

## FOSTER'S BOGUS \$30,000 SURPLUS NOW TURNS OUT TO BE A DEFICIT OF AT LEAST \$195,000 AND WORSE TO COME

(Continued from page 1)

In this same connection there may be taken the Canadian Patriotic Fund which shows in receipts as producing \$267,722.13. Out of this amount which, too, is a trust fund created for a specific purpose, there has been paid, presumably to the Canadian Patriotic Committee, a total of \$243,560.78, leaving an unexpended balance of \$24,161.35. And this, strangely enough, has also been absorbed in the ordinary revenue of the Province, although it may later appear in the Comptroller's Report as a liability to be paid out when called for by the Committee. For the present, however, it must be regarded as a trust fund not to be expended except as originally authorized by the Legislature. But it has been expended for other purposes, for it is shown that the sum of \$113,208.04 has been advanced to capital account, and this will, no doubt, be explained when the yearly report is published as being made up from some of the unexpended balances of the trust funds referred to and from similar sources.

The previous administration rightly considered the Dominion Agricultural Subsidy as a special fund for a specific purpose. The Foster Government received from this source \$96,166.20. Yet it expended actually only \$72,841.69, and the balance of \$23,324.51 unexpended, has apparently been absorbed in the revenue of the Province.

In the administration of justice, The Telegraph, in analysing the financial report, claims another important saving has been made. Although there has been an increase in this branch of the service, that paper explains that this is due to the salary of the newly appointed Deputy Attorney General. This is a deliberate attempt to deceive, for the salary of the Deputy Attorney General, as is well known, will be found with that of his chief as a charge against Executive Government. So the increase in this department must be found elsewhere. This increase amounts to about \$2,000.00, and with the large additional expenditure in the case of Executive Government, the fallacy of a pretended saving of \$4,500.00 in succession duties is shown, and the suggestion of a saving in this department knocked on the head.

Touching the matter of Motor Vehicle Tax, it will be remembered that the sentiment of the Legislature was that this money should be raised for a special purpose, that purpose being to provide an "Interest and Redemption Fund," on bond issue for road purposes, and that the money collected from this source should be so used after the cost of administration had been deducted. It is found that the Motor Vehicle Tax produced a revenue of \$90,188.58, and that out of this \$30,000.00 was set aside for the specific purpose for which the whole fund was created, while \$8,467.24 formed the cost of administration. This leaves an amount of \$51,721.34. This amount might properly have been set apart for future road purposes, but has apparently been absorbed in the ordinary revenue and expended for ordinary purposes of administration.

Among the items of ordinary expenditure there is noted by The Telegraph a saving in the salary of the Deputy Provincial Treasurer, no appointment being made to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of the late Deputy early last year. But perhaps the increase in the Comptroller's department will account for this saving in the Treasury Department. And what has become of the difference in the salary of the Railroad Auditor? This is charged up as \$1,715.57, yet that official left the Government's service in either May or June, and no successor has been appointed. Really this new and expensive system of accounting is a most ingenious affair.

Turning to the expenditure in the Public Works Department, it will be remembered that the Legislature provided \$250,000.00 for ordinary roads and bridges. According to The Telegraph there has been expended at least \$350,000.00 on ordinary roads and bridges, besides \$434,806.69 for capital account, making a total of \$784,806.69 spent. The sale of bonds for permanent roads realized \$300,000.00, so that a further bond issue of at least \$134,806.69 will be required when the Legislature meets.

Expenditure on permanent bridges is shown, \$454,475.45, with debentures sold to provide funds amounting to only \$292,000.00, which again leaves a balance to be provided for by bonds when the Legislature meets. The bonded debt will, therefore, be increased by at least \$200,000.00 on the Public Works account alone, in addition to the amount already authorized by the Legislature.

While considering bonds it may be asked why is not the difference between the deficit shown on Oct. 31, 1917, and the bond issue which was made to cover that floating debt explained in this financial statement? When the Foster Government took the notion to put in a new accounting system it expressed an overwhelming desire to start everything with a clean slate. Its announced intention was that each year should look after itself, and that liabilities incurred during one period should be shown as for that period and not be carried over to another fiscal year. In the same way all receipts in any particular year were to be apportioned to the period they actually covered. This has been worked out in a manner very different from that announced.

