

THE HERALD

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Please send in your subscriptions.

We are now drawing close to the end of the year, and a very large number of our subscribers have not remitted their subscriptions. Some have sent nothing for several years, although frequently reminded of their obligations in this respect.

Ottawa Weekly Letter.

The Budget.

Numerous and Complicated Tariff Changes But No Reduction in Taxation—And No Fulfillment of Liberal Promises.

INCREASE IN EXPENDITURE.

Brings Increased Taxation And More Debt—\$83,000,000 of Expenditure Last Year, an Increase of \$5,000,000—But Mr. Fielding Wants \$105,000,000 Next Year.

\$28,000,000 FOR THE G. T. P.

Will Be Required in 21 Months—Ministers Promised Not to Exceed \$13,000,000 in Any Year—Government Borrowing at More Than Four Percent Interest—Yukon Finance—Preston's Reward—Cost of Commissions.

Ottawa, Dec. 1, 1906.

The budget of this year was awaited with unusual interest because it was expected to contain a revised tariff.

In 1897 Mr. Fielding brought down his first tariff, and the measure as it passed the House, greatly mutilated, has continued with certain modifications to the present time. At the beginning Sir Wilfrid and Mr. Fielding admitted that they had not made good their pledges but the Premier's figurative speech announced that the Government had embarked on the wide ocean and was steering ship for the port of Free Trade. A ten years voyage has not brought the ship in sight of this harbor and yesterday Captain Fielding virtually abandoned the cruise. He introduced his Tariff by explaining that it would contain no radical changes, from which it would appear that the Free Trade port was no nearer than in 1897.

PREFERENCE AND INTERMEDIATE.

Mr. Fielding has added to his general tariff, preference tariff and surtax tariff, a new one, which is supposed to be a kind of offer to foreign countries willing to make tariff concessions in return. At present it is only ornamental, for Mr. Fielding states that it will not go into operation for a considerable time, and will always be complicated by British favored nation treaties. The preference tariff to Great Britain and certain colonies is continued but is no longer to be a level reduction of one third. In the revised tariff each item stands by itself and the preference is sometimes more and sometimes less than before. On a cursory examination the preference appears generally to be increased on articles which Great Britain does not sell to Canada and decreased on many of those which we buy from the Mother Country.

NO DECREASE OF TAXES.

The tariff changes fill about twenty newspaper columns.

Hundreds of articles will be taxed a little higher, and perhaps nearly as many a little lower. The average rate of taxation seems to have been increased. Though Mr. Fielding claims a surplus of \$13,000,000 and total surpluses over \$70,000,000 during his term of office, he has neither at this time or in any previous session made any important additions to the free list. Previous Ministers of Finance have invariably reduced taxation when they found themselves with a large surplus. As Mr. Foster stated in his reply to the Budget speech he had himself in one year swept away sugar duties which if retained would have given him nearly twenty millions additional during the time he remained in office. Mr. Fielding has been, on his own showing, in a splendid position to remit taxes that are purely for revenue. He has chosen rather to boast of a surplus year after year. While the taxes which he collected last year exceed the amount collected by Mr. Foster in 1896 by more than \$2,000,000 the surplus is only \$13,000,000.

SURPLUS LARGELY FICTITIOUS.

It is fair to Mr. Fielding to say that this surplus is not altogether real. It does not mean that the total income of the Government was last year \$13,000,000 more than the outlay. On the contrary the outlay was \$318,000 more than the total receipts. The debt of the Dominion was \$318,000 larger at the end of June, 1906 than it was at the end of June, 1905. It was \$6,175,000 more than at the end of June, 1904, though the Minister of Finance claims surpluses of more than \$10,000,000 in those two years. The list of capital expenditure, which the Government does not include with ordinary outlay, contains large payments properly belonging to current account. For example, it takes in bounties paid on iron, steel and other commodities amounting to \$2,300,000. Of course this charge should be included with the other expenditure as was done by the late Government, but Mr. Fielding adds two or three millions to his alleged surplus by not including this in the expenditure. In the same way a million dollars or more expended on the Intercolonial to replace old rails and keep the rolling stock good is charged to Capital, thus producing fictitious profits for Mr. Emmons and adding to Mr. Fielding's surplus. Again the Finance Minister omits from the expenditure statement the charge of \$600,000 expended in surveying Western lands. He charges that amount to Capital but includes in his current revenue, as if the money had been earned, over \$800,000 received for the sale of lands so surveyed.

