

The Expenditure Record

How a Party Pledged to Reduce Expenditure by Many Millions Increased it by Nearly Seventy Millions, or 165 per cent.

WHAT THEY PROMISED

"I promise you that if you put, our party into power we will reduce the annual expenditure by \$2,000,000 or \$3,000,000 per annum."—Sir Wilfrid Laurier 1896.

"I repeat it now that \$38,000,000, let alone \$40,000,000 is in my judgment a monstrous sum for the people of Canada to be called upon to provide."—Sir Richard Cartwright.

"I say that it is a disgrace and a shame to the Government that they ask for an expenditure of \$38,300,000 a year for Federal purposes. Sir, the thing is utterly unjustifiable."—Sir Richard Cartwright.

Such were the declarations of Sir Wilfrid and his Ministers when they took office. What is their record?

COMPARISON OF EXPENDITURE

	1895-6	1907-8
On current account.....	\$36,949,142	\$ 77,600,000
Capital and special.....	4,753,241	33,000,000
Total expenditure.....	41,702,383	110,600,000
Expenditure per head..	\$8.14	\$18.00
Increase 1908 over 1896		\$68,707,617
Increase per cent.....		165

BY DEPARTMENTS

The expenditure by Departments for 1907-8 is not yet reported, and 1906-7 was a short year, but the following is a comparison of expenditure between 1896 and 1906 (Public Accounts 1906, pages 61 to 69).

	1896	1906	Increase 1906	Increase per cent
Civil Government.....	\$1,396,628	\$1,911,611	\$514,983	37
Fisheries.....	427,251	968,702	541,451	127
Immigration.....	120,190	842,668	722,469	601
Quarantine.....	95,247	624,758	529,511	555
Indians.....	880,408	1,198,350	317,942	36
Legislation.....	904,688	1,359,916	447,228	49
Marine.....	1,137,705	4,601,000	3,463,235	304
Militia.....	1,136,714	4,294,125	3,157,411	278
Interior.....	1,255,368	3,182,081	1,926,713	150
Public Works.....	1,209,709	7,484,716	6,185,007	478
Mounted Police.....	533,014	1,004,079	471,065	90
Justice.....	1,143,407	1,699,242	555,745	49
Agriculture, Arts and Statistics.....	333,042	1,365,643	1,032,601	310
Miscellaneous.....	172,364	946,037	773,673	449
Pensions.....	86,080	179,023	92,943	108
Collection of Customs.....	896,332	1,548,384	652,052	72
Trade and Commerce.....	9,463	63,625	54,162	573

FUTURE EXPENDITURE.

If the recent increase of expenditure is startling that of the immediate future is still more so. The fiscal year 1908-9 began on April 1st, 1908. The main estimates for the year were brought down early in the Session and large supplementary estimates follow. The main estimates compare as follows with those of 1907, the year of which we have been speaking..

	1907-8	1908-9	Increase
Current expenditure.....	\$ 67,391,179	\$ 76,571,471	\$9,480,292
Capital expenditure.....	38,298,340	42,365,620	4,067,280
Total.....	105,689,519	119,237,091	13,547,572

Ten years Lib.-Con. expenditure 1897 to 1896.....	\$ 423,338,330
Ten years Liberal expenditure, 1897- 1906.....	668,338,633
Excess in the Liberal period.....	231,976,603

OUR DAILY EXPENDITURE.

	Liberal Conservative 1896	Liberal 1908
For the year.....	\$41,702,383	\$110,600,000
Per week.....	801,967	2,128,000
Per day including Sun- day.....	114,566	303,871
The expenditure for the year 1907-8 was \$28.40 for every family in Canada.		

GRISTLY RECORD OF ELEVEN YEARS

The following in round figures is the amount by which the expenditure under Liberal rule exceeds that of the last Conservative year.

In 1896 Expenditure under Conserva- tives.....	\$41,702,000
In 1897 this was exceeded by.....	1,200,000
In 1898 this was exceeded by.....	3,600,000
In 1899 this was exceeded by.....	9,800,000
In 1900 this was exceeded by.....	11,000,000
In 1901 this was exceeded by.....	16,200,000
In 1902 this was exceeded by.....	22,200,000
In 1903 this was exceeded by.....	20,000,000
In 1904 this was exceeded by.....	30,500,000
In 1905 this was exceeded by.....	37,100,000
In 1906 this was exceeded by.....	41,500,000
In 1908 this was exceeded by.....	68,800,000