The Foster Government claimed, on assuming office, that it was, according to its auditors, a floating liability of \$663,356.40, and it demanded a bond issue to wipe out this indebtedness, that it could start without a handicap. And while even this amount is disputed, a further discrepancy is found in the bond issue itself, which amounted not to \$663,356.40, but to \$789,000.00. Yet \$663,356.40 appears in the Royal Gazette of 1918, as the amount of indebtedness on Oct. 31, 1917. There is just a possibility that this difference of \$125,643.60 may be accounted for by outstanding liabilities on Oct. 31st, 1917 after the present government had been in office for some four or five months and had time to accumulate a nice little deficit of its own as it has been doing ever since. But this should certainly have been shown as a liability in the balance sheet of 1917, which was not done, instead of appearing as an item of revenue in 1918. This very serious difference has yet to be explained.

Summarizing this whole wretched state of affairs, it would appear that the unexpended amounts, nearly all balances and trust funds created for specific purposes, have been frittered away principally in the Public Works Department, and in other ways, and are as follows:

Ass't for Patriotic and War Purposes	\$ 96,838.32	\$ 17,000.00
Canadian Patriotic Fund	267,722.13	
Expended		243,560.78
Dominion Agricultural Subsidy	96,166.20	
Expended		72,841.69
Farm Settlement Board	41,375.00	
Expended		8,231.88
Motor Vehicle Tax	90,188.58	
Expended		38,467.00
	\$592,290.23	\$380,101.35
Differences in Bonded Indebtedness and Balance October 31, 1917	125,643.60	
	\$717,933.83	
Credit Cash advanced to Capital Acc't		113,208.04
		\$493,309.39
Amounts to be set aside in trust	\$172,902.86	
Motor Vehicle Tax excess for future road expenses	51,724.58	
	224,624.44	
	\$717,933.83	\$717,933.83

Of this amount of \$224,624.44, the sum of \$51,724.58 excess from the Motor Vehicle Tax, was not actually set apart as a trust fund, although it should be considered as such. The remainder, \$172,902.86, positively and actually is composed of trust funds

## SOLDIERS GET AWAY PROMPTLY

Fourteen Special Trains Required to Move Olympic Passengers to Destinations.

Halifax, Jan. 17.—The passengers from the Olympic got off in good time, fourteen trains taking the whole lot. There are fifteen trains ready but one was cancelled as unnecessary. They left as per the following schedule:

First train for Vancouver and Regina left 12:45; second for Calgary left 1:40 p.m.; third for Winnipeg left 2:05 p.m.; fourth for Winnipeg left 2:40 p.m.; fifth for Toronto left 3:30 p.m.; sixth for Toronto left 4:10 p.m.; seventh for Toronto left 4:30 p.m.; eighth (civilian train) for Montreal left 4:45 p.m.; ninth for St. John and Fredericton left 5:10 p.m.; tenth for London left 11:10 p.m. Four other trains were to leave at midnight, at 1 a.m., at 2 a.m., and at 3 a.m., the first for London, second for London and Kingston, the third for Kingston, and the last for Montreal. The longer time between latter trains was because of a winter road condition which had to be put through.

## PRESS WINS THE FIRST ROUND

Paris, Jan. 17.—At the opening of the peace conference tomorrow Premier Lloyd George, of Great Britain, will sit at the left of Premier Clemenceau of France, who will preside. President Wilson will sit at the right of the French premier. Representatives of the press will probably be admitted to the opening session of the congress tomorrow.

## NATIONAL STRIKE MIGHT OCCUR

Chicago, Jan. 17.—The resolution committee of the International Workers' Defence League reported a programme in behalf of Thomas Mooney today. The committee recommended that a committee of five be sent to Washington to demand federal investigation and intervention to free Mooney from prison, and a campaign of publicity, and these measures failing, the calling of a general strike on July fourth, first, however, submitting the strike call to a referendum vote of workers.

Radicals who opposed the appeal to Washington and demanded a general strike at once, were outvoted in the committee. The proposed resolutions provide that the referendum shall be completed by June 1.

## RUSSIA CALLS FOR MEDICAL HELP

Vladivostok, Thursday, Jan. 16. (By The Associated Press).—There is urgent need for doctors, nurses and medical supplies in Western Siberia, declared Arthur R. Teusler, head of the Czech-Slovak Medical Service, who arrived here today from Ekaterinburg and Omsk. The spread of typhus and the coming of 200,000 Russian soldiers, coming in the Public Works account alone, in addition to the amount already authorized by the Legislature.

