

### Territorial Finances.

In the Northwest Assembly on Monday Mr. Bennett gave notice of a resolution setting forth the financial situation of the Territories and calling upon the Dominion government to make more adequate financial provisions. As the concluding paragraph of the motion expresses want of confidence in the government the assembly defeated it when the vote was taken. It is interesting, however, as showing the financial condition of the Territories and the necessity for some readjustment of revenue and expenditure.

The motion was as follows:—

That in the speech from the throne by which this assembly was opened on the second day of May, 1901, the following paragraph appears:—

"Representations have been made to the Dominion government respecting the necessity existing for further provision being made to meet the present inadequacy of the revenue. Parliament has not, as yet, given any indication as to its intentions in the matter and I am, therefore, unable to inform you of the reception given to the requests of my government, the nature of which you will be made conversant with in due course."

That when this assembly was called for the transaction of business the parliament of Canada was in session, and continued to be in session until the 23rd day of May, 1901, when it was prorogued.

That the total revenue of the Territories for the year ending December 31st, 1899, was \$416,832.82, and for the year ending December 31st, 1900, was, including a grant of \$92,000.00 to rebuild bridges destroyed by floods, \$467,185.30, and that the revenue for the year ending December 31st, 1901, is estimated by the Territorial treasurer at \$413,000.00.

That from the reports upon the public accounts of the Territories, it appears that the actual amount paid by the Territories for carrying on the public service, for the year ending December 31st, 1899, was \$416,832.82, and for the year ending December 31, 1900, was \$467,185.30.

That it appears from the statements of the Territorial treasurer, the estimates submitted to this House, and the correspondence between the government and the federal authorities as laid upon the table of the House, that the obligation created and liabilities incurred both in the year 1899 and 1900, much exceeded the actual revenues received in those years, and that in addition to the sum of \$467,185.30 actually expended in 1900, liabilities and obligations were created and incurred amounting to at least \$100,000 more, as follows:—

For aid to local improvement districts earned in 1900, to be paid in 1901, (Page 7 estimates).....	\$11,091.94
For bridges built in 1900, to be paid in 1901, (Page 7 estimates).....	30,050.00
For destruction of wolves, etc., money earned in 1900 to be paid in 1901, (Page 9 estimates).....	478.50
For vital statistics, collected in 1900, to be paid in 1901, (Page 9 estimates).....	650.00
Cost of incurables, money earned 1900, to be paid in 1901, (Page 10 estimates).....	786.75
Contingencies in agriculture department, liability incurred in 1900, to be paid 1901 (Page 10 estimates).....	487.75
Rights of way acquired in 1900 and previous years, to be paid for in 1901, estimated by treasurer to be at least (Page 7 estimates).....	10,000.00
Grants to schools earned in 1900, to be paid in 1901, (Page 3, letter J. H. Ross to Federal government).....	47,000.00

A total of \$100,544.97. That the total sum according to the said reports, estimates, statements and correspondence, required to meet the demands of the public service for the year ending December 31, 1900, and to pay the obligations and liabilities incurred and created prior to that date amounted to \$467,185.30 (public accounts for 1900, page 86 as above) and \$100,544.97, a total of \$567,730.27.

That the total sum required by the treasurer from the estimates submitted to the House to meet the obligations brought forward from 1900 and to carry on the public service for the year ending 31st December, 1901, is \$589,120.25 and in addition the sum of at least \$17,000 will be required for grants to schools (that amount having been paid out of the grant of 1901 to meet obligations of 1900) and a further sum of, at least, \$11,000 for providing

aid to local improvement districts, the total earned in 1901 but not provided for in the estimates to meet outstanding obligations for 1900 and liabilities incurred in 1901 thus being \$617,120.25.

That in addition to the revenue for the year ending December 31, 1901, of \$413,000 as estimated by the treasurer, the Territories will on the 1st day of January, 1902, receive from the federal government the half year grant for the six months ending June 30, 1902, (such grant being payable half yearly in advance) amounting to \$180,000, and if the whole of the local revenue were available at that time, which on the basis of previous years will not exceed \$50,000, the entire revenue available on or before June 30, 1902, to meet the demands of the public service and to pay the obligations and liabilities incurred in 1901, amounting to \$647,120 would amount to only \$833,000.

