

CLOSE OF ASSEMBLY

Continued from Page 1.

garding as a menace to our rights and detrimental to the interests and future of the Territories.

He said that his object in proposing the resolution was to place on record the views of the Opposition. The House, he contended, should have been taken into the confidence of the Government, but the estimates had not been brought down until after the Dominion House had prorogued. It was a very serious condition of affairs that, while the revenue amounted to only \$413,000, there were obligations of over \$647,000. This discounting the future was overstepping their constitutional powers, as they had no power to borrow money on the public credit. He deemed it his bounden duty to place on record his strong protest against the expediency, unfairness and injustice of increasing the cost of executive government.

Mr. D. H. McDonald seconded the motion.

Mr. A. L. Sifton replied that the greater part of the resolution was taken from his address in explanation of the public accounts; the only part in addition to this was the clause stating that the hon. gentleman had no confidence in the manner in which the Government had prepared and the House had passed the estimates. He was quite within his privilege to secure a setting forth of his views, though it was questionable whether it would not have been better to do this in another way, pointing out specific items. It was also within the rights of the House to refuse to pass the motion.

Dr. Patrick would have supported the resolution but for the assurances which the Government had given that the people, through their representatives, and perhaps by appeal to themselves, would have opportunity of pronouncing on the terms offered by the Dominion Government. He had confidence to believe that if the Dominion Government should be bent upon a course that would interfere with the wishes of the people of Eastern Assiniboia, the government here would call the House together, and there would be a sufficient proportion of the revenue left unexpended to provide for taking an expression of the wishes of the people if necessary.

Mr. R. S. Lake asked whether the total suppression of public works would be endorsed by the opposition.

Mr. R. B. Bennett replied that it was not the duty of the opposition to point out where particular items of reduction should be made, but they contended that, in view of the statements in the speech from the throne, it was the imperative duty of the government to place before every member of the House the fullest possible information in order that there might be no lack of efficiency in the public service. The member for Grenfell must be well aware that the opposition did not ask that all public works should be stopped, but they believed the demands for increase of subsidy were just and would have been received if the House had been taken into consultation before the Dominion parliament was prorogued.

The motion was lost on the following division:

For—McDonald, Bennett, Villeneuve, McKay and McLeod.—5.

Against—Haultain, Sifton, Bulger, Brown, Meyers, Elliott, Cross, Greeley, Rosenroff, Lake, Smith, Patrick, Connell, McCutley, Simpson, Wallace, Gills, Shera.—18.

PROROGATION.

At 4 p.m. His Honor the Lieutenant Governor entered the House and gave assent to thirty-four bills, which with the eight previously assented to make forty-two all told. It was a rainy, dirty, slushy, muddy day, and the function was performed without ceremony. In proroguing the House His Honor spoke as follows:—

Mr. Speaker and gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

In bringing this session of the legislative assembly to a close, I have to express my satisfaction as to the manner in which you have labored over a longer period than usual, and which has resulted in the many and important measures to which your attention has been directed.

I have to express my regret that the assistance made by my government to induce the federal authorities to grant sufficiently ample financial assistance to the Territories did not meet with that measure of success the importance of the requirements and necessities of the Territories demand.

I thank you for the liberal provision which you have made for the service of the current year.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

In relating you from further attendance at this session, I venture to express the hope that the prospects of continuing prosperity will be amply realized.