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PROCEEDINGS IN THE FEDERAL PARLIAMENT

Prince Edward Island's Share of Estimates is \$201,000.

BUDGET SPEECH

Surplus of Thirty-four Millions Claimed by Hon. J. A. Robb.

(From our Own Correspondent)

OTTAWA, Ont., Feb. 17.—Some suspicions have been aroused by the reply of the Prime Minister to the leader of the opposition regarding the intention of the government to follow the conclusion of the budget debate with a pronouncement with respect to the report of the commission on the Maritime claims. After the budget is finished there may be a disposition to close up as soon as possible so as to prepare for the "Diamond Jubilee" etc. This matter is worth watching.

Prince Edward Island's share of the appropriations set forth in the estimates amounts to two hundred and one thousand six hundred dollars of which the amount of twenty-eight thousand six hundred is a rebate.

Hon. Mr. Robb, Minister of Finance, commenced his budget speech at half past three this afternoon, and finished at four o'clock. He simply read his statement of figures regarding the financial operations of the government. He claimed an estimated surplus of revenue over expenditure for the fiscal year ending March thirty-first next of thirty-four million two hundred thousand dollars, and a net reduction of public debt of thirty one million, three hundred thousand dollars. The estimated revenues for the year he placed at three hundred and ninety four million eight hundred and seventy thousand dollars. He also claimed a great reduction in taxation.

Hon. Mr. Bennett, former finance minister, followed in a marvellously able and eloquent speech. He criticized most trenchantly the finance minister's financial statements. Referring to the minister's statements regarding the reduction of taxation he submitted figures to show taxation had been increased for the year over fifteen million dollars.

Discussing the minister's proclamation of national prosperity, Mr. Bennett pointed out whatever prosperity prevailed the last year was due to our immense crops and the export of wheat and grain to other countries. It was a false fiscal policy to send out of the country so much of our pulpwood and other natural resources. The money we receive for these raw materials we send away to the United States and other foreign countries for manufacturing goods we should make at home from our own raw materials.

This certainly was a suicidal policy. Mr. Bennett dealt most exhaustively with the great fiscal and other transactions affecting the country and pointed out how unfavorable to us were almost all the trade treaties we had made with other countries. Mr. Bennett spoke for an hour and a half, held the closest attention of the house and concluded amid a storm of applause.

N. H. L. Games

N. H. L. Results:
At New York — Montreal 4; Rangers 1.
At Toronto — Americans 1; Toronto 4.
At Detroit — Ottawa 2; Detroit 1.
HEALFAX, N. S., Feb. 17. Nova Scotia hockey play-off at Sackville — Amherst 1; Sackville 0.

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Demands of Chen Caused Rupture in Negotiations

(Canadian Press)
LONDON, Feb. 17.—Demands by Eugene Chen, Chinese foreign minister, that he be recognized as spokesman for the whole of China and that the future status of all the British interests in the country be settled during the negotiations at Hankow caused the present suspension of negotiations. This was made known by official advices today.

TRAFFICKING IN HONORS IS ALLEGED

Claim grade in Legion of Honor could be had for \$4,000 or less.

PARIS, Feb. 17.—For \$4,000, sometimes less, any one could buy a grade in the Legion of Honor, most distinguished order in France founded by Napoleon as a reward for exceptional military and civil merit.

This is the conclusion reached after investigation of alleged trafficking in honors. It will be brought out more exactly tomorrow when the three men accused are brought to trial, but the scandal is expected to be reduced to police court dimensions and few notable names brought into it.

The prosecution declares that one Dumoulin, well known in industrial and artistic circles, made it a business to hunt for likely candidates who might be tempted by vanity to pay a substantial sum for the privilege of wearing a red ribbon in their buttonhole.

Routie denies this despite the fact that Camuset has confessed. The prosecution questioned Routie about \$40,000 he has in a bank, which is considered a bit large, since his salary is only \$1,000 a year. The prisoner says his father left it to him, but as his father was a small grocer with an income not much larger than his son's this is questioned.

