John and Quebec Railway Company. This investigation had a double purpose, the first was to attempt to discredit some gentlemen in public life, and the second to put large sums of money into the pockets of a defeated candidate in Carleton county, Hon. Wendall P. Jones. Mr. Foster did not succeed in the first purpose, but he did in the second, and this house had not yet learned just what Mr. Jones received, although it was reported that he had received \$7,000. The speaker had read Mr. Jones' summing up in that case and it read very much to him like an election speech. If the country paid \$7,000 for that stump speech the country did not get value for the money.

Lacking in Dignity.
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No Permanent Roads.
Mr. Tilley continuing said there were practically no permanent roads in the province. The money had been spent only on temporary repairs except in few and not populous centres. Even gasoline had been charged as permanent roads. How could gasoline be capitalized?
Hon. Mr. Veniot—"Hot air might do."
Mr. Tilley—"If hot air is all that is necessary, my hon. friend opposite need issue no bonds. He has a permanent supply."
Hon. Mr. Veniot—"I suppose you have not."
Mr. Tilley continuing said it would take nineteen years for the province to redeem that half million bond issue, but it would not be longer than the next session before the minister of public works would be back asking for another bond issue. To find out how this money had been expended he had divided it according to counties into four parts—ordinary roads, ordinary bridges, capital account and permanent roads. By counties the expenditure had been as follows: Albert, \$15,615; Carleton, \$46,687; Charlotte, \$39,217; Gloucester, \$68,591; Kent, \$53,007; Kings, \$53,729; Madawaska, \$29,486; Northumberland, \$57,713; Queens, \$23,027; Restigouche, \$32,036; St. John, \$67,413; Sunbury, \$30,114; Victoria, \$24,537; Westmorland, \$69,655; York, \$48,489. He did not criticize the expenditure but thought the minister should have distributed it more evenly.

The Expenditure on Colonization Roads by the Crown Land Department
that amounted to \$7,400. By counties that amount was expended as follows: Gloucester, \$522.53; Restigouche, \$2,348.89; Victoria, \$2,868.15; Madawaska, \$852.53; Northumberland, \$659.97; Kent, \$140.51. That was all. Where were the noble counties of York, Carleton, Sunbury, Queens and so on?
Hon. Mr. Smith—"There is no colonization roads in those counties."
Mr. Tilley—"There is one colony in Queens county."
Hon. Mr. Veniot—"Be fair enough

to say that that was under the old government."
Mr. Tilley—"I will say so and I hope it will increase."
Always on the Job.
Hon. Mr. Veniot—"I can say that those in the northern counties will. They are French men."
Mr. Tilley—"Well, I must say that the French men are always on to their job."
Continuing the speaker said that the time had come when the government must take a firm hold and reduce expenditures in connection with general elections. It was recognized an election could not be run without some expenditure, but under present circumstances election expenses could be classed under three heads, legitimate, doubtful and corrupt.
Mr. Michaud—"Under which were yours?"
Mr. Tilley—"Under the first. So were the expenses of all members on this side of the house."
Continuing the speaker said that he had secured from England and practically all of the United States the acts relating to election expenses, and during recess had drafted twenty-two sections which could be incorporated into the election act of New Brunswick. He intended to present these sections to the premier and attorney-general for their consideration.
The time had come when the stigma attaching to provincial elections should be removed. At a public meeting held at St. John within a few days for the purpose of organizing a delegation to appear before the legislature, a man had risen and said that it didn't make any odds how many went on the delegation, but how much they had in their pockets that he had lobbied around the legislature and knew.

John A. Young
A man who made such a statement should be brought before the bar of the House and made to prove it.
Voice—"You are too sensitive."
Mr. Tilley replied that it was time that the merits became sensitive. It was enough for a man to abandon his business for seven or eight weeks to attend to provincial affairs and not be slandered by some person as well.
Where is the Economy?
Economy had been promised by the premier who had referred to the attorney-general's department, and said it was time to do away with fees on succession duties. That had been done but a deputy attorney-general had been appointed. In 1916 the total expenditure of the department was \$15,000. The fees on succession duties had been \$2,291, a net saving of \$353, which was hardly worth mentioning. He had hoped that the number of officials would be reduced and that the attorney-general would be placed in a position to devote all of his time to the duties of his office.
The speaker criticized the minister of public works, charging that he had expended \$15,000 for painting the bridge at reversible falls, St. John, without calling for tenders. Even the paint had not been bought in the province of New Brunswick. Similarly when the province needed money and the bond issue was made at 95 per cent, only one firm of brokers was given a chance to handle the business. The bonds were sold at 96 1/2 and within a few days taken up at 98. The province lost \$15,000 on the transaction. Soon afterwards the city of St. John sold its bonds over the counter at par.
The speaker said he hoped and trusted that the health act would not be pressed through. He was willing to see his colleague from the city of St. John given any office which was due him, but he thought he should wait awhile, if it was necessary to establish a department of public health, and it would be a department of importance, let the hon. provincial secretary take it and administer it with his own department, or let the premier take it, or it might go still to another member of the government who was content to occupy a place in the bows, although he had fought hard and well. In fact he had fought almost alone. He was worthy of it, although only given a position between the minister of agriculture and the proposed minister of public health.
Mr. Dysart—"It was a sorry day for you when he got on the opposition side."
Mr. Tilley—"For a small body he put up a great fight. Those opposites have said that they would tread the straight and narrow way, and we will do what we can to keep them there."
It being six o'clock the speaker left the chair to resume at 8.

