

I have confidence that, though we may have some difficulty for a few years in reducing our expenditure within the limits of our receipts, for reasons connected with railway expenditure to which I have already alluded, at the same time there is no cause for alarm at our financial position. Our assets are very valuable and becoming more and more valuable every day. If the Government firmly resist making any addition to our funded debt, exercise due diligence in the realization of our assets and collection of arrears due and practise strict economy in our expenditure, we shall in a few years, without much additional taxation, be able to fully meet the requirements of every branch of the public service. If any Government fail in its duty to the province by increasing our funded debt, by wasteful grants of our Crown lands for purposes not absolutely necessary, and which will give certain returns, if it is negligent in the protection of our sources of revenue, careless in its collection, or extravagant in its expenditure, then it becomes the duty of the people, through their representatives to take immediate steps to oust such a Government and replace it by one that can and will fully guard our provincial interests, resist all pressure from friends or foes, calculated to involve the Province in future embarrassments.

I feel, Mr. Speaker, that I have probably not come up to the expectation of hon. members in what I have said, or in the manner of saying it, but all the same I thank you, Mr. Speaker and the members of this House, for your attention to my remarks, and only regret I have detained you so long. (Loud cheers.)

At the conclusion of his speech Hon. Mr. Robertson said that \$500,000 would be granted to the Pontiac Railway at the rate of \$6,000 per mile, as defined by the statute now in force.

At the conclusion of the budget speech the House adjourned.

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