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BETTER TIMES COMING FOR THE PROVINCE, SAYS PREMIER PETERS

In His Budget Speech Delivered in the Legislature Last Night—No More Taxes Will be Imposed at Present in the Hope of Additions to the Revenue.

Before a large audience last night in the Provincial Legislature Premier Peters delivered his annual Budget Speech. There were present on the floor of the House a number of prominent ladies and gentlemen. The Premier was in excellent form and spoke for upwards of an hour and a half. He was followed by the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Mathieson, and Hon. Mr. Cummiskey moved the adjournment of the debate.

Hon. Mr. Peters in commencing his speech referred to the recent Provincial election and the Federal election which had come previously. In the latter case it was spread broadcast that the Laurier Government would be wiped from power. But those who studied the situation knew better and the result was as those had anticipated. There were questions which many thought would defeat the Liberal Government, chief among them was the Grand Trunk Pacific upon which many had taken objection including Hon. Andrew Blair to whom the Conservatives pointed as the Premier's right hand man. But Sir Wilfrid upheld the great measure which he had introduced, he filled the position by another able man and the Government still goes on. Sir Wilfrid also had other troubles. Hon. Mr. Tarte while the Premier was in England had asserted himself in opposition to his leader. The cry was that the party was going to pieces, but what has been the result? One of the most keenly contested elections ever held in Canada took place and the result is that the people of Canada have returned the Liberal Government by a larger majority than Sir Wilfrid ever had before.

In Prince Edward Island the same prognostications had been made but the result is that the broadcast charges made by the Opposition have been dashed to the ground. The verdict was returned from the people and the gentlemen who had made those charges were routed home, foot and artillery. The issue was fought out before the people and the result is to be seen by the constitution of the House today.

The result of the Dominion election was not only the raising of Sir Wilfrid higher in the estimation of the people but it was the unqualified defeat of the Liberal-Conservative leader, and in the local election the result was the same, the Conservatives were almost entirely annihilated. In this Province the Hon. Mr. Gordon, a man whom all honored, was also left in the cold; so in the local as in the Dominion the old leaders were swept away.

The charges made against the present government were proved to be without foundation by the people. The Opposition had charged that something was being hidden from the people and now the public accounts committee have been called together as in the past they were summoned and the members did not think it was necessary to assemble. He himself would only be too glad to have the Committee meet and point out any expenditure which could be curtailed. He was sure there was no expenditure which could be curtailed.

Last year a number of matters came before the Government that were novel and new. For instance there was the shortage of the hay crop and as a result the Government felt they must devise a remedy. They had to face a question such as probably had never occurred in the Province before. The Government in their endeavor to import hay were discouraged in every possible way by the Opposition but notwithstanding their obstruction the hay was procured and it is still coming to save the stock of the province from starvation and the country from ruin.

The Legislature although in session only a short time had important work before them and in this he would give the Opposition great credit in standing shoulder to shoulder on questions which both parties could unite for the good of the Island. In the matter of improved winter communication party politics had been sunk and both sides had united and if we get what was expected in better communication in the winter season it will be because we have stood hand to hand together in the battle before the Dominion for our common rights.

There is also the question of Representation on which both parties have stood shoulder to shoulder. With us we had the other provinces. Now Brunswick has already sent their memorial to Ottawa asking for the same representation for P. E. I. and N. B. as they had at Confederation. The question had been taken to the Privy Council and decided against us, but now we are appealing to the Dominion itself for justice and for such representation as was understood at the entrance into the Dominion. He had no doubt but that the error made would be rectified.

Speaking of the Fishery Award he said that the claim for the share is nearer settlement than ever before. He knew he had said this before and his only sorrow was that the hopes had not yet been realized. Still he could assert now that the claim was now near a settlement.

This year he was sorry to say as in the past year that we have a deficit. There had been a falling off in the revenue and an increase in the expenditure. There were items that might be curtailed in the great spending department, but the opinion of the majority would be that there should be an increase. There had been a falling off in the matter of Education of over \$2,000, and for this he was grieved, for it showed that our teachers were leaving the Province because we could not pay a higher salary.

equalize revenue and expenditure. On this question he would carefully weigh his words for they have been before distorted and would if possible be again. The Government do not at present propose to increase taxation, for he hoped, as he said before, that ere the House met again, the revenue would be so supplemented that we would be beyond the era of deficits and the time of surpluses will have come.

