

\$69,650 SURPLUS TELLS ITS STORY

Continued from page six.

struction at the end of the year. The total expenditure on bridges during the year amounted to \$309,848.70.

Road Work Large.

"As intimated above, road work was somewhat delayed at the outset, but during the latter part of the summer and fall we were able to accomplish a very satisfactory program of work. Owing to the influx of population into the outlying districts, it has been found absolutely necessary to extend main roads. This applies very particularly to north, northwest and west of Edmonton. Seventy-five miles of new road were opened up and improved from Athabasca Landing, north of the Athabasca River, up to the east end of Lesser Slave Lake, which has been a considerable advantage to settlers and freighers. Extensive improvements were carried on up into the Pembina and Paddle River country, on the Lac Ste. Anne trail and the road between Edmonton and Wabamun. In addition to the above, main and colonization roads were extended in all directions, and I might say in all parts of the province. In connection with these improvements we have endeavored as far as possible to adhere to a uniform system of road making and have found a very great advantage in the employment of competent inspectors and road foremen for the purpose of conducting work. The expenditure on roads during the year amounted to \$233,962.54.

"There were six survey parties in the field during the season, locating new roads and road diversions and making final surveys of the same. In order that the necessary right of way might be acquired. In this work we find that the greatest economy lies in securing the best localities for the most capable men is a necessity. The number of surveys made in 1907, much larger than in 1906, and the work to be done of this nature is, of course, bound to increase with increased settlement, also owing to the increased price of land the amount paid as compensation is becoming greater every year. The total expenditure on surveys during the year, including the amount paid for right of way, amounted to \$28,000.00.

"A total of 533 1/2 miles of fireguard were plowed or replowed during the season at a cost of \$4,658.00. The extension of the irrigation system, principally east of Calgary, and the rapid filling up of the same, several guards have heretofore been abandoned last season, roads, settlement and irrigation ditches having taken their place.

Sixteen Ferries Operated.

"During the season sixteen ferries were operated. Five new ferries were built and installed on the North Saskatchewan River at Brossaure, one over the North Saskatchewan River at St. Paul, one over the North Saskatchewan River at Elk River, one over the Pembina River near the Pembina Post Office, and the old ferry over the Bow River at Lamont, which was in operation last season. On the completion of the bridge over the Red Deer River at Lamont, the ferry was discontinued at that point during the last few years was floated down stream and installed on the Red Deer River at a point east of the Olds. The total expenditure in connection with ferries, construction and operation, during the year, amounted to \$10,000.00.

"It was found necessary in connection with the administration of the Coal Mines Act to engage another inspector, who was given a district with headquarters at Red Deer. The total number of certificates of competency issued was 702 and the number of certificates of all classes issued was 829. Revenue from inspection fees was \$5,826.00. It is gratifying to note in connection with this branch of the season that no accidents arising to boiler explosions occurred during the year, and further, that there appears to be a general tendency on the part of holders of provincial certificates to qualify for finals.

"The administration of the Coal Mines Act has been continued on by the provincial inspector of mines with headquarters at Edmonton and a district inspector at Lethbridge, who has looked after the Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Taber and Crow's Nest coal fields. The output of coal from reports received to date amounts to 1,830,253 tons, and when all reports are received the output will probably reach 1,840,000 tons. Thirty-five new mines were opened during the year, making a total of 97 mines known to be in operation in the province.

"The output of coal in tons for the Northwest Territories, Alberta, and Saskatchewan in 1907 was 346,649; 1906, 510,674; 1905, 622,939; 1904, 782,931.

"The output in Alberta in 1907 was 813,223; in 1906, 1,385,000. In connection with the expenditure in connection with the administration of the coal mines branch amounted to \$5,541.50. The report of the commission appointed to enquire into the coal mining industry in the province and to investigate and report upon the conditions prevailing in the coal mines in the province and the reason of the scarcity of coal supply which existed during the winter of 1906-7, has been laid on the table. Available information has been obtained through this commission, and during the present session several important legislative measures have been passed as a result of their findings.

Result of Telephone Policy.

