

**The Herald**

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 JAMES McISAAC,  
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**Legislative Session.**

The House resumed business on Tuesday 13th at 4.15. Before the regular order of business was taken up, Premier Mathieson took occasion to refer to the continued absence from the House of Mr. James Kennedy the member for Kensington. He said it was much to be regretted that this continuous absence was due to illness. He trusted he would be sufficiently improved in health to be in his place before the House prorogued. After considerable routine business had been done and some private bills had been advanced a stage, Hon. Premier Mathieson introduced a bill to amend the Road Act 1912. The estimates of expenditure were presented by message from the Lieutenant Governor. On motion of the Premier the estimates were laid on the table. The House then adjourned.

The House met at 12.20 on Wednesday. Routine business and the advancement of bills occupied the whole of the setting up to 12 o'clock. The House resumed after recess at 3.30. Several bills were passed through second and third readings and some other business of a routine character occupied the attention of the members up to 6 o'clock.

**THE BUDGET.**

At the evening sitting Premier Mathieson delivered his budget speech. He said it would be well now towards the close of the fourth session of this Legislature to take a retrospective view of the past. He said that on the 2nd day of December 1911 Liberal rule in this Province ceased after upwards of twenty years of office. He pointed out that on the eve of assuming office the present Government promised to terminate the era of deficits under which we had been groaning since Confederation. The first thing the present Government did was to appoint a commission of bankers to investigate the real financial condition of the Province, as far as possible. This commission reported that the debt and liabilities on Dec. 31, 1911 amounted to \$1,072,000. Each year since then the Government had reduced this indebtedness until on the 31st of December 1914 the debt was reduced to \$983,354. That is to say the present Government had reduced the debt of this Province to the extent of \$89,241. In addition to this the Government paid the Walter Lowe claim of \$7,343, and a claim of which no record had been kept, making in all a total reduction of debt of \$1,000,000. The Premier here pointed out that last year the actual surplus over expenditure of the year's transactions was \$10,572 although the estimated surplus was only \$5,000. The surplus would have been much larger had it not been for the war, as the Government had contributed nearly \$21,000 on war account. The Premier said that in view of the above facts the Government surely had kept their promise to make revenue and expenditure meet. Besides all this the Government had added to the assets of the Province by the agricultural buildings and over \$100,000 in the department of Public Works, in the shape of permanent bridges. All this required money and could not be accomplished under the old order of things with our small revenues

were placed at \$516,238. This would show a surplus of \$1,055. But to this must be added the sinking funds and interest thereon bringing the estimated reduction of debt up to \$1,032,323. Referring to the school supply department established by the Government, he said that under the superintendence of Mr. Landrigan, this new department had been a very much greater success than had been anticipated. Referring to the necessity of the preservation of health the Premier said it was the intention of the Government to establish a laboratory where tests and experiments would be carried on. Considering the importance of the duty placed upon us by the war he said he would ask the Legislature to allow the Government to have a wide discretion in making whatever financial provision might be necessary in this direction, during the present year. It was incumbent upon us, he said, that we should do our full duty in this matter. He hoped that there would be unanimity in this most important affair, and that we would not have any attempt at obstruction or opposition.

Mr. Richards, Leader of the opposition commenced his speech at 10.30. He offered a general criticism of the Government's operations. At 11.15 Mr. Richards moved the adjournment of the debate. The House then adjourned.

On Thursday the House did not meet until about 3.30. After advancing some bills one or two stages and some other routine business, the debate on the budget was resumed by Mr. Richards. He commenced speaking about 4.20. He devoted a considerable portion of his speech to a criticism of our educational system. He contended that the education now imported in our common schools was not as thorough as that of several years ago. He next criticized the Public Works Department. He said the expenses of the department, under the present government, were very much greater while the expenditures for public works was less last year than in 1911. He contended that the roads throughout the Province generally were in very poor condition. He next directed his attention to the Department of agriculture. He said that whatever progress and advancement this department has made has been in consequence of its following the manner of administration pursued by the late Government. He supposed the ladies institutes were progressing very favorably. Meetings of ladies institutes, he felt sure, are always interesting, especially in the afternoon when a good cup of tea might be enjoyed. He thought drainage was a subject that might very well be developed by the Agricultural Department. He thought this Province had been ill-treated in the matter of providing horses for the war. In the other Maritime Provinces he said hundreds and hundreds of horses were bought for this purpose. He said the cost of the department of agriculture was now \$8,750 more per year than under the Liberal Government, but he did not believe he said, the work done was of equal expansion. He spoke for about a hour.

