

JOURNALS
of the
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
of the
Province of Saskatchewan

From 13th day of November, 1924, to 16th day of January, 1925
(Both days inclusive)

In the Fifteenth Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord,
King George V.

BEING THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE FIFTH LEGISLATURE OF
THE PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

SESSION 1924-25

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



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JOURNALS
of the
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
of the
Province of Saskatchewan

Volume XXII.



MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

H. W. NEWLANDS,
Lieutenant Governor.

[L.S.]

CANADA:

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN.

GEORGE THE FIFTH, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India:

To OUR FAITHFUL THE MEMBERS elected to serve in the Legislative Assembly of Our Province of Saskatchewan, and to every one of you, GREETING:

A PROCLAMATION

A. L. GEDDES, }
Deputy Attorney General } WHEREAS, it is expedient for causes and considerations to convene the Legislative Assembly of Our Province of Saskatchewan, WE DO WILL that you and each of you and all others in this behalf interested, on THURSDAY, the THIRTEENTH day of November, 1924, at Our City of Regina, personally be and appear for the DISPATCH OF BUSINESS, there to take into consideration the state and welfare of Our said Province of Saskatchewan, and thereby to do as may seem necessary. Herein fail not.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, WE have caused Our Letters to be made Patent, and the Great Seal of Our said Province of Saskatchewan to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS, Our right trusty and well beloved the HONOURABLE HENRY WILLIAM NEWLANDS, Lieutenant Governor of Our Province of Saskatchewan.

AT OUR GOVERNMENT HOUSE, in Our City of Regina, in Our said Province, this TWENTY-FIRST day of OCTOBER, ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FOUR, and in the fifteenth year of Our Reign.

By Command,

F. J. C. EDWARDS,
Acting Deputy Provincial Secretary.

JOURNALS
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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
OF THE
PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

FIFTH SESSION—FIFTH LEGISLATURE

REGINA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1924.

3 o'clock p.m.

This being the first day of the meeting of the Fifth Session of the Fifth Legislature of the Province of Saskatchewan, for the dispatch of business, pursuant to a Proclamation of His Honour the Honourable Henry William Newlands, Lieutenant Governor of the Province, and dated the twenty-first day of October, 1924, and the Assembly having met.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor entered the Chamber, and having taken his seat upon the Throne, was pleased to open the Session with the following Speech:

MR. SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:

I am pleased to welcome you to the Fifth Session of the Fifth Legislature of Saskatchewan.

As a result of the climatic conditions which prevailed during the crop season in certain areas of the Province the aggregate yield of all grains this year will fall far short of the record achieved in 1923. The yield of cereals in the southern part of Saskatchewan was very satisfactory to the farmers, especially in some districts which had suffered in previous years. In the middle and northern parts of the Province a combination of backward spring and dry summer reduced the yield below that usually produced in these areas. Under the circumstances it is very gratifying to note that prices being obtained for grain this fall are considerably above those of last year, to an extent which I hope will in many districts compensate for the reduced yield.

During your session of 1922 my Ministers placed before you information regarding freight rates, with especial reference to the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement. By unanimous resolution on that occasion you supported the re-instatement of the agreement.

My Government continued action regarding the matter, culminating in the complete restoration of the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement in July of this year.

Recently, as a result of further proceedings before the Board of Railway Commissioners for Canada, the railways secured a decision which has the effect of completely nullifying the agreement. My Government at once took action, in co-operation with the Governments of Alberta and Manitoba, by way of appeal to His Excellency the Governor General-in-Council and also to the Supreme Court of Canada against the decision of the Railway Commission. Full information relating to the matter will be available to you.

The high hopes entertained earlier in the year by many of our settlers in regard to the prospect of obtaining more adequate railway facilities in the near future were shattered by the action of the Senate of Canada in rejecting bills passed by the House of Commons in connection with the construction of branch lines by the Canadian National Railway. The action of the Senate in again delaying the undertaking of sorely needed railway construction in the outlying sections of this Province has aroused public opinion to the necessity of modifying the veto power of this body as suggested in your resolution of last session.

At your last session my Government placed before you particulars regarding action taken before the Railway Commission opposing an increase in express rates and asking for a reduction. By resolution you expressed approval of this action. My Ministers will again give information to you respecting this matter but I regret that no decision has yet been handed down by the Board of Railway Commissioners.

Information was also placed before you at your last session regarding the attempt of the Province of Manitoba to indirectly tax the people of Saskatchewan through the imposition of a tax on grain futures. The application of my Government for disallowance of the Manitoba statute was referred to the Supreme Court of Canada for decision, and I am glad to say that the legislation in question was unanimously declared by the Court to be *ultra vires*. The Government of Manitoba, however, has appealed from this decision to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. In the meantime the tax is not effective. My Government is convinced that every effort must be made to prevent taxation of our people by the Government of another Province, and steps are therefore being taken through the engagement and instruction of eminent counsel that Saskatchewan's case shall be fully presented before the Privy Council.

Work on the new Sanatorium at Saskatoon for the care and treatment of tubercular patients, provision for which was made by you at the last session, was commenced in April. Good progress has been made and it is expected that the building will be ready for occupation early in the new year. This additional accommodation will enable the Anti-Tuberculosis League to provide for the treatment of many persons who are unable at present to secure admission to the Sanatorium at Fort Qu'Appelle.

In accordance with the provisions of *The Plebiscite Act*, a vote of the electors of the Province was taken in July last. A statement of the result will be placed before you, and also a measure dealing with the matter.

Several other measures will be submitted to you, among them amending or consolidating bills dealing with Public Health, Vital Statistics, Land Titles, Chattel Mortgages, Corporation Taxation, Dairy Products, Threshers' Liens, Insurance, Surveys and various Municipal Acts.

The Public Accounts for the past fiscal year and Estimates for the fiscal year 1925-26, prepared with due regard to economy and the requirements of the public service, will be placed before you.

I commend the work of the session to your most earnest attention and invoke the Divine blessing upon your deliberations.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor then retired from the Chamber.

Mr. Speaker informed the Assembly that the Clerk of the Assembly had received from the Clerk of the Executive Council notifications of the following vacancies in the Representation, viz:—

In the Electoral Division of Wynyard by the resignation of George W. Robertson, Esquire,

and certificates of the following, Elections and Returns, viz:—

Of Albert E. Steele, Esquire, as member for the Electoral Division of Cannington.

Of Wilhelm Hans Paulson, Esquire, as member for the Electoral Division of Wynyard. (*Sessional Paper No. 1.*)

Albert E. Steele, Esquire, Member for the Electoral Division of Cannington, and Wilhelm Hans Paulson, Esquire, Member for the Electoral Division of Wynyard, having previously taken the Oath according to law, and subscribed the Roll containing the same, took their seats in the Assembly.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Dunning have leave to introduce a Bill respecting the Administration of Oaths of Office.

He accordingly presented the Bill to the Assembly, and the same was received and read the first time.

Mr. Speaker then informed the Assembly that, in order to prevent mistakes, he had obtained a copy of the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which was laid on the Table.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Dunning, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Latta.

Ordered, That the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor be taken into consideration on Monday next.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Dunning, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Cross.

Ordered, That the Votes and Proceedings of this Assembly be printed after having been first perused by Mr. Speaker, and that he do appoint the printing thereof, and that no person but such as he shall appoint do presume to print the same.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Dunning, seconded by the Hon. Mr. McNab.

Ordered, That a Select Special Committee be appointed to prepare and report with all convenient speed lists of Members to compose the Select Standing Committees of this Assembly, provided under Rule 10, said Committee to be composed of Messieurs Turner, Garry, Salkeld and the mover and seconder.

Such said Select Standing Committees to be severally empowered to examine and inquire into all such matters and things as may be referred to them by the Assembly, and to report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon, with power to send for persons, papers and records, and to examine witnesses under oath.

The Assembly then adjourned at 3.15 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1924.

The following Petitions were severally presented and laid on the Table:—

By Mr. Shortreed—Of Mother Clementia and four others.

By Mr. McNiven—Of Olivier Elzear Mathieu and four others.

By Mr. McNiven—Of Joseph Schwartzfeld and fifteen others.

The Assembly then adjourned at 3.15 o'clock p.m.

Geo. A. Scott,
Speaker.

REGINA, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1924.

The following Petitions were severally presented and laid on the Table:—

By Mr. McDonald (Prince Albert)—Of Les Soeurs Adoratrices du Precieux Sang de Prince Albert.

By Mr. McDonald (Prince Albert)—Of the Roman Catholic Parishes and Missions in the Diocese of Prince Albert.

According to Order, the Clerk having favourably reported on same pursuant to Rule 71 (8), the following Petitions were read and received:—

Of Mother Clementia and four others, praying for An Act to incorporate The Ursulines of St. Angela's Convent.

Of Olivier Elzear Mathieu and four others, praying for An Act to amend An Act to incorporate La Corporation Episcopale Catholique Romaine de Regina.

Of Joseph Schwartzfeld and fifteen others, praying for An Act to incorporate the Regina Hebrew School.

The Hon. Mr. Dunning, from the Select Special Committee appointed to prepare and report lists of members to compose the Select Standing Committees ordered by this Assembly, reported that it had prepared lists of members accordingly, and the same were read as follows:

ON STANDING ORDERS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|--------|--------------------------|---------|
| Garry | McDonald (Prince Albert) | Salkeld |
| Hindle | Robinson | Turner |

Three shall be a quorum.

ON PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------------|
| Robinson | Hagarty | Parker |
| Agar | Harvey | Pascoe |
| Bingham | Hermanson | Pickel |
| Cross | Johnston | Ramsland (Mrs.) |
| Cummings | Jones | Spence |
| Clinch | Latta | Sahlmark |
| Garry | McKinnon | Turner |
| Gemmell | McNiven | Uhrich |

Eight shall be a quorum.

NOVEMBER 17, 1924

13

ON PRIVATE BILLS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Pickel | Hermanson | Pascoe |
| Bennett | Harvey | Patterson |
| Baker | Hyde | Paulson |
| Cross | Johnston | Robinson |
| Dunning | Lewis | Spence |
| Dunbar | Maharg | Salkeld |
| Gardiner | McDonald (Prince Albert) | Sykes |
| Gordon (Lloydminster) | McDonald (S. Qu'Appelle) | Therres |
| Gordon (Souris) | McNiven | Turner |
| Hogan | McNab | Uhrich |
| | Nolin | Warren |

Eight shall be a quorum.

ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND PRINTING.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Sahlmark | Johnston | Patterson |
| Cockburn | Latta | Paulson |
| Cross | Meikle | Parker |
| Cummings | McDonald (Prince Albert) | Robinson |
| Dunning | McDonald (S. Qu'Appelle) | Shortreed |
| Gardiner | McNiven | Smith |
| Hagarty | McKinnon | Steele |
| Hamilton | Nolin | Turner |
| Hyde | Pickel | Uhrich |
| Halvorson | Pascoe | Wilson |

Eight shall be a quorum.

ON AGRICULTURE.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Hindle | Harvey | Parker |
| Agar | Hall | Shortreed |
| Bennett | Halvorson | Spence |
| Bingham | Hogan | Salkeld |
| Clinch | Hagarty | Sykes |
| Cummings | Hamilton | Smith |
| Dowd | Jones | Steele |
| Dunbar | Lewis | Taylor |
| Dunning | Maharg | Therres |
| Garry | Meikle | Turner |
| Gordon (Lloydminster) | McDonald (S. Qu'Appelle) | Vancise |
| Gamble | McKinnon | Wilson |
| Gemmell | Nolin | Warren |

Eight shall be a quorum.

NOVEMBER 17, 1924

ON MUNICIPAL LAW.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Taylor | Hamilton | Meikle |
| Bennett | Hindle | McNiven |
| Cockburn | Hyde | Pascoe |
| Cross | Harvey | Robinson |
| Dunbar | Jones | Shortreed |
| Gordon (Souris) | Ketcheson | Turner |
| | Lewis | Vancise |

Six shall be a quorum.

ON EDUCATION.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Finlayson | Johnston | Paulson |
| Bingham | Jones | Ramsland (Mrs.) |
| Bennett | Ketcheson | Sykes |
| Clinch | Latta | Smith |
| Gamble | Maharg | Steele |
| Gordon (Souris) | McDonald (S. Qu'Appelle) | Taylor |
| Halvorson | McDonald (Prince Albert) | Turner |
| Hall | Pickel | Wilson |
| Hermanson | Parker | Warren |
| | Patterson | |

Eight shall be a quorum.

ON RAILWAYS, TELEPHONES AND TELEGRAPHS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|----------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Spence | Finlayson | McNab |
| Agar | Gemmell | Pascoe |
| Bingham | Gordon (Souris) | Ramsland (Mrs.) |
| Baker | Garry | Sahlmark |
| Cockburn | Gamble | Salkeld |
| Dowd | Hall | Turner |
| Dodds | Hogan | Uhrich |
| Dunning | Hamilton | Vancise |

Six shall be a quorum.

ON LAW AMENDMENTS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Gordon (Lloydminster) | Dodds | McNiven |
| Agar | Finlayson | Patterson |
| Baker | Ketcheson | Spence |
| Cross | Lewis | Therres |
| Cummings | Maharg | Turner |

Five shall be a quorum

ON LIBRARY.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Mr. Speaker | Hall | Robinson |
| Baker | Johnston | Ramsland (Mrs.) |
| Dowd | Latta | Sahlmark |
| Dodds | McKinnon | Therres |
| Finlayson | Patterson | Turner |
| Gardiner | Paulson | Warren |

Four shall be a quorum.

By leave of the Assembly,

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Dunning, seconded by Mr. Turner,

Resolved, That this Assembly doth concur in the Report presented this day of the Special committee appointed to prepare and report lists of members to compose the Select Standing Committees of this Assembly during the present session.

The Hon. Mr. Dunning, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor:—

The Public Accounts of the Province of Saskatchewan for the fiscal period ended April 30, 1924. (*Sessional Paper No. 2.*)

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Dunning, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Latta,

Ordered, That the Public Accounts of the Province of Saskatchewan for the fiscal period ended April 30, 1924, be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Printing.

The Hon. Mr. Dunning, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly:—

Statement of Attorney General's opinions, Treasury Board decisions, and of Special Warrants and Expenditures thereunder, for the fiscal year 1923-24. (*Sessional Paper No. 3.*)

And also, Annual Report of the Administration of The Agricultural Aids Act, as at April 30, 1924. (*Sessional Paper No. 4.*)

The Order of the Day being read for taking into consideration the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, at the opening of the Session, it was

Moved by Mr. Paulson, seconded by Mr. Steele,

That an Humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, as follows:—

NOVEMBER 17, 1924

TO HIS HONOUR THE HONOURABLE H. W. NEWLANDS,
Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Saskatchewan.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,—

We, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Saskatchewan, in Session assembled, humbly thank Your Honour for the gracious Speech which Your Honour has been pleased to address to us at the opening of the present Session.

A debate arising, said debate was, on motion of Mr. Gamble, adjourned.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.50 o'clock p.m.

Geo. A. Scott,
Speaker.

REGINA, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1924.

According to Order, the Clerk having favourably reported on same pursuant to Rule 71 (8), the following Petitions were read and received:—

Of Les Soeurs Adoratrices du Precieux Sang de Prince Albert, praying for An Act to incorporate the said order.

Of the Roman Catholic Parishes and Missions in the Diocese of Prince Albert, praying for An Act to amend its Act of incorporation.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 1—An Act respecting Threshers' Liens.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 2—An Act to facilitate the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments and Awards.

Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 3—An Act respecting the Survey of Land.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner, Second reading Thursday next.

The Hon. Mr. Urich, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor:—

Annual Report of the Provincial Secretary, including the Report of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, for the year ended April 30, 1924. *(Sessional Paper No. 5.)*

The Hon. Mr. Gardiner, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor:—

Annual Report of the Department of Highways for the fiscal year 1923-24. *(Sessional Paper No. 6.)*

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Paulson of the seventeenth instant.

The debate continuing, the said debate was, on motion of Mr. Hyde, adjourned.

The Assembly then adjourned at 4.55 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1924.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 4—An Act to amend The Thresher Employees' Act.
Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 5—An Act to confer Certain Powers upon the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

Hon. Mr. Dunning, Second reading Friday next.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Paulson of the seventeenth instant.

The debate continuing, the said debate was, on motion of Mr. Hermanson, adjourned.

The following Order of the Assembly was issued to the proper officer:—

By Mr. Hermanson, for a Return showing:

The results of the vote taken under the provisions of The Plebiscite Act of 1924.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.20 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1924.

The following Petition was presented and laid on the Table:—

By Mr. Hermanson—Of The Saskatchewan Registered Seed Growers' Co-operative Association, Limited.

Mr. Garry, from the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders, presented the first Report of the said Committee, which is as follows:

Your Committee met for organisation and appointed Mr. Garry as chairman.

Your Committee has duly examined the following Petitions for Private Bills and finds that the provisions of Rules 82 and 83 have been sufficiently complied with in each case:—

Of Joseph Schwartzfeld and fifteen others, praying for An Act to incorporate the Regina Hebrew School.

Of Les Soeurs Adoratrices du Precieux Sang de Prince Albert, praying for An Act to incorporate the said order.

Of Olivier Elzear Mathieu and four others, praying for An Act to amend An Act to incorporate La Corporation Episcopale Catholique Romaine de Regina.

Of Mother Clementia and four others, praying for An Act to incorporate The Ursulines of St. Angela's Convent.

Of the Roman Catholic Parishes and Missions in the Diocese of Prince Albert, praying for An Act to amend its Act of incorporation.

The Clerk laid on the Table the following Private Bills:—

Bill No. 01—An Act to incorporate the Regina Hebrew School.

Bill No. 02—An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs Adoratrices du Precieux Sang de Prince Albert.

Bill No. 03—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate the Roman Catholic Parishes and Missions in the Diocese of Prince Albert.

Bill No. 04—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate La Corporation Episcopale Catholique Romaine de Regina.

Bill No. 05—An Act to incorporate The Ursulines of St. Angela's Convent.

The said Bills were read the first time and ordered for second reading on Monday next, pursuant to Rule 91.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Uhrich have leave to introduce Bill No. 6—An Act to amend and Consolidate the Law relating to Public Health.

The Hon. Mr. Uhrich, a member of the Executive Council, then acquainted the Assembly that His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, having been informed of the subject matter of the Bill, recommends it to the consideration of the Assembly.

The said Bill was accordingly received, read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Monday next.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 7—An Act respecting the Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths.

Hon. Mr. Urich, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 8—An Act to amend The Land Titles Act.

Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Monday next.

Mr. Speaker laid before the Assembly:—

The Annual Report of the Legislative Library, dated November 18, 1924. *(Sessional Paper No. 7.)*

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Paulson of the seventeenth instant.

The debate continuing, the said debate was, on motion of the Hon. Mr. Gardiner, adjourned.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.40 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1924.

The following Petitions were presented and laid on the Table:—

By Mr. Hogan—Of G. S. Chard and three others.

By Mr. Meikle—Of E. P. Horton.

By Mr. Therres—Of Messrs. Green and Ketchen.

By Mr. Therres—Of J. G. Yoerger.

By Mr. Turner—Of E. A. Brink and one other.

By Mr. Bingham—Of E. M. Mussell and two others.

According to Order, the Clerk having favourably reported on same pursuant to Rule 71 (8), the following Petition was read and received:—

Of The Saskatchewan Registered Seed Growers Co-operative Association, Limited, praying for An Act confirming its incorporation and defining and enlarging its powers.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bill was received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 9—An Act to amend The Surrogate Courts Act.

Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Tuesday next.

The Hon. Mr. Dunning, a member of the Executive Council, presented:—

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated November 19, 1924, showing:

The results of the vote taken under the provisions of The Plebiscite Act of 1924. *(Sessional Paper No. 8.)*

The Hon. Mr. Dunning, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly:—

Annual Report of the Provincial Auditor upon the accounts of the Administrator of Estates of the Mentally Incompetent for the fiscal year 1923-24. *(Sessional Paper No. 9.)*

Also, Annual Report of the Administration of The Deferred Charges Act for the fiscal year 1923-24.

(Sessional Paper No. 10.)

And also, Statement of Temporary Loans issued under Section 13 of The Treasury Department Act. *(Sessional Paper No. 11.)*

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Paulson of the seventeenth instant.

The debate continuing, the said debate was, on motion of Mr. Bingham, adjourned.

The following Order of the Assembly was issued to the proper officer:—

By Mr. Harvey, for a Return showing:

- (1) The names of the Returning Officers in each of the Electoral Divisions of the Province for the Liquor Plebiscite Vote taken on July 16, 1924.
- (2) The amount of (a) remuneration and (b) expenses, received by each Returning Officer for his services in connection with the taking of the vote.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.25 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1924.

According to Order, the Clerk having favourably reported on same pursuant to Rule 71 (8), the following Petitions were read and received:—

Of G. S. Chard and eleven others, praying for amendments to The Vehicles Act, 1917.

The Hon. Mr. Cross, a member of the Executive Council, presented:—

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated November 21, 1924, showing:

- (1) The names of the Returning Officers in each of the Electoral Divisions of the Province for the Liquor Plebiscite Vote taken on July 16, 1924.
- (2) The amount of (a) remuneration and (b) expenses, received by each Returning Officer for his services in connection with the taking of the vote.

(Sessional Paper No. 12.)

The Hon. Mr. Gardiner, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor:—

Annual Report of the Bureau of Labour and Industries for the twelve months ended April 30, 1924.

(Sessional Paper No. 13.)

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Paulson of the seventeenth instant.

The debate continuing, the said debate was, on motion of the Hon. Mr. Latta, adjourned.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills:—

Bill No. 01—An Act to incorporate the Regina Hebrew School.

Bill No. 04—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate La Corporation Episcopale Catholique Romaine de Regina.

Bill No. 02—An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs Adoratrices du Precieux Sang de Prince Albert.

Bill No. 03—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate the Roman Catholic Parishes and Missions in the Diocese of Prince Albert.

Bill No. 05—An Act to incorporate The Ursulines of St. Angela's Convent.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.30 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1924.

The Clerk informed the Assembly of the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker.

Whereupon Mr. Robinson, the Deputy Speaker, took the Chair pursuant to Rule 12 (1).

The following Petition was presented and laid on the Table:—
By Mr. McNiven—Of Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers, Limited.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 10—An Act to amend The Employment Agencies Act.
Hon. Mr. Gardiner, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 11—An Act to amend The Hawkers and Pedlers Act.
Hon. Mr. Uhrich, Second reading Friday next.

The Hon. Mr. Cross, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly:—

A detailed statement of all remissions made under The Penalties and Forfeitures Act, for the period ending October 31, 1924.

(Sessional Paper No. 14.)

And also, Annual Report of the Director of Prosecutions under The Saskatchewan Temperance Act, for the year ending April 30, 1924.

(Sessional Paper No. 15.)

By leave of the Assembly;

The Question on the Orders of the Day to be asked by Mr. Turner in regard to Lignite Briquetting Experiments at Bienfait, was withdrawn.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Paulson of the seventeenth instant.

The debate continuing, the said debate was, on motion of Hon. Mr. Hamilton, adjourned.

Mr. Smith, for Mr. Nolin, asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. McNab:—

(1) From whom did the Government purchase the site for the Sanatorium at Saskatoon?

Answer: Eight fifty foot lots ranging in depth from one hundred and twenty-four feet to three hundred and eleven feet were purchased from Mrs. T. H. Bowerman at a price of \$2,182.50.

Twenty lots were secured from the City of Saskatoon without cost.

The seven-roomed residence of the late T. H. Bowerman and twenty-two lots were purchased from the estate at a cost of \$6,000.00.

- (2) Is it the intention to purchase any other property?

Answer: The Department is negotiating for six more lots at an estimated cost of \$300.00.

- (3) How many acres are there in the site?

Answer: Approximately 25 acres.

- (4) When will the building be ready to occupy?

Answer About February 1, 1925.

The Assembly then adjourned at 9.50 o'clock p.m.

W. G. ROBINSON,
Deputy Speaker.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1924.

According to Order, the Clerk having favourably reported on same pursuant to Rule 71 (8), the following Petition was read and received:—

Of Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers, Limited,
praying for An Act to amend its Act of incorporation.

The Hon. Mr. McNab, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor:—

Annual Report of the Department of Public Works, for the financial year ended April 30, 1924. (*Sessional Paper No. 16.*)

And also, Annual Report of the Department of Telephones, for the financial year ended April 30, 1924.

(*Sessional Paper No. 17.*)

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Paulson, seconded by Mr. Steele:

That an Humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, as follows:—

TO HIS HONOUR, THE HONOURABLE H. W. NEWLANDS,
Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Saskatchewan.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,—

We, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Saskatchewan, in Session assembled, humbly thank Your Honour for the gracious Speech which Your Honour has been pleased to address to us at the opening of the present Session.

The debate continuing, and the question being put, it was agreed to.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Dunning, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Latta,

Ordered, That the said Address be engrossed and presented to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor by such members of the Assembly as are of the Executive Council.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Dunning, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Cross,

Resolved, That this Assembly will on Friday next resolve itself into a Committee to consider a Supply to be granted to His Majesty.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Dunning, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner,

Resolved, That this Assembly will on Friday next resolve itself into a Committee to consider the Ways and Means for raising the Supply to be granted to His Majesty.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting:—

Bill No. 6—An Act to amend and Consolidate the Law relating to Public Health.

Bill No. 8—An Act to amend The Land Titles Act.

Bill No. 2—An Act to facilitate the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments and Awards.

Bill No. 9—An Act to amend The Surrogate Courts Act.

The following Order of the Assembly was issued to the proper officer:—

By Mr. Jones, for a Return showing:—

- (a) The total enrolment in the Elementary Schools in the Province of Saskatchewan during the year 1922-23.
- (b) The total amount of Grants paid to Elementary Schools during that year.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.35 o'clock p.m.

Geo. A. Scott,
Speaker.

REGINA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1924.

Mr. Garry, from the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders, presented the second Report of the said Committee, which is as follows:

Your Committee has duly examined the following Petitions for Private Bills and finds that the provisions of Rules 82 and 83 have been sufficiently complied with in each case:—

Of The Saskatchewan Registered Seed Growers' Co-operative Association, Limited, praying for an Act confirming its incorporation and defining and enlarging its powers.

Of Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers, Limited, praying for an Act to amend its Act of incorporation.

The Clerk laid on the Table the following Private Bills:—

Bill No. 06—An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Registered Seed Growers' Co-operative Association, Limited.

Bill No. 07—An Act to amend an Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers, Limited.

The said Bills were read the first time and ordered for second reading on Monday next, pursuant to Rule 91.

The following Order of the Assembly was issued to the proper officer:—

By Mr. Hermanson, for a Return showing:

- (1) The total amount expended under contract with Rural Municipalities, under road foremen, on maintenance and on revenue bridges in each constituency during the fiscal year 1923-24 and from May 1 to November 1, 1924.
- (2) The total amount expended for construction on the Provincial Highway System in each constituency from May 1 to November 1, 1924.
- (3) The total amount expended on capital bridges in each constituency from May 1 to November 1, 1924.
- (4) The total amount expended under The Canada Highways Act on the Provincial Highways in each constituency previous to November 1, 1924.
- (5) The total amount expended on capital bridges in each constituency for the same period covered in No. (4).

Moved by Mr. Spence, seconded by Mr. Garry,

That this Legislature is of opinion that the Federal Government should immediately make a division among the provinces of the surplus funds left from the operation of the Canada Wheat Board in proportion to the amount of wheat contributed by the producers of each province.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was agreed to unanimously.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting:—

Bill No. 1—An Act respecting Threshers' Liens.

Bill No. 4—An Act to amend The Thresher Employees' Act.

Bill No. 5—An Act to confer Certain Powers upon the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

Bill No. 7—An Act respecting the Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths.

Bill No. 3—An Act respecting the Survey of Land.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 6—An Act to amend and Consolidate the Law relating to Public Health, on which progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.25 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1924.

By leave of the Assembly,
On motion of the Hon. Mr. Dunning, seconded by the Hon.
Mr. Cross,

Ordered, That when this Assembly adjourns this day it do stand adjourned until Tuesday next.

Mr. Turner asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. McNab:—

- (1) What was the total cost of the Telephone Building erected in Regina in the summer of 1924?

Answer: \$140,560.10.

- (2) Who was the architect for this building?

Answer: Storey & Van Egmond, who had prepared plans for a telephone building during the period when they were consulting architects for Telephone Department.

- (3) How much was the architect paid?

Answer: \$6,434.10, including cost of inspection borne by architects.

- (4) Were tenders called for the construction of this building?

Answer: Yes.

- (5) From whom were tenders received, and what was the amount of each tender?

Answer: Construction:

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Poole Construction Co..... | \$117,462.00 |
| Wilson & Wilson..... | 123,900.00 |
| Carter Halls..... | 140,922.00 |
| A. W. Cassidy & Co..... | 125,435.00 |
| Smith Bros. & Wilson..... | 124,640.00 |

Plumbing and Heating:

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Vagg Wilson & Co..... | \$ 11,995.00 |
| Whiteford Bros..... | 11,220.00 |
| J. C. Stewart..... | 12,094.00 |
| N. Roantree & Co..... | 12,193.00 |
| Regina Plumbing & Heating.. | 12,224.00 |
| Potts & Miller..... | 12,495.00 |

Excavating:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Morton & Solomon..... | 79c per cu. yd. |
| A. Gottselig..... | 80c per cu. yd. |
| F. J. Patterson..... | 85c per cu. yd. |
| Hamilton Construction Co..... | \$1.05c per cu. yd. |

- (6) What site was purchased, and from whom?

Answer: Lots 13 and 14, Block 455, frontage 100 feet, F. N. Darke.

- (7) What was the price paid for the site?

Answer: \$4,000.00.

- (8) Were any other suitable sites offered to the Government?

Answer: Other sites were offered.

- (9) If so, what sites were offered, who owned them, and what prices were asked?

Answer: Lots 13, 14 and 15, Block 464, frontage 150 feet, \$4,800.00. J. T. Brown, owner. (Not suitable.)
 Corner Rose and Victoria Avenue, 125 x 135, \$23,975.00, Saskatchewan Motor Sales Co., owner.
 (Too dear.)

- (10) Were advertisements published asking for suitable sites for this building?

Answer. No.

According to Order Bill No. 10—An Act to amend The Employment Agencies Act, was read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 6—An Act to amend and Consolidate the Law relating to Public Health, on which progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.30 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1924.

Mr. Pickel, from the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the first report of the said Committee, which is as follows:—

Your Committee met for organisation and appointed Mr. Pickel as Chairman.

Your Committee has had under consideration the following Bills and has agreed to report the same with amendment:

Bill No. 02—An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs Adoratrices du Precieux Sang de Prince Albert.

Bill No. 03—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate the Roman Catholic Parishes and Missions in the Diocese of Prince Albert.

Bill No. 05—An Act to incorporate The Ursulines of St. Angela's Convent.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Cross have leave to introduce Bill No. 12—An Act to provide for the Regulation and Sale of Alcoholic Liquors.

The Hon. Mr. Cross, a member of the Executive Council, then acquainted the Assembly that His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, having been informed of the subject matter of the Bill, recommends it to the consideration of the Assembly.

The said Bill was accordingly received, read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Friday next.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 13—An Act to amend The Corporations Taxation Act.
Hon. Mr. Uhrich, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 14—An Act to amend The Marriage Act, 1924.
Hon. Mr. Uhrich, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 15—An Act to confer Certain Powers upon Municipalities.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 16—An Act to amend The Dairy Products Act.
Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Thursday next.

The Hon. Mr. Latta, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor:—

Annual Report of the Department of Education for the year ended December 31, 1923. (*Sessional Paper No. 18.*)

(*Substitution ordered December 18, 1924.*)

The Hon. Mr. Latta, a member of the Executive Council, presented:—

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated November 26, 1924, showing:

- (a) The total enrolment in the Elementary Schools in the Province of Saskatchewan during the year 1922-23.
- (b) The total amount of Grants paid to Elementary Schools during that year. (*Sessional Paper No. 19.*)

The Hon. Mr. Dunning, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor:—

Annual Report of the Department of Railways for the fiscal year ended April 30, 1924. (*Sessional Paper No. 20.*)

Mr. McDonald (South Qu'Appelle), asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. McNab:—

- (1) Was S. C. Hart, of Yellow Grass, at any time a patient in a Mental Hospital in Saskatchewan?

Answer: Yes.

- (2) If so, where?

Answer: Mental Hospital at North Battleford and the Mental Hospital at Weyburn.

- (3) When did he become a patient?

Answer: July 4, 1916.

July 2, 1918. Committed to Battleford Mental Hospital and transferred to Weyburn Mental Hospital when that institution opened, January 6, 1922.

- (4) On whose evidence and by what Justices was he committed, and when and why was he discharged?

Answer: Information of Lola Alberta Garrish; evidence of Lola Alberta Garrish, and W. Stevens, M.D. (Certificate also issued July 6, 1916, by J. F. Duncan, M.D., Surgeon R.N.W.M.P., Regina, to the effect that patient was insane and required institutional care). Justices were H. C. Dupont and Thomas Murray. Was paroled on September 11, 1916, at the request of his family who assumed charge of him.

Information of J. H. Allan, M.D.; evidence of J. H. Allan, M.D., and W. J. Cleveland. Was paroled on April 10, 1922, in care of his brother, Dr. Victor A. Hart, of Barrie, Ontario, who assumed full charge and responsibility.

- (5) During the period of his confinement was his estate administered by the Administrator of the Estates of the Mentally Incompetent?

Answer: Yes.

- (6) If so administered, why did the Administrator allow large discounts to purchasers of land from S. C. Hart?

Answer: No discount allowed, but Agreement of Sale compromised to save Mr. Hart's interest in land purchased and re-sold. S. C. Hart bought the N.½ 25-9-17w2nd for \$9,600.00 on October 3, 1910, from Norman Dunn. Norman Dunn sold this Agreement of Sale to Archibald Bryce.

DECEMBER 2, 1924

Hart sold this land on January 13, 1912, to Milford Creighton for \$16,800.00, balance due on October 10, 1919, was \$13,739.96. Creighton had assigned his contract to the Great West Securities Company, of Moose Jaw, who also bought Hart's agreement with Dunn from Archibald Bryce, who had started foreclosure proceedings and obtained Order Nisi, and Notice of Application for Order Absolute was given. Hart had no assets except the agreement with Creighton, who was worthless. Decision had been given against him in the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal and he had no funds with which to carry an appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada. After careful consultation with his solicitors, and written opinion obtained from J. A. Allan, K.C., it was decided by the Administrator to make the best compromise deal possible. Affidavits were obtained from farmers residing in the vicinity of the land sold as to its then present valuation, and after considerable negotiations with the Great West Securities Company, it was agreed to make a new agreement on compromise basis of a sale to Creighton at \$13,200.00, each party was credited with all payments made and the balance on October 10, 1919, stood at \$7,666.93 in Hart's favour on the agreement with Creighton, and \$2,679.99 in favour of the Great West Securities Company on the original Dunn agreement. After considerable negotiations the Great West Securities Company agreed to settle and pay Hart \$5,000.00—\$2,000.00 in cash and the balance of \$3,000.00 on the 4th of November, 1920, and interest at 4 per cent., each party to pay his own costs.

- (7) Did the Administrator discharge judgments held by the said S. C. Hart against any parties, and, if so, why?

Answer: No judgments were discharged. If a judgment held against Creighton is referred to, refer to answer to question 6.

- (8) What monies were received and what disbursements made by the Administrator in this estate?

Answer:

CASH RECEIPTS.

Great West Securities *re* Agreement:

| | | |
|---|------------|-------------------|
| Principal | \$5,000.00 | |
| Interest | 196.30 | |
| | ————— | \$5,196.30 |
| Patient's Trust Account | | 2.35 |
| Interest accrued on Victory Bonds | | 93.50 |
| Interest accrued on Farm Loan Bonds | | 76.90 |
| Interest allowed on account | | 59.79 |
| | | ————— |
| | | <u>\$5,428.84</u> |

CASH DISBURSEMENTS.

| | | |
|--|------------|-------------------|
| Legal costs incurred by Hart previous to admittance to Hospital..... | | \$650.47 |
| INVESTMENTS— | | |
| Purchase of Farm Loan Bonds.. | \$1,500.00 | |
| Interest accrued..... | 20.70 | |
| | ----- | 1,520.70 |
| Purchase of Victory Bonds..... | 1,100.00 | |
| Interest accrued..... | 17.30 | |
| | ----- | 1,117.30 |
| Department of Public Works, sustenance charges..... | | 1,441.92 |
| Administration fees..... | | 400.00 |
| Inspection charges..... | | 28.80 |
| Provincial Auditor's fees..... | | 16.10 |
| Telephone tolls..... | | 4.35 |
| Advance to S. C. Hart..... | | 200.00 |
| Balance of account to S. C. Hart.... | \$20.00 | |
| Balance of account to S. C. Hart.... | 29.20 | |
| | ----- | 49.20 |
| | | <u>\$5,428.84</u> |

BONDS RELEASED TO S. C. HART—

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Victory Bonds..... | \$1,100.00 |
| Farm Loan Bonds..... | 1,500.00 |

- (9) Did the Administrator acknowledge any transfer of real estate or Bill of Sale of personal property purporting to be signed by the said S. C. Hart and produced after his confinement?
Answer: Yes, both transfer and Bill of Sale.
- (10) If he did acknowledge any such instrument or instruments, did he in any way investigate them?
Answer: Yes.
- (11) If so, what was the result of his investigation?
Answer: Found to be in order.

Evidence of Dr. W. Stevens, of Yellow Grass, *re* committal of S. C. Hart to the Mental Hospital, Battleford in 1916, July 4th:

“For three or four years, at times, I have treated Mr. Hart for stomach trouble, there was always mental disturbances in each attack. About two years ago I warned his daughter of the possibility of a mental breakdown. I told them to prepare them for anything that might occur. I cannot say how many attacks he had. Yesterday afternoon Mr. Hart 'phoned me and wanted me to go out. Mrs. Stevens asked what was the trouble; he said nothing; tell him to come at once the money is waiting. I went out to Mr. Hart's farm, he met me at the door and said he wanted

to talk to me. He told me he was worth six million dollars. He later told me three million was here and three million was coming from New York. We went to the barn and he told me that he had sold a patent and was to get six million for it, it was something in connection with relation of individuals with Catholics. He tried to find a letter regarding it, but could not find it. He told me how they were lying in wait for all the previous night, but Hart was too cute for them. We went in the house for him to look for the papers but could not find them. He told me that he expected I would have a wire from his brothers as they would be in Yellow Grass. I was to take them out. I left some pills and came home. This morning Mrs. Garrish called me, and I went out to Hart's and found him excited and constantly demanding some papers from her; he was following her close wherever she went, and I suggested, if necessary, he would have to get the police to get these papers. We urged the idea of us all going to town. In town Mr. Hart tells me that Levina Farley and Mrs. Garrish are at his farm, but he cannot see them, they keep hid from him. Last night I wired his brother Fred at Winnipeg, but have not heard as yet."

"Depot Division."

R.N.W.M. POLICE,
Regina, 6th July, 1916.

The Officer Commanding,
Depot Division,
R.N.W.M. Police, Regina.

SIR,—I have the honour to report that I have examined Sydney Hart and am of the opinion that he is insane. He is very troublesome, and does not sleep and eats very little. I advise that he be taken to the Asylum as soon as possible where he can receive proper attention.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
(Sgd.) J. F. DUNCAN,
Surgeon.

SASKATCHEWAN PROVINCIAL POLICE.

WEYBURN DIVISION.

Weyburn Detachment,
5th July, 1918.

Re SYDNEY CLIFFORD HART—INSANE.

On Tuesday, 2nd July, 1918, Inspector Tracey received information from Dr. J. H. Allen, Yellow Grass, that the above named was insane.

Acting on instructions from Inspector Tracey I proceeded to Yellow Grass accompanied by Constable Taylor, where we interviewed Mr. Dupont, J.P., and Dr. Allen, who informed us that the above had been going around the neighbouring farms and telling the women that he had killed a number of men and they were all getting scared of him.

Dr. Allen then laid an information and we obtained a warrant to apprehend, and we proceeded to the above named's farm and arrested him, brought him to Yellow Grass, where he appeared before Messrs. Murray and Dupont, J.P.s, at 8 p.m., 2/7/18.

On the charge being read to him he said:

"I do not know why this complaint should have been made. I want to get where there is a woman to look after me, so as my boy can get to school. On Sunday last I saw signs in different shapes, looked as if there were a number of horses all different colours running around. I also saw other signs of smoke and tents on poles and they were changing colours; also two women dressed in white who flew away. I think these signs were to warn the neighbours to send up a grey horse in order to try and discredit me in selling my land. I have been very scared at these signs and I can't sleep at night."

Dr. Allen called and duly sworn, stated:

"For several days complaints have reached me concerning the actions of S. C. Hart, and I have carefully examined him today and I am convinced that he is a person of unsound mind and a proper person to be taken care of at an institution for the Insane. He was in the same condition two years ago and was confined to Battleford, after he was somewhat improved, but has gone wrong again. I would consider him to be a dangerous man to be at large."

W. J. Cleveland, Yellow Grass, called and duly sworn, stated:

"I am a neighbour of Hart's. He came down to my place on the 26th June and wanted to see my wife. I told him she was not at home and he said she is at home, and if they want to shoot Mr. Hart I will be right at the shooting, for I killed 3,000 the night before. I noticed there was something wrong with Hart so I put him in my car and took him home."

Their Worships, in summing up, said there was no doubt but that the accused was insane, and committed him to the Regina Gaol pending the order of the Minister of Public Works.

Court closed at 9.30 p.m.

(Sgd.) E. S. BUCK,
Constable,
I/C Weyburn Detachment.

Mr. Turner asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. McNab:—

- (1) Is fire insurance being carried at present on the Sanatorium buildings at Fort Qu'Appelle?

Answer: No.

- (2) If so, with what firms or individuals was the insurance placed and what amount was placed with each firm or individual?

Answer: Answered under Question One.

- (3) Were any fire insurance policies in connection with the Fort Qu'Appelle Sanatorium buildings cancelled this year?

Answer: Yes.

- (4) If so, what were the reasons for such cancellations?

Answer: The Government recently acquired this property from the Saskatchewan Anti-Tubercular League and all insurance policies were cancelled under date of September 1st, as the Government do not carry insurance on any of their public property.

- (5) If the answer to question No. 3 is "Yes," what firms or individuals held the insurance so cancelled and what was the amount of insurance carried by each?

Answer: Amount of insurance carried and cancelled was \$772,150.00, distributed as follows:—

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Bell & Mitchell..... | \$177,630.00 |
| Drope & Hosie..... | 148,630.00 |
| McAra Bros. & Wallace..... | 148,630.00 |
| Otton Hamilton Agencies..... | 148,630.00 |
| Wm. Thompson, Fort Qu'Appelle | 148,630.00 |
| | \$772,150.00 |

Moved by Mr. Sahlmark, seconded by Mrs. Ramsland, That, in the opinion of this Assembly, all construction necessary to the development of the Hudson's Bay route should be immediately proceeded with and that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Dominion Government and to Sir Henry Thornton, President of the Canadian National Railways.

In amendment thereto, it was moved by Mr. Turner, seconded by Mr. Agar,

- (1) "completion" substituted therefor, and that the word "route" be deleted and the word railroad substituted therefor.

The debate continuing and the question being put on the said amendment, it was agreed to unanimously.

The question being put on the main motion, as amended, it was agreed to unanimously.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills:—

Bill No. 06—An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Registered Seed Growers' Co-operative Association, Limited.

Bill No. 07—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers, Limited.

According to Order, Bill No. 11—An Act to amend The Hawkers and Pedlers Act, was read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 2—An Act to facilitate the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments and Awards, which was reported without amendment, and ordered for third reading at next sitting.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.30 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1924.

Mr. Paulson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Latta:—

- (1) How many candidates applied for standing at the Grade VIII Examination in 1921, 1922, 1923 and 1924, and how many of these were granted Grade VIII Diplomas in each of these years?

Answer:

| Year | No. of Candidates | No. granted Diplomas |
|-----------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1921..... | 6,861 | 4,978 |
| 1922..... | 7,937 | 5,971 |
| 1923..... | 8,961 | 6,553 |
| 1924..... | 9,416 | 6,587 |

- (2) How many students received Second and First Class Diplomas at the Departmental Examinations in 1921, 1922, 1923 and 1924?

Answer:

| Year | Second Class | First Class | Total |
|-----------|--------------|-------------|-------|
| 1921..... | 704 | 181 | 885 |
| 1922..... | 895 | 183 | 1,078 |
| 1923..... | 891 | 239 | 1,130 |
| 1924..... | 1,520 | 405 | 1,925 |

Mr. Halvorson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Latta:—

- (1) What was the total number of students admitted to each class of the Normal Schools in January, September and November, 1924?

Answer:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| January: First Class..... | 103 |
| Second Class..... | 368 |
| Third Class..... | 139 |
| September: First Class..... | 135 |
| Second Class..... | 206 |
| Third Class..... | 494 |
| November: Third Class..... | 315 |

- (2) What was the total number of teachers from outside the province who were granted licenses to teach in Saskatchewan from January 1, 1906, until December 31, 1923?

Answer: 10,180.

- (3) What was the total number of students trained in our Provincial Normal Schools from January 1, 1906, until December 31, 1923?

Answer: 13,661.

According to Order, Bill No. 2—An Act to facilitate the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments and Awards, was read the third time and passed.

The following Orders of the Assembly were issued to the proper officers:—

By Mr. Parker, for a Return showing:

The following information respecting the Elementary Schools in the Province of Saskatchewan for the years 1906, 1912, 1918 and 1923:

- (a) The total number of school districts in the Province on December 31 the previous year.
- (b) The total number of schools in operation.
- (c) The total enrolment of pupils.
- (d) The average length of the school year.
- (e) The average daily attendance.
- (f) The total number of departments in operation.
- (g) The total number of teachers registered as having taught during the whole or part of each of these years.
- (h) The percentage of daily attendance.
- (i) The total amount paid for teachers' salaries.
- (j) The total amount of Grants paid by the Government.

By Mr. Cockburn, for a Return showing:

- (1) The total amount of money spent on the road north of sections 31, 32 and 33, township 45, range 9, west 3rd, during 1924?
- (2) Name and address of foreman, and names and addresses of all other men employed on this work.
- (3) Total amount of money spent on road through sections 13 to 18, in township 46, range 8, west 3rd, during 1924.
- (4) Name and address of foreman, and names and addresses of all other men employed on this work.
- (5) Total amount of money spent on road east of sections 4 to 33, township 43, range 7, west 3rd, in 1924.
- (6) Name and address of foreman, and names and addresses of all other men employed on this work.
- (7) Total amount of money spent on road through section 30, township 42, range 6, west 3rd, in 1924.
- (8) Name and address of foreman, and names and addresses of all other men employed on this work.
- (9) Total cost of engineering and survey work in connection with construction of that piece of Federal Aid Highway between Ceepee Ferry and the village of Borden up to the present time.

Moved by Mr. Hindle, seconded by Mr. Finlayson,

Whereas this Legislature did on February 15, 1924, pass a resolution endorsing the adoption of a three-year programme for the construction of Canadian National branch lines in Saskatchewan; and

Whereas the Federal Government did adopt the three-year programme and introduce a separate bill for the construction of each line; and

Whereas all bills introduced by the Federal Government for the construction of branch lines within Saskatchewan were passed by the Commons, but certain bills were defeated by the Senate; and

Whereas the defeat of these bills and the resulting delay in the construction of the lines has meant increased hardship for the settlers affected; and

Whereas this Legislature did on February 15, 1924, resolve: "That the rejection of such legislation for a second time by the Senate would constitute ample reason for the modification of the veto power of that body."

Therefore, be it Resolved, That this Legislature is of opinion:

(1) That the three-year programme should be adhered to in introducing legislation into the House of Commons to provide for the construction of further branch lines of the Canadian National Railways.

(2) That the bills affecting Saskatchewan which were defeated by the Senate last session should again be introduced in the next session.

(3) That the action of the Senate in rejecting such bills last session did constitute ample reason for the modification of the veto power of that body.

A debate arising, said debate was, on motion of Mr. Spence, adjourned.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:—

The following Bills were severally reported without amendment and ordered for third reading at next sitting:

Bill No. 02—An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs Adoratrices du Precieux Sang de Prince Albert.

Bill No. 05—An Act to incorporate The Ursulines of St. Angela's Convent.

The following Bill was reported without amendment, read a third time and passed:

Bill No. 03—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate the Roman Catholic Parishes and Missions of the Diocese of Prince Albert.

By leave of the Assembly, the Order "Government Orders," was reverted to.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:—

The following Bills were severally reported without amendment, read a third time and passed:

Bill No. 9—An Act to amend The Surrogate Courts Act.

Bill No. 5—An Act to confer Certain Powers upon the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

On Bill No 3—An Act respecting the Survey of Land, progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.30 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1924.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 17—An Act to amend The Noxious Weeds Act, 1924.
Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 18—An Act to amend The District Courts Act.
Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 19—An Act to amend The Judges' Orders Enforcement Act.
Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Monday next.

The Hon. Mr. Uhrich, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly:—

The Annual Report of the Board of the University of Saskatchewan for the year ended June 30, 1924.

(*Sessional Paper No. 21.*)

Mr. Hagarty asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Latta:—

(1) How many nurses were employed on the School Hygiene staff during 1923?

Answer: 14.

(2) How many schools were visited?

Answer: 1,535.

(3) How many pupils were examined?

Answer: 45,737.

