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Our 1908 GARDEN AND FLOWER SEEDS are opened out and on sale. Price, 3 for 5c. In Basement.

J. M. THOMSON

THE DOMINION BUDGET

(Continued From Page One)

with caution. The monetary stringency is producing curtailment of imports. I anticipate a falling off of revenue in the early part of the new year. I am hopeful, however, that later on the loss will be made up to a considerable extent, and that in the end we shall find the revenue fairly satisfactory. I am estimating a revenue of \$94,500,000 for the year soon to close, but I do not feel justified in expecting so large a revenue for the coming year. Probably it will more likely fall below ninety millions than to rise above it."

A Surplus of \$19,000,000.

Mr. Fielding said that for capital expenditure, or for any considerable amount of it, the Government would have to add to the public debt. This would apply particularly to the Transcontinental Railway, for which thirty millions were being asked. For the fiscal year ending March 31, 1908, Mr. Fielding estimated that the revenue would amount to \$96,500,000, and the amount chargeable to the consolidated fund \$77,500,000. If these expectations were realized the year would close with a surplus of \$19,000,000. He estimated the capital and special expenditure for the current year at \$33,000,000. This would make the grand total expenditure for the year \$110,500,000. Deducting from this the estimated revenue of \$96,500,000 and sinking funds of about \$2,000,000, making in all \$98,500,000 there would be left a balance at the end of the year to be added to the public debt of probably \$12,000,000. This would be brought about by the fact that the Government planned to spend \$17,750,000 on the Transcontinental Railway. Otherwise, Mr. Fielding assured the House, the year would close not with an addition to the public debt but with a reduction of \$5,750,000.

The Quebec Bridge.

Dealing with the Government relations to the Quebec Bridge Company, Mr. Fielding said that under authority of last year's legislation two millions had been recently advanced to enable the company to meet its indebtedness to the banks. A little over three millions would be required to liquidate the balance. The debt to the Government, he said, would be secured by the company's bonds.

Moving the Crops.

Mr. Fielding then explained to the House the action of the Government in connection with the moving of the crops last year. "We were informed," he said, "that the ordinary lines of credit granted by the banks had either been exhausted or were too limited to meet the emergency. The frosted condition of the crops was another feature to which our attention was called.

The Government and the Banks.

The conclusion of the whole matter was that the Government decided to aid such of the banks as were engaged in moving the crops and might wish to avail themselves of assistance with loans not to exceed in the aggregate \$10,000,000 and with interest at 6 and 7 per cent. The advance of money was authorized on a condition that they should repay it within a short time at the interest stated, and with securities approved by a committee of banking experts, composed of General Manager Clouston, of the Bank of Montreal, Thomas Payne, former manager of the Merchants' Bank, and J. M. Courtney, former deputy minister of finance. The Government was shortly afterwards informed that the rates of interest were too high for the banks to avail themselves of the aid offered. A new arrangement was

accordingly devised whereby the Government allowed the Bank of Montreal to deal directly with the banks, acting as the Government's agent. They were to arrange matters with the banks and collect a rate of interest not less than per cent. This was ultimately agreed upon as meaning 4 per cent for sixty days; 5 and 6 per cent if payment was delayed longer. The object was to get quick returns, and this was an exceptional transaction.

After reducing the rates of interest the banks took funds thus loaned to them by the Government to the extent of \$5,315,000. Nearly all that money had been returned and there could be no question but the balance would be promptly paid.

Confidence Was Restored.

What threatened to be a serious crisis in the financial situation of the west was averted, confidence was restored, the situation was improved, and the interests of the Government protected at every point.

The minister explained how this was provided. The Government found it necessary, if they would provide money promptly to effect in some degree the position of reserves. They decided to accept from borrowing banks the security they were able to give, and the guarantee of the Bank of Montreal, that means that the Bank of Montreal not only acted as the agent of the Government, but guaranteed the whole transaction, so they agreed to accept these securities plus the guarantee, as an equivalent to the Government's own securities which the Government held in their reserve fund, and against which their notes were issued. It was a technical departure from the currency act, which would require the ratification of Parliament, but he thought if ever there was an occasion when the Government might put a strain upon their reserves it was in the condition of affairs then existing, and for the purpose indicated.

The effect, Mr. Fielding said, was to reduce the percentage of reserve from par to 56 per cent.

To Amend Bank Act.

"The experience we have had," continued Mr. Fielding, "must suggest particularly to those in the west, that there is need of a greater elasticity, so that we will be able to meet a difficulty of this kind in the future without even a technical violation of our currency laws. I think it well to state at once my view in the matter, and this statement will be followed in due course by a bill amending the bank act. It seems to me to be the part of wisdom for the Government to authorize banks to issue what for convenience may be called an emergency currency, to allow banks to issue for a limited time during the crop season currency to the extent of 15 per cent of their combined paid-up capital and reserve; these taken together measuring the stability and strength of the bank. I propose in a bill, which it is my intention to introduce, to authorize the banks during the emergency period of the crop movement, which will be defined as beginning probably in October, and ending after the return of the year, to issue circulation to the extent of 15 per cent of their reserve and paid-up capital."

