

# Manitoba Will Spend Over Ten Million

Provincial Treasurer Estimates Large Increase in Expenditure—  
Small Deficit May be Incurred, but Succession Duties, Taxes on  
Corporations and Supplementary Revenue Taxes Will be Increased

**E**XPENDITURE of \$10,012,103, and revenue of \$9,935,204 are estimated in the budget speech of Hon. Edward Brown, provincial treasurer of Manitoba, delivered on March 10. This is for the fiscal year ending November 30, 1920. The financial results for the year ended November 30, 1919, have already been reported in these columns. The estimates of expenditure, compared with the expenditure for 1919, are as follows:—

|                                         | Estimated<br>1920.  | Incurred<br>1919.  | Inc.<br>or dec.      |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Legislation .....                       | \$ 140,060          | \$ 159,111         | — \$ 19,051          |
| Ex. council .....                       | 244,300             | 32,061             | + 212,238            |
| Treasury .....                          | 2,591,455           | 2,235,490          | + 355,965            |
| Provincial secretary ..                 | 40,660              | 30,586             | + 10,073             |
| Education .....                         | 1,550,048           | 1,319,125          | + 230,922            |
| Agricultural and immi-<br>gration ..... | 782,000             | 688,779            | + 93,220             |
| Attorney-general ...                    | 822,950             | 710,018            | + 112,931            |
| Provincial lands .....                  | 15,200              | 12,763             | + 2,436              |
| Railway commissioner                    | 22,900              | 20,729             | + 2,170              |
| Telephones & telegraphs                 | 1,880,000           | 1,753,414          | + 126,585            |
| Public works .....                      | 1,833,440           | 1,534,124          | + 299,315            |
| Municipal commissioner                  | 89,090              | 48,585             | + 40,504             |
|                                         | <b>\$10,012,103</b> | <b>\$8,544,790</b> | <b>+ \$1,486,364</b> |
|                                         |                     | Less               | 19,051               |
| Net increase .....                      |                     |                    | <b>\$1,467,313</b>   |

## Reasons for Increase

After giving details of the estimated revenue as well, Hon. Mr. Brown said:—

"The actual net increase of the estimated expenditure for the current year over the actual expenditure for last year is \$1,407,313. Of this amount at least \$600,000 is accounted for by two circumstances. In the first place, on account of this being an election year, the expense of revising the lists and conducting the elections has been set up at \$152,000. It might be well to bear in mind, however, that for the last five years we have not incurred the cost of an annual revision of the lists, so that a large expense has been saved. The cost of preparing lists this year has been considerably increased by the fact that for the first time we have to add the names of women voters. In this estimate of \$152,000, the wage schedule for registration clerks has only been fixed at \$5 a day. Probably in some places this will have to be increased. Another important item is the interest on the new parliament buildings, together with the upkeep of same, which will be paid this year out of consolidated revenue, and amounts approximately to \$450,000. Of the balance representing \$867,313, this is slightly in excess of the increase of the estimates of 1919 over the actual expenditures of 1918 and represents an increase of only 10 per cent. In view of the fact that the business of the province is growing and the number of services demanded by the people are increasing, while the cost of the necessities of life continue to advance, this should not be a matter of surprise.

"In the treasury department the amount of the net increase is \$355,965, and this is due to the fact that there is \$100,000 additional for mothers' allowances, \$25,000 additional for patriotic fund and the additional interest charges on last year's borrowings. The increase in the provincial secretary's department of \$10,000 is attributable to the increase in salaries, which amounts to \$4,000, to the increased cost of printing the "Gazette," and the natural increase of all expenses, while there is an entirely new service—the municipal hospital, for which \$2,500 is provided.

"In the department of education the largest increase is in the educational grants, which is over half the total increase. It amounts to \$131,643, and includes \$40,000 for the university, of which \$15,000 is for secondary schools. The Manitoba school for the deaf shows an increase of nearly \$7,000, inspection of schools \$18,000, free text-books over \$10,000 of an increase, salaries \$5,500, training schools \$8,000, and a general increase due to higher cost of living and higher salaries in all departments.

"The large increase in the attorney-general's department is accounted for in three items. Law enforcement shows an increase of \$72,073, which is due to the change in the policing of the province and the establishment of provincial constables, who will enforce the Temperance Act and other laws. Nearly \$20,000 extra is required for the Northern Manitoba commission, and \$25,000 for the County Court Temporary Aid Act. There is a large decrease for the public utilities commission, which is offset by small increases in other departments. The increases for the provincial lands and railway commissioner are merely normal, but there is the usual large increase of \$126,586 in the telephones department, which is, of course, offset by increased revenue.

"The public works estimates show an increase of a total of \$299,315. This is accounted for by three new services which have been established. The psychopathic ward will cost \$48,700, the power commission \$20,000, and the well drills \$65,480. This last item was formerly paid for out of aids to municipalities, but owing to the increasing demands of the farmers for this service and the growth of this department, it has been thought advisable to ask for a separation of the appropriations. The amount for aid to municipalities has not been reduced, because this service is also increasing each year, but the \$65,480 for well drills is requested as an additional and new appropriation.

## Increase in Taxation

"With respect to the revenue which it is necessary to provide for to cover the large increase in the estimated expenditures, it is not the intention of the government to resort to new forms of taxation, but rather to rely upon the sources of revenue already in existence and which have shown encouraging results during the past year, in the hope that there will be further buoyancy by way of increase of the various classes of revenue during the present fiscal year.

"The following amendments are, however, proposed for increasing the revenue. 1—In accordance with the recommendation of the assessment commission, an amendment will be brought into the Succession Duties Act, bringing the rates in this province more in line with the other provinces of Canada, and providing for further increases with respect to large estates.

"There will be an amendment to the Corporation Taxation Act, providing for a tax of \$100 per year upon brokers, custom house brokers, shipping brokers and pawnbrokers. This class have hitherto not made any contribution to our provincial revenue. It is expected that the result of the above mentioned amendment will increase the revenue of the province during the present fiscal year by \$150,000.

"There will be an amendment to the Supplementary Revenue Act, providing for a levy of 2 mills instead of 1½ mills as at present, and there will be a further amendment to the patriotic levy providing for the payment of the balance of the moneys required to complete this work of the patriotic fund out of consolidated revenue. This will prevent the necessity of making another levy for patriotic purposes of ½ a mill, and the two levies made during the past year of 1½ and ½ a mill each will be consolidated into one levy of 2 mills, which will mean that there will be no increase of the