MORE DEBT SHOWN.

So it appears that Mr. Fielding has no \$13,000,000 surplus in any proper sense of the word. The cost of Government has been so increased that the debt grows larger notwithstanding the fact that during his term of office Mr. Fielding has taken \$230,000,000 more out of the people than would have been taken if the revenue from taxes had remained the same as in 1896. Nor does there appear to be any sign of retrenchment. The total disbursements of last year were over \$83,000,000 which may be compared with \$34,000,000 in 1896. The current fiscal year is only nine months long, owing to a rearrangement of dates, and Mr. Fielding's present estimate of expenditure is \$72,605,864 or at the rate of \$96,800,000 a year, an increase of \$13,000,000 over 1906. He submits a further estimate for the year beginning next April amounting to \$105,689,519 which will be increased by supplementary votes so that there will be another jump of twelve or fifteen millions. While therefore, Mr. Fielding's boast of a surplus might seem to call for a remission of taxation, the real facts show that so long as the present reckless scale of expenditure continues the people may expect to pay more and may also look for rapid increase in the national debt.

G. T. R. \$28,000,000 INSTEAD OF \$13,000,000 A YEAR.

As an example of the difference between promise and performance it was recalled by Mr. Foster that when the Grand Trunk Pacific contract was made Sir Wilfrid and Mr. Fielding assured the Country that the expenditure on that work by the Government would not in any year exceed \$13,000,000 and for the first few years would be not nearly so much. They pointed out that this amount could be paid out of the annual surpluses. But if it is found that while last year the G. T. R. cost the Country less

than \$2,000,000 the surplus was not sufficient to square the account, after other capital charges were paid. Now Mr. Fielding brings in an estimate that the G. T. R. will cost \$10,000,000 during the short current fiscal year and no less than \$28,360,000 in the course of twelve months following. Evidently there will be an increase of \$25,000,000 in the debt in 1907-8 even though Mr. Fielding's alleged surpluses should continue. If the reader is surprised that the Government is to spend \$28,000,000 a year after promising to spend only \$13,000,000, at the most, in this enterprise he should consider that on the contracts for construction so far made the price per mile is found to be about double the estimate which the Government made to the House in defending the contract.

A SAMPLE.

As a sample of Government Finance the Yukon record may be cited. Public accounts brought down this week show that in the last fiscal year the Government spent in that district \$1,416,028 and got out of it only \$750,152. In the administration of that little colony of not more than 8,000 people there is a deficit of \$665,876, without including the expenditure at Ottawa connected with that district. No people in Canada now are more orderly than those of the Yukon, yet their government costs \$160 per head for men, women and children. After the money raised from gold royalties and other Yukon exactions is expended there remains between eighty and ninety dollars per head to be paid by the rest of the people of Canada. But for one fact it would be surprising that the regular expenses for administering the Government in the Yukon with less than 8,000 people and only \$750,000 revenue should be much larger than it was five years ago when the population was 27,000, the revenue \$2,000,000 and the gold output four times what it is now. That fact is, that the Yukon has the largest percentage of official population in the world, and that its chief city is crowded with idle but highly paid officers who can not be provided for elsewhere. Five years ago the Yukon was paying into the Government at Ottawa all that it cost and a little more, and the ministers thought this sufficient answer to all charges of extravagance. But now the Yukon owes the rest of the country over \$3,000,000 and the debt is increasing by \$600,000 to \$800,000 a year. To return to the preference tariff.

A GROWING TIME.

As already stated the public accounts for last year were brought down this week. They showed a general increase in expenditure in nearly every department a large number of public buildings under construction in Ottawa and elsewhere involving large future outlays, there are increases both in the salaries and the number of Departmental employees, who have become so numerous that large additional buildings are needed to make room for them. A surprising number of new items appear in the expenditure statements.

