

HON. J. A. MURRAY'S STRIKING MESSAGE TO THE ELECTORS OF THE PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK

NEW PREMIER ISSUES MANIFESTO REVIEWING PROGRESS SINCE 1908 AND OUTLINES ADVANCED POLICIES

The Magnificent Record of Achievement of the Government Since 1908—Constructive Legislation Enacted and Honest, Systematic and Prudent Administration of Public Affairs—A Masterly Review of Government's Conduct—New and Progressive Policies for the Development of New Brunswick's Great Resources—Asks Whole-Hearted Support for the New Administration.

(Continued from page 1)

TO THE ELECTORS OF NEW BRUNSWICK:

Gentlemen: With the permission of His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, I have to announce the dissolution of the Legislative Assembly of the Province.

The resignation of the Honorable George J. Clarke as Premier has been brought about by his very unfavorable physical condition. That such a course was necessary for him will be, I am sure, a matter of no regret to the people generally throughout the province.

Having been called upon by His Honor, the Lieutenant Governor, to form an administration consequent upon Mr. Clarke's resignation, I feel that the Government, as it has been reconstructed, should appeal to the people for a mandate to continue the work of its immediate predecessors—a work which I think will commend itself to the public judgment. It must be apparent to all that, to successfully conduct the affairs of the province, the Government should feel that it has a majority of the citizenship of the province behind it in its action.

The step upon which the Government has decided should not be displeasing to our opponents who have, through their press, for some time, been calling on the Government to lay before the people the questions in which they are vitally interested and have an expression of opinion at the polls.

Having in mind a number of vacancies in the representation of the constituencies in the House of Assembly, and having also in view the decision to bring into force on the first day of May next a Prohibitory Act of the most comprehensive character, as well as to complete the St. John Valley Railway from Centerville to Andover, and to bring into operation as early a date as practicable a comprehensive plan for settling returned, as well as immigrant, soldiers upon fertile lands of the province, the Government feels that this time, in advising His Honor to dissolve the Legislature, will have the approval of the right thinking people of the province.

THE CONDITIONS UNDER OLD GOVERNMENT.

Since the advent of Honorable Mr. Hazen to office, in 1908, the party in power has accomplished much for the welfare of the people. In that year the Government, on assuming office, found the financial affairs of the province in a state of chaos. Irregularities, suspense accounts and over-expenditures were rampant. As a result, one of the first acts of the administration was to place on the statute book an Audit Act which has rendered forever impossible the disgraceful record of borrowings from the public treasury which distinguished the old regime.

CONSTRUCTIVE LEGISLATION SINCE 1908.

It will be impossible for me to refer in detail to all of the important and constructive legislation enacted during the past nine years, nor to all the benefits derived from prudent administration during the same period. It will, however, be deemed not unfitting that I refer particularly to some of the things that have been accomplished and to a few of the most important acts passed by the Legislature since 1908—acts which I believe the great majority of the electors of the province will agree with me in conceding to be progressive in their character and of benefit to the people as a whole.

REDUCTION IN SCHOOL BOOK PRICES.

I desire to refer to the statement made prior to the election of 1908, as to the exorbitant prices of school books being paid by the parents of the school children of this province, by reason of the school book ring which existed at that time. It was pointed out that the cost of books could be very materially reduced and the burden of education borne by the people in this particular, very greatly relieved. That this has been done is a matter of common knowledge. The school book ring was disbanded. The price of school books was very substantially reduced and the cost of education lessened to every parent in the province.

THE TEACHERS' PENSIONS.

An Act passed by the Legislature which has brought a measure of relief to a most deserving class of our people is the Teachers' Pension Act. This is the most advanced legislation of its character in Canada, New Brunswick being the only province to have passed an act of this kind. Under this act school teachers who have served in the public schools for a period of thirty-five years can retire on an allowance which will, in some measure, ease the burden of their declining years.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION.

A measure which has proved to be a safeguard against unfair discrimination or excessive charges by companies enjoying public franchises is the act authorizing the Government to appoint a Public Utilities Commission. This Commission has done valuable work under this

legislation which redounds to the credit of the Government and is a distinct benefit to the public.