Evening Session.
The House resumed at 8 o'clock.
Mr. LeBlanc said he would like to analyze the reasoning of the gentleman opposite and the reasons for the criticisms levelled at the government of which he was proud to be a supporter. Hon. gentlemen of the opposition had taken two divergent lines, one was the extravagance of the government, and the other was the great things that would have been done if the Murray government had been returned to power.
They allege extravagance but were

afraid to tell that the big expenditures were infants left on the doorstep by the late government, for which the present administration must care. Their criticisms showed inconsistency and craven stonery.
Mr. Guptill.
Mr. Guptill said that what should be uppermost in the minds of the hon. members at this critical time was the subject of greater production, and he felt it was their duty to get together and impress on the people that great need. He hoped that the hon. minister of agriculture was doing his part to impress on the people the importance of the subject. The nation was depending on the work of the soldiers at the front, and the soldiers are depending on the people at home for the supplies which must be sent forward.
With reference to the creation of a new portfolio, he believed there was one that the government had overlooked which was more important than any which existed. He was opposed to increasing expenditures, but a new portfolio were created it should be one of marine and fisheries. They had men capable of giving such a department such attention as its importance would demand. The fisheries of the province were certainly entitled to more attention than they were now receiving. He did not mean to insist that they were not getting proper attention from the Dominion government, but what he meant was that they needed better protection in the way of provincial legislation. The province had valuable fisheries which were undeveloped, and if a bill was brought in to create a portfolio of fisheries he would be glad to support it.
The Revenue.
The question of increasing the revenue was one of vital importance. The greatest asset of the province was the crown lands and every effort should be made to increase the revenue from that department. He believed that the increased price of lumber warranted an increase in the rate of stumpage. The water powers of the province were in need of development and should be made a source of revenue. Royalties from coal, iron and other minerals offered a source of revenue, and another source was direct taxation. If the present revenues were not sufficient to meet the needs of the country the time would come when more direct taxation would have to be imposed. After the revenue had been raised it was important that it should be handled judiciously. The roads were a matter of the first importance. The hope had been entertained that they might be taken out of politics, but he did not think it was possible. The attentions held the members responsible for the roads, and he felt they should shoulder that responsibility. In his estimation the roads were better than the new, as it made the members responsible for the appointment of supervisors, and they could replace them if not satisfactory. He believed good results could be obtained from good officers regardless of politics.

On Grand Manan.
On the island of Grand Manan three out of seven were not his supporters. When the government changed all were removed except the three he had referred to. He noticed from the permanent road accounts that the sum of \$23,000 had been expended in Charlotte county up to October 31. Knowing something of the condition of the roads on the island he thought that the hon. minister must have forgotten that there were any islands. He noticed that \$10,000 had been set up for permanent road work on Grand Manan. That seemed to be the entire amount which the three islands had received. The islands referred to contained one-fourth of the population of the county, and he felt should receive at least one-fourth of the road money expended, which would have meant about \$6,000.
Hon. Mr. Veniot—"Will the hon. gentleman tell how much the island got for ordinary roads?"
Mr. Guptill—"I was talking of permanent roads."
Mr. Veniot—"Don't forget to tell us what you got for ordinary roads."
Mr. Murray (Kings).—"I must insist that the hon. member be allowed to address the House on the subject he chooses."
(Continued on page 7)

Don't Diet Yourself TO CURE DYSPEPSIA IT ISN'T NECESSARY
The sufferer from dyspepsia and indigestion who has to pick and choose his food, is the most miserable of all mankind.
Even the little he does eat causes such torture, and is digested so imperfectly that it does him little good. What dyspepsics need is not dieting, or artificial digestants, but something that will put their stomach right so they will manufacture their own digestive ferment.
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Mrs. Henry Shaw, Campbellton, N. B., writes: "I was for five years troubled with a weak stomach, and could not eat any food that would agree with me. I tried different medicines, but could not get cured. A friend advised me to take Burdock Blood Bitters. I took four bottles, and now I am in perfect health."
B. B. is manufactured only by The T. Millburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

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Don't Be Bilious, HEADACHY, SICK OR CONSTIPATED
Enjoy life! Liven your liver and bowels tonight and feel great.
Wake up with head clear, stomach sweet, breath right, cold gone.

WORK WHILE YOU SLEEP
Take one or two Cascarets tonight and enjoy the nicest, gentlest liver and bowel cleansing you ever experienced. Wake up feeling grand, your head will be clear, your tongue clean, breath sweet, stomach regulated and your liver and thirty feet of bowels active. Get a box of any drug store now and get straightened out tomorrow. Stop the headache, biliousness, bad colds and bad days. Feel fit and ready for work or play. Cascarets do not gripe, sicken or inconvenience you the next day like salts, pills or calomel. They're fine! Mothers should give a whole Cascaret anytime to cross, sick, bilious or frowny children because it will act thoroughly and can not injure.

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