## THE THRIFT STAMPS.

Five of the larger stores were visited just before the closing hour yesterday afternoon and short snappy talks to the salespeople on the Thrift Stamps given. The stores and speakers—W. H. Thorne and Co., Hon. J. B. M. Baxter, P. W. Woolworth Co., Judge McInerney, D. Magee's and Sons, P. W. Daniel, Semi-Ready and W. E. Ward, T. F. Drummie, Francis and Vaughan, F. A. Dykeman, H. B. Peck, of East St. John, who has taken a great interest in the campaign, made arrangements for an address to the men employed by the Bedford Construction Co. at Courtenay Bay, and R. W. Wilmore, M. P., visited the site of the work and talked to the men about the Thrift Stamps. The company have arranged for the cook of the camp to sell all the stamps there.

## WEDDINGS.

Merritt-Thorne. The home of Mr. and Mrs. La Mont E. Thorne, was the scene of a very interesting event Wednesday evening, January first, when the olive, A. E. Davise of Greenwich united in marriage Miss L. Etta, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thorne, to Bliss R. Merritt of Kars. The bride was charmingly attired in a white silk and Georgette gown and carried a white prayer book. She entered the parlor on the arm of her father, while Mrs. A. P. Urquhart, sister of the bride, rendered the wedding march. The young couple were unattended. Following the ceremony a dainty luncheon was served of which fifty relatives and friends partook. The many gifts received were expressive testimonials of the popularity of Mr. and Mrs. Merritt. In the early evening the young people gathered outside to usher the newly wedded couple into married life by a good old-fashioned charivari. The bride and groom have the best wishes of a large circle of friends who wish them a long and prosperous wedded life. They will reside in Kars.

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collected from the people of the Province by authority of the Legislature for specific purpose, and so set apart.

Of these two amounts taken together, approximately \$200,000.00 has been over-expended by the Public Works Department on roads and bridges. Thus a further deficit has been created to the extent of \$224,624.44, less \$30,951.19 balance of receipts over expenditures on ordinary account, as shown in the cash statement.

## CARLETON COUNTY COURT ADJOURNS

Sentences Meted Out to Evil-doers.

Special to The Standard.

Woodstock, Jan. 17.—The county court, Judge Carleton presiding, finished its business this afternoon, with the exception of a few non-jury cases, and sentences were passed as follows: Murchie Larlee, the soldier charged with extortion, found guilty of obtaining money under false pretences. As the war is over the judge suspended sentence and placed him on recognizance of \$500 to appear if required.

Mandley Davis, charged with obtaining money under false pretences from Mathias Meagher, verdict not guilty.

Charles Writ, charged with assault on Dr. H. M. Marshall, guilty of common assault, fined \$50 or three months in jail.

Toy Rigby, charged with shooting at P. L. Clark, with intent to do grievous bodily harm, verdict of not guilty. On Monday of this week Rigby forsook Clark breaking out a winter road around his farm, and told him he would shoot if he crossed the line. Clark did not cross but Rigby fired three shots from his gun within the line of his own farm.

## LAUNCHINGS AT PARRSBORO

Special to The Standard.

Parrsboro, N.S., Jan. 17.—The tern schooner, Ella Williams, was launched today, from the shipyard of J. W. Kirkpatrick, M.P.P., at Eatonville. The new vessel registers 374 tons, is classed for twelve years in American waters, and has all the latest improvements. She was built for A. Moulton, of Halifax, and was recently sold by him to LaHave parties. She was towed to Parrsboro by the tugboat named Verna H. was launched at Halls Harbor on Wednesday, by G. B. Hatfield and others, of Port Greville. She was launched before being completed, as her builders wished to get her into a safe port, and was towed to Port Greville to have her spars put in and be riged and fitted up. She will register about 430 tons and will be classed twelve years in Bureau Veritas. She will be a first class vessel when completed, and is owned by G. B. Hatfield and others, of Port Greville.

The new tern schooner, Minas King, Capt. Dyer, towed to Kingsport this morning, and will load potatoes there for Havana. The cargo will be supplied by the United Fruit Company.

The tern schooner, Annie Lord, sailed from Kingsport this week with potatoes for Cuba. She is commanded by Captain John Stewart, of Church Point. Her owner, Captain J. Merriam, is remaining at home this trip.

## REPATRIATED PRISONERS

The London Department of the Prisoners of War have been repatriated: Pte. C. M. Wasson, 15th Battalion, Pte. E. T. Masterson, 42nd Battalion.

Sgt. A. J. Cyr, Sec. R. A. F. Pte. F. J. Hamilton, 16th Battalion, Pte. J. Poirier, 87th Battalion, Lance Corporal W. Mann, 19th Battalion.

Pte. G. A. Poirier, 87th Battalion, Pte. M. Poirier, 12th Battalion.

## DIED.

RYDER.—At Hampton, Jan. 16, Wm. E. Ryder, aged 40 years, leaving his wife, father, mother, one sister and two brothers to mourn. Death was due to pneumonia, following influenza.

