LEGISLATURE OF NEW BRUNSWICK

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that the province did not raise enough poultry to supply its own need, but that much had to come from outside. There were good markets for poultry, eggs, beef, etc., in the province and yet much had to be imported. But this all went to show the good the government was doing in trying to get the farmers to work in harmony.

The government deserved credit in connection with the opening up of the Cuban market for New Brunswick potatoes, over three hundred thousand barrels of potatoes had been exported to Cuba from this province last year, but this year the Canadian market was a more profitable market. The shippers at St. John had brought in potatoes from Maine where the prices were not so high as here and had shipped them to Cuba. Nobody could have any objection to that move; it was a good thing as it kept the shippers in touch with the Cuban market.

Campbellton Disaster.

General sorrow was felt during the year at the destructive fire which had practically wiped out the prosperous town of Campbellton. The work of the flames had been so swift and so awful that hundreds of people were soon made homeless, but all were gratified at the way the people of the country came to their relief.

The people of Campbellton had grasped the situation with remarkable courage and had started upon the erection of a new town which would rise on the blackened ruins of that which had been destroyed. He felt that the House should stand united behind the bill to provide assistance for the town and prevent uncertainty which might interfere with its development. The bill should pass so that the government would be in a position to give the stricken town the assistance it deserved.

The white plague was something which must be fought. Many governments, including that of the United States, had been doing much to stay the ravages of the dreaded tuberculosis and the time had arrived when the problem must be taken up seriously in this province.

It was a fact that many tuberculosis cases could be cured and many could not. In the United States it was at first thought best, to try to cope with the situation by dealing with the incipient cases, but they soon found that while they were doing this, the disease was rapidly spreading through the medium of the advanced cases.

The province had received, and through the government had accepted, a handsome gift from Mrs. J. C. Jordan of several hundred acres of land and also buildings valued at between fifty and one hundred thousand dollars, for the establishment of a tuberculosis sanitarium. He understood that the site was admirable and the conditions favorable for the institution and the thanks of the people of the province were due Mrs. Jordan for her generous gift.

It would take considerable money annually for the upkeep of the institution and the cause warranted an expenditure such as would be entailed, but it would be showing cowardice and injustice if the situation was not grappled with and an effort made to bring some relief.

A Generous Offer.

Mr. Hartt said that he favored the building of the St. John valley railway, but it must be realized that the province had made a great offer. The people in Charlotte county felt that way and no doubt there was the same feeling in other sections of the province.

Assistance to the extent of $25,000 per mile was a very generous offer, but he was in accord with what had been done because he believed in progress and in this age of development it was hard indeed to have a fine farming district such as the St. John valley, shut out from the benefit of transportation facilities on which the products of the farms should be carried to the most favorable markets.

He believed that the building of this railway through the fertile St. John river valley would lead to extensive agricultural developments and it would also prove a great boom to industrial development as there were some fine waterpowers along the line. He also was in favor of the project because he believed in equal rights to all and felt that because one section of the province might be well equipped with transportation facilities, that should be no reason why the people in that district should not be favorable to giving other parts of the province equal facilities.

He believed that the Province of New Brunswick was destined to go ahead and that advancement would follow in the near future. This was a fine province with good climate, running streams of pure water, valuable timber limits and fertile soil. Why should they not be developed? This was not the time of dwindling of provinces. It was the time of development.

A few years ago the stream of immigration was entirely to the west, but through the good work which has been accomplished, this province was now getting a better share of the tide of travel coming through Canada. He felt that many of those who had gone west, some of them becoming rich, would return to this province with the tide of immigration.

A Word for the C. P. R.

He favored the Valley Railway project, and said he felt that the road when constructed would form a part of the trunk line. He did not care whether it was a part of the Canadian Northern, the G. T. P. or the C. P. R., but he felt sure it would be a part of a trunk line. Some people might not agree with this, they did not want the road to be a part of the C. P. R. If they really wanted a railway there was no need of their being too fussy.

The C. P. R. was good enough for Charlotte county, it was good enough for Carleton county, and it was good enough for any county. At the town of St. Andrews the C. P. R. had carried on a lot of development work, spending about one hundred thousand dollars annually, and this year they were putting a water system into the town. He did not know that the C. P. R., or any other road had made any proposition for building the St. John Valley Railway, and he did not know whether the Dominion government had made any proposition. He felt the Federal ministry were asleep when they had an opportunity of carrying out some of their many broken pre-election pledges and let it slip.