It had been said that the Minister of Marine and Fisheries had asserted in Parliament that the Fishery Award would not be divided but in answer to this he (Hon. Mr. Peters) quoted from a letter of the Minister saying that the question was still to be submitted to the Supreme Court. The Provinces have a strong case and Prince Edward Island the strongest of all for we are entitled to a larger share than any of the other Provinces.

This however is not all. Hon. Mr. Gouin, the present Premier of Quebec writes (as a letter quoted showed) that he is fully alive to the importance of continuing the efforts made by his predecessor (Mr. Parent) to obtain the division of the Fishery Award among the Provinces interested. This showed him (Hon. Mr. Peters) that this question is not a thing of the past but is being made ready now for the Supreme Court. Of course the case may be lost, but even if it is lost we are no worse off than at present. Letters were read from the Premier of New Brunswick and the Premier of Nova Scotia each of whom looked forward hopefully to a speedy settlement of the questions pending. These questions are live issues and are questions which Sir Wilfrid Laurier himself is pledged to have settled.

The Local Government is loath, and he felt sure the Opposition were also loath, to increase the taxes at the present time when the farmers are in the present stress. It has been said that the Province was in financial straits but he was glad to say that the memorial sent to Ottawa contained no statement that the Province was in financial distress, for to his knowledge he was aware of no business men who had gone under as a result of the present severe winter. Now the farmers in some cases were asking forced and if such could be provided his Government would not hesitate for a moment. In the question of the sale of the hay he was glad to say that in every case the cash was paid when it was delivered at the station. Of this he was proud to bear testimony and now there was not a cent in arrears for what has been delivered. The purchase by the Government would not be at a profit for there were losses at the time and payment of agents had to be paid and there were overdrafts at the bank which would run up the expenses. The accounts had to be carefully kept in order to obtain the refund from the Dominion Government. The Opposition had charged that the hay was an election dodge; but as far as he could say every member that had anything to do with the hay lost votes instead of gaining them.

The system of education as far as it went was very good. In this connection he made reference to the benefactions of Sir William Macdonald who had not forgotten the land of his birth but instead inaugurated a system of public schools which were a credit to the province from which he came. He was glad the province had passed a unanimous vote of thanks to Sir William and in this the Opposition had, as in all the cases during the present session, when the public good was at stake, stood shoulder to shoulder for the common weal.

Mr. Mathieson, Leader of the Opposition, regretted the hopeless nature of the speech of the Premier. Now his whole

hope is to patiently drift further and further into debt till perhaps the Dominion comes to our help in the future. Our claims for \$5,000,000, some years ago, had been later sold for a miserable pittance of \$30,000 a year. Had we not drifted from year to year further into debt our claim this winter then sold out would be worth \$150,000 a year. Now we can only go to the Dominion as beggars as the Local Legislature had done when they had obtained the \$30,000. Mr. Mathieson reviewed the recent St. Peter's election contending that Mr. McEwen, who had an equality of votes with the Premier was as much entitled to occupy a seat in the House as the latter gentleman. The speaker deprecated the allusion made to the late leader of the Opposition, Hon. Mr. Gordon and reviewed the retirement of the late Commissioner of Agriculture, Hon. Mr. Rogers, and of Mr. Richards and Capt. Read from the government. The Premier had spoken of the verdict of the people but the government stands in the position of criminals who for some reason or other have been declared "Not Guilty" and now they boast throughout the country of their escape from justice. The secret of the deficit is that the present expenditure is \$100,000 in excess of the average Conservative expenditure. And in the face of this the public services have been made inferior. In the matter of Education the teachers have been discouraged by the withdrawal of the supplements. Our common schools are closing up and if they be all closed much money will be saved but the result will be of incalculable ruin to the Island. Mr. Mathieson urged the Sullivan government, which he asserted was the best in the history of the Province. He quoted figures to show the increased expenditure under Liberal rule from that under Conservative rule. While the greater expenditure was being made the educational system was being papered and the public works were in many cases neglected. Dealing with the Public Works Department he censured the Commissioner and pointed out that the Legislature had voted \$1500 for rights of way and instead of that \$4497.38 had been spent by the Commissioner last year. He instanced a number of cases where he stated that rights of way were purchased for election purposes. He referred to the importation of the hay and thought there was great need for the purchasing of seed grain as many of the farmers were drained dry. If seed could not be procured through Farmers Institutes the Government should make some arrangements for furnishing credit to needy farmers. He asserted that if the Government did not soon devise means to make revenue and expenditure meet the population of the Province will continue to decrease till the Island will ultimately have to be sold out under a mortgage. The Farmers Institutes are falling off in membership and now the legislature is called upon to vote money while the reports of Education and of Falconwood Hospital which should have been tabled when the House first met have not yet been produced by the Government.