Funeral Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

## ESPECIALLY GOOD AT THIS TIME

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## NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that an examination for Registration of Nurses in the Province of New Brunswick will be held at the General Dispensary, St. John, N. B., on Wednesday, March 27th, at 10 a.m.

All applications must be accompanied by a fee of Four Dollars and be in the hands of the Secretary not later than Wednesday, March 13, 1919.

Secy Board of Examiners of N. B. Association of Graduate Nurses.

## GOVERNMENT TO MAKE LAWS TIGHTER AGAINST SINN FEINERS

Sinn Fein Intends to Summon Its Own Parliament and Has Already Held Two Preliminary Meetings—Thirty-four Elected to the Assembly Are Now in Jail.

Dublin, Jan. 17.—(The Associated Press).—The Government, it is reported here, is about to issue a proclamation tightening the laws against Sinn Feiners. Some months ago a proclamation was issued, under the Crimes Act, declaring that the Sinn Feiners were dangerous. This was the necessary preliminary step to the suppression of the organization, but no subsequent step has yet been taken.

Once a proclamation suppressing the Sinn Fein is issued, it becomes a crime to belong to the organization, and the Government can prosecute any member and send him to jail. Imprisonment does not affect the Sinn Feiners unless they do not get their own way.

They cause trouble in the prisons, and, at the present time, there is virtually a state of siege in the Mount Joy prison in Dublin, because one Sinn Feiner there is not treated as a political prisoner.

The Sinn Fein intends to summon its own parliament, and has already held two preliminary meetings. They treat the last election as an act of self-determination, and look upon all persons elected, regardless of party, as members of the Irish Republic Assembly. Accordingly they have issued invitations to their own members, as well as the Carsons and Nationalists, but no one of the other party members is taking any notice of it.

Thirty-four of the Sinn Feiners elected are imprisoned in England and Ireland, while Patrick MacGartney, Liam Molloy and Diarmuid Lynch are in the United States. The situation has delayed the calling of the National Assembly.

Why the assembly is called the question is whether the Government will ignore it or suppress it. Two influences are operating on the judges of the Lord Lieutenant, Viscount French, who is the real ruler. One side declares that the Sinn Feiners have an impractical policy, and will wear themselves out if let alone, while if they are harassed they will rally to the support of the country. Viscount French is said to lean to the former view. It is said that he is a Home

Ruler, but will insist on obedience to the law. The Sinn Feiners intend that the National Assembly shall nominate Prof. Dr. De Valera, Arthur Griffiths and Count Plunkett as delegates to the peace conference, and that they will claim representation as if Ireland were a separate nation like Belgium or Serbia. They do not expect that their claim will be granted, but doing all they can to get to President Wilson to raise the Irish question.

The Sinn Feiners are not the only people who look to President Wilson for aid. Another group is a section of moderate opinion under Captain Gwynne, a former member of parliament, who has a scheme for Home Rule along federal lines.

If some settlement is not reached, it is believed that there will be disorder and bloodshed. Ireland, some hold, will probably reply to imprisonments by more disorders.

Meanwhile, there is comparative calm in Ireland. The leading Sinn Feiners in their speeches ask for time to carry out their policies and discontinue impatience.

## THIS CHURCH PREFERS OIL

Its Churchyard Wells Gushing Forth \$200,000 Income.

Fort Worth, Texas, Jan. 17.—(The Associated Press).—The church of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Fort Worth, which already has acquired an income of \$200,000 a year through oil wells sunk in its churchyard, has refused one million dollars for the right to develop wells in the graveyard, which adjoins the church, it became known today.

Colds Cause Headaches and Pains. Feverish Headaches and Body Pains caused from a cold are soon relieved by taking LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE Tablets. There's only one "Bromo Quinine." E. W. GROVE'S signature on the box. 30c.

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H—m! Doesn't seem quite "up to snuff" for a "season" all the brighter because of war season's just past!

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## THE WEATHER.

Toronto, Jan. 17.—Light snow has fallen today in Quebec and northern Alberta. Elsewhere the weather has been fair and mild.

	Min.	Max.
Victoria	40	48
Vancouver	40	48
Calgary	38	46
Edmonton	38	46
Medicine Hat	36	44
Prince Albert	30	38
Regina	30	38
Winnipeg	32	40
Port Arthur	32	40
Parry Sound	28	36
Toronto	38	46
Kingston	38	46
Ottawa	38	46
Montreal	38	46
Quebec	38	46
St. John	38	46
Halifax	38	46
Below zero	38	46

Forecast.—Maritime—Fair and mild during the day, followed by early winter with snow or rain. Northern New England—Unsettled, probably rain or snow Saturday, Sunday partly cloudy. Moderate to fresh variable winds.