He favored the building of a railway but he did not want the province encumbered for ever, and he did not want to see the bonds of the province guaranteed for any company unless it was a bona fide company, willing to go ahead with the construction of the railway. But he had confidence in this government and its ability to handle the proposition, and that was why he was not afraid to stand out in favor of it.

He believed that when the St. John Valley Railway was constructed and became the part of a trunk line, making a short route to the Atlantic coast it would not be long before it would be realized that there was easy access across the country to Charlotte county ports, the finest ports on the Atlantic seacoast, and the places which the Creator meant to handle Canada's trade.

He was glad that the fisheries claim was being pressed for settlement, as the Dominion government would be glad to allow the case to drop out of sight if allowed to. He hoped the province would soon realize on its just claim and have the subsidies altered.

Maritime Representation.

Now was the opportune time to press the matter of representation on the Dominion government, and he was pleased that an effort was being made to have a satisfactory settlement arrived at, so that the Maritime Provinces would have the representation which they were entitled to.

He was glad that the territorial revenue was being so well collected, and that there was a substantial amount added to the revenue of the province as a result. He was pleased with the way the business of the office was conducted. The people of the province were proud of it, and he was proud of the work of his colleague, the Honorable Surveyor General. Every year there were increased demands on the provincial treasury, and the revenue of the province had to be increased to keep up with it.

There was the University deserving of greater assistance, the demands of education were growing annually, while the roads and bridges, which had been so much improved during the past few years under this administration, made increased demands on the finances.

As an illustration he mentioned that since this government came into power, eighteen hundred ordinary bridges of the province had been built or repaired, the comparative list of the last three years under the old government, and the three years this administration had been in charge, with the approximate annual expenditure for the service being as follows:

	Bridges	Expenditure
1905	245	$ 85,000
1906	264	88,000
1907	375	98,000
1908	513	173,000
1909	642	155,000
1910	647	162,000

These figures showed that when the present government came into power they found these bridges in a terrible state of repair. They were being put in proper condition as rapidly as possible, but they were not all done yet.

How They Found Roads.

The roads when this government came into power in 1908, were in bad shape, a statement which he felt nobody would deny. The bushes had to be cut out along the side to make gutters in the first place, because you could not have a road without gutters and there had to be a great deal of work done, much of which was not noticed by the casual observer.

Last season, however, a lot of new roadbeds had been made and although the season was very much against road work, a lot had been accomplished, so that another year the work could be done more easily and would be more evident. He was strongly in favor of use of the split log drag on roads. Nothing was better for giving finishing touches on the road, and the split log drag should be used in every parish in this province.

He noticed that his old friend, the school book question, was still on the list of subjects mentioned in the speech from the throne. In years gone by, when he occupied a seat on the other side of the Speaker, it fell to his lot to criticize the old government and to point out to them that the people of the province were paying too much money for school books, prices of which should be reduced. When he and other speakers of the then opposition said there should be 30 per cent. reduction in prices of school books, those who occupied the treasury benches at that time poohpoohed the idea. The leeches hung so close the old administration did not have the courage to shake them off.

Soon after the present government came into power the question was taken up and worked out, so that there had been a reduction equal to 40 per cent. in prices of school books and this year the House was told there would be further reduction. What did those people who stated that there was no chance for reducing the price of the school books think about that? It was a source of pleasure to him to see prices of school books reduced.

Free School Books.

He had a notion that a step further should be taken and he believed there should be free school books in some cases. That part of the act providing for free books for children who came to school without them had been inoperative because in some cases the poor children did not like the idea of having to take free books. He had, however, known of cases where the teachers had been instrumental in having books loaned to children who were without them, and he believed that a policy could be worked out with the assistance of teachers, giving them authority to keep a supply of books as the property of the school and lend them when necessary to children who were without them.

The revenues and expenditures would, no doubt, be well dealt with and there was every reason to believe that all members of the House would use their efforts in what they considered the best interests of the province.

Mr. D. P. MacLachlan.

