

THE LEADER.

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REGINA, N.W.T., THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 23, 1903

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\$500 CASH and a mortgage of \$3,000 will buy the largest residence in Regina, the property of Mr. Henry J. Peters, on Scarth St. This house and 4 lots cost \$5,200, and includes a hot water furnace with coils and registers throughout, and an Aldine grate in the drawing room. Electric lighted. This property, if not disposed of in 30 days, will not be for sale. For further particulars apply

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REGINA'S New and most modern Hotel is now open.

Well furnished, heated by steam, lighted by electricity, return call-bell system in every room. All new and up-to-date. Every attention given to Guests.

FRANK NASH,
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HAMILTON STREET,
OPPOSITE C.P.R. STATION

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Exceptionally Satisfactory Financial Showing of Mr. Fielding.

DEBT REDUCED BY \$5,600,000

Manufacturers Have Failed to Disturb the Government's Tariff Position—A Duty on Steel Rails and a Maximum Tariff Against Germany are the Important Changes—Borden Declares Again Straight for Increased Duties.

OTTAWA, April 18th, 1903.—Parliament reassembled on Tuesday after the Easter recess and the first business of importance was the second reading of the Redistribution Bill. The measure was debated during the afternoon and evening, the discussion turning almost entirely upon a legal argument respecting the claim made by those provinces whose representation is being decreased and which contend that the provision in the B. N. A. Act which bears upon the question respecting the proportion of provincial population in relation to the total population of Canada, means not Canada as at present constituted but only the four original provinces of Confederation. The Government's opinion is that the provision means Canada as to-day constituted or as it may be constituted at any time in the future, and that, therefore, there is to-day the constitutional necessity of decreasing the representation of those provinces whose proportionate population in comparison with Quebec has fallen off. The leader of the Opposition did not go the length of expressing the opposite view, although some of his followers did, and Dr. Sproule proposed that the Bill be not read a second time until a judicial opinion had been secured upon the point, the Government having consented to the referring of the question to the Supreme Court. This proposition for delay was defeated by a straight party vote and the Bill given a second reading. It has been referred to a special committee composed of four Liberals and three Conservatives. The Conservatives on the Committee are Messrs. Borden, Monk and Haggart, and the Liberals are Messrs. Fitzpatrick, Jas. Sutherland, Hyman and

Davis. It is understood that the Committee will commence its labors next week.

THE BUDGET SPEECH.

One chief item of political interest every year is the presentation by the Finance Minister of the Budget. In beginning his task on Thursday afternoon, Mr. Fielding's first words were: "Mr. Speaker, in presenting my seventh budget it is once more my good fortune to be able to submit to the House a statement of the affairs of the Dominion for a period of unexampled prosperity." The figures which later on he submitted entirely warranted his statement. Dealing with the fiscal year ending June 30th last Mr. Fielding was able to say that the outcome was more satisfactory than he had estimated for in his last year's budget. His estimate of revenue for the year 1901-02 was at that time \$36,800,000 and of expenditure \$51,000,000, leaving a probable surplus of \$5,800,000. The actual expenditure was \$30,759,391, and the actual revenue \$35,050,790, being \$5,536,088 in excess of the revenue for the previous year. The surplus for the year was therefore \$7,291,395. The chief increases of revenue over the previous year arose from Customs and the excise duties, the former showing an increase of \$1,000,000, and the latter an increase of \$1,000,000. A notable decrease was in the item of Dominion Lands which includes royalties from the Yukon gold fields, which falling off was due to the reduction which took place in the rate of royalty. The post office showing for the year was a remarkably good one. Leaving aside the Yukon and Alton districts, the year's post office operations showed a balance of \$5,000 on the right side. Altogether the post office deficit was only \$105,221 as against a deficit in 1896 of \$800,000. Remembering the expensive services extended to the Yukon and Alton districts and the enormous revenues in taxation levied by the Post Office, this showing made by Mr. Fielding said, a record which the Government and Sir William Mulock particularly might point to with satisfaction.