(4) How many cases of signs of remediable physical defects were found?

Answer: 31,864.

(5) How many cases were reported as having received treatment during the year?

Answer: 11,285.

(6) How many home visits were made during the year?

Answer: 1,296.

(7) What are the duties of the school nurse?

Answer: (a) To promote health teaching in the schools and to cultivate good health habits in the children.

(b) To influence public opinion toward healthful school surroundings.

(c) To indicate to parents signs of remediable physical defects in school children.

(8) Do they diagnose cases?

Answer: No. They point out symptoms and request parents to take the children to medical practitioners for diagnosis.

Moved by Mr. Warren, seconded by Mr. Harvey,

That this Legislature urge upon the Dominion Government the necessity for continuing the work at the Forestry Stations at Indian Head and Sutherland in the Province of Saskatchewan, including the distribution of trees.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was agreed to unanimously.

On motion of Mr. McDonald (South Qu'Appelle), seconded by Mr. Garry,

Resolved, That this Assembly regrets that the Dominion Government has not yet carried out the suggestion embodied in the Resolution of this Assembly unanimously adopted on March 25, 1924, as follows:

“That, in the opinion of this Assembly, the Dominion Government should make a proper survey and readjustment of values to a fair basis of the farms, stock or equipment purchased by or allotted to returned soldiers through the Soldiers' Settlement Board”;

and desires to again urge that the Dominion Government cause immediate action to be taken along the lines suggested.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the third time and passed:—

Bill No. 02—An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs Adoratrices du Precieux Sang de Prince Albert.

Bill No. 05—An Act to incorporate The Ursulines of St. Angela's Convent.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting:—

Bill No. 13—An Act to amend The Corporations Taxation Act.

Bill No. 14—An Act to amend The Marriage Act, 1924.

Bill No. 15—An Act to confer Certain Powers upon Municipalities.

Bill No. 16—An Act to amend The Dairy Products Act.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.20 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1924.

Mr. Pickel, from the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the second report of the said Committee, which is as follows:—

Your Committee has had under consideration the following Bill and has agreed to report the same without amendment:

Bill No. 07—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers, Limited.

Your Committee has also had under consideration the following Bills and has agreed to report the same with amendments:

Bill No. 01—An Act to incorporate the Regina Hebrew School.

Bill No. 04—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate La Corporation Episcopale Romaine de Regina.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 20—An Act to amend The Produce Merchants Act.
Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 21—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 22—An Act to amend The Small Debts Recovery Act.
Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Tuesday next.

Mr. McNiven asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Hamilton:—

- (1) How many municipalities, if any, have invested surplus funds in the stock, bonds or government securities of Canada or of Saskatchewan, pursuant to the provisions of subsection (16) of section 178 of The Rural Municipality Act, being Chapter 89 of The Revised Statutes of Saskatchewan, 1920?

Answer: Six.

- (2) The name and number of such municipality so investing and (a) the total amount so invested by each municipality, and (b) the date and amount of each and every such investment by each municipality?

Answer:

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Rural Municipality of Cymri No. 36..... | \$ 500.00 |
| Rural Municipality of Sherwood No. 159 | 70,000.00 |
| Rural Municipality of Pense No. 160..... | 5,550.00 |
| Rural Municipality of Moose Jaw No. 161 | 10,000.00 |
| Rural Municipality of Lumsden No. 189 | 991.10 |
| Rural Municipality of Rosedale No. 283 | 1,000.00 |

This information is taken from the financial statements of the respective municipalities for the year ended December 31, 1923.

The Department has no information as to the dates upon which these investments were made.

According to Order, the Hon. Mr. Cross, moved

That Bill No. 12—An Act to provide for the Regulation and Sale of Alcoholic Liquors, be now read a second time.

A debate arising, said debate was, on motion of Mr. Turner, adjourned.

The following Order of the Assembly was issued to the proper Officer:—

By Mr. Dunbar, for a Return showing:

A report of the activities of the Soldiers' Estates Branch of the Department of the Attorney General for the period commencing February 1, 1924, and ending November 15, 1924.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 6—An Act to amend and Consolidate the Law relating to Public Health, on which progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.30 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1924.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No 23—An Act to amend and Consolidate the Law relating to Insurance.

Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 24—An Act to amend The Optometry Act, 1924.

Mr. McNiven, Second reading Wednesday next.

Mr. Speaker read a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, as follows:—

H. W. NEWLANDS,
Lieutenant Governor.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,—

I have received with great pleasure the Address that you have voted in reply to my Speech at the opening of the present Session of the Legislature, and thank you for it sincerely.

(*Sessional Paper No. 22.*)

Mr. Speaker—With reference to the Notice of Motion given on Friday last by the Member for South Qu'Appelle (Mr. McDonald) that the Select Standing Committee on Agriculture should be convened for the purpose of investigating and reporting upon certain charges which had been preferred against the Chairman of the Liquor Commission by a Regina newspaper; I ascertained upon looking into the question that the subject matter of the motion is now before the Courts of Saskatchewan. I, therefore, ordered that the Notice of Motion should not appear in the Votes and Proceedings.

Bourinot (4th Edition), page 301 says:

“A matter which is under adjudication by a court of law cannot be brought before the House by motion or otherwise.”

This view is sustained in May (12th Edition), page 296; House Debates (British), Vol. 72, page 86; House Debates (British), Vol. 64, page 867; which I quote for the information of this Assembly.

I therefore rule that this matter can not be introduced or debated in this Assembly by motion or otherwise at the present time.

The Member from Saskatoon City (Mr. Turner), having appealed from this decision, it was sustained on the following division:

YEAS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Robinson | Uhrich | Steele |
| Pickel | Gardiner | Shortreed |
| McNab | Finlayson | Therres |
| Cross | Paulson | Dodds |
| Dunning | Johnston | Sykes |
| Latta | Sahlmark | Hall |
| Hamilton | Parker | Jones |
| Clinch | Ketcheson | Hogan |
| Baker | Gordon (Lloydminster) | McNiven |
| Ramsland (Mrs.) | Taylor | Patterson |
| McKinnon | McDonald (Pr. Albert) | Harvey |
| Halvorson | Spence | Salkeld |
| Wilson | Gemmell | Pascoe |
| Dunbar | Gamble | Gordon (Souris) |
| Nolin | Lewis | Warren |
| | | Cummings—46 |

NAYS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| Turner | Meikle | Agar |
| McDonald (South Qu'Appelle) | Cockburn | Bingham—7 |
| | Bennett | |

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Cross,

That Bill No. 12—An Act to provide for the Regulation and Sale of Alcoholic Liquors, be now read a second time.

The debate continuing, said debate was, on motion of Mr. Hogan, adjourned.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at the next sitting:—

Bill No. 17—An Act to amend The Noxious Weeds Act, 1924.

Bill No. 18—An Act to amend The District Courts Act.

Bill No. 19—An Act to amend The Judges' Orders Enforcement Act.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 16—An Act to amend The Dairy Products Act, on which progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the following Bills, which were reported without amendment, read a third time and passed:—

Bill No. 01—An Act to incorporate The Regina Hebrew School.

Bill No. 04—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate La Corporation Episcopale Catholique Romaine de Regina.

Bill No. 07—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers, Limited.

By leave of the Assembly, the Order "Public Bills and Orders" was reverted to.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Hindle, seconded by Mr. Finlayson:

Whereas this Legislature did on February 15, 1924, pass a resolution endorsing the adoption of a three-year programme for the construction of Canadian National branch lines in Saskatchewan; and

Whereas the Federal Government did adopt the three-year programme and introduce a separate bill for the construction of each line; and

Whereas all bills introduced by the Federal Government for the construction of branch lines within Saskatchewan were passed by the Commons, but certain bills were defeated by the Senate; and

Whereas the defeat of these bills and the resulting delay in the construction of the lines has meant increased hardship for the settlers affected; and

Whereas this Legislature did on February 15, 1924, resolve: "That the rejection of such legislation for a second time by the Senate would constitute ample reason for the modification of the veto power of that body."

Therefore, be it Resolved, That this Legislature is of opinion:

(1) That the three-year programme should be adhered to in introducing legislation into the House of Commons to provide for the construction of further branch lines of the Canadian National Railways.

(2) That the bills affecting Saskatchewan which were defeated by the Senate last session should again be introduced in the next session.

(3) That the action of the Senate in rejecting such bills last session did constitute ample reason for the modification of the veto power of that body.

The debate continuing, and the question being put, it was agreed to unanimously.

By leave of the Assembly, the Order "Government Orders" was reverted to.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:—

The following Bills were severally reported without amendment, read a third time and passed:

Bill No. 13—An Act to amend The Corporations Taxation Act.

Bill No. 14—An Act to amend The Marriage Act, 1924.

The following Bill was reported with amendment; considered as amended; and ordered for third reading at next sitting:

Bill No. 6—An Act to amend and Consolidate the Law relating to Public Health.

On the following Bill progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again:

Bill No. 3—An Act respecting the Survey of Land.

The Assembly then adjourned at 10.30 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1924.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bill was received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 25—An Act to amend The Railway Taxation Act.
Hon. Mr. Uhrich, Second reading Friday next.

The Hon. Mr. Dunning delivered a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which was read by Mr. Speaker, as follows:—

H. W. NEWLANDS,
Lieutenant Governor.

The Lieutenant Governor transmits Supplementary Estimates of certain sums required for the service of the Province for the twelve months ending April 30, 1925, and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

(Sessional Paper No. 23.)

Ordered, That the said Message and Estimates be referred to the Committee of Supply.

The Hon. Mr. Latta, a member of the Executive Council, presented:—

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated December 3, 1924, showing:

The following information respecting the Elementary Schools in the Province of Saskatchewan for the years 1906, 1912, 1918 and 1923:

- (a) The total number of school districts in the Province on December 31 the previous year.
- (b) The total number of schools in operation.
- (c) The total enrolment of pupils.
- (d) The average length of the school year.
- (e) The average daily attendance.
- (f) The total number of departments in operation.
- (g) The total number of teachers registered as having taught during the whole or part of each of these years.
- (h) The percentage of daily attendance.
- (i) The total amount paid for teachers' salaries.
- (j) The total amount of Grants paid by the Government.

(Sessional Paper No. 24.)

Mr. McNiven asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. McNab:—

- (1) How many prisoners were there in each of the Provincial Gaols at Regina and Prince Albert in each month of each of the years 1923 and 1924?

| <i>Answer:</i> | Regina Gaol | Prince Albert Gaol |
|----------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Month | 1923 | 1923 |
| January..... | 200 | 139 |
| February..... | 182 | 143 |
| March..... | 182 | 145 |
| April..... | 150 | 155 |
| May..... | 153 | 144 |
| June..... | 166 | 136 |
| July..... | 195 | 134 |
| August..... | 173 | 109 |
| September..... | 180 | 105 |
| October..... | 193 | 112 |
| November..... | 200 | 135 |
| December..... | 213 | 128 |
| | 1924 | 1924 |
| January..... | 200 | 141 |
| February..... | 197 | 132 |
| March..... | 163 | 122 |
| April..... | 125 | 125 |
| May..... | 126 | 111 |
| June..... | 127 | 130 |
| July..... | 145 | 130 |
| August..... | 147 | 127 |
| September..... | 145 | 117 |
| October..... | 174 | 115 |
| November..... | 201 | 138 |
| December..... | .. | .. |

- (2) For the same institutions and for the same periods the number of sentences that carried "Hard Labour" as a term thereof?

| <i>Answer:</i> | Regina Gaol | Prince Albert Gaol |
|----------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| 1923..... | 438 | 1923..... 313 |
| 1924..... | 394 | 1924..... 192 |

- (3) For the same institutions and for the same periods the number of persons sentenced—

- (a) To a term of 30 days or less;
- (b) To a term of not more than 3 months, nor less than 30 days;
- (c) To a term of not more than 6 months, nor less than 3 months;
- (d) To a term of not more than 9 months, nor less than 6 months;
- (e) To a term of not more than 12 months, nor less than 9 months;
- (f) To a term of not more than 18 months, nor less than 12 months;
- (g) To a term of not more than 24 months, nor less than 18 months;

Answer:

| Terms of sentence | Regina | | Prince Albert | |
|-------------------------------|--------|------|---------------|------|
| | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 |
| (a) Less than 30 days | 235 | 314 | 39 | 68 |
| (b) 30 days to 3 months . . | 242 | 230 | 243 | 201 |
| (c) 3 months to 6 months | 131 | 121 | 102 | 55 |
| (d) 6 months to 9 months | 30 | 23 | 90 | 85 |
| (e) 9 months to 12 months | 41 | 38 | 14 | 8 |
| (f) 12 months to 18 months | 9 | 9 | 31 | 24 |
| (g) 18 months to 2 years . . | 11 | 1 | 10 | 11 |

Mr. Meikle asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Cross:—

- (1) How much money did the Official Guardian, as Official Guardian, receive in trust for Infants in each of the calendar years 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922 and 1923?

Answer: Directly by virtue of his appointment, none. Indirectly, by virtue of Orders of various courts and otherwise—

| | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 1919 | \$56,873.02 |
| 1920 | 72,419.39 |
| 1921 | 64,682.03 |
| 1922 | 50,392.86 |
| 1923 | 37,157.83 |

- (2) Is the Official Guardian bonded?

Answer: The Official Guardian is not bonded. Section 27 of The Infants Act provides that when the Official Guardian is appointed Guardian it shall not be necessary to furnish the bond of a guarantee company.

- (3) Is the office of the Official Guardian subject to inspection by the Inspector of Legal Offices?

Answer: No. The Official Guardian is responsible directly to the Courts.

- (4) How are the funds of the Infants in the hands of the Official Guardian invested?

Answer: Dominion and Provincial Bonds.

- (5) Has the Government ever received any statement of the securities in which moneys of Infants have been invested?

Answer: Yes.

- (6) What steps, if any, has the Government taken to satisfy itself that all moneys received by the Official Guardian are invested according to the Act?

Answer: The Official Guardian deposits with the Government a chartered accountant's certificate certifying to the regularity and correctness of the investments under The Trustee Act and the cash on hand.

Mr. Agar, for Mr. Turner, asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Latta:—

- (1) Was a petition ever received by the Department of Education for the erection of a School District in the village of Manitou Lake?

Answer: Yes.

- (2) If so, was the petition in Order?

Answer: No.

- (3) If such a petition was received, what action was taken with regard to it?

Answer: Efforts were made by the officials of the Department of Education to get the committee in charge of the proposed district to submit the petition in proper form.

- (4) What were the reasons for such action?

Answer: The district could not be legally erected until the provisions of The School Act had been complied with.

Mr. Baker asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Latta:—

- (1) How many students are attending Third Class Normal Class at Moose Jaw?

Answer: 83.

- (2) How many applications were received to attend this class?

Answer: 93.

- (3) Where are these classes being held?

Answer: Hill Crest School.

- (4) Are the premises leased by the Department and what is the annual rental?

Answer: Yes, at the rate of \$50 per month per room, two rooms in use.

- (5) Is it the intention of the Government to provide further accommodation for normal students at Moose Jaw?

Answer: Not at present.

Mr. Hermanson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

- (1) What are the names of the members of the Council of Public Health? When were they appointed?

Answer: W. A. Thomson, M.D., Regina, member of the Dominion Board of Medical Examiners, was appointed in January, 1910.

T. A. Leask, M.D., Moose Jaw, President of the Saskatchewan Medical Association in 1923, was appointed in November, 1922.

T. W. Walker, M.D., Saskatoon, President of the Saskatchewan Medical Association in 1924, was appointed in 1921.

R. G. Chasmar, Veterinary Surgeon, Hanley, Secretary Treasurer of the Saskatchewan Veterinary Association, was appointed in 1915.

M. M. Seymour, M.D., Deputy Minister of Public Health, was appointed by legislation.

These officials have been reappointed as their terms of office expired.

- (2) How many meetings of the Council of Public Health were held during 1923 and 1924?

Answer: In 1923 there were two meetings of the Council of Public Health held in the months of May and August.

In 1924 one meeting has been held.

- (3) What members of the Council were present at these meetings?

Answer: In 1923 the following members were present: Dr. Leask; Dr. Walker; Dr. Chasmar; Dr. Seymour.

At the meeting in 1924 the following members were present: Dr. Thomson; Dr. Leask; Dr. Walker; Dr. Seymour.

- (4) At what meeting did the Council of Public Health consider the "Regulations Governing Hospitals," approved by His Honour the Lieutenant Governor in Council on September 4, 1923? Did these Regulations receive the approval of the Council?

Answer: The "Regulations Governing Hospitals" were considered at the meeting of the Council held in August, 1923, and unanimously approved of. They were also reconsidered at the meeting held in October, 1924, and received the unanimous approval of the Council.

According to Order, Bill No. 6—An Act to amend and Consolidate the Law relating to Public Health, was read a third time and passed.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Cross,

That Bill No. 12—An Act to provide for the Regulation and Sale of Alcoholic Liquors, be now read a second time.

The debate continuing, said debate was, on motion of the Hon. Mr. Dunning, adjourned.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the following Bills, which were reported without amendment, read a third time and passed:—

Bill No. 11—An Act to amend The Hawkers and Pedlers Act.

Bill No. 18—An Act to amend The District Courts Act.

Bill No. 19—An Act to amend The Judges' Orders Enforcement Act.

According to Order, Bill No. 22—An Act to amend The Small Debts Recovery Act, was read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

The Assembly then adjourned at 9.45 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1924.

Mr. McDonald (Prince Albert), from the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the third report of the said Committee, which is as follows:

Your Committee has had under consideration the following Bill and has agreed to report the same with amendments:

Bill No. 06—An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Registered Seed Growers' Co-operative Association, Limited.

Your Committee also recommends that the fees paid for the following Private Bills be remitted, less cost of printing:

Bill No. 01—An Act to incorporate the Regina Hebrew School.

Bill No. 02—An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs Adoratrices du Precieux Sang de Prince Albert.

Bill No. 03—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate the Roman Catholic Parishes and Missions in the Diocese of Prince Albert.

Bill No. 04—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate La Corporation Episcopale Romaine de Regina.

Bill No. 05—An Act to incorporate The Ursulines of St. Angela's Convent.

By leave of the Assembly,

On motion of Mr. McDonald (Prince Albert), seconded by Mr. Spence,

Ordered, That the third report of the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills be now concurred in.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 26—An Act to confirm Certain Assessments and Taxation for the Purposes of The Laurel School District No. 895 of Saskatchewan.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 27—An Act to confirm Certain Assessments and Taxation for the Purposes of The Grassy Creek School District No. 520 of Saskatchewan.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 28—An Act to confirm Certain Assessments and Taxation for the Purposes of The Rob Roy School District No. 349 of Saskatchewan.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 29—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Northern Saskatchewan Co-operative Stock Yards, Limited.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 30—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate the Southern Saskatchewan Co-operative Stock Yards, Limited.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 31—An Act to amend The Chattel Mortgage Act.

Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Friday next.

Mr. Spence asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Hamilton:—

- (1) What exhibits of field crops were sent from Saskatchewan to the Canadian Royal Exhibition at Toronto in 1924, and what awards were won?

Answer: Five samples of wheat, 2 samples of oats and 1 sample of peas were sent to the Canadian Royal Exhibition at Toronto, and the first five prizes were secured in the bread wheat class, Edwards Bros., of Richlea, taking first prize. Third prize was taken in peas.

- (2) What exhibits of field crops were sent from Saskatchewan to the International Hay and Grain Show at Chicago in 1924, and what awards were won?

Answer: 46 samples of wheat.
 14 samples of oats.
 8 samples of barley.
 5 samples of peas.
 2 samples of field beans.
 2 samples of timothy.
 3 samples of rye.
 2 samples of flax.
 2 samples of sweet clover.
 1 sample of alfalfa.
 19 prizes were won in wheat.
 9 prizes were won in oats.
 4 prizes were won in barley.
 3 prizes were won in flax.
 2 prizes were won in peas.
 2 prizes were won in sweet clover.

J. C. Mitchell, of Dahinda, won first prize in Hard Red Spring Wheat in a class of over 200 entries, and Grand Championship over all wheats in which there were 510 entries altogether. J. W. Broatch took first prize in flax.

- (3) What assistance was given by the Government to exhibitors?

Answer: Directions for the preparation of threshed samples for these shows were sent out to growers of improved seed, exhibits were assembled at the Department of Agriculture and full charge taken of them by a representative of the Department, who accompanied the exhibits to both Toronto and Chicago, arranged the samples on display in both cases, repacking at the close of the exhibitions and returning samples to exhibitors.

Transportation charges were paid by the Government on exhibits from Regina to Toronto and Chicago and return. A second representative of the Department had charge of the display of field crops and improved seed, produced in Saskatchewan, at both the National and International exhibitions.

Mr. Garry, for Mr. Pickel, asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Hamilton:—

(1) How many Agricultural Societies are there in Saskatchewan organised under The Agricultural Societies Act?
Answer: There are in Saskatchewan 154 Agricultural Societies organised under The Agricultural Societies Act.

(2) How many charters have been issued during the present year?
Answer: There have been no charters issued for Agricultural Societies in 1924.

(3) What was the total amount paid in grants during each of the past three fiscal years?
Answer: The grants paid by the Government under the provisions of The Agricultural Societies Act in each of the past three fiscal years were:

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1921-22..... | \$111,824.86 |
| 1922-23..... | 114,866.24 |
| 1923-24..... | 104,853.12 |

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Cross,

That Bill No. 12—An Act to provide for the Regulation and Sale of Alcoholic Liquors, be now read a second time.

The debate continuing, and the question being put, it was agreed to.

The said Bill No. 12, was accordingly read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.20 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1924.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bill was received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 32—An Act to confirm Certain Assessments and Taxation for the Purposes of The North Point School District No. 543 of Saskatchewan.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Monday next.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 06—An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Registered Seed Growers' Co-operative Association, Limited, which was reported without amendment, read a third time and passed.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at the next sitting:—

Bill No. 24—An Act to amend The Optometry Act, 1924.

Bill No. 23—An Act to amend and Consolidate the Law relating to Insurance.

Bill No. 20—An Act to amend The Produce Merchants Act.

Bill No. 21—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Resolved, That there be granted to His Majesty for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1925, the following sums:—

| | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. For Legislation | \$ 1,000.00 |
| 2. For Executive Council | 1,100.00 |
| 3. For Treasury—Miscellaneous (Chargeable to Revenue) | 90,157.00 |
| 4. For Treasury—Miscellaneous (Chargeable to Capital) | 31,250.00 |
| being for: | |
| Lignite Utilisation Board \$31,250.00. | |
| 5. For Public Works (Chargeable to Capital)—Public Buildings (Construction) | 140,000.00 |
| 6. For Education | 107,000.00 |
| 7. For Agriculture—Publicity & Statistical Work | 7,500.00 |
| 8. For Agriculture—Improvement and Protection of Field Crops | 14,000.00 |
| 9. For Bureau of Child Protection | 27,000.00 |
| 10. For King's Printer | 5,000.00 |
| 11. For Telephones (Chargeable to Capital) | 80,000.00 |

The said Resolutions were reported, and, by leave of the Assembly, read twice and agreed to, and the Committee given leave to sit again at next sitting.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.45 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1924.

The Hon. Mr. Cross, a member of the Executive Council, presented:—

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated December 5, 1924, showing:

A Report of the activities of the Soldiers' Estates Branch of the Department of the Attorney General for the period commencing February 1, 1924, and ending November 15, 1924.

(Sessional Paper No. 25.)

By leave of the Assembly,

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Cross, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner,

Ordered, That the Order of the Assembly, passed on the ninth day of December, 1924, for the Third Reading and Passage of Bill No. 18—An Act to amend The District Courts Act, be rescinded, and that the said Bill No. 18 be now referred back to a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of inserting a further amending clause.

The Assembly, accordingly, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 18—An Act to amend The District Courts Act, which was reported with amendment; considered as amended, and ordered for third reading at next sitting.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting:—

Bill No. 25—An Act to amend The Railway Taxation Act.

Bill No. 26—An Act to confirm Certain Assessments and Taxation for the Purposes of The Laurel School District No. 895 of Saskatchewan.

Bill No. 27—An Act to confirm Certain Assessments and Taxation for the Purposes of The Grassy Creek School District No. 520 of Saskatchewan.

Bill No. 28—An Act to confirm Certain Assessments and Taxation for the Purposes of The Rob Roy School District No. 349 of Saskatchewan.

Bill No. 31—An Act to amend The Chattel Mortgage Act.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:—

The following Bills were severally reported without amendment, read a third time and passed: .

Bill No. 20—An Act to amend The Produce Merchants Act.

Bill No. 17—An Act to amend The Noxious Weeds Act.

Bill No. 16—An Act to amend The Dairy Products Act.

DECEMBER 12, 1924

The following Bill was reported with amendment; considered as amended, and ordered for third reading at next sitting:

Bill No. 15—An Act to confer Certain Powers upon Municipalities.

On the following Bill progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again:

Bill No. 12—An Act to provide for the Regulation and Sale of Alcoholic Liquors.

The Assembly then adjourned at 6 o'clock p.m.

Geo. A. Scott,
Speaker.

REGINA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1924.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 33—An Act to amend The City Act.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 34—An Act to amend The Town Act.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 35—An Act to amend The Village Act.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 36—An Act to amend The Rural Municipality Act.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 37—An Act to amend The Arrears of Taxes Act.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 38—An Act to amend The Wild Lands Tax Act.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 39—An Act respecting the Town of Broadview.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 40—An Act to ratify an Agreement between the Board of Trustees for the North Battleford Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 16 of Saskatchewan and certain other Parties.

Mr. Patterson for Mr. Pickel, Second reading Wednesday next.

The Hon. Mr. Gardiner, a member of the Executive Council, presented:—

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated December 3, 1924, showing:

- (1) The total amount of money spent on the road north of sections 31, 32 and 33, township 45, range 9, west 3rd, during 1924?
- (2) Name and address of foreman, and names and addresses of all other men employed on this work.
- (3) Total amount of money spent on road through sections 13 to 18, in township 46, range 8, west 3rd, during 1924.
- (4) Name and address of foreman, and names and addresses of all other men employed on this work.
- (5) Total amount of money spent on road east of sections 4 to 33, township 43, range 7, west 3rd, in 1924.
- (6) Name and address of foreman, and names and addresses of all other men employed on this work.
- (7) Total amount of money spent on road through section 30, township 42, range 6, west 3rd, in 1924.
- (8) Name and address of foreman, and names and addresses of all other men employed on this work.

- (9) Total cost of engineering and survey work in connection with construction of that piece of Federal Aid Highway between Ceepee Ferry and the village of Borden up to the present time. *(Sessional Paper No. 26.)*

Mr. McDonald (South Qu'Appelle), asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Hamilton:—

- (1) How many agents, subagents or officers have been appointed or employed under the Debt Adjustment Bureau during the last six months, with their names, places of residence, occupation, basis of remuneration, and date of appointment or employment?

Answer: Seven—

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Edw. Oliver, Regina, Commissioner, September, 1922 | \$3,000 per annum |
| H. C. Broad, Regina, Ass't Commissioner, September, 1922 | 1,900 per annum |
| J. S. Adlam, Regina, September, 1922 | 1,650 per annum |
| P. S. Cameron, Regina, September, 1922 | 1,650 per annum |
| D. McLeod, Yorkton, October, 1924 | 1,772 per annum |
| W. C. Sutherland, Millerdale, October, 1924 | 1,500 per annum |
| Ed. Waddington, Saskatoon, November, 1924 | 1,650 per annum |

- (2) Are these men bonded?

Answer: No.

- (3) Are the funds entrusted to them deposited in a Chartered Bank and distributed by cheque, or are they or the Commissioner, making payments in currency or other than by cheque on a Chartered Bank?

Answer: All moneys are paid into Treasury Suspense Account to the order of the Provincial Treasurer and deposited in the Sterling Bank of Canada and cheques are drawn thereon after the accounts have been duly audited by the Provincial Auditor.

- (4) Are any of the appointees or employees mentioned in question (1) employed by the Saskatchewan Government in any other capacity, and if so, who are they and what positions do they occupy and what salaries do they receive?

Answer: Yes.

Edward Oliver, who is also Secretary of the Bureau of Statistics, salary \$2,700.00 per annum, receives a \$300.00 bonus as Debt Adjustment Commissioner.

D. McLeod, employed as an inspector in the Dairy Branch, salary \$1,572.00, and transferred to the Debt Adjustment Bureau during the winter months with no increase in salary.

Ed. Waddington, employed in the Field Crops Branch until transferred to the Debt Adjustment Bureau with no increase in his salary of \$1,650.00 per annum.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the third time and passed:—

Bill No. 18—An Act to amend The District Courts Act.

Bill No. 15—An Act to confer Certain Powers upon Municipalities.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting:—

Bill No. 29—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Northern Saskatchewan Co-operative Stock Yards, Limited.

Bill No. 30—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Southern Saskatchewan Co-operative Stock Yards, Limited.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:—

The following Bills were severally reported without amendment, and ordered for third reading at next sitting:

Bill No. 22—An Act to amend The Small Debts Recovery Act.

Bill No. 31—An Act to amend The Chattel Mortgage Act.

Bill No. 21—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited.

The following Bills were severally reported without amendment, read a third time and passed:

Bill No. 26—An Act to confirm Certain Assessments and Taxation for the Purposes of The Laurel School District No. 895 of Saskatchewan.

Bill No. 27—An Act to confirm Certain Assessments and Taxation for the Purposes of The Grassy Creek School District No. 520 of Saskatchewan.

Bill No. 28—An Act to confirm Certain Assessments and Taxation for the Purposes of The Rob Roy School District No. 349 of Saskatchewan.

On the following Bills progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again:

Bill No. 25—An Act to amend The Railway Taxation Act.

Bill No. 12—An Act to provide for the Regulation and Sale of Alcoholic Liquors.

DECEMBER 15, 1924

The following Order of the Assembly was issued to the proper officer:—

By Mr. Warren, for a Return showing:

All correspondence, reports and recommendations from Road Superintendents, Municipal Authorities, or any other persons, relating to the improvement of a slough on the road allowance east of section 13, township 18, range 23, west of the 2nd meridian.

The Assembly then adjourned at 6.10 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1924.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Dunning have leave to introduce Bill No. 41—An Act enabling Municipalities to grant Relief in Certain Cases.

The Hon. Mr. Dunning, a member of the Executive Council, then acquainted the Assembly that His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, having been informed of the subject matter of the Bill, recommends it to the consideration of the Assembly.

The said Bill was accordingly received, read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bill was received, read the first time and second reading ordered:—
Bill No. 42—An Act to amend The School Act.

Mr. Agar for Mr. Turner, Second reading Thursday next.

The Hon. Mr. Latta, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly, under the provisions of The Border Areas Act, 1924:—

The Lloydminster Public School Scheme.

(*Sessional Paper No. 27.*)

Mr. Turner asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Cross:—

- (1) Has Mr. E. J. Davis, of Truax, been refused a renewal of his appointment as a Notary Public?

Answer: Mr. Davis was informed on the 21st day of November, 1924, that it was not deemed advisable at that time to consider the renewal of his appointment. Mr. Davis is already a Justice of the Peace. His appointment as Notary Public does not expire until December 31, 1924.

- (2) How long has E. J. Davis been a Notary Public?

Answer: Since the 30th day of November, 1920.

- (3) Has any complaint ever been received as to the manner in which E. J. Davis performed the duties of a Notary Public?

Answer: Not to my knowledge.

- (4) If so, what was the nature of the complaint, and by whom was it lodged?

Answer: See answer to question Number (3).

- (5) Why was the application for the re-appointment of E. J. Davis as a Notary Public refused?

Answer: See answer to question Number (1).

- (6) On whose recommendation was the application refused?

Answer: All such appointments are made on the recommendation of the Attorney General and it is not my intention at the present time to recommend the renewal of such appointment.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 24—An Act to amend The Optometry Act, 1924, on which progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the third time and passed:—

Bill No. 22—An Act to amend The Small Debts Recovery Act.

Bill No. 31—An Act to amend The Chattel Mortgage Act.

Bill No. 21—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:—

The following Bills were severally reported without amendment, read a third time and passed:

Bill No. 29—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Northern Saskatchewan Co-operative Stock Yards, Limited.

Bill No. 30—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Southern Saskatchewan Co-operative Stock Yards, Limited.

Bill No. 10—An Act to amend The Employment Agencies Act.

The following Bills were severally reported with amendment; considered as amended, and ordered for third reading at next sitting:

Bill No. 3—An Act respecting the Survey of Land.

Bill No. 25—An Act to amend The Railway Taxation Act.

On the following Bill progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again:—

Bill No. 12—An Act to provide for the Regulation and Sale of Alcoholic Liquors.

By leave of the Assembly, the Order "Introduction of Bills" was reverted to.

Leave to introduce the same, without notice, having been granted, the following Bill was received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 43—An Act to confirm and ratify an Agreement between the Town of Melville and Certain Other Parties. Mr. Smith, Second reading at next sitting.

The Assembly then adjourned at 10.45 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1924.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the third time and passed:—

Bill No. 3—An Act respecting the Survey of Land.

Bill No. 25—An Act to amend The Railway Taxation Act.

According to Order, Bill No. 32—An Act to confirm Certain Assessments and Taxation for the Purposes of The North Point School District No. 543 of Saskatchewan, was read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

According to Order, Bill No. 40—An Act to ratify an Agreement between the Board of Trustees for the North Battleford Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 16 of Saskatchewan and Certain Other Parties, was read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole today.

By leave of the Assembly,

Bill No. 43—An Act to confirm and ratify an Agreement between the Town of Melville and Certain Other Parties, was read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole today.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the following Bills, which were reported without amendment, read a third time and passed:—

Bill No. 24—An Act to amend The Optometry Act, 1924.

Bill No. 40—An Act to ratify an Agreement between the Board of Trustees for the North Battleford Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 16 of Saskatchewan.

Bill No. 43—An Act to confirm and ratify an Agreement between the Town of Melville and Certain Other Parties.

By leave of the Assembly, the Order "Government Orders" was reverted to.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 12—An Act to provide for the Regulation and Sale of Alcoholic Liquors, on which progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.35 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1924.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bill was received, read the first time and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 44—An Act to amend The Agricultural Co-operative Associations Act, 1924.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Tuesday, January 6, 1925.

Mr. Jones asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Latta:—

- (1) How many Travelling Libraries are in circulation in the Province, and how many books?

Answer: 990 Libraries, and approximately 50,000 books.

- (2) What is the average yearly circulation of these books?

Answer: Half a million. This is difficult to estimate accurately, but half a million is a conservative estimate.

- (3) What is done with the worn books? Is there a way of repairing them? If so, at what cost? What is done with the books that are beyond repair?

Answer: The books that are slightly worn are mended and sent right out again. The books that are badly worn are taken out of circulation and thoroughly cleaned and repaired. Since January 1, 1924, 13,000 books have been thoroughly repaired, at an average cost of six cents per book.

The old books that are beyond repair are disposed of in various ways. At least once, and usually twice a year, large boxes of old books are shipped to the Gaol at Prince Albert, Regina Gaol, and the Home at Wolseley. They are also sent out in bundles to isolated districts where we are unable to send libraries. Last winter nearly one hundred districts were supplied in this way.

- (4) What increase has there been in the number of libraries circulated in the last two years?

Answer: 275.

- (5) How many new districts have applied for libraries during the last four months?

Answer: 148.

- (6) Are many of these libraries sent to the outposts of the Province?

Answer: Yes. There is a library at Green Lake, one at Meadow Lake, one at Pegasus, one at Barnes' Crossing (north of Meadow Lake) and a request on file from Cumberland House. There are at least seventy-five libraries in districts north and west of Battleford; twelve north of Prince Albert; twenty-five east and north-east of Prince Albert.

The north-eastern part of the Province is well served as far north as Ravine Bank, and as far east as Prairie River.

The southern part of the Province, south of the Weyburn-Lethbridge line is well served, particularly the districts furthest from the railroads.

Applications from these outlying districts are given first consideration.

The Hon. Mr. Gardiner, a member of the Executive Council, presented:—

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated December 15, 1924, showing:

All correspondence, reports and recommendations from Road Superintendents, Municipal Authorities, or any other persons, relating to the improvement of a slough on the road allowance east of section 13, township 18, range 23, west of the 2nd meridian.

(Sessional Paper No. 28.)

According to Order, Bill No. 42—An Act to amend The School Act, was read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Dunning, seconded by the Hon. Mr. McNab,

Ordered, That when this Assembly adjourns on Friday next, it do stand adjourned until Tuesday, January 6, 1925.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 12—An Act to provide for the Regulation and Sale of Alcoholic Liquors, on which progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

By leave of the Assembly,

The Hon. Mr. Latta, a member of the Executive Council, presented the Annual Report of the Department of Education for the year ended December 31, 1923, in printed form, in substitution for the manuscript copy of said Report which he had presented on December 2nd last, being Sessional Paper No. 18.

The Clerk was thereupon directed to return to the Honourable the Minister of Education the said manuscript copy.

(Sessional Paper No. 18.)

The Assembly then adjourned at 11.25 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1924.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bill was received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 45—An Act to amend The Game Act.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Wednesday, January 7, 1925.

The Hon. Mr. Uhrich, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor:—

Report regarding the Sanatorium at Fort Qu'Appelle and the operations of the Saskatchewan Anti-Tuberculosis League for the year ended December 31, 1923. (*Sessional Paper No. 29.*)

Mr. Hogan, for Mr. Jones, asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich:—

(1) What is the license fee for a beef ring slaughter house?
Answer: \$2.00.

(2) What is the license fee for a butcher's slaughter house?
Answer: \$10.00.

(3) How many beef ring slaughter house licenses were issued during the years 1921, 1922, 1923 and 1924?

Answer: 1921..... 20
1922..... 146
1923..... 169
1924..... 167

(4) How many butchers' slaughter house licenses were issued during the years 1921, 1922, 1923 and 1924?

Answer: 1921..... 280
1922..... 302
1923..... 370
1924..... 321

Mr. Ketcheson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Hamilton:—

(1) When did the Government begin the work of organising associations for the testing of milk production of dairy cows?

Answer: Organisation of cow testing centres and the supervision and encouragement of cow testing for milk and butterfat production was first carried on under the Provincial Department of Agriculture, May 1, 1921.

(2) What number of testing associations have been organised and what number of cows have been under test in Saskatchewan in each of the years since this work was first undertaken?

| <i>Answer:</i> Year | Testing centres | Herds | Cows |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------|-------|
| 1921..... | 23 | 61 | 556 |
| 1922..... | 40 | 191 | 1,491 |
| 1923..... | 57 | 261 | 2,156 |
| 1924..... | 64 | 298 | 2,425 |

- (3) What evidence is there of the effectiveness of this work in improving dairy herds?

Answer: In 1921 the average production of the eight highest herds in the list of cows under test was 8,813 pounds of milk containing 296 pounds of butterfat. After the low producing cows had been eliminated from the herds in 1923 the highest eight herds produced an average of 9,765 pounds of milk containing 327 pounds of butterfat. In addition to the actual increase in production this work has interested herd owners in improving their herds by the introduction of better sires.

- (4) What was the cost of this work each year since commencement?

Answer: Following are the figures of cost of this work for each year since it was commenced:

| | |
|---|------------|
| Fiscal year 1921-22..... | \$4,787.77 |
| Fiscal year 1922-23..... | 6,573.97 |
| Fiscal year 1923-24..... | 7,805.31 |
| Fiscal year 1924-25 (to date November 30, 1924)..... | 6,338.11 |

Mr. Dunbar asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Hamilton:—

- (1) Has the aggregate assessment of the rural municipalities in the Province been increased or decreased since the appointment of the Saskatchewan Assessment Commission?

Answer: The aggregate assessment of the rural municipalities of the Province has been decreased.

- (2) What has been the increase or the decrease in the said aggregate assessment?

Answer: The aggregate assessment has been decreased by \$9,663,338.

- (3) What alteration in the aggregate assessment of the rural municipalities of the Province has been made in each of the years 1921, 1922, 1923 and 1924?

Answer: Between the end of the fiscal year 1920-21 and the end of the fiscal year 1921-22 the equalised assessment decreased \$2,684,261; between the end of the fiscal year 1921-22 and the end of the fiscal year 1922-23 the assessment decreased \$4,832,029; between the end of the fiscal year 1922-23 and the end of the fiscal year 1923-24 the aggregate assessment decreased \$2,147,048.

Information for the year 1924 is not yet available as complete returns have not been received from the municipalities.

3.20 o'clock p.m.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, having entered the Chamber, took his seat upon the Throne.

Mr. Speaker addressed His Honour:—

May it Please Your Honour,

This Legislative Assembly at its present Session passed several Bills, which, in the name of the Assembly, I present to Your Honour, and to which Bills I respectfully request Your Honour's assent.

The Clerk of the Assembly then read the titles of the Bills that had been passed severally as follows:—

An Act to facilitate the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments and Awards.

An Act respecting the Survey of Land.

An Act to confer Certain Powers upon the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

An Act to amend and Consolidate the Law relating to Public Health.

An Act to amend The Surrogate Courts Act.

An Act to amend The Employment Agencies Act.

An Act to amend The Hawkers and Pedlers Act.

An Act to amend The Corporations Taxation Act.

An Act to amend The Marriage Act, 1924.

An Act to confer Certain Powers upon Municipalities.

An Act to amend The Dairy Products Act.

An Act to amend The Noxious Weeds Act, 1924.

An Act to amend The District Courts Act.

An Act to amend The Judges' Orders Enforcement Act.

An Act to amend The Produce Merchants Act.

An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited.

An Act to amend The Small Debts Recovery Act.

An Act to amend The Optometry Act, 1924.

An Act to amend The Railway Taxation Act.

An Act to confirm Certain Assessments and Taxation for the Purposes of The Laurel School District No. 895 of Saskatchewan.

An Act to confirm Certain Assessments and Taxation for the Purposes of The Grassy Creek School District No. 520 of Saskatchewan.

An Act to confirm Certain Assessments and Taxation for the Purposes of The Rob Roy School District No. 349 of Saskatchewan.

An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Northern Saskatchewan Co-operative Stock Yards, Limited.

An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Southern Saskatchewan Co-operative Stock Yards, Limited.

An Act to amend The Chattel Mortgage Act.

- An Act to ratify an Agreement between the Board of Trustees for the North Battleford Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 16 of Saskatchewan and Certain Other Parties.
- An Act to confirm and ratify an Agreement between the Town of Melville and Certain Other Parties.
- An Act to incorporate The Regina Hebrew School.
- An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs Adoratrices du Precieux Sang de Prince Albert.
- An Act to amend An Act to incorporate the Roman Catholic Parishes and Missions in the Diocese of Prince Albert.
- An Act to amend An Act to incorporate La Corporation Episcopale Catholique Romaine de Regina.
- An Act to incorporate The Ursulines of St. Angela's Convent.
- An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Registered Seed Growers' Co-operative Association, Limited.
- An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers, Limited.

The Royal Assent to these Bills was announced by the Clerk: "In His Majesty's name His Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth assent to these Bills."

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor then retired from the Chamber.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to the Committee of the Whole at next sitting:—

- Bill No. 34—An Act to amend The Town Act.
- Bill No. 36—An Act to amend The Rural Municipality Act.
- Bill No. 38—An Act to amend The Wild Lands Tax Act.
- Bill No. 41—An Act enabling Municipalities to grant Relief in Certain Cases.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:—

The following Bill was reported without amendment, read a third time and passed:

- Bill No. 32—An Act to confirm Certain Assessments and Taxation for the Purposes of The North Point School District No. 543 of Saskatchewan.

On Bill No. 12—An Act to provide for the Regulation and Sale of Alcoholic Liquors, progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Assembly then adjourned at 10.45 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1925.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bill was received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 46—An Act to amend The Public Revenues Act.

Hon. Mr. Dunning, Second reading Thursday next.

The Hon. Mr. Hamilton, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor:—

Annual Report of the Department of Municipal Affairs for the financial year ended April 30, 1924.

(Sessional Paper No. 30.)

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the following Bills, on which progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again:—

Bill No. 7—An Act respecting the Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths.

Bill No. 23—An Act to amend and Consolidate the Law relating to Insurance.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.30 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1925.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bill was received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—
Bill No. 47—An Act respecting the Manufacture and Sale of Bread.

Hon. Mr. McNab, Second reading Friday next.

The Hon. Mr. Gardiner, a member of the Executive Council, presented:—

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated November 27, 1924, showing:

- (1) The total amount expended under contract with Rural Municipalities, under road foremen, on maintenance and on revenue bridges in each constituency during the fiscal year 1923-24 and from May 1 to November 1, 1924.
- (2) The total amount expended for construction on the Provincial Highway System in each constituency from May 1 to November 1, 1924.
- (3) The total amount expended on capital bridges in each constituency from May 1 to November 1, 1924.
- (4) The total amount expended under The Canada Highways Act on the Provincial Highways in each constituency previous to November 1, 1924.
- (5) The total amount expended on capital bridges in each constituency for the same period covered in No. (4).

(*Sessional Paper No. 31.*)

The Hon. Mr. Hamilton, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor:—

Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture for the twelve months ended April 30, 1924. (*Sessional Paper No. 32.*)

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting:—

Bill No. 35—An Act to amend The Village Act.

Bill No. 44—An Act to amend The Agricultural Co-operative Associations Act, 1924.

Moved by Mr. McKinnon, seconded by Mr. Garry,

That, in the opinion of this Assembly, the Government of Saskatchewan should continue to urge upon the Government of Canada the necessity of arranging for the transfer to the Province of the Public Domain within its limits without further delay.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was agreed to unanimously.

Moved by Mr. Meikle, seconded by Mr. Cockburn,

That, in the opinion of this Assembly, The Infants Act, being Chapter 155 of the Revised Statutes of Saskatchewan, 1920, should be amended in such a way as to provide that the duties of the Official Guardian should be undertaken by the Attorney General's Department.

A debate arising, said debate was, on motion of the Hon. Mr. Cross, adjourned.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 42—An Act to amend The School Act, which was reported with amendment, considered as amended, and ordered for third reading at next sitting.

By leave of the Assembly, the Order "Government Orders" was reverted to.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the following Bills:—

Bill No. 41—An Act enabling Municipalities to grant Relief in Certain Cases, was reported with amendment, considered as amended, and ordered for third reading at next sitting.

On Bill No. 23—An Act to amend and Consolidate the Law relating to Insurance, progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.30 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 1925.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 48—An Act to amend The Local Government Board (Special Powers) Act, 1922.

Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 49—An Act to amend The Conditional Sales Act.

Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 50—An Act to amend The Open Wells Act.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Monday next.

The Hon. Mr. Dunning delivered a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which was read by Mr. Speaker, as follows:—

H. W. NEWLANDS,
Lieutenant Governor.

The Lieutenant Governor transmits Estimates of certain sums required for the service of the Province for the twelve months ending April 30, 1926, and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly. (*Sessional Paper No. 33.*)

Ordered, That the said Message and Estimates be referred to the Committee of Supply.

Moved by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Hermanson,

That this Legislature is of opinion that the best interests of Canada demand that substantial reductions of the burdens of customs taxation be made with a view to the accomplishing of two purposes of the highest importance: First, diminishing the very high cost of living which presses so severely on the masses of the people; Second, reducing the cost of the instruments of production in the industries based on the natural resources of the Dominion, the vigorous development of which is essential to the progress and prosperity of our country;

That, to these ends, wheat, wheat flour and all products of wheat; the principal articles of food; farm implements and machinery; farm tractors, mining, flour and saw-mill machinery and repair parts thereof; rough and partly dressed lumber; gasoline, illuminating, lubricating and fuel oils; nets, net-twines and fishermen's equipments; cements and fertilisers, should be free from customs duties, as well as the raw material entering into the same;

That a revision downwards of the tariff should be made whereby substantial reductions would be effected in the duties on wearing apparel and footwear, and on other articles of general consumption (other than luxuries), as well as on the raw material entering into the manufacture of the same;

That the British preference should be increased to fifty (50) per cent. of the general tariff;

That negotiations should be entered into by the Government of Canada, with the Government of the United States with a view of establishing a reciprocity on lines similar to those of 1911.

A debate arising, and the question being put; it was agreed to unanimously on the following division:

YEAS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Robinson | Paulson | Dodds |
| Pickel | Johnston | Sykes |
| Garry | Parker | Hall |
| McNab | Ketcheson | Hogan |
| Cross | Gordon (Lloydminster) | McNiven |
| Dunning | McDonald (Pr. Albert) | Hyde |
| Latta | Spence | Harvey |
| Hamilton | Hermanson | Pascoe |
| Clinch | Hindle | Maharg |
| Baker | Gemmell | McDonald (S. Qu'Appelle) |
| Ramsland (Mrs.) | Smith | Meikle |
| McKinnon | Gamble | Cockburn |
| Dunbar | Hagarty | Bennett |
| Nolin | Lewis | Agar |
| Uhrich | Steele | Bingham |
| Gardiner | Shortreed | Gordon (Souris) |
| Finlayson | Therres | Warren |
| | | Cummings—52 |

According to Order, Bill No. 42—An Act to amend The School Act, was read the third time and passed.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Meikle,

That, in the opinion of this Assembly, The Infants Act, being Chapter 155 of the Revised Statutes of Saskatchewan, 1920, should be amended in such a way as to provide that the duties of the Official Guardian should be undertaken by the Attorney General's Department.

