

# THE STANDARD, ST. JOHN'S, N. B., MONDAY, JUNE 18, 1917

## CONTRASTS CONDITIONS EXISTING WHEN THE LATE GOVERNMENT WENT OUT OF OFFICE WITH THE SHOCKING REVELATIONS MADE BY THE AUDITORS IN 1908—REFERS TO THE VAST IMPROVEMENTS IN THE PUBLIC SERVICES OF THE PROVINCE AS A RESULT OF THE PRUDENT AND SYSTEMATIC MANAGEMENT OF THE LATE GOVERNMENT—HON. MR. ROBINSON'S VIEWS IN 1908 AND HIS VIEWS TODAY—NOT ONE DOLLAR LOST TO THE PROVINCE IN THE OPERATIONS OF THE FARM SETTLEMENT BOARD—THE COST OF THE VALLEY RAILWAY COMPARED WITH THE COST OF THE NATIONAL TRANSCONTINENTAL—THE IMPROVEMENT IN THE BOOK-KEEPING METHODS UNDER THE LATE GOVERNMENT—THEIR HONEST COLLECTION OF THE TERRITORIAL REVENUE—BONDS TO BE ISSUED BY NEW GOVERNMENT TO CARE FOR THEIR DEFICIT ON CURRENT ACCOUNT—HON. MR. MURRAY PLACES THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEFICIT WHERE IT PROPERLY BELONGS.

### LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION MAKES ELOQUENT AND FORCEFUL ADDRESS IN THE BUDGET DEBATE IN PROVINCIAL HOUSE

Contrasts Conditions Existing When the Late Government Went Out of Office with the Shocking Revelations Made by the Auditors in 1908—Refers to the Vast Improvements in the Public Services of the Province as a result of the Prudent and Systematic Management of the Late Government—Hon. Mr. Robinson's Views in 1908 and His Views Today—Not One Dollar Lost to the Province in the Operations of the Farm Settlement Board—The Cost of the Valley Railway Compared with the Cost of the National Transcontinental—The Improvement in the Book-Keeping Methods Under the Late Government—Their Honest Collection of the Territorial Revenue—Bonds to Be Issued by New Government to Care for Their Deficit on Current Account—Hon. Mr. Murray Places the Responsibility for Deficit Where It Properly Belongs.

(Continued from Page 1)

Hon. Mr. Murray in opening said that he recognized the fact that a considerable length and that the members on both sides of the house would feel relieved when it had been brought to a close. He was glad to say that he would endeavor to be as brief as possible in his remarks and he was assisted in that effort by the fact that his honorable friend from the County of St. John (Hon. Mr. Baxter) had made such a complete and exhaustive reply to the financial statement presented to this house by the honorable member for Moncton city (Hon. Mr. Robinson).

Congratulates New Members.

Before saying anything with respect to the particular motion now before the house that the Speaker do now leave the chair, he desired to express his genuine appreciation at the very admirable addresses of the new members on both sides of the house and he felt that this Legislature and the province generally was to be congratulated on the high type of the members. To this from the French Acadian race he desired particularly to convey his congratulations on the manner they had acquitted themselves in the debate. He fully realized how difficult it must be for his honorable friends to speak in a language which was not their mother tongue and he felt that every assistance in the way of sympathy should be shown his honorable friends who had done so well in their addresses considering the great handicap under which they labored. He wanted to say that if his honorable friends made the progress that he believed they would during the year that he felt strongly that the house would be favored at its next session with utterances equal in force and eloquence to those heard in the years gone by and honorable gentlemen would all agree with him that some excellent addresses had been delivered in this assembly chamber in the past.

Hon. Mr. Robinson's Presentation.

Referring more particularly to the subject matter of the debate he desired to say that his honorable friend who had delivered the budget address (Robinson) had been exceedingly frank in his remarks. It was not necessary, however, for him (Murray) to emphasize that fact because it was a characteristic of the honorable gentleman (Robinson) to be fair and reasonable in whatever remarks he had made during the years he had the privilege of sitting as a member in this house.

But while his honorable friend had been fair, he (Robinson) had found it necessary to apologize for his own ignorance in regard to the financial affairs of the province, and he had made the remark that the financial statements had not been prepared by him, but the statement which he had presented to the house had been prepared by another. He wanted to say to the house that he acquiesced his honorable friend of any intention to misrepresent the facts as they existed, but at the same time it was true as had been so ably pointed out by the member for St. John county (Hon. Mr. Baxter) that the statement was in many respects at variance with the facts and he (Murray) before taking his seat proposed to show the house that in some other respects in addition to those mentioned by his honorable friend (Hon. Mr. Baxter) the statement was entirely wrong and misleading.

The Policy of Misrepresentation.

On former occasions in this house he had referred to the platform which his honorable friends opposite had presented to the people of the province when they were in opposition which laid down their policy with respect to the important matters of the public business. That platform, however, was gradually disappearing and the only evidence of a really earnest policy was to be seen in the honor of leading. In this regard, his honorable friends had not ceased in their endeavors to carry out this policy as was clearly evident by the course they had pursued since assuming the reins of power; and he believed that honorable members on this side of the house must make up their minds that this policy would not be abandoned, but would be continued with all the force that it had been carried on by his honorable friends in the past.

