

HEAVY DEFICIT LEGACY FROM OLD GOVERNMENT

Fredericton, N. B., Jan. 2.—The statement of receipts and expenditures for the province of New Brunswick published by the Auditor General in the Royal Gazette today, is not encouraging.

The deficit for the year 1917 is more than \$170,000, exceeding by about \$25,000 the estimate of the government last June upon ordinary expenditure alone.

Adding to this nearly a quarter of a million dollars paid as interest upon the bonds issued for the construction of the Valley Railway, and then adding nearly \$180,000 which the well known auditor, Price Waterhouse & Co., reported as incurred during, and belonging to, 1918, the sum total required to place the province on an even basis is nearly \$500,000.

These are the broad facts which show beyond any doubt that New Brunswick needs more revenue to carry on its public services. These were the conditions that the government which assumed office in April, 1917, were confronted with. So far as ordinary expenditure went the government that went out of power faced exactly the same conditions. During their regime the notable occurrences were the increase of interest charges which, including Valley Railway charges, have reached an enormous total between \$500,000 and \$700,000.

More Revenue Required.

Premier Foster and his government have tried to make the balance truer and increase the revenues by increasing the stampage from \$1.50 to \$2.50 per thousand feet. Under normal conditions this should increase the revenues about \$250,000, but it is very doubtful if the lumber cut this year will be even nearly normal, and no such amount can be counted upon. There is also a yield-land tax and some increased revenue from public utilities and from motor car licenses in prospect. Yet with all of these the revenues will be insufficient and the people of New Brunswick must face the fact that if they insist upon additional expenditures, as they have from year to year in the past, they must insist in raising more money.

There is today no actual extravagance

in governmental expenditure; there is a penurious expenditure in some directions. No government members in any province in Canada except P. E. Island, are paid as small salaries as the executive of New Brunswick. The membership is only one-half or one-third that of the larger provinces.

The officials in all departments are underpaid in comparison with the salaries of business men and clerks nowadays. There have been necessary increases this year from \$100 to \$200 and \$500 in one or two cases where efficient and valuable men would have left the service otherwise. The increased cost of all materials, the high wages demanded by them of all classes, and the difficulty in obtaining prompt service, have made the department of public works expenditure much greater and its duties more exacting than at other times.

Increased Cost of Material.

Lumber, cement, labor have all increased from twenty-five to forty per cent in price.

The expenditure upon ordinary roads and bridges for 1917, was \$415,997, while last year it was \$349,249, with \$97,558 left over for the new government to pay off the year's appropriation, making a total of \$447,407. In addition, the former minister of public works spent more than \$80,000 in "special improvements," which, after all, were of a very "ordinary" character.

The permanent road expenditure and the proceeds from bonds are noted with some particulars as follows:

The total amount of proceeds of bonds for the year 1917 is \$857,500, which amount is made up as follows:

Five per cent bonds issued to replace New Brunswick stock ten year bonds sold to J. M. Robinson & Sons, at 95 per cent—\$38,400.

Five per cent bonds issued for permanent bridges, twenty year bonds sold to J. M. Robinson & Sons at 95 per cent—\$419,000.

Four per cent bonds issued for permanent roads, eighteen year bonds, sold to crown land sinking fund at par to be paid out of motor vehicle money—\$400,000.

Total, \$857,500.

Proceeds of above bonds:

\$38,400 sold at 95 per cent—\$36,500.

\$419,000 sold at 95 per cent—\$398,050.

\$400,000 sold at par—\$400,000.

Total, \$834,550.

The amount of \$82,787.15, special road expenditure, was entirely spent previous to April, 1917, by the old government.

Permanent road expenditure amounts to \$834,550.55, which is made up as follows:

Actual road work by counties, \$198,480.12.

Road machinery bought by old government—\$98,900.

Road machinery bought by present government—\$12,381.07.

Pipe, auto supplies, salaries and expenses paid for by present government—\$25,186.46.

Total, \$334,956.65.

Permanent Deficit.

Permanent bridge expenditure amounts to \$435,546.69, which is made up as follows:

Amount spent previous to April 1, 1917, by old government—\$174,446.45.

Amount spent since April 1, 1917, contracted for by old government—\$218,884.66.

Amount spent since April 1, 1917, contracted for by present government—\$47,215.58.

Total, \$435,546.69.

The result of placing the school books upon a cash basis proved most satisfactory. A cash discount was allowed and no bad debts were made on the year's business. The cash proceeds exceeded the expenditure by over \$1,000 but as many arrears were secured by the cash discount it would not be fair to credit all of the revenue to sales this year.

The present government assumed office early in April and so are responsible for over six months of the year's expenditure. Yet, as we readily be understood the obligation of the old government had to be assumed by the new administration and certain work was always on hand that they were not in sympathy with. The successors of any government are confronted by similar conditions and always endeavor to place the responsibility where it properly belongs.