The Intercolonial Railway showed a surplus for the year of \$96,830, but to find the showing of the entire Government Railway system a deficit on the Prince Edward Island roads must be taken into account which leaves the net surplus only \$57,388. The expenditure on capital account amounted in the year to \$10,078,628.06, which added to the ordinary revenue expenditure made a total for the year of \$65,574,799.86. The public debt was increased in the year by \$8,349,083 which was considerably less than Mr. Fielding anticipated in his statement last year.

THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR. For the present fiscal year, the showing is even a great deal better. The revenue from the 1st July, 1902, to 10th April, 1903, was \$18,348,125.07, being an increase of \$5,178,497.03 over the corresponding nine months of the previous year. For the whole year Mr. Fielding estimates the revenue at \$65,000,000 as against \$58,000,000 last year. Up to April 10th the expenditures were \$32,870,204.95; and for the whole year Mr. Fielding estimates the expenditures at \$51,650,000, a probable increase over last year of less than one million. The estimated surplus therefore is the most magnificent in Canada's history, being \$13,350,000. The revenue this year will not only meet the ordinary and capital expenditures but will leave a balance of \$5,550,000 to go towards reduction of the public debt. Said Mr. Fielding: "If my expectation as to the favorable outcome of the present year be realized, we will find that in the course of seven years we have increased the public debt \$7,081,637, being an average of a little over \$1,000,000 per annum. And against this we have the fact that our predecessors increased our public debt during the eighteen years of their administration by \$6,563,075 per year.

(Continued on page 5.)

ASSEMBLY OPENED.

First Session of Fifth Legislature Now in Session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

Attention Directed to the Constitutional and Financial Position of the Territories, the Public Domain and Transportation Difficulties—Land Titles System to be Taken Over—Mr. Gillis (Whitehead) Elected Speaker.

THURSDAY, April 16th, 1903.

The first session of the fifth Legislative Assembly of the North-West Territories was formally opened this afternoon by His Honor Lieutenant Governor Forget. There was a very large attendance of Members, only six out of a total of thirty-five being absent. The attendance of the general public was also large, among the number being Mr. C. A. Magrath, a former member of the Executive Council. Many of the fair sex graced the occasion with their presence, and altogether the enlarged and redecorated chamber presented a rather pretty picture.

Sharp on time His Honor the Lieutenant Governor arrived, accompanied by Lt.-Col. Macdonell, D.S.O., as A.D.C., Supt. Wilson and Capt. Gilpin Brown, of the N.W.M.P., and an escort of about fifteen men of the N.W.M.P. under command of Insp. Wake. As always the case at the opening of the first session of a new Assembly, the usual proceedings were varied somewhat. His Honor, after entering the chamber, retiring after the formal announcement by the Territorial Secretary that he would withhold his message until the Assembly had elected a Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER GILLIS. On motion of Premier Haultain, seconded by Mr. Bulyea, Mr. A. B. Gillis (Whitehead) was unanimously elected Speaker. In moving the appointment of Mr. Gillis, the Premier paid a tribute to Mr. Gillis' services as Deputy Speaker and chairman of committee in the last Assembly. His right attention to the work of the House, his impartiality and knowledge of Parliamentary rules and procedure made him especially fitted for the position. He felt confident from his course in the past that Mr. Gillis would do honor to the high position. Mr. Gillis acknowledged the honor in a few words.

His Honor the Lieutenant Governor having re-entered the chamber, and been informed by the Speaker of his election, delivered the following

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:—

I have much pleasure in welcoming you to the First Session of the Fifth Legislative Assembly of the North-West Territories.

During the last year, in common with our fellow subjects throughout the Empire, we heard with grief and alarm of the illness of the King, and I am sure that we all rejoiced in his Majesty's restoration to health and in the successful carrying out of the coronation ceremonies.

The abundant harvest of the past year, the general prosperity of the country and the remarkable growth of the Territories in material wealth and population must all be a source of profound gratification.