The debate continuing, and the question being put; it was negatived on the following division:

YEAS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Gordon (Lloydminster) | Maharg | Agar |
| Shortreed | McDonald (S. Qu'Appelle) | Bingham |
| Sykes | Meikle | Warren—11 |
| Harvey | Cockburn | |

NAYS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Robinson | McKinnon | McDonald (Prince Albert) |
| Pickel | Halvorson | Spence |
| Garry | Uhlich | Hindle |
| McNab | Gardiner | Hagarty |
| Cross | Paulson | Lewis |
| Dunning | Johnston | Steele |
| Hamilton | Sahlmark | Dodds |
| Clinch | Parker | Hall |
| Ramsland (Mrs.) | Ketcheson | Hyde—27 |

According to Order, Bill No. 41—An Act enabling Municipalities to grant Relief in Certain Cases, was read the third time and passed.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:—

The following Bills were reported with amendment, considered as amended, and ordered for third reading at next sitting:

Bill No. 7—An Act respecting the Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths.

Bill No. 38—An Act to amend The Wild Lands Tax Act.

The following Bill was reported without amendment, read a third time and passed:

Bill No. 4—An Act to amend The Thresher Employees' Act.

On the following Bills progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again:

Bill No. 34—An Act to amend The Town Act.

Bill No. 35—An Act to amend The Village Act.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting:—

Bill No. 45—An Act to amend The Game Act.

Bill No. 46—An Act to amend The Public Revenues Act.

The Assembly then adjourned at 10.25 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 1925.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 51—An Act to amend The Venereal Diseases Act.

Hon. Mr. Uhrich, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 52—An Act to amend The Benevolent Societies Act.

Hon. Mr. Uhrich, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 53—An Act to amend The School Assessment Act.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 54—An Act to amend The Subdivisions Act.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 55—An Act to amend The Stray Animals Act.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 56—An Act respecting the Town of Battleford and the Public and Separate School Districts of Battleford.

Mr. Pickel, Second reading Monday next.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the third time and passed:—

Bill No. 7—An Act respecting the Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths.

Bill No. 38—An Act to amend The Wild Lands Tax Act.

The Order being read for the Assembly to again resolve itself into the Committee of Supply;

The Hon. Mr. Dunning moved,

That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair.

A debate arising, said debate was, on motion of Mr. McDonald (South Qu'Appelle), adjourned.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:—

The following Bills were reported with amendment; considered as amended, and ordered for third reading at next sitting:

Bill No. 34—An Act to amend The Town Act.

Bill No. 35—An Act to amend The Village Act.

The following Bill was reported without amendment, read a third time and passed:

Bill No. 46—An Act to amend The Public Revenues Act.

On the following Bills progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again:

Bill No. 23—An Act to amend and Consolidate the Law relating to Insurance.

Bill No. 45—An Act to amend The Game Act.

The Assembly then adjourned at 10.05 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 1925.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 57—An Act to provide for Remission of Penalties upon Unpaid Taxes under Certain Conditions.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 58—An Act respecting the Engineering Profession.

Mr. Robinson, Second reading Wednesday next.

Mr. Spence asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by Hon. Mr. Hamilton:—

- (1) How many prizes were won by the Saskatchewan Live Stock Exhibit to Eastern Canadian Shows and the International Live Stock Exposition, Chicago, in 1924?

Answer: The Live Stock Exhibit sent from this province won a total of 206 prizes at these shows in keen competition, including 46 prizes won at Ontario Winter Fair, Guelph; 75 at The Royal, Toronto; 60 at The Ottawa Winter Fair and 25 at The International, Chicago.

- (2) How were these awards classified?

Answer: There were 18 Championships and 9 Reserve Championships, including two Belgian Championships at the Royal Winter Fair which were won by Robert Thomas, Grandora, Sask., with his Champion Belgian stallion, and by D. V. Runkle, Regina, with his Champion Belgian mare. In sheep, the Suffolk Championship at The Royal was won by Wm. Darnborough, of Laura, Sask., with his Champion Suffolk ram.

Clydesdale championships at the International were won by Dr. D. D. Reid, of Canora, with his Junior Champion Clydesdale stallion which was also Reserve Grand Champion, and by Mrs. W. H. Bryce, of Arcola, with her Senior Champion Clydesdale mare, which was also Reserve Grand Champion female. In Percherons, the Canadian Bred Championship was won by Geo. Doan & Son, Stony Beach, with their two year old Percheron filly.

There were also 5 silver cups, 2 medals, 52 first prizes, 31 second prizes and 89 other prizes.

- (3) How does the number of prizes won with the Saskatchewan Exhibit in 1924 compare with those won in previous years?

Answer: Very favourably, although we exhibited at one more fair this year than last year. The records of the number of prizes won by the Saskatchewan Live Stock Exhibit for the past five years are as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| 1920..... | 36 |
| 1921..... | 103 |
| 1922 no official exhibit. | |
| 1923..... | 126 |
| 1924..... | 206 |

Mr. McDonald (South Qu'Appelle), asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Cross:—

- (1) Was Wasil Pentelichuk, of Saltecoats Electoral District, fined for making liquor illegally or for having liquor in his possession in Saskatchewan?

Answer: Yes, for having in his possession mash for the manufacture of spirits contrary to Section 180e of The Inland Revenue Act.

- (2) How often has he been fined in the last four years?

Answer: Twice. Once under The Inland Revenue Act and once under the Criminal Code.

- (3) Did he fail at any time to pay any fine imposed, and was he sent to gaol in consequence, and for what term?

Answer: Yes. Committed to Regina Gaol for six months.

- (4) How long did he remain in gaol?

Answer: Admitted 14th day of May, 1924, and released 2nd day of June, 1924.

- (5) Why was he released from gaol?

Answer: Information not available. This is a Dominion matter.

- (6) Were any letters or petitions presented to the Attorney General or any member or official of the Government asking for his release?

Answer: No.

- (7) What reasons were given, if any, asking for his release?

Answer. See answer to question Number 6.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the third time and passed:—

Bill No. 34—An Act to amend The Town Act.

Bill No. 35—An Act to amend The Village Act.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Dunning,

That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair (the Assembly to go into the Committee of Supply).

The debate continuing, said debate was, on motion of Mr. Ketcheson, adjourned.

The Assembly then adjourned at 11.15 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1925.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bills were severally received, read the first time and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 59—An Act to amend The Mechanics' Lien Act.

Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 60—An Act to amend The Companies Act.

Hon. Mr. Uhrich, Second reading Thursday next.

Mr. McDonald (South Qu'Appelle), asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Dunning:—

- (1) How much does The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries Company, Limited, owe the Province on capital account advance, and up to what date has interest been paid, and is any interest in arrears?

Answer: (a) \$703,612.56;

(b) Interest has been paid up to due dates as covenanted under mortgages;

(c) No interest in arrears.

- (2) What amount does the said Company owe any bank or bankers, and how much of such advance is guaranteed by the Province?

Answer: It is not considered fair to a co-operative organisation to make available to its competitors information respecting its business, which any business concern properly regards as of a private nature. The maximum provincial guarantee stands at exactly the same figure as during the investigation one year ago—\$390,000.

In answer to questions 3, 4 and 5 the Company states—

- (3) Has the said Company sold any stock during the last six months? If so, how much and at what prices?

Answer: (a) Yes;

(b) Three hundred and ninety-three shares have been sold at a par value of \$20 each.

- (4) Are they still offering stock for sale and by whom?

Answer: (a) Yes;

(b) Mr. Geo. M. Ullyott, of the staff of the Company and by members of a local organisation committee at Conquest.

- (5) What salaries or commissions are being paid in connection with the sale of such stock?

Answer: No commissions have been paid on sale of stock during this period. Geo. M. Ullyott, mentioned above, is on the regular staff of the Company.

- (6) Has the Government been consulted in connection with the sale of such stock, and did it give its approval?

Answer: No.

The following Orders of the Assembly were issued to the proper officers:—

By Mr. Cockburn, for a Return showing:

A detailed statement of the expenses of W. G. McKay, Road Inspector, for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1924, and from April 30, 1924, to December 31, 1924.

By Mr. McDonald (South Qu'Appelle) for Mr. Warren, for a Return showing:

All correspondence, reports and recommendations from Road Superintendents, Municipal Authorities, or any other persons, relating to the improvement of a slough on the road allowance west of section 13, township 18, range 23, west of the 2nd meridian.

Moved by Mr. Halvorson, seconded by Mr. Turner,
That this Assembly is of the opinion:

(1) That, for the purpose of making more suitable and adequate provisions for ex-service men and their dependents, the Government of Canada should at the next session of Parliament again introduce a Bill to amend The Pensions Act, and that there be included in such Bill the provisions contained in Bill No. 255 of last session, which were passed by the House of Commons but were deleted therefrom by the Senate;

(2) That the Government of Canada be asked to take the necessary steps to make effective the recommendations contained in the fifth report of the Select Special Committee on Pensions, Insurance and Re-establishment of Returned Soldiers, made to Parliament at its last session, which said report was in effect that the interests of the returned men will be better safeguarded and the intent of Parliament will be better carried into effect by a more sympathetic interpretation of The Pensions Act and its schedules, and that this can best be carried out by the reorganisation of the Board of Pension Commissioners for Canada and the medical services attached thereto.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was agreed to unanimously.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Dunning,

That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair (the Assembly to go into the Committee of Supply).

In amendment thereto, it was moved by Mr. Turner, seconded by Mr. Gordon (Souris),

That all the words after "That" be struck out and the following substituted therefor:

"In the opinion of this Assembly, the Public Revenues Tax should be reduced from two mills in the dollar to one and one-half mills in the dollar."

The debate continuing, and the question being put on the said amendment, it was negatived on the following division:

YEAS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|---------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Harvey | McDonald (S. Qu'Appelle) | Bingham |
| Salkeld | Meikle | Gordon (Souris) |
| Pascoe | Cockburn | Cummings—11 |
| Turner | Agar | |

NAYS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|------------|
| Robinson | Nolin | Smith |
| Pickel | Uhrich | Gamble |
| Garry | Gardiner | Hagarty |
| McNab | Finlayson | Lewis |
| Cross | Paulson | Shortreed |
| Dunning | Johnston | Therres |
| Latta | Sahlmark | Dodds |
| Hamilton | Parker | Hall |
| Clinch | Ketcheson | Jones |
| Baker | Gordon (Lloydminster) | Hogan |
| Ramsland (Mrs.) | Taylor | McNiven |
| McKinnon | McDonald (Pr. Albert) | Patterson |
| Wilson | Hindle | Hyde |
| Dunbar | Gemmell | Bennett—42 |

The question being put on the main motion, it was agreed to.

The Assembly, accordingly, again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

Progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Assembly then adjourned at 11.30 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1925.

Mr. Warren asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. McNab:—

- (1) Does the Department of Public Works ask for tenders for the different kinds of supplies required for the public institutions under its control?

Answer: Yes, with certain exceptions. For the Home for Infirm—the Industrial School for Boys and Provincial Jails, tenders are asked for. At the Mental Hospitals goods are purchased from travellers' samples at the institutions by competent officials.

- (2) In the matter of clothing and boots and shoes, at what periods are these tenders called for?

Answer: When required. No stated period.

- (3) When were the last tenders called for, in what manner were they called, and give the tenders received for clothing and boots and shoes?

Answer: December 9, 1924. The following wholesale firms were asked to quote, submitting samples: Robinson, Little & Co., Winnipeg; Greenshields, Limited, Montreal; Gaults, Limited, Winnipeg; R. Forbes, Limited, Hespeler, Ontario; Mark Fisher, Sons & Company, Montreal; Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers, Regina. Boots and shoes bought from samples.

- (4) If tenders are not called for, what procedure is followed as regards clothing and boots and shoes?

Answer: See answer to question one.

- (5) Are the articles mentioned bought strictly wholesale or from the manufacturers' direct representatives?

Answer: Yes.

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Cross, seconded by Mr. Finlayson, That, in the opinion of this Assembly, the Government of Saskatchewan should continue to urge upon the Government of Canada the advisability of recommending to the Parliament of Canada the enactment of necessary supplementary legislation to confer on the Provinces power to regulate the sale of shares of Dominion companies, or that such other action be taken as will ensure the regulation of the sale of such shares.

A debate arising, and the question being put; it was agreed to unanimously.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Dunning, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Latta,

Ordered, That, on and after today, when the Assembly adjourns it do stand adjourned until 11 o'clock a.m. of the next day, and so on from day to day, including Saturdays; and if the business of the Assembly be not concluded at 1 o'clock p.m., Mr. Speaker do leave the Chair until 3 o'clock p.m.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting:—

- Bill No. 33—An Act to amend The City Act.
- Bill No. 37—An Act to amend The Arrears of Taxes Act.
- Bill No. 39—An Act respecting the Town of Broadview.
- Bill No. 50—An Act to amend The Open Wells Act.
- Bill No. 53—An Act to amend The School Assessment Act.
- Bill No. 54—An Act to amend The Subdivisions Act.
- Bill No. 55—An Act to amend The Stray Animals Act.
- Bill No. 57—An Act to provide for Remission of Penalties upon Unpaid Taxes under Certain Conditions.
- Bill No. 51—An Act to amend The Venereal Diseases Act.
- Bill No. 52—An Act to amend The Benevolent Societies Act.
- Bill No. 48—An Act to amend The Local Government Board (Special Powers) Act, 1922.
- Bill No. 49—An Act to amend The Conditional Sales Act.
- Bill No. 47—An Act respecting the Manufacture and Sale of Bread.
- Bill No. 56—An Act respecting the Town of Battleford and the Public and Separate School Districts of Battleford.
- Bill No. 58—An Act respecting the Engineering Profession.

By leave of the Assembly, the Order "Introduction of Bills" was reverted to.

Leave to introduce the same, without notice, having been granted, the following Bill was received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

- Bill No. 61—An Act to amend An Act respecting The Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, Limited.
- Mr. Maharg, Second reading Friday next.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 12—An Act to provide for the Regulation and Sale of Alcoholic Liquors, on which progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Assembly then adjourned at 6.20 o'clock p.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1925.

11 o'clock a.m.

The Order being read for the introduction by Mr. McDonald (South Qu'Appelle) of a Bill to amend The Railway Taxation Act (No. 2), the said Bill was, by leave of the Assembly, withdrawn.

Leave to introduce the same, without notice, having been granted, the following Bill was received, read the first time and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 62—An Act to amend The Drainage Act.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner, Second reading at next sitting.

Mr. Turner asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Cross:—

- (1) How many cases of homicide were reported to the police in Saskatchewan as having occurred in Saskatchewan during the years 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923 and 1924?

Answer: 1919.....18
1920.....26
1921.....18
1922.....21
1923.....19
1924.....16

- (2) In how many cases in each of the same years were accused persons tried and convicted for the offence?

Answer: 1919..... 6
1920.....17
1921..... 5
1922..... 6
1923..... 9
1924..... 4

- (3) In how many cases in each of the same years were persons accused but not convicted?

Answer: 1919..... 9
1920..... 9
1921.....13
1922.....14
1923..... 7
1924..... 7

- (4) In how many cases in each of the same years was no one brought to trial?

Answer: 1919..... 3
1920.....none
1921.....none
1922..... 1
1923..... 3
1924..... 5

Note: Homicide is defined by Section 250 of The Criminal Code as the killing of a human being by another directly or indirectly, by any means whatsoever.

It may be interesting and not unimportant to explain why the twelve cases referred to in question four were not brought to trial. The details of these cases are:

1919. Of the three cases in this year two offenders committed suicide after committing murder. In the third case no prosecution was instituted on account of insufficient evidence.
1922. The offender is believed to have committed suicide by drowning.
1923. In one case the coroner's jury found a verdict of accidental death. In another case the body of an unknown man was found in a straw stack which was destroyed by fire. No evidence could be ascertained to warrant a prosecution. In the third case an attendant at the mental hospital, Weyburn, was killed by an insane patient.
1924. Of the five cases in this year, three of the offenders committed suicide after committing murder. In another case—one of Infanticide—the mother and child both died. In the fifth case the Chief Constable of the Town of Assiniboia, where the offence occurred, reports that the suspected offender, name unknown, has not been located up to the present time.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 56—An Act respecting the Town of Battleford and the Public and Separate School Districts of Battleford, which was reported without amendment, read a third time and passed.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 58—An Act respecting the Engineering Profession, and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:—

The following Bills were severally reported without amendment, read a third time and passed:

Bill No. 48—An Act to amend The Local Government Board (Special Powers) Act, 1922.

Bill No. 49—An Act to amend The Conditional Sales Act.

Bill No. 39—An Act respecting the Town of Broadview.

Bill No. 54—An Act to amend The Subdivisions Act.

Bill No. 51—An Act to amend The Venereal Diseases Act.

Bill No. 52—An Act to amend The Benevolent Societies Act.

The following Bills were severally reported with amendment, considered as amended, and ordered for third reading at next sitting:

Bill No. 8—An Act to amend The Land Titles Act.

Bill No. 12—An Act to provide for the Regulation and Sale of Alcoholic Liquors.

Bill No. 1—An Act respecting Threshers' Liens.

Bill No. 36—An Act to amend The Rural Municipality Act.

Bill No. 45—An Act to amend The Game Act.

Bill No. 33—An Act to amend The City Act.

Bill No. 50—An Act to amend The Open Wells Act.

Bill No. 53—An Act to amend The School Assessment Act.

Bill No. 55—An Act to amend The Stray Animals Act.

On the following Bill progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again:

Bill No. 47—An Act respecting the Manufacture and Sale of Bread.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 44—An Act to amend The Agricultural Co-operative Associations Act, 1924, and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

According to Order, Bill No. 59—An Act to amend The Mechanics' Lien Act, was read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

By leave of the Assembly, Bill No. 60—An Act to amend The Companies Act, was read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

The Hon. Mr. Dunning, a member of the Executive Council, laid before the Assembly:—

Annual Report of the Local Government Board for the year ending December 31, 1924. *(Sessional Paper No. 34.)*

By leave of the Assembly, the Order "Introduction of Bills" was reverted to.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted, the following Bill was received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:—

Bill No. 63—An Act to amend The Legislative Assembly Act.

Mr. McDonald (South Qu'Appelle), Second reading at next sitting.

Moved by Mr. Pickel, seconded by Mr. McDonald (Prince Albert),

That this Legislature is of opinion that the equalisation of freight rates throughout Canada is impossible without statutory provisions for maximum rates in those parts of Canada in which freight rates are not controlled by competitive water transportation rates; and further:

That the Government of Saskatchewan should continue its efforts to insure such statutory provisions and also the equalisation of rates affecting different points within the province.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was agreed to unanimously.

On motion of Mrs. Ramsland, seconded by Mr. Garry,

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Assembly, the Parliament of Canada should enact a Divorce Law for Canada granting equal rights and privileges to husbands and wives with respect to the causes or acts which entitle them to remedy by way of divorce.

The Assembly, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

Friday, January 16, 1925.

(In the Committee)

Resolved, That there be granted to His Majesty for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1926, the following sums:—

| | |
|---|---------------|
| 1. For Legislation | \$ 162,160.00 |
| 2. For Executive Council | 72,392.00 |
| 3. For Attorney General—Administration | 66,540.00 |
| 4. For Attorney General—Courts and Judicial Districts | 106,638.00 |
| 5. For Attorney General—Criminal Investigations | 139,000.00 |
| 6. For Attorney General—Police | 430,704.00 |
| 7. For Attorney General—Registration of Land Titles | 314,348.00 |
| 8. For Attorney General—Miscellaneous Services | 11,500.00 |
| 9. For Provincial Secretary | 91,110.00 |
| 10. For Treasury—Administration | 87,160.00 |
| 11. For Treasury—Audit | 30,570.00 |
| 12. For Treasury—Public Debt | 2,634,478.00 |
| 13. For Treasury—Farm Loans | 609,000.00 |
| 14. For Treasury—Miscellaneous (Chargeable to Revenue) | 195,800.00 |
| 15. For Treasury—Miscellaneous (Chargeable to Capital) | 500,000.00 |

being:

To provide for advances
to the Saskatchewan
Farm Loan Board for
the purpose of making
loans to agriculturists . . \$ 500,000.00

| | |
|---|-----------|
| 16. For Public Works (Chargeable to Revenue)— Administration | 18,890.00 |
| 17. For Public Works (Chargeable to Revenue)— Lieutenant Governor's Office | 7,563.00 |

| | |
|---|----------------|
| 18. For Public Works (Chargeable to Revenue)— Public Buildings and Institutions (Main- tenance and Administration)..... | \$1,138,604.00 |
| 19. For Public Works (Chargeable to Revenue)— Miscellaneous Services..... | 57,500.00 |
| 20. For Public Works (Chargeable to Capital)— Public Buildings—Construction..... | 53,000.00 |
| 21. For Highways—Administration..... | 36,130.00 |
| 22. For Highways—Public Improvements (Charge- able to Revenue)..... | 1,138,702.00 |
| 23. For Highways—Public Improvements (Charge- able to Capital)..... | 906,000.00 |
| 24. For Education..... | 3,090,050.00 |
| 25. For Agriculture—Administration..... | 50,186.00 |
| 26. For Agriculture—Assistance to General Agricul- tural Interests..... | 119,200.00 |
| 27. For Agriculture—Assistance to Live Stock Industry..... | 57,500.00 |
| 28. For Agriculture—Assistance to Dairy Industry | 35,000.00 |
| 29. For Agriculture—Publicity and Statistical Work | 14,200.00 |
| 30. For Agriculture—Improvement and Protection of Field Crops..... | 45,000.00 |
| 31. For Agriculture—Game Protection and Museum | 40,500.00 |
| 32. For Agriculture—Co-operation and Markets.... | 17,200.00 |
| 33. For Agriculture—Debt Adjustment Bureau.... | 13,800.00 |
| 34. For Agriculture—Administration of The Agricul- tural Aids Act..... | 61,500.00 |

being:

| | | |
|---|--------------|------------|
| To provide for the pur- chase and sale of live stock..... | \$ 35,000.00 | |
| To provide for assistance to agricultural enter- prises generally as authorised by the Lieu- tenant Governor in Council..... | 15,000.00 | |
| Estimated amount re- quired for interest charges (to be reim- bursed)..... | 11,500.00 | |
| 35. For Municipal..... | | 107,460.00 |
| 36. For Local Government Board..... | | 29,425.00 |
| 37. For Public Health..... | | 501,620.00 |
| 38. For Bureau of Labour and Industries..... | | 88,150.00 |
| 39. For Bureau of Child Protection..... | | 343,430.00 |
| 40. For Insurance..... | | 13,480.00 |
| 41. For King's Printer..... | | 30,160.00 |

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|--|--------------|
| 42. For Bureau of Publications..... | \$ 57,300.00 |
| 43. For Civil Service Commissioner's Office..... | 6,850.00 |
| 44. For Railway Department..... | 1,500.00 |
| 45. For Telephones (Chargeable to Revenue)..... | 19,100.00 |
| 46. For Telephones (Chargeable to Capital)..... | 70,000.00 |
| 47. For Telephones (Chargeable to Telephone Revenue)..... | 2,000,000.00 |

The said Resolutions were reported, and, by leave of the Assembly, read twice and agreed to, and the Committee given leave to sit again at next sitting.

The Assembly then adjourned at 1.30 o'clock a.m.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

REGINA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 1925.

11 o'clock a.m.

Mr. Sahlmark, from the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Printing, presented the first report of the said Committee, which is as follows:—

Your Committee met for organisation and appointed Mr. Sahlmark as its Chairman.

Your Committee has had under consideration the question of the printing of any of the Sessional Papers and Debates of this Session, and have agreed to recommend to the Assembly—

- (1) That the following Sessional Papers be printed:
 - (a) Synopsis of the Annual Report of the Local Government Board, 1924. (Sessional Paper No. 34);
- (2) That the following be published with the Sessional Papers:
 - (a) Budget Speech of the Hon. Mr. Dunning, the Hon. Mr. Latta, the Hon. Mr. Uhrich, Mr. Harris Turner and Mr. D. H. McDonald;
 - (b) Speech of the Hon. Mr. Cross, Hon. Mr. Dunning and Mr. Harris Turner on Second Reading of Bill No. 12—An Act to provide for the Regulation and Sale of Alcoholic Liquors;
 - (c) Speech of the Hon. Mr. Gardiner *re* Natural Resources.
- (3) That 450 copies of the Journals and 5,000 copies of the Sessional Papers be printed.

By leave of the Assembly,

On motion of Mr. Sahlmark, seconded by Mr. Turner,

Ordered, That the first report of the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Printing be now concurred in.

The Order being read for the introduction by Mr. Hindle of a Bill to authorise Horace Woodbridge Smith to Practice Medicine in the Province of Saskatchewan, the said Bill was, by leave of the Assembly, withdrawn.

The Hon. Mr. Gardiner, a member of the Executive Council, presented:—

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated January 13, 1925, showing:

All correspondence, reports and recommendations from Road Superintendents, Municipal Authorities, or any other persons, relating to the improvement of a slough on the road allowance west of section 13, township 18, range 23, west of the 2nd meridian.

(*Sessional Paper No. 35.*)

Mr. Patterson, asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. McNab:—

- (1) What was the total number of patients in the following institutions on December 31, 1924:

- (a) The Battleford and Weyburn Mental Hospitals;
- (b) The Home for Infirm, Wolseley?

Answer: (a) Battleford 711, Weyburn 802.
 (b) Home for Infirm 80.

- (2) What was the number of boys in the Boys' Detention Home, Regina, on December 31, 1924?

Answer: 54.

- (3) How many Saskatchewan pupils are receiving tuition in
 - (a) The Deaf and Dumb Institute, Winnipeg;
 - (b) The Government School for the Blind, Brantford?

Answer: (a) 47;
 (b) 19.

- (4) What was the total number of neglected and dependent children under the supervision of the Bureau of Child Protection on December 31, 1924:

- (a) In Children's Shelters, Orphanages and Institutions;
- (b) In private homes?

Answer: (a) 95;
 (b) 2,162.

- (5) How many children under the supervision of the Bureau of Child Protection have been adopted under the provisions of The Adoption of Children Act, 1922?

Answer: 180.

The Order of the Day being read for the third reading of Bill No. 8—An Act to amend The Land Titles Act;

It was moved by Mr. Ketcheson, and ordered,

That the said Bill No. 8 be not now read a third time but be now referred back to a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of reconsidering clause 5.

The Assembly, accordingly, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 8—An Act to amend The Land Titles Act, on which progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

According to Order, the following Bills were severally read the third time and passed:—

Bill No. 12—An Act to provide for the Regulation and Sale of Alcoholic Liquors.

Bill No. 1—An Act respecting Threshers' Liens.

Bill No. 36—An Act to amend The Rural Municipality Act.

Bill No. 45—An Act to amend The Game Act.

Bill No. 33—An Act to amend The City Act.

Bill No. 50—An Act to amend The Open Wells Act.

Bill No. 53—An Act to amend The School Assessment Act.

Bill No. 55—An Act to amend The Stray Animals Act.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee)

No. 1. Resolved, That towards making good the Supply granted to His Majesty on account of certain expenses of the Public Service for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1925, the sum of five hundred and four thousand and seven dollars be granted out of the Consolidated Fund.

No. 2. Resolved, That towards making good the Supply granted to His Majesty on account of certain expenses of the Public Service for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1926, the sum of thirteen million six hundred and twenty thousand four hundred dollars be granted out of the Consolidated Fund.

No. 3. Resolved, That towards making good the Supply granted to His Majesty on account of certain expenses of the Public Service for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1926, the sum of two million dollars be granted out of the Telephone Revenue of the Province.

The said Resolutions were reported, read twice and agreed to.

Leave having been granted, the Hon. Mr. Dunning presented Bill No. 64—An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the Public Service of the Fiscal Years ending respectively, the Thirtieth day of April, 1925, and the Thirtieth day of April, 1926.

The said Bill was received and read the first time.

By leave of the Assembly, and under Rule 53, the said Bill was then read a second and third time, and passed.

According to Order, Bill No. 61—An Act to amend An Act respecting The Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, Limited, was read the second time; and (by leave of the Assembly) referred to a Committee of the Whole; considered in Committee; reported with amendment; considered as amended; and ordered for third reading today.

According to Order, Mr. McDonald (South Qu'Appelle), moved, That Bill No. 63—An Act to amend The Legislative Assembly Act, be now read a second time.

A debate arising, in amendment thereto, it was moved by Mr. Patterson, seconded by Mr. Bennett,

That the word "now" be struck out and the words "this day six months" added at the end of the question.

The question being put on the said amendment, it was agreed to on the following division:

YEAS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Robinson | Uhrich | Gamble |
| Pickel | Gardiner | Hagarty |
| Garry | Finlayson | Lewis |
| McNab | Paulson | Steele |
| Cross | Johnston | Shortreed |
| Dunning | Sahlmark | Therres |
| Latta | Parker | Dodds |
| Hamilton | Ketcheson | Sykes |
| Clinch | Taylor | Jones |
| Baker | McDonald (Pr. Albert) | McNiven |
| Ramsland (Mrs.) | Spence | Patterson |
| McKinnon | Hermanson | Hyde |
| Halvorson | Hindle | Salkeld |
| Wilson | Gemmell | Pascoe |
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| | | Gordon (Souris)—46 |

NAYS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|----------|
| McDonald (South Qu'Appelle) | Meikle | Warren—3 |
|--------------------------------|--------|----------|

The question being put on the main motion, as amended, it was agreed to.

By leave of the Assembly, the Order "Government Orders" was reverted to.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the undermentioned Bills:—

The following Bills were severally reported without amendment, read a third time and passed:

Bill No. 59—An Act to amend The Mechanics' Lien Act.

Bill No. 60—An Act to amend The Companies Act.

The following Bills were severally reported with amendment, considered as amended, read a third time and passed:

Bill No. 23—An Act to amend and Consolidate the Law relating to Insurance.

Bill No. 37—An Act to amend The Arrears of Taxes Act.

Bill No. 47—An Act respecting the Manufacture and Sale of Bread.

Bill No. 57—An Act to provide for Remission of Penalties upon Unpaid Taxes under Certain Conditions.

Bill No. 8—An Act to amend The Land Titles Act.

By leave of the Assembly, Bill No. 62—An Act to amend The Drainage Act, was read the second time; referred to a Committee of the Whole; considered in Committee; reported without amendment; read a third time and passed.

According to Order, Bill No. 61—An Act to amend An Act respecting The Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, Limited, was read the third time and passed.

4.40 o'clock p.m.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, having entered the Chamber, took his seat upon the Throne.

Mr. Speaker addressed His Honour:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

This Legislative Assembly at its present Session passed several Bills, which, in the name of the Assembly, I present to Your Honour, and to which Bills I respectfully request Your Honour's Assent.

The Clerk of the Assembly then read the titles of the Bills that had been passed severally as follows:—

An Act respecting Threshers' Liens.

An Act to amend The Thresher Employees Act.

An Act respecting the Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths.

An Act to amend The Land Titles Act.

An Act to provide for the Regulation and Sale of Alcoholic Liquors.

An Act to amend and Consolidate the Law relating to Insurance.

An Act to confirm Certain Assessments and Taxation for the Purposes of the North Point School District No. 543 of Saskatchewan.

An Act to amend The City Act.

An Act to amend The Town Act.

An Act to amend The Village Act.

An Act to amend The Rural Municipality Act.

An Act to amend The Arrears of Taxes Act.

An Act to amend The Wild Lands Tax Act.

An Act respecting the Town of Broadview.

An Act enabling Municipalities to grant Relief in Certain Cases.

An Act to amend The School Act.

An Act to amend The Game Act, 1924.

An Act to amend The Public Revenues Act.

An Act respecting the Manufacture and Sale of Bread.

An Act to amend The Local Government Board (Special Powers) Act, 1922.

An Act to amend The Conditional Sales Act.

An Act to amend The Open Wells Act.

- An Act to amend The Venereal Diseases Act.
- An Act to amend The Benevolent Societies Act.
- An Act to amend The School Assessment Act.
- An Act to amend The Subdivisions Act.
- An Act to amend The Stray Animals Act.
- An Act respecting the Town of Battleford and the Public and Separate School Districts of Battleford.
- An Act to provide for Remission of Penalties upon Unpaid Taxes under Certain Conditions.
- An Act to amend The Mechanics' Lien Act.
- An Act to amend The Companies Act.
- An Act to amend An Act respecting The Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, Limited.
- An Act to amend The Drainage Act.

The Royal Assent to these Bills was announced by the Clerk:—

In His Majesty's name, His Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth Assent to these Bills.

Mr. Speaker then said:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

This Legislative Assembly has voted the Supplies required to enable the Government to defray the expenses of the Public Service. In the name of the Assembly I present to Your Honour the following Bill:—

“An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the Public Service of the Fiscal Years ending respectively, the Thirtieth day of April, 1925, and the Thirtieth day of April, 1926,” to which Bill I respectfully request Your Honour's Assent.

The Royal Assent to this Bill was announced by the Clerk:

In His Majesty's name, His Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth thank the Legislative Assembly, accepts their benevolence and Assents to this Bill.

His Honour then delivered the following Speech:—

MR. SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:

Having accomplished the purposes for which you were called together, it is my duty to relieve you from further attendance at the present Session of the Legislative Assembly. The result of your deliberations will, I am sure, prove of great benefit to our people.

You have again passed legislation dealing with the liquor question and it is a pleasure for me to note the care you have given to the framing and disposal of this important measure. I sincerely hope that your efforts in this regard may be successful.

Your labours in connection with the revision and consolidation of the laws relating to Insurance and Public Health, I am sure, will be appreciated by all who have charge of or who may be affected by the administration of these Acts.

Much other useful legislation has been placed on the statute books and a perusal of these enactments clearly indicates your efforts to meet changing conditions and current problems.

A portion of your time was occupied in the discussion of a number of matters of great importance to our people, but of Federal jurisdiction. The adoption of resolutions dealing with these will, I am sure, meet with the approval of the citizens of Saskatchewan. My Government will lose no time in presenting your views thus expressed to the proper Federal authorities.

I thank you for the provision you have made to meet the requirements of the public service and assure you that the sums of money voted will be used economically and efficiently.

In taking leave of you I desire to thank you for the manner in which you have devoted your energy to all of the legislation to which you have given attention during the Session and to wish for each of you the full blessing of Providence as you return again to your respective homes.

The Hon. Mr. Uhrich, Provincial Secretary, then said:—

MR. SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:

It is the will and pleasure of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor that this Legislative Assembly be prorogued until it pleases His Honour to summon the same for the dispatch of business, and the Legislative Assembly is accordingly prorogued.

GEO. A. SCOTT,
Speaker.

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TO
JOURNALS

SESSION 1924-25

FIFTH SESSION, FIFTH LEGISLATURE
Province of Saskatchewan

ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1 R.—First Reading. | Com.—Committee of Whole or Select Standing or Special Committee. |
| 2 R.—Second Reading. | S.O.C.—Committee on Standing Orders. |
| 3 R.—Third Reading. | S.P.—Sessional Paper. |
| P.—Passed. | |
| A.—Assent. | |

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Fifth Session of the Fifth

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

OF THE

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

SESSION 1924-25

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



REGINA:

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SESSIONAL PAPER NO. 34.

SYNOPSIS OF REPORT OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD OF SASKATCHEWAN.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1924.

REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN, *January 9, 1925.*

THE HONOURABLE C. A. DUNNING,
President of the Executive Council,
Regina, Saskatchewan.

SIR,—The growing confidence of investors in the securities of Saskatchewan's municipalities, school districts and rural telephone companies is a striking feature of the experience of the Local Government Board during the calendar year just closed. The prices paid for them compare favourably with those obtained during any period in the last decade. A review of the past year indicated clearly a steady improvement in municipal conditions generally. Heavy instalments of debenture indebtedness have been readily met, and the aggregate of Saskatchewan's municipal, school and rural telephone debts has been substantially reduced. During the last two years not a single municipality has joined the small number which were brought under "The Local Government Board (Special Powers) Act, 1922," as a result of failure to promptly meet debenture coupons. This improved and happier state is reflected in the prices offered for municipal, school and rural telephone securities. As an instance may be mentioned the sale of the City of Regina debentures to the extent of one hundred and eighty thousand dollars (\$180,000.00) in November last, which brought better prices than had been obtained since before the beginning of the great war. The actual cost to the city for the money thus borrowed was only 5.14%. The competition for the purchase of debentures issued by Saskatchewan's local authorities has been keen.

Crop failures in certain scattered areas have sometimes resulted in the inability of a rural school district to promptly meet a debenture coupon as it fell due. But cases of the kind, when examined only serve to reveal the fact that twenty (20) square miles of agricultural lands (being the usual area of a rural school district) is more than ample security for the greatest amount which any rural school has been allowed to borrow by way of debenture, and that ultimately there is no danger of loss to the investor, although any delay in securing prompt payment of a matured coupon is undoubtedly aggravating, and each case is far from beneficial in its result. It may be added that while in rural school districts the limit of debenture borrowing is ten per centum, in no instance has the Local Government Board allowed a school district to issue debentures for an amount anywhere near the limit of its borrowing powers.

Generally, the applications coming before the Local Government Board last year showed more care in their preparation and indicated clearly that the officials of local authorities were giving more thought to the future and to the seriousness of creating debts which would be a burden on their people for years to come. Caution of this kind is an encouraging omen for the future welfare of our municipalities, school districts and rural telephone companies.

As already intimated, no recent default on the part of towns has occurred, and the following statement relative to those that were brought under the order of the Board may be of interest.

An order for the readjustment of the finances of the Town of Scott was made in the year 1916. For two years the payments required by the new debentures were made, but subsequently the order proved too onerous for the resources of the town, and a second investigation was conducted, resulting in a report by the Local Government Board containing certain recommendations, which, so far as the Board is aware, have not yet been considered by the creditors.

Champagne School District No. 2255, which includes the Town of Scott, has been able to meet all the requirements of the Board's order made respecting it, and its finances are now in a satisfactory state. The final payment of its debenture indebtedness falls due in 1926, and there appears to be no doubt but that the last debenture coupon will be promptly redeemed.

The Town of Watrous has carried out the terms of the Board's order adjusting its finances, and it is not expected that it will experience difficulty in continuing so to do. It will thus be seen that where the Board's order is not too rigorous the municipality has met its revised obligations.

An order respecting St. Paul's Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 20, re-organising its finances, and consolidating and refunding its debt, was made on May 10, 1917, and, up to the present, this order has been complied with. The district is now in a sound financial condition, and on November 18 last the trustees were released, and the securities held by them were duly returned to the school district.

A report under "The Local Government Board (Special Powers) Act, 1922," was made respecting the affairs of the town of Sutherland. This town, on account of its peculiar geographical position, presents difficulties which will be hard to overcome. The Board, however, made certain recommendations which it has learned are not wholly acceptable to the bondholders. Negotiations are pending which may lead to an amicable conclusion during the year.

Unfavourable geographical position is also a factor in increasing the difficulties of the Town of Battleford, Battleford Protestant Public School District No. 71 and St. Vitals of Battleford Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 11, and complicates the solution of their problem. At the mutual request of these local authorities and their creditors, an order was made relative to an agreement whereby their affairs were placed in the hands of trustees who endeavoured to adjust

their finances. Finding it impossible to make successful progress in this direction, the trustees subsequently gave up the attempt and resigned their trusteeship; whereupon the Board held a second inquiry at the request of the majority of the bondholders. A report on the situation was held in due course, completing the Local Government Board's connection with this particular case.

An order was made respecting the Town of Humboldt in December, 1923. It was not regarded with favour by the bondholders, by whom an unsuccessful attempt was made to upset it during the year. The proceedings attempted for the purpose included an appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada. The steps thus taken by the protesting parties caused delays in the settlement of the finances of the town, so that even at this time the readjusting order has not been given practical effect.

On June 7, 1921, an order was made with a view to adjusting the finances of Humboldt School District No. 1529. Its terms, however, were so burdensome that the said school district, notwithstanding its best efforts, has been unable to comply with them, which fact must result in some further readjustment.

During the closing month of the year the Town of Melville and Melville School District No. 2187 came to a mutual agreement with their creditors as to the terms of repayment of their indebtedness. This agreement was ratified by the legislature on December 19 last. These local authorities are now placed on a basis where their citizens feel confident that the annual fixed charges can be met, and that a condition of default in the future will be avoided. By the arrangement Melville School District No. 2187 is cleared up to January 1, 1924, of any indebtedness to that date.

No order has been made respecting the Town of Canora. Judging from the progress made by this local authority in reducing its indebtedness, the necessity of an order seems highly improbable. It is expected that in the near future not one of its debenture coupons will be in arrears.

Canora School District No. 1152 has no overdue debenture indebtedness, and generally its financial condition is satisfactory.

From the foregoing, it will be seen that the municipality and school debenture situation in Saskatchewan has a more hopeful and settled outlook than has obtained during the last decade.

Under the terms of The Local Government Board Act, an advisory committee, consisting of two members, to be appointed annually, one by the executive of the provincial organisation representing rural municipalities and the other by the executive of provincial organisation representing urban municipalities, confers with the Local Government Board from time to time concerning matters of general interest in relation to the carrying out of this act. The representative appointed by the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities is its president, Mr. T. H. Moffett, and the representative chosen by the Union of Saskatchewan Municipalities (Urban) is Mr. G. F. Blair, K.C., solicitor

for the City of Regina. During the year the committee discussed with the Board several items of vital interest to the cities, towns, villages, rural municipalities, school districts, rural telephone companies and hospital districts. Following are extracts from the minutes of the last meeting of the advisory committee, when the two members referred to above, along with the three members of the Local Government Board, convened:—

“A discussion introduced by Mr. Moffett, relative to the undertaking of capital indebtedness by rural telephone companies, opened the conference. Mr. Moffett reiterated his opinion as to the genuine benefit accruing from the long standing rule of the Local Government Board to the effect that any rural telephone company desiring to issue debentures for extensions should not have more than 15% of the parcels assessable by it in arrears of taxes. As a municipal secretary-treasurer, he had learned how the said rule had been of assistance in collections. It was explained that, even in the case of internal extensions, or where the proposed improvement affected lands already taxed, the Board desired information as to the tax arrears, even if the rule mentioned above did not apply in such cases. The members of the Local Government Board agreed that the residence of the operator should be a charge on current account, rather than purchased by the proceeds of debentures. As an instance of this, it was pointed out that, in the school act, legislation was necessary to allow debentures to be issued for the teacher's residence.

“The care necessarily exercised in selecting investments for sinking funds was the next topic. Only the choicest securities had been approved by the Local Government Board for investments of the kind, as it was thought to be highly desirable that there should be not the slightest delay in meeting the debenture coupons concerned when sent by the sinking fund authorities for collection. Those local authorities which had behind them ample security, but which might not promptly meet each instalment of the debenture at its maturity, were debarred.

“At this point reference was made to the Board's annual report for the year 1923, to show that the investments made by Regina Sinking Fund Trustees averaged 6.075% throughout the year; by Saskatoon 5.32%; by Moose Jaw Sinking Fund Trustees 6.09%, while some of the smaller urban centres, as for instances:—the towns of Rosetown and Biggar had averaged 6.8%. Regina Public School District's Sinking Funds, which are managed by the Local Government Board, had investments which averaged 6.69%, although in each case the rate required by law to be raised is only 4%. The fact that, of a sum in excess of seven millions of dollars approved for sinking fund investments, there were less than ten thousand dollars reported to be in arrears at the end of the year, and that these arrears have such security behind them that there was no doubt as to their ultimate payment, was recalled with gratification.

“Attention was here called to sections 353 of The City Act and 307 of The Town Act, which allow cities and towns respectively to use surplus earnings of the sinking fund over and above the required 4%. It

was explained that this legislation was somewhat unique, and had not been enacted for general application to any class of municipalities in other provinces. The convenience to cities and towns when they were allowed to place in current account at least a portion of such excess earnings was referred to at length. Such withdrawals from the sinking funds are made subject to the approval of the Local Government Board, and the policy of the latter is consistently to have a substantial surplus reserve in the sinking fund in each case, no matter how strong the financial position of the municipality may be.

“The situation in the Town of Humboldt, including the appeals to the courts to have the Board’s order set aside, was then reviewed. The policy of the Local Government Board in its effort to have the town pay to the limit of its ability was set out. The other urban municipalities (less than a dozen in number) which had defaulted in meeting their debenture instalments, and had required action under “The Local Government Board (Special Powers) Act,” or special legislation, was also reviewed. It was demonstrated that, in no case, was the Board’s order too easy on the defaulting municipalities, but that in the case of the Town of Scott the conditions imposed were too onerous, as shown by that town’s struggles and subsequent failure to meet the terms of the order.

“The Union Hospital Act with its failure to be taken advantage of to a greater degree was the next subject for comment, and the deductions derived therefrom were very similar to those of the last meeting of the committee, that is to say, it appeared generally to the members thereof, and particularly to the representative of the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities, that small hospitals with smaller areas supporting them would be more generally acceptable, and would be more likely to carry out the original idea of the legislation. Although the original Act had been passed more than eight years ago, and amendments had been made since to meet the changes desired, only twelve union hospitals under such legislation now exist, and these were not all new buildings. The effect on doctors who might not be sufficiently near a hospital to make use of it for their patients was referred to as a reason in some instances for its unpopularity. While the hospitals might be more modest in construction and appointments than the present requirements, yet they should offer facilities greater than can be found in the homes from which the patients come, if they are to be of service. However, it is generally conceded that one of the main factors in preventing the building of more union hospitals is the disinclination on the part of rural areas to incur capital indebtedness. More than one instance was given where the project was defeated by the votes of the rural areas of the hospital district, whereas the hospital was heartily endorsed by the urban centre concerned, which was to have the new building erected within its borders.

“The last topic taken up by the committee was The Sale of Shares Act, and the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada to the effect that companies holding Dominion charters were not subject to the restrictions of a provincial sale of shares act. This condition allows any

company, no matter how flimsy its assets, but who might hold a Dominion charter, to offer for sale its shares within the province. Companies who could not secure a certificate from the Local Government Board to sell shares in Saskatchewan took advantage of this state of affairs, and instances were cited showing that, as a result of bright prospects pointed out by fluent salesmen, people were being practically robbed of their savings. The members of the advisory committee were unanimous in a proposal to urge upon the Attorney General of Saskatchewan the desirability of asking the Federal authorities to so amend the Dominion Companies' law that the provinces could control the selling of shares within their respective borders. It was decided to make known to the Attorney General the attitude of the advisory committee in this regard."

AUTHORISATION OF THE ISSUE OF DEBENTURES.

Applications for permission to issue debentures were attended by increasing indication of the desire of local authorities to limit this class of borrowing to as great an extent as possible. It is a gratifying circumstance that the addition to the debenture indebtedness of municipal and quasi-municipal bodies of the province is comparatively small for the year.

Cities.

41 applications, as per schedule "A", were received from cities for permission to issue debentures, to the amount of \$810,292.84. Reductions amounting to \$36,804.59 were made, and authorisations granted aggregating \$773,488.25, classified as follows:

| | Number of Authorisations | Amount |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Concrete sidewalks | 6 | \$ 46,509.45 |
| Boulevards | 1 | 6,292.00 |
| Plank sidewalks | 5 | 46,225.28 |
| Street paving | 2 | 155,598.83 |
| Street railways | 3 | 9,250.00 |
| Storm sewers | 2 | 50,370.00 |
| Sewer extensions | 4 | 17,740.44 |
| Water extensions | 4 | 20,022.92 |
| House sewer connections..... | 3 | 27,055.37 |
| House water connections..... | 3 | 34,469.63 |
| Water meters | 1 | 5,000.00 |
| Electric light extensions..... | 4 | 252,500.00 |
| Gravelling streets | 1 | 14,850.00 |
| Collegiate Institute | 1 | 22,000.00 |
| Arrears of taxes..... | 1 | 65,604.33 |
| | <hr/> 41 | <hr/> \$773,488.25 |

During the same period last year 26 authorisations were granted, totalling \$571,415.18.

Towns.

Schedule "B" relates to authorisations granted to towns. 11 applications were received, totalling \$88,600.00. A reduction of \$800.00 was made in one; one of \$1,200.00 was refused, and authorisations granted for \$86,600.00, which is a decrease as compared with 1923, of 7 in number of applications, and \$60,922.46 in amount.

The authorisations were granted for the following purposes:

| | Number of Authorisations | Amount |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Electric light | 4 | \$ 44,100.00 |
| Fire equipment | 1 | 4,000.00 |
| Waterworks | 1 | 4,500.00 |
| Sewerage | 1 | 21,000.00 |
| Concrete walks | 1 | 10,000.00 |
| Plank walks | 1 | 2,000.00 |
| Drainage | 1 | 1,000.00 |
| | <hr/> 10 | <hr/> \$ 86,600.00 |

Villages.

Schedule "C" is a list of authorisations granted to villages. It shows 26 applications aggregating \$50,450.00. Of these, 3 amounting to \$8,200.00 were refused. Reductions totalling \$1,000.00 were made in 4, and 23 were granted as follows:

| | Number of Authorisations | Amount |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Electric light | 1 | \$ 4,800.00 |
| Plank walks | 5 | 3,750.00 |
| Fire protection | 5 | 10,600.00 |
| Water supply | 1 | 300.00 |
| Purchasing land | 2 | 5,000.00 |
| Concrete walks | 3 | 7,100.00 |
| Cemetery | 1 | 600.00 |
| Street grading | 3 | 2,100.00 |
| Skating and curling rink..... | 1 | 5,500.00 |
| Municipal hall | 1 | 1,500.00 |
| | <hr/> 23 | <hr/> \$ 41,250.00 |

In 1923, 12 authorisations, amounting to \$24,950.00, were granted.

Rural Municipalities.

Only 3 applications were received from municipalities, aggregating \$16,940.00, all of which were granted.

Details respecting them are given in Schedule "D."

School Districts.