The statement was made prior to 1908 that the territorial revenues were not being efficiently collected and large sums that should have come to the treasury of the province were not being placed there. This statement was disputed by our opponents on every possible occasion and the honesty and efficiency of the administration of the Crown Land Department was emphasized at every opportunity. In order to prove how well founded were our claims at that time, and also to serve as an indication of the honest, business-like and prudent methods which which have distinguished the party in power since 1908, I wish to point out that, for the last eight years the old administration was in power, the years 1901 to 1908 inclusive, there were returned to the Crown Land Office, as having been cut in the public domain of the province, 1,025 millions superficial feet of lumber. In the eight years since the change of government took place, the years 1909 to 1916 inclusive, there were returned in the same way 2,152 million superficial feet. I want to impress upon the thinking people of the province the fact that this was done with the same opportunities and from the same sources as were open to our predecessors. As a result of this proper return of the lumber cut on the Crown Lands, a vast sum has been added to the revenue of the province.

GREAT INCREASE IN TERRITORIAL REVENUE.

Taking the total income of the Crown Land Office for the period of eight years from 1901 to 1908 inclusive, we find that our predecessors collected as territorial revenue a total of \$2,128,688.00, or an average of \$266,086 per year. For the period of eight years from 1909 to 1916 inclusive, there has been collected as territorial revenue of the province a total of \$4,123,820.00 or a yearly average of \$515,477.00. This means that for the eight years during which the party in power has had complete control of the affairs of the province, they have by administration of the Crown Land Department alone increased the territorial revenue by a yearly average of \$250,391.00. Had we made the statement in 1908 that at the expiration of our second legislative term or during a period of eight years, we would have collected as territorial revenue a total of two millions of dollars in excess of the amount collected by our predecessors in the last eight years in which they held office, we would have been styled theoretic and visionary by our opponents. Yet the fact remains that, in the years 1909 to 1916, we have collected a total of \$2,003,131 more from this source than did our predecessors in the same number of years preceding our advent to office. These are matters of record, matters which are absolutely irrefutable, which should appeal to the intelligence and to the prudent common sense of the great body of the electorate of the province.

BRIDGES RE-CONSTRUCTED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

The bridge expenditure is a subject which gave grave concern to the administration in office prior to 1908. They did not hesitate at times to state that they could not maintain the ordinary bridges of the province out of the current revenue. The party in power since 1908 has not neglected the ordinary bridges throughout the country, the great majority of which were found in a nearly ruinous condition in that year. For the years 1899 to 1907 inclusive, the old administration spent on ordinary bridges \$684,265.00 and, as intimated, stated at times that it was impossible to do this out of the ordinary revenue. During the years 1909 to 1916, the year 1908 being left out of the calculation, on account of it having been divided between the two parties, the Government has spent on ordinary bridges a total of \$1,350,556 out of the current revenue of the province. The expenditure of this vast sum is an indication of the deplorable condition of these means of rural communication when our opponents, who now seek to regain office, forfeited the control of affairs in 1908.

In addition to the ordinary bridges of the province, the Government has built great modern steel bridges, by public tender, at the lowest cost, wherever the need for such structures has been shown to exist. This has been done by adding to the bonded debt of the province an amount in excess of two millions of dollars, an action which I am quite sure will commend itself to the judgment of thinking people.

The matter of rural transportation is one which engages the serious attention of the Government and without adequate bridge accommodation the achievement of good roads, so important to the people, will be difficult or impossible. The Government has also spent more largely upon highways than any previous administration was able to do.

PATROL SYSTEM OF ROAD MAKING.

The subject of good roads is one which is vital to the welfare of our people. The Department of Public Works is now being organized so as to provide not only for the better making of roads but, as well, for their constant care. The details of the project have been well considered, with the result that, without imposing any additional burdens upon the people the highways of the province can be put and maintained in a state of efficiency. We propose to make use of a patrol system, with

modern equipment, which will ensure the making and keeping of roads, not only of practical benefit to our people, but attractive to the tourist; thus bringing to the province people whose annual expenditure therein can only be measured by hundreds of thousands of dollars.

AGRICULTURAL DEPT. ON SOUND BASIS.

The Department of Agriculture has been organized and placed upon a well considered and efficient basis. Prior to the year 1908 there was practically no Department of Agriculture within the province. There was a department of the government bearing this name, but it was more apparent in name than in fact. The Government has taken up the work of agriculture seriously, basing its development upon agricultural education. There have been two agricultural schools established in the province. The work of the department has been emphasized and broadened by the introduction of modern methods and the employment of experts as members of the staff. For demonstration purposes, machinery has been purchased and the systematic co-operation of agriculturists throughout the country, the Government has been enabled to place agriculture upon a basis which is attracting the attention of people far beyond the borders of the province. The Government recognizes the importance of the live stock and dairy interests in New Brunswick and these two divisions have been amalgamated under Prof. J. W. Mitchell, who has come to the department with a very enviable record of achievement in the past.

