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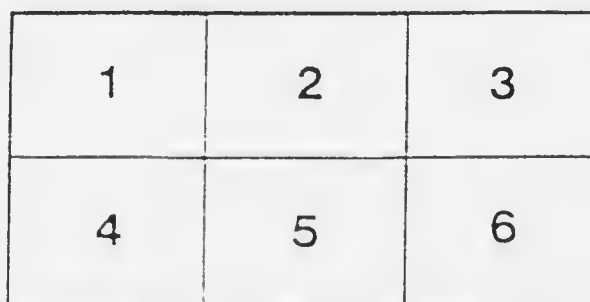
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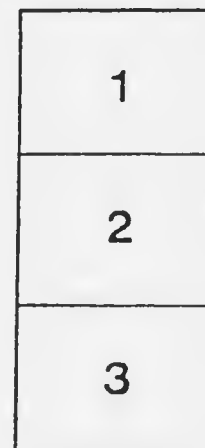
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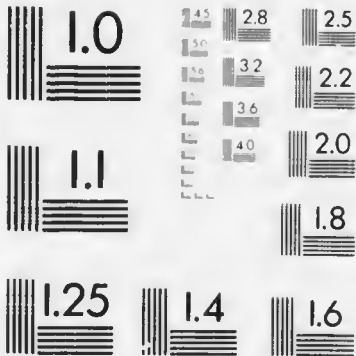
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# CLAIMS VERSUS RECORDS

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*What Sir Lomer Gouin  
and his colleagues say  
and what they have done.*

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*Their work condemns  
their words.*

## Facts

*from the Public Documents,  
which Electors  
can themselves understand.*

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## THE GOUIN MINISTERS.

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**They are Men of Ordinary Calibre and Easy To Be Replaced.**

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The chief reason urged by the Gouin Government for continuing it in power is the pretension that it is a business Government.

They would have us believe that it would be a calamity to put them out of office. If the whole truth were known concerning this administration the electors of the Province would likely conclude that it would be more of a calamity for the members of the Government than for the Province.

The men whom Mr. Gouin has chosen as his associates in the Cabinet are not usually considered of more than ordinary ability. Some say that this is why the leader chose them. They are easy to lead.

But, be that as it may, it is well to bear in mind the fact that Mr. Gouin's ministry has no monopoly of brains or business ability. The market is not cornered. They can be replaced, and after their replacement the business of the Province will proceed as usual and its prosperity will not be checked.

In Mr. J. M. Tellier, K.C., LL.D., the distinguished leader of the Opposition, the Province has available a man who could serve it with advantage to the people and credit to himself.

During his leadership of the Opposition Mr. Tellier has proved himself a man of wide views and business ability. He has treated all public questions from the standpoint of a statesman and a patriot, and many of the measures for which the Gouin Government to-day would take credit were suggested by Mr. Tellier and through his persistent advocacy became law.

There would have been no Montreal jail scandal had Mr. Tellier been Premier. His plan regarding the expenditure of money for good roads, which is hereafter referred to, must appeal as a much wiser one than that proposed by the Government.

No one will likely claim that Mr. Tellier could not secure men of equal ability and character to replace the other members of the Gouin Cabinet.

No, the personnel of the Government is not itself a reason for keeping it in power.



They say, look on this picture, pointing to themselves, and then on that, pointing to their record. What about their record?

Let us consider it and see if it is such that it would make ordinarily good business men proud.

## THE FINANCIAL RECORD.

### Ministers Spent More Money Because They Collected More in Taxes, Etc.

Let us consider on what the Government bases its pretension of being a business Government.

First they attempt to prove their statement by comparison. They compare their Government with the Conservative Government of 1891 to 1897, and say "see what we have done."

Now, it would be untrue to deny that the Gouin Government has spent more money for different purposes, of themselves good, than did the previous Conservative Government. They had it to spend.

The last Conservative Government at Quebec followed a Liberal regime of such riotous expenditure that the treasury was depleted and the credit of the Province brought to its lowest ebb.

This Conservative Government could not give away millions. There were none to give.

The ministers in that Government had to think about paying the debts which were the legacy of the Liberal Government they succeeded.

They could not repudiate these debts on the ground that they had been contracted by the Liberal Government. They had to devise means to pay them. They met the situation like men, honorable men, business men.