The adjournment of the debate was moved by Honorable J. H. Cummiskey at 11.30 p.m.

The following Islanders graduate at Dalhousie College this week: In arts, R. B. Forsythe, Alberton; W. I. Green, Clifton; H. W. Toombs, North Rustico, in law, Vernon H. Shaw, Royalty.

The marriage took place in Chatham Friday of W. H. Tapper, Mgr. of the Bank of N. S. there, formerly of Georgetown and a nephew of W. H. Aitkin, city, to Miss Lenore, daughter of Dr. John S. Benson.

and when the Government reaches a conclusion some announcement will be made.

EDMONTON, April 25—(Special)—Hon. Frank Oliver was today elected by acclamation as a member of the House of Commons, succeeding Hon. Clifford Sifton as Minister of the Interior.

The new Minister of the Interior who was elected by over 3000, one of the largest majorities in the last general election, is fifty-one years of age, and has been intimately associated with public affairs for the last twenty-one years. Before coming to the Federal Parliament nine years ago he had enjoyed the honor of a seat in the Territorial Assembly back to 1883. He is a native born Canadian, having spent his early years in Peel county, Ontario. Early in his career he went to the North-West and for more than two decades has edited and published the Edmonton Bulletin. He is a man of original thought and a forceful speaker. Mr. Oliver entered parliament as an independent, and has given evidence of that characteristic upon more than one division in the House of Commons. He voted against the Government, for instance, upon the Mackenzie-Mann Yukon Railway contract. In 1900 and again in 1904 Mr. Oliver ran as a straight Liberal. He is a man of absolutely clean reputation, and in thorough accord with the spirit and the aspirations of western Canada.



HON. ARTHUR PETERS.

YESTERDAY'S PROCEEDINGS IN HOUSE OF COMMONS

Fiftieth Speech in the Autonomy Debate Made and Twenty-Six More to Follow—Reported Agreement of Three Governments on Boundary Question—Minister Oliver Returned by Acclamation—Acetylene Gas Dangers.

OTTAWA, April 25—(Special)—The House resumed business today after their Easter recess.

Mr. Monk complained of the great danger involved in the use of acetylene as an illuminant for buoys and urged that an expert report be made on it as the Kingston disaster will have a far-reaching effect on the commercial use of acetylene.

Mr. Taylor of Leeds complained that in Gannaque there are lying exposed three enormous tanks of acetylene, the explosion of any one of which would destroy the whole town.

The Autonomy debate was resumed by Mr. Broder of Dundas followed by Bureau of Three Rivers, the fiftieth speaker.

Twenty-six other members are yet to be heard and the budget will not be brought down until the autonomy debate is ended.

Mr. Jackson, Liberal, who is now on the stump in Manitoba, has said there that there have been conferences between the representatives of Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario Governments and that a settlement regarding the boundary question has been reached.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier when questioned on this answered that it was partly correct

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FRANK OLIVER
Minister of the Interior.

NOW BELIEVED IT WAS MURDER

BOSTON, April 25—(Special)—The police have entirely changed their opinions as to the death of John F. Steeves in the Maine woods and now assert that he was murdered.

The doctors find that his skull had been crushed by a blow from a heavy club and a blood-stained club has been found near where the body was.

Steeves was employed as a spotter on the liquor sellers and the police believe that the murder was committed out of revenge.

Steeves' father, living at Hillsboro, N. B., had not heard from his son for many weeks.

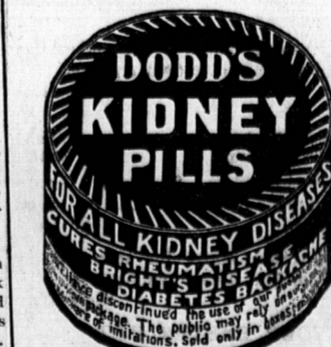
About Rheumatism.

There are few diseases that inflict more torture than rheumatism and there is probably no disease for which such a varied and useless lot of remedies have been suggested. To say that it can be cured is, therefore, a bold statement to make, but Chamberlain's Pain Balm, which enjoys an extensive sale, has met with great success in the treatment of this disease. One application of Pain Balm will relieve the pain, and hundreds of sufferers have testified to permanent cures by its use. Why suffer when Pain Balm affords such quick relief and costs but a trifle? For sale at all Druggists.