Debenture applications for school purposes for 1924 show a considerable reduction as compared with the preceding year. This may be largely accounted for by the fact that in 1924 a comparatively small number of new districts were erected.

The following is a summary of the debentures applied for, for the purposes set out therein, full particulars being given in Schedule "E".

| | 1924 | | | | 1923 | | | |
|---|-------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|-------|-------------|------------------------|-----------|
| | No. | Amount | Defeated by ratepayers | | No. | Amount | Defeated by ratepayers | |
| | | | No. | Amount | | | No. | Amount |
| New schools | 112 | \$421,600 | 21 | \$ 95,500 | 145 | \$ 831,381 | 13 | \$ 48,825 |
| Additions and stables..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | 6,700 | ..... | ..... |
| New schools and teachers' residences..... | 2 | 7,600 | ..... | ..... | 4 | 17,800 | ..... | ..... |
| Additions and teachers' residences..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 1,200 | ..... | ..... |
| Additions to buildings..... | 25 | 100,400 | 3 | 23,500 | 29 | 97,900 | 4 | 6,750 |
| Teachers' residences | 9 | 7,900 | ..... | ..... | 17 | 16,600 | 6 | 5,900 |
| Alterations to schools..... | 23 | 34,200 | ..... | ..... | 25 | 33,965 | 2 | 2,500 |
| New schools and stables..... | 8 | 25,400 | 2 | 6,000 | 10 | 51,500 | 2 | 4,500 |
| Moving schools ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 700 | ..... | ..... |
| New heating plants..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | 6,000 | ..... | ..... |
| Heating plant and equipment..... | 1 | 4,000 | 1 | 4,000 | 1 | 550 | ..... | ..... |
| Alterations to buildings and stables..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 1,000 | ..... | ..... |
| School equipment | 1 | 500 | ..... | ..... | 4 | 7,300 | ..... | ..... |
| Addition and heating plant..... | 1 | 3,500 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Barn and closets | 1 | 600 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Sanitary system | 1 | 1,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| School and vans | 1 | 17,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Alterations and equipment..... | 1 | 2,000 | 1 | 2,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Less defeated by ratepayers..... | 186 | \$625,700 | 28 | \$131,000 | 242 | \$1,072,596 | 27 | \$ 68,475 |
| | 28 | 131,000 | | | 27 | 68,475 | | |
| | 158 | \$494,700 | | | 165 | \$1,004,121 | | |

Of the 1924 applications, 7 amounting to \$22,350.00 were refused. Reductions amounting to \$16,125.00 were made in 20. 3 amounting to \$14,600.00 are still pending, and 176 aggregating \$572,625.00 were authorised

Rural Telephone Companies.

The falling off in applications from rural telephone companies so pronounced in 1923 has continued in 1924.

The same reasons given for this condition last year still prevail. That is, the greater part of the province is being served by the companies already in existence, and the major portion of the debentures are being issued only for making extensions to existing systems.

Following is a table showing debentures authorised in 1924, as compared with the previous year. Full details are given in Schedule "F."

| | 1924 | | | | 1923 | | | |
|--|-------------------|----------|---------------------|----------|-------------------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|
| | Applica- tions | | Authorisa- tions | | Applica- tions | | Authorisa- tions | |
| | No. | Amount | No. | Amount | No. | Amount | No. | Amount |
| New companies | 1 | \$16,000 | 1 | \$16,000 | 3 | \$ 21,250 | 3 | \$ 21,250 |
| Extensions to exist- ing companies | 46 | 51,417 | 45 | 48,517 | 60 | 96,608 | 60 | 95,733 |
| Central office build- ings | 4 | 5,800 | 4 | 5,800 | 7 | 4,175 | 7 | 4,175 |
| Automatic phones.... | 1 | 1,300 | 1 | 1,300 | .... | ..... | .... | ..... |
| Central buildings and extensions..... | 2 | 10,000 | 2 | 3,000 | .... | ..... | .... | ..... |
| | 54 | \$84,517 | 53 | \$74,617 | 70 | \$122,033 | 70 | \$121,158 |

SALE OF DEBENTURES.

During the past year debentures have been readily absorbed at prices generally better than those prevailing in 1923. Dealers report that they have found it difficult to obtain a supply sufficient to enable them to meet the requirements of investors.

Of a total of 306 issues of all classes, aggregating \$1,565,520.25, there remains unsold at the end of the year 76, aggregating \$622,421.25.

These are kept from the market for various reasons. In the cases of cities usually their methods of financing enable them to hold with a view of taking advantage of the most opportune time for selling. Smaller urban and rural local authorities having debentures for sale are no doubt holding them until climatic conditions are such as to permit the carrying out of the works for which they were authorised.

The following tables set out the sales of the various classes in each month, with prices realised, and comparison of average prices with those of last year:

| | 1924 | | | | | 1923 | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------------|--------------|
| | Number of issues sold | Amount | Highest Interest rate | Lowest interest rate | Average rate | Number of issues sold | Amount | Average rate |
| <i>Cities—</i> | | | | | | | | |
| January | 1 | \$ 6,546.41 | 6.12 | 6.12 | 6.12 | 5 | \$ 840,000.00 | 5.825 |
| February ..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 5 | 1,678.89 | 5.825 |
| March ..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 11 | 389,414.00 | 5.61 |
| May | 11 | 154,860.09 | 7.18 | 5.629 | 5.772 | 3 | 14,000.00 | 5.723 |
| June ..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 26,500.00 | 6.182 |
| July | 11 | 244,200.00 | 6.329 | 5.82 | 6.023 | 2 | 78,947.00 | 6 |
| November | 2 | 7,325.00 | 5.75 | 5.75 | ..... | .. | ..... | ..... |
| | 25 | \$ 412,931.50 | | | | 28 | \$1,360,539.89 | |
| <i>Towns—</i> | | | | | | | | |
| January ..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | \$ 6,000.00 | 8 |
| February | 2 | \$ 33,000.00 | 7.308 | 7 | 7.114 | 2 | 3,750.00 | 7.826 |
| March | 1 | 6,000.00 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 2 | 13,950.00 | 8 |
| April | 1 | 33,000.00 | 6.422 | 6.422 | 6.422 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| May ..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 4 | 37,500.00 | 6.495 |
| June ..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 4 | 55,500.00 | 6.473 |
| July ..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 1,000.00 | 7.321 |
| August | 1 | 10,000.00 | 7.104 | 7.104 | 7.104 | 1 | 3,000.00 | 6.966 |
| September | 1 | 25,500.00 | 6.50 | 6.50 | 6.50 | 5 | 51,122.00 | 7.058 |
| November | 2 | 6,500.00 | 7.75 | 7 | 7.461 | 2 | 10,500.00 | 6.891 |
| December | 2 | 7,300.00 | 7 | 6 | 6.616 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| | 10 | \$ 121,300.00 | | | | 23 | \$ 182,322.00 | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----|--------------|-------|-------|-------|----|---------------|-------|
| <i>Villages—</i> | | | | | | | | |
| January | 1 | \$ 1,800.00 | 7.786 | 7.786 | 7.786 | 1 | \$ 1,100.00 | 8 |
| February | 1 | 4,800.00 | 7.701 | 7.701 | 7.701 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| April | 2 | 2,000.00 | 8. | 7.329 | 7.496 | 1 | 2,000.00 | 7.50 |
| June | 3 | 3,900.00 | 7.375 | 7. | 7.095 | 2 | 2,000.00 | 7.958 |
| July | 3 | 6,600.00 | 7.696 | 7 | 7.124 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| August | 1 | 1,000.00 | 7.125 | 7.125 | 7.125 | 1 | 1,800.00 | 7.50 |
| September ..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 5 | 10,500.00 | 7.555 |
| October ..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 2,500.00 | 7.399 |
| November ..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 3,000.00 | 7.476 |
| December | 4 | 8 550.00 | 7.50 | 7 | 7.228 | 1 | ..... | ..... |
| | 15 | \$ 28,650.00 | | | | 12 | \$ 22,900.00 | |
| <i>Rural Municipalities—</i> | | | | | | | | |
| February | 1 | \$ 2,600.00 | 6.25 | 6.25 | 6.25 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| April ..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | \$ 10,000.00 | 7.248 |
| July ..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 2,000.00 | 6.50 |
| December ..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 14,000.00 | 6.50 |
| | 1 | \$ 2,600.00 | | | | 3 | \$ 26,000.00 | |
| <i>Rural Telephone Companies—</i> | | | | | | | | |
| January | 8 | \$ 17,492.00 | 8 | 6.50 | 7.216 | 5 | \$ 18,275.00 | 7.687 |
| February | 6 | 11,116.00 | 7.721 | 6.20 | 6.538 | 4 | 10,675.00 | 7.477 |
| March | 6 | 3,325.00 | 8 | 6.25 | 6.816 | 5 | 5,750.00 | 7.264 |
| April | 2 | 3,350.00 | 7 | 6.904 | 6.934 | 2 | 15,600.00 | 7.50 |
| May | 3 | 2,850.00 | 7.267 | 6 | 6.775 | 4 | 5,825.00 | 6.780 |
| June | 5 | 7,500.00 | 8 | 6.441 | 6.398 | 2 | 950.00 | 7.587 |
| July | 5 | 19,700.00 | 7 | 6.332 | 6.487 | 1 | 1,500.00 | 7.50 |
| August | 6 | 9,100.00 | 6.930 | 6.118 | 6.496 | 1 | 300.00 | 6.546 |
| September | 3 | 3,300.00 | 7.50 | 6.50 | 6.809 | 9 | 35,580.00 | 7.008 |
| October | 4 | 2,440.00 | 8 | 6.447 | 6.960 | 8 | 12,475.00 | 6.920 |
| November | 3 | 1,975.00 | 7 | 6.457 | 6.789 | 10 | 17,145.00 | 6.843 |
| December | 2 | 500.00 | 7.715 | 6.50 | 7.228 | 7 | 14,350.00 | 6.652 |
| | 53 | \$ 82,648.00 | | | | 58 | \$ 138,425.00 | |

| | 1924 | | | | | 1923 | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| | Number of issues sold | Amount | Highest Interest rate | Lowest interest rate | Average rate | Number of issues sold | Amount | Average rate |
| <i>Rural and Village Schools—</i> | | | | | | | | |
| January | 4 | \$ 9,600.00 | 7.50 | 6.69 | 6.919 | 5 | \$ 9,400.00 | 7.253 |
| February | 7 | 38,765.00 | 7.926 | 6.221 | 6.466 | 9 | 21,725.00 | 7.209 |
| March | 2 | 5,100.00 | 6.750 | 6.687 | 6.706 | 4 | 8,500.00 | 7.230 |
| April | 9 | 51,100.00 | 7.302 | 6.078 | 6.397 | 14 | 44,650.00 | 7.007 |
| May | 7 | 25,500.00 | 7.169 | 6.25 | 6.768 | 17 | 74,950.00 | 6.757 |
| June | 21 | 68,750.00 | 7 | 6.25 | 6.467 | 21 | 70,450.00 | 6.773 |
| July | 22 | 62,350.00 | 8 | 6 | 6.622 | 18 | 89,500.00 | 6.723 |
| August | 22 | 55,700.00 | 7.933 | 6.194 | 6.726 | 27 | 101,800.00 | 6.580 |
| September | 15 | 32,375.00 | 8 | 6.186 | 6.480 | 32 | 126,700.00 | 6.559 |
| October | 11 | 37,450.00 | 7 | 6.421 | 6.590 | 21 | 61,918.00 | 6.710 |
| November | 6 | 19,900.00 | 7.125 | 6.375 | 6.552 | 10 | 31,950.00 | 6.916 |
| December | 6 | 13,900.00 | 6.99 | 6.125 | 6.619 | 14 | 36,150.00 | 6.710 |
| | 132 | \$ 420,490.00 | | | | 192 | \$ 677,693.00 | |
| <i>Town and City Schools—</i> | | | | | | | | |
| January | 2 | \$ 33,300.00 | 6.50 | 6.50 | 6.50 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| March ..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | \$ 12,000.00 | 6 |
| May ..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 15,000.00 | 6.64 |
| June | 2 | 49,000.00 | 6.442 | 6.223 | 6.330 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| July | 1 | 20,000.00 | 6.445 | 6.445 | 6.445 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| August ..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 7,500.00 | 6.04 |
| September ..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 4 | 54,000.00 | 6.475 |
| November ..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 37,300.00 | 6.625 |
| December ..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 25,000.00 | 6.10 |
| | 5 | \$ 102,300.00 | | | | 9 | \$ 150,800.00 | |
| <i>Union Hospitals—</i> | | | | | | | | |
| January | 1 | \$ 11,000.00 | 6.47 | 6.47 | 6.47 | .. | ..... | ..... |

The greater part of these debentures were originally sold in Saskatchewan, their distribution being as follows:

| | Sas- katchewan dealers | Dealers outside Sask. | Sales direct to Sask. investors | Sales direct to investors outside | Sales direct to Sask. sinking funds |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| Cities | \$ 9,016.50 | \$390,590.00 | \$ 6,000.00 | \$ | \$ 7,325.00 |
| Towns | 29,500.00 | 33,000.00 | 58,800.00 | ..... | ..... |
| Villages | 18,950.00 | ..... | 7,600.00 | ..... | 2,100.00 |
| Rural munic- ipalities ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2,600.00 |
| Union hospital | 11,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Rural telephone companies .. | 53,889.00 | ..... | 15,075.00 | ..... | 13,684.00 |
| Rural and vil- lage schools.. | 306,690.00 | ..... | 38,900.00 | 23,900.00 | 51,000.00 |
| Town and city schools | 102,300.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| | \$531,345.50 | \$423,590.00 | \$126,375.00 | \$ 23,900.00 | \$ 76,709.00 |

In addition to the foregoing the Board has ascertained that the following debentures have been resold by original purchasers, mostly located in Eastern Canada, to Saskatchewan investors:

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Rural telephone companies..... | 48 issues, amounting to | \$228,940.67 |
| Rural school districts..... | 6 issues, amounting to | 26,582.61 |
| Total..... | 54 issues amounting to | \$255,523.28 |

and it is possible that further transactions of this nature of which the Board has no record have taken place.

SINKING FUNDS.

Except in the case of the larger cities, the policy of the Board has been to discourage, as far as possible, the issue of debentures repayable by the sinking fund plan, believing that it is to the advantage of smaller municipalities that they arrange their capital borrowings in such manner as to provide for the extinction of their debenture debts from year to year, rather than to allow them to accumulate to the end of the term, thereby necessitating the creation of sinking funds for their redemption in the investment of which a great deal of care and experience is required, to say nothing of the responsibilities incidental to their management and maintenance.

Sinking funds are being maintained by all of the seven cities, and towns of Francis, Indian Head, Melfort, Sutherland, Melville, Duck Lake, Biggar, Rosetown, Arcola and Battleford. and the Saskatoon and Regina School Districts.

In the year 1924 the Board approved or 183 investments, aggregating \$1,767,919.65, classified as follows:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Dominion of Canada bonds | \$ 1,000.00 |
| Province of Saskatchewan bonds..... | 1,142,029.42 |
| Province of Alberta bonds..... | 14,575.00 |
| Province of British Columbia bonds..... | 17,154.90 |
| Province of Ontario bonds..... | 24,897.50 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 234,485.46 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures..... | 320,777.37 |
| Saskatchewan rural municipality debentures..... | 2,600.00 |
| Saskatchewan village debentures..... | 2,100.00 |
| Saskatchewan city debentures..... | 8,300.00 |
| | <u>\$1,767,919.65</u> |

In 1923, 167 investments were approved, aggregating \$1,195,016.91. The following statements show in detail the investments made in 1924 by each local authority, the interest return and the average yield:

| Nature of investment | No. of approvals | Face value | Purchase value | Interest yield |
|--|------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| <i>City of Regina—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures..... | 39 | \$148,631.02 | \$155,412.87 | 6.25 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures..... | 1 | 4,334.27 | 4,374.19 | 6.50 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures..... | 4 | 13,282.57 | 14,263.60 | } 6.125 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures..... | 20 | 129,490.68 | 141,256.73 | |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 28 | 81,680.13 | 83,939.40 | 6.25 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 13 | 53,200.00 | 54,646.27 | 6.125 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5% bonds, 1944..... | 1 | 150,000.00 | 145,125.00 | 5.27 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 4½% bonds, 1944..... | 2 | 113,000.00 | 106,785.00 | 4.95 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5% farm loan bonds, 1954..... | 3 | 125,000.00 | 120,300.00 | 5.25 |
| | 111 | \$818,618.67 | \$826,103.06 | average 5.732 |
| <i>City of Saskatoon—</i> | | | | |
| Province of Ontario 6% bonds, 1941..... | 1 | \$ 23,000.00 | \$ 24,897.50 | 5.27 |
| Province of British Columbia 6% bonds, 1941..... | 1 | 5,000.00 | 5,300.00 | 5.40 |
| Province of British Columbia 6% bonds, 1946..... | 1 | 1,000.00 | 1,077.00 | 5.41 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5½% bonds, 1946..... | 2 | 22,500.00 | 23,216.00 | 5.25 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 6% bonds, 1940..... | 1 | 6,000.00 | 6,420.00 | 5.36 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5% bonds, 1944..... | 1 | 423,000.00 | 410,310.00 | 5.22 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5% bonds, 1954..... | 1 | 125,000.00 | 120,300.00 | 5.25 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 4½% bonds, 1944..... | 1 | 14,000.00 | 13,370.00 | 4.85 |
| | 9 | \$619,500.00 | \$604,890.50 | average 5.223 |
| <i>City of Moose Jaw—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 1 | \$ 20,000.00 | \$ 20,207.80 | 6.125 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 2 | 12,491.10 | 13,243.55 | 6.250 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 1 | 9,215.56 | 9,889.59 | 6 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 1 | 800.00 | 825.88 | 6.50 |
| Province of Alberta 5% bonds, 1943..... | 1 | 15,000.00 | 13,575.00 | 5.26 |

| Nature of investment | No. of approvals | Face value | Purchase value | Interest yield |
|---|------------------|--------------|----------------|------------------|
| <i>City of Moose Jaw—(Continued)—</i> | | | | |
| Province of Saskatchewan drainage debentures..... | 1 | 2,000.00 | 2,147.78 | 5.45 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5% bonds, 1954..... | 1 | 12,000.00 | 12,000.00 | 5 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5½% bonds, 1946..... | 1 | 28,000.00 | 29,106.00 | 5.20 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 6% bonds, 1940..... | 4 | 19,000.00 | 20,958.52 | 5.315 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 6% bonds, 1936..... | 5 | 42,500.00 | 44,607.33 | 5.317 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 6% bonds, 1938..... | 1 | 4,000.00 | 4,294.80 | 5.25 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5% bonds, 1944..... | 1 | 5,000.00 | 4,925.00 | 5.125 |
| City of Moose Jaw debentures..... | 2 | 7,325.00 | 7,325.00 | 5.75 |
| | 22 | \$177,331.66 | \$183,106.25 | average 5.482 |
| <i>City of Weyburn—</i> | | | | |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5% bonds, 1954..... | 1 | \$ 33,600.00 | \$ 32,336.64 | 5.24 |
| <i>City of North Battleford—</i> | | | | |
| Province of British Columbia 6% bonds, 1941..... | 1 | 10,000.00 | 10,777.90 | 5.30 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 4½% bonds, 1944..... | 1 | 17,000.00 | 16,235.00 | 4.85 |
| | 2 | \$ 27,000.00 | \$ 27,012.90 | average 5.029 |
| <i>Town of Melfort—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan rural municipality debentures..... | 1 | \$ 2,600.00 | \$ 2,600.00 | 6.25 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 1 | 600.00 | 600.00 | 6.50 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 2 | 5,000.00 | 5,000.00 | 6.75 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 1 | 1,000.00 | 1,005.00 | 6.633 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures..... | 1 | 1,125.00 | 1,134.98 | 6.554 |
| | 6 | \$ 10,325.00 | \$ 10,339.98 | average 6.576 |

| | | | | |
|---|---|-------------|-------------|------------------|
| <i>Town of Biggar—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures..... | 1 | \$ 1,300.00 | \$ 1,300.00 | 6.25 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 1 | 1,500.00 | 1,500.00 | 6.50 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 1 | 600.00 | 600.00 | 7 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 1 | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 | 6.125 |
| | 4 | \$ 5,400.00 | \$ 5,400.00 | average 6.353 |
| <i>Town of Rosetown—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 1 | \$ 1,200.00 | \$ 1,200.00 | 6.50 |
| <i>Town of Davidson—</i> | | | | |
| Dominion of Canada 5% bonds, 1943..... | 1 | \$ 1,000.00 | \$ 1,000.00 | 4.99 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5% bonds, 1954..... | 1 | 500.00 | 500.00 | 5 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 4½% bonds, 1944..... | 1 | 500.00 | 477.35 | 4.85 |
| Province of Alberta 5% bonds, 1943..... | 1 | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 | 5 |
| City of Regina debentures..... | 1 | 1,000.00 | 975.00 | 5.13 |
| | 5 | \$ 4,000.00 | \$ 3,952.35 | average 5.011 |
| <i>Town of Duck Lake—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures..... | 1 | \$ 200.00 | \$ 200.00 | 6.75 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures..... | 1 | 425.00 | 425.00 | 7 |
| | 2 | \$ 625.00 | \$ 625.00 | average 6.92 |
| <i>Regina Public School District No. 4—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 4 | \$ 6,400.00 | \$ 6,400.00 | 6.50 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 1 | 1,200.00 | 1,204.96 | 6.445 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 2 | 2,100.00 | 2,100.00 | 6.75 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 1 | 17,000.00 | 17,566.95 | 6.046 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 1 | 1,000.00 | 1,020.00 | 6.056 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 1 | 2,700.00 | 2,709.96 | 6.441 |

| Nature of investment | No. of approvals | Face value | Purchase value | Interest yield |
|---|------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| <i>Regina Public School District No. 4—(Continued)—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 1 | 1,650.00 | 1,650.00 | 6.25 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 1 | 3,450.00 | 3,467.28 | 6.189 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 1 | 1,000.00 | 1,005.96 | 6.460 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 1 | 2,700.00 | 2,704.86 | 6.180 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures..... | 1 | 450.00 | 450.00 | 7 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures..... | 1 | 750.00 | 750.00 | 6.75 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures..... | 1 | 1,200.00 | 1,210.00 | 6.31 |
| Saskatchewan villages debentures..... | 1 | 600.00 | 600.00 | 7.375 |
| Saskatchewan villages debentures..... | 1 | 1,500.00 | 1,500.00 | 7 |
| | 19 | \$ 43,700.00 | \$ 44,337.97 | average 6.299 |
| <i>Saskatoon School District No. 13—</i> | | | | |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5% bonds, 1944..... | 1 | \$ 29,500.00 | \$ 28,615.00 | 5.287 |
| RECAPITULATION | | | | |
| City of Regina..... | 111 | \$ 818,618.67 | \$ 826,103.06 | 5.732 |
| City of Saskatoon..... | 9 | 619,500.00 | 604,890.50 | 5.203 |
| City of Moose Jaw..... | 22 | 177,331.66 | 183,106.25 | 5.482 |
| City of Weyburn..... | 1 | 33,600.00 | 32,336.64 | 5.24 |
| City of North Battleford..... | 2 | 27,000.00 | 27,012.90 | 5.029 |
| *Town of Melfort..... | 6 | 10,325.00 | 10,339.98 | 6.576 |
| *Town of Biggar..... | 4 | 5,400.00 | 5,400.00 | 6.353 |
| *Town of Rosetown..... | 1 | 1,200.00 | 1,200.00 | 6.50 |
| Town of Davidson..... | 5 | 4,000.00 | 3,952.35 | 5.011 |
| *Town of Duck Lake..... | 2 | 625.00 | 625.00 | 6.29 |
| *Regina Public School District No. 4..... | 19 | 43,700.00 | 44,337.97 | 6.299 |
| Saskatoon School District No. 13..... | 1 | 29,500.00 | 28,615.00 | 5.287 |
| | 183 | \$1,770,800.33 | \$1,767,919.65 | |

*Administered by the Local Government Board.

DISPOSITION OF SURPLUS EARNINGS.

Section 353 of The City Act, 330 of The Town Act and 166a of The School Act provide that under certain conditions therein set out, if a local authority received and receives during the current year interest on its sinking fund investments in excess of the rate required by statute, the Local Government Board may on application, and on such terms and conditions as may be deemed advisable, authorise the use of such excess interest for current or other expenditure.

The Board's policy in the exercise of its power in this connection is, to insist that substantial reserves shall be maintained in the various sinking funds, and in no instance has it consented to the appropriation of excess interest to anything approaching the full amount of such excess.

During the year approvals under the above sections have been granted as follows:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| City of Regina..... | \$50,000.00 |
| City of Saskatoon..... | 40,000.00 |
| City of Moose Jaw..... | 30,000.00 |
| Town of Davidson..... | 200.00 |
| Regina Public School District No. 4..... | 10,000.00 |

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD (SPECIAL POWERS)
ACT, 1922.

It is with gratification that the Board reports that no further local authorities have come under the operation of the Local Government Board (Special Powers) Act 1922.

The following orders have been made respecting those already under the operation of this act:

Town of Humboldt—

January 31.....Approving estimates for 1924.
Fixing tax rate for 1924 for Humboldt High School.
Fixing tax rate for 1924 for Town of Humboldt.

Humboldt School District No. 1529—

January 31.....Approving estimates for 1924.
Fixing tax rate for 1924.

Town of Melville—

February 20.....Approving estimates for 1924.
February 26.....Revising, altering and finally approving estimates for 1924.
Fixing tax rate for 1924.

Melville School District No. 2187—

February 20.....Fixing tax rate for 1924.

Town of Sutherland—

February 28.....Approving estimates for 1924.
Fixing tax rate for 1924.

Town of Canora—

April 1.....Approving estimates for 1924.
Fixing tax rate for 1924.

Canora School District No. 1152—

April 1.....Approving estimates for 1924.
Fixing tax rate for 1924.

Town of Watrous—

June 24.....Approving estimates for 1924.
Fixing tax rate for 1924.

Watrous School District No. 1334—

June 24.....Approving estimates for 1924.
Fixing tax rate for 1924.

Town of Scott—

August 25.....Approving estimates for 1924.
Fixing tax rate for 1924.

Champagne School District No. 2256—

August 25.....Approving estimates for 1924.
Fixing tax rate for 1924.

St. Paul's Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 20—

November 18.....Releasing Messrs. Wood, Gundy & Company, Limited,
from trusteeship.

Recommendations as set out below have been made to the Lieutenant Governor in Council and to the Master of Titles under section 16 (1), (2), and section 22 of The Local Government Board (Special Powers) Act 1922 for (a) the issue of tax sale titles to land sold at tax sale without payment of school taxes, (b) the remission of supplementary and public revenue taxes on such lands, and, (c) that no fees shall be charged in the land titles office for services in connection with the granting of titles to such lands; and orders were made accordingly as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| Town of Scott..... | June 11 |
| Town of Scott..... | October 16 |
| Town of Battleford..... | November 19 |
| Town of Watrous..... | October 16 |
| Town of Watrous..... | December 24 |
| Town of Canora..... | December 24 |
| Town of Humboldt..... | May 7 |
| Town of Humboldt..... | November 26 |

ASSESSMENT APPEALS.

Appeals against decisions of courts of revision of assessment of municipalities were heard as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| City of Saskatoon..... | April 4 |
| City of North Battleford..... | April 3 |
| Town of Estevan..... | July 3 |
| R. M. of Sherwood No. 159..... | August 7 (<i>Subdivision Act</i>) |
| City of Prince Albert..... | August 14 |
| Town of Bredenbury..... | September 10 |

Decisions were given in each case. As the decision respecting the town of Estevan involved a point of law, it is given in full as follows:

“IN THE MATTER OF Appeal from the Court of Revision of the Town of Estevan:

BETWEEN: Canadian Pacific Railway Company, Appellant,

—and—

Town of Estevan, Respondent.

C. H. A. Powlett for the appellant,
A. J. O'Connor for the respondent.

Regina, July 31, 1924

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD:—Subsection (1) of section 392 of The Town Act, as enacted by section 13 of the Statutes of 1924, which provides for the method of assessment, now reads as follows:

“(1) Land shall be assessed at its fair actual value and buildings and improvements thereon at not more than 60 per cent of their actual value, but in case the value at which any specified land has been assessed appears to be more or less than its fair actual value, the amount of the assessment shall nevertheless not be varied on appeal if the value at which it is assessed bears a fair and just proportion to the value at which other lands in the municipality are assessed.”

At the opening of the case counsel for the town, by way of preliminary objection, contended that as the appellant had not appealed on the ground that the land in appeal did not bear a fair and just proportion to the value at which other lands in the municipality were assessed, that the appellant was now precluded from endeavouring to show that the land in appeal was not assessed at its fair actual value.

The Board over-ruled the objection and proceeded to hear evidence submitted with the object of ascertaining the “fair actual value” of the land, the assessment of which was in dispute, and announced its intention of more carefully considering the objection raised at a later time.

A careful study of the provisions of The Town Act dealing with assessment of land leads to but one conclusion, that “land shall be assessed at its fair actual value.” This is the basis of assessment as provided by the Act.

The question then arises as to whether or not the appellate tribunal, dealing with matters of assessment, is to be precluded from reviewing the work of the town assessor in his efforts in arriving at what constitutes fair actual value, once it is admitted that the assessed value of the land in appeal “bears a fair and just proportion to the value at which other lands in the municipality are assessed.” The provision referred to is clear, that the assessment shall not be varied when the assessment throughout the municipality is proportionate, but this does not preclude the taking of evidence as to the actual value of the land. The Board has, therefore, come to the conclusion that the objection raised by counsel for the town was properly over-ruled.

A more serious matter then presents itself for decision, and that is, that if on enquiry the Board finds that the basis of assessment being "fair actual value" has been ignored, is the Board then precluded from varying the assessment when the lands in appeal have been proportionately assessed to other lands in the municipality? The Board has reached the conclusion that, being satisfied that the basis of assessment has been ignored, it should vary the assessment to an amount which will represent the fair actual value of the land as truly as such may be ascertained, but before reaching such conclusion and varying the assessment the evidence submitted and the information gained by inspection should be of such a nature as to conclusively show that the true basis of assessment has not been followed, and this appears to the Board to be in effect what the legislature intended when enacting the latter portion of section 392 of The Town Act.

The section in question is very similar to the provision of The Improvement Districts Act, Alberta, which was interpreted in the case of *In re The Improvement Districts Act and Canadian Pacific Railway Company Assessment* (1924) 1 W.W.R., 513. The Court, after reviewing the more recent decisions, came to the conclusion that the dominant provision of the section was that directing land to be assessed at its "fair actual value"; and that the other provisions of the section rest on the assumption that the assessment has been made on that basis and are subservient to it.

Subsection (3) of section 417 of The Town Act makes provision for inspection by the Board as follows:

"(3) The Board may inspect the property whose assessed value is in dispute and any other properties in the municipality with a view to arriving at the value for assessment purposes, and may base its decision wholly or in part upon such inspection."

The Board duly made such inspection and observed that at numerous places tunnels had been driven into the earth in order that coal might be obtained. Mining was carried on throughout the entire district. According to reports filed and other evidence submitted, together with information gained on inspection, the Board has come to the conclusion that the townsite of Estevan has coal strata underlying it, and the Board so finds.

According to subsection (11) of section 2 of The Town Act, "land" is defined as follows:

"11. 'Land' includes lands, tenements and hereditaments and any estate or interests therein, or right or easement affecting the same; and

- (a) Land covered with water;
- (b) Trees and underwood growing upon land;
- (c) Mines, minerals, gas, oil, salt, quarries and fossils in and under the land; and

- (d) In case of a special franchise, machinery, fixtures, buildings, structures and other things existing, erected or placed upon, in, over or under or affixed to land or any highway, road, street, lane or public place or water, but not the rolling stock of a railway or street railway."

It therefore is the duty of the town assessor to endeavour to arrive at the value of these coal deposits, difficult as the task may appear.

In examining the evidence produced by the appellant, Mr. Nowers on cross-examination said:

Q. 33. Are you aware that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company reserve all the mineral rights?

A. As a general thing they do.

Q. 34. Did you take this into consideration in these valuations?

A. No.

Q. 35. In none of these properties?

A. No. I just valued the surface.

Q. 36. You say you just took the surface and did not take into consideration the mineral rights?

A. I did not take the mineral rights into consideration.

Q. 37. Were you instructed that they owned the mineral rights?

A. No, I was not.

Mr. Milner said:

Q. 76. In valuing these lands, did you take into consideration at all any mineral values that might be found?

A. No. Just the surface value.

None of the witnesses for the appellant in arriving at their values took into consideration anything but the surface rights. Under these circumstances, their evidence is of no assistance to the Board in endeavouring to arrive at the value of the land, as the Act is clear that it shall include minerals.

According to the evidence of Mr. Moore, freehold coal is estimated to be worth from $\frac{3}{4}c$ to $1c$ per ton, and that 100 tons is estimated per inch per acre, and that his company is working a seam of coal $11\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick. A seam of coal 10 feet thick at $1c$ per ton would mean \$120.00 per acre for mining rights alone. One can readily understand the added value to these lands figured on this basis.

The evidence indicates that the appellant company sells its surface rights to the land but reserves the mineral rights, and allows the coal to be removed on a royalty basis, varying from $5c$ to $10c$ per ton.

The assessor in making the assessment has taken into consideration the value of the minerals as part of the "land", and such assess-

ment is, *prima facie*, presumed to be correct, and the onus of showing the same incorrect is upon the appellant. Re Canadian Northern Railway Company and Omemeé School District, 4 W.L.R., 547. There being no evidence before the Board to shift the onus of proof, and the assessment roll, with the inspection made by the Board, showing that the assessment on the land in appeal bears a fair and just proportion to the value at which other lands in the municipality are assessed, the appeal is dismissed in so far as it affects acreage.

In dealing with the individual lots in appeal scattered throughout the town, the Board is of the opinion that, notwithstanding the fact that there exists an underlying strata of coal, this fact in itself adds little, if any value to such individual lots, as the probability or feasibility of mining the coal underlying such individual lots is so remote that one can scarcely place a value upon its present worth. However, as the evidence is very conflicting, the Board, after making an inspection, pursuant to subsection (3) of section 417 of The Town Act, has fixed the assessment as indicated in the schedule hereto attached.

The appeal is allowed as to the lots enumerated in such schedule, and fixed at the amounts indicated in the column designated as "Assessment fixed by The Local Government Board." The appeal on lots in Blocks 102 and 104 is dismissed, as well as on all other properties not herein specifically reduced.

Success being divided, there will be no order as to costs.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD,

(Sgd.) GEORGE A. BELL,

Chairman."

SALE OF SHARES.

Owing to the fact that for the purpose of escaping the supervision of the Board provided for by The Sale of Shares Act, some companies are, following the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada in Ruthenian Farmers' Elevator Company v. Lukey et al. obtaining charters under The Dominion Companies Act, and fewer applications have been made to the Local Government Board than usual.

The following applications have been received during the year:

| File No. | Name of company | Head office | Authorised capital | Certificate granted | Certificate refused | Amount of certificate |
|----------|---|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 9177 | Sask. General Trusts Corporation..... | Regina | \$1,000,000.00 | May 14 | ..... | \$25,000.00 |
| 9342 | West End Grocers, Ltd..... | Moose Jaw..... | 40,000.00 | June 23 | ..... | 16,000.00 |
| 9343 | Blue Ribbon Milling Co..... | Ponteix | 30,000.00 | Pending | ..... | ..... |
| 9344 | Consolidated Coal Mines Ltd..... | Estevan | 150,000.00 | ..... | April 26 | ..... |
| 9345 | Great West Finance Co., Ltd..... | Saskatoon | 170,000.00 | May 13 | ..... | 50,000.00 |
| 9346 | Ford Baking Co., Ltd..... | Swift Current. | 50,000.00 | Pending | ..... | ..... |
| 9347 | Big Lump Coal Co., Ltd..... | Estevan | 50,000.00 | May 10 | ..... | 20,000.00 |
| 9348 | Saskatoon Brick Co..... | Saskatoon | 60,000.00 | Pending | ..... | ..... |
| 9349 | Sunrise Milling Co., Ltd..... | Biggar | 25,000.00 | Oct. 13 | ..... | 15,000.00 |
| 9350 | Wonder Plow Co., Ltd..... | Regina | 20,000.00 | Pending | ..... | ..... |
| 9351 | Citizens' Rink Co., Ltd..... | Swift Current. | 20,000.00 | Oct. 6 | ..... | 15,000.00 |
| 9352 | Duke Price Power Co., Ltd..... | Quebec ..... | ..... | Pending | ..... | ..... |
| 9353 | Western Petrifying Products Co., Ltd..... | Saskatoon | 50,000.00 | Pending | ..... | ..... |
| 9354 | Northern Refineries, Ltd..... | Moose Jaw..... | 150,000.00 | Pending | ..... | ..... |
| 9355 | Kelliher Silver Fox Co., Ltd..... | Kelliher | 25,000.00 | Pending | ..... | ..... |

Certificates Revoked.

| File No. | Name of company | Date of revocation |
|----------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 9297 | Edson Petroleum Company..... | March 12 |
| 9311 | Central Canadian Securities..... | November 6 |
| 9315 | Medalta Stoneware Limited..... | February 5 |
| 9327 | Rosetown Flour Mills Limited..... | August 26 |

The following is a list of certificates in force as at December 31, 1924:

| File No. | Name of company | Capitalisation | Amount |
|----------|---|----------------|-----------------|
| 9107 | Debenture Co. of Canada..... | \$ 500,000.00 | \$ 150,000.00 |
| 9113 | International Loan Co..... | 500,000.00 | 100,000.00 |
| 9115 | Agricultural Insurance Co..... | 500,000.00 | 500,000.00 |
| 9129 | Commercial Life Insurance Co.... | 2,000,000.00 | 2,000,000.00 |
| 9157 | British Western Trust Co..... | 1,000,000.00 | 500,000.00 |
| 9167 | Sask. Co-operative Creameries..... | 1,000,000.00 | 250,000.00 |
| 9177 | Sask. General Trust Co., per H. G. Wright | 1,000,000.00 | 25,000.00 |
| 9183 | Sask. Co-operative Elevator Co.... | 1,000,000.00 | 571,650.00 |
| 9184 | Hanley Development Co..... | 40,000.00 | 4,000.00 |
| 9189 | United Grain Growers..... | 5,000,000.00 | 100,000.00 |
| 9202 | Southern Sask. Co-operative Stock Yards | 200,000.00 | 155,000.00 |
| 9210 | Western Debenture Co. | 150,000.00 | 50,000.00 |
| 9212 | Northern Sask. Co-operative Stock Yards | 100,000.00 | 100,000.00 |
| 9216 | Regina Industrial Exhibition Co. | 1,650.00 | 25,000.00 bonds |
| 9219 | Yorkton Skating & Curling Rink | 20,000.00 | 20,000.00 |
| 9221 | Regina Silver Black Fox Co..... | 200,000.00 | 100,000.00 |
| 9224 | Weyburn Arena Co..... | 30,000.00 | 30,000.00 |
| 9242 | Pelly Electric Light & Power Co. | 15,000.00 | 10,000.00 |
| 9244 | Scottish Provincial Investment Co. | 200,000.00 | 75,000.00 |
| 9245 | Saskatchewan Creamery Co., of Moose Jaw, Ltd..... | 400,000.00 | 100,000.00 |
| 9253 | Sterling Securities Corp., Ltd..... | 1,000,000.00 | 300,000.00 |
| 9263 | Canadian Co-operative Wool Gr's | 200,000.00 | 30,000.00 |
| 9265 | W. E. Mason Discount Co..... | 250,000.00 | 150,000.00 |
| 9267 | Great Western Garment Co..... | 750,000.00 | 50,000.00 |
| 9271 | Monarch Investment Co..... | 100,000.00 | 100,000.00 |
| 9292 | Sask. Mortgage & Investment Corporation | 2,000,000.00 | 156,350.00 |
| 9298 | Indemnity Agencies | 200,000.00 | 200,000.00 |
| 9312 | Cameron Securities | 50,000.00 | 10,000.00 |
| 9314 | Cowell's New Method Harness Co. | 300,000.00 | 200,000.00 |
| 9317 | Pine River Lumber Co..... | 50,000.00 | 50,000.00 |
| 9318 | Western Homes Ltd..... | 5,000,000.00 | 50,000.00 |
| 9320 | Regina Films Ltd..... | 40,000.00 | 14,900.00 |
| 9321 | P. Burns Company, Ltd..... | 10,000,000.00 | 50,000.00 bonds |
| 9322 | Provincial Gas & Oil Co..... | 150,000.00 | 150,000.00 |
| 9323 | Machinery Manufacturers Ltd..... | 500,000.00 | 30,000.00 |
| 9325 | Farmers' Grain Supply Co..... | 100,000.00 | 25,000.00 |
| 9327 | Rosetown Flour Mills | 20,000.00 | 12,000.00 |
| 9329 | Bay Sulphite Company | 7,642,615.00 | 50,000.00 bonds |
| 9332 | Weyburn Bottling Works..... | 75,000.00 | 21,000.00 |
| 9334 | Belgo-Canadian Paper Co..... | 14,500,000.00 | 81,000.00 bonds |
| 9336 | Scandinavian Silver Fox Co..... | 35,000.00 | 35,000.00 |
| 9340 | Guardian Investment Co..... | 20,000.00 | 20,000.00 |
| 9342 | West End Grocers Ltd..... | 40,000.00 | 16,000.00 |
| 9345 | Great West Finance Co., Ltd..... | 170,000.00 | 50,000.00 |
| 9347 | Big Lump Coal Co. Ltd..... | 50,000.00 | 20,000.00 |
| 9349 | Sunrise Milling Co. Ltd..... | 25,000.00 | 15,000.00 |
| 9351 | Citizens' Rink Co..... | 20,000.00 | 15,000.00 |

THE UNION HOSPITAL ACT.

The following orders were made under The Union Hospital Act:

Vanguard Union Hospital—

| | | |
|----------------|--|------|
| August 14..... | Readjusting proportions of the deficits arising from maintenance and operation to be borne by the co-operating municipalities, as follows: | |
| | R.M. of Glen Bain No. 105..... | 7/15 |
| | R.M. of Whiska Creek No. 106..... | 7/15 |
| | Village of Vanguard..... | 1/15 |

Lashburn Union Hospital—

| | | |
|-------------------|---|-----|
| September 23..... | Fixing proportions of cost of same, \$6,500.00 to be borne by the co-operating municipalities as follows: | |
| | Village of Lashburn..... | 5% |
| | R.M. of Hillsdale No. 440..... | 16% |
| | R.M. of Manitou Lake No. 442..... | 24% |
| | R.M. of Eldon No. 471..... | 23% |
| | R.M. of Walton No. 472..... | 32% |

Wadena Union Hospital—

| | | |
|-------------------|---|--|
| September 24..... | Approving agreement between the Wadena Union Hospital and R.M. of Kelvington No. 336. | |
|-------------------|---|--|

Shaunavon Union Hospital—

| | | |
|-------------------|---|--|
| September 23..... | Approving agreement between the Shaunavon Union Hospital and the Village of South Fork. | |
|-------------------|---|--|

ARREARS OF TAXES ACT.

One municipality, the City of Saskatoon, availed itself of the provisions of The Arrears of Taxes Act respecting capitalisation of arrears of taxes. On February 13 this city was authorised to issue debentures to the amount of \$65,604.33 for the payment of advances against arrears of taxes.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Orders were made:—

Approving change of interest rate in a bylaw of Saskatoon School District No. 13 from 6% to 6½% ;

Approving change of interest rate in bylaws of the City of Moose Jaw Nos. 1134 and 1142 from 6% to 5¾% ;

Extending the time for passing by the Village of East End of a bylaw granting a special franchise to the East End Gas Company ;

Extending the time for passing by the Town of Oxbow of a bylaw No. 163 relating to improvements of the Electric Lighting system.

RECAPITULATION OF SCHEDULES A, B, C, D, E, AND F, TO REPORT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD FOR YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 1924.

| | Total Number of applica- tions | Amount | Number refused | Amount | Number reduced | Amount | Granted and subse- quently cancelled | | Number author- ised | Amount | Number pending | Amount |
|--|--|----------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|---|------------|---------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------|
| | | | | | | | Number | Amount | | | | |
| Cities (Schedule A).. | 41 | \$ 810,292.84 | .. | ..... | 5 | \$36,804.59 | .. | ..... | 41 | \$ 773,488.25 | .. | ..... |
| Towns (Schedule B).. | 11 | 88,600.00 | 1 | \$1,200.00 | 1 | 800.00 | .. | ..... | 10 | 86,600.00 | .. | ..... |
| Villages (Schedule C) | 26 | 50,450.00 | 3 | 8,200.00 | 4 | 1,000.00 | .. | ..... | 23 | 41,250.00 | .. | ..... |
| Rural municipalities (Schedule D) | 3 | 16,940.00 | .. | ..... | .. | ..... | .. | ..... | 3 | 16,940.00 | .. | ..... |
| Schools (Schedule E) | 186 | 625,700.00 | 7 | 22,350.00 | 20 | 16,125.00 | 1 | \$3,600.00 | 176 | 572,625.00 | 3 | \$14,600.00 |
| Rural telephones (Schedule F) | 54 | 84,517.00 | 1 | 2,150.00 | 2 | 7,750.00 | .. | ..... | 53 | 74,617.00 | .. | ..... |
| | 321 | \$1,676,499.84 | 12 | \$33,900.00 | 32 | \$62,479.59 | 1 | \$3,600.00 | 306 | \$1,565,520.25 | 3 | \$14,600.00 |

Schedules E and F not printed

SUMMARY OF AUTHORISATIONS GRANTED FROM JANUARY 1, 1924 TO DECEMBER 31, 1924, AS COMPARED WITH SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

| | 1923 | | 1924 | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| | Number of authorisations | Amount | Number of authorisations | Amount |
| Cities | 41 | \$ 773,488.25 | 26 | \$ 571,410.18 |
| Towns | 10 | 86,600.00 | 17 | 146,922.46 |
| Villages | 23 | 41,250.00 | 12 | 24,950.00 |
| Rural municipalities.... | 3 | 16,940.00 | 2 | 19,459.00 |
| Schools | 176 | 572,625.00 | 233 | 950,758.00 |
| Union hospitals ..... | .... | ..... | 3 | 126,000.00 |
| Rural telephones | 53 | 74,617.00 | 70 | 121,158.00 |
| | 306 | \$1,565,520.25 | 363 | \$1,960,657.64 |

Respectfully submitted,

C. O. DAVIDSON,

Secretary.

SCHEDULE "A"

APPLICATIONS TO BORROW BY WAY OF DEBENTURE FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1924.

CITIES.

| Name | Amount | Purpose of debenture | How disposed of | | | Date debentures sold | |
|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|--------------|----------------------|-------|
| | | | Refused | Reduced | Authorised | | |
| Regina | \$ 5,900.00 | Plank sidewalks ..... | ..... | ..... | \$ 5,900.00 | May 22 | |
| | 5,500.00 | Concrete sidewalks ..... | ..... | ..... | 5,500.00 | May 22 | |
| | 14,700.00 | Street paving ..... | ..... | ..... | 14,700.00 | May 22 | |
| | 26,000.00 | Storm sewers ..... | ..... | ..... | 26,000.00 | May 22 | |
| | 13,500.00 | Sewer main connections ..... | ..... | ..... | 13,500.00 | May 22 | |
| | 14,500.00 | Water main connections ..... | ..... | ..... | 14,500.00 | May 22 | |
| | 24,900.00 | Plank sidewalks ..... | ..... | ..... | 24,900.00 | May 22 | |
| | 9,650.71 | Boulevards ..... | ..... | \$3,358.71 | 6,292.00 | May 22 | |
| | 24,370.00 | Storm sewers ..... | ..... | ..... | 24,370.00 | ..... |  |
| | 22,249.68 | Concrete sidewalks ..... | ..... | 3,981.62 | 18,268.06 | ..... |  |
| | 280.67 | Plank sidewalks ..... | ..... | ..... | 280.67 | ..... |  |
| | 1,356.24 | Sewer house connections..... | ..... | ..... | 1,356.24 | ..... |  |
| | 982.24 | Water main connections ..... | ..... | ..... | 982.24 | ..... |  |
| | 5,970.00 | Water main connections ..... | ..... | ..... | 5,970.00 | ..... |  |
| | 1,700.00 | Sewer house connections ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,700.00 | ..... |  |
| | 4,661.45 | Plank sidewalks ..... | ..... | ..... | 4,661.45 | ..... |  |
| | 831.94 | Concrete sidewalks ..... | ..... | ..... | 831.94 | ..... |  |
| | 140,898.83 | Street paving ..... | ..... | ..... | 140,898.83 | ..... |  |
| | | \$317,951.76 | | | \$7,340.33 | \$310,611.43 | |
| | Moose Jaw..... | \$ 1,555.37 | Sewer house connections | | | \$ 1,555.37 | |
| 1,969.63 | | Water house connections ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,969.63 | ..... |  |
| 150,000.00 | | Electric light extensions ..... | ..... | ..... | 150,000.00 | ..... |  |
| 6,072.00 | | Concrete sidewalks ..... | ..... | ..... | 6,072.00 | ..... |  |
| 1,666.70 | | Cement sidewalks ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,666.70 | ..... |  |
| 594.00 | | Water main extensions ..... | ..... | ..... | 594.00 | ..... |  |
| 644.00 | Sewer main extensions ..... | ..... | ..... | 644.00 | ..... |  |  |
| | \$162,501.70 | | | | \$162,501.70 | | |

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|-------|-------------|--------------|-----------|
| Saskatoon..... | \$ 65,604.33 | Arrears of taxes..... | ..... | ..... | \$ 65,604.33 | ..... |
| | 18,000.00 | Water connections ..... | ..... | ..... | 18,000.00 | ..... |
| | 12,000.00 | Sewer connections ..... | ..... | ..... | 12,000.00 | ..... |
| | 14,170.75 | Concrete sidewalks ..... | ..... | ..... | 14,170.75 | ..... |
| | 10,483.16 | Boulevards ..... | ..... | ..... | 10,483.16 | ..... |
| | 14,850.00 | Gravelling 3rd Ave..... | ..... | ..... | 14,850.00 | ..... |
| | 5,000.00 | Water meters ..... | ..... | ..... | 5,000.00 | ..... |
| | 14,500.00 | Electric light extension..... | ..... | ..... | 14,500.00 | ..... |
| | 3,000.00 | Interlocking plant ..... | ..... | ..... | 3,000.00 | ..... |
| | 2,250.00 | Sand drier and oil storage..... | ..... | ..... | 2,250.00 | ..... |
| | 4,000.00 | Double tracking 9th Ave..... | ..... | ..... | 4,000.00 | ..... |
| | 22,000.00 | Collegiate institute ..... | ..... | ..... | 22,000.00 | ..... |
| | 25,324.60 | Water main extension..... | ..... | \$12,847.92 | 12,476.68 | ..... |
| | 23,656.54 | Sewer main extension..... | ..... | 9,616.34 | 14,040.20 | ..... |
| | \$234,839.38 | | | \$22,464.26 | \$212,375.12 | |
| Prince Albert | \$ 65,000.00 | Electric light extension ..... | ..... | ..... | \$ 65,000.00 | ..... |
| North Battleford..... | \$ 30,000.00 | ..... | ..... | \$ 7,000.00 | \$ 23,000.00 | October 1 |

SUMMARY.

| Application | Amount | Reduced | | Authorised | |
|-------------|--------------|---------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| | | | | | |
| 18 | \$317,951.76 | 2 | \$ 7,340.33 | 18 | \$310,611.43 |
| 7 | 162,501.70 | .. | ..... | 7 | 162,501.70 |
| 14 | 234,839.38 | 2 | 22,464.26 | 14 | 212,375.12 |
| 1 | 65,000.00 | .. | ..... | 1 | 65,000.00 |
| 1 | 30,000.00 | 1 | 7,000.00 | 1 | 23,000.00 |
| 41 | \$810,292.84 | 5 | \$ 36,804.59 | 41 | \$773,488.25 |

SCHEDULE "B"

APPLICATIONS TO BORROW BY WAY OF DEBENTURE FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1924.

