

***THE FOLLOWING DEBT CHARGES FOR THE PRESENT YEAR ARE SUPPRESSED** from the estimates voted last session:

Interest and sinking fund on \$10,000,000 loan	\$ 670,367
Discount, commissions, etc., on \$10,000,000 loan	1,528,000
Defaulted interest on C. N. P. Ry.	901,223
Defaulted interest on P. G. E. Ry. (three payments)	918,050
Total	\$1,050,610

N.B.—The \$316,000 interest paid on P. G. E. Ry. last January was paid without authority or vote of the House, or mention to the public, hence is here included. It should have been included in Supplementary Estimates voted on April 3rd, 1916. Sir Thomas White, Finance Minister at Ottawa, says we must begin this year to pay the interest we guaranteed on C. N. P. Ry. (See speech of May 6th, 1916.) **THE FALSIFICATION OF ACCOUNTS IN 1914 SEEMS TO BE REPEATED IN 1916.**

MR. BOWSER TAKES GREAT CREDIT FOR SECURING A LOAN OF \$1,000,000 FOR AGRICULTURAL CREDITS at 4½ per cent, but since the bonds were sold at 15.28 per cent, discount, the loan must cost us at least 5.65 per cent. The "Monetary Times," June 16th, 1916, shows that seven out of the nine provinces of Canada have sold equal or larger amounts of securities this year, all of them at a higher price than British Columbia; e.g., Ontario sold \$4,000,000 of 5 per cent. at par, and Nova Scotia \$1,000,000 5 per cent. at 100.28, each for 10 years. British Columbia's credit has been so impaired that we could only get 84.72 at 4½ per cent for 25 years.

THE PROVINCIAL SALARY LIST in 1909, when Capt. Tatlow resigned as Minister of Finance, was \$384,821; in 1909, when Capt. Tatlow resigned as Minister of Finance, was \$511,186; and for 1915, \$1,777,666. This shows an increase of \$56,666 in first six years, and \$1,236,780 in second six years of the present administration.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT along with Administration of Justice has cost the country in 1906, \$298,147, or 76 cents per head. Mr. Bowser took charge in 1907 and by March, 1915, the expenses of his department had swollen to \$1,171,810, or \$2.89 per head; yet \$39,500 extra was paid to four outsiders for revising the Statutes of 1911. Crown counsel in different courts in 1914 cost \$30,817, yet Mr. Bowser, receiving \$6,000 per year as Attorney-General, never appears in the courts. His total allowance this year is \$10,600.

LAND DEPARTMENT SALARIES amounted in 1914 to \$516,103. Yet \$105,000 extra was paid to Messrs. Helmcken and Matson, and \$79,050 to H. O. Alexander, for purchasing the Songhees and Kitsilano reserves.

RAILWAYS

CANADIAN NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY. Sir Richard McBride in 1915 stated in the Victoria house that this province would never be called upon to pay its guarantees on this railroad. In 1916 Sir Thomas White, Dominion Minister of Finance, stated at Ottawa that British Columbia would have to pay its share of interest on the C. N. P. this year.

Provincial guarantees for the road are about \$48,000,000. Annual interest is over \$2,000,000.

PACIFIC GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY. Provincial guarantees—Principal \$31,710,000. Annual interest, \$1,426,950.

Of this interest \$316,000 was paid by the government last January and two more payments are due in the present financial year.

The charter states that Messrs. Foley, Welch & Stewart subscribed \$10,000 cash for the whole stock of P. G. E. Railway and deposited with the government \$250,000 as security for fulfilment of contract.