

# TAX ON GRANTED LANDS OUTSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICTS FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES

### Resolution Moved in Legislature Last Night by Mr. White of Victoria County—Committee of Ten Appointed to Deal With Matter—Bill Relating to Joint Stock Companies Considered by the House.

Special to The Standard.  
Fredericton, March 22.—A tax of from one to two cents per acre on all unimproved lands outside of school districts in New Brunswick, by which the provincial revenue can be augmented by a sum estimated at from \$50,000 to \$100,000 per annum, is to be considered by a special committee of ten members of the legislature, who will report back to the House before the close of the present session.

The proposal was brought before the legislature tonight by Mr. White of Victoria, whose proposition called for such a tax on granted lands and its use for educational purposes, but his resolution was so amended as to give the special committee power to make a thorough enquiry into the matter and it was intimated that the committee would take up the question of making this tax also apply to Crown timber lands under lease.

Mr. White, in a thoughtful speech, dealt in a concise manner with educational problems of the province generally and pointed out improvements and extensions which could be made if increased revenue were available. Capt. Tilley of St. John moved the amendment to refer the matter to a committee which plan was adopted without discussion.

The House resumed at 8:15. Hon. Mr. Baxter introduced a bill to amend the act relating to the University of New Brunswick.

Mr. White (Victoria) moved the following resolution: "That in the opinion of this House it is advisable that an annual tax of from one to two cents per acre be imposed for educational purposes upon all granted land in the province situated outside of established school districts."

In rising to move the resolution Mr. White said since he had begun to look into the various educational interests which require public attention he felt himself unable to deal with this matter in a comprehensive manner as he could wish, but he trusted that the justness of his cause would be so apparent that it would make up to a considerable degree what he lacked in ability in presenting his case.

The province was under a debt of obligation to the Hon. George E. King, the father of the Free Schools Act, who in 1871 put the massachusetts plan before the legislature and it was his plan that was followed for the last thirty-five years the successful working of that Act had been in a very large measure due to the sound judgment of the late Dr. William Crockett. The Act had been in force for about forty-five years and it deserved the hearty support of all.

The school inspector force was in his opinion one of the hardest worked and most poorly paid of the Government employees and it was impossible for them to successfully perform the work required of them. He felt that a system of inspection should be adopted which would permit of monthly visits by an inspector and the benefits to be derived from such frequent visits would be almost incalculable. These improvements would require more money, and he could wish the financial condition of the province would permit of a material increase of the salaries of those connected with the school work.

He believed that about all that any father or mother who gives his or her life for educational work gets is the satisfaction of hearing the public say "Well done, thou good and faithful servant" and that was usually left unsaid until after his or her death.

He heartily agreed with the plea put forth a day or two ago by the honorable member from Westmorland, Mr. Mahoney, that something should be done to help the children of the poorer districts receive better school privileges. It was not necessary for him to go into details of the hardships and privations which pioneers in new settlements had to put up with. Those people who have the courage to attempt to hew out a home for themselves in the forest deserve not only sympathy but financial support in aiding them to build and equip their schools and maintain them thereafter. The ultimate success of the school depends upon the success which it meets in establishing their school privileges. If their efforts fail or if the burden which they attempt to carry proves too heavy gradually they look for better school facilities and the settlement begins to dwindle. He believed that if instead of the thousand dollars which was set aside annually by the province for the erection of schoolhouses a fund could be formed from which an amount of perhaps five hundred dollars could be drawn to help each school district to build and equip its school premises, that the result would be beneficial both educationally and from an immigration point of view.

There are in the province in various localities a number of school districts that are struggling along under a heavy district assessment, but are unable to keep up their schools. The taxpayers are few and the property not very large. With these people the question of keeping up a school was a very serious one. Alongside of them perhaps is a wealthy district where the tax for school purposes was light. It would not be practicable possibly to undertake to make changes in the bounds of the school districts to remedy this situation, but he thought that a fund could be established from which a large provincial grant could be given to these poorer districts than was able to be given at present.

Referring to the question of manual training, he would like to say that no greater impetus could in his opinion be given to the cause of education than to have established in every superior and grammar school of the province a manual training department. It was his privilege some time ago to visit a department of this kind in Lewiston, and watch the boys from 11 to 16 years of age go to their several lockers and procure their tools and work for an hour on the different articles they were required to make. The principal of the school said he had little or no difficulty in keeping the scholars at school, and that the services of the trustee officer were very rarely required. The State of Maine spent last year the sum of \$50,000 for manual training, domestic science and evening schools.

