

THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5th, 1901. SUBSCRIPTION—\$1.00 A YEAR, PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY JAMES McISAAC, Editor & Proprietor.

Canada's Enormous Expenditure.

Mr. Borden, Leader of the Opposition, towards the close of the recent session of Parliament, placed himself on record regarding the expenditure in the following resolution:

"That the total expenditure, as shown by the Public Accounts during each fiscal year from 1892 to 1900, both inclusive, was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Year and Expenditure. Rows: 1892 (\$42,272,136.32), 1893 (40,853,727.91), 1894 (43,006,233.90), 1895 (42,872,238.44), 1896 (44,096,385.92), 1897 (42,972,755.89), 1898 (45,334,281.06), 1899 (51,542,535.29), 1900 (52,717,466.84).

"That the Minister of Finance estimates that the total revenue for the current year ending June 30th, 1901, will be \$52,750,000.

"That notwithstanding this very large revenue, the Minister of Finance estimates that the public debt will be increased during the current year by about \$1,800,000.

"That the total amounts which this House has been asked to vote during the present session, together with items of expenditure authorized by statute, are substantially as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Category and Amount. Rows: Supplementary estimates, 1901 (\$3,729,716), Supplementary estimates, 1901 (30,000), Main estimates, 1902 (50,398,823), Supplementary estimates, 1902 (8,369,241), Supplementary estimates, 1902 (1,240,476), Railway subsidies (3,462,472), Further railway subsidies (96,000), Annual subsidy to steamship line between Canada and France (100,000), Total (\$67,426,720).

"That the Finance Minister estimates that during the ensuing year at least one million dollars will be required to pay the bounties on iron and steel, and that the sum may be somewhat larger.

"That this House desires to place on record its opinion that the expenditure for the year ending 30th June, 1901, and the proposed expenditure for the year ending 30th June, 1902, are excessive and extravagant, and its regret that the Government, with the exceptionally large revenue at its command, has not only failed to reduce, but has largely increased the public debt, and has not shown proper appreciation of the extreme difficulty, if not impossibility, of reducing in future years, the very high standard of expenditure which is being fixed during a period of great prosperity."

These figures have a significance that can scarcely be overestimated. It will be remembered that the Liberals in their Ottawa convention in 1893 declared by resolution that the expenditure and taxation were beyond the requirements of the country, although the grand total of the expenditure of that year was less than forty-one millions, and the average for about eight years before and after was in the vicinity of forty-two millions. Sir Richard Cartwright, who says little now, said at that time, that such an expenditure was "utterly unjustifiable."

Sir Wilfrid Laurier solemnly promised that "if we get into power we will follow the example of Mr. McKensie, and I say that, although we may not be able to bring the expenditure to what they were under him, we can reduce the amount two, yes, three millions of dollars a year."

Of this enormous expenditure of \$67,000,000 the Huntington Gleason (Liberals) says that many of the proposed outlays are sheer waste: "The worst instances are to be found in the public works, which are about with votes of local jobs, granted to bribe constituencies at the instance of members who care nothing for the welfare of the Dominion at large. It is safe to say that in every item in which it is not really essential to carry on the business of the Dominion, the gross amount required for 1901-2 would not much exceed 40 millions." The Gleason proceeds to say: "Happening in a farm-house, the writer learned that the wife, a woman with several children of tender age, and with nobody to help her, had, in addition to her household duties, to rise every morning at 4 o'clock to assist in the milking. The daily receipts of that farmer and his wife, slaving from daylight to dark, did not average \$3. This industrious couple are representatives of millions all over Canada, of the class upon whom its prosperity rests. It is from the people who work thus and earn so little, that the taxes have to come to pay these millions that are being so

lavishly voted at Ottawa. Were members to keep in view the men and women whose toll has to pay the bill they would hesitate when asked to vote the enormous sums the Government asks. The country is oppressed by the horde of officials who live upon it, its resources are being wasted on enterprises which are not of general benefit, taxes are levied and bonuses paid to enrich corporations, and meanwhile the working classes are having a heavier drain on their earnings, and the mortgage on the farm as security, for the public debt grows."