TOWNS.

| Name | Amount | Purpose of expenditure | How disposed of | | | Date debentures sold |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------|-----------------------|
| | | | Refused | Reduced | Authorised | |
| Cabri | \$ 2,800.00 | Plank walks ..... | ..... | \$ 800.00 | \$ 2,000.00 | ..... |
| Cabri | 1,200.00 | Street grading | \$1,200.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Cabri | 1,000.00 | Drainage ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,000.00 | ..... |
| Eastend | 4,000.00 | Fire equipment ..... | ..... | ..... | 4,000.00 | Nov. 25 |
| Fleming | 2,800.00 | Electric light ..... | ..... | ..... | 2,800.00 | Dec. 26 |
| Gull Lake | 10,000.00 | Concrete walks ..... | ..... | ..... | 10,000.00 | Aug. 27 |
| Kerrobot | 4,500.00 | Waterworks ..... | ..... | ..... | 4,500.00 | Dec. 16 |
| Oxbow | 2,500.00 | Electric light extension..... | ..... | ..... | 2,500.00 | Nov. 11 |
| Radville | 27,000.00 | Electric light ..... | ..... | ..... | 27,000.00 | Sep. 3 (25,500.00) |
| Shaunavon | 21,000.00 | Sewage disposal works..... | ..... | ..... | 21,000.00 | ..... |
| Wilkie | 11,800.00 | Electric light ..... | ..... | ..... | 11,800.00 | ..... |
| | \$ 88,600.00 | | \$1,200.00 | \$ 800.00 | \$ 86,600.00 | |

SUMMARY.

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| 11 applications..... | \$88,600.00 |
| 10 authorisations | 86,600.00 |
| 1 refused | 1,200.00 |
| 1 reduced | 800.00 |

SCHEDULE "C"

APPLICATIONS TO BORROW BY WAY OF DEBENTURE FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1924.

VILLAGES.

| Name | Amount | Purpose of expenditure | How disposed of | | | Date debentures sold |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|------------|--------------|----------------------|
| | | | Refused | Reduced | Authorised | |
| Hawarden | \$ 4,800.00 | Electric light ..... | ..... | ..... | \$ 4,800.00 | April 5 |
| Vantage | 200.00 | Plank walks ..... | ..... | ..... | 200.00 | June 6 |
| Vantage | 300.00 | Water supply ..... | ..... | ..... | 300.00 | June 6 |
| Ridgedale | 1,500.00 | Fire protection ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,500.00 | ..... |
| Success | 1,500.00 | Recreation grounds ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,500.00 | June 30 |
| St. Brieux | 1,000.00 | Plank walks ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,000.00 | Sept. 16 |
| Kenaston | 2,500.00 | Concrete walks ..... | ..... | \$ 100.00 | 2,400.00 | July 8 |
| Englefeld | 3,200.00 | Electric light | \$3,200.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Lashburn | 2 500.00 | Concrete walks ..... | ..... | 100.00 | 2,400.00 | August 18 |
| Grayson | 900.00 | Fire protection ..... | ..... | ..... | 900.00 | July 22 |
| Kelvington | 600.00 | Cemetery ..... | ..... | ..... | 600.00 | July 25 |
| Birch Hills | 1,600.00 | Fire hall ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,600.00 | July 22 |
| Kisbey | 2,300.00 | Concrete walks ..... | ..... | ..... | 2,300.00 | August 15 |
| Delmas | 800.00 | Street grading ..... | ..... | ..... | 800.00 | Dec. 15 |
| Shellbrook | 5,500.00 | Fire protection ..... | ..... | ..... | 5,500.00 | Dec. 16 |
| Shellbrook | 1,900.00 | Plank walks ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,900.00 | August 20 |
| Mitchellton | 350.00 | Street grading ..... | ..... | ..... | 350.00 | Dec. 16 |
| Mitchellton | 250.00 | Plank walks ..... | ..... | ..... | 250.00 | Dec. 16 |
| Meota | 3 500.00 | Recreation grounds ..... | ..... | ..... | 3,500.00 | ..... |
| Pense | 6,000.00 | Skating and curling rink..... | ..... | 500.00 | 5,500.00 | ..... |
| Wawota | 3,000.00 | Entertainment hall | 3,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Beatty | 2,000.00 | Entertainment hall | 2,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Meyronne | 1,500.00 | Municipal hall ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,500.00 | Dec. 1 |
| Glenavon | 1,250.00 | Street grading ..... | ..... | 300.00 | 950.00 | Dec. 29 |
| Dinsmore | 1,100.00 | Fire protection ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,100.00 | ..... |
| Dinsmore | 400.00 | Plank walks ..... | ..... | ..... | 400.00 | ..... |
| | \$ 50,450.00 | | \$8,200.00 | \$1,000.00 | \$ 41,250.00 | |

SUMMARY.

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| 26 applications..... | \$50,450.00 |
| 23 authorisations | 41,250.00 |
| 3 refused | 8,200.00 |
| 4 reduced | 1,000.00 |

SCHEDULE "D"

APPLICATIONS TO BORROW BY WAY OF DEBENTURE FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1924.

RURAL MUNICIPALITIES.

| Name | Amount | Purpose of expenditure | How disposed of | | | Date debentures sold |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|---------|--------------|----------------------|
| | | | Refused | Reduced | Authorised | |
| Sasman No. 336..... | \$ 7,000.00 | Share in Wadena hospital..... | ..... | ..... | \$ 7,000.00 | ..... |
| Lakeview No. 337..... | 6,440.00 | Share in Wadena hospital..... | ..... | ..... | 6,440.00 | ..... |
| Meota No. 468..... | 3,500.00 | Municipal hall..... | ..... | ..... | 3,500.00 | ..... |
| | \$ 16,940.00 | | | | \$ 16,940.00 | |

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| 3 applications | \$16,940.00 |
| 3 authorisations | 16,940.00 |

Speech delivered by

THE HONOURABLE C. A. DUNNING,
(*Premier and Provincial Treasurer*)

on

THE BUDGET

in the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,

Friday, January 9, 1925.

The Honourable Mr. Dunning, in moving that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair for the Assembly to go into the Committee of Supply, said:

Mr. Speaker,—In moving that you do now leave the Chair for the House to go into the Committee of Supply, I desire, as on previous occasions, to endeavour to make of the Budget a presentation of economic fact both in relation to the people as a whole and to the Government of the province.

REVIEW OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

The 1924 crop season was one of very great anxiety to our people. The cold dry spring and the lack of moisture generally throughout the summer in many of the best producing sections materially reduced the yield of our major crops. I am pleased, however, to note the very great improvement in this regard in the south country where, on the whole, the crops were good and, if anything, above the average both in yield and quality. It is an especial pleasure to refer to these sections of the province in these terms because of the fact often pointed out by the honourable member for Swift Current (*Mr. D. J. Sykes*) that this part of the country has received in the past undesirable publicity, tending to show that a great part of it should not be devoted to agriculture. The results of the past few years, and particularly of the 1924 crop season, in the southern part of the province, south of the main line of the C.P.R., certainly justifies the faith of the people who stuck to it in that part of the country through a number of very difficult years.

In spite of the poor yield in many of our best producing sections, the increases in price, to which I will later refer, materially assisted

towards balancing the general situation. While many farmers undoubtedly did not make progress financially in 1924, I am convinced, after examining a very great deal of material, that the majority of our people continued the slow but steady improvement in their economic condition to which I made reference last year.

The statistics which I have to present have been gathered by the Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Agriculture, through the medium of 1,200 crop correspondents in all parts of the province. The information given by these crop correspondents has been checked against information received through the inspection department of the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada, through the Wheat Pool organisation, through the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, through the railways and through every other organisation which might be expected to be able to contribute the information which would enable the bureau to as accurately as possible determine what had been the results of the year's operations agriculturally.

In this regard I would like to refer to the question raised last session regarding the accuracy of the estimates of the Department of Agriculture. An enquiry was made last session by the Select Standing Committee on Agriculture, with respect to the crop estimates of the Government, and on that occasion it was stated that the effort of the department was always to estimate conservatively the yield per acre and aggregate yield of bushels. The statement was also made that no official estimate was ever given out by the Department of Agriculture of the probable yield of our major grain crops until the year was sufficiently advanced to enable that estimate to be made with reasonable accuracy, and to enable the department to avoid its statistics being used for speculative purposes to force the grain market up or down.

The effort is to be conservative. The 1923 crop gives evidence of the careful methods of the department with respect to these matters. The final figures of the 1923 crop, as determined by the inspection department of the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada, turned out to be actually 13,856,000 bushels greater than the estimate of the Department of Agriculture, which was 252,622,000 bushels.

That is important. I make no complaint of the work of the Bureau of Statistics, when they are as close to the fact as they were on this occasion and as the investigation of the committee last session proved they had been over a number of years. And especially I do not complain that their estimate was below the fact rather than above it.

Acreeage Under Cultivation.

Regarding the crop of 1924 the acreage sown to wheat was 13,033,000 acres, an increase of 242,000 acres over the wheat acreage of 1923. Of these 13,033,000 acres it is estimated that 1,703,000 acres were non-productive, principally due to drought in large portions of the province. The average yield of wheat for 1924 on the total

acreage was 10.2 bushels per acre or, on the productive acreage, eliminating that portion I have referred to as non-productive, 11.73 bushels.

This average yield of wheat is much lower than that of 1923, when the yield was 19.75 bushels per acre. The total estimated wheat production for 1924 on the basis of the figures I have just presented is 132,918,000 bushels.

It is a little early yet to estimate with that degree of accuracy which we could desire, the average value per bushel to the farmer of this wheat. There are, this year, more complicating factors than usual. Market prices are very erratic and have been for several months. There is a larger proportion of the crop of low grade, which renders an estimate of value very difficult, and in addition we are, for the first time in Saskatchewan, trying the pool method of marketing wheat and, quite properly, the pool organisation is not giving out information regarding its sales, at the present time.

The Bureau of Statistics has made a generous allowance for all these factors and has endeavoured to be conservative in the matter of values as in the matter of yields. The bureau estimates that the price to the farmer for wheat of the 1924 crop will average \$1.21 per bushel, as against an average of 65c for the 1923 crop. These figures are net to the farmer in each case.

On this basis the wheat crop of 1923 was estimated to have a total value to the farmer, exclusive of freight and other charges, of \$164,204,000. On account of the aggregate yield having been underestimated, \$9,006,000 requires to be added to this figure in order to give the total value to the farmer of the 1923 crop of wheat. Thus we find the value of the 1923 crop of wheat to have been \$173,210,000. The estimate for wheat for 1924 is 132,918,000 bushels at an average value of \$1.21 per bushel to the farmer, making a total value of \$160,831,000, or \$12,379,000 less in wheat values to the farmer in 1924 as compared with 1923.

Regarding oats, our acreage in 1924 was 4,942,465 acres, compared with 4,898,771 acres in 1923, a very slight increase of 4,694 acres. The average yield of oats in 1924 is much lower than in 1923. Every farmer in the House knows of the disaster which overtook the oat crop this year. The average yield in 1924 is 19.6 bushels per acre, compared with 44.50 bushels in 1923. We thus have a tremendous reduction in our total oat production for 1924. The total production figures are 97,345,000 bushels, compared with 218,075,000 bushels in 1923, or a reduction in aggregate oat production of 120,730,000 bushels, or more than 50%.

When we come to values, again the information is more encouraging, as it was in the case of wheat. The average oat value to the farmer in 1923 was 25c per bushel and in 1924, 43c per bushel; and thus we have in aggregate values \$54,519,000 in 1923 and \$41,858,000 in 1924, a reduction in oat values of \$12,661,000.

Regarding barley, our acreage increased from 640,000 acres in 1923 to 953,000 acres in 1924. The average yield was 30 bushels per acre in 1923, reduced to 18.2 bushels in 1924. The aggregate production was 19,278,000 bushels in 1923, as compared with 17,360,000 bushels in 1924, a reduction of 1,918,000 bushels in aggregate yield. Here again we have the same condition with regard to values. In 1923 the average value was 35c per bushel and in 1924, 63c per bushel. On this basis the aggregate value in 1923 was \$6,747,000 and in 1924 increased to \$10,937,000, or an increase of \$4,190,000.

In the matter of rye, our acreage suffered a very great reduction in 1924. In 1923 the acreage was 568,000 acres and in 1924, 178,000 acres, a reduction of 390,000 acres. The average yield only slightly changed as between the two years. In 1924 it was 14.1 bushels per acre and in 1923, 14.50 bushels for fall rye and 16.75 bushels for spring rye. The aggregate production in 1923 was 8,582,000 bushels, compared with 2,507,000 bushels in 1924, a decrease of 6,075,000 bushels. The average rye value in 1923 was 45c per bushel. It is estimated to be 95c per bushel for the 1924 crop. On that basis the aggregate rye value was \$3,861,000 in 1923, as compared with \$2,382,000 in 1924, or a decrease of \$1,479,000.

Regarding flax, the acreage in 1924 was 927,000 acres, compared with 465,000 acres in 1923, an increase in 1924 of 462,000 acres. The average yield was 11.75 bushels per acre in 1923, compared with 6.6 bushels in 1924. We have an aggregate production of 5,493,000 bushels in 1923 and 6,119,000 bushels in 1924, an increase of 626,000 bushels in 1924. The average value per bushel to the farmer in 1923 was \$1.75 and in 1924 it is estimated to be \$1.95. We have an aggregate value to the farmer of \$11,932,000 in 1924, as compared with \$9,614,000 in 1923, an increase in aggregate value of \$2,318,000 in 1924.

There are a number of other field crops dealt with by the Bureau of Statistics of less importance in the general scheme of things, some of them of growing importance, but I do not wish to weary the House with detailed statistics regarding them at this time. Among them I note with pleasure the continued increase in the acreage devoted to fodder corn. In 1923 there was 61,813 acres and in 1924 87,115 acres. Taking into account previous experience in this connection, it is important to note also that our corn acreage has more than doubled in the last two years.

Value of Products.

With regard to values, putting together the totals of the individual crops to which I have referred and the other smaller items, we have an aggregate value of field crops for 1924 of \$238,096,000 as compared with \$249,213,000 in 1923, or a decrease of \$11,117,000 in 1924.

Regarding live stock, I will not go into elaborate detail for the reason that the total value figures vary only slightly in 1924 as compared with 1923, the aggregate figures being \$163,587,000 in 1923 as

compared with \$163,106,000 in 1924, a reduction in aggregate value of \$481,000. It is interesting to note that our numbers of cattle, sheep and swine, appear to be slowly but surely on the increase as between the two years.

The value of our dairy products shows an increase from \$18,835,000 to \$19,219,000. In this connection it is very interesting to note that the value of dairy production in Saskatchewan increased from \$7,047,000 in 1914 to \$19,219,000 in 1924, almost tripling in ten years. This is evidence that the farmers of Saskatchewan do not require to be lectured by anyone as to what it is desirable they should do in regard to any particular line of agriculture. They have not plunged in the direction of mixed farming, but during the last ten years have steadily increased their production of dairy products to the extent of tripling the production value in that period.

These figures are, of course, all very interesting, but the important thing, after all, is the income to the farmer. Everyone knows that aggregate value figures do not represent accurately the income of the farmer, because a very great deal of the material which he produces is used on the farm, kept for seed, or turned, through feeding, into other products. In order to get an idea of the income of the farmers of Saskatchewan it is necessary, not to take the aggregate value figures which I have just given, but, rather, an estimate of that portion of this aggregate which the farmer is in a position to market. In this connection it is estimated that of wheat the farmers of the province will sell 112,000,000 bushels at the average value of \$1.21 a bushel, totalling \$135,520,000; oats, the farmer will only sell ten million bushels at an average value of 43c, which will give an income of \$4,300,000; barley, six million bushels at 63c, totalling \$3,780,000; flax, five million bushels at \$1.95, totalling \$9,750,000; rye, 1,700,000 bushels at 95c per bushel, totalling \$1,615,000. Of other products it is estimated the farmer will sell \$7,407,025 worth of dairy products, \$154,000 worth of wool, \$2,000,000 worth of game and furs, \$3,147,195 worth of poultry products, \$9,500,000 worth of live stock. I would again point out that all these figures are very conservatively estimated.

The total value, then, of that portion of all farm crops of every kind which is marketed is estimated to be \$177,173,220, as compared with \$199,307,122 in the previous year, or an estimated decrease in 1924 of \$22,134,000.

I do not think that this reduction in crop return necessarily means that the farmers of Saskatchewan, taken as a whole, are worse off as a result of this crop than they were as a result of the crop of 1923. My own experience, and I think the experience of most farmers in the House, was that this crop was cheaper to handle than the 1923 crop and also that in general it cost less to produce.

I want to turn away from statistics affecting the people as individuals to the business of government and desire first, in this connection, to make a few remarks with respect to the manner in which

government functions. I desire to do this because of certain political "clap-trap" which is being circulated to the effect that the Government of Saskatchewan is a "one-man" government.

No evidence is being advanced, but it is desired to convey an impression that a one-man government is a bad and dangerous thing and a sort of autoeracy and should be ended, and the gentleman who makes this kind of criticism aspires to occupy the place which I now occupy.

What is the fact?

This Government is a British Government. Each member of it, upon assuming office, takes the oath of office and the oath as an executive councillor. That does mean a one-man government in this sense (although not in the sense intended by the critic); it means that one man, any one of the seven, speaks always with the voice of the seven on matters of Government policy. That is a fundamental principle of the British system of cabinet government. No man who is a member of this government can, on a matter of policy, express an opinion differing from the policy determined upon by the whole of the seven.

The gentleman in question indicates that the proper system, I think quite unknown elsewhere in British countries, is for the first minister to select men he can trust and say, "You each run your own department in your own way." That is not the system under which this Government operates. Each member of it is responsible for the administration of his own department in accordance with the lines of policy determined on by the whole Cabinet.

The Province of Ontario recently had a government which had operated somewhat along the lines advocated. What was the result? It was that the ex-prime minister was compelled to go into the witness box and admit his entire ignorance of the action of a colleague with respect to a major matter of financial policy. Fundamentally the British system of government is a system of unity among the members of the government. Any one of the members of this Government may be said to be the one man who is the Government with respect to any expression of policy by him. He is speaking with the voice of the seven.

I refer to this because apparently it is to be talked about a great deal in the province in future. So far from being a "one-man" government in the sense in which it is intended by the critic I want to say this: that every man who is now a member of the Government of Saskatchewan is, in my judgment, much more capable of leading that Government than the critic who aspires to that position, and I say so with a reasonable knowledge of the relative experience and ability of all the gentlemen to whom I am referring. The critic was a civil servant before he entered the employ of the Conservative party of this province.

PROVINCIAL FINANCES.

With regard to the finances of the province, I stated a year ago that the Government hoped to be able to conclude the fiscal year 1923-24 without a deficit. I am glad to be able to say that the hope was

realised. For the fiscal year 1923-24 the Government had a surplus of revenue over expenditure of \$36,361.22. It is important to live within our income, individually, municipally and provincially. We have succeeded in doing so in this province to a greater extent in the last period of years than has been the case in most of the provinces of the Dominion. We hope to be able to do so in the future, especially if the general economic condition continues to improve, because an improvement in that general economic condition will mean a reduction in outstanding amounts due to this Government from all sources.

On November 30, 1924, to give an illustration of what I mean, there was cash due the Treasury, from all sources of taxation, amounting to \$3,909,374.82 on revenue account. I should explain to be fair that this includes a large proportion of the public revenue levy for 1924 because on November 30 many had not paid taxes who would later do so.

I have no new taxation to propose on this occasion. Our taxation for provincial purposes in Saskatchewan is lower than that of any province west of the Great Lakes. We have managed thus far to do without a provincial income tax, provincial personal property tax, provincial soft drinks tax, provincial gasoline tax, provincial amusement tax—all of which are in operation in some and most of them in all of our neighbouring provinces.

In making comparisons I would that critics bear in mind that this province bears the whole cost of Mothers' Allowances. In every other province in which a mother's allowance system exists, one-half the cost is charged by the government to the municipality in which the family resides.

We have no gasoline tax at the present time. A year ago I indicated consideration of the subject. The government has given consideration to it in the interval and in the meantime does not propose to move in that direction. I say again, however, that if there should be at any time in the future an imposition by this Government of a gasoline tax it would be with the object of equalising the present motor license fee and would be accompanied by a reduction in that fee.

Revenue and Expenditure.

In connection with revenue and expenditure of the province it has been my custom for a number of years to endeavour to present especially for publication with the printed copy of this speech detailed statements in easily understandable form of where the money comes from to run the province and also where it goes in expenditure.

I propose filing as schedules to this address the same information this year with respect to the last fiscal year. There are, however, a few items I might refer to in passing. In the last fiscal year, 28.12% of our revenue came from the Dominion Government in various ways—school lands, population subsidy, subsidy in lieu of lands. This is a slight increase in percentage over the previous year when it stood at 25.98% of our revenue. All forms of taxation produced 38.81% of

our revenue in 1923-24 as compared with 36.51% in 1922-23. Licenses, 15.09% in 1923-24 as compared with 11.61% in 1922-23; fees, 9.27% in 1923-24 as compared with 9.72% in 1922-23. These are the major items of sources of revenue, details of which will be found in the schedule to the printed address. (See Schedule No. 1.)

It will be remembered in connection with expenditure that it has been my custom for purposes of clarity to divide the statement of where the money goes, into six general heads: Administrative, Legislative, Protective, Developmental, Patriotic Purposes and Miscellaneous. In 1923-24, Administration took 4.43% of our total expenditure as compared with 4.62% in 1922-23; Legislative took 1.55% in 1923-24 as compared with 1.81% in 1922-23; Protective increased slightly, 16.79% to 17.51%; Developmental, 70.53% to 70.08%. (See Schedule No. 2.)

Some of the details might be of interest in this connection. Developmental expenditures in a new province naturally constitute the major portion of our expenditures. Education, for instance, took 30.79% of our total expenditure in 1922-23 and in 1923-24 it took 31.54%. In actual dollars there was a reduction, however, from \$3,390,000 to \$3,309,000, the reason for the increase in percentage being due to the fact that our aggregate expenditure in the two years decreased. Public Health took 14.82% of our total expenditure in 1922-23 and in 1924 a reduction to 14.27% or, in actual dollars, \$1,632,000 in 1922-23 and \$1,498,000 in 1923-24. There is no need for me to go into further detail because it will be found in the schedule.

I wish to make one explanation in regard to this subdivision of our expenditure and revenue—it is not in accordance with any scheme of division as between departments but in accordance with services rendered and with charges for interest allocated to each service. In order to make it intelligible it is necessary to group activities under services rather than departments and the same grouping is taken year by year.

Our old friend economy! I want to say a few words about it particularly again for the benefit of those who aspire to occupy the Treasury Benches. All of them are professing to the people of the province the very great need for economy and what they will do in the way of economy if only the reins of government are entrusted to them. They do not tell the people what has been accomplished by this Government. They do not present clear cut statements of where and how much money they would save. They confine themselves to generalities. There is a fair method of arriving at a conclusion in this matter. I have given figures previously regarding it, none of which have been contested by anyone, but neither have they been quoted by anyone who is a critic of the Government. I propose again to place in the hands of those who are opposed to this Government the facts in the hope that they may desire to use *facts* occasionally.

One of the most accurate tests of the economy or otherwise of a government is applied by analysing that portion of the public expenditure which is completely under the control of the Government. It is

well known to every member of this House that a considerable portion of the expenditure of this Government and of every government is uncontrollable by the Cabinet. It is set definitely by Statute. The Government's duty is to pay out strictly in accordance with the terms of that Statute. If the Statute says we must pay fifty cents per patient per day to every hospital in the province the Government must pay that grant and has no discretion in the matter. The same with school grants and with many other items of expenditure uncontrollable by the Government. But there are expenditures which are controllable by the Government. Last session I gave information with respect to them and again I want to do so in the interests of truth and accuracy.

In the fiscal year 1921-22 the controllable expenditures of this Government out of revenue totalled \$6,330,473. In 1922-23, these expenditures had been reduced to \$5,496,725, a reduction in controllable expenditure in one year of \$833,748 or 13% of the total.

In my last Budget speech the Government estimated that a further reduction would be made in the last fiscal year from \$5,496,725 to \$5,171,475. Actually, the reduction was greater than was estimated on the last occasion I addressed you on this motion. The actual reduction in controllable expenditure last year was to \$5,063,494, a reduction from the previous year of \$433,230, or nearly 8% of the total.

I would point out again in the interests of truth that it is an incontrovertible fact that in the two years 1922-23, 1923-24, this Government reduced its controllable expenditure out of revenue by \$1,266,978, or a 20% reduction in two years.

When the critics have analysed these figures I would appreciate it if they would point to another province where an equal reduction was made.

Regarding grants. Ninety-nine per cent of the grants paid by this Government are statutory and therefore must be paid by the Government and can only be changed by action of this Legislature. In the last fiscal year they totalled \$3,163,129.71, the major item, of course, being school grants. In ordinary school grants we paid to the elementary schools of the province \$1,732,010; to the high schools \$155,122; for vocational education \$29,960; for school agriculture, \$11,407; university, \$517,326; education of soldiers' dependent children, \$24,250; agricultural societies, \$104,853; hospitals, \$301,683; under *The Mothers' Allowance Act*, \$219,480—all totalling, with some other small items, \$3,163,129.

Perhaps someone may say, why does not the Government initiate a move to reduce these grants? I have examined them carefully on many occasions, having regard to the fact that the major portion of them are grants to our various local governing and administrative institutions to enable them the better to carry out the work they have to do for their people. Government grants constitute an equalising factor between the wealthy local community and the poor local community. To the extent to which the whole people of the province contribute, au

equalising factor is created as between that community which can perform these services for itself with less assistance and one of a pioneer character or which is less wealthy. Some of our critics advocate reducing school grants. We could save considerable sums of money to the Treasury by so doing. Our school grants are higher than any others in Canada. By adopting the Manitoba scale of school grants we could save nearly \$800,000 a year to the Treasury. By adopting the Alberta scale we could save three-quarters of a million. But would it be economy for the people of Saskatchewan?

I think I know the desire of our people for the best in the way of educational facilities and I believe that the reduction of government grants would mean an increase in local taxation because the people would insist on continuing the schools up to their present measure of efficiency. It would not be real economy to the people of the province, although the Treasurer could boast that he had cut off a very large amount of expenditure. It would not, in my judgment, be good statesmanship.

I want to deal for a little while with the criticisms which have been made of the whole of my period of stewardship as Treasurer of this province. I should like to say that until comparatively recently I have received from all sides of politics in Saskatchewan generous co-operation and help and at session after session of this House generous praise from the Opposition for the efforts which I have made during the past eight years to conserve properly the financial interests of the people of the province. Recently, a change has come over the scene. Now anonymous paid advertisements are published describing me as Treasurer of the province, as having been "on a drunken bat" of expenditure during the last eight years. A member of the Opposition in this House rose in his place and said that it would be a good thing for the people of Saskatchewan were I to quit the position as Treasurer of this province. I think, therefore, I have a right to analyse some of the statements made and to give to the House and to the country some more facts and not through the medium of anonymous paid advertisements.

A comparison is made by critics between the expenditures of this province in the fiscal year 1916-17 during which I became Treasurer and eight years later. They do not say that the value of the dollar in 1916-17 was vastly different from what it was in 1923-24. Economists agree that the dollar of 1923-24 was worth about eighty cents in purchasing power as compared with the dollar of 1916-17. They do not tell the people that the population of the province increased from 691,000 to 828,600 in the period, an increase in population of 20%. They do not say that we had no Saskatchewan Temperance Act to administer in 1916 which cost \$115,000 in the last fiscal year. But the most cruel deceit of all is not to tell the people that we had no farm loan scheme in 1916-17 and that during the last fiscal year the Treasury paid out \$476,178 in interest on farm loan debentures and other securities in connection with the ten million dollars advanced to the Board, and through the Farm Loan Board to the farmers of the province. It does

not make any difference to our critical friends that we have got back from the Board a very large portion of that sum. The paying out of money by the Treasurer has the effect of inflating our expenditure and is the basis of an accusation that we are "on a drunken bat." They never tell the people that this very large increase is balanced by whatever income there is from the farmers who are paying interest on the money they have borrowed under this scheme.

In 1916-17 we had one mental hospital with 650 patients. In 1923-24 we had two with 1,359 patients. The increased cost as a consequence was \$376,360 in 1923-24 as compared with 1916-17. I presume critics will hold the Government responsible for that condition, in spite of the fact that all over the world there has been an increase in mental diseases due, in the opinion of those best qualified to know, to the nervous strain of the war years.

In the matter of education. Our expenditure out of revenue in 1916-17 was \$1,027,221. In 1923-24 it was \$3,027,545, an increase in the period of \$2,000,324, mainly accounted for by increased number of schools and pupils and much larger grants to each school. Take a look at the figures. The pupils in our elementary schools increased in number from 125,590 in 1916-17 to 187,968 in 1923-24, an increase of 50% in the number of children attending our elementary schools. The elementary schools themselves increased in number from 4,279 rooms in 1916-17 to 5,787 rooms in 1923-24, an increase of 1,508 in the number of school rooms on which we pay our grants, approximately 35% increase in the period. In the same period the number of pupils attending high schools and collegiate institutes nearly doubled and also the grants payable by the Government to each school in 1923-24 as compared with 1916-17 were increased tremendously. In addition, we have four entirely new educational activities since 1916. No one has suggested that they should be cut down. In fact the critical member for South Qu'Appelle (*Mr. D. H. McDonald*), has suggested on more than one occasion that another should be added. The four new activities are vocational training, school health work, education of soldiers' dependent children and the administration of *The School Attendance Act*, none of which were in existence in 1916. Did anyone raise a voice against their establishment? Not at all. But the four activities were responsible for an expenditure of \$105,280 in 1923-24 and not a dollar in 1916-17.

Our hospital grants increased \$169,693 in the period under review because our people paid increasing attention to erecting hospitals for the care of sick, and had taxed themselves to provide the accommodation. More people were accommodated and consequently the Government had to pay out an increased amount on the basis of fifty cents per patient per day. I hope our people will always keep their present regard for the care of the sick. It is one of the marks of a civilised people and I will always be able to defend, I hope, the payment of increasing aggregate amounts on the basis of our per day hospital grants. I may point out in this connection the Sanatorium grant of one dollar per patient

per day which was not in existence in 1916 but instead a fifty cent per patient day grant to a very much smaller number of patients. No one here objected to the change.

In 1916 we had no public employment service. No province in Canada had. Now, all provinces have such a service in connection with the Dominion Government. That cost \$54,915 last year and nothing in 1916. In 1916 we had no Mothers' Allowances in Saskatchewan. We had not embarked on that scheme and it is a part of our so-called "drunken bat" of expenditure that we paid \$219,480 to mothers in order that they might keep their children with them instead of turning them over to the Superintendent of Neglected Children.

Another item, seldom referred to, although it was mentioned the other day by the member for Yorkton (*Mr. Garry*). The year 1916 was the last in which we had the services of the Royal Northwest Mounted Police under the old arrangement with the Dominion Government that this province and Alberta would each pay \$75,000 annually for this service. In 1916 the Dominion Government communicated to us that it was necessary for Canada's most effective participation in the war that this force should be withdrawn. We had this service for years and we were getting many times over the police service from the Royal Northwest Mounted Police that the \$75,000 would pay for. In 1917 we were compelled to set up a full-fledged provincial police force as the provinces of Manitoba and Alberta also had to do. Our provincial police force cost \$459,721 in 1923-24. In the last year of the old arrangement \$75,000 was the total expenditure in that connection.

Apart from the Farm Loan Board altogether, but connected with our loans to the telephone system, the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company and other similar institutions which have also grown during the intervening years, there is a difference in the interest item in this regard alone of \$428,000, between the two periods. Again in the same manner as with the Farm Loan Board, the critics ignore the fact that not only does the Government spend this money in interest on provincial bonds but it also receives the money from the institutions which borrowed it in the first place.

Such comparisons, if those making them desired to be fair, would comprehend in their scope financial developments in the last eight years in this province alongside the financial developments in other provinces and states in the same period, and we, on this side of the House, welcome comparisons of that kind fairly made.

In connection with this matter of propaganda one requires to get down to bed-rock occasionally and I wonder if, after all, the important thing to the people is not so much how much we spend as a government (because that can be so easily distorted as I have just demonstrated) but how much do they pay for all this? Has the taxation of the people of this province for provincial purposes risen unreasonably in the last eight years under review? I have had the figures taken out. In 1916-17

there were two general levies on the property owners of Saskatchewan which can properly be described as general taxes. Per capita they yielded that year \$2.30 per head. In 1923-24 we had one general tax applicable to all property holders and they paid \$2.71 per head in that year, an increase in the only form of taxation which is generally paid by nearly all our people of forty-one cents per head in the eight year period. That is the actual fact.

It is interesting to note what was the increase in other forms of taxation in the province during the same period. Our municipalities are the tax collecting bodies of the province and in 1916-17 they levied \$21.12 per head of population for all local purposes and in 1923 they levied \$30.24 per head of population. We have in this province in our local governing bodies careful men who are endeavouring to do the business of their neighbours as economically as possible. I think we have reason to be proud of the calibre of the men who are occupying local governing positions in this province and in spite of everything they can do municipal taxation has increased as I have indicated. Provincially, taxation administered by this Government has increased forty-one cents per head in the same period. I leave that fact with the House.

Public Debt.

Our public debt is also a cause of much ranting by some people. For fixed capital purposes, providing institutions and also for financing such enterprises as the Farm Loans Board, Co-operative Elevator, Co-operative Creameries, Telephone system, for all of these capital expenditures form a part of our public debt. It stood, on November 30, 1924, at \$55,839,787 gross. I am glad, in that connection, to report that it was lower on that date and is lower today than it was a year ago. The public debt gross mentioned in my last budget speech was \$56,157,040, a reduction in the period under review of \$317,252.

I think it is a matter for congratulation in a developing province with such great need for expenditure that this step in the direction of reducing the load has been made and perhaps my critical friends would again point out to me a province in Canada which, in the same period, reduced its public debt.

Of this gross mount \$26,244,012 is invested in revenue producing utilities such as those to which I have referred, leaving our net debt at \$35.72 per capita. In making a comparison I want to be fair to every province and I will use figures not compiled by myself or any official of the Treasury department but by the Dominion Securities Corporation as of June 2, 1924, the most recent figure I can get. At that time our public debt is shown by this authority to be \$66 per capita, the reason for the difference being that a different population unit is used. I took the figure used by the Dominion Census Bureau with respect to our population at the present time. The comparison of the gross debt made by this independent authority is as follows:

| | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| British Columbia | \$163.00 |
| Alberta | \$131.00 |
| Manitoba | \$114.00 |
| Ontario | \$87.00 |
| New Brunswick | \$75.00 |
| Saskatchewan | \$66.00 |
| Nova Scotia | \$56.00 |
| Quebec | \$25.00 |
| Prince Edward Island | \$13.00 |

Someone says, you are not fair to Ontario for they have a lot invested in Hydro and the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway. I am a good deal more fair to Ontario than our critics are to us, because I have yet to hear a critic make it plain that such a large proportion of our debt is revenue producing. On the net debt, the figures are as follows:

| | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| British Columbia | \$101.00 |
| Alberta | \$88.00 |
| Manitoba | \$53.00 |
| New Brunswick | \$46.00 |
| Nova Scotia | \$35.00 |
| Saskatchewan | \$33.00 |
| Ontario | \$30.00 |
| Quebec | \$23.00 |
| Prince Edward Island | \$10.00 |

What does this mean? It means that the debt load of this province, gross, is less than half, per head, the debt of any of our neighbours in Western Canada. It means that the net debt which must be met out of taxation is less than half of most of our neighbours and less than one-third of some of them.

I have a right to say these things at this time and would like to hear our critics make a comparison of the same kind for the year 1916.

Bond Issue.

There is an important financial transaction to which I should refer, the redemption of 5¾% debentures issued in 1919. In this connection I would say that during the war years and the high interest years immediately succeeding, the Government of Saskatchewan considered it good policy as far as possible to issue short term securities. By that I mean five or ten years, rather than twenty or thirty years at the high rate. In connection with this issue of 1919, the Government made a condition in selling the bonds that although they were fifteen year bonds the Government should have the right to redeem them at par if it so desired in 1924, after they had run for five years.

The reason for inserting that condition in the bond was that we anticipated that possibly interest rates might be lower in 1924 than in 1919. This opinion was justified by results. In 1924 interest rates generally for Saskatchewan securities were lower than in 1919. As a consequence the Government exercised its option to redeem these bonds instead of allowing them to run for another ten years. In order to effect the redemption it was necessary to raise \$3,401,500. This was done at a cost to the province of 5.06% and a saving in dollars annually of \$28,824.16. We are just now beginning to reap a little of the fruits of the policy of selling comparatively short term securities during those high interest war years. During 1925 as a consequence

of the policy of years ago further maturities occur and I fully expect even if the present interest rate on Saskatchewan securities is maintained to make further refunding in 1925, which will effect a saving to the province of at least \$80,000 a year.

I might mention a transaction of a day or two ago. One of these issues to which I have referred falls due on January 15. Due to a large number of issues of securities recently, the bond market is not in as good a condition as it was a few months ago when the last sale of Saskatchewan securities was made. As a consequence the Government determined that it would be better to wait a more favourable time for floating a long term issue and I was instructed to see what I could do on six months Saskatchewan Treasury Bills. Just the other day, six months bills to the amount of three and one-half million dollars were sold by way of discount in New York at the rate of 2%, or 4% per annum. There are evidently some people with money to invest who do not think that we have been on a "drunken bat" of spending.

SASKATCHEWAN FARM LOAN BOARD.

With regard to the Saskatchewan Farm Loan scheme I am in the unfortunate position, because of the date at which this address is being delivered, of not being able to give the comprehensive information I have endeavoured to supply on former occasions. The financial year of the Board does not end until the close of the calendar year, and the books are not yet audited to an extent which enables me to give detailed information and to comply, at this session, with the law with respect to tabling the necessary documents. I am informed, however, by the Board that they are doubtful if their collections to date on amounts due November 1, 1924, will equal the percentage of collections in the previous year, but they also point out the indeterminate factor produced by the operations of the Wheat Pool. Many of their borrowers will be receiving further funds, possibly very shortly. That will have a marked effect on collections. The province now has over ten million dollars invested in the scheme, loaned to the farmers at 6½%, and one interesting feature is the extent to which this scheme is financed now by farm loan bonds sold to the people of the province. It will be remembered that last year I reported that satisfactory sales of farm loan bonds had taken place to the people of the province to such an extent that I hoped to be able to repay the Dominion Government the original loan of one million dollars made to us in 1918. That expectation has been fulfilled and the figures I am now about to give are an interesting commentary upon the economic condition of the people of the province. On January 5, a year ago, there were \$4,158,800 of farm loan bonds outstanding. On the same date this year it is \$5,883,800, which means that apart altogether from redemptions the people of Saskatchewan now have \$1,725,000 more invested in farm loan bonds than a year ago. Another interesting answer to "blue-ruin" talk.

There is a steady growth in small investments, particularly among farmers. As a result of this increase the Treasury was able to pay off the Dominion loan referred to and to discharge other obligations in connection with the scheme. Due to the reduction in the rate of interest

on Saskatchewan securities generally, the rate of interest on farm loan bonds was lowered on November 1 last from 5% to 4½%. Many thought a reduction in the rate of interest would involve a reduction in investment by the people, but it is a remarkable fact that in the two months intervening from November 1 the people of Saskatchewan have invested \$190,000 in farm loan bonds at 4½% and the money is coming in every day. I thought the House would be interested in that indication that notwithstanding newspaper stories there are, nevertheless, in Saskatchewan, some people who have a few dollars to invest, and it is an indication also that they have faith in the continued stability of the Government of the province.

ESTIMATES 1925-26.

With regard to the estimates tabled yesterday, a careful comparison with last year and previous years will show that the Government proposes to continue its policy of reducing expenditure yearly. There has been a continuous reduction in the authorisations asked for by the Government from this House since the fiscal year of 1921-22. In 1921-22 the Government asked the House to authorise it to spend a total of \$26,588,690 out of capital and revenue combined. Reference to the estimates for each year since that time will show a continuous reduction in the amount which the Government asks the Legislature to authorise it to expend until for the coming fiscal year we are asking authority to spend on capital and revenue accounts combined \$15,620,400, or a reduction in requested authority of \$11,000,000 in four years.

In other words, the Government today asks the Legislature to authorise it to spend 40% less in the aggregate than it was authorised to spend four years ago. I offer that as information in connection with the matter of economy.

In conclusion, I think I may fairly say on behalf of the Government that comparison will show, and those best qualified to express an opinion so state, that the financial condition of this province as a governmental unit is better than that of any province in Canada with the possible exception of Quebec. Our provincial taxation is lower than that of any province west of the Great Lakes; all taxation, including municipal, school, provincial and others, averages lower than Manitoba or Alberta or Montana or Dakota.

With regard to our people, the manner in which they are steadily reducing their debts and overcoming the difficulties of the years of inflation is beyond all praise, in spite of the efforts of those who make a living by preaching "blue ruin." Our people generally are ready to take advantage of the return of stable conditions throughout the world and are in an excellent position to do so. My hope is that crop conditions in 1925 may be of such a character as to give our people an opportunity to build individually upon the foundations which they have prepared during these difficult years when the utmost economy has been necessary.

Mr. Speaker, I move that you do now leave the Chair.

SCHEDULE 1.
 PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN.
 COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF DISTRIBUTION OF REVENUES.

| | 1922-1923 | | 1923-1924 | |
|---|------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|
| | Percentage | | Percentage | |
| 1. DOMINION GOVERNMENT | 25.9833 | \$ 2,767,835.66 | 28.1243 | \$ 2,961,113.91 |
| (a) Subsidy | 16.6601 | \$1,774,691.00 | 18.0561 | \$1,901,069.00 |
| (b) School Lands | 9.3232 | 993,144.66 | 10.0682 | 1,060,044.91 |
| 2. TAXATION | 36.5145 | 3,889,659.39 | 38.8108 | 4,086,258.95 |
| (a) Public Revenues (Less Commission) | 18.8056 | 2,003,239.00 | 20.2244 | 2,129,354.07 |
| (b) Wild Lands (Less Commission) | 6.5378 | 696,434.36 | 6.4053 | 674,396.70 |
| (c) Supplementary Revenue (Less Commission) | .6112 | 65,104.50 | .4259 | 44,843.90 |
| (d) Inheritance | 2.5932 | 276,238.92 | 4.6007 | 484,396.90 |
| (e) Corporation | 4.7638 | 507,452.86 | 4.4190 | 465,261.70 |
| (f) Timber Berth | .0527 | 5,607.16 | .0196 | 2,058.53 |
| (g) Railways | 2.5424 | 270,824.00 | 1.9035 | 200,412.00 |
| (h) Liquor Exporters | .0469 | 5,000.00 | | |
| (i) Fur Royalties | .5609 | 59,758.59 | .8124 | 85,535.15 |
| 3. LICENSES | 11.6113 | 1,236,877.92 | 15.0977 | 1,589,589.16 |
| (a) Detective | .0019 | 200.00 | .0038 | 400.00 |
| (b) Auctioneer | .0687 | 7,311.00 | .0701 | 7,380.00 |
| (c) Peddlers | .2501 | 26,635.00 | .3505 | 36,897.00 |
| (d) Marriage | .0842 | 8,969.00 | .0846 | 8,908.00 |
| (e) Motors | 9.4139 | 1,002,807.20 | 12.7485 | 1,342,246.35 |
| (f) Moving Pictures | .2675 | 28,490.70 | .2783 | 29,298.65 |
| (g) Circus | .0185 | 1,972.00 | .0230 | 2,418.00 |
| (h) Company | .1121 | 11,946.00 | .1113 | 11,725.00 |
| (i) Insurance | .6673 | 71,086.14 | .6964 | 73,320.57 |
| (j) Fur Dealer | .0995 | 10,606.37 | .0923 | 9,717.82 |
| (k) Game | .2249 | 23,957.65 | .2204 | 23,200.45 |
| (l) Slaughter House | .0394 | 4,196.00 | .0359 | 3,780.00 |
| (m) Plumber | .0029 | 311.00 | .0021 | 229.00 |
| (n) Embalmer | .0024 | 254.00 | .0031 | 331.00 |
| (o) Steam Boiler | .1963 | 20,910.00 | .1924 | 20,260.00 |
| (p) Cow Testing and Creameries | .0045 | 481.30 | .0025 | 267.00 |
| (q) Trappers | .1572 | 16,744.56 | .1825 | 19,210.32 |

SCHEDULE 1—Continued.
 PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN.
 COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF DISTRIBUTION OF REVENUES.

| | 1922-1923 | | 1923-1924 | |
|---|------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|
| | Percentage | | Percentage | |
| 4. FEES | 9.7249 | 1,035,932.17 | 9.2785 | 976,898.74 |
| (a) Notary Public | .0321 | 3,410.00 | .0333 | 3,493.00 |
| (b) Commissioner for Oaths | .0065 | 688.00 | .0067 | 705.00 |
| (c) Police | .3979 | 42,396.76 | .3875 | 40,797.23 |
| (d) Succession Duty Fees | .0445 | 4,746.00 | .0445 | 4,685.00 |
| (e) Land Titles | 5.9499 | 633,810.74 | 5.7496 | 605,358.19 |
| (f) Court and Sheriff | 1.9244 | 204,996.20 | 1.5675 | 165,030.56 |
| (g) Company | .2550 | 27,168.50 | .2246 | 23,647.37 |
| (h) Examinations (Education) | .2968 | 31,611.89 | .3953 | 41,627.16 |
| (i) Teachers' Certificates | .0373 | 3,972.07 | .0378 | 3,980.72 |
| (j) Normal School | .0966 | 10,286.66 | .0971 | 10,221.76 |
| (k) Brands | .0503 | 5,362.08 | .0497 | 5,234.50 |
| (l) Stallion Inspection | .0269 | 2,858.00 | .0179 | 1,884.00 |
| (m) Stallion Registration | .0300 | 3,201.10 | .0249 | 2,415.00 |
| (n) Vital Statistics | .0224 | 2,388.59 | .0243 | 2,560.85 |
| (o) Administration of Estates of Mentally Incompetent.. | .1094 | 11,647.86 | .1399 | 14,729.47 |
| (p) Steam Boilers Act | .1646 | 17,535.83 | .1701 | 17,909.00 |
| (q) Liquor Commission | .2244 | 23,901.96 | .2358 | 24,830.97 |
| (r) Miscellaneous | .0559 | 5,949.93 | .0720 | 7,578.96 |
| 5. REPAYMENTS OF ADVANCES AND LOANS (other than on Capital Account) | 11.1937 | 1,192,394.92 | 4.0921 | 430,841.60 |
| 6. INSTITUTIONAL REVENUE | 1.4019 | 149,338.39 | 1.5559 | 163,812.99 |
| 7. FINES, FORFEITURES AND ESTREATED BAIL | 1.2728 | 135,576.30 | 1.5678 | 165,068.28 |
| 8. MISCELLANEOUS (being interest, sale of publications, materials, etc.) | 2.2976 | 244,748.93 | 1.4729 | 155,076.83 |
| | 100.00 | \$10,652,363.68 | 100.00 | \$10,528,660.46 |

SCHEDULE 2.
 PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN.
 COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENDITURES.

| | 1922-1923 | | 1923-1924 | |
|--|------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|
| | Percentage | | Percentage | |
| 1. ADMINISTRATIVE | 4.6272 | \$ 509,465.70 | 4.4384 | \$ 465,703.13 |
| 2. LEGISLATIVE | 1.8142 | 199,753.50 | 1.5533 | 162,983.73 |
| 3. PROTECTIVE | 16.7911 | 1,848,747.12 | 17.5178 | 1,838,077.12 |
| (a) Police | 5.2515 | \$ 578,201.20 | 5.9603 | \$ 625,395.90 |
| (b) Courts | 2.6749 | 294,518.62 | 2.3882 | 250,582.62 |
| (c) Gaols | 1.8394 | 202,526.91 | 1.8916 | 198,476.10 |
| (d) Land Titles | 3.5996 | 396,321.24 | 3.5702 | 374,607.07 |
| (e) Miscellaneous | 3.4257 | 377,179.15 | 3.7075 | 389,015.43 |
| 4. DEVELOPMENTAL | 70.5393 | 7,766,559.32 | 70.0854 | 7,353,808.83 |
| (a) Education | 30.7976 | 3,390,897.74 | 31.5441 | 3,309,808.36 |
| (b) Public Health | 14.8282 | 1,632,631.64 | 14.2779 | 1,498,132.74 |
| (c) Child Protection | 3.0618 | 337,108.66 | 3.5963 | 377,345.30 |
| (d) Promotion of Agriculture and Commerce— | | | | |
| 1. Agriculture | 5.0437 | 555,324.79 | 3.1356 | 329,003.81 |
| 2. Highways | 15.9366 | 1,754,660.02 | 16.6602 | 1,748,100.49 |
| 3. Labour and Industries | .8713 | 95,936.47 | .8713 | 91,418.13 |
| 5. PATRIOTIC PURPOSES | .1816 | 19,996.71 | .0080 | 845.72 |
| 6. MISCELLANEOUS | 6.0466 | 665,744.63 | 6.3971 | 671,224.87 |
| | 100.00 | \$11,010,266.98 | 100.00 | \$10,492,643.45 |

Speech delivered by
THE HONOURABLE S. J. LATTA
(*Minister of Education*)

in the
BUDGET DEBATE

in the
Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan.

