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**PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE**

(Continued from page 1.)

products. The farmers certainly had the great advantage at the present day.

Mr. RICHARDS: Do you think the Government brought that about.

Mr. McDONALD: It looks like it.

The hon. member for St. Peter's went on to refer to the question of roads, and said that the late Government though it had spent a large amount of money had not covered the road question as a whole, so many roads had not been touched. The general revenue had been spent and squandered as had been shown. The Government had taken up the road question and unquestionably had improved the roads.

**MATTERS FOR ATTENTION.**

Speaking particularly with regard to his own district, Mr. McDonald said that he imagined it did not make very many demands on the Government. But there was a few things that that district wanted and which he wished the hon. Commissioner of Public Works would note and remember. There was a very important bridge at the head of St. Peter's Bay that had been a source of trouble to all Governments. Several attempts had been made to improve it but the work had not been done systematically and the bridge continued to be a cause of trouble and at present it was in a bad condition. The traffic across it was enormous. He would like the Commissioner of Public Works to remember that that bridge must have some attention. He would also like to point out to the Commissioner that there were several places in his district where the roads could be opened up and bring about the settlement of people. Another matter that affected his district especially was the question of the transport of fresh fish. He understood that Mr. Hayes, General Traffic Manager of the I. C. R., was at present in the Province and was considering the question of freights and transport of passengers. In the sections of Morrell there was a great deal of fishing done, and there was a large quantity of fish for transport all through the summer. But the fishermen had not always been able to ship their fish by express, and the cause of delay in shipping had been the cause of loss to the shippers time and again. He wished, therefore, that the Government would take that matter up with the I. C. R., and arrange for refrigerator cars to be put on at the eastern stations so that the fish could be drawn to its destination in a shorter period than had been the case hitherto. When, of course, the Car Ferry came, which they hoped would be shortly, a great part of that difficulty would be removed. But in the meantime they hoped to be given some opportunity to move their fresh fish to the markets in the shortest possible time. (Applause.)

**HON. MR. DALTON'S SPEECH.**

Hon. C. DALTON was the next speaker. He said he thought it his duty to offer a few remarks on the situation in a comparative way. There was one thing he was sorry for and that was that he had only one man to point to in that House when they made reference to the Opposition. Among other things, that gentleman had said that the present Government were simply following along the lines laid down by the late Government, and that they had framed their procedure from the principles that the late Government had followed when they were in power. The hon. gentleman had said that they were no better off now than they were in the time of the late Government, and he had expressed his satisfaction that the present Government had done so well. That was more than they could do in regard to the aims and the performances of the late Government. They could not be thankful for what the late Government had done. But at least they could thank the hon. gentleman of the Opposition for expressing his appreciation of what they had done.

**A HAPPY CIRCUMSTANCE.**

The conditions of the affairs of the Province had been so hopeless under the late Government that Premier Hazzard had finally expressed himself to the effect that nothing more could be done, nothing could be resorted to but taxation; in other words, he gave up hope; the Government could not go any further. Then the present Government came in, and they came in faced with difficulties that had never before been experienced by any Government on assuming power. They came in and found a debt of over a million dollars. The record of the last twenty years, which were under Liberal rule, showed that that Government had plunged this Province into debt to the extent of \$900,000, but yet the hon. leader of the Opposition would ask his supporters to continue in that way, to go into debt at the rate of \$50,000 a year. That was the advice the hon. gentleman would give the country. It was a happy circumstance for the country that in the last election campaign the people took a different view from that of the hon. gentleman. There was a lot of political dishonesty in expressions of that kind. If the hon. leader of the Opposition would go to his district and call some meetings and tell the people the truth, tell them that under the regime of the hon. gentleman's government, nothing had been done to help this country, but instead that it had been run into debt at the rate of \$50,000 a year, and that the Government had confessed that they were unable to do anything; and if he would tell them of what the present Government had done and that he felt confident in the present Government to bring the Province out of the precarious position into which the late Government had put it—

Mr. RICHARDS: They would not believe either of those stories.

Hon. Mr. DALTON: I doubt whether they would believe anything you tell them now. (Laughter.) All I want the hon. member to do is to tell them the facts of the case, and when he gets through and he wants my assistance, he can ask me to come in and be his private secretary. (Laughter.) Tell them the truth, and their eyes would be opened, and they would say: "We are all like Rip Van Winkle; we have been asleep for twenty years." (Renewed laughter.) I hope that in the next campaign we will be able to go to those people and tell them the facts of the case and show them what we have done for the country and show them how this country has been neglected for twenty years.

Hon. Mr. DALTON went on to say that the only things the hon. leader of the Opposition had objected to were the Road Act, which he did not think was right, and the oyster business. He (the speaker) had made a number of inquiries about the oyster business and he thought that as time went by the people of Richmond Bay and of the Province would appreciate and be glad that a Government had taken up that question and brought it to a successful issue and to a state where it would bring revenue to the Province. It was very hard to protect the oyster business. The hon. leader of the Opposition could bring to his recollection the time when his leader, Mr. Pope, had an oyster bed, and when later on oysters were collected and brought in to that bed; perhaps, too, to the bed owned by the leader of the Opposition—not with his consent perhaps, but to his advantage.

Mr. RICHARDS: Never!

Hon. Mr. DALTON: I will take the hon. member's word for it. I know the hon. member to be truthful.

Mr. RICHARDS: There was no occasion for it.

