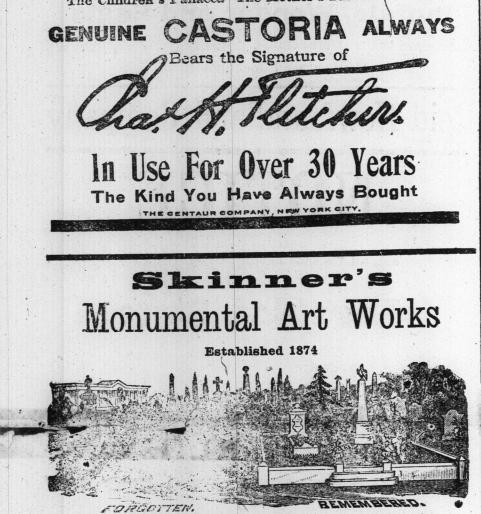




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SYNOPSIS

1915

Tuesday, April 27th, 1915. The House met at 3 p.m., pursuant o adjournment. Petitions were presented by Mr. Higgins, Mr. Halfyard, Mr. Clift, Mr.

Winsor, and Mr. Stone. Various questions were asked and aswered. The House went into Committee of

the Whole on Supply. MR. KENT regretted that the Government had not seen fit to give a general statement of the finances of the Colony before going into supply. Our public expenditure was constantly increasing. The Estimates ought to

ture, and Supplementary Supply should thus be reduced. There were too many irregular expenditures, too many accounts overdrawn, and there were cases where amounts were transferred improperly from one account to another. Salaries and pensions had been created by the Executive Government which had not should not continue. Our gross public The present Government had contri- Election Budget; the duties then taken

into. HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE justified economy and legality. HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE reitersome of the extraordinary expenditures

which had been made. For instance, ated that he was prepared to furnish the losses of life in the scaling disaster, all reasonable information, but he saw called for a very large expenditure for no reason to depart from the regular attending to the matter, and for the rule of the House. The Opposition necessary payments to dependents. had prophesied blue ruin in all direc This was an emergency payment in tions. One would think that the

every sense; and, together with a small Colony had not a deficit before, that amount for war purposes spent before every other British Colony had not a the September session, it accounted for deficit now. Things would not remain trouble arises from weak batteries.

meet the future without any fear; and Fire Fire we could forget the doleful wails of the Opposition, that tended only to frighten our suppliers and our foreign for the country. Mr. Merine had Insurs your House and Pro- Importer of English and creditors, and to make things harder quoted what Mr. Harvey had said in the Upper House. He, the Premier, did not agree with any prediction of bad time. As to what had been said about the Audit Act, exactly the same course had been followed by this government as by every government in the past. There would always be unforseen emergencies that had to be dealt with; and this had been approved by the House year after year. As to economy, you could not cut down the salaries of civil servants, mostly underpaid already; you could not keep public institutions, like hospitals, and so forth, short of coal and light, you could not reduce subsidies paid under contracts; roads and bridges were underprovided for already. It was not necessary to take any desperate

I have the following articles for measures as yet. sale: 1 Cyphers Incubator; 13 volum MR. Lloyd considered the Auditor s Buliwer Lytion's Novels; 1 set General's statement was absolutely

Harness; Electric Battery Ammaters wrong, and quoted figures at length. THE PREMIER pointed out that the and Spark Plugs. C. E. Russell, total expenditures estimated by the Agency Dept., Water Street, Bay A Good Stock Fir Clap-Auditor General precisely agreed with Roberts.

**A**.

our average annual expenditure, including all the figures which Mr. Lloyd was attemping to add.

MR. MORINE said that in certain ears there had been no expenditures on Executive responsibility. The practice was a bad one.

The Committee passed a vote, and rose, asking leave to sit again on Thursday

The House rose till to-merrow at 3 p.m. (To be Continued.)

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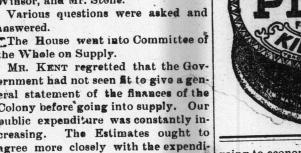
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going to economize. Would they put on extra taxation? The country could not respond to it. That was shown by the poor response to increased duties

last year. The Committee rose at 6.30 p.m. The Committee resumed at 8 p.m. MR. LLOYD (continuing) said the Government was not observing due been voted in the Estimates. This economy. Why did they so unreasonwas objected to every year, and it ably refuse a statement of existing sonditions? Our present bad debt at present was about 32,000,000.00. circumstances were largely due to an

buted greatly to this by their railway off had been replaced by others, which expenditure. A general statement entirely failed to produce what was covering temporary loans ought to be expected. Yet the Government furnished before expenditure was gone persisted in their course in spite of repeated warnings, and disregarded

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almost all the extraordinary expendi- dark forever. The revenue Get an ammeter today. C. E. Rusture objected to. The Government beginning to look up now. All this sell, Guardian Office, Bay Roberts. could not foresee the pensions; they talk of ruin was only from an were not put in the last year's Opposition standpoint.