Monday, January 12, 1925

The Honourable Mr. Latta, in speaking during the Budget Debate on the Department of Education, said:

Mr. Speaker,—I do not desire at this time to enter into a discussion of any of the matters that have been touched upon during the progress of the debate. It has been my custom for some time to review the activities of the Department over which I preside during the Budget Debate. To do so now is the principal reason for addressing the House.

Before offering a brief résumé of the activities of the Education Department for the year 1923, it may be well to state briefly the enormous growth of the provincial school organisation during the past few years. In 1905 there were 894 school districts. With the influx of population there came shortly after this the necessity for organising a great many new districts. This work reached its peak in 1912 with the organisation of 381 new districts during that year, more than one per day on the average. Since that date the number has gradually been decreasing. In 1913, three hundred and thirty-nine districts were organised and in 1922 sixty-one. During the year under review, 1923, forty-four new districts were organised. While the number of districts organised has been materially decreasing, the work of the organisation branch has not by any means decreased with it. When a district is organised now it is usually necessary to interfere with the boundaries of several districts in the same vicinity. This requires more careful investigation than ever. People must be heard and their claims attended to. On December 31, 1923, there were in existence in Saskatchewan 4,579 schools of which 24 were Separate Schools, 40 Consolidated Schools, 24 High Schools, high school work being done in 912 districts and 5,787 districts in operation.

The success of any public school system such as our own, depends upon four considerations. First, public support; second, the course of instruction; third, the quality of the teacher and, fourth, wise direction.

Evidences are not lacking to indicate that the people of Saskatchewan are intensely interested in their public schools and are determined to see that they are supported in such a manner as to enable them to function to the maximum degree.

It must be remembered here that the system is democratic and that in the practical working out and support of the system the federal principle has been applied, namely, that the Department of Education is entrusted with the direction of school work in the interests of all the people of the province and that the system of material assistance in the payment of large grants has the effect of tending towards the equalisation of the financial burden. The main support, however, of the public school is the responsibility belonging to the taxpayer of the locality in which the school is situated and the government of the local school is entrusted to a school board elected by the ratepayers of the district.

As evidence of popular support, the schedule of districts in operation may be referred to, as follows:

| Year | Total Districts | Districts in Operation | Departments in Operation |
|-----------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1906..... | 1,190 | 873 | 1,017 |
| 1917..... | 4,023 | 3,794 | 4,593 |
| 1918..... | 4,145 | 3,941 | 4,844 |
| 1919..... | 4,286 | 4,159 | 5,132 |
| 1920..... | 4,399 | 4,153 | 5,367 |
| 1921..... | 4,480 | 4,268 | 5,591 |
| 1922..... | 4,522 | 4,310 | 5,731 |
| 1923..... | 4,579 | 4,322 | 5,787 |

It will be noted that there has been a steady increase in the number of departments in operation. The number of districts in operation also shows a steady increase with the exception of 1920 which fell slightly below that of 1919.

The average number of days on which school was kept open should also be an indication of popular support. In 1906 the average days open for rural school was 155 and for urban schools 204. This increased in 1917 to 163 days for rural schools and 200 for urban schools. In 1923 the number stood at 185 for rural and 203 for urban. When one considers the distances, the severity of the climate in winter, the newness of the country, to maintain an average of 185 days of school out of 210 in rural districts and 203 out of 210 for urban districts, is a marvellous accomplishment indeed and I doubt whether the records will indicate that it is surpassed in very many other provinces. The increase from year to year is remarkable.

The percentage of attendance at school is much more indicative of popular support than the days in operation. The percentages of attendance quoted are on the daily average compared with the total number enrolled for the year. The enrolment, of course, would include every child who had attended the school, even for one day.

In 1906 rural schools maintained a percentage of attendance on enrolment of 50.85 and in urban schools 49.84 or 50.31 for all schools. In 1917 this was materially increased, 58.48, 68.04 and 62.4 respectively and it is interesting to note that by 1922 these percentages had further increased to 60.16 for rural, 71.2 for urban and 64.69 for all schools. For the year under review, notwithstanding all the disabilities that have obtained in the province, the percentage of attendance further increased. In 1923 rural schools maintained an average attendance of 63.22 per cent, urban 72.41 per cent and for all schools 66.96 per cent. It would probably be fairer to the children and parents to make clear this average possible attendance, that is, to answer the question, how many children out of every 100 who could possibly attend, did attend school? The answer would be 84.63. This, too, is a remarkable achievement.

The percentage of possible attendance indicates beyond a doubt that the transference of the responsibility of seeing that the provisions of the compulsory attendance act were carried out to local authorities, was a step amply justified.

Popular support is further indicated by the large increase in the number enrolled. During the year 1923 the increase of enrolment over 1922 was 5% for rural schools, 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ % for village schools, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ % for town schools and 5% for city schools. This, of course, also indicates an increase in the number of children of school age, which reached, on December 31, 1923, the total of 187,968. The total enrolment figures in the elementary schools are as follows:

| | | |
|---------------|---------|---|
| Rural | 111,474 | — increase over 1922, 5 % |
| Village | 33,015 | — increase over 1922, 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ % |
| Town | 21,094 | — increase over 1922, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ % |
| City | 22,385 | — increase over 1922, 5 % |
| Total..... | 187,968 | |

Probably the best indication of popular support and the impetus that it gives to efficiency is indicated by the increased standard maintained in grade pupils. In 1906, two and one-third children out of every 1,000 reached grade 8. In 1917 this increased to 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ out of every 1,000 and in 1923, sixty-eight and one-third pupils out of every 1,000 reached the standard of grade 8. This, too, is a remarkable achievement.

In the matter of school grants I would like to quote the following figures as I feel sure they will be of interest to the House:

| Grant | 1922-23 | 1923-24 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| School Grants Act | 1,818,812.14 | 1,732,010.67 |
| Secondary Education Act | 163,213.02 | 156,122.41 |
| Vocational Education | 35,561.02 | 29,960.09 |
| School readers | 52,593.73 | ..... |
| Miscellaneous: | | |
| Sask. Educational Association | 300.00 | 300.00 |
| Frontier College | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| Trustees' Association | 300.00 | 300.00 |
| Boy Scouts | 2,500.00 | 2,500.00 |
| Overseas Educational League..... | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| Public Libraries | 2,171.46 | 2,495.04 |
| Education Soldiers' Dependent Children..... | 13,967.23 | 24,250.32 |
| French Scholarships | 2,400.00 | 2,400.00 |
| School Agriculture and Household Science.. | 16,081.67 | 11,407.37 |
| University of Saskatchewan | 506,222.10 | 517,326.20 |
| | \$2,614,622.77 | \$2,545,623.42 |
| Total expenditures | \$3,129,739.27 | \$3,020,559.00 |
| Grants | 2,614,622.77 | 2,545,623.42 |
| | \$ 515,116.50 | \$ 474,935.88 |

The Provincial Government, as indicated by the Premier in the introduction of the Budget, supports education to a greater extent than in any other province in Canada. By including the grants to the University and interest on capital expenditure, the total grants in 1923-24 amounted to \$2,545,623.42. The total cost of education to the province in this year, exclusive of the items mentioned was \$3,020,559.00 so that the sum of \$474,935.58 was expended on the activities of the Department of Education. In 1922-23 this amounted to \$515,116.50, or a reduction of controllable expenditure of almost 8%. This reduction was obtained without in any way materially reducing the efficiency or activity of the department. It was possible to do this because of the fact that the department of home economics, education among new Canadians, school agriculture and The School Attendance Act had become thoroughly established so that it became possible to absorb these in the general activities of the department. This work is now being carried on efficiently by the regular departmental staff, inspectors and teachers in the Normal School.

The burden of local financing of schools continues to be a heavy burden to carry, but the determination of the people to practise economy and still keep the system up to the maximum of efficiency is clearly indicated by an examination of the figures for the local financing of schools:

Assets Over Liabilities.

| | 1922 | 1923 |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Rural | \$9,421,768.77 | \$ 9,736,690.18 |
| Urban | 6,141,215.67 | 6,267,437.26 |
| | \$15,562,984.44 | \$16,004,127.44 |
| Gain for the year..... | \$541,133.00 | |

In 1923 the assets over liabilities in rural school districts amounted to \$9,736,690.18 and in urban schools \$6,267,437.26, making a total collected in the system of \$16,004,127.44, a gain for the year of \$541,133.00. At present the total assets of rural schools in the province amount to \$13,224,893.07 and urban \$15,736,854.39, a total of \$29,161,747.46. It will be observed by consulting these figures that the total cost of the school plant in the province is over half paid up. Here, again, the University of Saskatchewan is not included.

During the year a few schools had some considerable difficulty in meeting their financial obligations. Ninety-one districts did not open school, but these arranged in different ways for the education of the children, principally by providing for their conveyance to other districts. A few did not have the school building erected in time to open during the year.

The total receipts from taxation during the year amounted to \$10,101,291.29, a slight increase over the previous year of about \$11,000. Two hundred and fifty-five Ministers' orders permitting operation for less than 200 days were issued during the year. This is a decrease from 343 in the previous year—also indicating a definite improvement in the situation.

Debentures were issued in 200 districts amounting to \$893,344.21, an increase of about \$280,000 over 1922. The great bulk of this money was expended on the improvement of the plant rather than for the erection of new buildings. The outstanding debenture indebtedness of the school districts of the province at the end of the year stood at \$10,973,182.73.

As a further indication of the interest of local authorities in school work is the fact that out of the large number of school districts it has been necessary to appoint only 38 official trustees and some of these only for short periods.

These facts are presented as evidence of popular support and they certainly indicate that so far as this phase of education is concerned the schools of Saskatchewan have made progress for which the people of Saskatchewan deserve the greatest commendation.

Regarding the curriculum of study, there is one matter to which I desire to make reference here—the matter of the teaching of French under Section 178 of the Act. The section reads as follows:

178. (1)—Except as hereinafter provided, English shall be the sole language of instruction in all schools, and no language other than English shall be taught during school hours.

(2)—In the case of French speaking pupils, French may be used as the language of instruction, but such use of French shall not be continued beyond Grade I and in the case of any child shall not be continued beyond the first year of such child's attendance at school.

(3)—When the board of any district passes a resolution to that effect, the French language may be taught as a subject for a period not exceeding one hour in each day as a part of the school curriculum and such teaching shall consist of French reading, French grammar, and French composition.

(4)—Where the French language is being taught under the provisions of subsection (2) or (3) any pupils in the school who do not desire to receive such instruction shall be profitably employed in other school work while such instruction is being given.

Up to the present there has been no course of study for the guidance of such teachers as are called upon to do this class of work. A course of study has been drafted and is ready for submission to the Council of Education for discussion and report in accordance with the Act. The drafting of the course is just as obviously a proper, necessary and justifiable thing to do as is the preparation of a course of study under any other section of the Act. French *may* be taught under certain conditions. The work, if undertaken, should be directed. To say that the Government has surrendered to anybody, catered to undue influence or submitted to unjust or extreme demands from anybody is manifestly unfair and without justification in any particular. I have cited the law which is perfectly specific and plain. No attempt has been made, no promise has been made, no decision is pending, no action can be taken under the legislation and no request has been made to make the teaching of French compulsory.

To obtain a sufficient supply of teachers has been a very difficult problem ever since the province was formed. It is only during the past year that the department was able to report that the supply of regularly qualified teachers was equal to the demand for them. The prospect that this situation was coming very near came in 1923 and I am pleased to say that only a very few schools situated in outlying districts are taught by teachers with a permit or extension of certificate.

In 1917, six hundred and five teachers who came from outside of the province were registered by the department. This number reached its peak in 1920 with 816. Since that year the number has been gradually decreasing. In 1921 there were 661, in 1922, 579 and in 1923, 562. Of this number who came to the province for registration in 1923, 203 came from Manitoba, 43 from Alberta, 56 from British Columbia, 61 from Ontario, 14 from Quebec, 37 from Nova Scotia, 22 from New Brunswick, 33 from P. E. I., 86 from the British Isles and 7 from the United States.

The salaries paid to teachers are gradually decreasing. In 1906 the salary item of the province amounted to \$471,735.65. This item reached its peak in 1921, during which year \$6,890,375.62 was paid out in teachers' salaries. In 1922 this dropped to \$6,812,680.18 and in 1923 to \$6,737,771.98.

Taking the Second Class teachers' salary as an index, it will be found that in 1906 male teachers averaged \$628.68 and female \$577.68. In 1921 the salary paid to male teachers averaged \$1,527.50 and females \$1,316.50. During the year 1923 the average dropped to \$1,374.00 for males and \$1,173.00 for females.

One of the principal causes for the shortage of teachers was the large number of female teachers who married soon after coming to the province or entering the profession in the province. Had all of the teachers stayed in the profession for even a period of ten years, a surplus of teachers would have obtained long ago, as may be indicated by the number of certificates issued. In 1923, 562 teachers came from outside of the province, 1793 were provincially trained and 169 provisional certificates were issued, making a total of 2,524. In 1921 there were 800 provisional certificates issued. Provisional certificates are issued only in extreme cases and for temporary periods of two to ten months. These figures indicate clearly that the province is rapidly getting into the position of supplying its own material for teacher training and it is a matter of pride to note that of the 230 students who attended the first class session of the Normal School during this year 57 were University graduates and 31 of these were from our own University.

In 1906 out of 391 teachers certificated, 183 were trained in the province. In 1918 out of 1564 certificated, 923 were trained in the province. During 1923 the proportion of home material grew to 1,793 teachers trained in Saskatchewan out of a total of 2,355 certificated.

About 30% of the students admitted to the Normal Schools during the past four or five years were admitted with incomplete academic standing. This they were to complete at the examinations following in the succeeding June. In 1923, students who were down on two subjects were admitted to the Normal School. In 1924 in view of the fact that the supply of teachers was becoming adequate, no students were admitted who had failed in two subjects at the academic examinations in June. The Normal Schools, however, were filled to capacity. Notice has been given that this year no students will be admitted who have failed in any subject. The Government feels that for such important work as teaching, the best qualifications possible under all circumstances should be demanded.

In view of some of the things that have been published recently it may be well to repeat that until two years ago Saskatchewan was largely dependent upon outside the province for her supply of teachers and as a consequence the peak of permits issued was reached in 1912 with 1,340. So great was the shortage that in 1913 the department asked

the Universities throughout Canada to send students to teach in the province during the summer months. Since the criticism referred to is directed particularly to the province of Quebec, it may be well to note further that during these periods of extreme scarcity, holders of certificates from all of the other provinces were viewed as leniently as was consistent with the supply required. It is easy to see therefore that conditions upon which registration was granted to teach in Saskatchewan have been constantly changing as have, also, the conditions upon which certificates have been granted to students in our own schools.

Through this training period the department has always endeavoured to keep three things in view, namely:

1. To keep the standard up as high as the supply of teachers would permit.
2. To certificate only those who were fully competent to use English as the language of instruction.
3. To encourage students of our own province to qualify for entrance to profession (a) by providing ample facilities for training, and (b) by refusing to allow the standard for registration of teachers from other provinces to drop below that standard demanded from our own students.

These objects are still kept in view.

Changes were therefore made quite frequently during the period. Holders of teachers' certificates from Quebec have for some months and are at present registered in this province on conditions as follows: The Academy Diploma, now called Superior, the highest teacher's certificate issued in Quebec, represents a three year course of study. The holder of this certificate with full Normal training and who presents a certificate stating that the applicant has a knowledge of English and is competent to use English as the medium of instruction is registered and granted an Interim Second Class certificate, which is a certificate granted to a student who has successfully attended our Second Class Normal.

The Model School Diploma, the second grade certificate issued in Quebec, represents a two year course of study with professional training. The holder of this certificate, with a full Normal course and a certificate that the applicant has a knowledge of English and is competent to use English as the medium of instruction, is allowed to register and is given a Third Class certificate for one year, after which time he is required to attend the eighteen weeks' course at the Normal School to obtain a second class interim certificate.

A certificate from Professor Sinclair Laird, Dean of the School for Teachers, Macdonald College, St. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec, appointed by our Department, is accepted as evidence of a knowledge of English.

After thorough investigation and comparison of the course of study, the time occupied, the examinations, etc., this is considered

equitable and fair, not only to our own students and teachers but to those teachers and students who present their certificates for registration here.

If political opponents of this government desire to make political capital of this matter, of course I cannot quarrel with them for so doing. The duty of Government under our British system is to represent the interests of all as equitably and fairly as may be humanly possible. In this, as in all other matters, we have tried to do this—nothing more, nothing less.

I want to refer to secondary education. Up to the close of 1923, twenty-four high schools and collegiates were organised. Of these 21 are functioning. The total enrolment above grade 8 was 5,736. There were 609 grade 8 pupils also enrolled. The average attendance was 5,044. The total expenditure was \$806,364.81 and the total grants to these schools from the provincial treasury was \$191,782.49. This is truly a remarkable advance but it does not tell the whole story.

Secondary education has been carried on as well in many of the elementary and continuation schools. In 1906 there were 809 students doing high school work with no high schools as such in existence. In 1908 the total reached 1,568 with 725 of these in high schools established. In 1923 there were 13,547 students in the secondary education classes, divided as follows: 5,736 in high schools and collegiates, 5,647 in 201 continuation schools, operating 253 rooms and 2,164 receiving instruction about grade 8 in 711 elementary schools, most of which were in the rural areas of the province.

This is a record of advancement of which any province might have just reason to be proud. The grants for continuation work have helped to bring secondary education facilities cheaply and efficiently to the great mass of rural students all over the province. This record of fact tells a story unprecedented in the history of any country.

In the matter of examinations, departmental examinations are held at only two periods—at the conclusion of the elementary course, grade 8, and for high school students. In 1922, 5,971 diplomas of grade 8 were issued. This number reached 6,553 in 1923. In that year 4,512 high school diplomas were issued. In 1923 this number increased to 6,443. The cost of these examinations in 1922 amounted to \$56,790.68 and in 1923 to \$53,575.85. The large comparative reduction in 1923 was due to the method of payment, comment upon which is not necessary at this time. It should, however, be said that those men and women of the profession who have been entrusted with the work of conducting these examinations have done their work conscientiously, carefully and well, with credit to themselves and to the Department of Education.

Some details with regard to school inspection will probably be of interest to the House. Dr. J. H. McKechnie had charge of the in-

spection work during the year under review. He also inspected the High Schools and Collegiate Institutes. It may be well to note that the public school inspector is called upon to perform the following duties: to inspect all schools; to report on the work of the teacher; to meet and confer with school boards; to attend and assist at school fairs; to attend and assist at teachers' conventions and other educational meetings; to supervise and assist in the marking of examination papers; to assist in Normal School work when called upon; to make a report on special matters.

The inspectors are the field staff of the Department. It is to them that the department looks for special information upon all phases of educational activity. The work is varied and exacting and I believe, considering the number on the staff, that it is being done well and faithfully, as well and conscientiously as similar work is being done anywhere else in Canada or anywhere else for that matter.

There were 43 inspectors employed in 1923. During the year the staff was reduced by two, one resignation (Dr. Anderson) and one death (Mr. Stoddart). Inspections made aggregated 6,880 and 4,169 schools were inspected; average schools inspected 97; average inspections 160; Normal School men made 218 inspections; average schools inspected twice 33; average days spent in Normal School work 87.

There are a great many advantages in having the inspector engage in Normal School work for a portion of the year, the principle being that it keeps him in touch with advances made in educational work and, on the other hand, enables him to bring into the school of practical teaching ripe experiences of actual work in the field. Increased demands upon the inspector, however, may compel some change in the system that will enable him to spend more of his time on work in the field.

Speaking now for a moment or two on the school hygiene branch it should be noted that this branch was under the supervision of Miss Ruby Simpson and 13 other fully qualified certificated nurses. I outlined on a previous occasion what were recognised by educational experts as the objective of a general education and referred briefly to the great impetus given in recent years to health education as a necessary development alongside that of the mind. Saskatchewan has given due consideration to this phase of education, which is receiving attention in practically every civilised country. Commencing with attention to communicable diseases, the work has broadened to embrace (1) the teaching and practice of simple habits of healthful living as a preventative of disease. (2) the securing to the child of an environment conducive to health (a) lighting, eyesight; (b) desks, posture; (c) examination of children, defects corrected.

In all parts of the province schools are showing a steady improvement in hygienic conditions. New buildings erected are of excellent type, well lighted and well equipped. Old buildings have been improv-

ed in many cases by the addition of new cloak rooms, a better arrangement of windows or a new heating and ventilating plant. More care is being exercised each year in the cleaning of the school, very few being now reported as being scrubbed less than once a month, while many are scrubbed once in two weeks and some once a week. Daily cleaning is improving, teachers apparently being most willing to cooperate with school boards in this matter. The common towel and common cup have practically disappeared, the well equipped wash bench and regular plan for washing hands before the noon lunch and an adequate supply of water for drinking purposes dispensed in a sanitary manner are found in the great majority of schools.

The duties of the school nurse may be enumerated as follows: (1) to stimulate and instruct teachers and pupils, in the field, in the normal schools; (2) to attend and speak to gatherings of adults in the interests of health; (3) not to diagnose but to draw attention to such apparent defects as may be and refer the child to the family physician. The work is laid out so that the staff may do rural work from May 1 to November 1. The province is divided into 11 districts and a nurse is entrusted with the work in each district. Even with this arrangement they are able only to cover the province once in three years. The schools visited were 1,535. The number of pupils examined totalled 45,737 and 13,873 defects noted. There have been 11,285 defects reported as corrected. The support and appreciation of the public is generally enthusiastic and practical. The work being done is well worthy of the energy and expense demanded.

In the matter of Home Economics the staff has been materially reduced. Instructors are kept in the Normal Schools. The work is still being carried on efficiently and it is gradually being absorbed in the work of the School Hygiene (nutrition) branch and the instruction given to Normal School teachers.

The staff in the School Agriculture branch was materially reduced during the year and the work now placed on a substantial basis is being absorbed in the general activities of the department. One hundred and seventy-one rural education associations were active; 162 held school exhibition; 33 boys' and girls' project clubs were active with 78 branches having a total membership of 1,892. One hundred and fifty districts made preparation for the planting of trees, 117 of which met all requirements and were recommended for trees. No less than 54% of the plantations were reported in satisfactory condition. Lantern slide exhibitions and nature study and observation were active along the same lines.

In the matter of legislation I only desire to refer to section 204 (b) of the Act which provides for an agreement between the board of a district and the board of any other district for the education of the children above grade 8. This will enable the bringing of the advantages of secondary education still closer to people of the rural districts. There are indications that the provisions of the Act in this respect will be taken advantage of.

On another occasion I referred to The School Attendance Act and at this time only desire to say that it is still effective and that the people are giving the law commendable general support.

I would refer a moment to soldiers' dependent children. In 1920 the number who received assistance under the Act was three. In 1921 it grew to 36, in 1923 to 142 and in 1924 to 186. There are at present 151 children receiving benefits under this Act and in all 215 children have received assistance. These students are classified as follows: first and second year high school, 96; third year high school, 36; commercial 13. Since the Act came into force the following total grants have been paid: 1920-21, \$664; 1921-2, \$7,294.80; 1922-3, \$13,957.23; 1923-4, \$25,250.32. Here again the facts tell a story that amply justifies the wisdom of this legislation in making generous provision for educational assistance to the children of the men who died or became disabled in the defence of our homes and institutions so dear to each and all of us.

It may be interesting to note that the total cost of education in the province has dropped during the year 1923-24. The total cost in 1922-23 was \$3,390,898 and in 1923-4, \$3,309,809, a reduction of over \$80,000 or from \$17.35 per capita to \$16.99. The details are as follows:

Cost of Education.

| | 1922-23 | 1923-24 |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Tax Levies—Local—</i> | | |
| Cities | \$ 1,978,854.00 | \$ 2,028,547.00 |
| Towns | 974,060.00 | 958,741.00 |
| Villages | 740,454.00 | 738,924.00 |
| Rural Municipalities | 7,092,928.00 | 6,884,845.00 |
| Local Improvement Districts | 201,250.00 | 160,066.00 |
| | \$10,987,546.00 | \$10,771,123.00 |
| <i>Governmental Expenditures—</i> | | |
| Education Department, chargeable to Revenue | \$ 3,129,745.00 | \$ 3,027,546.00 |
| Travelling Libraries | 31,475.00 | 33,353.00 |
| Maintenance of Normal Schools..... | 23,884.00 | 21,739.00 |
| Interest and sinking fund charges on Normal Schools and University | 205,794.00 | 227,170.00 |
| | \$ 3,390,898.00 | \$ 3,309,808.00 |
| Total cost of education in the province..... | \$14,378,444.00 | \$14,080,931.00 |
| Per capita cost | 17.35 | 16.99 |

Population: 828,600.

A splendid work of great educational value is being done by the Open Shelf Library. A special feature of this work is the assistance given to individuals and clubs in the preparation of lectures, essays,

debates, etc. Students who were taking extra-mural courses have also made extensive use of the "Shelf." In 1923 the number of books sent out exceeded the number of 1922 by over 3,000. It is a matter of importance to note that out of 9,432 volumes loaned not one was returned in a damaged condition. Because of ordinary wear and tear 944 books needed repair, one was lost in the mail and one borrower failed to return a book borrowed.

The class of literature demanded is exceedingly interesting. From a classification of 13 subjects, standard fiction has been the most popular with a total of 1,625 books borrowed. History comes next with 1,093 and sociology next with 1,083. The subjects read, with the books loaned are: general, 492; philosophy, 570; religion, 248; sociology, 1,083; languages, 21; science, 733; useful arts, 947; fine arts, 400; literature, 853; history, 1,093; travel, 803; biography, 624; standard fiction, 1,625; total, 9,432. Out of 72 classes of borrowers, according to occupation, farmers are still in the lead with 908. Teachers come second with 331; housewives third with 277; clergymen next with 145 and students with 98.

I would just refer to the Bureau of Publications, the principal duty of which is the issuing of the Public Service Monthly. This publication is solely for the purposes of informing the general public on the activities of the Government. The work under the supervision of Mr. W. A. MacLeod has been well done, accurately and impartially. No charge of partisan bias or of an attempt to spread political propaganda has ever been made against this branch.

In the matter of travelling libraries the object of this branch is to supply wholesome reading matter to the public, more especially to those who live in out-lying districts remote from railway facilities. One thousand libraries, approximately, are in circulation. In 1923 there were 860. Half a million books have been circulated and the demand is great. There have been over sixty applications since September. Someone may ask, are the books read? Here is a typical example. In one library, more than one book was borrowed by each of 26 families. The average number of borrowers of 51 books was 17. Hundreds of letters were received during the year expressing appreciation of the services rendered.

No person will claim that the system is perfect. Education is a growing thing and any system must necessarily be in a constant state of development. The progress made, however, as indicated by the facts I have endeavoured to place before the Legislature, is a matter upon which the people of the province, the local educational authorities and the Provincial Department of Education may be congratulated. The work being done compares favourably with that of any other province.

Speech delivered by
THE HONOURABLE J. M. UHRICH
(*Minister of Public Health*)

in the
BUDGET DEBATE

in the
Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

Monday, January 12, 1925.

The Honourable Mr. Uhrich, in speaking during the Budget Debate on the question of Public Health, said:

Mr. Speaker,—The honourable members of the House will recall that, during the debate on the budget at the last session, I endeavoured to bring to the attention of the House a short résumé of the activities of the Department of Public Health as they pertained to the preceding fiscal year. Today, Mr. Speaker, I shall again ask the indulgence of the House to review some of the activities of that Department as they prevailed during the last fiscal year. I shall endeavour to be as brief as is consistent with a detailed review of the most important phases of the work.

Before going into details, allow me, Sir, to make a few remarks upon the term "*public health*" as it is generally understood.

A century ago the white population of Canada was practically confined to the maritime provinces and Quebec. The West was a wilderness,—unknown, unoccupied and unused. A few venturesome explorers gradually penetrated into its vast expanse. Hardy pioneers followed in the narrow paths of the explorers, and here and there staked out for civilisation small areas of previously unoccupied land. Now and again the paths of the explorers and of the pioneers crossed, and by the co-ordination of their findings larger sections of the country were taken up. In the course of time ambitious emigrants, swayed by the pioneers who had spied out the land and declared it to be good, followed and established themselves. Communities sprang up, expanded and reached out until they joined other similar groups. Today a large portion of the vast territory which was formerly a dead waste is possessed and occupied to the material benefit of mankind.

This is a picture of the health progress of the present day. In the past people in general were satisfied to accept things as they found them. If an epidemic swept the land, it was meekly tolerated as a dispensation of Providence. If the average expectancy of human life happened to be 54 years, this was accepted as a natural phenomenon controlled by immutable law. Unnecessary disease and premature death were endured with a fatalistic inertia. But restless researchers (an insignificant few, it is true) explored into the realm of the unknown. Slowly they piled fact upon fact until it was evident that if the people could but utilise these facts, would but occupy the newly discovered territory, life would be lengthened and broadened to the great benefit of the people. But the research worker is notoriously deficient in the ability to move the masses; his is the type of mind adapted to search out hidden truths, but not usually the kind which knows how to capitalise the newly-found knowledge for the benefit of the people.

Here is the opportunity of the health educator and publicist. It is for him on the one hand to appreciate the significance of the findings of the discoverer, and on the other, to adapt this knowledge practically and market it to the masses. He permits the research worker to show him the land and then goes back to persuade the people to possess the same.

And this is, broadly speaking, what is meant by "public health." It means up to date, progressive, aggressive, scientific attention to the individual, improving the person, and caring for boys and girls, men and women, reducing sickness and death, advancing the age of life expectancy; and, in short, making the world a better place in which to live. Surely such work is worthy of the attention of legislatures, since it is universally admitted today that the conservation of the public health of the people is the first duty of a government. Lloyd George once said: "You cannot maintain an A1 Empire with a C3 population. You cannot raise healthy children in unhealthy homes."

After these somewhat rambling general remarks, allow me, Mr. Speaker, to bring to the attention of the House some of the activities of the division of sanitation, which is one of the main divisions of the Department of Public Health:

This division is chiefly concerned in bringing about a healthier environment for the people of the province. Its aim is to protect water, milk and food from pollution and infection; to educate the public through the local health authorities, in applying the simple every-day facts concerning the cause and prevention of disease to their daily life and habits.

The fact cannot be stressed too much that the local board of health is the responsible body for all health measures in the community. I am sorry to say that this fundamental principle of health control in the province is not generally understood.

That the efforts of the Department of Public Health to create a defensive barrage against communicable disease are bound to miscarry

without the aid and co-operation of the local council is instanced by the condition at one of our largest summer resorts, at which the council have, to date, taken no action on the simple recommendations made to protect the visitors against disease from fly infected food and questionable milk supply.

The council of a municipality is the business executive of that municipality. It is elected by the ratepayers primarily to initiate and carry out such measures as will result in a dividend of health, comfort and prosperity for the community, and not merely to deal with such routine business as may arise at each regular meeting.

Health measures for the benefit of the community must be controlled by the community. The principle is the same, apply it as you will—to city or hamlet.

At the present time the division of sanitation is supervising the safety of the municipal water supply of 35 urban centres. During the past year the Division has given opinions on the sanitary quality of over 500 sources of supply used by farmers and others. These opinions have been arrived at after careful study of information regarding the construction of wells, the physical surroundings of the supply and the possibility of pollution, supported by the results of laboratory examinations of samples submitted in sterilised containers furnished by the Department.

Coming now to speak of the milk supply of the province, let me draw the attention of the House to the fact that 18 per cent. of all dairy cows in Canada are infected with tuberculosis, and this percentage holds good for our province. In Saskatchewan there are 80,000 tubercular cows from which milk is being drawn and sold to the public.

A year ago, practically no effort was being made, except by the cities, to control this situation. Since then, the Division has prepared a draft by-law which has for its object the furnishing by all dairymen supplying milk to towns and villages of a certificate showing that their cows have been tested for tuberculosis and were non-reactors. This bylaw has been adopted and placed on the statute books of 28 towns and 58 villages of the province; and if the councils of these municipalities see to it that the bylaw is enforced, 38,000 people will for the future be protected against bovine tuberculosis as a result of this action. Here is surely scope for municipal health work of a practical nature which will yield immediate results. If every municipality in Saskatchewan will undertake to see that the dairy cows within its boundaries are free from tuberculosis; we shall have effectively stopped all infection from bovine tuberculosis in market milk. Seventy per cent. of milk sold in the cities of Saskatchewan is pasteurised milk; and the term "pasteurised" has come now to mean, in Saskatchewan, a scientific process which renders the milk as safe from pathogenic organisms as it is humanly possible to make it. I make the claim,—and I have no hesitation in making it,—that the pasteurisation of 100% of the milk sold in the cities of the province is a health necessity.

Exhibits: The measure of success attendant upon the efforts of a Department of Public Health is in proportion to the degree of education in health matters to which the public has advanced. The day of enacting and seeking to enforce health laws which are not based upon the wishes of an informed public, has passed. Any health authority, if it is to function successfully, must have the support and co-operation of the people. Acting on this principle the department is endeavouring to awaken and stimulate public interest in the manner by which disease may be prevented and life prolonged by showing public health exhibits at the larger summer fairs. These exhibits,—many of you have seen them, I am sure,—have attracted the attention, not only of the Saskatchewan public, but of health authorities throughout the world, and enquiries for details of our exhibits have been received from many provinces and states on this continent and from such remote countries as Australia, India, Ceylon and Russia.

Division of Child Welfare: The efforts of the division of Child Welfare are directed along a number of lines, with the following objects in view:

1. Lowering the infant mortality;
2. Lowering the maternal mortality rate and lessening the morbidity of mothers following child-birth;
3. Encouraging a complete physical examination of all children at least twice before school age;
4. Encouraging the protection of all pre-school children against smallpox by the use of vaccination and against diphtheria by the use of toxin anti-toxin;
5. Encouraging breast feeding for infants and of proper and suitable feed for children, to prevent under nourishment;
6. Encouraging the proper and early care of teeth;
7. Disseminating education, especially in those places distant from a doctor, hospital or nurse, in the best methods of home nursing and the care of children.

The importance of work along this line can be readily seen when we consider that our infant population in 1923 was approximately 21,000,—a population of infants greater than the total population of the city of Moose Jaw. According to our vital statistics the deaths under one year were 2,472; and from 1 to 5 years the deaths were 643. This makes a total of 3,115 deaths under 5 years of age, out of a grand total of 6,725 deaths from all causes and of all ages for the year. In other words, 36.7% of all deaths in the province occurred in children under 1 year of age, and 46.3% of all deaths occurred in children under five years of age. These figures include 555 stillbirths.

The six diseases causing the greatest mortality in 1923—the six greatest killers—are as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Pneumonia | 650 |
| Congenital debility | 568 |
| Stillbirths | 555 |
| Enteritis | 351 |
| Cancer | 347 |
| Tuberculosis | 332 |

These statistics demonstrate at a glance that deaths in children occupy the second, third and fourth highest places in point of number.

In an attempt to improve these conditions child welfare clinics have been conducted throughout the province. Emphasis is placed on the importance of proper feeding of children and the rectification of any abnormal condition. The children are given a complete physical examination, and any defect found is pointed out to the mother, with such recommendation for treatment as is deemed advisable.

In 1923, 67 such clinics were held, when 3,218 children were examined, revealing 8,788 defects. As a result of these examinations a great many defects were corrected; and many parents now arrange for a regular examination for their children. At these clinics the importance and advisability of having all children protected against smallpox by vaccination and against diphtheria by the use of toxin anti-toxin is strongly recommended. The ill effects of improper food, and of defective teeth on the general condition of the child, and the necessity of properly caring for the temporary teeth is stressed. A physical examination chart is made out and a copy of this is mailed to the parents, along with the examining physician's remarks and recommendations. A letter is sent also, asking that the parents report within three months as to whether or not the recommendations have been acted upon.

The maternal mortality of the province is decreasing. During 1923, 114 maternal deaths were reported, being a rate of 5.6 per 1,000 living births, as compared with 5.7 per 1,000 living births in 1922. In order, therefore, to assist in lowering this maternal mortality, a maternity grant is allowed in those cases in which it is shown the circumstances warrant it. The grant is divided in such a way that \$10.00 is given to the mother to procure the necessaries for the event, and \$15.00 is given to the doctor, hospital or nurse, to assist in obtaining such services. During the year \$10,040 was expended on maternity grants and was used in assisting 407 mothers. This grant was increased very largely since 1919, the year in which it was instituted.

| Fiscal year | Maternity grant Amount paid | Number of mothers |
|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1919-1920..... | \$ 441.00 | 18 |
| 1920-1921..... | 3,120.00 | 125 |
| 1921-1922..... | 6,275.00 | 253 |
| 1922-1923..... | 8,855.00 | 286 |
| 1923-1924..... | 9,469.00 | 427 |

Home Nursing Classes: Three nurses are employed in conducting home nursing classes and demonstrations throughout the rural districts of the province. The classes extend over two days and the programme includes instruction and demonstrations in the general personal care of the sick, application of simple local treatments, care and feeding of children. There were 64 such nursing classes conducted during the year, which were attended by 3,848 women of the province.

Hospital Management: Encouraging forward studies have been made during the past few years in hospital service; and every Saskatchewan hospital is striving more and more to become a scientific headquarters for the dissemination of health. Real enthusiasm in hospital work has been aroused, and we are able to rely on the whole-hearted co-operation of the various boards in charge of the institutions.

In making a six year review of our hospitals (since 1918) we find the number of hospitals has increased from 36 to 40, an increase of 11.1%. This number does not include 10 Red Cross Nursing Outposts. Twelve of the present hospitals are union hospitals.

During the period between 1918 and 1923 the population of the province has increased by 79,000 people, being an increase of 10.7%. In the same time the number of hospital beds has increased from 1,769 in 1918 to 2,258 in 1923, which is an increase of 27.4%, and constitutes one bed for every 361 of our population. There were 32,663 patients availing themselves of hospital care, and this shows that one out of every 25 of our people was a hospital patient.

In 1918 there were 2,700 births in the hospitals of the province, meaning that one child in every eight was born in a hospital. In 1922 there were 3,617 births in the hospitals, which means that one in every six births occurred in a hospital.

The effect on the death rate in children under one week is very readily seen when we find that in 1918 the death rate in infants under one week was 91.9 per 100,000 population, as compared with a death rate of 80.5 per 100,000 population in 1922. The effect is still further seen on the infant mortality rate under one year, being reduced from 94.7 per 1,000 births in 1918 to 82.9 per 1,000 births in 1922.

The total number of hospital days in all our hospitals increased from 445,979 in 1918 to 531,007 in 1923, being an increase of 19%.

The amount of financial assistance given to hospitals by the Government of Saskatchewan, on a basis of 50c per patient per day, increased from \$222,990 in 1918 to \$301,683 in 1923, an increase of 34.9% in six years. Taking into account that \$1.00 per day per patient is now paid to the Sanatorium, the amount paid to the other hospitals for each patient would average \$6.69. The average amount paid for each patient at the Sanatorium was \$77.32.

The average cost per patient per day in the hospitals in 1923 was \$3.19, which is an increase of 16.6% over the average cost since 1918.

At the end of 1923 the aggregate value of hospital buildings in the province amounted to \$3,536,068, and their equipment and furniture was estimated at \$615,895, which means a per capita hospital investment of \$5.10.

We have 12 union hospitals in the province, comprising 12.3% of the total bed capacity in the province. They have 277 beds. In these union hospitals 883 maternity cases were cared for, which is over 25% of the total cared for in all hospitals.

Division of Communicable Disease: Reviewing the activities of the Division of Communicable Disease for the first nine months of 1924, one very encouraging feature can be reported, and that is, that in spite of the slight increase of one communicable disease (which is very probably due to natural yearly fluctuation) the total number of communicable diseases shows a very marked decrease over the same period for the previous year. 6,854 cases were reported for the first 9 months of 1923, whereas only 4,754 cases were reported for 1924 during the same period, showing a definite decrease of 2,100 cases. A total of 1,245 deaths from communicable disease has been recorded during the first 9 months of 1924, as compared with 1,359 deaths for the same period in 1923, which means a decrease of 114 deaths.

We still have a large number of cases of diphtheria in the province. Some 800 have been reported, with 116 deaths. Eighteen of these were reported as having had no medical attention. Many cases have been reported by physicians where they have been called to find the patients dead and others in the family also suffering from the disease. Many cases were found by physicians, too far advanced for medical aid to be any use. The Department distributed, free of charge, 47,857,000 units of anti-toxin, and further immunised 16,008 children with toxin anti-toxin during the first nine months of the year; so that at the present time we have 49,167 children protected against diphtheria,—and this work was all done in a year and nine months.

The influence of schools in spreading infectious disease has long been known. As the majority of cases of diphtheria occur in the pre-school age it might be argued that school infection plays little or no part. But it plays an important part in infection of the home.

Delay in the administration of anti-toxin in diphtheria cases is in my opinion the great cause of death from the disease. All cases of sore throat should immediately be investigated by the physician. Doctors are called in too late. Twelve hours may mean life or death to the child. It is flying in the face of Providence to refuse to give anti-toxin, even though the case has the appearance of being mild. The earlier it is used the better. It cannot restore a damaged heart, but it can prevent this condition if given early and in sufficient quantities. Eight per cent. of all diphtheria patients are moribund when first seen by the doctor. We must have the co-operation of the people in calling physicians early in all suspicious cases of sore throat, because if the case is far advanced even enormous doses of anti-toxin cannot restore the damage done.

Trachoma: Special effort has been made during the past summer to ascertain the prevalence of trachoma in districts which have given indications of being centres of infection. A detailed survey was taken in the Radville district. Over 500 persons were examined in this district, and 86 cases of trachoma found. Treatment was commenced in all cases, and plans proposed for continuing it. A definite spirit of co-operation was evident in this survey, both on the part of the local health authorities, and the local residents. When it is considered that this district is entirely rural and many visits to each home were necessary in order to see each individual, the magnitude of the task is evident. In the district north of Saskatoon 330 cases of trachoma are under observation and treatment, and consistent work is being done to eradicate this disease,—one of our nurses spending her whole time on this work.

Smallpox: The incidence of smallpox shows a definite increase over the same period in 1923, and this is in keeping with statistics over the whole continent. However, they were only local outbreaks, which have been controlled by restrictive measures, and by the general vaccination of the local school children and all contacts. During the first nine months of 1925, 15,140 persons were vaccinated, and in the same period of this year, 26,927. We had 47 more cases of smallpox. There has been a decided increase in the number of vaccinations, which undoubtedly denotes an increased activity on the part of physicians and residents in taking all precautions to prevent an epidemic of this disease.

We are, of course, not very proud of this incidence of smallpox in the province. Why do people not get protected against this dirty disease? Submitting proofs of the value of vaccination as a protection is getting rather stale, but let me again draw the attention of the House to the experience of the Windsor, Ontario, epidemic last year. In this epidemic a very virulent form of smallpox developed, and out of the persons who had not been vaccinated 71% died. Not one single death occurred in the case of a person who had ever been vaccinated. The whole epidemic was controlled quickly by the vaccination of practically the whole community. In two weeks over 50,000 people submitted to vaccination. It sometimes takes an epidemic of this kind to bring these truths home to us. Some of us remember the great epidemic in Montreal in 1885, which resulted in 3,164 deaths in one year, and of this number 2,717 were children. This was indeed a costly lesson for the people, but now in no province in Canada are the people so well vaccinated as in the province of Quebec, with the result that smallpox has not appeared in Montreal in the form of an epidemic since 1885.

I have some statistics here comparing the mortality of smallpox in countries where vaccination is compulsory and where it is not compulsory. The figures are for four years ending 1889.

COMPULSORY VACCINATION

Deaths from Smallpox per Million Inhabitants.

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| Sweden | 1 |
| Ireland | 1 |
| Scotland | 3 |
| Germany | 3.5 |
| England | 16 |

VACCINATION NOT COMPULSORY.

Deaths from Smallpox per Million Inhabitants.

| | |
|---------------|-----|
| Belgium | 164 |
| Russia | 231 |
| Austria | 510 |
| Italy | 536 |
| Spain | 963 |

Typhoid: During the first nine months of 1923 there were 78 cases with 51 deaths; during the first nine months of 1924 there were 49 cases, with 34 deaths.

This substantial decrease, both in incidence and mortality is undoubtedly due to the intelligent direction given by health authorities to the protection of water supplies, to preventing the pollution of milk, to the proper disposal of sewage, and to the increased tendency of our population to get inoculated against this disease. We had 3,160 people inoculated during the first nine months of 1924.

The recent demonstration on a large scale in the great war of the unparalleled freedom of the huge armies on both sides from these two old army diseases, typhoid and smallpox, has left objectors to vaccination and inoculation without an argument to stand upon. We now have perfect immunising methods for smallpox, typhoid, tetanus and diphtheria. But, after all, the best of immunising methods are useless unless they are used. Only if you are vaccinated will vaccination protect you, obviously. Only if you are immunised against typhoid will typhoid immunity save you. This seems foolishly evident. Yet there are thousands of people who do not know that such immunity can be had. Thousands more do not take advantage of it. Since 1900 typhoid fever, once so prevalent in North America, has been reduced by an average of 78%. This reduction was accomplished almost entirely by human intervention, by studying the cause of typhoid fever and then destroying, by fire-proving the individual against it. Its total abolition is quite definitely in sight. Some one might say—a dream, this abolition of disease! An eminent public health man, however, draws attention to the fact that leprosy has disappeared now from ordinary life in Europe; yet 600 years ago Europe had 19,000 houses of refuge, called “leprosaria”, for the innumerable lepers of that day; and Europe had then one-tenth the population of today. If leprosy today were as prevalent as it was then, it would mean 190,000 leprosaria in Europe now; but today there is not one. Leprosy is in Europe an abolished disease.

Tuberculosis: In placing before the House a résumé of the activities of the Department of Public Health during 1923 in connection with the fight against tuberculosis, we again hold the encouraging position of having the lowest mortality from this disease among the Provinces of Canada. Although we heard the irresponsible criticism a few weeks ago that since our province holds an enviable position among the other provinces of Canada as far as the mortality of tuberculosis is concerned, and that since we are meeting with an appreciable amount of success in our fight against it, we should curtail our activities; that

the building of the sanatorium in Saskatoon is an economic waste, a useless expenditure,—let me state, Mr. Speaker, that the Department does not propose to rest at ease, but, on the contrary, proposes to continue further aggressive measures in co-operation with the voluntary organisations and the public further to reduce the death rate from tuberculosis.

During the year 1923 the Department employed one full time nurse and two part time nurses visiting in follow up work, in the rural districts of the province, known cases and any others the resident physicians had under treatment, and at the same time having suspected cases and contacts examined. In this manner 404 cases were reported to the Department and 266 cases were visited. This service will produce valuable results, especially in educating the people to prevent the spread of infection.

Our new building at Saskatoon is nearing completion. We shall be able to receive patients shortly after the new year, when a further accommodation of 125 beds will be made available, and the long waiting lists and over-crowding at the Qu'Appelle Sanatorium will be reduced. Thus a greater opportunity will be given to treat cases in the incipient stage of the disease, before they have become advanced, which in my opinion, is the greatest factor in the ultimate success of the fight.