THOUGH repeated requests have been made by the opposition for information in regard to the claim of McKenzie and Mann against the Yukon railway contract, the Premier only vouchsafed a reply on the day of prorogation. His statement has a melancholy interest for the people of Canada as it foreshadows the payment of something like three hundred thousand dollars to these government favorites for which the country gets no benefit whatever, except from the blocking of the wildcat project. It will be remembered that the government, without the authority of Parliament, entered into a provisional contract for the building of a section of narrow gauge railway, or tramway, in the Yukon country, for which McKenzie and Mann were to receive practically all the choicest of the gold lands. The majority in the Commons, obedient to the crack of the government whip, endorsed the scheme, but the Senate rejected it, and nearly 25 millions more than that of 1893. While the expenditure is thus enormously increased the revenue is at best stationary, if it is not declining. The Minister of Finance himself admits that the revenue of the past few years has been abnormal and has already warned Parliament that it is likely to show a decrease in the near future. Yet in the face of all this the ministers in charge of the great spending departments go on increasing their estimates to an extraordinary degree, while the Premier seems to look idly on, either powerless to restrain them or supremely careless of future results.

Let it be understood that we are not opposing any and every increase in the expenditure simply because it is an increase. This perhaps would not be fair in all cases; because ours is a young and growing country, and an increase in expenditure may in some cases be as healthy a sign of prosperity as an increase in revenue. No doubt the business of the country is growing; but the Government has gone beyond all reason in the matter of expenditure. The enormous increase from \$40,000,000 prior to 1896 to \$67,000,000 in 1901 is enough almost to take one's breath away. What we object to is the large amount of this increased expenditure that is not essential to the carrying on of the business of the country, but has been granted to bribe constituencies. Has anything happened since 1896 to justify this reckless and scandalously extravagant expenditure of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues? We think all reasonable and reasoning people will say there has not; yet, only five years ago, when criticising an expenditure of \$38,000,000, he used the following language: "If we get into power we will follow the example of Mr. McKensie; and I say that, although we may not be able to bring the expenditure to what they were under him, we can reduce the amount two, yes, three millions of dollars a year."

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Another Quotation.

(St. John Sun.) The valued Telegraph is much in the habit of quoting the criticism of the Toronto Telegram as the language of a conservative paper. The Telegram is not a party paper, but an independent journal which expresses the personal views of Mr. John Ross Robertson. Mr. Robertson sat in the last parliament as an independent. He was elected as such, defeating the candidate of the conservative party, and received the support of the liberals in his constituency. The Telegram has strong socialist tendencies, and supports the movement for nationalizing the railways of the country. Most of its criticism of Mr. Borden and the other conservative leaders grows out of their unwillingness to go as far in that direction as the Telegram would like. But since the Telegram has shown its appreciation of the Liberal party by several quotations from its columns, we take pleasure in adding one to the number. Discussing "The Rettenet Party," the Telegram says:

"It is saying a good deal, considering the appalling atrocities which blacken the political annals of Canada, but is saying the truth, to declare that the conservative party in its worst days never equalled the infamy of the crimes of which it has been the victim since 1896. The rules which govern even gamblers in an honest game have no application to the sort of game which robbed Canadian citizens in Brockville, West Huron, North Waterloo and West Elgin. It is a misfortune to the country and a disgrace to the liberal party that no jail door has yawned for the authors and promoters of a system of organized scoundrelism for the benefit of the governments at Ottawa and Toronto. There was not enough virtue in the Ontario government to prosecute the perjured rascals who robbed honest men of their votes. There is not enough virtue in the liberal party to right the great wrong in West Durham. Even Will Laurier is not ashamed to join cheerfully in the murder of justice in that constituency, and the Globe should not expect conservatives to cheerfully accept the modern methods employed in the process of making 'the game go against them.'"