Interest Exceeds Estimate.

There are many interesting facts disclosed by the statement as published, and some of them are worth noting. The interest estimated by the new government at the time of the passing of the budget was \$884,000. The actual interest paid in that required for Valley railway bonds was \$408,545, or an increase of over \$200,000 more than the amount estimated. Including the interest that was due before October 31, 1916, amounting to \$38,851 and not placed to the credit of the crown land sinking fund, also the interest upon the St. John & Quebec railway bonds amounting to \$343,617, the province of New Brunswick has paid out for this item alone \$836,715, or nearly half of the total ordinary revenue of \$1,775,515.

Estimated revenue often falls short of the actual amounts named; on the other hand, the receipts are sometimes greater than the estimates. For example, the new government estimated there would be \$300,000 received from succession duties, and this amount was short \$20,000. They estimated that the receipts from automobile licenses would be \$50,000, and the actual receipts were over \$61,000. They estimated that the revenue under the provincial prohibitory act would be \$6,000, and the amount received was over \$14,000.

The government estimated that there would be a deficit outside of the Valley railway interest of \$148,576, and the total deficit for the expenditure was \$1,800,000. The Provincial Hospital for the Insane cost the province \$109,600 in 1917 and only \$84,888 in 1916, or a difference of \$24,712. The high cost of living applies more particularly to both of these institutions and the increased cost is very apparent.

Education cost the province \$3,000 more this year than last, while executive government cost nearly \$5,000 more in 1917 than it did in 1916. As against this it may fairly be noted that the attorney-general has an assistant at \$1,800 a year, but there is no charge for collecting the succession duties, which charge last year amounted to \$5,388. The greater part of the provincial printing was done before the new government assumed the reins of office, and the fact that the price of paper and ink and labor have increased so enormously is shown by the increase in the cost in 1917 by nearly \$8,000.

The territorial revenue is \$4,000 more than was estimated. The motor vehicle receipts are also in this happy class, as well as the prohibition receipts; but the

HUNT'S ANNUAL PRE-STOCK-TAKING SALE

Starts Tomorrow, January 4

Ends Saturday, January 19

CLOTHING AND FURNISHINGS FOR MEN AND BOYS

At Cut Prices for Two Weeks Only

In addition to the prices listed below you will find distributed throughout the store scores of other bargains that will be worth your while to see.



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| MEN'S SOCKS | WINTER CAPS |
| Regular 35c. Black Wool Socks. Sale price 23c. | Reg. 75c. Caps. Sale price 48c. |
| Regular 45c. Black and Gray Heavy Wool Socks. Sale price 33c. | Reg. \$1.25 Caps. Sale price 98c. |
| Regular 45c. Khaki Cashmere Socks. Sale price 33c. | Reg. \$1.50 Caps. Sale price \$1.23. |
| SWEATERS | SHIRTS |
| Men's Gray Coat Sweaters, regular \$1.25. Sale price 98c. | Men's Soft Front Colored Shirts, regular \$1.25 and \$1.50. Sale price 88c. |
| Men's Gray and Brown Sweater Coats, regular \$2.00. Sale price \$1.49. | Men's Fine Flannel Working Shirts, regular \$1.50 to \$2.00. Sale price \$1.29. |
| Men's Gray Sweater Coats, regular \$2.50. Sale price \$1.89. | WOOL UNDERWEAR |
| Men's Colored Pure Wool Heavy Coat Sweaters, regular \$6.50. Sale price \$4.89. | Penman's Soft Flat Knit and Heavy Ribbed Wool Shirts and Drawers, regular \$1.25 and \$1.50. Sale price 88c. |
| Men's Sweater Coats, regular \$1.00. Sale price 69c. | GLOVES |
| Boys' Colored Wool Jerseys, regular \$1.25. Sale price 88c. | Men's Unlined Tan Cape Gloves, regular \$1.75. Sale price \$1.39. |
| Boys' Gray Sweater Coats, regular \$1.75. Sale price \$1.23. | Men's Wool Gloves, regular 50c. Sale price 33c. |
| | Men's Wool Gloves, regular 55c. Sale price 38c. |
| | Men's Wool Gloves, regular \$1.25. Sale price 98c. |

MADE-TO-ORDER SUITS FOR \$25.00

This is our annual custom tailoring offer. A lot of our regular \$30.00, \$32.00 and \$35.00 Suits made to your measure only \$25.00 each. These Suits will be tailored and trimmed just as good as the former prices would demand.