Allow me to bring to the attention of the House a few statistics regarding the prevalence and mortality of tuberculosis in the province during the year 1923.

Deaths From Tuberculosis, 1923

| | | | |
|-------------------|----|------------------------|----|
| Under 1 year..... | 8 | 15-19 years..... | 30 |
| 1 year | 8 | 20-29 years..... | 86 |
| 2 years..... | 7 | 30-39 years..... | 71 |
| 3 years..... | 8 | 40-49 years..... | 31 |
| 4 years..... | 2 | 50-59 years..... | 18 |
| 5-9 years..... | 16 | 60-69 years..... | 22 |
| 10-14 years..... | 17 | 70 years and over..... | 8 |

Estimated population 814,000
 Total aggregate 332

Deaths per M population — 0.4

Mortality per 100,000 Population, 1923

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Nova Scotia | 120 |
| Prince Edward Island | 110 |
| New Brunswick | 110 |
| British Columbia | 90 |
| Ontario | 70 |
| Manitoba | 60 |
| Alberta | 60 |
| Saskatchewan | 40 |
| Canada | 70 |

Members of the House are aware of the fact that the Government now pays the Sanatorium \$1.00 per patient per day, instead of 50c as formerly. The total grant to the Sanatorium in 1923 amounted to \$90,000, instead of \$40,000 as in 1922. The grant for the first six

months of 1924 amounted to \$50,499. The average amount to each patient receiving treatment at the Sanatorium was \$77.32.

Despite the irresponsible criticism we heard from the Federal member for Saskatoon (*Mr. John Evans*) we are meeting with appreciable success in our fight against this disease and although we are enjoying the enviable position of having the least mortality in Canada we do not intend to curtail our efforts. The criticism I refer to suggested that the building of the second Sanatorium in Saskatoon was a useless expenditure but I would tell the members of this House that we do not intend to "stand at ease" but to increase our efforts with the co-operation of the people of the province to decrease the mortality in tuberculosis.

I would just like to deal with this criticism for a moment or two. I understand this health authority from Saskatoon, speaking at a meeting with my friend, the leader of the Opposition in this House (*Mr. Harris Turner*), at Foam Lake, made the following statement, and I read from the newspaper report: "The new sanatorium at Saskatoon should not have been built at all" declared John Evans, M.P. for Saskatoon." I am glad to report that my friend the Leader of the Opposition did not agree with him. He thought it was necessary to build a second sanatorium. This is what he said at the same meeting: "Harris Turner, M.L.A., for Saskatoon, Leader of the Provincial Progressive Association, believed the Government was justified in building the Sanatorium but did not know whether it should have been located at Saskatoon."

Let me deal with the first criticism. After all this is a vital thing. I think it has a very serious effect on our people in the province who are affected with tuberculosis. Is there a real necessity for a second sanatorium? Two years ago the Anti-Tuberculosis League reported to the Government and at that time I placed a copy of the report on the table of every member of this House.

In that report they stated that forty per cent. of our children at the age of six years are infected with tuberculosis. Sixty per cent of our children of the age of fourteen are affected. Out of a class of Normal School students of an average age of eighteen years, seventy-six per cent. were affected. These are not open active cases but they may at any time become active by anything that would lower their resistance. We know today that infection from tuberculosis is contracted during childhood when resistance to all forms of disease is low. **An** active outbreak in adult life is a flaring up of the old infection contracted during childhood.

This report told us that out of the 436 mothers, who at the time were receiving a pension under The Mothers' Allowance Act, thirteen per cent. were widows because their husbands had died of tuberculosis. One hundred and forty-three deaths had occurred in the families of these mothers and at that time there were sixty-three active cases in these families. The report stated that a military board in this province in 1918, from examination of 17,436 of the male population, age 18

to 45, rejected nearly two per cent because of evidences of tuberculosis. On November 15, 1921, the physicians of this province reported 1,625 active open cases in the province receiving treatment outside of the Sanatorium and then the "health authority" of Saskatoon makes the statement that "we do not need a second Sanatorium."

Let me read from the report of the Anti-Tuberculosis Commission. "Because of the length of time a patient in the advanced stage of tuberculosis occupies a bed in the sanatorium compared with the short time required to treat one in the early stage, the number of persons treated at the Sanatorium is reduced far below the number that could be cared for if the patients could be induced to commence treatment while the disease is in the incipient stage." Another quotation: "Sixty-eight point three per cent. of the patients referred for treatment to the sanatorium up to December 31, 1921, were already in the advanced stage of the disease and had lost their chance for complete cure. The great obstacles in the way to prevent early treatment are: (a) failure to be convinced that tuberculosis is present and that treatment is needed, until the disease is advanced; (b) inability of a majority of patients to pay the cost of their treatment and their refusal to ask for municipal assistance; (c) lack of sanatorium accommodation for the treatment of these patients."

Speaking of the present sanatorium accommodation, that is as of the time the report was prepared, 1921, the report says: "The present accommodation provided for the care of the known cases that should be receiving treatment, if anything like an effective effort is to be made to control tuberculosis, is entirely inadequate."

These are the words of Dr. Ferguson who is considered a great authority on tuberculosis not only in Canada but on the North American continent. If Mr. John Evans knows more than Dr. Ferguson then I am wrong. The report continues: "The known condition of a large number of those that should be provided for is such that the period of treatment to be efficient will take a year or longer in each case. It will therefore be impossible with the present Sanatorium taking into account the additional number of beds that the hospitals will provide, on the ten per cent. basis, to handle this class of patients as it will not be possible to pass through the combined bed capacity more than 600 per year. At this rate, a period of five years would be required to treat the known cases without allowance for the new cases of breakdown occurring during that time."

Then we have the resolution of the Medical Association of Saskatchewan in the following terms: "Whereas the accommodation at the Saskatchewan Sanatorium, Fort Qu'Appelle, during the past has been entirely inadequate, resulting in delay in the admission of patients; and whereas a great many patients have been and are being refused admission on account of lack of accommodation who would have benefited by treatment; Therefore be it resolved that the Saskatchewan

Medical Association, in annual convention here assembled, urge upon the Government the necessity of providing adequate accommodation for all cases requiring treatment for tuberculosis."

I think, Mr. Speaker, that I have made it clear that a second sanatorium is a necessity in this province.

Now for the criticism of the Leader of the Opposition, that he was not quite sure that the Sanatorium should have been built at Saskatoon. We have heard about this matter from the opposition member for Moose Jaw (*Mr. Pascoe*) when he accused the Minister of Public Works (*Hon. A. P. McNab*) of tucking the Sanatorium under his arm and carrying it to Saskatoon and yet he follows the man who says this is a "one-man government." The site was chosen by the Anti-Tuberculosis League and Commission. We consider that men like Dr. Ferguson, Mr. Cook and the others should be consulted in a matter of this kind. We also knew that if the pressure of cases coming from the northern part of the Province could be eased as far as the Sanatorium at Fort Qu'Appelle was concerned, that institution would be sufficient accommodation for the southern part of the province.

Therefore, there was only one way open and that was to find a site in the northern part of the province because the people of that area are entitled to the accommodation as well as the people of the southern part. By taking the sanatorium to the northern part of the province it was brought closer to the homes of the patients thereby saving money for them and for their friends and relatives who come to see them. Other things had to be taken into consideration such as electric power, sewerage connections, easy access to various lines of railway, which, in my opinion, is most important.

The League chose Saskatoon as the site and the Government concurred in the selection so it was not my honourable colleague who deposited the sanatorium there. It will be open for patients shortly in the new year, in the course of a few weeks, when we shall have 125 additional beds and when the pressure on the Fort Qu'Appelle Sanatorium will be relieved as well as the present waiting list numbering between 30 and 40.

The Provincial Laboratory: The Provincial Laboratory is maintained for the benefit of the public and the assistance of the medical profession and the hospitals of the province. The work has increased tremendously during the last two years.

Supplies, such as culture media, and containers for all kinds of specimens are supplied free to all physicians, hospitals or anyone requiring them. Thousands of these are distributed during the year. All swabs and culture media are made and sterilised in the laboratory. All examinations are made free of charge and no charge is made for any of the supplies.

During 1923, 5,400 examinations were made for venereal disease and 4,000 for other communicable diseases. Over 4,000 chemical

examinations were made; the greater number of these being for the Liquor Commission and for the Department of the Attorney General.

Just a few figures to show how the work has grown during the last few years:

In 1920 there were 7,783 examinations made; in 1921, 12,975; in 1922, 17,144 and in 1923, 18,427.

Even with the marked increase in work, the staff is two less in number than in 1921, and the amount paid in salaries in 1923 was over \$6,000 less than in 1921. The total expenditure in 1923 was \$16,099 as compared with \$20,283 in 1922, and \$22,537 in 1921.

Vital Statistics Division: A word or two about the Vital Statistics Division. In the year 1923 the division received approximately 33,000 records of births, marriages and deaths. In the collection of these records there are 764 local registrars employed. Forms and other material are supplied to each registrar and they report to the division once a month. All these reports are carefully checked, proper entries made, and an acknowledgment sent to each registrar. Each registrar is paid a fee of 25 cents for each complete record sent in. The sum of \$11,336 was paid to the registrars in fees during 1923.

The marriage rate is slightly lower than in the previous year, being 6.2, while in 1922 it was 6.4 per 1,000 population.

The death rate for the province in 1923 was 7.6 per thousand population, which is slightly higher than in 1922, when the death rate was the lowest of any part of the world. It is still the lowest of any province in the Dominion of Canada, however.

Pneumonia is the greatest killer in the province, having produced 650 deaths. In 1915 this disease was third. Tuberculosis, which in 1915 was in second place, in 1923 is in sixth place, with 332 deaths. Our fight against the white plague is beginning to show results. We shall continue the fight. In 1922 the death rate of tuberculosis was 42 per 100,000; in 1923 it was 40.9 per 100,000. Cancer, which in 1915 was in seventh place, was in fifth place in 1923.

Typhoid has now disappeared entirely from the list of fifteen diseases causing the greatest mortality.

I want to deal for a moment or so on the finances of the Department. Our total expenditure in 1923 was \$540,392.42. Of this amount \$301,683 was hospital grants, which is not controllable. That leaves a balance of \$238,716 controllable, which is a per capita expenditure of twenty-nine cents.

Let me refer to what the Premier touched on yesterday, this paid advertisement which appeared a few weeks ago in some of the rural

parts of this province. I call it a "Local Whisper of Death." It almost appears as though it were an "intellectual belly-ache." Let me read you the first spasm: "The Dunning Government has been for some time on a regular bat. Money has been spent like water. As men do who become intoxicated with sudden wealth or easy money, they have gone on a perfect spree of extravagance."

Second spasm: "The present group that are in the saddle cannot effect any radical cut in expenditure. The barnacles will not permit."

Third spasm: "Since Charles A. Dunning became the Provincial Treasurer the Government has run up the public debt from \$29,645,836 to \$55,158,455 or approximately \$80 per head men, women and children—halt, maimed and blind."

The advertisement says the public debt is \$55,158,455, which is correct, and it adds "that means \$80 per head." I tried for half an hour my old arithmetic and did everything in my power to get at that \$80. I divided 800,000, which is our population, into the debt and got about \$67. The advertisement says \$80, but fourteen additional dollars does not mean much to this critic.

Here is another spasm: "Barnacles will gather on the ship of state unless taken into dry dock ever so often and cleaned up. This process is long overdue in Saskatchewan. Barnacles are clinging to the ship on every side and the result to you and me is ruinous taxes." It is a peculiar thing but that word "barnacles" seems to crop up in the speeches of my honourable friends opposite every now and then.

I would not have referred to this matter at all but two parallel rows of figures are published in this advertisement. Among the things mentioned is the Department of Public Health. The advertisement says: "In 1907-8 the expenditure for Public Health was \$30,371.30 and in 1922-23 \$492,784.57." But it does not say that we spent \$300,000 last year for hospital grants alone. In 1907 we spent \$13,000. There were no hospitals; we only had a population of 600,000 and yet the writer of this advertisement puts these two figures side by side without giving us credit for the uncontrollable expenditure which this year amounts to thirty-five cents and the controllable expenditure only to twenty-nine cents, per capita.

Just for the information of the House let me draw attention to the criticism that appeared in the "Yorkton Enterprise" which paper I understand is owned by my friend, Dr. Patrick. To use the language of the first Minister when he stated that he and the Leader of the Opposition found themselves in accord once, I find myself in accord with Dr. Patrick for once. Here is what he says: "Governments are usually subjected to some criticism that is uncalled for during election campaigns, but that levelled at the Saskatchewan Government because of the amounts of money expended in the fight against tuberculosis in this province, heard during the course of the Wynyard by-election, was

about as inept and unjustifiable as could well be imagined. Opposition speakers from Saskatoon quoted figures of the cost of the Sanatorium now in course of erection at Saskatoon in an effort to strengthen their cause against the Government on the charge of extravagance, and one speaker even expressed the opinion that the institution was unnecessary. It was a great surprise to us to find in this enlightened age men holding such views as these undertaking to instruct the electorate from the public platform. One would at least expect such men to acquaint themselves with the facts. That this man failed to do so is at once apparent to anyone who is at all informed regarding the work of the Anti-Tuberculosis League in Saskatchewan. And any public man who is indifferent to the work of this League which has accomplished so much towards the restoration of health and strength for thousands of our citizens and by its research and prevention work has saved countless thousands of others from the menace of the dread white plague, hardly deserves to occupy a position of honour and trust in the gift of the electorate. If there is one thing the Saskatchewan Government should be commended for it is the advanced legislation which has made possible the creation of the modern institution at Fort Qu'Appelle and the one now in course of construction at Saskatoon for the care of those afflicted with tuberculosis and the institutions at Battleford and Weyburn for the treatment of mental diseases. These are rendering services of incalculable benefit to the people of this province and are staffed by conscientious and hard-working men and women who are devoting their lives to the amelioration of the condition of their fellow-men. Heretofore, fortunately for the cause of humanity, these institutions have not been dragged into the political area and any man who attempts to make of them a political issue is doing a distinct disservice to the state which will meet with strong disapproval from all good citizens familiar with the work they are accomplishing."

He concludes: "The Saskatchewan Government is open to constructive criticism from many angles but the man who assails it on its record in connection with public health matters can hope for no consideration from thoughtful electors. To do so is tantamount to admitting that he has not kept himself informed regarding the advancement in this province of what is, after all, the most important function of a government—the welfare of its people—and a man who is not fully informed on matters of this kind cannot hope to be taken seriously by the electors when he attempts to instruct and advise them on other public issues."

I would not have taken so much of the time of the House, Mr. Speaker, in this matter had it not been for the criticism of the Sanatorium. The honourable member for Wynyard (*Mr Paulson*) undoubtedly owes something to the "health authority" from Saskatoon because, apparently, he did his best to elect him.

In conclusion, I wish again publicly to express the appreciation and thanks for the Department of Public Health and the Government as a whole for the splendid co-operation at the various organisations in

the province which have so effectively assisted us during the year in our campaign for better public health. The Red Cross, particularly its junior division, has done noble work, and I am confident that the people as a whole know how to value their splendid contribution. The Red Cross Outposts, of which there are ten in number, fill a long felt want in the outlying districts in the province. Let me pick out one at random—that in the Kelvington district—which, though in operation for only a little over a year, has had 170 maternity cases during that time, with not a single death. The mothers in these outlying districts served by such outposts know how to appreciate them, I am certain.

The Provincial Council of Women, which embraces practically all the women's organisations in the province, have completed their contribution of \$50,000 to be spent in the treatment of tubercular mothers. We have received splendid co-operation from the medical men, the dentists, sanitary engineers and local Medical Health Officers. Another class which has assisted us greatly is the large body of school teachers in the province who are ever ready to help in carrying out the regulations, in spreading the gospel of better health and in exercising vigilance over the large body of children entrusted to their supervision and care during a large portion of the year.

A word about the staff of the Department. They are capable; they are efficient; they are loyal to their work. The men and women of the Department are entitled to a little praise and credit, and I, as the responsible Minister, am glad to give it to them, even on the floor of the Legislature. We have had to drive them hard sometimes, but they are ever ready and willing to give the best there is in them for the success of the Department.

A few people may not see eye to eye with us on some matters; but we have honestly endeavoured to give service to the people, and if our low death rate in the province is a criterion, our efforts are meeting with some measure of success.

Speech Delivered by

MR. D. H. McDONALD, M.L.A.,

(*South Qu'Appelle*)

in the

BUDGET DEBATE

in the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,

Monday, January 12, 1925.

Mr. D. H. McDonald, in speaking during the debate on the Budget, said:

Mr. Speaker,—It is not my intention to take up very much time of the House. I realise that there are many other members in this Assembly who are well fitted to deal with the questions under consideration and, while this is an important subject to the people of the province, we must realise that we have had occasions earlier in the session when there has been an opportunity to criticise some of the financial acts of the Government and some of the administrative acts.

It must be a pleasure to us to realise that, after the very serious conditions that prevailed in Saskatchewan during the earlier part of the summer, eventually there was realised in this province a crop that, at least, helped us to tide over 1924, and with the prospect of such high prices as we have received from the various agencies that have been working for the securing of these prices, and through the depleted conditions of food stuffs in Europe, it has been a great help to this province.

We have found that in our farming operations in the province every item almost in connection with our farming expenses has been carried on at a much lower cost in 1924 than in the previous year excepting the one cost of taxation, and I have no doubt it is a great relief to the Provincial Treasurer that he finds the farmers of this province prepared for another onslaught of taxation to furnish funds for the Provincial Treasury and, when we realise that this country has gone through a series of high taxation from year to year, we must realise that the day is coming when we must draw a halt as to the burdens put on the farming communities of this province.

It is gratifying to find that possibly one of the best indexes of the business conditions of the country we can look to as a barometer is the mercantile failures. Last session I had an opportunity of quoting the figures for 1922-23 which showed in the latter year a large increase. For the year 1924 there is a big decrease. Two hundred and nineteen in the first year, two hundred and forty-seven in 1923 and one hundred and sixty-seven in 1924 in Saskatchewan. This is an indication of the changed conditions which are coming over not only the business people of this province, but the farming conditions upon which they largely depend.

We have gone through a number of changes in the past year. We have found various political parties taking the field in this province and some of them making severe attacks upon the Government, and as a result of these things we find questions touched which have not been touched before in this House. But, after all, what is the cause for attack and what is the cause for criticism in any government in any part of Canada? Let us look back over the record of those who have been themselves criticised anywhere in Canada. It is but their failure to implement those promises made to the people (promises upon which they were returned) in their platform. And, by reason of the failure of this Government to keep the promises made in their platform, they must surely look for the cause of these attacks. If it is not my privilege on any future occasion to discuss this matter in this House, as I have not the least doubt that many people realise that my time for public service in Saskatchewan is not very long, I wish to say that looking back over the record of the party that has remained in power in this province, it is one complete failure to carry out their political promises from the first year they assumed reins of government.

Did we not hear when the autonomy terms were granted about these munificent financial grants that were granted to this province, that would enable this province to continue without any public debt? We can go further and realise that this party, which has been succeeded by those who now sit on the Government benches, have also failed in the question of taxation and in the question of public policy.

There is one thing this Government likes more than another and that is a grievance. If they can only make the people of this province believe that they have a serious grievance against the Senate or the Federal Government for failure to grant the natural resources to this province or the passage of certain railway bills, if this grievance can only continue until after the general election, they will be satisfied.

Let us look back over the record in connection with the railway policy. What was the promise they made to the people in 1917? I quote from the Saskatchewan Liberal Journal of June, 1917, page 26:

"More Railways—Our Settlers must have them.

"The Liberal Party at its huge Convention at Moose Jaw took a decided stand on this question and urged as follows:

"The construction of branch railways through all settlements urgently in need of transportation facilities. While realising that the

war has unavoidably delayed the building of branch lines, still the solution of this problem is so vital to thousands of our farming population that we believe if the railways required cannot be secured when peace is declared by the aid of bond guarantees, or other assistance, the province itself should undertake the construction of these lines.'

"The Government must build these lines if the Railway Companies stand still.

"As soon as the war is over the Martin Government is pledged to commence active railway construction.

"This is not an election promise. The Government means business. Our settlers must get relief."

That has gone on for seven years and continually these gentlemen will endeavour to pass resolutions condemning the Senate, to relieve them from the responsibilities they declared they would carry out themselves and if we desire another demonstration of their insincerity in the railway policy we have only to go back to the last session when, with the unanimous consent of the Opposition, they secured the passage of an Act releasing from trust funds more than one million dollars that was to be used for the construction of branch lines by the Canadian National Railways. That legislation was passed two months before the Federal House rose. They had an opportunity of dealing with the matter and yet for six months the matter lay in abeyance and the Canadian National Railways and the Federal Government and this Government had many months to find out whether that legislation was good or not, but not until September 10 of last year was a telegram received from the authorities saying they could not proceed because there was no authority at Ottawa for them to use this money.

If this Government was sincere, if the Canadian National Railways was sincere, in attempting to put that branch line through from Hafford to Turtleford, they would have come before this House with sufficient information to assure us and secure from this Legislature the necessary authority and to then take it to the Federal Government to enable this money to be used. I stand here today ready to assist in any legislation that will make that effective and if that money is not sufficient to build that line the members on this side of the House are ready to assist the Government in pledging a further sum.

But they are not anxious to do so. If the Canadian National Railways was sincere they would not have brought up this objection. If the Federal Government was sincere they would not have made use of it. Several years ago the Canadian National Railways took more than two million dollars without the sanction of Parliament to secure an office in France. Was not the Long Lac cut-off in Ontario built with funds before they were granted by Parliament? In our case the assistance offered is declined. It is only done so that the Government can go to the people and blame their default on the Senate.

Let us go to another matter on which the Minister who leads the House pledged himself. Look at the land settlement policy of 1917. What has he ever done in this House to implement this promise to the people? Nothing. We will give him a little sample of the Liberal

policy of 1917. Number 6 of the 1917 platform reads as follows: "The time has arrived when the province should inaugurate a vigorous land settlement scheme with the object of placing experienced farmers with families on vacant lands now owned by speculators. For this purpose the Government should obtain an inventory of all such lands, indicating their location, ownership, character, value and other necessary information. To provide for the settlement of these lands the province should from time to time purchase them as required for actual settlement purposes and, with the necessary safeguards, resell the lands so purchased to *bona fide* settlers on long term payments at a low rate of interest."

That plank was drafted for the election and I am sure there is no one in this province can say that there was ever a decade in which that was needed more than it is at the present time because we find many individual farmers and others ready to assist settlers who are coming into the country and under very labourious conditions for themselves endeavouring to place these farm lands with those who have not the capital. This is another occasion on which the Prime Minister of this province has failed to implement his promise to the people of Saskatchewan.

If we want to go further we would only have to look at the Farm Loan Board and the policy in that respect and find that as stated by the Provincial Treasurer to this Legislature "it must be remembered that to operate our Farm Loan Board and to hold the rate of interest to the borrower at 6½ per cent. we must get 5 per cent. money in the first place."

I hope that realising these conditions the Government will, before this session closes, make arrangements for the rate on farm loans to be reduced because it has been said by the Provincial Treasurer that they must borrow money at 5% to lend it at 6½%. That was so stated in his speech on December 6, 1920, to which I have just referred. He has assured us that they are able to borrow a certain amount of funds at 4½% and, if so, they should be able to reduce the rate of interest to 6%. If they could only assure the farmers that the cost of managing the Board would be reduced, the rate might go down still further, because it is absurd to say that the cost of management of the Board should be 1½% per annum. It is excessive and not a cost that would be allowed by any proper business organisation.

These matters of policy are matters the Government likes to forget. I am not anxious to be continually reminding them of their failures. We know how much of late the Prime Minister has felt criticism. We know how much he desires to have bouquets from all parts of this House and from the people. Nevertheless these are matters that should be fulfilled and dealt with by the Government.

In the statements made by the Provincial Treasurer in his speech he has made this statement, that all classes of taxation in this province were lower than in any of the provinces either to the east or west. I

challenge that statement and would call his attention to the fact that in Saskatchewan the Wild Lands Tax is two mills on the dollar and in Manitoba it is only half a mill. He has forgotten that and he has forgotten also

Premier Dunning: Mr. Speaker, I must object. My honourable friend is not quoting me correctly.

Mr. McDonald: I have misquoted the honourable gentleman before when quoting his speeches from the Regina Leader. I had occasion in 1924 to remind him of a statement made on March 19, 1923, in connection with the Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries and he took a year to correct it, so if I misquote him he should have corrected his speech at an earlier stage.

Premier Dunning: The report is not incorrect but my honourable friend's reference to it is.

Mr. McDonald: I cannot agree that all taxation in Saskatchewan is lower than in the provinces to the east and west and would again refer to the land titles fees in this province.

While the leader of the Government has assured us that there would be a reduction of \$300,000 in the gross public debt of the province there has not been a reduction. The payment by the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, as I understand it, of approximately one million dollars, was the means of reducing the gross public debt, but at the last session there was placed on the statute books further power for increasing the public debt and that is going on again at this session. I am entirely opposed to the creating of any new public debt in Saskatchewan when such is called dead-weight debt. We have arrived at the stage when we must go a little slowly.

If we had any occasion to realise how far we have gone in that respect, let us look at the question of interest. The interest on the public debt in 1917 was over \$1,067,000; in 1918 over \$1,078,000; in 1919 over \$1,221,000; in 1920 over \$1,335,000; in 1922 over \$1,829,000; in 1923 over \$2,167,000; in 1924 higher still. That is the best evidence of the increase of taxation in Saskatchewan. Notwithstanding that, we have statements made, I believe, for the purpose of making the people of Saskatchewan believe that the total expenditure in this province has been cut down by 40% when the leader of the Government quotes the amount that was expended some four years ago, which included a large capital expenditure, bringing the total up to \$26,000,000, and today we have an expenditure of \$15,000,000. But that is not the full evidence. The whole evidence is contained in the statement of current expenses of this province which were, at the time the present Provincial Treasurer came into office, \$5,600,000 and which last year were over \$12,000,000, and this is the burden that the people have to pay.

If it is possible that we can in any way assist in reducing the burden to the people in the interest debt we should make that one of our first duties.

We have certain administrative acts and criticisms by people outside of this province about the way the business management is conducted. I refer particularly to the criticism that was levelled at this province in a good many places in the past year owing to the large number of defalcations by officers of municipal bodies, many more than in any previous year. It was necessary for the Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs to take the matter up by circular, and what has the Government done in the way of legislation or in any other way to make the system more secure? So far as we know nothing has been done. It must be a matter that must be taken up by this House and dealt with in such a way that the business organisations of this province, established by this Legislature, should have a name for integrity and honest management such as some have not had in the past year.

Last year we had the question of the inspection of the public buildings before us and when the matter was brought up in the Committee, and later in the House, I amended my resolution to meet the wishes of the Government with a view of getting the matter speedily dealt with in this province, realising that we did not have any grand jury or official body to make any report on our public institutions other than the departmental officials and I, at least, went away from this House, and many other members did, with the assurance that the matter would be dealt with summarily. There was an effort made to take it up but that effort did not materialise. I am afraid the Minister of Public Works was not quite sanguine enough about his management of these institutions to allow a number of the members of the Legislature on this side of the House to inspect them and report.

An effort will be made, I presume, to lay the blame on other than his own shoulders, but before I close I will quote his last letter:

“Regina, July 24, 1924.

“Dear Mr. McDonald,—

“I just received a note from Don McNiven a few days ago saying that he was leaving on the 19th of this month for Ontario, so I am afraid it is impossible to get that committee together. Whenever he returns I will try and get you together to talk over the situation. You seem to have an idea that I want to run this thing but this is left to the committee and they can get together and make whatever arrangements suit them. The only thing I was trying to do was to get you together. Trusting that when Mr. McNiven comes back that you will be able to get together and discuss the matter more fully.”

Hon. Mr. McNab: Would you like me to read some of the letters I got from you?

Mr. McDonald: I will read them all myself. We will give you all the letters you want.

Hon. Mr. McNab: I would like to hear from the rest of the committee, what they think about it.

Mr. McDonald: Letter of June 27 from A. P. McNab, Minister of Public Works, to myself:

"I wrote you under date of June 13 stating that you were chosen as one of the members to visit the Government Institutions this summer and asking you to let me know if you would be able to go and when. I have heard from the other members in reference to this and would be glad if you would let me know what dates you have free as we would like to set a date for this trip early in July. Trusting to hear from you in this connection at your earliest convenience."

Letter from myself to A. P. McNab, dated July 4, 1924:

"I have your letter of the 27th of June. I also received your letter 13th June and after receiving the first letter wrote to Mr. Harris Turner, M.L.A., of Saskatoon, who had first taken this matter up with me. If I am to act on this committee I would like to know what authority the committee has and how it was appointed and what Institutions, public and semi-public, it was supposed to deal with. These are matters that should, I think, come before the members before they can decide definitely on the matter. Personally I am afraid that I cannot give any time prior to the 20th of July, but would first like to have the information I ask for. Possibly Mr. Turner has written you about it."

Letter from A. P. McNab to myself, dated July 5, 1924:

"I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favour of the 4th of July stating that you received my letter of the 13th of June and also the letter written you on the 27th of June, but you wrote Mr. Turner to get some information in this connection and had not yet had a reply from him.

"I notice you state you cannot visit the institutions until after the 20th of July but I am afraid this would be too late and I have written Mr. Turner to that effect.

"I notice you would like to know what authority the committee has and how it was appointed. I think I told you in the first letter that I had written to Mr. Turner asking him to suggest three members and the Government suggested four. Mr. Turner did so and I wrote to both Mr. Cockburn and Mr. Bennett, who are the other two members Mr. Turner suggested, and I received letters from them stating they had accepted and would be able to go almost any time, but mentioned certain dates when they would be busy and I wrote telling them we would not interfere with these dates.

"I also notice you want to know what institutions, public or semi-public, we were supposed to deal with. That matter was left to the Committee and they can visit any institutions which the public give one dollar to in the way of grants or support of any kind. I am sorry you will not be able to go before the 20th, and I am trying to arrange with the Committee to go about the middle of next week to Prince Albert Jail, Battleford Mental Hospital and the Sanatorium at Saskatoon. The next week we will try and arrange to visit the institutions in the southern part of the Province."

I replied to that letter on July 7, as follows:

"I have your letter of the 5th of July and note that the committee can visit any institution which the public have given \$1 or any donation of any kind. This answers part of my question of the 4th of July. The authority of the committee, however, is not given. I would suggest that the committee should be called together and that they could then proceed with the lay out of the work which they were authorised to do. It occurs to me that the work cannot be done in one week or two weeks, if we visit all the institutions that come within its scope. I should be glad to hear from you further if you can get the committee together, so that they can lay out their work."

I think the only other letter I have from the Minister of Public Works was the one I first read, dated July 24, to which I replied as follows, under date of August 1, 1924:

"I have your letter of the 24th of July advising me that Mr. McNiven had gone to Ontario and that you would call the committee together on his return. I will await your advices."

Hon. Mr. McNab: You surely do not blame me for that?

Mr. McDonald: If that is all you did you did very little.

Hon. Mr. McNab: I was not on the committee.

Mr. McDonald: You failed to get the committee together. The impression is gaining ground that you did not wish the committee to get together. However, let it go at that. If the Government wishes to have an independent inspection of the public buildings and institutions of this province now is the time for them to arrange it. The First Minister said, when the matter was discussed last session, that it was a little late to deal with it so there is an opportunity at this time to take the matter up and make the necessary provision. If it is objectionable to the Minister of Public Works that I should be on that committee there are many more men on this side of the House who are willing to act.

Hon. Mr. McNab: Not at all, but I did not think the other fellows could go on with you.

Mr. McDonald: The other fellows have never raised any objection. We can find someone else to put on the committee.

Hon. Mr. McNab: I think we will.

Mr. McDonald: I think that is the reason the investigation has been delayed. Let the Government proceed with the matter today before this House closes. Let them assure the people of this province that there is going to be an independent investigation of the public buildings of this province.

Hon. Mr. McNab: I will welcome it at any time.

Mr. McDonald: You may be welcoming it too late when you are on the outside. These matters appear to cause a little trouble to the Minister of Public Works, but after all is there anything better for any Government or for the people than that they should get the minutest details of the public institutions in which the whole people are interested?

Premier Dunning: They do.

Mr. McDonald: I cannot agree with that statement. We have many times heard of people escaping from different institutions. We should have some investigation. We should have some report made to this Legislature other than by departmental officials to endeavour to improve conditions. If the Government speaks with one voice then of course the people will know where they stand, but it may be like the Minister of Public Works after the plebiscite vote at Saskatoon. He wished that the people had voted for beer licenses. But what about him now? Where does he stand now?

Hon. Mr. McNab: They did not vote for them and we did not give them to them.

Mr. McDonald: At that time he was the leader of the Government in this province. He has had to change his tone since he came to this House.

There are many questions we must deal with and when you look at the Government and its record and you find that every year the interest bill of this province is increasing and the contributions of the people of this province who are living here are increasing to the Provincial Treasury, and look at the other corporations and railway companies and the system under which they pay taxes, again we should realise that those who are living here are made to bear the burden of taxation. The farmers and others have to take from this Government the system of taxation that they enact on the statute books. They are not consulted as to whether the Assessment Commission requires two and a quarter millions or more of Public Revenue and they are given complete powers to fix the system of assessment. But what happens to these corporations that are owning railways in this province? Do they come under any such system? Let the people of this country realise that when the system of railway taxation is enacted in this province representatives are invited to these Parliament Buildings and a mutual agreement is made as to the taxation to be put into force. Is anything like that done to any resident of the province?

What have the farmers and others had to put up with in the past two years in connection with the Public Revenues tax, and why was it, in many parts of the province, that 30% of the areas of certain municipalities was offered for sale for taxes? Through the high system of taxation and the inequitable system enacted by this Government. If today in any State of the American Union these railway companies were treated as they should be they would be paying three or four times as much taxation as they have to pay here, and we have enacted by this Government a system of taxation that gives them exemption for about seven years under *The Railway Taxation Act* of this province, and at no time can that system be increased except as the revenues of these corporations increase. It was very nice last year for the Provincial Treasurer to tell this House that the farmers did not earn sufficient from their farm crops to meet their expenses, and they and others had to pay in that year the largest bill of taxation ever put on the statute books of Saskatchewan by any government, but the railway company's taxation was reduced a great deal. They were paying on the net results of their business but the farmers and others were paying under compulsory taxation. If I should not have an opportunity of repeating these statements on the record of this Government it is certain that the time has come for a change. Let the people look back to the record of 1917 and those unfilled promises upon which the people were dissatisfied and the agitation that is being put forward over the whole of this province to endeavour to divert public attention from their failures. Let them look back upon the record in connection with the Farm Loan

scheme about which it is impossible to get accurate information before this House. The statements made last year can be challenged, that information was given me in connection with the Farm Loan Board that was misleading and can be proved before a committee of this House. I shall not have another opportunity to deal with these matters or seek another opportunity to come back to this Legislature. I, at least as a private citizen, can impress on the people that today, more than at any time in the history of the province, it is time for a change of Government. I trust when that time comes they will not shelter themselves behind that infamous Election Act. Let them have courage. They laugh, but those who laugh last laugh best, and if they are anxious to serve the people let them come out in the open and give the people the trust and confidence which any well merited Government will deserve.

I cannot support the resolution presented to the House.

Speech delivered by
MR. HARRIS TURNER, M.L.A.
(*Saskatoon City*)

during the

BUDGET DEBATE

in the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,

Tuesday, January 13, 1925.

Mr. Harris Turner, in speaking on the debate on the Budget, said:

Mr. Speaker,—In rising to speak on the Budget debate I realise the desire of many of the members to get through the Session this week and I will not be longer in my remarks than necessary.

It is pleasing to note from the speech of the Provincial Treasurer that the finances of the province are not in dire difficulty. There is no impending disaster so far as the finances are concerned. I was pleased with the presentation made by the Provincial Treasurer. He puts things in a very interesting form and I always listen to him with pleasure when he gives his Budget speech although I wish he would vary it somewhat in form. It is beginning to get something like the Speech from the Throne—a comprehensive and interesting review of the crop situation and then a very complacent review of the financial situation and then a wholesome condemnation of critic and criticism.

As to the details of the estimates I am not in a position to go into them deeply. I must of necessity speak in generalities. It seems to me that it is somewhat misleading to announce, perhaps I should say it gives a wrong impression when it is baldly stated, that the gross debt of the province has been decreased in the past year. I am not so very much interested in the gross debt as I am in what is known as the dead-weight debt of the province. It seems to me from time to time, ever since I have been here, that that dead-weight debt has gone on increasing and that is the matter of most vital concern to the people. I think the time has come when it should be possible with the very large revenues which are coming into the Provincial Treasury to conduct the affairs of the province without going further into this business of dead-weight debt.

I think I was at a meeting somewhere where one of the Ministers stated that if the Government conducted its business as a private institution was conducted in these days of hard times, no criticism should be offered, that if they carried on their business in the same way there would be no criticism. I am inclined to agree with that view but I do not think there are a great many institutions who are going further into debt at the present time and I think that the Provincial Government should get down to that basis.

I am always interested to hear the Ministers review the work of their departments. I was sorry the Minister of Agriculture (*Hon. Mr. Hamilton*) did not see fit to give us a review of his department because I like to roam through the fields and farms with him, and dig into the Provincial Treasury with the Provincial Treasurer, to ramble around the hospitals with the Minister of Public Health and have a look at the jails with my friend the Minister of Public Works—strictly from the outside, of course.

I think the Minister of Public Health (*Hon. Mr. Ulrich*) made a very excellent address yesterday. I think he showed us how a good speech should be made. I think he made a very excellent presentation of his case but he referred to some remark I made about the location of the Sanatorium at Saskatoon. I did make a remark concerning the location at Saskatoon which could be construed the way he has construed it, that I did not care to see it at Saskatoon. That was not my intention. What I meant to say, of course, was that the fact that the Sanatorium was located in Saskatoon was not the reason I desired to see it built. Someone from Saskatoon, I think it was the Federal member, has intimated that he did not care to see it built. I do not think the Minister of Public Health should be so outraged at the remark because I would not be surprised if some members sitting beside him had the same view.

I think the Sanatorium should have been built. But there are people in the province who do not think these Sanatoria for the treatment of tuberculosis are the proper thing. When one of them has the courage to say so I do not think anyone should be terribly outraged.

When it comes to the location of the institution I took particular care I did not offer any advice in the matter because I felt I was not in possession of sufficient information to come to a proper conclusion and when the officials of the Anti-Tuberculosis League were looking over a site I was content to leave it to them and if they decided on Saskatoon it was quite satisfactory to me as it would have been wherever it was located.

I am interested in the work of the Department of Public Health and I think most of the members of the Legislature and the people as a whole are and I think they wish to see the Minister extend his operations but I would advise him to be a little cautious. When he said we are going to have the co-operation of certain people whether they are

willing or otherwise in certain matters of public health, I am not sure he may not be going too far because compulsory co-operation is not the best kind and there is a danger in the pushing of the work of the Public Health Department that such insistence may be endangered and a reaction set in and the public may decide there is too much public health and too much insistence on official regulations in connection with matters of public health and there may be a reverse effect to that desired. That is not criticism—merely advice.

I have, from time to time, criticised the Government. It has been stated in the House that those who criticise the Government when talking about the finances do not say how excellently situated the province is financially as compared with other provinces, do not mention the self-sustaining public utilities built up out of some of this debt. I have, on several occasions, admitted (or stated rather) that the position of Saskatchewan financially is better than that of Alberta or Manitoba. I remember in a certain by-election in the constituency of Milestone, when I was talking about the financial position of the province that I stated, and some of the Ministers were there, that Saskatchewan was in better financial shape than Alberta and Manitoba and I said that was perhaps a cause for congratulation, but that it did not necessarily mean that everything in Saskatchewan was in fine shape. I think I stated on that occasion that if the mariner of a ship seeing one or two other ships in front of him going on the rocks and he was pursuing the same course if he did not alter his course he was not a very good pilot.

I think I stated in Wynyard, (I seem to have been in two by-elections in recent years) that the position of the province financially was better than that of Manitoba or Alberta and I think on that occasion I said that when three neighbours were afflicted with smallpox and the man on the right was in bad shape and the man on the left in worse shape it might be a source of congratulation to the man in the centre, but he would be foolish if he did not enlist some medical aid, get himself vaccinated for instance.

I have given credit to the Provincial Treasurer and the Government for being in better shape than Manitoba or Alberta. Alberta got into such desperate financial shape under a Liberal régime. The condition of Manitoba can be accounted for by a combination of all the old parties put together.

Premier Dunning: And some new ones.

Mr. Turner: They are doing very well. I have admitted that the province is in better financial shape than the other two but I still maintain that the Government of Saskatchewan spends too much money; the business of Government requires too much money to run and I have criticised the erection of public buildings that were too expensive and I still think so. I have criticised the Government on the ground that they have made political appointments and I want to be frank in saying my main objection to the Government now is that it is too political,

too bound up with party politics and party considerations. There was an old friend of mine in Milestone who drove me from Truax to Rouleau one Sunday morning. He has been refused a Commissionership for Oaths.

Premier Dunning: That is surely not the case.

Mr. Turner: I am glad to hear that is not the fact because his notaryship can be issued tomorrow. I know of a friend of mine who took part in one or two elections and had been a Notary Public before that and after that he was not. These are small details, very small details, but they indicate the way the wind blows and I maintain there is too much politics mixed up with the administration of Government in Saskatchewan.

I will say again that I think the business of Saskatchewan could get along better if we could eliminate some of these small party things within the province. I have stated before there is no dividing line politically between the people of the province. There is no distinguishing difference in the general public on the problems of the province between the average man on the Government side and the average man on this side. I do not look on all the men who sit behind the Government as scoundrels in the good old party way. A lot of them are personal friends of mine. My only objection to them is that they are Liberal and mixed up with the Dominion Government. I cannot see how the affairs of the province are helped by people who insist on calling themselves Liberals, whether the Liberal party at Ottawa is Liberal or Conservative or what it is. As far as I can make out from recent statements of the Premier of Canada I think the party to which my friends belong federally is a semi-Liberal-Conservative party.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner: You might get in, then.

Mr. Turner: I think perhaps I could get into the party, but I do not desire to.

I have an idea if forty men were gathered here from all parts of the province with nothing to do but to look after the administration of the affairs of the province without worrying about how the thing was going to affect any one politically, I am sure we could conduct our affairs on a better basis than at the present time. The longer I sit here the less necessity I see for the present system.

I was sorry I was not in the House during all the address of the Minister of Education (*Hon. Mr. Latta*) because I wanted to refer to a matter in connection with parts of it. I wanted to refer to the old question of a larger unit for the administration of schools. I noticed the other day that Mr. Chipman of the "Grain Growers Guide," when speaking to the United Farmers of Manitoba declared that it seemed to him that the administration of two or three thousand rural schools as individual units must be wasteful and inefficient in the handling of

things and I am inclined to agree that that is correct. A year or so ago in the Committee on Education the matter was brought up as to the advisability of creating the municipality as the unit for the administration of schools and at that time the motion put forward to test out the experiment in a few municipalities was vetoed by the Committee, the Minister promising to look into the matter. Unless he made a statement here yesterday concerning that, I do not think he has given the House the benefit of his investigation. Last year a question was asked about it and—

Premier Dunning: The Minister gave the information last session.

Mr. Turner: I think the Minister said he had investigated the matter to some extent and had decided against it but it was a very meagre amount of information. In 1916-17 the Government, at a very large expense, brought a gentleman from Washington to look into the educational affairs of the province and he made a very elaborate report and his first recommendation was the establishment of the municipality as the unit for the administration of schools. I am not particularly keen on the municipality as the unit but it seems to me some scheme could be found for creating larger school districts taking in quite a few rural schools. I do not want them all centralised under one head, but Mr. Chipman's remark in Manitoba can hardly be refuted. I think that even out of courtesy to the gentleman from Washington some effort might be made to try the experiment in one or two instances.

We had a resolution this afternoon dealing with soldiers' pensions and the Government has said from time to time that it is their policy to give employment to returned soldiers where possible, and I am only taking this opportunity of saying that when the appointments are going to be made under the new liquor law, which will likely be passed at this session, I hope the Government will bear in mind their oft-repeated policy in this regard, and give positions to returned soldiers where possible, because it seems to me that in the location of these various stores and in their conduct there will be positions for quite a few men and positions which can be filled by men who are not capable of doing outside work or other kinds of work but who may be suitable for the routine work necessary to the conduct of one of these stores and I would ask the Government to seriously consider preference for returned soldiers in filling these positions.

As I said before I do not intend to speak at any great length to-night but before I proceed further I think some remark was made this afternoon about no mention being made this Session of an attempt to reduce the number of members or to cut down the expense of legislation. If my recollection is correct a motion was brought in last Session advocating the cutting down of the number of members of this House to fifty and an amendment to reduce it to forty-two was brought in and a further amendment asking the Government to take into consideration a

reduction in the number of members. The final amendment carried and the Government was instructed to look into the matter. I have heard nothing this session as to whether the Government considered the matter but if they did I have not heard the result of their deliberations. I think the cost of legislation could be cut down by a reduction in the number of seats.

Speaking again of the financial situation I am convinced that the time has come when the province can start to cut down its taxation. We have no control over the Dominion Government. The taxes they impose are something which we cannot escape. Everyone knows the municipal taxes are very high and although it has been pointed out here from time to time that the taxes imposed by the Provincial Government are not the greatest burden on the people, nevertheless, if we can in any way succeed in lifting some of our provincial taxation from the shoulders of the people it will assist them in paying these taxes which they cannot avoid.

It may be said we need every cent of revenue we get but if we deprive ourselves of some of the revenue we can get along. If the Provincial Treasurer was told that he had only so much money to spend and could not spend any more I have sufficient confidence in his ingenuity to believe that he would not spend any more because there are very few people who can spend more money than they have except those whose credit is not exhausted, and it would be a good idea to adopt that policy before our credit is exhausted.

I was going to make some remark about "one-man" government. It is a very delicate subject. I do not think I have made use of the phrase outside this House and I do not know that I intend to. It seems to me that the Premier could avoid criticism of that kind if he were only a little more cautious about the way he handles matters in the House. For instance: when the Minister of Education is doing pretty well at a tariff explanation, I think that the Premier should refrain from making his speech for him. In this way he might avoid the criticism or the accusation that this is a "one-man" government.

In the Budget speech the main portion of it was a review of crop conditions, which is a matter under the Department of the Minister of Agriculture. It is perhaps a small matter but—

Premier Dunning: That is not correct, Mr. Speaker. The main portion of the Budget speech was not a review of crop conditions.

Mr. Turner: I will accept the explanation, Mr. Speaker. Some considerable portion was.

Premier Dunning: Two sentences on the first page.

Mr. Turner: I am taking into consideration all the review of the various yields. However, I am not going to labour the point.

My main contention here this evening is that the province could get along by spending less money and at the present time relieve the people from some of the present taxation and so I am going to move an amendment, seconded by the honourable member for Souris (*Mr. Gordon*) as follows:

That all the words after "That" be struck out and the following substituted therefor: "in the opinion of this Assembly, the "Public Revenues Tax should be reduced from two mills in the "dollar to one and one-half mills in the dollar."

Speech delivered by

THE HONOURABLE C. A. DUNNING
(*Premier and Provincial Treasurer*)

in the

BUDGET DEBATE

on the

Amendment moved by Mr. Harris Turner (Saskatoon City) in the
Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan
Tuesday, January 13, 1925.

Mr. Speaker,—I only desire to speak for a few moments on the amendment and without exhausting my right to speak in reply to the main motion.

After all the fumbblings of the Opposition of the last two or three days they have reached a conclusion in regard to this matter. We received an intimation of the possibility of it for the first time when the member for Biggar (*Mr. Meikle*) spoke the other day. Of course, emanating from a gentleman like the Leader of the Opposition (*Mr. Harris Turner*) who always deprecates politics, and again deprecated politics today, we expect this kind of thing. The amendment is a pure playing of politics on the part of the proposer of it. It is intended purely for political purposes.

Mr. Turner: I rise to a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Premier Dunning: Surely I can express my view of the motive behind an amendment of this character? I have just as much right to express my view of the motive of the Leader of the Opposition in connection with a matter of this kind as he has to say that because some man did not receive an appointment as Commissioner for Oaths the motive of the Government was political. At least I am dealing with a major matter and not some little pettifogging thing such as discussed by the Leader of the Opposition.

I was saying that we had an intimation from the member for Biggar when he was speaking the other day on the main motion. What was his suggestion? Let us examine it, leaving aside its political character. The member for Biggar in proposing that we should at this Session reduce the Public Revenue Tax by one half mill argued that possibly in the new year, through the administration of a liquor system, we might be able to make enough money to off-set a reduction to the extent of \$500,000 or \$600,000 in the Public Revenue Tax.

The member for Biggar is Scotch. I venture to say he never applied the business philosophy of this amendment to his own business. It is not a habit of men of his race to count their chickens before they are hatched or spend their money before it is earned. The member for Biggar is much wiser in his private capacity than he would have us be in our public capacity.

What does it mean after all? For the purpose of giving my honourable friends opposite some political capital we are expected on this side of the House to acknowledge defeat as a government in order to save the people of this province sixty-seven and three-quarters cents per head. I hope the members of the House will not forget this sixty-seven and three-quarter cents per head of population is the price we are expected to pay in order to give my honourable friends opposite a little political capital which they find themselves lacking at the present time.