AN EPIDEMIC OF COMMISSIONS.

Take for instance the one item of Royal Commissions of which the following is a partial list.—Transportation Commission cost in 1906 \$14,884 Deep Waterways Commission cost in 1906 23,490 Fishery Commission cost in 1906 14,499 Tariff " " 14,134 Insurance " " 19,955

A Thrilling Experience.

The crew of the schooner A. P. Emmons, familiar craft in St. John Harbor, were landed at Goulet on the 8th, by the British steamer Natcha from Trapani for that port. The Emmons was dismantled and sank off Cape Sable in Monday's storm. The crew were 48 hours in the hurricane and suffered severely. The rescued men are Capt. Holmes, Arthur Redmond, mate, of Boston, Stenago Publicover of West Crescent Beach, N. S., John McCormack, Charlottetown, Wm Smith, Bois City, Idaho; and L. S. Winston. Capt. Holmes tells a thrilling story of his experience. After buffeted by the gale in the vessel for 48 hours, they abandoned her when she had almost sunk beneath them. They took shelter on a small but sturdy craft which also had a hard time in the terrific weather which prevailed in the vicinity of Cape Sable. The Captain and crew of the Emmons were almost in despair and worn out from the desperate struggle to keep the vessel afloat, none of them being able to get any sleep, and but little food, when the schooner Oregon of Lunenburg stood by. Captain Holmes and his men lowered a boat and left the Emmons. They had hardly settled in their boat for a row to the Oregon when the spars of their schooner toppled over the side. Just as they got on board the Oregon the Emmons pitched head foremost into the sea and sank 21 miles south of Cape Sable. The

men were unable to save any of their belongings. The steamer Natcha was in sight on Wednesday and the crew were transferred.

DIED.

In this city on the 8th inst, John Hughes aged 86 years, Deceased was a native of the county Armagh, Ireland and came to this Province in 1841. He was a hand on board the Fairy Queen, on the occasion of her wreck which caused such loss of life. He had been for sometime in the employ of the late Mr Dawson at the City Treasury, and afterwards for several years with the late Mr Donald McKinnon at the Brighton Tannery. Subsequently he was Justice of Quers Square School for sixteen years. He was a good and faithful employee in every capacity in which he served. He was a man of sterling character and of good moral life. He was well known and well liked by the community generally. He leaves to mourn a widow, four sons and one daughter. May his soul rest in peace.

At El Paso, Texas, on November 29th,

Mrs. Joseph Morrison, daughter of the late August McEachern, Mount Stewart, in the 56th year of her age. Deceased was an exemplary Christian woman, a model wife and a kind and loving mother. Deceased left here for San Francisco thirty-nine years ago. She leaves to mourn a disconsolate husband, two sons and six daughters, one a nun. Besides these members of her own family, one brother and five sisters, one in Boston, two in California and one here are left to cherish her memory. May her soul rest in peace. (Other papers please copy.)

MEET ME AT THE ALWAYS BUSY STORE.

STANLEY BROS.

FURS.

A Magnificent STOCK Here For You.

Ladies' Fur Coats.

In Astrakan, Russian Lamb, Persian Lamb and Seal, all sizes up to 44 inch.

Special value in Astrakan at \$30.00, \$35.00, \$40.00 and \$50.00.

Neck Furs and Muffs.

In all the good kinds in endless assortment.

STANLEY BROS.

Ladies' Cloth Coats.

We are constantly receiving additions to our Coat Stock thus ensuring you of the very latest styles.

Special Values.

At \$5.00, \$7.00 and \$10.00.

A lot of last season's coats at \$1.00 and \$2.95 each.

Stanley Bros.

In this city on the 11th inst, Doctor James Handrahan in the 41st year of his age leaving a sorrowing widow and four children to mourn. Deceased was the eldest son of our esteemed citizen Thomas Handrahan Esq. His death was quite sudden. Never very robust, he had been attending to his professional duties as usual on Friday, for the next two or three days he was not feeling quite well, but on Tuesday he felt better and was thinking of going out to see his patients when he was suddenly stricken down. His wife and children, as well as his father and mother, and brothers and sister will have the sympathy of the community in their bereavement. May his soul rest in peace.