True, they had to levy new taxes, and their opponents called them a Government of tax gatherers. They had to borrow money, too, and now the present Provincial Treasurer taunts them as borrowers.

Yet, withal, it must be conceded that it was the predecessors of the present Government that brought the Province out of the Slough of Despond into which it had been cast by the Liberals, and it is manifestly unfair to compare the present regime with the last Conservative regime.

The circumstances are different and circumstances alter cases.

It is worth while, however, to note right here that these taxes, levied as a matter of necessity by the Conservatives, have been continued right up to this year by the Gouin Government.

There was need of these taxes during the Conservative regime. There has not been the same need during the past ten years.

The special need and the special circumstances under which they were levied have long passed away, but the taxes have been continued.

Did you ever consider the extent to which you are being taxed?

### WHERE THE TAXES ARE FELT.

If you are unfortunate enough to get sued the Government adds to the cost by requiring the clerk of the court to put a law stamp on the proceedings, for which you have to pay. The Gonin Government collected \$286,316.10 last year from law stamps.

If you buy a home and pay \$1,000 the Government takes 50 cents from you by means of the registration of your deed. The registrar receives the stamps from the Government and you have to pay for them.

If you want to mortgage your home you must pay the Government for the stamp when the mortgage is registered.

Again, when you pay off the mortgage and want it discharged you must pay the Government for another registration stamp for which the registrar collects.

The Government received from the people of this Province last year \$172,597.60 for registration stamps.

If you had been left a legacy of \$5,000 or more by a friend or relative you did not get it all. The Gonin Government got part of it. It got anywhere up to \$500 of the amount, according to the person from whom the legacy came.

The Government took over a million dollars last year out of the people of this Province by this means.

They took about three quarters of a million dollars from firms or commercial corporations doing business in the Province. They could not carry on business without paying toll to the Gonin Government.

Now there was some reason for these taxes twenty years ago. The Government had to have the money. The Opposition raised such a hue and cry against the Government on account of the imposition of these very taxes that the Conservative Government was defeated.

### TAXES NOT NOW NECESSARY.

Did the Liberal Government in power do away with these taxes which they said were unnecessary and unjust when in opposition? Nay, verily, they did not. They have been continued to this very year.

On account of the increased revenue these taxes could have been discontinued years ago, but this Government, which juggles with millions, would not have had the millions to juggle with if they had discontinued these special taxes. The Government must have the millions and the taxes were continued.

The Conservatives had to levy these taxes to pay the debts of the previous Liberal administration. The Gouin Government continues these to have money to spend.

Another thing alleged as proof that the present Government is a business Government is the increased revenue.

They tell us that in 1897 when the Conservatives went out of power the ordinary revenue was only \$3,874,966.22, while last year it was \$7,032,744.99, and ask whether this is not proof of business ability.

Well, it does not take a very smart man to simply take what is given to him.

If the revenue of the Province is greater now than twenty years ago it is not due to the Gouin Government, and the Provincial Treasurer admitted the fact in his last Budget speech. Here are his words when speaking of the increase in revenue:

"In almost every instance these increases may be ascribed to the increasing wealth of the Province, resulting from the wonderful commercial and industrial activity of our people, and to the unbroken period of good times through which the country has passed during so many years and which we hope will long continue."

This should be conclusive as regards the pretension that the increased revenue is proof of a business Government.

### HOW TAXES PILED UP.

Let us compare the last year of Conservative rule with the last fiscal year of the Gouin Government, that is, the year ending June 30th, 1911, and note how much more the present Government received from a few sources of revenue.

The revenue from licenses, hotels, shops, etc., was 60 per cent. greater last year than it was in the year 1896-97 when the Conservative Government went out of power. The Gouin Government collected \$352,187.58 more last year than did the Conservative Government in the year in question.

The revenue from duties on successions was 367 per cent. more. The Gouin Government collected \$842,585.48 more than the Conservative Government did.

The taxes on commercial corporations had increased 430 per cent. The Government collected \$577,714.43 more than did the Conservative Government.

The revenue from lands and forests had increased 41 per cent. and the Government collected \$376,691.51 more than did the previous Conservative administration.

