

advance with any rapid strides during the progress of the current year.

I can only hope that the Government will not resort to the ready expedient of taking more special warrants when it finds itself, as it is likely to do before the end of the year without funds, because I repeat that these are not cases where special warrants are justified or legal.

At the time when he delivered his last Budget, the Honorable Treasurer expected a surplus of something over \$40,000. I ventured at the time to express my doubt as to the possibility of his surplus being realized, and the figures which I have just cited would tend to justify the doubt I then expressed.

### THE COMING YEAR

Turning to the receipts and expenditure for the coming year, I find that the Treasurer has not been so sanguine in his anticipation of a surplus as he was last year.

He estimates his receipts at \$4,174,899.

And he estimates his expenditure of \$4,177,775.

This would show a small apparent deficit of \$3,000, but a very slight analysis of his total estimated receipts would show that he is extremely liable to be disappointed in their realization.

For instance he estimates his revenue from Crown Lands at \$1,050,000 a figure which it would be extremely difficult to realize, and which has never yet been reached.

He estimates the duties on successions at \$225,000 a tax which last year only realized \$163,000.

When the late Government predicted a revenue from this tax for the year which has just closed of \$200,000, I well remember that different members of the then Opposition, and who are now members of the Government, claimed that the figures were altogether excessive; and yet we find that they are even more sanguine than we were in this respect.

Honourable Mr. MARCHAND:—I can inform the Honourable gentleman that up till now we have collected \$100,000 for the current year from this tax.

Honourable Mr. ATWATER:—I congratulate the Honourable Premier on his success, but regret that it must necessarily have been caused by the deaths of a number of our people.