That the Appropriation Bill of the Dominion of Canada for the year ending June 30, 1902, has been passed and assented to.

That the memorials from time to time presented to the government of Canada by the Territorial government and the personal representations made by the members thereof, with a view of obtaining just and equitable financial assistance towards providing for the proper and effective administration of our affairs have not resulted in securing sufficient additions to our annual grant.

That the cost of civil government, legislation and administration of justice is rapidly increasing, the sum expended for these purposes in the year ending Dec. 31, 1900, being \$74,783.21, and the sum voted for such services for the year ending Dec. 31, 1901, being \$86,745.00.

That in the opinion of this House it was the imperative duty of the government to place before the members of the legislature before the prorogation of the parliament of Canada, the fullest possible information as to our financial position.

That we view with alarm the rapid increase in the cost of executive government in the Territories, and deem it inexpedient and unjust to the masses of the people in view of our financial condition that the salary of the members of the executive should be increased, and that the passage of a supply ordinance necessitating the expenditure of the entire revenue of the current year and of upwards of one-half of the prospective revenue for the succeeding year is not warranted by our constitutional powers, and is contrary to the principles of responsible government, and in view of impending constitutional changes demanding the consideration of the representatives of the people as well as of the people themselves, such a course is a menace to our rights and detrimental to the interests of the people and the future of the Territories.

### Territorial Hail Insurance Bill

Legislative Assembly, N. W. T.

Regina, Monday, June 10.

The speaker took the chair at 10.30 a. m.

Dr. Elliott gave notice of a motion that at the next Territorial election the question of total prohibition of the liquor traffic be submitted, and, should the result show three-fifths of those voting to be in favor then a law shall be forthwith enacted, to come into force at the longest within two years from the date of such plebiscite.

### Hail Insurance.

Mr. Haultain moved the second reading of a bill respecting hail insurance. The general principle, he said, is the mutual principle. The insurance is to be given to persons willing to take advantage of it and paying for it. Another proposition had been, especially in Manitoba, that a general tax would be levied for the purpose. He did not consider this fair, though he considered the grain growing interest sufficiently large and important to require special treatment even to the extent of throwing a small portion of the expense on the general revenue of the Territories if necessary. The system lacks one important feature of mutual systems; the persons under it will not have a direct voice in the management, no general meetings will be held. The government will have no personal interest in the undertaking except to make it as successful and desirable as possible to the persons taking advantage of it. There will be no paid directors or managers, or paid agents or officers, which form a large

portion of the expense of running a mutual insurance system. The insurance will at first be limited to the four principal varieties of grain, wheat, oats, barley and flax, if the results be satisfactory it will be possible to add other products. The unit of area is the quarter section, the system is of insurance per acre. The actual number of acres must be defined in the application. A man must insure all the barley, or all the wheat, etc., on the area. There is provision for the policy being declared null and void in the event of misdescription unless slight, also for proportionate reduction in the event of the acreage on a quarter section being less than the actual acreage under crop. It is proposed to require the payment of ten cents an acre with every application for insurance, with provision for further payment of ten cents if necessary, though it was hoped that a second call would not be necessary. The extreme amount which the insured can possibly be called upon to pay is 20 cents an acre. The limit of insurance is \$1 an acre, which will be a reasonable indemnity against a certain amount of loss, will reimburse the farmer for preparing the land, and will procure necessary seed for the following season. The application to be made to the minister in charge of the department contains the declaration, showing a very important principle of the bill. Upon a fair and speedy adjustment of the losses will depend the success of the system. The general principle of adjustment is this. Immediately on damage occurring by a hailstorm, a report is to be made to a person appointed in the vicinity, who will proceed to take full notes. A later inspection of the crop will be made. The farmer will call upon somebody else who may be his arbitrator. At the end of the season the losses will be adjusted in the office on the reports of the persons chosen to inspect. The minister in charge will then prepare a statement containing full information of the volume of business and expenses. On calculation it will be decided whether a further levy is to be made. It was hoped that the volume of business would make it unnecessary to resort to a second call; but even then, the system offered would be reasonably cheap. Provision is made for arbitration if a farmer does not wish to accept the amount offered.