Mr. MacLachlan said that he was conscious that he could add but little to what had been so well and so fittingly said by the member for Charlotte.

He trusted not only were the members growing old gracefully, but becoming increasingly useful in promoting interests and discharging duties devolving upon them as trustees of the country's public business.

When the present government was entrusted with the administration of the affairs of the province, they outlined a policy of retrenchment in some departments, increased expenditures in others and better accounting in all services, calculated to materially advance the interest and develop the resources of the country.

In the department of agriculture advanced steps had been taken. Much valuable information was secured by the agricultural commission. Encouragement given to enlargement of the market for farm products in Cuba and elsewhere, was one of the many commendable efforts of the department. Another good step was the appointment of a horticulturist to assist farmers in the greater production of fruit and point out to them improved methods of culture and marketing.

It had been conclusively shown that the soil and climate of New Brunswick was admirably adapted for successful raising of fruit and particularly apples. While New Brunswick may not be as well adapted for sheep raising on an extensive scale as is Australia, yet there was very satisfactory return to those who were engaged in the industry. He commended the department upon the importation and distribution of sheep last year.

Another forward step recently taken was the employment of an expert on poultry for which product there was a very large market. Even yet New Brunswick does not produce sufficient poultry to supply local demands Average prices obtained in New Brunswick for farm products are higher than in other provinces east of Manitoba.

In this connection the speaker quoted statistics to show that with all the progress and development of the great west the eastern provinces yet produced seven-tenths of the value of farm products of Canada and to this New Brunswick contributed last year sixteen million dollars worth of farm products. There were no better lands anywhere in Canada for mixed farming than were found right here in New Brunswick. The energetic measures adopted by the department of agriculture in the way of education and assistance and to stimulate, encourage and increase the production of farm and dairy products were worthy of all praise.

Crown Land Administration.

Mr. MacLachlan commended the administration of the crown land department. The amended regulations of the department had been framed with a due regard for the interests of the province and without unnecessary interference with or restrictions to operations on crown land leases. These regulations had secured a much better collection of stumpage and had resulted in a large increase in territorial revenue. Any wise regulations for the conservation of the province's forest wealth will be endorsed and supported by people of the province who now realize that too much valuable wood has in the past been exported from the country without an adequate return therefrom.

The speaker then referred to the pensions granted school teachers and commended the government for their action in that regard. The teachers' pension scheme had met with approval even in its first limited application. He trusted the government would soon see its way clear to enlarge the scope of the pension scheme so as to include in the benefits those special cases whi through disability or force of circumstances had not been able to complete the full requirements of the regulations. He earnestly presented the claims of poor school districts and advocated as large a measure of assistance to them as was possible. Many desirable farms had been abandoned because of lack of school advantages to the settlers' children. No more potent source of contentment to the new settlers could be found than a good school within reach of his growing family.

He noted with satisfaction steps taken by the government to promote immigration to this province and to locate settlers upon the farming lands of New Brunswick. While much was heard of the immense wheat fields of the west and of the rush of immigration to share in the prosperity of new country, still it was gratifying to those who lived in Eastern Canada that in no land under the sun was there better farming lands, more comfortable homes or larger returns for industry than was found right in the beloved province of New Brunswick.

School Book Reductions.

It was a matter for congratulation that His Honor was in a position to announce in the speech arrangements had been made for further reduction in price of common school readers. The securing of the reduction was in line with the government's promises and previous accomplishments. In this connection he commended the general support given by the government for general educational purposes and especially for the substantial aid given those districts which had installed departments of manual training and household science.

The progress made in the development of Gloucester Iron Mines was but a precursor of general mining activity in New Brunswick. The province was rich in minerals of many kinds and with the introduction of needed capital, he believed that a large field for employment of skilled laborers would be opened up with consequent prosperity to industrial communities and enrichment of provincial revenues by royalties.

The government was to be commended for prompt action to assist in allevating distress caused by the disaster which overwhelmed Campbellton. Any further measures of relief proposed by the government would no doubt have the cordial support of the Legislature.

The gracious and generous gift to the province by Mrs. Jordan of her fine property at River Glade for the purpose of establishing a sanitarium was most kindly and very deeply appreciated. It was now well established that tuberculosis in its incipient stages could be cured by proper treatment and environment.