THE CLASSIFICATION OF CROWN LANDS.

The Government has entered upon an accurate and detailed examination of our forest resources and the classification of our lands according to their nature of soil, as well as their forest production, a policy which will enable the province to receive an even greater return from its resources of timber than it does at the present time, and to place settlers at once on land which, by soil analysis, has been demonstrated to be suitable for cultivation of standard crops. The policy of the Government will be to set aside such portions of the public domain as are suited wholly for lumber purposes. It will, in addition, set aside extensive areas of land not now available, which are found to be suitable for farming, and for the use of our own people, as well as immigrants coming to us in the future. Plans are now being made for the subdivision of extensive areas in Restigouche and Northumberland counties, which have been found suitable for the purposes of the settler. This classification of the Crown Land, to ascertain whether or not the soil is suitable for agricultural development, is one of the most advanced steps yet undertaken by any of the provinces. Not only will the prospective settler be assured that land not suitable for agriculture will be reserved for timber, and that our lumber interests and the large revenue derived therefrom will be protected.

ADVANCED LEGISLATION RE COLONIZATION.

It will be the aim of the Government and its best energies will be devoted to the peopling of the great spaces of the province by the men who went from us to uphold the standard of liberty and demonstrate to the world that in this part of the Empire the spirit of Great Britain still prevails. To the soldier returning from the field of battle we will give preference on every possible occasion, both with respect to land settlement and to occupation. Beside our own sons who desire to go back to the land, we have room enough and to spare, under ideal conditions, for men from the British Isles who may desire to make their home with us.

GREAT INTEREST IN NEW BRUNSWICK.

In the matter of immigration, it will be the duty of the Government to see that the opportunities and advantages of the province are placed before the vast number of people who, I believe, in the next few years will turn their steps towards Canada, making known to them the ideal conditions that exist here, which are not so apparent in other sections.

(Continued on page 4)

MONTHLY MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE

Playgrounds Association Hear Reports on Activities of the Month.

The Playgrounds Association executive met in the Y. M. C. A. last evening with the president, Mrs. W. C. Good in the chair. R. G. Haley, a new member of the board, was among those present. Reports were received from the Boys' Club, Girls' Club and Travellers' Aid for the month of January. Mrs. N. C. Scott, convener of a special committee to deal with Girls' Club affairs, reported a reorganization under which Miss Pitt is made general secretary and devotes her whole time to Girls' Club work, while Miss Hoyt gives her whole time to Travellers' Aid. Under the new arrangement the work of the Girls' Club shows great improvement.

The Boys' Club is in a flourishing condition and has now a membership of sixty-five. The Travellers' Aid report told of the work done during the month, and several letters were read from persons who had been helped by this branch.

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From Up Among The Yukon Snows

Comes Advice to Sufferers to Use Dodd's Kidney Pills

Glacier Creek Lady Says They Have Been Her Stand-by for sixteen Years and She Has Never Known Them to Fail.

Glacier Creek, via Dawson, Yukon, Can., Feb. 2.—(Special).—"North of fifty-three where doctors are long distances apart and those remedies that are a very present help in time of need are the reliance of the settlers, Dodd's Kidney Pills have established an enviable reputation. Hear what Mrs. A. Armstrong, a well-known resident of this place, has to say of them:

"Dodd's Kidney Pills have been my stand-by for sixteen years." Mrs. Armstrong states, "Both myself and my family have the greatest faith in their medicinal qualities. When any of my friends complain of even a headache I treat them with Dodd's Kidney Pills and they never fail to do good."

"It always gives me pleasure to say a good word for Dodd's Kidney Pills." Dodd's Kidney Pills cure all kidney ills from backache to rheumatism, Bright's disease and heart disease. These troubles come from sick kidneys. That's why Dodd's Kidney Pills cure them.

New York Feb. 2.—Sun—"According to close market observers there was more short selling in yesterday's operations in the stock market than there was actual liquidation."

Times—"With one voice the country proclaims its will and resolve not to put up with the restraints Germany decrees against our commerce and the measures it threatens to put into effect against the safety of lives of our citizens."

D. J. & CO.

A Knabe Pianoforte For the Governor-General

Their Excellencies The Duke and Duchess of Devonshire have just purchased from the Ottawa Branch of WILLIS & CO., Limited a superb KNABE Concert Grand Piano for the Ballroom of the Government House.

The piano was delivered on New Year's Eve, and duly acknowledged by Lord Richard Nevill, Comptroller of the Household.

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