"The construction of telephone lines, which was commenced by the government in September, 1906, has been vigorously continued during 1907, a total of 544 miles having been constructed and 53 miles of line acquired, making a total of 599 miles of line in operation at the end of the year. The line from Calgary to Banff was completed and put in operation on the 1st of July, 1907. Since then

the following long-distance lines have been constructed:

Edmonton to Lloydminster, 208 miles.
Wetaskiwin to Daysland, 68 miles.
Lacombe to Stettler, 62 miles.
Blainmore to Macleod, 65 miles.
Edmonton to Battenburg, 25 miles.
Vegreville to Warwick, 11 miles.
Stoney Plain, west, 10 miles.
The lines acquired by purchase are as follows:

Edmonton to Leduc, 28 miles.
Edmonton farmers' line, 25 miles.
In addition to the large amount of long distance line construction completed, the government has also installed or acquired eighteen exchanges. Those acquired were Maceled, Blairmore, Lloydminster and Fort Saskatchewan. A large number of petitions have also been received asking for the construction of rural and farmers' lines, and there is every indication that a large amount of line work will have to be undertaken along these lines during the coming year. The total expenditure for construction, lines acquired and operation was \$262,262.79 for the year 1907.

Public Buildings Under Way.

"During the year the construction of some nine buildings has been carried on, viz.: Normal School, Calgary; Court House, Cardston; Court House, Wetaskiwin; terrace, administrative building, Edmonton; Lieutenant Governor's stable, Edmonton; Legislative Hall, Edmonton; and cottage building and stable at Elk Park. The Normal School building, Calgary, and court house building, Cardston, were completed or nearly completed at the end of the year. Construction work was being made in the dairy industry building, Edmonton, which consisted of taking out the excavation preparatory to putting in concrete foundations, and a start was also made on the construction of the court house building at Wetaskiwin, Calgary, land titles building, Calgary, etc., etc. The preparation of plans for the above buildings has entailed a very considerable amount of labor, as it was necessary to make so many changes before we could see to arrive at the design most suitable to the requirements in each case.

"Some difficulty has been experienced in connection with contractors failing, owing principally to the financial stringency and it has been necessary in the case of the Normal School building for the government to take over the work while the court house building at Cardston has been unnecessarily delayed by the contractors, and with these examples before us, the difficulty of making sure that supply men are paid by contractors, it is questionable if we should be building a departmental building in preference to the contract system, the former being likely to work out quite as advantageous to the government in connection with building construction, as it has in connection with bridge construction. The total expenditure on buildings was \$244,674.70.

Local Improvement Branch.

"During the year, in addition to carrying on the usual work of administering the Local Improvement Act, the Village Act and that part of the School Ordinance relating to the collection of rates, school taxes, and the collection of rates, we also administered those parts of the educational Tax Act relating to the assessment and collection of educational taxes, and by this additional work we now come in contact with the majority of the ratepayers in the province, either directly or indirectly, and as a consequence the business carried on through this branch has been greatly increased during the year. This increase is particularly noticeable in connection with the large amount of correspondence and the large number of additional records it is necessary to keep. In the large local improvement districts, while the lands are being continually reduced by the organization of new small districts, the increase in settlement and purchase of lands is keeping pace with the part of holders of provincial certificates to qualify for finals.

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years as called for by the provisions of the School Ordinance, nor are they always careful to advise us promptly of all payments of arrears which are received after their returns have been sent in in order that our records may be kept up to date. It is gratifying, however, to note that the returns and advices for the year 1907 have been better than those for the year 1906.

In Interest of Farmers.

"With reference to some of the work under the direction of the honorable minister of agriculture, in connection with the dairy industry, I may say that the climatic conditions during the first part of the year—in the spring of 1907, were especially against the dairy industry of the province, consequently there was a slight setback as far as the production of butter was concerned. While the output was smaller yet the prices realized were considerably higher than in previous years. The dairy industry in English speaking communities. The idea of building and furnishing a school building for the dairy industry seems to meet with general favor. The Inspector of schools in making his report for 1907 stated that he did not visit many of these schools as they were very well looked after by the Supervisors. In passing, my opinion is that the dairy industry has been helped in many ways. They are an industrious hard working people and when the work is once started, where schools have been erected among these people, the attendance is good and often does not vary more than two or three from day to day. One school I visited had twenty-five Galicians, and the children were doing very well indeed. Another had forty-eight pupils, the majority being Galicians. (Loud Applause.)