MR. MORINE said we should not talk Estimates, because they were then not applied for. The same applied to the Government analyst and other officials; sent. But we should take in sail.

plies, where would the Government

get a loan? Or, what price would they

strong terms to expenditure contrary

to the Audit Act. These were quite

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE said the

enditions of the country was shown

by this. In 1898, the country had only

\$3,000,000 in Saving Banks; today, we

had \$11,000,000 in banks, and \$11,000,000

in other investments. If the Colony

not likely that the Colony could re-

Mr. Merine, Mr. Lloyd, and Hen

Minister of Finance discussed certain

points in the accounts, asked and an-

THE PREMIER produced an estimate

which had been prepared by the Au-

ditor General, showing that, in the

This was the rainy day for which

try. Such deficits were no new thing,

they had been met before, and the rev-

enue had risen to give surpluses again.

had, in the first place, to meet a deficit

of \$199,000 left by the Bond govern-

ment. Every year after that they had

surpluses. Those surpluses they had

spent for the people, because they con-

sidered that the nest-egg in the Bank

was large enough; and so it would have

been large enough but for the great war,

which no one could foresee. Mr Mor-

ine had said conditions were not as good

for making a recovery as they were in

1898. But to-day the peeple's earn-

ing were twice what they were in 1898;

their savings were seven times as great

swered questions, etc.

cover better to-day from bad times.

had twenty-two millions saved to day

illegal.

they were not appointed till after last There was no reason to expect 2 rise of session, so they could not then be provided for. MR. OLIFF thought the explanation a poor one. He emphatically protested against against going on with Supply against against going on with Supply be enormous debts, millions of men

until some general statement had been deprived of their pay and thrown back upon civilian employment. The world given as to the condition of the country's finances. The Estimates were would be hard up. What would said to cover indispensable require- happen to our trade if Mediterranean nentsonly, but they were not reduced at all. The Public Service ought to be cut down (he did not refer to Civil Serrants' salaries), so as to effect economy. MR. LLOYD said the Government

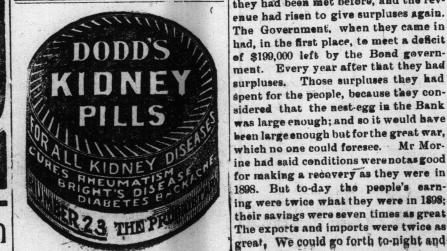
were proceeding blindly, in spite of warnings. It was useless to go to the cent. Canada had just had to give 41 surpluses instead of spending them. per cent. on a loan at 99, and yet our The fixed charges we had to meet to Government talked about seeking one day, that we could not reduce, were far bigger than before. But there was 154 per cent.

MR. MORINE said it had not been the about \$1,000.000 of the expenditure practice in the past always to pass that could be reduced, and should we Supply before the financial statement. not reduce it now? Besides a great He, himself, in 1898 had made his Bud- current deficit, we had military get Speech simultaneously with the expenditure to meet; there were rail introduction of the Estimates. He al- way contracts, and a variety of other so considered that the Government obligations. Under such circumstances

could not raise their proposed loan at we should be very careful. If the 4 per cent. to replace the temporary Bank of Montreal were to cut off suploan. MR. COAKER said that it would mean a considerable delay to the have to pay. He also referred in proceedings of the Mouse if the information asked for was not given before the Estimates were taken.

Large subsidies were being paid to the Reid-Newfoundland Co. for railway and steamer services, but he considered that the services were in fficiently carried out. The railway tracks were in a rotten condition in some parts, accidents were bound to expenditures made on Executive and only three millions then, was it sponsibility, as was reported year after year by the Auditor General. Many accounts were overdrawn. MR. LLOYD said we had started last year on July 1st with an adverse balance of \$301,000. That was paid out of the Reserve Fund in the Bank of Montreal. On March 31st, this year.

overdrawn \$364,000, besides about Auditior General's opinion, the total \$170,000 of overdrafts in other depart- deficit at June 30th, 1915, would be, at ments. Besides this, there would be the very worst, \$500,000, instead of \$1,debenture interest of half a million 000,000, as estimated by the Opposition. we would be \$800,000 behind. And yet our nest-egg of \$500,000 reserve fund owing in June. On this year's running we are asked to vote Estimates equal had been laid aside. \$500,000 was not te last year. The Government were not a great deficition the affairs of a coun-



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ests in Missouri tells of an incident at I am agent for a first-class make a railway junction therein. He was of Counter Check Books, made in very hungry with only two minutes before the departure of his train.

various styles. You can have your choice of Blue or Black Backs or 'Sandwich and coffee, Puick!' he said he Carbon Leaf style. There is no to the counter man. 'Haven't time for order tco small or none too large anything else.' for me to handle.

'Easy, friend,' said the other.'Take all C. E. RUSSELL, Bay Roberts. the time you want. Cast your eye over countries went into the war. Was it this bill of fare, and I'll phone the supprudent to go on as usual with all eviutentent to hold the train a while. these possibilities ahead of us? Wo

were told that the Colony had, in the "Hold the train while I eat?" past, recovered wonderfully after bad 'Sure. This is a branch road and times. But conditions to-day are not there's noother train comin' or goin' what they were then. Why had not over it this morning. The superinten-London market now for a lean at 4 per the Government put away their dent will want you to have a good meal-he owns this lunch room.'

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town and nearby towns means mercantile vessels means. The Baltic your success. The more will show Germany what war against is the only body of water in the world money the people earn, the on which German ships have been able more they will have to spend to sail in safety. Rut the Britons will \_\_WITH YOU\_if you make not sink ships without giving those on a bid for their trade. For this board a chance to escape. purpose use the columns of

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