The total revenue from the public domain had increased 56 per cent. and the Gouin administration collected last year \$501,486.27 more than did the Conservatives during the last year they were in power. And so on throughout the whole list. The revenue from fish and game had increased 337 per cent.; the revenue from mines 1997 per cent.

But these increases were not due to anything done by the Gouin Government, but rather, as the Provincial Treasurer said, "to the wonderful commercial and industrial activity of our people and to the unbroken period of good times."

The increased revenue makes no proof in favor of the Gouin Government.

### THE FEDERAL SUBSIDY.

Then, again, there is the matter of the Dominion subsidy. When the Conservatives were in power twenty years ago the Province received from the Dominion Government nearly \$959,232. Now it receives \$1,599,118.40.

Because the Dominion of Canada pays the Province of Quebec \$599,865.50 more than it did twenty years ago is no proof of the business sagacity of the Gouin Government.

Or, again, take the revenue from our lands and forests, which last year was \$1,761,473.17. Because there are men willing to buy our crown lands and timber and our Government is willing to sell, does not justify the Government in claiming the title of a business Government.

And so on down through the list. The fact that the Government has through unnecessary taxation and the prosperity and expansion of business interests, had more money, as it were, forced into its treasury, is nothing for which the Government is entitled to any special praise.

For example, the Government received in succession duties from the assets of six individuals alone who died during the year. \$523,137.43, but it will hardly be contended that the Government is entitled to credit because these men died and their heirs had to pay over this large amount into the treasury.

But because these large sums poured into the treasury to a greater extent than the Government expected, it has been able to keep up its vast expenditure.

## SOME BAD CALCULATION.

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### Ministers Could Not Tell What They Would Collect or What They Would Spend.

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But let us consider what would have happened if the Government had received only the revenue it expected to receive at the beginning of the year.

Take the last year as an example.

The Government estimated that the revenue of last year

would be ..... \$5,904,534.71

It was going to spend only ..... 5,707,991.01

and therefore have a surplus of ..... \$196,543.70

As a matter of fact it spent \$6,424,900.04, that is \$716,909.03 more than it said it would spend.

Still, after spending nearly three-fourths of a million of dollars more than it said it would it wants credit for the surplus because the revenue which it didn't expect to receive happened to come into the treasury and make it possible for them to have more than met their expenditure.

But suppose the revenue had only been what the

Government estimated, viz,..... \$5,904,534.71

and the expenditure what it was, viz,..... 6,126,834.95

What would have been the result?

The Government would have had a deficit of..... \$520,365.23

Here then is a Government which paid out in one year \$716,909.03 more to run the Province than it said it would, and wants to be called a business Government because the revenue happened to be big enough that year to pay it.

As already pointed out it was through no act of the Government that the revenue was greater than was anticipated and that there was not a deficit of \$520,365.23, as there would have been if the revenue had been only what the Government itself at the beginning of the year estimated it would be.

But, while the Government had nothing to do with the increased revenue, it must be remembered that it was through the acts of the Government that this \$716,909.03 was spent more than the Government promised to spend at the beginning of the year.

Let us consider now how near this business Government came to living up to its estimates.

In doing this we will take the figures of the Provincial Treasurer given in his Budget speech already referred to.

In the course of his last Budget speech he made the following declaration.

"The expenditure on account of the following services has been in excess of the estimates by the following amounts:

Legislation.....	\$ 27,380.61
Civil Government.....	34,822.42
Administration of Justice.....	61,456.05
Public Instruction.....	101,930.09
Judges of the Court of Sessions of the Peace, etc..	1,128.82
Health.....	3,000.00
Colonization and Immigration.....	45,674.88
Expedition to Chibogomo, etc.....	16,118.25
Mines, Fisheries and Game Registration Service, Cadastre	13,017.29
Public Works, ordinary.....	7,400.00
Public Works, extraordinary.....	59,065.09
Labour.....	7,521.62
Agriculture.....	39,197.64
Lands and Forests.....	38,775.88
Lunatic Asylums.....	42,005.53
Reformatory and Industrial Schools.....	3,972.93
Charges on Revenue.....	44,125.17
Miscellaneous Services.....	179,341.45
Payment of Sheriffs out of Collections, Building and Jury Fund.....	23,577.41
	<hr/>
	\$749,511.13

The expenditure on account of the following services has been less than the estimates by the following amounts:

Public Debt ..	\$30,482.05
Inspection of Public Offices ..	2,120.05
	<hr/>
	\$32,602.10

The actual ordinary expenditure has exceeded the estimates by .. \$716,909.13

It will be seen, therefore, that with the exception of \$2,120.00, the only one of their estimates in which they did not pay out more money than they said they would was on the public debt.