United States Threats. (Halifax Herald.) To Canadians threats from our neighbors are nothing new. Indeed whenever our neighbors want anything that they have no right to and are unwilling to pay for, they begin to threaten. Just now they want the abolition of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty of fifty years standing, in the making and establishing of which Great Britain, at the request of the United States, ceded territory in Central America, and which therefore the United States cannot abrogate without the consent of Great Britain. Great Britain gave consideration for this treaty by the cession of territory, and the United States on the other hand bound themselves to hold the canal which they proposed a United States company should build across the isthmus, unfortified, neutral, and open to the vessels of all the world. No company materialized to build the canal. Years went by, and a year or two ago the United States came to the conclusion they wanted to build the canal as a national work. Great Britain said all right. Mr. Hay drew up a treaty giving what the United States government wanted. The British government signed Mr. Hay's treaty without the change of a word. The treaty went before the senate, and the senate insisted that the United States should not only have the right to build and own the canal as Great Britain had agreed, but should also have the right to fortify it and to close it to the ships of all other nations, that is they insisted on tearing up the Clayton-Bulwer treaty without Great Britain's consent and without offering any recompense. The senate's absurd demands were forwarded to the British government, and of course were not consented to, and the so-called Hay-Roosevelt treaty became a dead letter, and the Clayton-Bulwer treaty of course remains unbroken. Now it seems our neighbors have made up their minds that the Clayton-Bulwer treaty must go, and Great Britain must be forced to consent. The Philadelphia Ledger publishes a plan by which the Clayton-Bulwer treaty will be torn up. It says: "If the bonding privileges are abrogated, as they should be, in justice to American railways, and only reserved upon condition that Great Britain consent to the unconditional abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, she will consent within ninety days after those privileges are withdrawn."

"By 'bonding privileges' they mean the arrangement by which goods are suffered to pass in bond through Canada to points in the United States, and by the United States to points in Canada, by which in fact a large portion of Canadian trans-Atlantic trade is done through the ports of Portland, Boston and New York. This threat to abrogate the 'bonding privileges' is an old one but Canada has never before been frightened by it, and never will be so long as the people are possessed of their senses. What the Landgrave government may do is another thing. But the Canadian people cannot be dismayed by this threat. The people of New England would be the hardest hit by it. No part of Canada would be really injured. Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick would have such abrogation with pleasure. The Canadian Atlantic ports would thus have a change to be a great advantage to them, and ultimately to all Canada. So our good neighbors may go right along with their threats. But they will have to find some other way of handling the Clayton-Bulwer treaty."

Lord Kitchener reports to the War Office, under date of Pretoria, May 30, as follows: "General Dixon's force at Valfontein was attacked yesterday by Delarey's force, and there was severe fighting. The enemy was finally driven off with heavy loss, leaving 35 dead. I regret that our casualties also were severe. The killed and wounded numbered 174. Four officers were killed."

On the anniversary of Lord Roberts' entry into Johannesburg comes this news of severe fighting and heavy losses within forty miles of the Gold Reef city. The battle at Valfontein, on the Durban-Johannesburg railway, reported by Lord Kitchener to-day, is the most serious engagement since General Clement's reverses at Magersfontein. The garrison of Valfontein, apparently largely composed of Yeomanry, had 174 men put out of action. That their assailants came to close quarters and suffered heavily is shown by the number of dead left on the field.

The London Sun has published a story to the effect that General Botha has arrived at Standerton and is in communication with Kruger through the Netherlands government appealing to Kragar to sue for peace. Lord Kitchener is said to have given General Botha permission to adopt this course. The Sun further hears that ten thousand Zulus have gone on