Estimates of Revenue for 1908.

"The estimates for next year are— Balance brought forward, \$69,650.00. Dominion Subsidy, \$1,254,125.00. Population, \$130,000.00. Annual payments, \$200,000.00. Compensation public lands, \$75,000.00. Public buildings fund, \$93,750.00. Interest on principal, \$60,000.00. Attorney General's Dept., \$357,544.65. Land titles offices fees, \$12,544.65. (Net fees collected by the department.) Liquor licenses, \$12,544.65. Fines under statutes and regulations, \$22,000.00. Public Works Dept., \$50,000.00. Telephone, \$40,000.00. and other fees, \$10,000.00. Education Dept., \$12,000.00. Agricultural Dept., \$25,000.00. Reimbursement of advances on butter and cheese, \$250,000.00. Brand and other fees, \$4,000.00. Game licenses, \$3,000.00. Provincial Secy's Dept., \$20,000.00. Fees under ordinances, \$25,000.00. Licenses and other fees, \$10,000.00. Provincial Secy's Dept., \$20,000.00. Official Gazette, \$2,000.00. Sale of official publications, \$1,000.00. Treasury Dept., \$144,730.00. Life insurance fees, \$30,000.00. Corporation Tax act, \$31,000.00. Railway Tax act, \$60,730.00. Interest on bank balances, \$23,000.00. Miscellaneous, \$350,288.99. Reimbursement from telephone, \$284,288.99. Return from sources, \$284,288.99. Total estimated revenue, \$2,624,038.69. Estimated expenditure for 1908: Civil government, \$37,000.00. Legislation, \$37,000.00. Administration of justice, \$366,920.00. Public works, \$1,110,500.00. Agriculture and statistics, \$470,675.56. Hospitals, charities and other, \$51,700.00. Miscellaneous, \$102,200.00. Total, \$2,624,038.69. Revenue as per estimate, \$2,624,038.69. Expenditure as per estimate, \$2,624,038.69. Estimated surplus, 1908, \$1,213,131.31. Comments on Estimates.

Statistics Re Schools.

Number of School Districts— In existence December 31st, 1907, as per departmental report, 746. Erected during 1907, 156. Total, 902. School Districts and School Grants— No. of ungraded schools in operation, 532. 640. No. of ungraded departments in operation in graded schools, 228. 300. No. of ungraded departments open during whole year, 256. 287. No. of departments open during part of year, 276. 353. No. of departments in graded schools open during whole year, 214. 256. No. of departments in graded schools open during part of year, 14. 44.

Grants.

In addition to this there was also the sum of \$1,842.08 collected for tax certificate fees and other payments, which were placed to the credit of the large local improvement district trust fund.

Small Local Improvement Districts.

"During the year 1907 eighteen new districts were organized, making a total of 163 districts in existence at the end of the year.

Villages.

"During the year 1907 nine villages were established and four villages, viz.: Daysland, Magrath, Nanton and Taber were raised to the status of towns.

Arrears of School Taxes.

"During the year 1907 we collected and forwarded to the different rural school districts in the province a total sum of \$6,135.41 of arrears of school taxes, and while this collection of arrears of school taxes is carried on for the purpose of assisting rural school districts, our greatest difficulty in connection with the work is the fact that many of the school trustees are not careful to forward returns of re-