No Tariff Revision.

Coming to the question of the tariff Mr. Fielding announced in conclusion that it was not the intention of the Government to make any changes at present.

"We made," he said, "a revision a year ago, and while I do not imagine it is a perfect instrument, we think that on the whole it has worked well and it was well adapted to the requirements of the country."

LEGISLATORS TALK ON EDUCATION

Provincial Educational Estimates Pass the House

NOTHING FOR TECHNICAL WORK

School Readers to be of Patriotic Nature Says Dr. Payne—The Agricultural Estimates.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Toronto, March 18.—The Legislature put in two and a half hours of solid and fruitful discussion of the estimates yesterday afternoon, disposing of all the educational appropriations, and making a large cut in the agricultural grants.

The members sanctioned expenditures of nearly two million dollars, or to give the exact figures, \$1,913,713, of which \$1,600,364 was for education, and \$312,809 for agriculture. The celebrity with which the committee of supply went at its work was testified by Mr. Hoyle's opening remark: "Shall the vote of \$1,600,364 for education pass? Carried."

Pay's Explains.

After the laugh had subsided, Hon. Mr. Harcourt suggested that time would be saved if the Minister of Education would briefly explain the various items.

Hon. Dr. Payne stated that the special grant of \$60,000 to urban public and separate schools had never been given before. It was intended to be used to improve the condition and qualification of teachers, and would be distributed on the basis of certificates and length of service. There was an increase in the grant for continuation schools from \$40,000 to \$45,000, as it was the intention of the Government to have junior high school in the fifth book classes, so that continuation classes and secondary education could be brought to the door of every farmer in rural districts.

It was felt that teachers in the bilingual schools should be well versed in French, hence the increase from \$2,000 to \$3,000 in the schools in which teachers could readily learn to impart instruction in both English and French. Larger grants were given, too, for the inspection of separate and bilingual schools. A grant of \$9,000, instead of \$5,000, was asked for Queen's University. This was the second of three payments in aid of the chair of pedagogy at Kingston. An appropriation of \$1,000 for school gardens was commended by the Liberals, because of the aid in teaching the elements of agriculture by the addition of garden plots to schools.

The New Text Books.

Mr. Preston (Brant), asked for information regarding the new text books. He understood that in the compilation of the new books no ethics were included. He hoped the new books would be patriotic.

Hon. Dr. Payne replied that the intention of the Government was to have one class of readers, and it would be necessary for the Province to own the plates and the copyrights. The books will be passed upon by a revision committee, and the educational council, before they are adopted. The books would contain selections largely from British and Canadian authors. "While we may have to go outside for some selections," said Dr. Payne, "we trust the books will be practically all British and materially Canadian. The department, said Dr. Payne, was already moving to inculcate patriotism by providing free Union Jacks. Ethical books contained such complexities and intricacies that they were of little use, but they might be of use in a supplementary way. He favored a national series of school books for the whole Dominion, which would do much to promote the unity of Canada.

Mr. Studholme asked why no provision had been made for technical education.

Technical Schools.

The minister said that the subject was a gigantic one from the financial side. He thought the Dominion Government had a duty to perform in regard to technical education. Special grants should be made by the Dominion, and the Provincial authorities could work things out themselves. He trusted the Dominion Government would take some such action.

Mr. Preston (Brant) favored a large grant for technical education. Much of the grants made had gone to manual training. In industrial centers an industrial department might be added to the high schools and collegiate institutions. "I think that suggestion deserves consideration," commented the Premier.

Mr. MacKay asked the intentions of the Government regarding the model schools. Dr. Payne replied that by degrees the model schools would disappear. The system was not at present a success because of the lack of uniformity of standard. It was proposed to retain a certain number of the schools, because for some years model school teachers would be required in the northern districts. By having a few schools of uniform type the Government hoped to get a better class of teachers.

Mr. Preston (Brant) enforced the absence of a grant to enforce the trilingual law. This, he said, was left to the municipalities. There should be two or three trilingual officers directly responsible to the minister, who would see that school children were kept out of shops and factories. Assessors should be required to report the names of all children between 8 and 14 years. Mr. Preston also advocated night schools where foreigners could learn the English language and Canadian customs and manners.

Mr. Harcourt.

Mr. Harcourt, who proceeded to speak at length on the subject of education, said the matter was not one for party feeling. He hoped the discussion would be full and free, as the House should not rush through in ten

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minutes a vote of a million dollars for so important an end. Respecting the grant for urban schools, he thought the people of Toronto, Ottawa, London, Hamilton and other large cities were well able to pay their own bills for education. He hoped to see Ontario philanthropists follow the example of Montcaliers in giving largely to education.