the warpath owing to Boer raids upon Zululand. London advices say that the South African Constabulary have captured Abram Malan, son in law of Joubert and an active Boer leader. London advices of yesterday's date contain the following:—Kitchener, in a despatch from Pretoria, dated today, says: Dixon's report of fighting at Valfontein just received. On our side 1450 men with seven guns were engaged. The force were returning to camp at Valfontein, when the enemy under cover of veidie, rushed the rear guard consisting of two guns, 28th battery and 330 men, Derbyshires and Yeomanry. They temporarily captured the two guns. When the remainder of the force came into action the Boers were driven off and the guns recaptured. Our casualties were six officers and 51 men killed, six officers and 115 men wounded, and one officer and seven men missing. One officer and 4 men since died of wounds. Forty-one Boers killed on grounds. Further Boer casualties are not known. Reinforcements are being sent. Willow-More, Cape Colony, June 4.—Commandant Sheper with 700 men attacked Willow More on Saturday but were beaten off after nine hours fighting. London, June 4th.—The War Office made the following announcement last night. "All information received from Kitchener respecting the recent engagements in South Africa have been communicated to the public. News From Sydney. John Hamilton, aged 27, son of John Hamilton, Truro, was instantly killed at the steel company's works Saturday afternoon by falling underneath a loaded car which he had just completed to a train. His body was terribly mangled. An inquest was held over the remains that evening when the verdict was returned. That deceased, John Hamilton, came to his death whilst coasting cars on the Dominion Iron and Steel Company's property in performing his duties as brakeman. The remains were forwarded home for interment. Hamilton went with the steel company as brakeman only about a week ago. He was unmarried. George Beane, employee of the Dominion Iron and Steel Company, had over \$100 picked from his pocket Saturday afternoon in one of the hotels in town. Cape Breton tramway company took over the boats of Sydney's ferry company Saturday. The talking over was in the nature of a purchase. The price paid, it is said, being nearly \$40,000. The steamer Montezuma arrived at Sydney Saturday to bunker for New Orleans from where she takes a consignment of horses for the British army in South Africa. The Montezuma received her orders at Father Point, and Sydney and Newport News were telegraphed with respect to the price of coal and facilities of shipping. It was found the steamer could bunker at Sydney quicker and that the price of coal was cheaper than at Newport News. It has been ascertained by medical examination that the Chinaman formerly reported in the Herald as supposed to be suffering from leprosy is tainted with either that disease or one of syphilitic tendencies. Dr. Smith of the Traadde Lazaretto, will be called to Sydney at once to make further examinations of the case.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

100 MANY PREACHERS. The London Daily Mail says that King Edward has decided to reduce his ecclesiastical establishment from thirty-six paid chaplains to twelve. Quite enough. A BIG COMPANY. An Albany, N. Y., despatch says:—The American-Canadian Mining Co., of New York City has been incorporated with a capital stock of a million dollars to operate mines in Nova Scotia. SHALL FOX ON BOARD. The Anchor line steamer Britannia, Captain Turner, which arrived at New York on Friday night, from Genoa, Leghorn and Naples, with 654 Italian immigrants on board, is detained at quarantine owing to smallpox. Among her steerage passengers five cases of the disease in a mild form were reported by the ship's surgeon. One death occurred during the voyage on May 28, a Greek, who was buried at sea.

A MILITARY RIOT. A London despatch of the 3rd says: A military riot occurred on Saturday night at Thornhill. A detachment of the Dublin Fusiliers, actuated by some imaginary grievances, wrecked the barack. The guard was called out to arrest the ringleaders, and shots were fired by the Fusiliers, who met the reinforced guard with a volley of ball cartridges and with their bayonets. Two men of the guard were seriously injured by bayonet thrusts. The riot lasted two hours.