Mr. Simpson followed in the budget debate. He pointed out that the present Government had succeeded in making revenue and expenditure meet. In this they succeeded admirably, and nothing succeeds like success. He referred to the successful manner in which the present Government had presented our claims at Ottawa and secured the \$100,000 additional to our subsidy. In addition to this they secured \$25,000 a year for agriculture. Besides this we would have had a larger amount for our public roads, had not a partisan Liberal Senate prevented it.

Hon. Mr. McKinnon rose at ten minutes to six to take part in the budget debate. He said that before entering on the subject of the budget, he considered it proper to refer to a personal matter. This was in reference to a matter in which some members of Liberal administration which pre-

ceded it. The securing of \$100,000 additional subsidy; the \$26,000 grant for agriculture, and the other progressive operations of the present Government were passed under review. The Public Works department, the agriculture department, the education and other departments were eulogized by the speaker. He concluded at 10.10.

It was 12.30 when the House met on Friday forenoon. Routine business engaged the time until 1 o'clock.

The House resumed in the afternoon at 8.50. A number of bills were read a third time and passed. Then the Leader of the Government moved the House into committee for further consideration of the Prohibition Amendment Act. He prefaced his motion by stating that a movement was now on foot for affording to every member of the community an opportunity for taking a total abstinence pledge during the war. He said this movement was supported by his Lordship, the Bishop of Charlottetown, Canon Simpson, Rev. Dr. Fullerton, Rev. Mr. Dawson and other clergymen. Progress was reported at 5 o'clock.

Hon. Mr. McKinnon resumed the debate on the budget. He thought the financial statement presented for last year was such as should satisfy any reasonable man. Notwithstanding the disarrangement of matters financial in consequence of the war, we have a substantial surplus on the year's transactions. We have had not three surpluses in succession something that we have not known since Confederation. After getting what we wanted and what we hoped for in a financial way, we should be satisfied. This satisfactory financial condition was brought about by the wise management of the present Government. Dealing with a statement made by the Leader of the opposition to the effect that the salaries of the teachers for Dec. last had not been paid, but were carried over into this year, he pointed out from the records that all salaries due teachers for December had been paid except about \$500. He proceeded to controvert from authentic records other statements regarding education made by the leader of the opposition. Among other things he pointed out the great progress that had been made in agricultural education and women's institutes. He pointed out the advancement made by way of establishing agricultural buildings for Queen's County here in Charlottetown and for Prince County at Summerside. A like building would be provided for King's County in the near future. These buildings are to be the home and headquarters of the Professors in charge of the agricultural education in these respective Counties. Hon. J. A. McDonald spoke briefly on the budget and then moved the adjournment of the debate. After a report from the private bills committee, the House took recess.

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Hon. Mr. Myers continued the debate commencing at 9.45. He went on to show by contrast, the superiority of the present progressive Government over the Liberal administration which pre-

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(Continued from page 1)

and cabinet ministers proven thieves there forward two finest Conservative members ment against whom the breath of suspicion v What happened? Robert Borden defend Sir Wilfrid Laurier def in his party who were the most glaring fraud means. He had invest their conduct made satisfied that they h not clean, that their in war contracts he country know that was no place for these day he read W. F. Gard for Carleton and Arthur Foster out of the Co party. Their constituent sent them back to p but the Conservative Parliament Hill w of them. And so S Borden has made a promise he made in d He told the people th he led must be clean government he formed. Bright. He has the having fulfilled his pr man is wanted in his p is not prepared to ac standards he has set.

The Men of the Hour in

Several of his minist added to their reputation the short session that is its beginning General was the man against wh of the attack was conce Today he is the man of t He does things in a characteristic way, but he Hon. Dr. Roche has adv public esteem. As the h of the Public Accounts Co he has steered a straight He has been the m brought out truth and had placed the further in the hands of the Jus partment. Hon. J. D. H head of the naval ser partment had a try especially at the begin the session, but he came the ordeal with colors Perhaps he is another men of the hour. This war session other minist less in evidence than ust the government on the stands in the eye of the immeasurably higher did two months ago. It is which is a new thing, it is and it is British to the co

Ottawa, April 15.—In his statement in regard report of the Public A Committee, at the opening House this morning Sir Borden stated that the o had considered matters advance of the time, v ordinary circum matters would have their review. T said, had been op erment in conn investigation of one to rely on de tions and declar ters should only the usual way, appointed by course, and the ment had con take, was to op to the fullest at gation. The decided it was f gate, and to frauds and irreg practiced on Canada. This said Sir Robert adopted by the in its fifteen From the time an inquiry into connected wit 1898, till the le vestigate even matters of g connection w Transmittents had appeared g to restrict inq gation to their compass. The then pointed out of these matters committee had taken place d weeks of the was the great and urgency, as expected that paid to the sal public interest doubtly given then turned to. The Premier evidence given before the com been informed.