That gift provided an initial equipment which would enable the province to some extent at least, to fight against the ravages of the great white plague of modern civilization. He had much pleasure in seconding the address moved by the honorable member from Charlotte county.

LEADER OF OPPOSITION.

Hon. Mr. Robinson said that he did not intend to object to the address to His Honor, nor did he wish to offer unmerited criticism to the speech from the throne. He noticed that the first part of the speech was given up to a discussion of agricultural matters which was most fitting just now when the farmers and dairymen were in convention in this city. He had seen in the published reports of the proceedings at the farmers' meetings that some criticisms had been made of the government, and also because there was only one farmer in the legislature.

He was greatly pleased with the showing the province was making in apple production, and the former government was to be credited for that. It was they who had started the agitation for fruit culture, and the present administration was only following in their footsteps and reaping the reward. It was a source of pleasure and pride to himself and others that New Brunswick was producing apples that could hold their place with the best in the markets of the world.

He felt that he could endorse the policy laid down by the government with respect to the St. John Valley Railway and he thought the government justified in guaranteeing bonds of the railway up to $25,000 a mile, but that was as far as he would go, as it was incurring a provincial liability of six million dollars.

In the matter of cheaper school books the government had done something and he was glad of it. He would have done likewise had he had the opportunity. He had said that not only should the prices of school books be lowered but that they should be provided free by the government as far as possible. He did not however approve of the methods adopted by the present government in handling the school books, and he thought that the system of school book vendors in all parts of the province with books scattered everywhere and many bad accounts would result in heavy loss to the province. He thought the government should have followed the path blazed by the governments of Ontario and Manitoba.

Stumpage Collection.

He did not say that under the old government stumpage was all collected. As a matter of fact he did not think it was and he had so stated on more than one occasion. Until there was a more accurate system of scaling and accounting it would not be possible to get full and accurate returns of the lumber cut on crown lands. He believed that in some cases injustice had been done some operators and others had not paid as much as they ought. He had also been informed on good authority that the government had collected $10,000 stumpage on logs cut in the province of Quebec.

Hon. Mr. Grimmer:—That is not so. No such transaction ever took place.

Hon. Mr. Robinson:—I do not myself know of the transaction, but I have it from what I consider reliable authority.

Hon. Mr. Grimmer:—Nothing of the kind ever took place. There is not a word of truth in the statement.

Hon. Mr. Robinson said that the government should announce its policy with regard to crown land leases so that the lumbermen might know what to expect. He thought a definite announcement should be made at once.

Albert Southern.

At a recent public meeting at Hampton he had made some statements with reference to the Albert Southern Railway and had been severely criticized for such statements and some papers supporting the government had gone so far as to say that he would not dare repeat those statements when in the House face to face with the Attorney General.

He was not sorry for what he said at Hampton, and he was not attacking the Premier, who had probably been misled by those sharp Kings county lawyers, Fowler and Jonah.

If he read the law aright the province had a mortgage on those rails, and the government should never have permitted them to be taken up and sold. Hon. Mr. Pugsley, when Attorney General, said he would not allow the rails to be sold and he had taken the proper stand. He believed that the province had a lien which should have been enforced.

Some steps should now be taken by the Attorney General to see that the creditors of the road were protected. It should be seen who the creditors are and what became of the money. He would not care to take the mere word of Fowler and Jonah for it or of Mr. Trueman. The creditors don't know and the public don't know many queer things were going on in the Attorney General's department, and particularly down in Albert county, and it was high time the Attorney General took steps to improve the conditions with respect to the administration of justice and other matters.

They do queer things in Albert county, such as arresting a man at his father's grave side, and the officer did not even arrest him in the village of Albert, but waited until he got to Harvey, because that meant more mileage for him.

A great deal had been said by the government about their sales of bonds and he had been severely criticized because he went to Montreal and made a temporary loan. He did so because the manager of the Bank of British North America had tried to force him to sell the bonds of the province at a time when it was not opportune to put them on the market. He had refused and had effected a temporary loan instead.

The present Provincial Secretary had sold bonds of the province on a rising market and if he had waited he would have received a better price, but because of his hurry to sell, the province had lost a good many thousand dollars.

