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Legislature

The following is a summary of the address delivered, in the course of the Budget debate, by Mr. Horace Wright, on Tuesday evening, April 16th.

Mr. Wright (4th Prince) stated that the opposition was unable to criticize the government on its expenditure because, although it budgeted for a deficit of \$15,000.00, it only had a deficit of \$1500.00 last year. So they were forced to criticize it because there was no external audit. He quoted statistics to confute certain points raised in this connection by Conservative speakers, explaining that the things they called attention to were merely typographical errors. This should restore their confidence in their auditor, who was appointed by the Conservatives.

He thought they were only trying to sow mistrust of the government so that they might be able to gain votes throughout the country.

He then referred to a surplus of \$70,000.00 which, he stated, Mr. Stewart was reported as having said he left in the treasury in The Guardian newspaper of last year. He was glad that the arguments advanced on that side of the house were having effect on them.

Mr. Stewart took issue with the contention that he had claimed \$70,000.00 surplus.

"Well, at any rate he claimed he had a surplus" said Mr. Wright. He went on to give an illustration of what he believed the Conservatives meant by a surplus.

When they went out of power on August 12, 1927, they had left only \$151,000.00 odd for the Liberals to spend. They had spent at the rate of \$84,000.00 during their part of the year, leaving only \$32,000.00 per month for the Liberals to spend. The Liberals saved the country a sum of \$54,000.00. The Conservative contentions were only propaganda to catch votes.

He scored the junior member for Charlottetown for saying that two members of the government had been seen coming out of a rum shop, saying it was a sad day for the province when public men could stoop so low as to make such statements.

Taxes and Salaries

With regard to their plank in the Liberal platform advocating a reduction in taxes, he said it was a very different thing for a party to promise a reduction in taxation, and then get into power, and realizing the needs of the country fail to take them off. He scored the Conservatives for taking off the Bell Government's taxes, claiming that the demands of the teachers could have been met.

As to the threat of strike, the teachers did not have their way in the matter. He traced the history of the strike at some length. The universal opinion of the members of the house was that the teachers demands should not be met. He claimed that the Commission was the government's; an increase in pay was flatly refused. Even were we to have an increase in subsidy, an increase in salary such as they demand should not be met. He contended that it would not improve the Educational system unless salaries three times as high were paid out so as to keep them in the profession. He felt that this was quite impractical. Salaries of teachers now average \$535.00. If they teach only five or six pupils you have a cost per capita entirely outside the powers of this province. If higher salaries are to be paid, there cannot be so many teachers hired.

He held that 75 per cent of the teachers were not going to strike; they were going back to work. The leaders realized this, and knew that public opinion was not behind them. The government did not back down one iota, he said; it was the teachers who backed down. The teachers were entitled to credit for realizing that their contracts with the trustees were something more than scraps of paper, and did not go on strike.

Mr. Wright then went on to criticize the Conservatives for failure to collect taxes while in power, also for not properly enforcing the motor vehicle law, only one conviction being made under that act while the Stewart Government was in power. Under the Liberals, every drunken driver reported had his license cancelled.

Prohibition

Mr. Wright claimed that the Conservatives let far too many convicted offenders against the prohibition act out of jail before their time was up. He had a whole sheet full of such names. The prisoners were not being released at the present time.

Dr. MacMillan, "You don't even put them in."

The speaker made the rather broad claim that the present government was enforcing the prohibition act, better than any government ever had. They had carried out all their promises. He went on to speak of the difficulty of getting really good prosecutors; but political influence had never been brought to bear on the

REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY AND THE DODD PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1928

To J. J. Larabee, Esquire, M. L. A., Chairman and Member of the Library Committee of the Legislative Library of the Province of Prince Edward Island and the Honourable Justice Massard, Trustee of the Dodd Public Library Fund:

I have the honor to submit this the twenty-ninth annual report of the Joint Library for the year ending December 31st, 1928.

The number of books received and catalogued during the year was 595, 70 for the Legislative Library and

Commission. If therefore the act was not perfectly enforced, the responsibility was with the Commission; not the government.

Mr. Wright claimed that the "politicians" a certain clergyman referred to were those who nearly broke up the Temperance Alliance to go back to their own party.