Four men said to have been Dumoulin's dupes, deny having received their decorations through his agency. The prosecution, however, has other witnesses ready to testify they were objects of Dumoulin's solicitations.

Quebec Elections Likely In April

(Canadian Press)
HULL, Que., Feb. 17.—Hull politicians see indications that the Quebec provincial elections will be held in April. Premier Taschereau has issued instructions that the sixty days previously required for the posting of the election lists until their ratification by council be reduced to 30 days. It was announced in orders received here today.

The city clerk has written to Quebec asking the government for an explanation of the new orders which limit the time allowed for persons to make sure that their names are on the lists.

U.S. Shoes Sold Cheaper in Canada Than in States

(Canadian Press)
WINNIPEG, Man., Feb. 16.—Shoes manufactured in Chicago are imported into Canada at much less than the price for which they sell in their home market, according to Cyril Knowles, assistant inspector of customs and excise preventive service, who testified before the Royal Customs Commission, Mr. Knowles said that shoes sold in Chicago at \$4.25 were sold to firms in Winnipeg at \$3.25. Again, shoes sold for \$3.75 in Chicago brought \$1.75 in Winnipeg.

"The dumping clause should be applied," suggested Commissioner W. H. Wright.

Mr. Calder agreed to this, but said that he proposed to submit that action be taken to recover the amounts outstanding in connection with these undervaluations.

Mr. Knowles said that, in connection with one firm alone the amount recoverable on a ruling from the department was \$12,413.

LECTURE AT CALEDONIAN CLUB

Most Interesting Lecture Last Night by Mr. James Paton on Wee Bits From My Diary on Recent Travels.

The Speaker at the Caledonian Club last evening was Mr. James Paton, who has crossed the briny one hundred times. He greatly interested his hearers by giving a vivid description of his visit to several historic parts of England as gleaned from his diary faithfully kept while on tour as at home. Mr. Paton's diaries must by this time fill many volumes, and must afford him great pleasure and satisfaction in the perusal.

Mr. D. J. Macdonald, President occupied the chair and introduced the speaker.

Mr. Paton spoke as follows: Before leaving Charlottetown last June we had decided that the itinerary for the trip we were about to take to the old country would differ in some respects from those taken on previous occasions. Four years ago we visited the principal places on the Continent, this year we confined ourselves to British territory. On our return to the island last September the Guardian published some wee bits from our Diary which I do not intend repeating, but with your consent continue the story. In the village of Hawarden stands a beautiful Fountain Monument with the following, carved in stone, "Drink ye the water of life," erected in commemoration of the golden wedding of William Ewart and Catherine Gladstone. July 25th, 1889, as a slight token of the admiration and affection inspired by a residence of 50 years, 1839-1889, a few steps from the monument takes us to the old Parish church of St. Denioles. Here we find on the wall a memorial tablet, on which is carved the Hymn, "Rock of Ages" translated into Latin in 1848 by W. E. Gladstone. This memorial was placed by his grand children in love and gratitude and reverence. To show how beloved this great statesman was by his own children there is a beautiful stained glass window. Near to it carved on the wall are the words "To the Glory of God and as a Thanksgiving for the long and blessed lives of their parents this window was dedicated by the sons and daughters of William Ewart Gladstone 1895." In the adjoining church yard there is a tomb stone

(Continued on page seven)

Reduction in Cable Rates Announced

(Special to The Guardian)
LONDON, Feb. 17.—Full consideration is being given by the government to President Coolidge's proposal to call a new conference on naval armaments. Consultation with the dominions is proceeding and some time must necessarily elapse before the British reply can be drafted in the light of the opinion

Air Service from End of Steel to Hudson Bay

(Canadian Press)
OTTAWA, Feb. 17.—The end of Hudson Bay Railway Steel and Port Nelson and Fort Churchill will be linked up this summer by air. To speed up survey and investigation work the department of Railways and canals have signed a contract with the Western Canada Airways to fly freight and passengers from Canada Kettle Rapids, where the rails now end, to the Bay.