EASTER CONCERT.

A stranger present at last evening's concert on reading the excellent program and viewing the number present would naturally say Charlottetownians are not musical.

To such one can but iterate "Appearances are as usual deceptive." The enthusiasm shown would have already sounded a note that other reasons than absence of musical interest must be held



ROJESTVENSKY'S WHEREABOUTS

ST. PETERSBURG, April 25—(Special)—There is still no word from Rojestvensky's fleet.

Some officials here believe that the Admiral, favored by the heavy fog now prevailing, is pushing northward leaving his transports to be conveyed by Ne-

hogofoff.

Others maintain that Rojestvensky is waiting along the Annam coast until Ne-

hogofoff joins him, thus playing a waiting game and leaving to Togo the alternative of allowing a junction or offering battle two thousand miles from the Japanese naval base.

OTTAWA, April 25—(Special)—Patrick Buckley who was arrested as an accomplice in the D'Arcy McGee murder died today.

He had been coachman for every Governor General since Sir Francis Head down to Lord Lansdowne.

He was doorkeeper in the Commons at the time McGee was murdered and admitted Whelan to the gallery.

answerable. Among these may be mentioned the plethora of concerts and musical entertainments during a long winter.

So the performers who came from a distance to so delight last evening must blame the date proving an unfortunate one rather than our taste.

The program was one worthy of its promoters. The choruses were pleasing, the concerted numbers charming, the unaccompanied Part-song "The Parting Kiss" a perfect gem.

The instrumental numbers were all too few with such talent. All begrudged the omission of the Dno for violin and cello. Prof. Vinnicombe never handled his bow to much more effect than in his solo.

Mrs. McKenna proved that marriage need not necessarily stop one's music. Violin or Piano she is at home with either and carries into her accompanying the sympathy services in her solo work. Pictou deserves our thanks for lending three musicians of the artistic standing of Mrs. McKenna, Misses Brennan and Hamilton. The two latter individually and collectively were excellent.

Mr. Wilson of Springhill, repeated the successes of his last appearance here. Messrs. Stanley and Bremner lent solo assistance very acceptably to an ensemble number from the Mikado.

Miss Rattay ably delineated "The Famine from Hiawatha," Miss Stentford being the reader.

Miss Daisy Frances Foster laid claim to prima rank in her aria "O Luce" from Linda da Chamouni, and the more modern semi-humorous aria "The Hours creep on Apace" from the beloved Pinaflore.

In response to her re-calls pleasant little song stories were given, the moral deducible from the little "French clock" being, I take it, it doesn't do to be too slow.

There is still no word from Rojestvensky's fleet.

TO PAY LEADERS OF OPPOSITION

HALIFAX, April 25—(Special)—The Ottawa Board of Trade has transmitted to the Halifax Board a memorial favoring the payment of a salary to the leader of the Opposition in the Dominion and Provincial Houses.

Halifax Board today endorsed the proposition to pay a salary to the leader of the Federal Opposition equal to that of a Cabinet Minister, but opposed remuneration to the leaders of Opposition in Provincial Houses.

WEATHER FORECAST.

TORONTO, April 25—(Special)—Westerly winds, fair and mild.

THE TEMPERATURE.
Mild weather prevails.

Don't Let Chronic Bronchitis Run into Consumption.

It may unless you cure it now. The inflammation in the bronchial tubes may extend to the lungs. The hacking cough of bronchitis keeps the membranes of throat and lungs irritated. Weak cough mixtures and lozenges won't do, because they don't reach the diseased tissues.

CHESTER'S CURE

cures Bronchitis because it permeates every part of the bronchial tubes and lungs. It cures by inhalation. Simply ignite the herbs—breathe in the smoke. This vapor reaches the affected spot—beats the inflammation—stops the cough—and completely cures you of Bronchitis.

See and get. If your druggist is "out" of it, write the Canadian agents, THE LEMING, MILES CO. LTD., MONTREAL

SLATER SHOE

The second lot of 22 dozen pairs has arrived at Goff Bros., balance following. On every pair is a ticket explaining what kind of leather is in them so you know just what you are buying. Only one price stamped on sole, \$3.50, \$4.00, \$5.00.

Goff Bros.
Sole Agents.

BE CURIOUS and TRY LIBERTY TEA, Curiosity pays.