Mr. Bennett said the system was simply this: the government undertook to administer a system of mutual hail insurance instead of having it administered by a board of directors and a manager. He admitted that the government were not so overworked that they could undertake this; they had ample opportunity and staff to administer the system. Another criticism which he offered was that the bill was introduced by the law officer of the crown; this was not fair to the commissioner of agriculture whose department is vitally affected. The success would depend upon the volume of business, if only eight or ten farmers were to insure, a loser would pay an eighth or a tenth of his own insurance. In the Edmonton district the Manitoba Farmers' Hail Insurance company had only been able to pay sixty per cent. of the losses. Difficulty would be found in getting competent adjustment. It would depend upon whether competent persons were employed. The principle of paying losses out of the general revenue was to be commended. He called attention to the inconsistency of the government allowing arbitration in this matter after refusing it in another instance.

Mr. Gillis had taken considerable interest in this subject. The attorney-general was to be congratulated on this bill, dealing with a very difficult question. There was no question as to the necessity of an insurance system of this kind, or as to the success of the system. The farmers were very much in earnest, their desire for hail insurance was so great that they would avail themselves of its provisions. The Manitoba company had met with difficulties and incurred expenses that would not be required here. He thought there would be no difficulty as to the volume of business.

The motion was then passed and the bill read a second time.

The next series of fur sales in London, England, will be held next week, June 18, 19 and 20, by C. M. Lampson & Co.

### Canada's Foreign Trade

Ottawa, June 10.—The custom's department issued a statement to-day for the month of May the returns show an increase of over \$500,000, and the exports of over \$1,000,000.

For the eleven months ending May 31 last the aggregate trade increased in that time over \$11,000,000. The indications are that the year's figures when they are made up will show a grand aggregate in the foreign trade of nearly \$100,000,000. It is specially noticed that for the past eleven months the exports of Canadian manufactured articles increased over \$2,000,000, which is an increase of about 17 per cent. The aggregate trade for the eleven months was \$335,026,896, as compared with \$323,636,476 for the same time last year, showing an increase of \$11,430,520. There was a decrease in imports from \$161,801,196 in 1900 to \$162,202,531, for the past eleven months or a decrease of \$2,598,602. The exports, however, show an increase of \$14,229,382 as compared with the same time last year. The figures are \$173,024,162 as against \$158,795,250 in 1900.

In regard to the imports it should be pointed out that the entire decrease is made up in coin and bullion, which, of course, is not trade, and that the imports of dutiable and free goods show a slight increase over the eleven months of last year. The figures are as follows:

Dutiable goods, 1900, \$96,113,603.	1901, \$95,167,182.
Free goods, 1900, \$61,966,079.	1901, \$63,582,558.
Coin and bullion, 1900, 6,691,514.	1901, \$3,457,472.
Total, 1900, \$164,801,196.	1901, \$162,202,531.

The Semi-Ready Clothing company's manufacturing premises at Montreal, were damaged pretty badly by fire on Sunday last.

The fruit growers of Hamilton district, Ontario, report that the continued wet weather during May has damaged their orchards so that the crops this year will for the most part be very small. The trees are also being attacked in many cases by curl leaf. Peaches have suffered the most.

### OVERALL CLOTHING

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### WHEELER & WILSON SEWING MACHINES

The manufacturing public are invited to examine our plant over the Imperial Dry Goods Co.'s store, doing perfect work at the rate of from 3,000 to 4,000 stitches per minute.

### BLACKSMITH WANTED.

Good opening for the above. Shop and set of tools to rent cheap. Man speaking German preferred. Fine opening for really good mechanic. Merchants kindly mention to your customers. Apply for particulars to G. A. E. H., Hyde, Assa, East.

### Hardware Stock For Sale.

A small, well assorted stock of hardware, amounting to about \$700.00; will be sold cheap. present owners wishing to clear out hardware from general stock cried. For further particulars write W and S., care Commercial, Winnipeg.

### Flour and Grist Mill Wanted

Napuka is the centre of one of the best farming and wheat raising districts in Manitoba. possesses exceptional railway facilities and water privileges, and is prepared to grant liberal assistance for the erection of a grist and flour mill. Correspondence solicited. A. E. Slater, Sec. Business Men's Association, Napuka.