But these circumstances, gratifying as they are from a national standpoint, have immensurably increased the duties and responsibilities of the North-West Government and Legislature.

For some years past the Government and Legislature have been pressing upon the Federal Government the absolute necessity for larger powers and revenues if the duties and obligations steadily imposed upon them by Parliament and the further obligations imposed by new conditions are to be adequately fulfilled.

In their latest negotiations with the Federal Government, my Government again forcibly insisted the immediate necessity for the granting of Provincial Institutions to the Territories.

Strong representations have also been made with regard to the present financial necessities of the Territories.

As a result of these representations a conference was held at Ottawa in the month of February last between members of my Government and a sub-committee of the Privy Council appointed for that purpose.

I regret to say that no intimation has yet been given by the Federal Government as to the action they propose to take as a result of the Conference.

All the papers relating to these important subjects will be laid before you, and you will be asked to take such action as may seem desirable to further enforce the just claims of the Territories.

I feel it to be my duty to ask your attention to the important question of transportation.

This question is partially bound up with the Provincial question, but some of its larger phases fall more peculiarly within the Federal domain.

In view of the transportation conditions prevailing since the close of lake navigation last year, and which threaten to continue in a more aggravated form during the year to come, I feel justified in asking you to consider the advisability of making some representations to Parliament with regard to a question which so vitally affects the welfare of the Territories.

The claim which has been made on the part of the Territories to the public domain will also justify an expression of opinion on your part with regard to further alienations of the public lands of the Territories for railway or other purposes except actual settlement.

In response to a request by my Government the Federal Government have consented to extend the jurisdiction of the Legislature to the important subject of land titles, and I am glad to state that effect has been promised at the present session of Parliament. This important extension of your powers will necessitate legislative provision for the maintenance and control of the land titles system, and a measure for that purpose will be presented to you. Federal legislation has also been promised which will give to the Legislative Assembly the right to legislate with regard to the constitution and jurisdiction of Civil Courts, and other matters at present withheld from you by the provisions of the North-West Territories Act. Measures necessitated by these further extensions of your powers will also be submitted to you.

Your consideration will also be asked to Bills relating to Mechanics' Liens, Insurance, Mutual Fire Insurance and Succession Duties. Your attention will be directed to Bills to amend the law relating to Civil procedure and the sale of intoxicating liquor, and a Bill to amend and consolidate as amended the law relating to Brands.

A statement of the receipts and expenditures of the past year and the estimates of expenditure for the current year will be laid before you.

I now leave you to your deliberations with every confidence that your labors, under Divine Providence, will be directed to the advantage and welfare of the Territories.

After His Honor had retired, and Mr. Speaker Gillis having taken the chair amid cheers, Premier Haultain moved for leave to introduce a Bill to amend Chapter 46 of the Consolidated Ordinances of 1898 regarding marriage. Leave having been granted the Bill was introduced and read a first time.

Mr. Haultain moved that the Speech of His Honor be taken into consideration.

(Continued on page 4.)

Toronto, April 23, 1903. (Special.) A large shipment of general dry-goods was seized by the Customs for undervaluation. A local firm, Honeyford Bros. & Co, bought up the seizure.

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and can assure the trade it will be in their interest to buy from us and avoid large freight charges and delay from the East.

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In order to make an immediate clearance of all our CARPETS, RUGS, SQUARES, ENGLISH OILCLOTHS and LINOLEUMS we have decided to offer our customers the advantage of a

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Houses, Business and Dwelling lots, a large list.

A CHOICE FARM 3 miles from Regina, 320 acres; 160 acres ready for crop, 100 acres being summerfallow. Good new house, stable and sheds. Good water.—At \$20.00 an acre. THE OTHER HALF of same section,—all extra fine prairie land,—at \$15.00 an acre; Also the adjoining whole section, 640 acres, 2 miles from Regina, at \$15.00 an acre. Total 1,230 acres of all arable land. Can sell in half sections if necessary.... Terms easy.....