No. of Candidates in— 1— 3— 5— 7— 9— 11— 13— 15— 17— 19— 21— 23— 25— 27— 29— 31— 33— 35— 37— 39— 41— 43— 45— 47— 49— 51— 53— 55— 57— 59— 61— 63— 65— 67— 69— 71— 73— 75— 77— 79— 81— 83— 85— 87— 89— 91— 93— 95— 97— 99— 101— 103— 105— 107— 109— 111— 113— 115— 117— 119— 121— 123— 125— 127— 129— 131— 133— 135— 137— 139— 141— 143— 145— 147— 149— 151— 153— 155— 157— 159— 161— 163— 165— 167— 169— 171— 173— 175— 177— 179— 181— 183— 185— 187— 189— 191— 193— 195— 197— 199— 201— 203— 205— 207— 209— 211— 213— 215— 217— 219— 221— 223— 225— 227— 229— 231— 233— 235— 237— 239— 241— 243— 245— 247— 249— 251— 253— 255— 257— 259— 261— 263— 265— 267— 269— 271— 273— 275— 277— 279— 281— 283— 285— 287— 289— 291— 293— 295— 297— 299— 301— 303— 305— 307— 309— 311— 313— 315— 317— 319— 321— 323— 325— 327— 329— 331— 333— 335— 337— 339— 341— 343— 345— 347— 349— 351— 353— 355— 357— 359— 361— 363— 365— 367— 369— 371— 373— 375— 377— 379— 381— 383— 385— 387— 389— 391— 393— 395— 397— 399— 401— 403— 405— 407— 409— 411— 413— 415— 417— 419— 421— 423— 425— 427— 429— 431— 433— 435— 437— 439— 441— 443— 445— 447— 449— 451— 453— 455— 457— 459— 461— 463— 465— 467— 469— 471— 473— 475— 477— 479— 481— 483— 485— 487— 489— 491— 493— 495— 497— 499— 501— 503— 505— 507— 509— 511— 513— 515— 517— 519— 521— 523— 525— 527— 529— 531— 533— 535— 537— 539— 541— 543— 545— 547— 549— 551— 553— 555— 557— 559— 561— 563— 565— 567— 569— 571— 573— 575— 577— 579— 581— 583— 585— 587— 589— 591— 593— 595— 597— 599— 601— 603— 605— 607— 609— 611— 613— 615— 617— 619— 621— 623— 625— 627— 629— 631— 633— 635— 637— 639— 641— 643— 645— 647— 649— 651— 653— 655— 657— 659— 661— 663— 665— 667— 669— 671— 673— 675— 677— 679— 681— 683— 685— 687— 689— 691— 693— 695— 697— 699— 701— 703— 705— 707— 709— 711— 713— 715— 717— 719— 721— 723— 725— 727— 729— 731— 733— 735— 737— 739— 741— 743— 745— 747— 749— 751— 753— 755— 757— 759— 761— 763— 765— 767— 769— 771— 773— 775— 777— 779— 781— 783— 785— 787— 789— 791— 793— 795— 797— 799— 801— 803— 805— 807— 809— 811— 813— 815— 817— 819— 821— 823— 825— 827— 829— 831— 833— 835— 837— 839— 841— 843— 845— 847— 849— 851— 853— 855— 857— 859— 861— 863— 865— 867— 869— 871— 873— 875— 877— 879— 881— 883— 885— 887— 889— 891— 893— 895— 897— 899— 901— 903— 905— 907— 909— 911— 913— 915— 917— 919— 921— 923— 925— 927— 929— 931— 933— 935— 937— 939— 941— 943— 945— 947— 949— 951— 953— 955— 957— 959— 961— 963— 965— 967— 969— 971— 973— 975— 977— 979— 981— 983— 985— 987— 989— 991— 993— 995— 997— 999— 1001— 1003— 1005— 1007— 1009— 1011— 1013— 1015— 1017— 1019— 1021— 1023— 1025— 1027— 1029— 1031— 1033— 1035— 1037— 1039— 1041— 1043— 1045— 1047— 1049— 1051— 1053— 1055— 1057— 1059— 1061— 1063— 1065— 1067— 1069— 1071— 1073— 1075— 1077— 1079— 1081— 1083— 1085— 1087— 1089— 1091— 1093— 1095— 1097— 1099— 1101— 1103— 1105— 1107— 1109— 1111— 1113— 1115— 