There were many other matters to be discussed but he would not take up the time of the House today and would defer them for a future occasion.

HON. J. D. HAZEN.

Hon. Mr. Hazen congratulated the mover and seconder of the address upon the exceptionally able manner in which they had performed their duties. The mover of the address was one of the small band of loyal friends who had stood together with him in opposition for many years and whose integrity he most highly respected, and whose personal friendship he had learned to greatly esteem.

The member for Northumberland who had so ably seconded the address was younger in point of service in the legislature but he never addressed the House that he did not show the result of a framed mind and careful study of his subject. He also congratulated the leader of the Opposition upon the speech he had just delivered which from its moderation showed that there was apparently nothing in the address with which he could find serious fault.

In fact Mr. Robinson's speech was so moderate that he had almost come to the conclusion that the leader of the Opposition must have taken seriously the report given circulation in certain newspapers that Hon. Mr. Flemming was to resign after the present session and that he (Robinson) expected to have the place in the cabinet offered to him.

The leader of the Opposition had suggested that the reason so much attention had been given to agriculture in the speech from the throne was that the Farmers and Dairymens Association was meeting in convention and that the idea was to impress upon the farmers that government was doing very much in the interest of agriculture.

He would point out to his hon. friend that at every session since this government came into power, agricultural matters have been given prominence in the speech from the throne, and it was right that they should, as agriculture was the leading industry of this province and the majority of the electorate of New Brunswick made their living from land.

Glaring Inconsistency.

The leader of the Opposition had expressed himself of the opinion that there were not enough farmers in the legislature, yet in the last general election he was a member of the ticket in Westmorland county composed of three lawyers and one merchant. Recently the leader of the Opposition attended a convention of his party in Kings county when a ticket was nominated and the only person who aspired to a place on the ticket and who was turned down, was a farmer, Mr. Wetmore, one of the leading farmers of Kings county, a man who had made a careful study of scientific farming and who last year was president of the Farmers and Dairymens Association of this province.

The leader of the Opposition had expressed his approval of what had been done by the department of agriculture towards opening up a market for the New Brunswick potatoes in Cuba. Up to last winter not one barrel of potatoes had been shipped from this province to the Cuban market.

The crop was so large not only in Canada, but throughout the United States that there was no outlet. The matter was taken up by the agricultural and the provincial secretary and as a direct result of their efforts, a market in Cuba was opened up and over 320,000 barrels of potatoes were shipped to Cuba.

The hon. gentleman opposite had said that the Dominion government should have the credit for this. But before the Dominion government took any action whatever in the matter, three steamship lines were running between St. John and Havana, each one of them actually carrying potatoes and other products to the new market. The Dominion government gave a subsidy to one of these lines and the result was that the others were driven off and the subsidized line increased the charges for shipment from 40 to 50 cents per barrel.

Fruit Growing Possibilities.

The appointment of a horticulturist for the province met with approval. The people of New Brunswick were just realizing the possibilities of fruit growing in this province. New orchards in many districts were planted last year, and this year there would be many new orchards commenced. In Sunbury county a company of public spirited men of both sides of politics had been formed, and they proposed going into fruit growing on a very extensive scale.

It was only in the last two years that the people of this province have realized that they have a fruit country equal to the best portions of Nova Scotia, if not superior to that or any other province. Apples grown in New Brunswick were in many ways superior to those grown elsewhere. They were more highly colored and more attractive in appearance, also in flavor than in any others. The fruit show held some months ago was a revelation to many who attended and saw how favorably New Brunswick apples compared with those from Nova Scotia and elsewhere.

The department of agriculture was out of the rut in which it was found, and education was being effused and knowledge scattered broadcast as to the possibilities of fruit raising, which in a few years, he believed, would result in thousands of barrels of New Brunswick apples being shipped annually from the port of St. John.

There had been some criticism, he understood, of the appointment of a poultry expert. There was an opportunity for a tremendous development in the poultry industry, and there was a large market and good prices created by the winter port business at St. John. For the first one or two voyages the supply could be procured within this province, then the supply had to come from the west.

Appointment of an official to go out through the province and give instruction and directions to individual farmers and to societies in the best and most profitable means of breeding, raising and marketing poultry would no doubt prove of great benefit, and he believed, and the people of the country believed, that the appointment of Seth Jones, who was a highly capable official, would be productive of good results.