Lovesick Youth Shot and Killed Girl in Toronto

TORONTO, Feb. 17.—Because Kathleen Lallingo, aged 17, refused his love, Joseph Piccadati, two years the girl's senior, shot her dead on Manning Avenue here tonight, and turning the gun on himself, pumped two bullets into his body, one below the heart and the other above it. He is in Western Hospital and has a chance to live.

HON. J. A. ROBB DELIVERED BUDGET SPEECH YESTERDAY

Finance Minister Announced a Surplus in Present Fiscal Year of \$34,200,000 And a Reduction in National Debt of Thirty-one Millions—No Tariff Changes Announced.

(Canadian Press)
OTTAWA, Feb. 17.—Announcing taxation reductions estimated at \$27,000,000, Hon. J. A. Robb today presented to the House his four-year budget.

"The aim," Mr. Robb declared, "has been to lighten the burden of every taxpayer rather than to afford relief to special groups, provinces or sections of the country."

"We are again," Mr. Robb said, "at another point, in the happy position of being able to report a current year, which closes on the 31st of the coming month."

Announcements in the speech were:—Estimated reduction in net debt during present fiscal year of \$31,000,000 making reduction of \$95,000,000 in net debt in four years. Net debt reduction in 1925-26 \$27,706,586, as compared with \$22,353,000, the estimate in the last budget speech.

Total revenue for present fiscal year estimated at \$394,800,000, an increase of \$11,900,000 over 1925-26.

Total expenditure for present fiscal year estimated at \$360,600,000, an increase of \$5,400,000 over 1925-26.

Estimated surplus of revenue over expenditure in present fiscal year \$34,200,000. From this \$2,900,000 is deducted for reduction in rate of soldier settlement loans leaving \$31,300,000 estimated reduction in net debt.

Mr. Robb further intimated that when the \$29,088,400 five and half per cent loan falls due on November 1st, part will be redeemed in cash if finances permit. The remainder will be redeemed by floating a new loan at reduced rates of interest.

When \$63,427,250 in five and half per cent victory bonds matures on December 1st, it will be met by floating a new loan at lower interest.

This refinancing will it is estimated result in an annual saving in interest charges of a million dollars.

Reviewing trade conditions Mr. Robb gave the estimated favorable trade balance for the present fiscal year as approximately \$250,000,000. The policy of the government had been to promote trade relations with other countries and

Britain Consults Dominions Before Drafting Reply

(Special to The Guardian)
LONDON, Feb. 17.—Full consideration is being given by the government to President Coolidge's proposal to call a new conference on naval armaments. Consultation with the dominions is proceeding and some time must necessarily elapse before the British reply can be drafted in the light of the opinion

FALL OF HANGCHOW IS MOMENTARILY EXPECTED

Headquarters of Marshal Sun Chuan Fang, Defender of Shanghai, Will Shortly Surrender to Cantonese Forces—Northern Army Has Collapsed and May be Unable to Put up Effective Resistance to an Attack on Shanghai.

(Canadian Press)
SHANGHAI, Feb. 17.—Nationalist claims of the capture of Hangchow 113 miles southwest of here, had not been confirmed here tonight, but railway officials of the Hangchow-Shanghai line said there was the utmost confusion in that city because of trains standing by there to evacuate the headquarters of Marshal Sun Chuan-Fang's defending army.

The Cantonese forces were only ten miles from Hangchow this morning lining up on the south and west approaches to the city and pressing hard on the retreating northern army.

Confirmation of the city's fall was expected momentarily as it may have already become an accomplished fact.

It is clear that the northern army in Chekiang province of which Hangchow is the capital has collapsed

WORST STORM IN HISTORY OF CALIFORNIA

Property Loss Estimated at Several Million Dollars with Death Toll Standing at Twenty-one.

(Canadian Press)
SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 17.—Despite the confusion and roar of high water, flood stricken southern California today turned an eye toward the growing totals of death and destruction as the result of the worst storm in its history, while thousands of its besieged citizens sought refuge from a menace still unabated.