Agriculture

The speaker next paid a high tribute of praise to Hon. W. M. Lea, and said that under the former minister of Agriculture things were just allowed to drift. He went on to enumerate some of the things Mr. Lea had done. For one thing he had put the falconwood farm on a paying basis. He did away with the scrub stock, and put on a herd of pure bred Holstein cattle. He quoted statistics in support of his contention, saying that the profit on the farm last year had been \$5,800.00. At the present time there was a herd of 85 cows, 30 of them producing milk. Last fall one of the heifers raised on the farm was reserve champion at Toronto, and was sold to an Ontario man for \$500.00.

Last year, too, the production of butter and cheese was higher than ever—due largely, to pure bred stock distributed through the province by the work of the Minister of Agriculture. The high price of bacon, also he attributed to the pure bred Yorkshires established at Falconwood Farm by Mr. Lea. He felt that the report of the Department of Agriculture was so well got up with photos, etc., that it might serve to advertise the province.

Mr. Wright went on to quote statistics from the report re. our increased agricultural production. These, he claimed, showed that potato growing had not injured the province. In fact, our acreage in potatoes might still be increased without damage.

He went on to give a short history of horse breeding in the province. The present Minister had established an enrollment system. When the Liberal party went out of power in 1923, the Stewart Government neglected this system, and sold some of the blooded stock outside the province. They should be ashamed to look a horse in the face, let alone ask this government what is being done for horse-breeding. But the Minister of Agriculture on his return to office restored the enrollment plan.

Mr. Wright then dealt with certain other criticisms by Opposition members of the Agricultural department, going into the matters in detail.

He then mentioned that the Minister of Agriculture has the intention from the Federal Department that a live stock promoter would shortly be available.

Public Works

Mr. Wright warmly commended the Minister of Public works on the result of his new road policy.

(At 10.20 Mr. Wright adjourned the debate, and the House adjourned until 10 a.m.)

MORNING SESSION

Friday, April 19
The House met at 10.40 a.m.

Mr. Horace Wright read the report of the Library Committee and that of the Librarian. They are as follows:

REPORT OF LIBRARY COMMITTEE

To the Honourable the Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly:

Your Committee appointed to report on the Library beg leave to submit the following:

Whereas a recommendation was submitted by the Legislative Library Committee appointed during the last Session of the Legislature, urging that a Committee be appointed to confer with the Mayor and City Councillors of the City of Charlottetown, with a view to co-operating in the matter of providing a suitable building in which to place the Legislative Library within easy access of the members of the Legislative Assembly.

We beg to state that arrangements have been made whereby such a building may be provided, and we concur in the opinion expressed by the Legislative Library Committee of last year, that the removal of the Library to said Building is highly desirable.

(Sgd.) J. J. LARABEE
HORACE WRIGHT
P. A. SCULLY
A. A. McDONALD

REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY AND THE DODD PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1928

To J. J. Larabee, Esquire, M. L. A., Chairman and Member of the Library Committee of the Legislative Library of the Province of Prince Edward Island and the Honourable Justice Massard, Trustee of the Dodd Public Library Fund:

I have the honor to submit this the twenty-ninth annual report of the Joint Library for the year ending December 31st, 1928.

The number of books received and catalogued during the year was 595, 70 for the Legislative Library and

325 for the Dodd Library. Beside these there were the usual number of daily papers, magazines, pamphlets and other documents not individually catalogued.

The books, reports and pamphlets in the Legislative Library now number approximately 20,000 and in the Dodd and general collection 4000.

The number of books, magazines and pamphlets issued from the Library for home reading in Town and Country during the year was 25,827, being 1479 more than in the previous year.

The generous bequest of the late Miss Annie Alley is helping materially to satisfy the demands of the patrons of the Library, but there is much need for still further benefactions of a similar kind.

During the year the Daughters of the Empire contributed quite a number of books which materially enlarged the section devoted to the boys and girls reading.

Fiction is as in the past the form of literature most in demand, but the call for history, biography and other forms of literature was greater than in any previous year.

It is a pleasure to note that definite steps are being taken toward the erection and equipment of the new Library and Harris Memorial Art Gallery. The section of this fine building will relieve the congestion so much in evidence during the past years and enable the patrons to get a much better Library service.

Although the daily routine—supplying books and information to patrons, the care and repairing of old books, the collecting, cataloguing and preparing new books for circulation, preparing the annual statistics for the printer, proof-reading and indexing them, mailing out journals, blue-books, Statutes, etc., etc., is quite enough to take up the time of the Library Staff, still some time was found for other phases of Library work.