After wondering at the delay of rural residents in instituting consolidated schools, Mr. Harcourt spoke of the new school books. No good literature should be barred, because it was written by non-British. The nationality of authors should come second to the worth of their writings. He mentioned Longfellow, Whittier and Emerson as authors whose works should not be excluded. While inculcating patriotism, the Ontario readers should not copy the narrow jingo patriotism of the United States. Good literature should be recognized, whether from Iceland, Scotland or India. Mr. Harcourt also suggested history readers and geography readers as adopted in England. More attention, too, should be paid to school libraries.

Mr. Harcourt suggested that the term "industrial schools" should not be used to refer to remedial institutions, but should be saved for the technical schools favored by many members.

Mr. McDougall (Ottawa), speaking of the grants to the Kingston School of Mines, and the chair of pedagogy at Queen's, asked if the Government could not see its way clear to help other deserving universities in the Province.

The Premier replied that John Sandfield Macdonald had laid down the principle of no aid to sectarian universities. The Liberals had not kept this principle, but the present Government meant to do so. Aid to the School of Mines had been inaugurated by the Ross Government. The grant to the chair of pedagogy was not considered an aid to general education, but as aiding the creation of good teachers—in other words, education for educationalists.

Mr. Pense (Kingston), explained that the School of Mines was entirely distinct from Queen's University.

Mr. MacKay suggested the school teachers should be encouraged to attend the Guelph O. A. C. during the summer holidays.

Mr. McDougall (Ottawa) asked if the Government would make a grant toward the Quebec battle site.

Mr. Whitney replied that while the Government had not considered any specific grant, something would be given.

Col. Atkinson (Norfolk) suggested a grant toward a monument to Abigail Becker, the heroine of Long Point.

Vote for London Schools.

The votes for the London and Ottawa Normal Schools went through unchanged. The education estimates were all passed.

Agricultural Estimates.

The only interesting feature of an hour-long and rather tedious discussion of the estimates for agriculture was a war of words between the Premier and Mr. MacKay, who arose during a dispute as to how the committee got from vote 40 to vote 42, without discussing vote 41. Mr. MacKay protested that items should not be rushed through at "express train speed." Mr. Whitney took exception to this phrase, and the leaders contradicted each other until Mr. Hoyle, the chairman, ruled against Mr. MacKay.

Messrs. Reed and Thompson (Wentworth), and Hislop (Huron) constituted themselves a triumvirate of critics, and kept the Minister of Agriculture busy explaining items. Mr. Monteth stated that Hon. Adam Beck was the only horse-owner who had taken advantage of the Government's offer to pay the transportation of equine exhibits to the National Horse Show at London, which cost the Government \$1,700. The offer was generally known and was open to any horseman.

Replying to Mr. Smith (Soo), Mr. Hanna stated that John R. McGregor was a license commissioner for Manitoulin, but the department did not know whether he was the same J. Russell McGregor who is acting and active secretary of the Conservative Association for the Manitoulin

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Wednesday March 18

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Share of Vast English Fortune for Londoners.

A St. Thomas dispatch says: A number of relatives here of Henry Page, who died in Marble Arch, Middlesex, England, in 1829, will make a fight for the estate which was left by Page and which, it is said, amounts to \$750,000.000.

The estate was never wound up, the direct heirs having been widely scattered. Replying to Mr. Sutherland, the sworn foe of the automobile, Mr. Hanna stated that there were 1,593 auto permits issued last year, 990 to United States motorists, and 603 to Ontarians. There were 3 convictions for speeding and 3 for not displaying numbers. The total fines were \$80, and the costs \$24.85. Mr. Hanna could give no information as to the proportion of convicted persons who came from the United States.

Mr. McCoig (West Kent) drew attention to a statement in the Chatham News that the Canada Company had notified the township of Colchester that it intended to close the Ferris road, which was constructed many years ago to give access to the interior of the township. The company claimed that there was no allowance for the road. The Government, said Mr. McCoig, had kindly taken up a test case regarding the treatment of the farmers of the district by the Canada Company, and he hoped the present case would be looked into.

Hon. Mr. Foy promised to investigate the case with a view to investigation.

The House rose at 6:15 p.m. It is whispered that the Government contemplates making a slaughter of the public bills today, and members who are not present to explain their measures on second reading will find that the bills have gone by the board.

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Deane and Moore, burglars, caught in Montreal, were convicted of safe-blowing.

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Copenhagen, Pale Blue, Pink and Fawn, Plain Drills, fast colors, for ladies' tub suits, also for trimming, piping and bands; 27-inch; at, per yard 25c

Oxford Shirtings 15c, 20c and 22c

In three different qualities, light, medium and heavy weight, light and dark colored stripes, fast colors, for men's and boys' fine shirts; 29 inches wide, at, per yard 15c, 20c and 22c

DR. JOHNSTON AT THE CANADIAN CLUB

Luncheon Will Be Given in the Masonic Temple Tomorrow.

The Canadian Club will give a luncheon tomorrow at 12:15 sharp in the Masonic Temple, when Rev. Robt. Johnston, B.D., of Montreal (formerly of London), will address the club. The doctor's address will be "Asia and America," and it will be sure to prove of great interest.

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