Mrs. Fred Laine, St. George, Ont., writes:—

"My little girl would cough so at night that neither she nor I could get any rest. I gave her Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup and am thankful to say it cured her cough quickly."

Snappy Styles

—OF—

Solid Footwear.

Ladies! Here is your chance, one week only. Box Calf Boots, neat, up-to-date. Cheap any time at \$2.25, now \$1.50, all sizes.

These Boots arrived a few days ago a little late of course, but they are yours at the above price. See them anyway.

A. E. McEACHEN,

THE SHOE MAN

QUEEN STREET

Want a Fine Cloth Skirt.

Values up to \$5.25 for 3.75.

If you do you can't afford to overlook the special opportunity to secure one at a very low figure. Please note that we guarantee these prices only while this advertisement appears.

Knee Skirts in the latest and most fashionable styles, in various tweed effects, grey mixtures, and also in fine black Vicuna. In every respect these skirts are splendidly made and are manufactured through-out. Every detail of workmanship has been carefully finished—in fact, some of our best styles are included in this special offering. Worth from \$4.65 to \$5.25. Our special bargain price, only while this advertisement appears, is

\$3.75.

Waists.

Remarkably handsome Waists are being shown this season. For instance, in cashmere waists we are showing elegant styles in white, cream, garnet, sky, polka spots and black. In lustrous black, white and cream. In poplins, in satens, in silks, in fact, waists of every fashionable material are here.

We are offering special values available only while this advertisement appears.

AT 88c.

Waists in newest styles, of fine quality Black Roman Saten. Waists that are well cut and will fit, pleated front and back, latest sleeve, etc. All sizes. Worth \$1.25. Special at 88c.

AT 98c.

Waists a variety of fabrics, including Flannel and Flannel-velvet, madras, panama, lustre, etc. All latest fashion able cut. All sizes 34 to 38. Worth up to \$1.95. Special at 98c.

AT \$2.75

Dainty Waists of excellent quality, Jap. Tiffins wash silks—a very fetching style—front and back laid in plaits and hemstitched. In every detail an up-to-date and fashionable style. Black and white. Worth \$3.25. Special while this advertisement appears, only \$2.75.

Want a Dressing Gown?

Here's an opportunity to secure a handsome Dressing Gown at a substantial reduction. If you are without one you are missing a great deal of comfort. Quality is limited, don't delay.

We offer three handsome Dressing Gowns of heavy Moulton cloth, with deep sailor collar trimmed with wide satin ribbon and fagoting, heavy girdle to match—wide Jap. sleeve trimmed like collar—various pretty color combinations and worth \$1.25. Special, while this advertisement appears, at

\$4.15.

\$2.10 Dressing Jackets at \$1.65

This offer takes in two styles. The first is made of Moleton cloth. The colorings are warm and bright—has deep shirred collar, trimmed with torobon lace—full fashioned sleeve with lace trimmed cuff.

The second lot is also of Moleton cloth, colorings are red and navy mixtures—deep sailor collar trimmed with satin ribbon, lace trimmed Jap sleeves. Both are same value. Worth \$2.10. Special while this advertisement appears

We offer three splendid values in Corset Covers— attractively made garments, really cheaper than can be made at home.

Our only regret lies in this fact, that quantities are limited especially in the larger sizes. However there are probably enough for two or three days.

AT 2 FOR 25c.

Corset Covers of good quality, English White Cotton neatly made, trimmed with lace at neck and down front. Worth 30 cents each. Special, 2 for 25c.

AT 25c.

Corset Covers of soft Nainsook, finished cotton, at-tractively trimmed with deep lace. Worth 35 cents. Special at 45 cents.

AT 45c.

Corset Covers of excellent Cotton—some of Nainsook trimmed deep lace and baby ribbon. Worth 65 cents. Special 45 cents.

Everything as Advertised.

PROWSE BROS., Ltd

Charlottetown's Big Departmental Store.