An effort had been made in this province along nearly all the lines to which he had referred and he believed the people were getting good results for every dollar spent, but there was not sufficient money available to develop these phases of educational work. He had endeavored to show that they were in need of money to meet the growing educational demands and he would now show how and where this money might very fairly and reasonably be obtained. His resolution called for a tax of not less than two cents per acre to be imposed for educational purposes on all lands situated outside of school districts. There are in this province millions of acres of such land that up to date are not paying one cent for educational purposes except the almost infinitesimal amount contained in the county tax, to which they may perhaps contribute, but they escape absolutely all district assessments. It is true that along the borders of these lands some school districts are organized and a portion of them are included in the districts and in such cases pay a school tax, but the large bulk of them are giving neither to the government nor to the districts any school tax whatever, and it was from these lands that in his opinion the funds could be obtained to carry on the development of the educational work he had previously outlined. One of the fundamental principles of the school law is that the property of the state should educate the children, but when the law was drafted the great bulk of this land was then in possession of the Crown, and from time to time these lands had been sold until at the present time they had contributed practically nothing towards educational work. Things were different in Maine, for there every dollar's worth of land in the state contributes its share towards the education of its children.

He wished to express the opinion that the present administration deserved credit for amending the road law in 1908 so as to permit of a tax

petition to the Legislature and then went before the next meeting of government for consideration. It then has to go to the attorney-general for his fiat and as often as not had to await another meeting of the government to be put through. Last session it would be remembered, an act was passed which was intended to facilitate matters somewhat, but he had felt it was desirable in interests of all parties to have the various acts relating to joint stock companies consolidated, in the course of which several new provisions had been incorporated. He had obtained assistance of some of the best known company lawyers in the province, who had had the matter under consideration and they had prepared a bill which was now before the house and which he thought members would find satisfactory.

The bill was drawn largely on the lines of the Dominion Act except in such few cases as that act was not applicable. One feature of the provincial act was that the borrowing power was limited to seventy-five per cent. of their paid-up capital. The new act followed the Dominion law which extends the borrowing powers to the same amount as the Dominion law. He thought there was no objection to this at all, because people who bought companies' bonds would take good care to find out what they were buying. There were other matters too in which some little change had been made in the provincial law and which would be noted as they went through the bill.

There was another matter to which he would like to draw attention in which this province would be the gainer. For some time, until recently, there had been a conflict between the Dominion and Provincial jurisdictions in the matter of incorporated companies. Several cases had occurred where companies incorporated in the provinces had extended their business into other provinces, and the Eschequer Court and also the Supreme Court of Canada had held that a company had no legal powers whatever to do business outside the province in which it was incorporated. This decision was contrary to views of the legal profession the country over, who had always recognized that a company as a corporate body had certain privileges which should be generally recognized wherever a company wished to do business. However the decision of the courts was, companies had no powers outside of their own province, and a company might be provincial, but that was no reason why its business energies should be confined to its own province, and the decision of courts seemed so erroneous that the legal profession in the provinces shared the cost of carrying the case to the Privy Council where the provincial contention that a company, no matter if only provincially incorporated, was entitled to legal recognition outside its own province, was upheld. It would be seen, therefore, that the province had received considerable value for the expenditure in taking the case to the Privy Council, as New Brunswick companies were now entitled to recognition outside the borders of the province. It was because of the view taken by the courts that companies instead of seeking provincial charters went to the Dominion for their incorporation, in order to obtain Dominion-wide powers, but now that several provinces could give to companies a broad and liberal incorporation which would hold good throughout the whole country, it might reasonably be expected that a greater number of companies would take advantage of the new provisions.

Mr. Carter seconded the resolution. Mr. Tilley said that he did not object to the resolution, and that it was one which was worthy of close attention of the house. However, if the matter was given attention which it should have he felt that other features than have been referred to by hon. member for Victoria would come up. He noticed that issues of crown timber lands were not included and holders of these lands he felt were as well able to pay as others. There were also other features in connection with the subject which he had in mind, which he would not refer to, but he thought it would be well to have the whole question taken up by a committee. He thereupon moved the following amendment:

"That a committee of ten members of this house be appointed by Mr. Speaker to take into consideration the matter of assessing private owned wilderness lands together with crown wilderness lands under lease in the province as suggested in the resolution moved by hon. member for Victoria and that said committee submit its report to the house during the present session."

Mr. Lockhart seconded the amendment. The amendment carried without division. Mr. Speaker appointed Messrs. White, Carter, Mahoney, Jones, Culligan, Woods, Hachey, Tilley, Lockhart and Slipp as committee.

Mr. Allan asked leave of absence for Mr. White (Carleton) for one week on account of illness.

Bill Relating to Joint Stock Companies.  
The house went into committee, L. Col. Black in the chair, and took up for consideration the bill relating to joint stock companies.

Hon. Mr. Baxter said that down to last session the mode of incorporation of companies in this province had been chiefly remarkable for the length of time it took to get matter put through. It commenced with a

petition to the Legislature and then went before the next meeting of government for consideration. It then has to go to the attorney-general for his fiat and as often as not had to await another meeting of the government to be put through. Last session it would be remembered, an act was passed which was intended to facilitate matters somewhat, but he had felt it was desirable in interests of all parties to have the various acts relating to joint stock companies consolidated, in the course of which several new provisions had been incorporated.

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There was another matter to which he would like to draw attention in which this province would be the gainer. For some time, until recently, there had been a conflict between the Dominion and Provincial jurisdictions in the matter of incorporated companies. Several cases had occurred where companies incorporated in the provinces had extended their business into other provinces, and the Eschequer Court and also the Supreme Court of Canada had held that a company had no legal powers whatever to do business outside the province in which it was incorporated.