They paid out \$30,482.05 less on the public debt of the Province than they estimated at the beginning of the year.

They paid out \$749,511.13 more than they said they would on other things, but when it came to making a payment on our debt they paid over \$30,000 less than they promised.

They could pay out more than they estimated for everything else, but less than they estimated on the debt of the Province.

It is generally considered good business to pay one's debts, but the Gouin Government apparently thinks it good business to pay the money for something else.

Business ability is certainly not proved by the fact that in nineteen items of expenditure out of twenty-one the Government had to spend more money than it estimated would be necessary, and could not tell nearer than \$716,909.03 how much money was required for the year's operations.

If those six rich men above referred to had lived another year and the Government had not received any more for licenses than it did the year, previous, it would have been in the hole.

It can hardly be argued to be good business for a Government to create debts in the hope that some rich men will die and their assets furnish the money to pay the debts.

The Gouin Government spent all this money without any reasonable ground for expecting that it could pay it, and it is the height of presumption for them to take credit to themselves because they happened to be able to pay.

A couple of examples will suffice to show how this business Government is administering the finances of the Province.

## THE CASE OF MR. PARENT.

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### Why Was His Big Salary Increased Before the Elections?

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Most of us remember that the Hon. S. N. Parent was Premier of Quebec before Mr. Gouin, and very likely would be Premier to-day had he not been crowded out of the office by the present Premier.

Rumor says that Mr. Parent has never forgotten the circumstances of his exit from power.

The Liberal Government at Ottawa made Mr. Parent chairman of the Transcontinental Railway Commission, an office which he resigned after the Conservatives came into power.

At the time of his resignation rumor again was rife and to the effect that Mr. Parent might re-enter Provincial politics. In the event of his doing so Mr. Gouin could see his finish. What happened?

By order in council, dated December 21st, 1911, Mr. Gouin created a commission to submit rules for the management of running water, and made Mr. Parent chairman of the commission, with a salary of \$500 per month, making \$6,000 a year which Mr. Parent would receive for making suggestions to the Government about running waters.

This would appear to be pretty good pay and would likely amount to about \$100 a suggestion, but evidently it was not a sufficiently big plum to keep Mr. Parent out of politics.

He wanted more and he got what he wanted.

Eight days later, viz., on December 29th, 1911, Mr. Gouin had another order in council passed, giving Mr. Parent a salary of \$650.00 per month, of \$8,000 per annum.

Mr. Gouin, upon being interrogated, could not give any adequate reason for raising the price. The Opposition presented a resolution alleging that "it considers the salaries extravagant and scandalous" and asks the Government to reduce them to proper proportions.

Was the salary reduced? Oh, no. Every mother's son on the Government side voted against the resolution, and Mr. Parent gets \$8,000 for making suggestions; and Mr. Gouin keeps him out of politics.

Of course it may appear a little strange to some of us that we have to help pay to keep Mr. Gouin's political enemies under his feet, but the fact remains that we won't have to after the next elections unless we so wish.

But the price paid to keep Mr. Parent quiet is a mere bagatelle when compared with some of the expenditures of this so called business Government.

## THE MONTREAL JAIL.

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### A Case of Gross Miscalculation, Showing Business Incapacity.

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The most glaring case of miscalculation, unbusinesslike methods and unjustifiable expenditure is the Montreal jail.

In March, 1907, five years ago, the Government decided to build a new jail in Montreal and to borrow \$750,000.00 to pay for it.

The contract was let for \$790,000.00.



A year later when the work was under way the Minister of Public Works said in the House that the jail would cost about a million dollars. This was a quarter of a million more than it was going to cost in the beginning.

Another year went by, and in April, 1900, the Government let still another contract and agreed to pay an additional \$810,000.

The Minister of Public Works, upon being interrogated, said the jail would be finished in September, 1910. The Government increased the loan to \$1,500,000.00.

