

Executive Council—the most careful attention was given to every phase of every question involved. I think you will agree that the most equitable adjustment feasible has been made, and it is not true that new appointees have received considerations not given to the old staff. More than that, these figures will explain clearly why there has been so appreciable an increase in the cost of the Civil Service. With wages of labourers rising in every other kind of employment and the cost of the necessities of life mounting higher all the time, it was not possible for the Government to ignore the position of Civil Servants.

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The Leader of the Opposition touched—a little lightly, it is true—on the educational policy of the present Government, and made slighting reference to the statement of the Minister of Education that \$5,000,000 is proposed for expenditure on higher education. Mr. Bowser affirmed he would prefer more "Little Red School houses" in the outlying districts, in order that children might learn to read and write, rather than see this sum expended on the University.

This is a strange way for the man to talk who was the right hand man in the Government that founded the British Columbia University. The present Government did not found or embark upon the University scheme. Like so many other heirlooms, this was a "legacy" from the Government of which Mr. Bowser was one of the twin heads. Let me give you a little of the actual history of University affairs as they were handled by the previous Government.

As far back as 1908 the McBride-Bowser Government passed an Act establishing a Provincial University. It was only a few months before this session that the Government of Sir Richard McBride began to become the McBride-Bowser Government of doubtful fame, for it was in 1907 that Mr. Bowser entered that Government as Attorney-General. To show you what a monument to the incompetency of that composite Government was erected, I may tell you that they established a University and they engaged a staff. But they failed to make any permanent provision—that is, financial provision—for the erection of buildings or even payment of the staff. The only thing of this kind that they did was to appropriate some \$200,000 for the use of the Board of Governors, permitting them to use this money as they saw fit. It is true they agreed to set aside 2,000,000 acres of land for University purposes. This land was located somewhere in the Central Interior of the Province, but, as a matter of fact, these lands never were conveyed to the University Governors nor has a single dollar been raised or realized from them.

When this Government assumed office we found a University staff of some thirty-five or forty teachers and professors—with an attendance of students of some 350—housed in a section of the Vancouver General Hospital, with a president in charge with a salary of \$10,000 per annum and additional living allowance of \$1,500 per annum. This was a larger salary than was paid to any other university president in Canada. Many of these teachers were under contract for from one to ten years. The