

"icient volume of traffic to war-
 "rant the expenditure of the
 "necessary money must first
 "be shown. Of course, the
 "Government has to foot the
 "bill finally."

The leader of the Government in his manifesto issued last week seeks to represent that the finances of the colony will not be able to meet the annual interest on the cost of carrying into effect this and other measures advocated by me in this manifesto. Sir Robert Bond seems to have forgotten that during the past ten years the revenue of this colony has increased from \$1,541,420 in 1898 to \$2,750,690 in 1907. This large increase is in addition to the fact claimed by the Premier that taxation has been reduced by \$177,000 annually. Surely, then, we can confidently look forward to a still larger increase during the next ten years. But assuming that instead of an increase of \$1,200,000 in ten years we only increase one fourth of that amount, or \$300,000, in that period we should still have ample means, and without one cent of additional taxation, to meet the interest and cost of all the new services advocated in this Manifesto.

OUR FISHERY POLICY.

While the attention of the Legislature has been occupied with measures, in many instances, of doubtful value to the country, the great question of making our fisheries much more profitable to our people has not been grappled with in the manner in which it should be in a fishing country like ours.

The lamentable experience of our people to-day, with the price of fish reduced to one-half its normal value, emphasizes the fact that the question of most vital importance to this colony now, and for many years to come, must be the adoption of such a policy as will at once raise the price of fish, and maintain it at a high figure. In my opinion this can best be accomplished in the following ways:

(1) **The Opening up of New Markets** in the United States, Mexico, Central and South America, and other parts of the world where at present our fish does not enter.

(2) **The Providing of Steam Subsidies** to the West Indies and elsewhere, so as to assist in the marketing of our catch.

(3) **The introduction of modern methods of preparing codfish** for sale, such as are in vogue in America (where codfish is put up at Gloucester in 64 different varieties) which would lessen our export of fish in bulk and drums, and also largely increase the price to be paid our fishermen.

(4) **The Adoption of Cold Storage** in the export of fishery products, as there seems no reason why it should not be possible to export our varied fishes, fresh, seeing that mutton is to-day carried from New Zealand to England by such means.

The whole of our West Coast winter catch of Codfish, Herring and Halibut should be exported fresh into Canada and the United