Stock Raising.

It was a deplorable fact that there were not enough cattle raised in this province to supply the home market, and the dealers had to go outside the province to get much of the beef which was now sold here. The same was true of horses, and only recently the Lieutenant Governor had to go outside the province when in search of a pair of horses to secure the kind which were suitable for his purpose.

The educational work carried on by the farmers and dairymen's association, and the agricultural department, would, it was felt, show farmers it was better for them to take feed which was grown on farms to raise stock, rather than to have people sending out of the province. Farmers of New Brunswick had an excellent market at their very doors. An educational campaign, such as was being conducted, was what was needed, and it was pleasing to note the formation of thirty new agricultural societies which were importing stock and seeds and carrying on work calculated to improve present conditions.

Regarding the St. John Valley Railway, Hon. Mr. Hazen said he was prepared to go a long way to get railway communication for the people of the St. John River Valley. The best previous offer was that of a guarantee of bonds to the extent of fifteen thousand dollars per mile and when that was before the House, the idea was given that the road could be built under such an arrangement. Then two years ago in the bill introduced by himself to provide for the construction of the railway increased assistance was offered up to twenty-five thousand dollars a mile.

This bill had three parts, the first of which provided for a survey of proposed line and a report upon the estimate of cost, the second provided for a guarantee of bonds for construction of the railway under conditions as set forth by Mr. Pugsley and Sir Wilfrid Laurier, while the third part provided for construction of the road under other conditions.

Report Of Survey Ready.

The second and third parts, however, were not operative until the survey was made and report of the cost had been made to the government. The report was complete and had been placed in his hands several days ago. It was submitted to the government yesterday and had since been submitted to the Lieutenant Governor, and would soon be placed before the House.

The resolution which had been introduced in the House of Commons regarding this project had been delayed by the reciprocity debate. When the action of the Dominion parliament on that resolution was before this House, then the matter should be taken up and dealt with.

The government felt the importance of the project and would do all that any reasonable men could do and perhaps more so, but they would at the same time, see that the interests of the province were protected. There would, of course, be that criticism that there always was of such large undertakings, but no set of men were fit to guide the destinies of this province unless they had the courage to face such criticism when they knew that what they were doing was in the best interests of the country.

The leader of the opposition had said that carrying out the proposition would mean a debt of six million dollars for the province, but it would be nothing of the sort. There was no doubt that the railway when constructed would be part of a trunk line leading from the great west across the continent to the Quebec bridge, and thence down the St. John River Valley, the natural outlet to the Atlantic coast, and while there would be interest charges to be paid the first few years by the province, it would be only a comparatively few years, he felt before the province would have no interest payments to make.

If this route across the province of Quebec and down the St. John valley was to be 275 miles shorter from Quebec to St. John than via Intercolonial and 255 miles shorter than via the Grand Trunk Pacific, and practically the same distance but with easier grades than the C. P. R.'s across the state of Maine, it must naturally be a part of a trunk line and carry the business of a transcontinental line.

Blow to the People.

The St. John river valley had been long without the proper transportation facilities. The people believed that a railway would come down the valley as the natural route when the National Transcontinental was to be constructed at the cost of many millions of dollars to the country, but certain influences intervened and the railway was taken through what was known as the back route. That was a blow to the aspirations of the people of the St. John valley and was one reason why their representatives at Ottawa should see that everything possible was done in order to aid the present project. The report of the engineer would, he hoped, be placed before the House in the course of a few days.

Regarding the fisheries claims Hon. Mr. Hazen said that Messrs. Pugsley and Tweedie had pressed for a settlement of their claim in the Halifax award. They asked that a case be taken before the high courts as to whether four million dollars should have gone to the Dominion or to the provinces. Working with a federal government in harmony with them, they were able to secure an agreement to submit a case but the parties were unable to agree on terms. If under these conditions it was impossible to have an agreement arrived at, it could be easily realized that it was equally difficult now.

There were also three other fishery claims, those of the Quatawamkegwick and the Patapedia rivers and another. All these matters were in difficulty now and things were going on under a modus vivendi.