On September 11th the Government gave a third contract, this time agreeing to pay an additional \$884,722.30, and during the last session the Minister of Public Works said that the jail had already cost \$2,161,559.20, and he estimated that it would cost some \$650,000 more to complete it, and said it would be finished the first of next August.

Here we find a Government claiming to be a business Government, undertaking to build a jail for \$750,000 and admitting four years afterwards that it had already spent on account of construction \$2,161,559.20 and that it would have to spend some \$650,000 more.

And let it be remembered that the Government never consulted the House as regards any one of these three contracts. They made the contracts at their own sweet will, with whom they pleased, and paid the price they pleased, and will expend in the construction of this one building over two million dollars more than they said they would in the beginning.

And with a record like this they have the arrogance to come before an intelligent public and ask for continued support on the ground that they are a business Government.

This Government undertook to construct a building for \$750,000. It has already spent in its construction \$2,161,559.20 and it is still spending.

Where do you think the money is going?

How much of it do you think is going to political friends of the Government? Do you believe that this Government could not tell in the beginning to within two million dollars how much this jail would cost?

If it is only a matter of maladministration and incompetency why has the Government never consulted the House regarding the various contracts?

The Government is attempting now to turn away the attention of the electors from this jail matter by hollering about good roads and education.

## THE GRANTS TO SCHOOLS.

### They Are a Very Small Part of the Cost of Education.

Now good roads and education are both to be desired *per se*. No one will object to their encouragement, but the electors of a Province have an interest in seeing that they are encouraged in the most advantageous manner.

They have not only an interest, they have a right to see that business principles are applied in the encouragement of even worthy objects.

Let us consider what this so called business Government proposes to do in this connection, referring in the first instance to education.

No one will deny the need of securing better schools in this Province. The need exists especially in the country parts. In the larger centres the schools are much better than in the rural sections.

True, the Gouin Government has increased the grants for elementary education.

With the money at its disposal on account of the increased revenue of the Province it could not well have done otherwise.

But even now the amount given for elementary education is wholly inadequate to secure proper rural schools.

Here is a list showing the largest amounts paid any municipality and the smallest amount paid any municipality from the ordinary grant of the Legislature to public schools, as appears in the financial statement of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The list comprises the first twelve counties mentioned in the report and will show the general average paid throughout the Province:

Argenteuil County,	largest amount paid	\$110.87	smallest	\$ 1.03
Arthabaska County	" " "	134.68	"	1.00
Bagot County	" " "	597.42	"	1.62
Beauce County	" " "	301.45	"	3.21
Beauharnois County	" " "	802.08	"	1.65
Bellechasse County	" " "	183.80	"	21.89
Berthier County	" " "	276.38	"	16.23
Bonaventure County	" " "	196.88	"	2.01
Brome County	" " "	132.78	"	3.11
Chambly County	" " "	246.29	"	5.27
Champlain County	" " "	343.06	"	22.54
Charlevoix County	" " "	302.14	"	7.20

In addition to the above we might mention the amounts given to the other counties in the Eastern Townships.

Compton County,	largest amount received	\$199.53	smallest	\$ 3.32
Missisquoi County	" " "	260.31	"	3.50
Richmond County	" " "	173.28	"	5.83
Shefford County	" " "	308.62	"	1.06
Sherbrooke County	" " "	763.29	"	4.06
Stanstead County	" " "	242.72	"	3.51

In addition to the foregoing grant, rural municipalities which pay teachers a salary of \$100 at least received an additional amount. The average amount received will be shown by taking the first dozen mentioned in the list.

Argenteuil County,	largest amount received	\$134.61	smallest	\$ 5.71
Arthabaska County	" " "	236.94	"	5.30
Bagot County	" " "	186.96	"	3.87
Beauce County	" " "	294.16	"	7.75
Beauharnois County	" " "	192.78	"	3.36
Bellevue County	" " "	220.52	"	38.86
Berthier County	" " "	261.32	"	20.40
Bonaventure County	" " "	258.77	"	5.50
Brome County	" " "	203.39	"	7.34
Chambly County	" " "	182.78	"	9.18
Champlain County	" " "	203.69	"	30.90
Charlevoix County	" " "	121.54	"	10.40

The amounts received from this grant by other municipalities in the Province are as follows:

Compton County,	largest amount received	\$171.87	smallest	\$10.91
Missisquoi County	" " "	137.08	"	8.46
Richmond County	" " "	135.04	"	17.74
Shefford County	" " "	337.92	"	3.77
Sherbrooke County	" " "	114.24	"	8.26
Stanstead County	" " "	278.25	"	9.18

Then there was another fund called the Poor Municipalities Fund, from which some of the municipalities in the Province benefited. An average as to what was received by the various municipalities from this fund will be seen by taking the first dozen in the list of counties given. It must be remembered, however, that only a few of the school municipalities in the county benefited from this Poor Municipalities Fund.