BRITISH TROOPS ATTACKED. British troops acting as police at Tien Tsin, were attacked by French soldiers on Sunday last, with bayonets and bricks. The fusiliers fired in the air. The Germans then came to aid the French and the fusiliers fired again, killing one Frenchman, and wounding several others. This was followed by the wounding of four fusiliers, five Germans and one Japanese. Mr. Brodick, on Friday last in the Imperial House of Commons, declined to give Mr. Henry Norman the information he sought concerning the fall of the reserve of small-arm ammunition in England in the earlier stages of the war to 3,300 rounds, as stated by Mr. Balfour last Thursday. Mr. Norman wanted to know the day and hour when the reserve stock of that amount, and the total daily output of cartridges in the country at that time. Mr. Brodick replied that he was primarily responsible in all matters of the kind. He was fully aware of the facts, but he did not think it judicious or in the interests of the public service to give details asked for. Mr. Norman will bring the matter forward on the motion for the adjournment of the house on Thursday. He is well supported in his intention on both sides of the house. Washington advices of the 2nd inst. say: Mrs. McKinley continues very weak. Her condition is not greatly changed from that of yesterday, but strength lessens her power of recuperation. The complaint which came near ending her life in San Francisco is still present. It is in a slightly less aggravated form but give the physicians and the president much concern. Mrs. McKinley has shown remarkable vitality but her illness has so reduced her strength as to leave her very feeble indeed. It is feared that unless a change for the better soon manifests itself her strength may become so nearly exhausted as to leave her without any rallying power. John Davies, mate of the Parraboro schooner Annie J. McKay, reported to the police of St. John on Saturday night that Joseph Howes, master of the schooner had been missing since Friday. The schooner came in Monday with goal from Parraboro which has been discharged. The mate says Captain Howes went ashore Friday morning with a considerable sum of money and he is afraid that something has happened to him. Captain Howes belongs to Parraboro and has a family.

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Table with 2 columns: Category and Amount. Rows: Supplementary estimates, 1901 (\$3,729,716), Supplementary estimates, 1901 (30,000), Main estimates, 1902 (50,398,823), Supplementary estimates, 1902 (8,369,241), Supplementary estimates, 1902 (1,240,476), Railway subsidies (3,462,472), Further railway subsidies (96,000), Annual subsidy to steamship line between Canada and France (100,000), Total (\$67,426,720).

"That the Finance Minister estimates that during the ensuing year at least one million dollars will be required to pay the bounties on iron and steel, and that the sum may be somewhat larger.

"That this House desires to place on record its opinion that the expenditure for the year ending 30th June, 1901, and the proposed expenditure for the year ending 30th June, 1902, are excessive and extravagant, and its regret that the Government, with the exceptionally large revenue at its command, has not only failed to reduce, but has largely increased the public debt, and has not shown proper appreciation of the extreme difficulty, if not impossibility, of reducing in future years, the very high standard of expenditure which is being fixed during a period of great prosperity."

These figures have a significance that can scarcely be overestimated. It will be remembered that the Liberals in their Ottawa convention in 1893 declared by resolution that the expenditure and taxation were beyond the requirements of the country, although the grand total of the expenditure of that year was less than forty-one millions, and the average for about eight years before and after was in the vicinity of forty-two millions. Sir Richard Cartwright, who says little now, said at that time, that such an expenditure was "utterly unjustifiable."

Sir Wilfrid Laurier solemnly promised that "if we get into power we will follow the example of Mr. McKensie, and I say that, although we may not be able to bring the expenditure to what they were under him, we can reduce the amount two, yes, three millions of dollars a year."

Of this enormous expenditure of \$67,000,000 the Huntington Gleason (Liberals) says that many of the proposed outlays are sheer waste: "The worst instances are to be found in the public works, which are about with votes of local jobs, granted to bribe constituencies at the instance of members who care nothing for the welfare of the Dominion at large. It is safe to say that in every item in which it is not really essential to carry on the business of the Dominion, the gross amount required for 1901-2 would not much exceed 40 millions." The Gleason proceeds to say: "Happening in a farm-house, the writer learned that the wife, a woman with several children of tender age, and with nobody to help her, had, in addition to her household duties, to rise every morning at 4 o'clock to assist in the milking. The daily receipts of that farmer and his wife, slaving from daylight to dark, did not average \$3. This industrious couple are representatives of millions all over Canada, of the class upon whom its prosperity rests. It is from the people who work thus and earn so little, that the taxes have to come to pay these millions that are being so

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