With the known death toll standing at 21, property losses from rain, snow and wind which has beset the southland with unprecedented violence for four days probably will total several million dollars.

Up to an early hour today 5,000 persons had been driven from their homes. A survey late last night made up from reports received over limited lines of communication showed at least twenty cities had been partly or wholly deluged, seven of them badly. Damage to bridges alone in Los Angeles was estimated at \$1,000,000.

Health Move on For Restaurants

MONTREAL, Feb. 16.—Every person employed in a Montreal restaurant or public eating place will be required to undergo a medical examination twice a year and be in the possession of a certificate of health, if a by-law now before the city executive council is adopted.

Another feature of the bill, which contains 72 articles, is that all eating places will have to be erected in "salubrious localities, and no cellars or underground place may be used for a dining room."

This Year's Potato Crop U. S. Bulletin

WARNS AGAINST UNDERPLANTING

Under date of February 5th, the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics issue a warning against overplanting potatoes in 1927. The warning reads as follows: "The outlook reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics a short time ago warns against heavy increases in acreage for the coming planting season for practically all of the major crops. Planting potatoes are cautioned against the danger of producing another such crop as the one of 1924, which the apparent proposed increase in plantings might make possible. The following paragraph from the 'Weekly Review of Fruits and Vegetables' of Feb. 11, gives the reason for this warning: 'After the relatively limited potato acreage of the past few years and after the short crops and favorable prices of 1925 and 1926, there seems to be some danger of overplanting this season. Early reports from many sections indicate a possible increase of 13 per cent in the 1927 potato acreage. With average yield of 112 bushels per acre, such an increase of plantings would result in a 400,000,000 bushel crop, or only 21,000,000 less than the huge production in 1924, and growers doubtless would receive low prices. The disastrous season of 1924-25 should be a warning against any increase of acreage as great as 13 per cent. After the heavy production and poor returns of that season, plantings were reduced in 1925 to the lowest total in more than 20 years. Since 1925, the tendency has been to increase the potato acreage annually and bring it back to normal. The decrease in 1925 and the increase last year were noticeable in both the early and late States. Production also followed this trend in both the South and the North. In other words, after a short-crop year, heavier plantings in the early-shiping sections seems to be a sure indication of proportionately larger acreage throughout the North or main-crop States. This coincidence in the actions of growers in the two sections of the country leads to the feeling that matters may be overdone this year. Not only is heavier planting of potatoes reported in Florida, but the acreage of this crop in the lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas appears to be exceptionally large. It is estimated that 14,000 to 15,000 acres have been planted in potatoes in the Valley this year, compared with 6,800 last season. Favorable weather made it possible to put out Texas potatoes several weeks earlier than usual, and plant-

Conscience Money Received By Finance Dept.

(Canadian Press)
OTTAWA, Feb. 17.—The Department of Finance acknowledges receipt of \$4,000 conscience money. This amount was received by a financial institution from one of the legal customers acting on behalf of a client.

Strongly in Favor of Coolidge Plan

(Canadian Press)
TOKIO, Feb. 17.—The Japanese government is strongly in favor of President Coolidge's move to reduce the naval armaments of world powers and will do everything in its power to aid in the work.

Premier Wakatsuki made this statement in an exclusive interview given to an Associated Press representative in which he frankly and informally discussed Japan's position in regard to President Coolidge's proposal for a conference of world powers to bring about a reduction of naval armaments.

Lieut. Coyle Victim Of Plane Accident

(Canadian Press)
BOSTON, Feb. 17.—Lieut. Benedict A. Coyle, one of five victims of an airplane accident in Texas, yesterday, was born in Charlottetown, P. E. I., the son of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Coyle, on October 1st, 1891. He was a bookkeeper in a Boston bank when the United States entered the war. He enlisted at Providence in the Second United States Infantry. He was later transferred to the second officers training camp at Plattsburg, New York, where he received his commission in November, 1917.