This decision was contrary to views of the legal profession the country over, who had always recognized that a company as a corporate body had certain privileges which should be generally recognized wherever a company wished to do business. However the decision of the courts was, companies had no powers outside of their own province, and a company might be provincial, but that was no reason why its business energies should be confined to its own province, and the decision of courts seemed so erroneous that the legal profession in the provinces shared the cost of carrying the case to the Privy Council where the provincial contention that a company, no matter if only provincially incorporated, was entitled to legal recognition outside its own province, was upheld.

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head office in some small town or village where, of course, they were taxed, but they really transacted their business in one or more of the large cities, where as the head office was not in the latter place they escaped taxation.

Hon. Mr. Baxter said that was a matter that would have to be dealt with under the assessment act. A lumber company might have its head office in the woods, and at the same time transact practically the whole

of its business at the port of St. John or Miramichi. At this stage the committee reported progress. Mr. Young submitted the report of the committee on agriculture. The House adjourned at ten o'clock.

PERSONAL.  
Dr. H. D. Fritz left Tuesday night on a trip to Quebec and Montreal.

Concert, St. Philip's church, tonight, the Fireste League.

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Mrs. Orris K. Dawson returned last week from Boston and Lowell, Mass. here she visited friends.

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Spring Weather.  
The weather yesterday was rather mild, and on the sunny side of the streets the snow and ice had melted. Towards evening it became colder and at eight o'clock last evening it commenced to snow. The snow storm kept up all night and it was still snowing at three o'clock this morning. There was quite a fall and the sleighing was excellent.

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Only a Few Days More to Secure HEART SONGS

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The Bull Dog -- A Bully Good Song

Thousand of the college-boys—and men—to whom college days are and were the red-letter days of life—would call the song illustrated in today's paper, a "bully good song"—and would say they had "had a bully good evening"—in singing together once more the many college songs to be found in "Heart Songs."

For instance, "Bohunkus," "Co-ca-che-lunk," "Dutch Company," "Gaudemus Igitur," "Lauriger Horatius," "My Last Cigar," "The Bull Dog," "Rig-a-jig," "Updee," "Vive la Compagnie"—how these recall the old times on the campus, or in some fellow's quarters, with the fire light flickering, the guitar twanging, and the boys yodeling or joining in the chorus.

But college songs are only one of ten classes contained in this wonderful treasury of song. It is really a book for everybody, everywhere. It took four years to get from 20,000 people their favorite songs—and then to pick out the best 400. But any other way—or any other book—of course, that wouldn't be "Heart Songs."

"Heart Songs" is Without an Equal 500 pages Genuine Cardinal, Seal Grain, Flexible Binding, Red Edges, Round Corners. 400 Songs, complete words and music. Full-page portraits of great singers. Four years to build, 20,000 people to help. A big value at \$3.00—a gift at 98 cts.

Look for HEART SONGS COUPON with Music Border Elsewhere in this Paper.

NE MORE RECRUITS FROM NORTH SHORE

March 21.—Recruiting Officer Murdoch has enlisted the following since Saturday: John S. Layton, Blackville. Geo. A. Lockhart, Chatham. John J. Williston, Bay Side. Wesley Williston, Bay Side. Fred. Clark, Chatham. Ypolite Milouse, Bel River. Mrs. Robichaud, Chatham. Mrs. F. Cunningham, Chatham. Arvie McLean, Black River. This makes a total of 186 men recruited by Lieut. Murdoch to date. Lieut. Murdoch's residence in an early hour Monday did considerable damage. The appraisers have not yet made the report. The lobster fishermen are preparing the coming season, getting their boats and factories in readiness for business.

JAPANESE STEAMER HOKOKO MARU IS GIVEN UP AS LOST

London, Mar. 22.—The Japanese samurai Hokoko Maru, long overdue, has virtually been given up as lost. She was posted as missing at Oyo today. She left Portland, Ore., on November 8, with a cargo of wheat for the United Kingdom, and was last reported as leaving Singapore on December 20.

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### EVERY THREE MINUTES ONE DIES IN THE U. S.

The Anti-Tuberculosis Society illustrates the frightful toll of consumption by extinguishing a light every three minutes, and shows that it is the man or woman, girl or boy, who neglects colds, whose blood is pure, who feels weak and languid, who is the very one to contract tuberculosis—and none are immune.

During changing seasons, or after sickness, blood-quality is most important, and if you and your family will take Scott's Emulsion after meals it will charge your blood with health-sustaining richness, quicken circulation, and strengthen both lungs and throat. Scott's is free from drugs—easy to take and cannot harm. Get a bottle to-day.

Scott & Bowne, Toronto, Ont.

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Nervous, sick headaches tell of exhausted nerves, and warn you of approaching prostration or paralysis. By enriching the blood Dr. Chase's Nerve Food restores the blood, cures nerve cells and thoroughly cures headaches, migraines and other nervous disorders.

Dr. Chase's Nerve Food