He desired to refer to a statement made by his honorable friend who

had delivered the budget speech. That honorable gentleman had stated to this house that the report of the auditor general for the year ending October 31st, 1916, had been prepared by the members of the late administration. That statement was absolutely incorrect and unwarranted. Honorable gentlemen must all agree that the auditor general was not an official of the government, but he was an official of this house and responsible to the house solely. The auditor general was an absolutely independent person and whose duty it was to present a statement of the financial condition of the province as he himself found them, and the best evidence that honorable members of this house had that the auditor general had acted in his duty without the intervention of the late administration was the fact that his honorable friend (Robinson) in delivering the budget speech had used the figures in his statement exactly as they had appeared in the report of the auditor general.

But in 1908 when his honorable friends opposite went out of power the auditor general was a government official. He did not hold that independent position that he occupied today by reason of the advanced legislation adopted by the late administration, and as a result of his being controlled by the government in the late administration on assuming office in 1908 found such a deplorable condition of affairs as could not possibly obtain today.

Where Was the Business Man in 1908?

His honorable friend from Westmorland (Mr. Magee) had told this house in his remarks on the budget that he had come into the recent contest as a business man, because he realized that the affairs of the Province of New Brunswick were in such a state that they demanded the earnest consideration of the business men of the province. He wanted to say that the time was far back in 1908 when the affairs of the province were in a more critical condition than they had ever been before and far worse than he hoped they would be in the future, but there was no evidence at that time that his honorable friend had interested himself to any extent in the deplorable conditions that then existed.

Conditions Prior to 1908.

He (Murray) had said that the auditor general was not an independent official prior to 1908 and he wanted

### Had Headache For Two Years

Barrie Man Tells of Perilous Headaches and Indigestion—Finally Found His Way to Good Health.

Barrie, Ont., June 17—For two long years the writer of this letter was subject to severe headaches. The nervous system got run down, digestion failed, and there was continued loss of weight.

The use of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food changed all this, and now with scores of other Barrie people Mr. Nader is recommending the use of this food as the best means of building up the exhausted nervous system and curing headaches, indigestion and all the annoying symptoms of a run-down condition.

Mr. John Nader, 88 Penetang street Barrie, Ont., writes: "During the last two years I had an attack of indigestion, accompanied by severe headaches. I suffered from loss of appetite, and my system became run down. I also lost considerably in weight. I began using Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, and as they helped me I continued this treatment for some time. My condition is now greatly improved, my headaches are gone and my health in general is much better. I can cheerfully recommend the use of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food to those suffering from nervousness of any kind."

to tell the house that as a result of the fact the late administration on assuming office in 1908 had found conditions far, far worse than had ever been in this province of New Brunswick. They found absolutely no cheque or audit of hundreds, thousands, yes hundreds of thousands of dollars which had been paid out of the provincial treasury. They found money received and handed without any reference whatever to the receiver general. They found the monies of the people in the banks in the names of private individuals and paid out on the personal cheques of members of the government and their staff.

They found suspense accounts in the various departments which had never seen the light. They found a criminal neglect of business and the failure to collect monies justly due the province. They found the Crown Land Department in a state of chaos, the territorial revenues uncollected, the figures in the lumbermen being floated around for the accommodation of government members. They found unkept and uncurd for vast sums of money paid out before work had even been commenced. The report of the late administration, that existed in name only, the appropriations for agriculture being used largely to pay off the bonded debt, was paid no attention to when the late administration was in power. They found as a result of the incompetency, neglect and mismanagement of the old crowd such a state of affairs that the banks and drafts of the late administration were refused to the province. Yet his honorable friend from Westmorland (Magee), shrewd business man as he is, had not paid any attention to these shocking conditions, but sought to keep in power a government with such a black record as no other administration could have had.

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Audit By Chartered Accountants.

His honorable friend had made the statement that he had been chartered accountants to make an audit of the affairs of the province. He (Murray) would like to say that the members of the late administration did not fear the result of that audit. But he believed that there were certain laws in the province governing the receipts and payments of monies with which the auditors were not familiar and in making up their statement they did so as they would in auditing the affairs of a private company, which would be a wrong course to pursue, might operate to convey a wrong impression.

The Treasury Board.

Some criticism had been levelled by his honorable friend opposite at the treasury board. He might point out that this board had been instituted in order that payments made after the expiration of the fiscal year should be brought about in the proper way. That departure had been made on the recommendation of the firm of accountants, and the late administration (Robinson) and the report was pertinent to the subject matter of the debate, he would be in error in reading it to the house. The report of the late administration, that existed in name only, the appropriations for agriculture being used largely to pay off the bonded debt, was paid no attention to when the late administration was in power. They found as a result of the incompetency, neglect and mismanagement of the old crowd such a state of affairs that the banks and drafts of the late administration were refused to the province. Yet his honorable friend from Westmorland (Magee), shrewd business man as he is, had not paid any attention to these shocking conditions, but sought to keep in power a government with such a black record as no other administration could have had.

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The books in this department require to be gone over and a new system installed. We think that all payments, both incoming and outgoing, should be received and made through the receiver general's office.

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(Continued from page 1)

There were other items for estimated expenditure also, and he would, like his honorable friend, hold responsible for the \$3,260 for education or for \$651 for elections, which he stated by reason of the late government cutting the current year. He like to know if the late administration were responsible for the \$5,000 in connection with the Jordan Memorial. Could honorable members of the house control that when the institution was a board of independent members. He (Murray) was that board and his honorable friend (Robinson) who was also a member of the board, would not be able to control that board. He (Murray) was that board and his honorable friend (Robinson) who was also a member of the board, would not be able to control that board.

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