Argenteuil County, largest amount received by any municipality	\$52.19
Bagot County       "       "       "       "       "	45.18
Beauce County       "       "       "       "       "	20.00
Bellechasse County       "       "       "       "       "	47.82
Berthier County       "       "       "       "       "	20.77
Bonaventure County       "       "       "       "       "	72.30
Brome County       "       "       "       "       "	62.60
Champlain County       "       "       "       "       "	55.66
Charlevoix County       "       "       "       "       "	36.48
Chateauguay County       "       "       "       "       "	39.75
Chicoutimi County       "       "       "       "       "	41.08
Compton County       "       "       "       "       "	71.73

It must be borne in mind that the above grants are all that have been received for poor municipalities. If an average be struck between the largest and the smallest grants paid this dozen of municipalities it will be seen to be \$265.00. That is to say that on an average the Gouin Government is paying some \$265 to rural school municipalities.

When it is remembered that this sum has to be divided up among all the schools in the municipality, sometimes a large number, it will be seen what a mere trifle is paid by the Government towards keeping up the rural schools.

The amounts now paid must be materially increased before we can expect much betterment.

### WHERE MONEY WAS WASTED.

And right here the question may well be asked whether the Gouin Government could not have given more to our country schools.

A study of the public accounts shows that the Government has paid out large sums for the erection of school buildings, not school buildings in the country, but in the large centres.

It recently spent half a million dollars for a commercial academy. It spent another half million dollars for a technical school at Quebec, and over three quarters of a million dollars for a technical school at Montreal.

Not only does it pay these immense sums of money for the construction of the buildings but it pays \$30,000 per annum to help maintain the school at Quebec, and \$40,000 to help maintain the school at Montreal.

It actually gives an annual grant of \$50,000 to one school which has just 38 scholars.

These immense sums paid for two or three schools in a couple of cities make the little amounts paid to the various country schools look very small indeed.

If, instead of paying out millions for technical schools it had paid out millions for rural schools the position of the elementary schools of this Province would be much different than it is to-day.

It was not necessary to pay out these large sums of money for the erection of the buildings, for these same subjects could have been taught in other schools, and the Government could have encouraged the teaching of the subjects by means of annual grants to the schools which were willing to teach them.

The expenditure which the Gouin Government has made for the purposes above noted has made it impossible to do justice to the rural schools.

If Mr. Tellier is called on to form a Government the rural schools will get more, even if the large centres have to get less.

## THE MATTER OF ROADS.

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### Government's Scheme Not Well Designed, and Will Be Costly and Ineffective.

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As regards roads, the Government purposes to spend ten million dollars, a pretty big sum of money.

Ordinary business intelligence would demand that a well thought out plan or scheme should have been devised for its expenditure. The Government should know in the beginning very nearly what will be obtained by the expenditure of this vast sum.

The scheme should be such as to safeguard the securing of the macadamizing and betterment of such roads as will do the greatest good to the greatest number. In other words, the money to be expended should secure the betterment of the trunk roads or main thoroughfares of the Province rather than bye roads which are little used.

The requirements should make it impossible to spend the money where little good will come from the expenditure. The scheme should embrace an outline of all the main thoroughfares of the Province and should secure their betterment, leaving the matter of improvement of the bye-roads to the municipal council under the law.

Has the Government any such scheme? No, apparently it has no scheme whatever except to spend the money. In spending the money the

Gouin Government is an adept, but it seems unable, notwithstanding its business pretensions, to spend it judiciously or advantageously.

The new law just passed allows any municipal council to borrow money by means of debentures. Any council is allowed to borrow thousands of dollars simply by passing a resolution. It does not even have to pass a by-law. It does not have to submit the matter to the rate-payers.

It can even pass an illegal resolution and this new law of the Gouin Government declares it legal.

