

country. Everyone was no doubt pleased that there was a surplus, but it was not on account of the wisdom or economy of the Government, whose administration had been characterized by lavish expenditure. The expansion of revenue was abnormal, but yet the Minister of Finance was branching out into the most prodigal expenditure, which when his revenue fell off, he would not be able to contract. This would land us in chronic deficiencies like those of former years.

Hon. Sir John Rose stated the expenditure of the first year of Confederation at \$12,729,211, but last year the estimate was \$17,280,350, being an increase of four millions in ordinary expenditure in four years. The Estimates for 1872-73 showed another augmentation of about three millions; and if Sir Francis Hincks went on increasing his outlay in this way, he would leave the country in as bad a position as at his departure many years ago. The public debt had been stated by the Finance Minister at eight millions, but this did not include the debts of the different Provinces.

**Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. YOUNG** said the finances had not yet felt the force of what he considered the reckless undertakings of the Government. When they added \$20,000,000 for the Intercolonial Railway; \$5,000,000 for fortifications; \$15,000,000 for the canals, and \$30,000,000 for the Canadian Pacific Railway—he believed it would at least be fifty millions, and besides the land grant—they would have a public debt of \$157,000,000. This would be found a great burden, and must inevitably increase the taxation of the people.

The speaker then went on to show the increase in the expenditure of the public departments since 1867-68, among which were the following increases: Administration of Justice, \$23,168; Civil Government, \$47,859; Ocean and river service, \$89,527; Light houses, etc., \$159,710; Public Works, \$639,589; Fisheries, \$67,255; Post Office, \$198,668; Public Works Department, \$204,758; Excise, \$50,624; Miscellaneous, \$72,271.

Some increase of expenditure was unavoidable, but these figures he considered showed that the Government was justly open to the charge of extravagance. For the coming year there was also an enlarged expenditure. The prodigal administration of the Finance Minister (Hon. Sir Francis Hincks) before leaving Canada led to some six or seven years of deficits adding to over twenty million to the public debt. He had come back at another period of Grand Trunk Railway expenditure. His administration was characterized by enormous outlays on public works and in other ways, similar to those of the former period, and he (Mr. Young) hoped that similar disastrous results would not follow when he left the country again.

**Mr. WORKMAN** had heard the financial statement with very great satisfaction indeed. He had feared that the country was going to be sunk in debt, but the fear had now been removed from his mind. He was glad to hear there was to be no increased taxation, but that the great public works could be carried out on the present taxation, and he was satisfied with the position the Dominion was

assuming before the world. The House and country ought to be proud of the statement of the Minister of Finance (Hon. Sir Francis Hincks), but he trusted the Government would be guarded in the proposed large expenditure. A very great amount of borrowed money was being introduced into the country and difficulties in future years were very possible. He could not but approve however of the proposed canal enlargement which was a matter of the very greatest consequence.

**Hon. Mr. TILLEY** said there was no doubt that the view of the member for Montreal (Mr. Workman) would be very much appreciated, and that every one would admit that the expenditure should be kept within the means of the country. He maintained that the actual increase of the revenue of the past years since Confederation, taken in connection with what might fairly be counted on in the future, fully justified the proposed expenditure, stating that an increased population of a million during the next ten years, would of itself place an increased revenue of four millions at the disposal of the Government.

He believed that the amount named by the Finance Minister as being gained by means of the Imperial guarantee was very much below what would really result. He remembered how the hon. gentleman, two years ago, pointed out the lamentable condition the country was likely to be in and said some severe things, for which he afterwards apologized, but tonight they had heard him speak of the prosperity of the country, and our ability to carry on any necessary works without the aid of an Imperial guarantee.

His hon. friend on the opposite side of the House had referred to the increased expenditure of the Dominion, and stated that the interest on the debt had increased \$600,000 since 1867; but he had not taken into consideration the debts of the provinces assumed by the Dominion since that time. By referring to the comparative statements published, it would be seen that the result was quite different to that stated by his hon. friend.

The hon. gentleman complained of the expenditure of the Post Office Department, Public Works and Railways. He would ask how the postal accommodation between the provinces forming the Dominion, particularly the North West and British Columbia, could be improved without increasing the expenditure. A great many miles had been added to the Government Railways, and the increased amount in the Estimates now before the House was to enable them to extend their railway accommodation, and the revenue was in excess of the estimated expenditure.

With reference to the large increase in the expenditure of the Civil Service, he had explained last year, that the engineers whose salaries were previously charged against Public Works, had been transferred to the Department of Public Works, and still that department did not show any increase.

Similarly the Adjutant General's Department had been transferred to the Department of Militia, and yet the expenditure of that Department was not so much as in 1867. Of the increases last year \$8,000 was the salary of the Lieut. governor of Manitoba, and