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| MEN'S OVERCOATS | BOYS' SUITS |
| Regular \$15.00 Overcoat. Sale price \$10.50. | Norfolk and Pinchback Coat, Bloomer Pants. |
| Regular \$18.00 Overcoat. Sale price 14.50. | Regular \$5.00 Suits. Sale price \$4.29. |
| Regular \$20.00 Overcoat. Sale price 16.50. | Regular \$5.50 Suits. Sale price 4.69. |
| Regular \$22.50 Overcoat. Sale price 18.50. | Regular \$6.00 Suits. Sale price 4.98. |
| Regular \$25.00 Overcoat. Sale price 20.00. | Regular \$7.00 Suits. Sale price 5.59. |
| Regular \$28.00 Overcoat. Sale price 22.00. | BOYS' BLOOMERS |
| MEN'S PANTS | Boys' Tweed Bloomers, ages 5 to 16. Regular \$1.50 to \$2.00. Sale price \$1.15. |
| Regular \$2.50 Pants. Sale price \$1.85. | Boys' Navy Serge Bloomers, ages 6 to 16. Regular \$1.75 and \$2.00. Sale price 1.35. |
| Regular \$2.75 Pants. Sale price 2.30. | BOYS' OVERCOATS |
| Regular \$4.00 Pants. Sale price 3.20. | Regular \$7.00 Overcoats. Sale price \$4.98. |
| BLACK MELTON OVERCOATS | Regular \$7.50 Overcoats. Sale price 5.59. |
| Always Popular, Chesterfield Style, with Velvet Collar. | Regular \$8.50 Overcoats. Sale price 6.69. |
| Regular \$18.00 Coats. Sale price \$14.25. | |
| Regular \$20.00 Coats. Sale price 16.75. | |
| Regular \$22.50 Coats. Sale price 18.50. | |
| Regular \$25.00 Coats. Sale price 20.50. | |

SPECIAL—10 Tweed Suits in Custom Department made to your measure \$22.50 per suit. Regular prices up to \$32.00.

HUNT'S BUSY UP-TOWN CLOTHING STORE

17-19 CHARLOTTE STREET

SALTS IS FINE FOR KIDNEYS, QUIT MEAT

No man or woman who eats meat regularly can make a mistake by flushing the kidneys occasionally, says a well-known authority. Meat forms uric acid which clogs the kidney pores so they sluggishly filter or strain only part of the waste and poison from the blood, then you get sick. Nearly all rheumatism, headaches, liver trouble, nervousness, constipation, dizziness, sleeplessness, bladder disorders come from sluggish kidneys.

The moment you feel a dull ache in the kidneys or your back hurts, or if the urine is cloudy, offensive, full of sediment, irregular of passage or attended by a sensation of scalding, get about four ounces of Jad Salts from any reliable pharmacy and take a tablespoonful in a glass of water before breakfast for a few days and your kidneys will then act fine. This famous salt is made from the acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia and has been used for generations to flush clogged kidneys and stimulate them to activity, also to neutralize the acids in uric acid so it no longer causes irritation, thus ending bladder disorders.

Jad Salts is inexpensive and cannot injure; makes a delightful effervescent lithia-water drink which all regular meat eaters should take now and then to keep the kidneys clean and the blood pure, thereby avoiding serious kidney complications.

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Dangerous Stomach Acids That Make Your Food Ferment and Sour—Cause Gas and Indigestion

The Contents of an Acid Stomach should be Neutralized and Sweetened—Never Artificially Digested, Say Physicians

Medical authorities everywhere are now practically agreed that nearly nine-tenths of the cases of stomach trouble, dyspepsia, indigestion, heartburn, sour stomach, gastric catarrh, bloating, nausea, etc., are caused not by a lack of digestive juices or by imperfect digestive organs, but to an excessively acid condition of the stomach.

Nearly everyone who has stomach trouble, they say, carries about a glassful or more of this powerful hydrochloric acid in their stomach which is constantly irritating and inflaming the delicate stomach lining, souring their food, creating gas on the stomach, delaying digestion and causing the distressing symptoms so frequently mistaken for dyspepsia and indigestion.

Instead of forcing the sour acid food from the stomach to intestines with pepsin or other artificial di-

gestants, the acid in the stomach should be sweetened or neutralized with a little magnesia—not the ordinary commercial magnesia carbonate, citrate, oxides or milks—but pure bisulphate of magnesia which can be obtained from druggists anywhere either in the form of 5-grain tablets or powder. A couple of these tablets or a teaspoonful of the powder in a little water right after eating will neutralize all the excess acid in the stomach and prevent its formation, will soothe, cool and heal the sore, burning and irritated stomach lining and the stomach will then easily digest its meals without pain or trouble of any kind.

Bisulphate of Magnesia, unlike most forms of magnesia, is not used as a laxative and is harmless to the stomach. It is used daily by thousands of "acid stomach" people who now enjoy their meals with no more fear of indigestion.

Use The WANT AD. WAY

MUTT AND JEFF—MUTT DOESN'T NEED A GAME BAG, HE NEEDS A TRUCK

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