This is something new in legislation, for the Legislature to declare an illegal act a legal one, thereby taking away the right of the rate-payers to attack what the council may do against their will.

When the council gets money they can use it on any road they please. It need not necessarily be used on a trunk road.

A council in an adjoining municipality may have built a macadamized road right up to the line of this municipality whose council is not obliged to continue the road. It can spend the money elsewhere.

As a result the macadamized roads of the Province will simply be patchwork, here a little, there a little, but without any continuous whole.

All this could have been prevented by the Government taking the initiative itself and building the main thoroughfares or trunk roads through the Province and assisting the councils to build the others.

The Government is prepared to spend ten million dollars on roads, but it purposes to spend it through the municipalities, that is, the municipalities will hire the money and the Government will pay it back together with about half the interest on the debentures.

### THE OPPOSITION PLAN.

Now the pretension of the Opposition at Quebec is that the Government should take the initiative itself. It should first ascertain the main thoroughfares in the Province and then itself improve them, spending the money itself and improving those roads that would be most used by the public in general.

The scheme of the Opposition would embrace the general plan of the roads of the Province. These roads would then be classified according to their respective importance, in order to determine which are the main highways which should be first improved. Then before they are macadamized they would be straightened, widened and levelled where necessary.

Some of the advantage to be secured by this plan are these:

1. There would be more secured for the same expenditure.

The government can borrow money cheaper than a municipality. Money lenders prefer to lend to a Government rather than to be obliged to deal with an unknown municipal council.

But not only would there be more money available, but it would go further. No one will dispute that the Government could take ten million dollars and secure from its expenditure better roads than would be secured by its expenditure by several hundred municipal councils.

2. It would do away with the necessity of municipal councils taking charge of the improvement of the leading thoroughfares and leave them free to give their attention to the improvement of the less travelled roads.

3. It would secure uniformity in road making and better roads. Uniformity, because the roads would be built by the Government and not by hundreds of municipal councils of varied ideas, plans and methods. Better roads, because there would be greater thoroughness. For example, crooked roads would more likely be straightened, narrow roads widened, hilly roads levelled, etc., than would be the case if left to municipal councils.

4. It would secure the betterment of the roads from which the greatest number would be benefited. The choice of the roads to be improved would be wholly with the Government, which with knowledge of the general scheme of highways in the Province could best choose those to be macadamized.

5. It would do away with the patch work result and would secure a continuity of improved highways. In other words, the improved roads would be continuous and not separated with here a little improved road, then some not improved, etc.

6. It would tend to the improvement of other highways, as the councils could then turn their whole attention to them and they could take advantage of the law of 1907, under which the Government pays a certain part of the expenditure for macadamizing or gravelling.

There seems to be no question but what the plan of the Opposition is the better one. There is everything to gain by it and nothing to lose. There is absolutely no advantage in making the corporations hire the money. There are many disadvantages.

There does not appear to be any question but what with the same amount of money expended by the Government we should secure much better roads than we will secure through its expenditure by the municipal councils.

We must always bear in mind that there is nothing in the law to compel a municipality to take advantage of this law. Many, without doubt, will refuse to borrow money and even pay one half the interest.

The result will be that in these municipalities the old system of roads will maintain altogether, making it impossible to secure through thoroughfares of macadamized roads.

The desired end of having a continuous improved road can only be obtained by the Government taking the initiative and building the roads itself.

The fact that the Gouin Government is prepared to spend such an immense sum of money in the way it proposes proves that it is devoid of ordinary business discernment.

## THE POINTS IN ISSUE.

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### Questions For Voters to Answer From Their Own Knowledge.

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Therefore, considering all the matters herein referred to, we submit the proposition that the Gouin Government has no foundation for the pretension that it is a business Government.

Money has rolled into its treasury but through no initiative of its own, and it has rolled out of the treasury just as easily as it rolled in; and what has the Government to show for its vast expenditure?

How much better are the rural roads?  
years ago?

How much better are the rural roads?

The people have been and are being heavily taxed to provide money for the Government to spend. Are we getting value for our money? Are we likely to get value for it if the Gouin Government is returned to power?

After fifteen years in power it is generally wise on general principles to secure a change of Government. This appears advisable now in the interests of the people.

Give Mr. Tellier a chance.



