

Province Has Best Year In Its History

Special to The Standard. Fredericton, March 14.—With well filled galleries, Provincial Secretary Fleming delivered his budget speech in the legislature today.

By Hon. Mr. Fleming in rising to move the House into committee on supply said that it was with the greatest feeling of satisfaction that he was able to say that the financial statement he was presenting on the fourth occasion he had been called upon to perform this duty, would meet with the favorable consideration of the House.

HON. MR. FLEMING TELLS OF HONEST MANAGEMENT OF PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

Provincial Secretary's Fourth Budget Speech Tells Convincing Story of Progress and Prosperity—Great Increase in Territorial Revenue Secured Through Honest Stumpage Collections—Straightforward Statement of Business-like Administration.

More Money Will Be Spent in Improving Public Services During the Coming Year — Important Announcement in Regard to Cheaper School Books—Former Administration's Black Record Compared with Conditions During Regime of Honesty.

"A new item of considerable proportion seems to have crept into last year's expenditure under the heading 'Contingencies' in the department of education, amounting to \$17,626.98. The amount voted for legislative contingencies which are all well established, was \$7,000, the balance of \$10,626.98 is apparently for contingencies of departments. It is rather a large amount, and is open to criticism."

Every Dollar Justified. Every dollar that province had expended, and could expend, on education was absolutely justified, and his only regret was that the appropriation could not be larger, and go further, and give aid along the lines of recognized need and in other branches of education in this province.

Mr. Tweeddale followed and the situation quickly changed to the ridiculous. The member for Victoria dealt first in generalities and then took up considerable time reading petty bridge accounts from the Auditor General's report, which were misleading through being incomplete as will be shown when particulars are brought forth.

Small Increase in Debt. Taking the auditor general's report he said that it showed the net debt at the close of the last fiscal year was \$4,402,547. The question of debt was the most important thing to consider. The increase during the past year had been \$185,280.23.

The Revenue. The revenue during the past year had been larger than formerly, but it was wrong for the honorable members to give an impression that the amount put down as revenue meant that the actual revenue was as much above the actual revenue of the old administration as the figures showed.

Mr. Copp—"Are't you borrowing the surplus instead of the phrase?"

Mr. Fleming—"I am not borrowing the surplus, I am borrowing the phrase."

Bridge Expenditures. But permanent bridges made up a large proportion of the amount by which the debt was increased. Expenditure on permanent bridges during the past five years was as follows: 1906, \$74,872.53; 1907, \$126,739.19; 1908, \$172,591.83; 1909, \$186,102.16; 1910, \$146,452.32.

Another amount which went toward making up the increase in the debt was railway subsidies. During the same period the amount paid in railway subsidies and charged to capital account was: 1907, York and Carleton Railway, \$1,275,000; 1908, International Railway, \$75,000.00; 1909, International Railway, \$43,700.00.

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Table with 2 columns: Category and Amount. Includes Administration of Justice, Agriculture, Auditor General, Boys Industrial Home, Campbellton Relief, Education, Elections, Executive Government, Factory Inspector, Fish, Forest and Game Protection, Free Grants Act, Guarantee Bonds—Government Officials, Immigration, Interest, etc., Legislature, Liquor Licenses, Mining and Mineral Development, Natural History Societies, New Brunswick Historical Society, New Brunswick Rifle Association, New Brunswick Coal and Railway—Investigation, Printing, Probate, Provincial Hospital (Insane), Public Health, Public Hospitals, Public Works, Refunds, Revisors, Sinking Funds, Surveys and Inspections, Stumpage Collection, Succession Duties Collection, Superannuation and Pensions, Tourists' Associations, Tuberculosis Commission, Unforeseen Expenses.

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