

tive work in the N. W. T. account for the balance of the extra expenditure. If the Conservatives had had their way last session future expenditure under this head would be largely increased. Without exception almost they advocated the payment of much higher salaries all round to the judges.

Subsidies to Provinces amounted last year to \$4,402,502, an increase of \$151,828. The details are :

Increase to Prince Edward Island.....	\$28,921
" Manitoba.....	50,734
" British Columbia.....	64,387
" New Brunswick.....	7,793

Under the head of *Legislation* there was a decrease last year of \$152,366 as compared with 1895. This is due in part to the fact that the last session of Parliament extended beyond the last fiscal year, which ended on June 30th, and part of the expenditure connected therewith will therefore go into the current fiscal year's accounts. If the last session had been a normal one, the total expenditure for legislation last year would have been about \$40,000 or \$50,000 in excess of 1895. When we take into consideration the fact that the sessional indemnity of members and senators was increased with the approval of all of them from \$1,000 to \$1,500, it will be seen that the increase on the whole is very small. A very great saving was effected by abolishing the Franchise Act, with its cumbersome and expensive machinery.

The Marine and Fisheries Department.

has been very active under Liberal rule, and very many steps have been taken towards improving aids to navigation, and fostering the great Fisheries interests of the country. Special attention has been directed to the St. Lawrence route, with the object of obviating objections of underwriters which have operated to our disadvantage, and of popularizing the route by making it as safe as possible for navigation. In this connection the Department has been most energetic and enterprising of late, and the beneficial results of their action made itself manifest during last season of navigation.

All over the country, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, the improving hand of the Department in recent years can be seen, the evidences being new Lighthouses, Range Lights, Beacons, Fog Horns and other alarms, Sirens, Signal Stations, Buoys and Light Ships.