Death of Rev Alexander J. McNeill

(Canadian Press)
ST. JOHN, N. B., Feb. 17.—Rev. Alexander J. McNeill, pastor of the United Church at Gagetown, forty miles from here on the St. John River, died yesterday aged sixty years. He was born at Orangedale, C. B. in 1866. He has been stationed in Prince Edward Island at Orwell, Murray Bay and Wick at Dorchester, Stanley, and Nashuak. He went to Gagetown in October of last year.

When the Postmaster arose to answer a question in the House today, boating and derisive shouts marked the outburst and from the Labor back-benchers there were cries of "shoot him also. Put him up against the wall."

So great was the tumult that the government minister could not make himself heard and was forced to resume his seat.

Announcements, Coming Events, Meetings, Etc

**Whist and dance Kelly's Cross Hall Friday, Feb. 18th. 3920-217.21

**Coming—Big show, Buck Jones, Georgetown Friday, Montague Saturday. 3919, 217.21

**Patronize the Baptist Church cake sale at Moore & McLeod's Saturday at 3 p. m. and help your hospital. 3953 218.21

**The best of home cooking at Hospital Cake Sale Saturday. 3963

**Cornwall Rink, Cornwall vs. Alexandria Friday night, February 18th, 7 o'clock. 3948

**The St. Margaret's Dramatic Club will present "Molly Bawn" a comedy drama in 4 acts in Rollo Bay hall Tuesday evening, Feb. 22nd. Music and specialties between acts. 3951

**Carnival Sherwood Rink Friday night. Prizes for best costumes. Drive out from Railway Crossing 25 cents. 3927 217.21

**Chicken Supper and entertainment in Belfast Hall, Wednesday evening, Feb. 23rd, under the auspices of Belfast United Church. If not fine will be the 25th. Doors open at 7. Admission 35 and 30c. 3982, 218.21

**Seven Mile Bay—Bear Bay. Terence Campbell, Albertus Insure Wednesday, Feb. 23rd. Admission 35 cents. Novel program under auspices local Knights of Columbus, City talent in attendance. 3941 218.21

FIRING SQUAD THREATENED LABOR IRE

Postmaster General is Howled Down—Chamberlain Unable to Explain Chen - O'Malley Break.

LONDON, Feb. 17.—Feeling flared up spectacularly in the House of Commons this afternoon over the Chinese situation, but when a check was taken on the net results the members of Parliament as well as the public were still in a fog as to what had actually happened in the last few days in the negotiations at Hankow between British Charge O'Malley and the Chinese Foreign Minister, Eugene Chen.

Sir Austen Chamberlain, Foreign Secretary, was unable to give any definite information, explaining that the transmission of telegrams from Hankow had been delayed and he did not know what the position there was. This was in reply to a question by the former Labor Premier, Ramsay MacDonald. Several cablegrams had been received from Charge O'Malley but they had not been decoded and would not be ready for publication until tomorrow morning.

Lively Demonstration

The liveliest demonstration was led by the Laborites, who, for the moment were more concerned with Postmaster General Thomson's Croynod speech the previous night in which he declared that a firing squad would be the answer to any one seeking to prevent the assembling of troops in case of war with China. This brought Chinese affairs much nearer home than anything else since the departure of the first troops for Shanghai.

In his speech, which had aroused the ire of the Laborites, the Postmaster General said with reference to alleged utterances of certain Socialist leaders that they would do their best to prevent the assembling of British troops for service in China.

"If they do that," they will end up, and very properly too, against a wall with a firing party in front of them. It is just as well as that they should know that right from the start."

"Shoot Him Also."

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TORONTO, Feb. 13.—Maritime, strong winds, with local snow flurries.

Toronto, cloudy	37-32
Montreal, cloudy	30-26
Quebec, cloudy	28-23
Charlottetown, clear	25-1b
Halifax, cloudy	24-16
Saint John, cloudy	28-24
Boston, cloudy	44-34
New York, cloudy	40-36

Feb. 15th this afternoon at 12.30. Sun sets this afternoon at 5.31 and rises tomorrow morning at 6.55. Last quarter moon, Thursday, Feb. 24th 4.13 p. m. Summerside tide eighteen minutes later than Charlottetown.