Hon. Mr. DALTON: It must have been a live bed then when it was first taken up and when it was passed over to the hon. leader of the Opposition and I am glad he got such a good price for it.

Mr. RICHARDS: Your information is about as mistaken as possible.

The PREMIER: Well, then state what the price was.

Hon. Mr. DALTON: Where did he get those oysters from; they must have been purchased and brought in there. I am just illustrating the difficulty in this regard, and that is what is going on every day, and it is what the Government is trying to stop.

Mr. RICHARDS: Yes, but he got full-grown oysters, and he did not deplete other beds.

Hon. Mr. DALTON: That is all the worse; full-grown oysters should have come into the public market. I know the hon. leader of the Opposition has got one of the best-producing beds at the present day. This is what is going on in the oyster business and this is what the Government is trying to defeat so as to bring matters to as perfect a condition as possible.

**A DANGEROUS STATEMENT.**

When the present Government came into power, the hon. member went on to say, we were in a bad fix in regard to finances, and there was no hope ahead. The Government, however, took it unto themselves to send their best men to go up and negotiate for some assistance, and, to make a long story short, they got \$100,000 a year more added to their subsidy. The hon. leader of the Opposition had stated a few evenings ago that that was given in lieu of land taken over by the Dominion Government. The leader of the Opposition knew that that was not so. But what was the position? What would be the effect of such a statement if it were left uncontradicted? In a few years perhaps—but this was hardly possible—might the leader of the Opposition be called upon to go to Ottawa and ask recompense for those public lands. The Dominion Government would turn up the Patriot perhaps, and be able to point out to the leader of the Opposition a report of his speech stating that that amount of \$100,000 was got for public lands, and there, the result would be that the doors of assistance from that quarter would be shut against them. But that money was not given for public lands, but it was the result of this Government

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**HELPING EDUCATION**

With regard to the School Act, the late Government had appointed a Commission as the result of being in such a fix that they did not know what to do. That Commission cost \$5,000 and it brought in a report; but it amounted to nothing. The matter was never brought up in Parliament afterwards. What did the present Government do on that question? After they obtained the grant of \$100,000, they carried out at once what they recognized, that the Education Department of the Province was in need of help; they not only restored the old supplements to the teachers which had been cancelled through the poverty of the late Government, but they added to that they said to the teachers, "Here, we will give you \$2 a year for every pupil you bring up and teach in the public schools." The result was that the teachers were getting an average of \$75 a year.

**ONE OF THE BEST PROVINCES**

Referring to the dog tax, Hon. Mr. Dalton said that by the introduction of that tax they had come to the rescue of sheep killed by dogs and they felt that with the help thus given to the owners of sheep killed by dogs, the people would recognize that although they had had to pay taxes on dogs, they had adequate protection given in regard to the sheep industry. The dog tax had helped to reduce the number of dogs and he could say that within the last few years the killing of sheep by dogs had decreased very much. All the other public services and public matters had been attended to and had received the greatest interest from the Government; and he might say that such a state today that they could call it one of the best provinces in the Dominion, although it was the smallest.

**ROADS BETTER THAN EVER**

The only thing the leader of the opposition had complained of was the roads. He thought from his observations, and his acquaintance with the people of the country and their opinions, he could say that they had at present the best roads they had ever had. Not only that, they were putting through an Act to permit motor trucks to run in co-operation with the railway. Those would run on staged roads carrying freight and passengers at through-rate tickets. This would be a great advantage. What did they suppose would follow that? The Dominion would be taking charge of the roads in the sections where those trucks would be running. Would they expect them to use the roads for nothing? That would be the first step in the direction of making trunk lines right through this Province. (Hear, hear.) And the Dominion Government would have to make the roads better. The public institutions of the Province had been looked after with the greatest care, and in that connection he might speak of the encouragement the country had given to the public generosity of the people who had made money in the Province during the last few years in regard to their contributing to the public institutions. He brought that in just to remark that on the public accounts there was an item of \$46,000 charged for the survey of the site of the Tuberculosis Sanatorium. It was not included that that should be paid by the Government, and the sum would be refunded to the Government.

**CONFIDENCE STILL RETAINED**

He felt very proud, said Hon. Mr. Dalton in conclusion, to be able to get up there that night and give praise to the Conservative party, and he was proud to be connected with that party. It might be chance, but he thought that the position that party held today was due to the great men who had gone before. He knew, notwithstanding the remarks of the leader of the Opposition, that they would be swept out of existence at the next election, that the country was satisfied with their management of the Government. The leader of the Opposition knew that too, full well, and he thought that if he was asked his private opinion it would be found to be quite different from what he had stated publicly. In his own district, Fourth Prince, he could not imagine one of their supporters who would leave them; on the contrary, they appreciated the good work the present Government was doing. He thought they could show the people of that district that they were governing the country in the very best manner; they could show those people that notwithstanding the way in which they had been astray for years and that they had been making a mistake for twenty years, there was evidence that in the last two or three years the present Government had done more for the province and for the people, and had given greater consideration to the farmers and to education, had given greater education to everything that would enable and tend to the upliftment of the Province. He believed that the hon. gentleman opposite truly wished that he was still of the faith that he formerly belonged to. He thought that there was no doubt at all that they had still the majority of the last elections. They had only to convince one more district of its folly and then it would be a unanimous country. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. RICHARDS: You will have to devote all your time to your own... The PREMIER: I believe we will carry that district.

Hon. Mr. DALTON: We will show

**THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN**

vinced, notwithstanding the struggle and poverty that existed under the previous Government.

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