Respectfully submitted,
A. D. FRASER,
Librarian.

Hon. W. E. Butler, in the absence of Mr. L. R. Allen, the chairman read the report of the Public Accounts Committee. It is as follows:

REPORT OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:

Your Public Accounts Committee

do herewith submit the following report:

Having been convened three times and having gone carefully into all matters regarding the financial position of the Province, as on the 31st day of December last, we find, after taking into account, in addition to the statements of the Public Accounts, all unpaid claims, so far as known, against the Province, and also all revenues due but not collected up to the time the Public Accounts for 1928 were closed, the result to be thus:

Fisher resources, Fisher volume, create far greater beauty, richness and VALUE APPARENT AT A GLANCE

NO other cars begin to measure up with Fisher Body cars in down-right body value. The reason is, that no other body builder can begin to measure up with Fisher resources and Fisher volume. In every General Motors car from Chevrolet to Cadillac, this appraisable value is apparent at a glance. The more closely comparisons are drawn, the more does the Fisher Body car in any particular field gain by those comparisons. Upon Chevrolet, for instance—forgetting for a moment speed and power performance utterly unknown in its class—Fisher Body has conferred

so much richness and beauty that all cars around or immediately above it are ruled out of consideration. This is true of every Fisher Body car. So true in fact that thousands now clearly recognize that, in every price field, the car which is unmistakably the better choice is always the car with Body by Fisher. There is only one way to know and to appreciate the almost sensational superiority of any Fisher Body car—and that is, to compare that car's body, point for point and feature for feature, with that of any car in its price field. Do this, and you will soon become a judge of real motor car value.

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GENERAL MOTORS OF CANADA, LIMITED

Liabilities:

Treasury Current Account	\$ 287,086.56
Due on Loans	442,149.22
Debentures less Sinking Funds	1,653,013.91
Interest on Loans accrued	1,010,655.34
Interest on Debentures accrued	20,797.26
Accounts payable, Agriculture Department	72.26
Accounts payable, Attorney General's Department	424.18
Accounts payable, Education Department	4,682.00
Accounts payable, Public Works Department	36,088.87
Accounts payable, Treasury Department	107.95
	41,317.86
	\$2,454,370.15

Assets:

Accrued Interest on Sinking Funds	\$ 8,004.75
Credit balance School Supply	246.83
Credit balance Prohibition Commission	55,149.53
	63,401.11
Deduct:	\$9,390,999.04
*Arrears taxes, etc.	\$158,005.20
Files on hand	4,500.00
	162,505.20
	\$2,228,463.84

Hen. J. D. Stewart pointed out that last year the Government had borrowed \$300,000 and yet only increased the liabilities by \$270,000—a marvellous report!

Mr. Horace Wright stated that the committee on Public Accounts had done the same work as the external audit, and at no extra cost. This saved the province \$400.00.

Hon. J. D. Stewart said that, provided we were to have wizards of that kind on the Public Accounts Committee, there could scarcely be any need of an external audit. They

the report of the Contingent Accounts Committee which was considered behind closed doors.

The following resolution moved by Mr. P. A. Scully and seconded by Hon. Dr. Grant passed the Legislature unopposed:

WHEREAS it is the intention of the Customs Department to close out the Customs Office at Charlottetown and official notice of such intention has been given.

AND WHEREAS the Port of Charlottetown, is the most desirable shipping port in the Province of Prince Edward Island, and the only winter port, and the volume of shipping at said port is steadily growing, there having been shipped by water from said port during the year 1928, 800,000 bushels of potatoes, in addition to other exports.

(Continued on page 15)

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In comparison with the result thus shown and that shown in the External Auditor's Report of 1927, the increase of the Liabilities of the Province is \$3,789.41 less than that shown in condensed statement on page 8 of the Provincial Auditor's Report.

Your Committee having examined the securities held in the Sinking Funds found them to be exactly as tabulated on page 17 of the Public Accounts.

We also approve of the recommendation contained in the Provincial Auditor's statement on page 4 regarding the cancelling of the Provincial Debentures held as part of the Sinking Funds.

Respectfully submitted,
W. BRUCE BUTLER
HARRY COX
RUSSEL CLARK

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