He could tell the House that in conferences he had had with the representatives of the Federal government regarding the fisheries claims, it had been suggested that the province might accept a lump sum or an amount to be paid in annual payments and relinquish control of non-tidal waters. He believed that the province's case was unanswered and could not stand long before there would be some definite result.

A Poor Excuse.

Regarding the school books the leader of the Opposition had put up the excuse that he had been premier of the province for a period of only nine months and therefore could not have been expected to do much in that time towards bringing about a reduction in price of school books, but the election when this government was returned to power, took place on Mar. 3rd, 1908, they met in the House in April and it was during the month of May that a plan was submitted bringing about a reduction in price of school books.

They had been hampered by an arrangement which had existed with middlemen who got a rake-off on every book that was sold. With the member for Charlotte and others who had urged for cheaper school books in the days of the old government he had always been told that it would be impossible to secure any reductions. The same statement was made during last election, although it was true that at the latter end of the campaign the ex-premier had said that he would have a commission appointed to inquire into the question if he and his party were returned to power.

The present administration had then taken charge of affairs. They first of all brought about a reduction of forty per cent. in the prices of some of the most important books, then they made the reduction general with all the common school books and now at the start of next school year reduction in price would be further increased so that it would average fifty per cent. on all the common school books. The leader of the opposition had said there were places where books could not be procured. In bringing any new action into operation there was always trouble to get a new system working well at the start. It would be remarkable if in the appointment of vendors for the whole province there were not some who were unfitted for the position. These cases had been remedied as rapidly as possible and during the past year there had been scarcely a complaint of this kind, although during the first year, it was true that there had been several.

His honorable friend could move for a return of the school book department accounts as had been done last year and he would find that the cost of administering the department was the merest bagatelle compared with the saving which was being effected for the people of the province in prices they were paying for their school books. Hon. Mr. Hazen moved the adjournment of the debate and it was made the order of the day for tomorrow at three o'clock.

Reports Presented.

Hon. Mr. Flemming presented the report of the Chancellor of the University of New Brunswick.

Hon. Mr. Flemming presented the returns of the debt valuation, etc., of 29 municipalities and towns.

Hon. Mr. Flemming presented the annual report of the Hotel Dieu Hospital.

Hon. Mr. Flemming presented the contract with J. Douglas Black for reporting and publishing the debates and the official reporter was assigned a seat on the floor of the House.

Hon. Mr. Hazen submitted the report of the commissioners of the New Brunswick Coal and Railway Company.

Mr. Robinson asked for leave of absence for Mr. Currie for one week on account of illness.

Hon. Mr. Hazen asked for leave of absence for Dr. McInerney for the session on account of illness.

Hon. Mr. McLeod asked for leave of absence for Mr. Young and Mr. Robinson for one week on account of illness.

The House adjourned at six o'clock.

NEW STEAMER WILL ACCOMODATE 1900

St. Nazaire, France, Mar. 2.—The new steamship Rochambeau, for the New York service of the French steamship company, was successfully launched here today.

The steamer is of 17,500 tons, 535 feet long, 12,500 horsepower and an estimated speed of 17 knots. She will accommodate 450 cabin passengers and 1,450 in the steerage.

George McDermott.

The death of George McDermott occurred yesterday at his residence, 250 Sydney street. He was in the 56th year of his age, and had been ill since June last. Besides his wife he leaves one daughter, Mrs. J. Miller, and four sons, George, John, Joseph, and Gregg, all of this city to mourn their loss. One sister, Mrs. J. Brennan, of Boston, and one brother, David McDermott, of this city, also survive. The deceased was a shoe maker by trade. Notice of funeral will be published later.

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS

Shiloh's Cure
Quickly stops coughs, cures colds, heals the throat and lungs. - - - 25 cents.

IS GOD TRYING TO SAVE THE HEATHEN?
If So Has He the Power of Salvation?
1,200,000,000 Heathen are dying at the rate of 90,000 per day. What are their future Prospects?
If they are saved in ignorance would it not have been a blessing to have left all in ignorance and thus save all.
Would it be God-like to condemn without giving them a fair opportunity?
Don't Fail to hear these and other perplexing questions answered by
A. H. McMillan at Nickel Theatre
SUNDAY, March 5th, at 3 p. m.