

arts, agriculture and statistics....	13,512
immigration	7,289
154,411 quarantine	24,914
62,112 lunatics	4,801
66,881 public Works, Consolidated Fund....	580,874
22,112 railways and canals	163,949
25,112 self-supplies and steamship sub-	7,961
40,941 stances	18,898
11,441 ocean and river service	1,805
12,361 marine hospitals	1,447
16,112 fisheries	16,386
65,512 Geological Survey	14,331
12,012 buildings to provinces	2,394
80,312 telegrams	27,655
9,812 telephones	9,392
80,312 customs	43,912
9,812 post office	124,467
8,112 roads and commerce	5,141
166,812 On the other hand, there have been de-	
8,912 creases on the following :—	

in excise are	8,489
mounted Police	6,852
lighthouse and coast service.....	20,314
scientific institutions	1,705

Government of the North-west Ter-	10,187
ritories	6,443
Excise	6,150
lights and measures and gas	100,535
Highways and Canals, collection....	8,492
251,112 Dominion lands	11,892
251,112 Public Works, collection	

The main increases will be found to be the interest on public debt, legislation, titles, public works, and post office, and causes operating in these cases were obtained in my remarks of the 22nd of last year, and are sufficiently well known. I need not refer to them further in to say that they are the direct result of the apparent economy accomplished by my predecessor in 1895-96, an economy, which I am justified in saying was only apparent, because I think hon. gentlemen themselves will admit that it was not possible to continue the expenditure on the same scale of that year. Indeed, hon. gentlemen on the other side, by the remarks they have all furnished me on these subjects, have frequently admitted as much.

In concluding my observations upon the increase of the fiscal year of 1896-97, and the 30th of June last, let me express the hope that my hon. friends opposite will allow me to congratulate them on the very few failures of some of the very gloomy predictions which they made respecting the year. It may be remembered that in closing hours of the first session of this Parliament, my hon. friend the leader of the Opposition (Sir Charles Tupper) and my friend the ex-Minister of Finance (Mr. Tupper) made very strong attacks upon the financial position of the Government, and stated that very direful things would

happen in the first year of Liberal administration. I do not propose to detain the House with lengthy quotations from their remarks, but I may summarise their predictions very briefly. My hon. friends stated that we were entering upon a year of reckless expenditure which could only end in financial disaster. They declared that within that current year of 1896-97, I would be obliged to borrow at least \$10,000,000, and that I would have to go on the money market under conditions that would greatly damage our public credit. They will, I hope, be gratified to learn that during that current year we did not have to go on the general money market at all; that our total temporary borrowing, in the usual way of treasury bills, did not amount to ten million dollars or even half of ten million dollars; and that the only borrowing in which we indulged, over and above the renewal of a loan contracted by my predecessor, was less than three million dollars, and that when at a subsequent and proper time we did proceed to place a loan on the London market, instead of going with a damaged credit, as my hon. friends predicted, we went under favourable conditions and met with gratifying success.

They also stated that we would not be able to come out of the year's operations with a deficit of less than \$8,250,000. As late as the month of April last, my hon. friend the ex-Minister of Finance modified his calculation, but even then he predicted that we could not come out of the year with a deficit of less than \$2,000,000. He will, I am sure, be glad to learn that we came out of the year with a deficit, not of \$8,250,000, not of \$2,000,000, but of the modest sum of \$519,000. My hon. friend said that in the first year of Liberal administration we would have an expenditure of at least forty million dollars. He will be glad to learn, I hope, that the expenditure of that year amounted to only \$39,349,759.

My hon. friend said that he could appeal with confidence to the great arbiter, time, to decide these things. Well, the great arbiter has given judgment, and has given judgment against my hon. friend and in favour of the Administration. I suppose it would be too much to expect of my hon. friends opposite that they will take the cheerful view which we, on this side, are disposed to take of the prospects of the country under a Liberal Administration. I suppose it is even possible that their sense of duty may oblige them to continue to draw the same alarming picture of the future under Liberal rule. We, on this side, will have to comfort ourselves with the thought, when we have these alarming predictions, that time, the great arbiter, will continue to decide against my hon. friends and in favour of the present Administration.