## VISITED WAR ZONE SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE ARMISTICE

Rev. Dr. Grant Addressed Three Meetings in Bonn—First Canadian to Preach in the German University His Talk With Soldiers.

The Rev. Dr. A. S. Grant, Toronto, who spoke before the Canadian Club Thursday evening, arrived on the Metagama that day, bringing a message to the public from the Canadian generals in England, France and Germany, also the boys in Flanders and the army of occupation.

Dr. Grant, who first came to prominence through his ministry and social service during the Yukon gold rush of '98, and who has since put the Presbyterian Home Mission Work on a most aggressive basis, is now chairman of the National Service Committee of the Presbyterian churches of Canada, and in that capacity visited the war zone to get the opinions of the leaders and men, study conditions, and pledge the support of the Canadian churches towards the service involved in demobilization and reconstruction.

Dr. Grant's committee embraces all Canadian churches and is a citizen movement acting in conjunction with the federal Soldiers' Civil Reconstruction department, of which Sir Thomas White is the head.

After proceeding to England early in November last, Dr. Grant visited the various Canadian officials in London and the leading commands in France and Germany, addressing large audiences of soldiers on the way to get their viewpoint and to tell what Canada purposes to do for the saviours of the country.

He asked the men of a thorough training in any vocation they desired, even up to a collegiate course or a professional career. Those who wished to take up any trade or science would have their tuition paid by the government, those who wished to settle on the land would have fertile soil in a market area sold to them at a small price, the government would own the venture, and even providing tuition at agricultural colleges for those desiring it.

Those who have been permanently disabled and unable to do an occupation will be the guests of the nation and paid a comfortable living pension.

With the idea that civilization has worth fighting for a driving force, Dr. Grant has asked the fighting men overseas to help in the work of reconstruction when they come home again. "These are the men," said Dr. Grant, "who have put through the biggest job the world has ever known and now that peace has brought to us an equally important problem, we cannot get along without their assistance."

There is now under consideration a coast to coast series of public meetings when the message of the war will be preached to the Canadian public by army chaplains who have been through the actual fighting at the front.

The matter of soldier reception is also being taken up, non-sectarian committees being formed in every town, city, village and hamlet throughout the Dominion, who will have definite reception programme for the men returning to their homes, each committee being notified by cable from London of the departure troops for that section, probable a rival and other details.

While in London, Dr. Grant spent some time with the Peace Conference, was correspondent to the London Times, and comes back home with the opinion that the Allies should not desert the Russian peasant who when they need help more than ever before. Russia's casualties throughout the war are around 8,000,000 men, of whom fully 5,000,000 have been killed. During the early part of the war it was a question of the German being able to mow down the Russian before the Allies could arm them, and the Allies winning out in this respect. He has reported to his friends in Russian lines, many of the Slav or officers being under German pay and liberally betraying their country to the enemy. Dr. Grant says that Bolsheviki does not represent Russia; it represents only the manufacturer's interests and the vast majority of the people. The peasants and farmers are all right, ignorant, but not stupid. He says the Allies should go through the country, clean the Bolsheviki out, and thus save the Russian part of the world. While visiting the army of occupation in Germany, Dr. Grant was personally consulted with various Canadian leaders, among them General Currie, commander in chief of the Canadian forces, who is now quartered in the palace of the sister, William Hohenzollern, Berlin. General Allenby is quartered in the Bonn University, where the Canadian Khaki College is now conducting daily classes. Dr. Grant had the privilege of addressing three meetings the Sunday he spent in Bonn, perhaps the first time a Canadian civilian has preached in the Bonn university chapel. The Canadians are living in the best houses in the occupied territory and treated with servile politeness by the Germans, but there has been no attempt to retaliate for the devastation of Belgium, Flanders and France. The Belgians, however, kept copies of the drastic orders were posted when the Huns occupied their country, and they are so proud that the Huns left in their chairs are living up fully to every order.

It is a very sad sight in Belgium. France to see the devastation and the desolation and utter wanton of which beggars description. Many of the refugees, returning half starved and practically starving, and homes, no villages of a house, a few scattered stones and perhaps a big hole in the ground. The food situations are operating yet, but there is no shortage of foodstuffs in Germany in particular has no complaint of hunger and all that that country starving is but a cliche and unfounded bilge.

Dr. Grant left early yesterday morning to present his report to the War Office in Ottawa.