1117— 1119— 1121— 1123— 1125— 1127— 1129— 1131— 1133— 1135— 1137— 1139— 1141— 1143— 1145— 1147— 1149— 1151— 1153— 1155— 1157— 1159— 1161— 1163— 1165— 1167— 1169— 1171— 1173— 1175— 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1509— 1511— 1513— 1515— 1517— 1519— 1521— 1523— 1525— 1527— 1529— 1531— 1533— 1535— 1537— 1539— 1541— 1543— 1545— 1547— 1549— 1551— 1553— 1555— 1557— 1559— 1561— 1563— 1565— 1567— 1569— 1571— 1573— 1575— 1577— 1579— 1581— 1583— 1585— 1587— 1589— 1591— 1593— 1595— 1597— 1599— 1601— 1603— 1605— 1607— 1609— 1611— 1613— 1615— 1617— 1619— 1621— 1623— 1625— 1627— 1629— 1631— 1633— 1635— 1637— 1639— 1641— 1643— 1645— 1647— 1649— 1651— 1653— 1655— 1657— 1659— 1661— 1663— 1665— 1667— 1669— 1671— 1673— 1675— 1677— 1679— 1681— 1683— 1685— 1687— 1689— 1691— 1693— 1695— 1697— 1699— 1701— 1703— 1705— 1707— 1709— 1711— 1713— 1715— 1717— 1719— 1721— 1723— 1725— 1727— 1729— 1731— 1733— 1735— 1737— 1739— 1741— 1743— 1745— 1747— 1749— 1751— 1753— 1755— 1757— 1759— 1761— 1763— 1765— 1767— 1769— 1771— 1773— 1775— 1777— 1779— 1781— 1783— 1785— 1787— 1789— 1791— 1793— 1795— 1797— 1799— 1801— 1803— 1805— 1807— 1809— 1811— 1813— 1815— 1817— 1819— 1821— 1823— 1825— 1827— 1829— 1831— 1833— 1835— 1837— 1839— 1841— 1843— 1845— 1847— 1849— 1851— 1853— 1855— 1857— 1859— 1861— 1863— 1865— 1867— 1869— 1871— 1873— 1875— 1877— 1879— 1881— 1883— 1885— 1887— 1889— 1891— 1893— 1895— 1897— 1899— 1901— 1903— 1905— 1907— 1909— 1911— 1913— 1915— 1917— 1919— 1921— 1923— 1925— 1927— 1929— 1931— 1933— 1935— 1937— 1939— 1941— 1943— 1945— 1947— 1949— 1951— 1953— 1955— 1957— 1959— 1961— 1963— 1965— 1967— 1969— 1971— 1973— 1975— 1977— 1979— 1981— 1983— 1985— 1987— 1989— 1991— 1993— 1995— 1997— 1999— 2001— 2003— 2005— 2007— 2009— 2011— 2013— 2015— 2017— 2019— 2021— 2023— 2025— 2027— 2029— 2031— 2033— 2035— 2037— 2039— 2041— 2043— 2045— 2047— 2049— 2051— 2053— 2055— 2057— 2059— 2061— 2063— 2065— 2067— 2069— 2071— 2073— 2075— 2077— 2079— 2081— 2083— 2085— 2087— 2089— 2091— 2093— 2095— 2097— 2099— 2101— 2103— 2105— 2107— 2109— 2111— 2113— 2115— 2117— 2119— 2121— 2123— 2125— 2127— 2129— 2131— 2133— 2135— 2137— 2139— 2141— 2143— 2145— 2147— 2149— 2151— 2153— 2155— 2157— 2159— 2161— 2163— 2165— 2167— 2169— 2171— 2173— 2175— 2177— 2179— 2181— 2183— 2185— 2187— 2189— 2191— 2193— 2195— 2197— 2199— 2201— 2203— 2205— 2207— 2209— 2211— 2213— 2215— 2217— 2219— 2221— 2223— 2225— 2227— 2229— 2231— 2233— 2235— 2237— 2239— 2241— 2243— 2245— 2247— 2249— 2251— 2253— 2255— 2257— 2259— 2261— 2263— 2265— 2267— 2269— 2271— 2273— 2275— 2277— 2279— 2281— 2283— 2285— 2287— 2289— 2291— 2293— 2295— 2297— 2299— 2301— 2303— 2305— 2307— 2309— 2311— 2313— 2315— 2317— 2319— 2321— 2323— 2325— 2327— 2329— 2331— 2333— 2335— 2337— 2339— 2341— 2343— 2345— 2347— 2349— 2351— 2353— 2355— 2357— 2359— 2361— 2363— 2365— 2367— 23