I feel sure the member for Moose Jaw on the Opposition side of the House (*Mr. Pascoe*) will not vote for the amendment. I do not see how he can. I cannot see how the member for Saskatoon County (*Mr. Agar*) after his speech tonight, begging this Government to spend more money on roads generally and especially in his constituency, can possibly vote for the amendment which has the effect of reducing money available to spend by nearly \$600,000 in the coming year. The Opposition member for Moose Jaw (*Mr. Pascoe*) does not want the money from liquor to be used for the purpose of reducing provincial taxation. He told us he wanted it to be given to the Municipality of Moose Jaw in so far as the proper proportion of liquor sold in Moose Jaw would bear to the total amount of liquor sold in the province.

I am most surprised of all at the honourable member for Souris (*Mr. Gordon*). He is seconding the amendment when he knows that the result of it would be to make the essential services of this province, to that extent, dependent upon the profits from liquor houses. How is he going to square himself in that connection? When I was discussing the matter in the House recently he was one of those who applauded when I said this Government, in connection with the matter of liquor profits, did not want to get into the position where the essential services of the province were dependent upon liquor sales in order to be carried on. Today he seconds an amendment which it is confessed by the member for Biggar (*Mr. Meikle*) has for its effect the placing of dependence upon liquor as a means of carrying on the essential services of this province.

The member for Wolseley (*Mr. Bennett*) has, I feel sure, too much common sense to vote for the amendment.

The member for Wilkie (*Mr. Bingham*) dealing with the same matter said he would reduce taxation even if the Treasurer could not see where the money was to come from to carry on the essential services and I would point out that the mover of the amendment himself did

not propose it as a measure of economy. He did not say where, among all the services rendered by this Government, the money should be saved. Oh, no. He left that to someone else. He left that to me, as he always leaves a real problem. He is willing to state a general proposal, something in a general way that should be done. But when he is asked who is going to do it and how, he says "We will leave that to the Provincial Treasurer." He did not suggest any single service that could be cut even as much as one dollar. The majority of his followers have asked for the expenditure of more money (his own amendment would provide less money to spend) and then he objects when I say that the amendment now before the House is a political amendment pure and simple.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to ask the House to vote down this amendment.

Speech delivered by

THE HONOURABLE CHAS. A. DUNNING

(*Premier and Provincial Treasurer*)

in closing the

BUDGET DEBATE

in the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

Tuesday, January 13, 1925.

Mr. Speaker,—I intend to take only a little time of the House in reply on the motion. There are only a few matters of criticism which really require reply which have not already been ably dealt with by my colleagues and the members on this side of the House.

Starting with the new financial critic of the Opposition, the member for South Qu'Appelle (*Mr. D. H. McDonald*), he excelled himself, of course, along his usual line. As was pointed out by the Minister of Highways (*Hon. Mr. Gardiner*) during the debate my honourable friend's line consists of misrepresentations in the hope he can get by in a hurry without being corrected. That has been his line in this House and in the country for a number of years. We are accustomed to it and it is a matter of some congratulation that the people of Saskatchewan are sufficiently accustomed to it at the present time not to take him seriously in connection with very much that he says.

I have here in my hand a verbatim extract containing only two letter-sized pages of my honourable friend's remarks. In looking through it I find no less than four mis-statements. "Mis-statements" is a kind term to use with reference to them because I am convinced in connection with some of them, at least, my honourable friend was quite aware of the facts of the matter he was discussing.

For instance: "The farmers and others have to take from this Government the system of taxation that they enact on the Statute Books." Apart from the unsuitability of the language, using the word "Government" instead of "Legislature," that is all right. But listen to this: "They are not consulted as to whether the Assessment Commission requires two and a quarter millions or more of Public Revenue and they are given complete powers to fix the system of assessment."

The member for South Qu'Appelle knows that the Assessment Commission does not require two and a quarter million dollars of revenue, that the Act respecting the Assessment Commission nowhere gives them power to raise revenue, and he knows furthermore as a result of questions asked in this House at this very session that the powers of the Assessment Commission have been used since its organisation to reduce the assessment of the rural property of this province by \$9,600,000.

Knowing all this, how can I characterise such a statement other than by saying it was deliberately calculated to deceive the people of this province?

Number two: "Let the people of this country realise that when the system of railway taxation is enacted in this province representatives are invited to these Parliament Buildings and a mutual arrangement is made as to the taxation to be put into force." Again my honourable friend skilfully mingles truth and fiction. One finds it easier to deal with an outright prevarication than with this kind of half-truth. His remarks with reference to railway taxation were calculated to make the people of this province believe that the Legislature and this Government or some government in this province was responsible for the fact that railways in this province are not taxed on property. If he disputes it I will read his own words. But what are the facts? The veriest schoolboy in this province knows that when the Canadian Pacific Railway was built, the Parliament of Canada, before this province had a being, and before there was even a Territorial Government, enacted that this railway and all its roundhouses, shops and property used in connection with it should be free for ever of taxation in what is now known as the Province of Saskatchewan, and it was a Conservative government, the government of Sir John A. Macdonald, that did this and not any government of this province.

My honourable friend knows that and moreover he knows that while that statute, carefully drafted back in the '80's, and intended to exempt everything that railway owned above or below the earth in connection with its operations, some years ago the then Attorney General of this province did discover a means whereby he thought we might conceivably have a chance to tax that institution. As a result the railway earnings taxation statute became law in this province.

The railway companies never admitted the validity of that statute and especially never admitted our power to demand from them a statement of their earnings in this province. The Canadian National never admitted and does not admit today the validity of statutes compelling them to give an accounting of their earnings in an individual province. My honourable friend knows that. He knows that at the present time the Government of Manitoba is endeavouring, through action in the Courts, to compel the Canadian National to give them a statement of their earnings in that province. And still my honourable friend attempts to deceive the people of Saskatchewan in the manner indicated.

The third mis-statement: "That the largest farm bill of taxation to this Government was paid by the farmers last year." Again he makes that statement in spite of the fact that the tax remained at two mills and the assessment had been reduced by \$9,600,000. It is the kind of arithmetic that bears its own refutation on its face.

In just these two pages I have found four glaring mis-statements. I suppose if I had taken the trouble to get a complete transcript of the remarks of my honourable friend I could be pointing out similar things until tomorrow.

The fourth mis-statement: "But the railway company's taxation was reduced by a great deal." My honourable friend himself knows the falsity of that statement. As a matter of fact the taxation of both railway companies in Saskatchewan in the year under review increased and did not decrease. Both railway companies paid more into the Treasury of Saskatchewan in 1923-24 than in the previous year—absolutely contrary to what my honourable friend would have the people believe. He was wrong on both ends. He was wrong when he said the farmers paid more, and knew he was wrong when he said the railway companies paid less, and I believe that he knew he was wrong.

I have very little to say regarding the remarks of the honourable member for Redberry (*Mr. Cockburn*). He spoke of the reduction in the estimates year by year which I had dealt with in the course of the Budget address, and remarked that of course it was always possible to have Supplementary Estimates. That is true. But he might have gone further and given us credit for having mighty little in the way of Supplementary Estimates in any year since he came into this House, and also for the fact that even with the Supplementary Estimates added during any year in which he has been a member of this House the aggregate expenditure has never yet reached the amount voted by this House from year to year.

The honourable member for Biggar (*Mr. Meikle*) is too intelligent a man to be deceived by his own argument. His argument was, and the honourable member for Wilkie (*Mr. Bingham*) followed it up, "let us reduce taxation anyhow; we do not want any of the services reduced or interfered with, but just tell the Provincial Treasurer that he has got to get along with \$600,000 less." In one man's hands he would place the responsibility of saying: "Here and here less money must be spent; we will cut out this or that service with a view of reducing the expenditure." One-man government again. My honourable friend forces the Provincial Treasurer to act as a one-man government if he had his way.

Regarding the disposition of the liquor profits and without indicating what might be the result in that connection, the Government is anxious that the essential services of this province should not rest for their support upon profits secured from the sale of liquor. We

believe that such a course would be poor statesmanship. By that I do not mean to say there will be no profits. Of course there must be, and of course the cost of services connected with the administration of that business must be charged first against the revenue from it according to the legislation now before the House. But I do say that it is possible for earnest men to find a way of disposing of these profits which will be of benefit to the people of the province but which will not have the effect of rendering the essential services of the province dependent on that source of revenue. I am not now discussing the way suggested by the Opposition member for Moose Jaw (*Mr. Pascoe*), and which he voted against at the first opportunity. I do not believe it is any more good statesmanship for our municipalities to be dependent for their essential services upon revenue from liquor than it would be for the province to be in the same position, but there are many ways, and I throw out one idea for consideration—after we get the money the creation of a sinking fund from the surplus from liquor sales to be used solely for the purpose of reducing the public debt of the province. In that manner no essential service of the province would become dependent on this source of revenue, but at the same time such revenue as may be derived from the system would be going in an effective way of service to the people in reducing the load of debt and if at any time the people in their wisdom or otherwise should get rid of the system it would not mean an increase in taxation to take the place of that revenue. This is merely one suggestion, but I suppose my honourable friend from South Qu'Appelle will tell me next session that I announced this as a policy. If my honourable friend is rising to his feet to state he will not be here next session, I will take back my remark.

Mr. D. H. McDonald: I was going to say that neither you nor I will be here.

Premier Dunning: Regarding the suggestion of the member for Wilkie (*Mr. Bingham*) that those parts of the provincial highway system which are only on paper as yet should be maintained where a decent road exists, by the department, I can only say that my honourable friend must have been asleep or he would have known that we have been doing that for the past two years. Provincial highways completed, 1,338 miles. The department is maintaining every mile. Extensions on roads which are not yet built up to provincial highway standard but which are sufficiently good to warrant maintaining as part of the highway system, 292 miles, also being maintained as suggested. Put it another way: 292 miles of provincial highway plus 174 miles of main roads which are not yet built up to provincial highway standard, are being maintained at the present time by the department in addition to the 1,338 miles. The member for Wilkie will have to get up another speech because he has been telling the people of the province what we should do when we have been doing it for the last two years.

I overlooked one point in connection with the honourable member for South Qu'Appelle (*Mr. D. H. McDonald*), and it is rather impor-

tant. I do not think he will make his railway speech many more times. Regarding the plank in our 1917 platform my honourable friend makes reference to the pledge we made that, if, following the war, the railways could not be induced to build necessary branch lines the province itself would have to undertake railway construction, and he now charges us with broken promises in connection with the building of railways.

What are the facts? I have here the official figures from the railways. Since 1916 eight hundred and twenty miles of new railway have been built in Saskatchewan, more branch mileage of line than all the other provinces of Canada put together in the same period. What was our pledge? It was that if the railway companies did not, after the war, proceed to build, then the province must undertake the construction. In making his remarks he does not want the Government to go into the building of railways except for the purpose of getting into trouble as a government. It is true we have not all the railway mileage we need. The frontier goes further back continually. The honourable member for Ile a la Crosse (*Mr. Nolin*) today mentioned problems of railway construction which were not thought of in 1916 but which, due to experiences since that time, are now within the range of possibility; and I hope during a similar period of years to see that northern country opened up, as there are reasonable grounds for believing it will be by existing railway companies, and without this Government having to embark on a railway building policy such as suggested by the member for South Qu'Appelle.

It is strange that nearly all the members opposite who vote light-heartedly for a reduction in taxation of about \$600,000, ask us in their speeches to spend more money on something or other including the member for South Qu'Appelle, who would have us go into the railway building business in spite of the fact that we have secured 820 miles of new lines since 1916.

The honourable member for Elrose (*Mr. Hagarty*) referred to the new bridge which is being built across the South Saskatchewan river by the Canadian National, and advocated provision for ordinary traffic across that bridge. In that connection I would say it is the definite policy of this Government whenever either of the great railway companies bridges the great rivers to negotiate with them and endeavour to reach an arrangement whereby a traffic attachment can be added. Such negotiations are now proceeding with respect to the bridge in question. The Government cannot say definitely that an arrangement can be completed, because we want to know how much it will cost. We do not want to say to the company, "build this traffic attachment and we will pay you whatever you ask." We say, "We are desirous of arranging with you for such attachment to be erected; will you let us know what it will cost?" and if the cost factor, in the judgment of the Government, is reasonable, the people of that part of the province can depend on it that a traffic attachment will be erected in connection with that or any other bridge built across the Saskatchewan rivers.

The member for Saskatoon County (*Mr. Agar*), speaking of the surplus of \$35,000 to which I referred; said it was similar to his position when he had an income from his farm of \$5,000 and also borrowed \$5,000. He did not spend all of the borrowed money, but had \$3,000 left—a surplus. It is terrible for a man who has been a member of this House as long as the member for Saskatoon County (*Mr. Agar*) not to know that when the Treasurer speaks of revenue, when the Public Accounts speak of revenue, it is revenue and not borrowed money that is meant.

Mr. Agar: I understand that.

Premier Dunning: Then my honourable friend will know that the comparison he should have made was between the farm income and the farm outgo not taking into account borrowed money at all. That is the true comparison. A surplus of \$35,000 is one of cash, more money received than was expended, exclusive of borrowed money or of one dollar that is owing to the Treasury, although as at November 30 over three million dollars in cash was then due to the Treasury.

I am glad to note that at least the Leader of the Opposition (*Mr. Harris Turner*) has discovered a distinction between gross and net debt. For several years past in Budget speeches I have been giving information regarding that, but when they criticise and publish anonymous advertisements during elections they never talk about the dead weight debt. It is always the gross debt that they publish, and by a process of division which a grade two school boy would be ashamed of, make the per capita debt higher by \$15 per head than it really is; but in the House when I speak of a reduction in gross debt the Leader of the Opposition gets up and says he does not care about that, it is the net debt he is interested in.

I listened with interest to the description of the Leader of the Opposition of the manner in which the business of the country should be conducted. He wants forty men without any other considerations except this one of the province. They would be more than human if they did not think occasionally of other things. Surely his experience in this House must show to him even the fallacy of the position he takes.

Let me review his own experience. He came here as a Simon-Pure independent. He condemned the caucus and was to have nothing to do with any other members of the House. He was to walk alone. Yet we find that the members on the other side of the House had a caucus in this very building before the Government supporters had one following the election. Now my honourable friend is very carefully getting back to his 1921 position the closer we get to an election. But until recently he was getting more and more partisan. I do not know any institution that has played politics more thoroughly than the so-called Provincial Progressive Political Association, and when he speaks of petty politics he can look mighty close at home to find the very best example of that kind of thing in Western Canada.

Unlike honourable members opposite, we are not getting up on a pedestal and saying we are holier than anyone else. We are human. We have ordinary human relationships. We have the relationship of men animated with a common purpose in connection with the major principles of government. Outside of the members of the Government we each hold ourselves free to speak as we like. In this very debate the Government has had ten times more constructive criticism from its own supporters than from the members opposite.

One-man government was referred to. I never deny I am aggressive. I cannot change my nature. If it is a fault to be ready to help a friend, ready to jump into the fray, then I am guilty of that fault. I have even tried to help my honourable friend on occasion and he has admitted the benefits received.

Mr. Turner: When was that?

Premier Dunning: I helped you at Elfros in a public meeting.

Mr. Turner: You certainly did—not.

Premier Dunning: These memories are very pleasant. Then there is this one-man government business. It is true as stated we are faced with a new condition. Some people are experimenting in a manner which is without precedent in this Dominion or anywhere else that I know of. A group of men pick out one man and say to him: "You get busy; you organise a party; you make yourself Premier of Saskatchewan in the course of time as leader of that party, and for doing so we will pay you a salary and your expenses until you have achieved the object in view."

If, in course of a very long time, that object is achieved, the result will not be a one-man government because those who have paid the piper will insist on calling the tune. That is a new method in Canadian politics and one which the people of this province should carefully consider. At least there is no suggestion in the accusation of one-man government that the whole government is not here. It is here all in one piece anyway. What kind of government will result from the kind of political organisation I have referred to? It cannot be in the nature of things the kind contemplated by our system of government. A man cannot be a leader of a government and be under obligation to a group of men who have paid him a salary for years, during the period he was organising himself into the position of leader of that government. It is impossible. A man cannot serve two masters. I would regard it as a most dangerous development and fraught with serious possibilities were it not for the fact that I know the people of Saskatchewan will never tolerate it.

Speech delivered by
THE HONOURABLE J. A. CROSS
(Attorney General)

on the
LIQUOR QUESTION

in the
Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

Friday, December 5, 1924.

The Honourable Mr. Cross, in moving the second reading of Bill No. 12, An Act to Provide for the Regulation and Sale of Alcoholic Liquors, said:

Mr. Speaker,—It has for many years past been the privilege of the Attorney General of this province to address himself to this House at least once during each session. I had that privilege on two or three former occasions, and I find that I am today permitted to perpetuate that traditional right. I am not going to weary the House today with any review of the history of the liquor question, but I propose to at once get down to the subject matter now before us.

At the last session of the Legislature an Act was passed which made provision for the submission to the electors by way of a plebiscite of certain questions. These questions were:

Question 1. Are you in favour of Prohibition in Saskatchewan?

The second question was in two parts, viz.:

Question 2. If a liquor system under Government control is established, which of the following do you favour:

- (a) Sale by Government Vendors in sealed packages of all spirituous and malt liquors; or
- (b) Sale by Government Vendors in sealed packages of all spirituous and malt liquors and also sale of beer in licensed premises?

A vote on these questions was taken on July 16 last. On Question 1 the vote for Prohibition was 80,381 and the vote against Prohibition was 119,337. The majority against the straight question of Prohibition was, therefore, 38,956.

On Question 2 the vote for (a) Government sale only was 89,011, and for (b) Government sale plus sale of beer in licensed premises 81,125. This gives a majority in favor of Government sale only of 7,886.

It should be noted that 29,582 electors who voted on Question 1, the prohibition question, did not vote on Question 2 at all. There has been a good deal of speculation as to how these 29,000 electors would have voted had they voted on Question 2, but the fact remains that they did not vote. We might enter into endless argument as to what the probable views of these people were in relation to the second question. I do not intend to pursue this point. No good can come from such speculation.

The answers given to the questions submitted, of course, place no legal or binding obligations upon the Government to introduce, or upon the Legislature to enact, any legislation. They, however, do indicate very clearly that a very substantial majority of our people are at the present time opposed to the complete prohibition of the sale of liquor as a beverage. With such strong opposition to any law, effective enforcement is an impossible problem. Any legislation which does not command the support of a substantial majority of the people is ahead of its time.

Under these circumstances, what is the proper course to follow? In the view of the Government provision should be made for the sale of liquors in sealed packages for beverage purposes under Government control. This is what the Bill before you provides for, and this is the main principle of the Bill.

On this liquor question the Government has been much advised. We have received hundreds of letters from individuals, scores of resolutions and numerous delegations. The chief delegations were The Moderation League, The Saskatchewan Hotel Keepers' Association and the Prohibition League. We appreciate the expressions of opinion and the interest shown in this important social and economic problem. In respect to the delegations which presented their views to us I might be permitted to say that they did so in a business-like and dignified manner. I do not know that it has been my privilege while Attorney General to have received any delegations which presented their subject matter in better form. It would be too much to expect that the opinions thus expressed should be unanimous. They were not. There was, however, general unanimity that in view of the result of the plebiscite held the Government had an undoubted mandate to introduce legislation providing for some form of sale of liquor for beverage purposes. The main contention was as to degree.

The Moderation League, the Hotel Keepers and many others represented that it would be in the best interests of real temperance to provide for the sale of beer on licensed premises by the glass. They also, in support of their recommendations, called attention to the majorities cast in favor of clause (b) of Question 2 in a number of

important centres. Let us examine this phase of the question. In the first place we must not overlook the fact that the plebiscite was provincial-wide and not a local issue. The majority in favour of clause (a), Government control only, as opposed to clause (b), Government control and also sale of beer on licensed premises, was 7,886. It is true this is not very large, yet a fair majority. It is also of interest to note that 38,212 more people voted against prohibition than voted for the sale of beer in licensed premises.

The vast majority of the people are in favour of temperance. The placing of the sale of any kind of intoxicating liquor in the hands of any private interests cannot help but increase its consumption. The profit to be made is a strong incentive to promote the sale, as the greater the quantity sold the greater the profit. This is only human nature after all.

We have in any event decided against recommending provision for the sale of beer on licensed premises. The vote would justify no other course. The view of the Government on this point is already fairly well known through replies made by the Premier to different delegations.

By the plebiscite the people have plainly expressed their wishes regarding liquor legislation. Through the Bill now under consideration the Government proposes that the Legislature give effect to the clearly expressed views of the electors, and in doing so we assume our full constitutional responsibility.

I will now deal with some of the main features of the Bill. We are proposing to enter upon a large commercial undertaking—the liquor business. We are going into this large business not from choice but from force of circumstances. If the Government goes into the liquor business that means that all the people of Saskatchewan are in the business. The electors by their votes have expressed this desire. The Legislature and the Government are the instruments through which the people must act.

Provision must be made for the management and administration of the business. For this purpose it is proposed to create a board, to be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council and to consist of one, two or three members as the Government may decide. This Board will be clothed with adequate powers and authority to enable it to function efficiently. It will have full power to engage its own vendors, officials and other employees, and also will have like powers in regard to dismissal. The salaries to be paid by the Board will, however, be fixed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

For the purpose of providing for the establishment of liquor stores, the province is divided into districts. The seven cities and the town of Yorkton constitute separate districts known as "city" districts. The

remainder of the province is divided into districts known as "numbered districts." Each such district contains roughly three rural municipalities and the towns and villages situate therein.

The Board may, on its own motion, establish in all or any of the city districts liquor stores for the sale of liquor of all kinds, or for the sale of beer only, or both. Provision is also made whereby the Board may establish a store or stores in any numbered districts for the sale of beer. Before establishing such beer stores the Board must, however, give thirty days' notice of intention. The electors in the district may within that period petition against the establishment of any stores in the district, in which case the Board shall not proceed to the establishment until a vote of the people has been taken for the purpose of finding out if they desire to veto the establishment. A majority of the votes shall determine the question. Provision is made in the Bill for taking this vote at any period of the year.

The Bill also makes provision that no beer store shall be established in any town or village in a numbered district where a majority of electors in such town or village vote against the establishment of a store in the district.

The people in the city districts have the right at any time by petition to require a vote to be taken for the purpose of determining as to whether or not the store should be discontinued. After a store or stores have been established in any numbered district the electors of such district may at any period after two years, by petition, require a vote to be taken on the question as to whether or not the stores should be discontinued. All votes except in the case of the establishment of beer stores in numbered districts are required to be held at the same time as the municipal elections.

For the purpose of taking the vote the municipal franchise has been adopted. You might ask, why use the municipal franchise? The answer is that the question concerns the people in a particular community and, besides, municipal voters' lists are always available and municipal election machinery can be utilised for the purpose and thus save a very considerable expense in the conduct of the vote.

The system proposed in the Bill for the establishment of beer stores will not be found in any of the other provincial liquor acts. There is a very considerable body of opinion in the province in favour of making more easily accessible the lighter beverages. It is generally conceded that liquors of lighter alcoholic content are less harmful than spirituous liquors, and it is with a view of meeting the apparent demand, and yet keeping within the expressed will of the people, that this system is proposed. Beer is also a bulky substance and consequently transportation is expensive.

Although the province is divided into districts it is not by any means the intention that beer stores should at once be established in

all districts. Whether or not this system of beer stores will be successful, I cannot say. It must be regarded as in the nature of an experiment, having for its purpose the bringing of lighter beverages closer to the people. Care, therefore, should be exercised in their establishment until such time as it can be ascertained how they will work out both from a practical and financial point of view. They should be a matter of gradual development and in the first instance placed in communities where they will be generally acceptable to the people and likely to prove successful.

The sale of all liquor is, of course, under the control of the Board. The sale of liquor at each store shall be conducted by a person appointed by the Board and known as a "Vendor." All liquor must be sold in sealed packages, and for cash only, and no sale is permitted to persons under the age of twenty-one years.

The quantity of liquor which may be sold in any one day to one purchaser shall not be more than four gallons of beer or any other malt liquor, two gallons of wine and one quart of any other liquor. It is provided that the Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations increasing the quantity of beer that may be sold at any one time to any one purchaser by an amount not exceeding ten gallons, and in case of a sale of such increased quantity no further sale shall be made to the same person for a period of seven days. The main complaints so far as we have received any in respect of the Bill is the fact that these quantities are not sufficient. The complaint is probably more directly aimed at the provision regarding the hard liquors, but I had been led to believe during the past months that people were not much concerned with obtaining hard liquor, but that they really wanted an opportunity to get beer. There is also this fact that some of my friends have told me that if we had two liquor stores in the province it would be like an oasis in a desert and would be entirely satisfactory. At the present time some people have somewhat changed their opinion.

I find no fault with people who criticise the Bill. If it did not receive the criticism it is receiving I would consider there was something wrong with the measure.

The manner of delivery of the liquor is left to regulations to be made by the Board and approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. This is, after all, a matter of business administration and therefore can more properly be left to regulation. It is provided, however, that liquor shall be sold at the same price at all stores. It is also intended that the delivery charges should be absorbed as part of the expense of the business in order that all liquors may be supplied to all people in the province at the same price regardless of their geographical location.

The days and hours upon which stores may be kept open is left to regulation, except that no store shall be kept open beyond the hour of eight o'clock in the afternoon, or on Sundays, holidays or election

days. It is thought advisable that the Board, with the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, should be allowed this latitude in regard to hours because of the fact that local conditions may necessitate the fixing of different business hours at different stores.

The regulation of the sale of near beer, commonly known as 2% beer, has in the past given great difficulty in the enforcement of our present Act. The fact that soft drink vendors are allowed to handle near beer has unfortunately opened the door to the sale of much strong beer. This has been one of the greatest difficulties with which the law enforcement officers have had to contend. In order to meet this situation we have provided in the Bill that no person in the province is to be allowed to sell near beer or beer of any strength except the Board. It is believed that this provision will render more easy the enforcement of the Act and should result in a very material curtailment of the present abuse in this regard.

I do not suppose this will be received with any degree of unanimity, but it is a difficult matter to deal with, and when you are dealing with it you might as well grasp the nettle with both hands.

Having made provision for the sale and delivery of liquors, the next problem that we are confronted with is, "Where are people going to be allowed to drink it?" This is one of the most difficult questions that the Government has had to determine. Not many people will contend that the consumption of liquor should be allowed in public places. It has been decided to recommend to the House that the lawful consumption of liquor be confined to a dwelling house and to a guest room in a hotel. Under our 1915 *Liquor Act* the consumption of liquor was permitted only in a dwelling house. Thus no provision was made for the travelling public. This is a point which cannot well be overlooked.

While consumption is allowed in a private room in a hotel, the person so consuming liquor must be a *bona fide* guest of the hotel, and must be registered at the office of the hotel as an occupant of that room and have baggage and personal effects belonging to him at the hotel.

Registration of more guests in any room than the room will properly hold is forbidden. Also you will only be allowed to drink your own liquor in the room. I suppose that will appeal particularly to honourable members who are of the Scotch persuasion.

Doctors, druggists, dentists and veterinarians are in the same position as under the present *Saskatchewan Temperance Act*. They may supply liquor under prescription and permit, as at present provided. The present provisions have been working out fairly satisfactorily, and it is deemed inadvisable to make any material changes in this respect.

The question of canvassing for the sale of liquor and advertising respecting liquor is of considerable importance. It is provided by the

Bill that no canvassing for the sale of liquor even of the Board shall be allowed. No advertising by way of signs or posters or by the use of sign boards or bill boards is permitted. Advertising in newspapers is not prohibited, but adequate provision is made for regulating such advertising, and no such advertising shall be done unless permitted by the regulations and then only in accordance with the regulations. The board is expressly prohibited from canvassing for or soliciting orders for the purchase or sale of liquor or advertising for the purpose of promoting such sales.

It may be argued by some that newspaper advertising should be entirely forbidden. Our jurisdiction in this regard could not extend beyond the newspapers published in our own province. We could not prevent newspapers and magazines published outside the province and containing liquor advertisements from being brought into and distributed in Saskatchewan. Under these circumstances it seems to me unfair to discriminate against our own publishers in this respect, and we therefore propose that the question be dealt with in the manner which I have already indicated.

The penalties provided for violations of the Act are in the main similar to the penalties under *The Saskatchewan Temperance Act* for like offences. It has been suggested in some quarters that the imposition of a gaol penalty should be obligatory in the case of even a first offence. Such a provision was contained in *The Liquor Act* of 1915. It was found out from experience that this was not the most effective way of dealing with the subject because of the difficulty in obtaining convictions for violations of the Act, when there was no option but to send the accused to gaol. It also resulted in many applications for clemency, supported in many instances by the most prominent people in the community.

The financial terms of the Bill provide for the Board doing its own financing, but authority is given to the Provincial Treasurer to guarantee loans which the Board may find it necessary to make in the conduct of its business. In this regard it is thought advisable to put the Board on the same footing as far as possible as an ordinary commercial institution. It is also provided that all expenditure incurred prior to the coming into force of the Act and relating in any manner to the establishment of the system of liquor control, including taking the plebiscite, be charged to the system. The costs of administration and enforcement of the Act are also a charge against the undertaking. The profits are to be paid over to the Provincial Treasurer and, after making provision for the reserves, are to become a part of the consolidated fund of the province.

During the campaign on the plebiscite, and prior to that time, many people advocated a system of sale of liquor for beverage purposes, urging as one of the reasons for such a change, the fact that it would result in a material reduction in taxes. Since the holding of the plebiscite representations have been made to the Government by the

same people that the matter of profit should not be taken into consideration and that liquor should be sold as cheaply as possible. I am not very hopeful that the Board will be able to supply cheap liquor. The duty, which amounts to from \$9.00 to \$10.00 per gallon of alcohol, together with high transportation charges, will preclude this.

The question of profit, so far as the Government is concerned, is not a primary consideration. Revenue from a liquor system is too uncertain a foundation upon which to build a sound financial structure. It cannot, however, be expected that a large business should be run at a loss. There must of necessity be some profit. Otherwise the business cannot for long be continued. What that profit may be can only be ascertained as a result of experience. If we were going into the business to make money the sluice gates should be opened and we would let the liquor pour in. We could not be induced to go into the business for profit only.

The question of enforcement is of paramount importance. The success or failure of the system will depend largely upon this. When I look at the plebiscite vote and see the tremendous majorities against the Act in some communities, I am a little surprised that those charged with the responsibility of enforcing that law have been able to do as well as they have done.

Under *The Saskatchewan Temperance Act* the responsibility of the administration of the Act is placed upon the Liquor Commission and they, together with the Director of Prosecutions, are primarily charged with the enforcement of the law. The municipal and provincial police are, of course, also available for this purpose. The work done by the Commission in the administration and enforcement of the Act, under such trying and difficult circumstances, is, I think, worthy of commendation. The Director of Prosecutions has at all times fulfilled the duties of his office in a most commendable manner, and it would be hard to find a more efficient officer for such a post.

The work accomplished by the different officers in connection with the enforcement of our present Act can be gleaned from the report of the Director of Prosecutions, which has been laid on the Table of the House during this present session. It will be noted that the convictions secured have increased in number from year to year and are as follows:

| Fiscal year | No. convictions | Fines imposed |
|--------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1921-22..... | 720 | \$ 90,255 |
| 1922-23..... | 1,083 | 119,620 |
| 1923-24..... | 1,245 | 147,950 |

No fair-minded person can look at the report and the statistics which I have just quoted without being convinced that at least an honest and sincere effort has been made to enforce the law.

The duties of the Saskatchewan Liquor Commission under our present law are largely those of law enforcement. The duties of the

Board which we now propose to create must be primarily those associated with the administration of a large business. This in itself is sufficient reason for relieving the Board from the direct responsibility and placing the enforcement in the hands of these bodies that are accustomed to that class of work and whose duty and responsibility it is to enforce all laws. Besides, I can see no adequate reason why *The Liquor Act* should be set aside and put in a class by itself for the purposes of enforcement. It is, of course, true that there is no law more difficult to enforce than a sumptuary law. The Government has decided that the responsibility for the enforcement of the proposed Act shall rest with the municipal and provincial police under the supervision of the Department of the Attorney General in the same manner as all other provincial Acts.

As to whether or not this system will result in the work being done in a more effective manner than under the existing system time only will tell. It should, however, enable the Attorney General to exercise more direct control, which should have some advantages. I am quite aware of the difficulties that will yet confront us in connection with law enforcement, but this does not cause me to hesitate in assuming the full responsibility of my office in that regard. The task of enforcement of the proposed Act will be more difficult than that of enforcing *The Liquor Act* of 1915, because of changed conditions. Whether we like it or not, I am afraid that we will have to admit that illicit manufacture of liquor and the illicit trafficking in liquor, commonly known as bootlegging, has become more prevalent during the last few years than it was during the period of the operation of the former system of Government liquor stores. Because of the difficulties existing in the enforcement of such a law, I particularly invite the continued co-operation of municipal officials and their municipal police in the enforcement of the measure.

I, for one, am not enamoured with the prospect of the Government going into the liquor business. I recognise that the liquor business is one of the most vulnerable points of attack, and I have no doubt that some of the opponents of the Government will be taking a certain amount of consolation to themselves on this account. There is no question that I know of in respect to which some people can be more unreasonable or unfair in their criticism of those charged with responsibility than the liquor question. A wise man once remarked, "Would that mine enemy would write a book." I wish to bring the quotation more up to date and present to you a revised edition, and I think it would be in these terms: "Would that mine enemy would draw a liquor bill and attempt to enforce it."

The Bill submitted is intended to implement the expressed will of the majority of the people as indicated at the plebiscite, and as I have already pointed out, the main principle of the Bill is that our present system should be abandoned and provision made for the sale of liquors in sealed packages for beverage purposes under Government control. All other points are incidental to this one.

I do not in any way claim perfection for the Bill. It will be too dry for the extreme wets and too wet for the extreme drys. I am, however, hopeful that it will commend itself to the good judgment of and find favour with the great body of the more moderate of our people on both sides of this troublesome question.

I am not so optimistic as to think that the measure, if enacted into law, will solve the problem. History will not justify this conclusion. Public opinion on this issue ebbs and flows with the tide. We can only hope that it is another step towards a solution.

I beg to move, Mr. Speaker, that this Bill be now read the second time.

Speech delivered by
MR. HARRIS TURNER, M.L.A.
(*Saskatoon City*)

on the
LIQUOR QUESTION

in the
Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

Monday, December 8, 1924

Mr. Harris Turner, in speaking during the debate on the second reading of Bill No. 12,—An Act to Provide for the Regulation and Sale of Alcoholic Liquors, said:

Mr. Speaker,—It is with some reluctance that I rise to address the House this afternoon in the matter of the second reading of this Bill.

I had hoped that the time would arrive when it would not be necessary to continue the discussion about liquor in Saskatchewan. It has been the main topic of conversation in Saskatchewan for a number of years, and I was hoping that this would be the final effort in regard to that.

However, the nature of the Bill before the House, I think, leaves the matter still one of the main topics of conversation in the province for some years to come.

The Bill, as you know, Mr. Speaker, is the result of a series of events. Some years ago we had the open bar by an Act of the Legislature. I think it was in 1915 the bars were closed and a system of Government dispensaries went into operation. Shortly after that a vote was taken and they went out of existence by a large majority.

After that the condition was that importation into the province was allowed under certain Dominion regulations, but a vote was again taken and the people voted against the continuation of that condition, and I understand that that, with the assistance of the Dominion authorities, was stopped.

Since that time we have had a state of absolute prohibition in Saskatchewan. There has been no legal drinking going on in the province since that time.

Certain conditions arose, apparently, and a number of people were not satisfied. Large petitions were received by the Government and, in response to this agitation, arrangements were made for the holding of a plebiscite to test the opinion of the people on this matter.

The people of the province decided by a large majority that they had had enough of Saskatchewan prohibition, that they did not believe in *The Temperance Act*, and were in favour of some sort of circulation of alcoholic liquors for beverage purposes.

I voted against the second reading of *The Saskatchewan Temperance Act* on the ground that it could not be enforced, that conditions would not be improved and the result would be in a short time a revulsion of feeling which would lead again to some sort of legal sale of liquors.

That has apparently come about. There was a tremendous amount of illegal sales of liquor; bootleggers flourished and became prosperous; there was a considerable amount of lawlessness and a general condition of things which was apparently not satisfactory to the people, because they voted strongly against it on July 16 last.

In the very excellent speech of the Attorney General on Friday he stated the law had been enforced to some degree. He seemed to be fairly well satisfied with the enforcement and I cannot complain particularly that it was not enforced, because in the last two or three years several instances have come to my attention where I knew certain gentlemen were breaking the Act, and, I must confess, I did not report these men so I cannot blame the Attorney General for not discovering these offences.

It would be interesting, if it were possible, to know how many offences were not punished. Records are available of those convicted and sentenced, and it is difficult to get at the extent of law-breaking or to gauge the real extent of law enforcement. I think the Attorney General gave us figures for two or three years, a thousand in one year, twelve hundred the next year, and last year I think he said some fourteen hundred.

That seems to be a large number in the aggregate, but some time during a trial in Regina, there was a case in the courts which has been decided, so I imagine I can mention it, an item appeared in the "Regina Leader" in connection with it, a certain lawyer, who I understand is the brother of the Chairman of the Saskatchewan Liquor Commission, stated in one of the Regina courts that he was appalled at the extent of the liquor business in Regina, and stated that from information he had received since he had gone into the case, that the Regina liquor ring alone did business to the extent of about \$100,000 a month.

In connection with such large sums of money there must be large illegal transactions. Every time a man buys any liquor he commits an offence; every time he takes a drink in any place but his dwelling

house he commits an offence; every time a bottle is sold an offence is committed and so on. I believe this \$100,000 a month business had only to do with the harder form of liquor and nothing to do with the sale of strong beer.

I think it would be putting it conservatively to say that there had been one breach of the Act for every dollar going through the hands of an illicit dealer in liquor and that would mean that this Regina liquor ring was responsible for 1,200,000 offences against the Act in a year.

Premier Dunning: If this gentleman spoke the truth.

Mr. Turner: Yes, of course. He is a member of the legal profession and no more need be said.

This was only one concern, one conglomeration of illicit liquor dealers, and I understand there are several in different parts of the province, and that there are a great many transactions in connection with the sale of beer.

I do not hesitate to say that I do not think the figure of 1,200,000 offences against the Act is at all an exaggeration, and if the Attorney General succeeded in convicting 1,400 people for offences he has been successful in detecting one offence out of 1,000, and I think under the circumstances that is not bad.

That was the condition that led the people to turn against the Act. The Government desired to take the whole matter out of politics and so they took a plebiscite. They wanted to gauge public opinion, and they made it very clear that this was not a referendum but a plebiscite, that they were not bound by the result of the vote unless they cared to be. They took the precaution to keep it out of politics by announcing no policy of their own, and I do not blame them because I do not want the thing in politics. That is why it is difficult to speak about the matter at all.

After the plebiscite was taken and a majority of some 39,000 was against the "dry" Act, I read somewhere in a newspaper in connection with a deputation that waited on the Premier, I think it was a prohibition deputation, anyway he was reported as having said that under no circumstances would there be any private interests in the sale of liquor, and that no private persons would be allowed to benefit.

Premier Dunning: I do not think, if my honourable friend will permit, that I made any such positive statement to the prohibition deputation. I have the record here and speaking to The Hotel Keepers' Association, I said: "We have to take these things into account. The important question involved which affects you very personally is this: 38,000 who voted wet in not supporting Question (b) indicated, among other things, that they did not want to see private interests in the

community engaged in the liquor business. If you obtain a beer license it would be a valuable thing for you in your business. It would result in creating a private vested interest in the liquor business in the community. The people have very definitely by their vote set themselves against that particular thing. I appreciate fully that you do not want the return of the bar. No one wants that in Saskatchewan. Question (b) did not indicate any possibility of the return of the bar. In the House when the Bill providing for the plebiscite was under discussion the Government made that very clear. I am indicating these things in order to show you the difficulties with which the Government is faced. We want if we can to devise some means whereby the people may have easy access to the milder forms of intoxicants rather than hard liquor. I cannot hold out much hope to you that we will ask the Legislature to enact a law which will again provide for a private vested interest in the communities in the liquor business. The opinion of the people of Saskatchewan as expressed definitely in the recent vote is against this."

Mr. Turner: That is quite clear. I would think when the Premier informs a representative delegation that he cannot hold out much hope of getting what they ask for that that is a pretty good indication that they will not get it, which seems to be the case in connection with this matter. The statement read by the Premier was taken to mean by hotel keepers and everyone else to whom I have spoken that there would be no vested interests in connection with this business.

I do not think the Premier should have made that statement at the time because the matter was left to the people to keep it out of politics. It should have been left to the Legislature to keep it out of politics when the Bill came down for discussion before the House.

My complaint is that has not been done. The session was convened. We got along slowly for several days, the general suspicion being that the Government supporters were having such a serious time in caucus that they could not get to any reasonable agreement on this Bill, and we now understand this is the fruit of their nightly efforts for some time.

Premier Dunning: You understand quite wrong.

Mr. Turner: We on this side of the House—and just let me say that this is the only remark I shall make to which I will attach the word "we," because I do not pretend to speak for the gentlemen on my right and left on this matter—we have a complaint in this matter that we were not consulted in connection with the drawing up of this Bill. If the Government desired to keep the thing entirely out of politics, if they had had a real desire to have the vote of the people interpreted in the Bill, by the representatives of the people, I see no particular necessity for going into this thing in caucus and having it cut and dried when it comes into the House.

That is the condition and I can see that after the Premier's remark to the hotel men something had to be done to back up his remarks or his hopes may not have been fulfilled in that connection.

Premier Dunning: It is easy for you to move an amendment.

Mr. Turner: I am not at all anxious to see this thing in politics. I do not want the Government to go down to defeat because I do not want an election vote as to whether this Act is good or bad, and it could have been avoided if the Government had taken us into its confidence and not made up their minds in a back room before going into the Legislature.

In connection with the beer vote I might point out that so far as I can see some 47% of the people who voted on Questions (a) and (b) voted in favour of beer licenses. That is not a majority but it was very definitely left in the minds of the people that this thing was not a referendum but a plebiscite, and the fact that the vote was so close left the Government a free hand in deciding what form the legislation should take, and the question they should have considered, and the only one, would be whether the Act which they were bringing before the House was going to get away from these distressing conditions we have had in the last few years.

The people did vote for a circulation of liquor for beverage purposes and it was the duty of the Government to bring in an Act which would provide for that and still maintain a reasonable amount of control.

I know it is an extremely difficult matter. It is not easy, but I do not think this Act that we have before us overcomes the difficulty. My complaint chiefly is that it looks to me that it is an Act brought down ostensibly for the benefit of those people who voted for the circulation of alcoholic liquors for beverage purposes.

Premier Dunning: No one voted for that.

Mr. Turner: I think they did.

Premier Dunning: Circulation?

Mr. Turner: What does my honourable friend call the purchase and sale of anything? Does not wheat circulate in this country?

The people did vote, I maintain, for the circulation of alcoholic liquors for beverage purposes and certainly the Bill provides for that, the maintenance of Government stores where liquor may be bought and sold and it is going to circulate.

My complaint is that this Bill, brought into existence as a result of those people who voted against *The Saskatchewan Temperance Act*, the spirit behind it is really the spirit which actuated these people to vote

for *The Saskatchewan Temperance Act*. It permits the circulation of liquor but it surrounds it with so many technicalities and restrictions that to me it is bound to result in conditions perhaps not as bad as we have had them, but conditions which will not be good for the province and which will result in another revulsion of feeling in a few years.

I am referring particularly to these beer stores and to the conditions which are going to arise from them. I do not desire to see drunkenness prevalent in Saskatchewan any more than anyone else, but I want to see an Act which will be fairly well observed by these people who made this Act possible by voting out *The Saskatchewan Temperance Act*.

I do not mean that there should be no law, but I think the Act should contain provisions whereby, people acting in the ordinary manner of people who do take liquor, will have a chance to observe it. I do not profess to know all the habits of those who drink, but at one time I was in the army, and I have been in the newspaper business and in politics, and I think I am competent to discuss the customs of people who sometimes take a drink.

We have a provision in the Act for beer stores placed in various parts of the country where people can buy four gallons of beer. What is going to be the condition in these small places from the standpoint of law enforcement? According to the Act people must take their beer home before they can drink it. According to common custom it will not be taken home.

I am quite sure that when there is anything going on in a small town and the beer stores are open people being entitled to go in and buy what they like, that they will not go all the way home with it; that it will be kept around in the back shop, in some sort of a semi-residence and the result will be that in these small towns there will be more drinking of beer than there was under a system of licenses.

The drinking will be all illegal and improper. If there was some sort of a beer parlor in these small places where men could have a drink and go out again there would not be much incentive or business to have the place kept open, and I think there would be less beer consumed and it would all be consumed legally.

There is a provision dealing with drinking in hotel bed rooms. It gives a man a legal right to take a drink in his own room out of his own bottle but it does not get away from the conditions which we have at present, of law breaking in hotels, because I am sure that every man who is in the habit of drinking in a hotel is going to break that regulation and it will be impossible to detect it.

A man has a right to lock his door; the room cannot be entered without a search warrant under this Act; a policeman enters the room and there is one bottle and four or five men. There is no possible chance of fixing the guilt on any man except the owner. The law will be broken without question and by men who are looked on as reasonably decent citizens.

There is nothing indecent or unclean about a man who takes a moderate drink as a beverage, taking a drink in a hotel bed room. This Bill is based on the fact that there is something nefarious and evil and degrading in people taking a drink at all, and the spirit of the Act is to drive the thing under cover where no one will see it.

There must be some loosening up of these provisions to make the Act one that will be enforced in half of its particulars.

I think there should be some provision made for clubs, canteens in army barracks. The Attorney General, being a soldier, knows what soldiers do and what they want to do. A lot of them want a drink of beer around the barracks and if you do not give them decent facilities for getting it there are going to be wholesale breaches of the law requiring an army of police to enforce it.

In connection with hotels, the Act provides that nothing in the shape of beer can be sold in these bars, and the provision is reasonable so long as you do not let them sell beer, but at the present time it puts them right out of business and the result will be that these hotels—and a lot of hotel keepers are pretty decent men—have only one privilege, cleaning up the wreck left by those who benefit under the Act.

I do not think that any serious harm could come from having some sort of licensed beer parlors in connection with these hotels where things would be conducted under proper supervision and control and where it has been shown to be efficacious and proper in Alberta.

There is a provision about doctors, giving the Board power to take away a license from a doctor, not his liquor license, but his license under *The Medical Professions Act*. If he fails or neglects or refuses or refrains from sending in a report or some return the Board has power to cancel his license. If he commits a second offence they can take away his livelihood. It is most unreasonable and a most unheard-of thing, a penalty altogether out of proportion to the offence. A doctor doing a good business, with a large practice, put out of business for life, because there is no way in which he can get back on the roll.

I do not agree with a great many of the provisions of the Act, because I do not think it is going to result in what the people want it to result in—a wholesome respect for the law and the drinking of beer and whisky under reasonable conditions.

I think the Legislature will be making a great mistake if they put through the Bill in its present form. The only result will be wholesale breaches of the law and a final appeal to the people in a few years.

I have no particular objections to the local option provisions. There is a sort of semi-local option provision. I have no particular objection to it, and I think it could possibly be extended to the creation of beer parlours.

So far as the effect on public morality of having beer parlours and Government beer stores I would feel almost as safe in having a man holding a private license and subject to inspection as I would to have one hundred and fifty beer stores with Government employees running them. It looks to me as though that might result in a dangerous condition.

I am going to be frank and tell the House that I do not know what to do about this thing. I do not want to see this thing thrown into elections. I am sorry the Government definitely laid down as a principle of the Bill the elimination of any such thing as a licensed beer parlour, because it makes it impossible for anyone to vote against it without attempting to bring the whole matter into the political arena.

I hoped that this great flood of delegations descending upon the Government might have persuaded the Government to make clear that the retail sale of beer by the glass was not a vital principle of the Bill and let us amend it in committee.

Even though I object to the Bill, the sentiments behind the Bill, I do not like the general idea. It gives me the impression that the Government is convinced that moderate drinking is a sort of nefarious business, and I do not think that was the intention of the 119,000 people who voted against *The Temperance Act*.

I think that in spite of the fact that conditions are not going to be good under it, it will be better than the conditions we have had up to the present time.

Speech delivered by
THE HONOURABLE C. A. DUNNING
(*Premier and Provincial Treasurer*)

on the
LIQUOR QUESTION

in the
Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan
Wednesday, December 10, 1924.

The Honourable Mr. Dunning, in speaking on the second reading of Bill No. 12, An Act to Provide for the Regulation and Sale of Alcoholic Liquors, said:

Mr. Speaker,—The problem we have before us in attempting to deal with the liquor question has been a problem since white men settled on these western plains, and it has been recognised as such since the time when the earliest settlers formed the most primitive kind of legislative and governmental organisation for themselves.

In the old historic records of the North West Councils which preceded the formation of the province of Manitoba, in 1871, you will find, in connection with the most primitive governmental and legislative organisations, efforts of the men of those days to control and deal with the liquor traffic.

The method of dealing with it was generally by way of permit. Even during the days of the Territorial Legislature, sitting in this city, the permit system was in existence. Men were required to secure a permit from the Lieutenant Governor of the North West Territories in order to bring liquor into the Territories.

There are old timers who remember that system—again an effort to control the liquor traffic.

Later, during the Territorial days, and on through a large part of the history of Saskatchewan, the liquor license system was in vogue in an effort to control the liquor traffic.

The next effort was represented by the government dispensaries system inaugurated in 1915, which was very distinctly an effort to control the liquor traffic.

The next effort was the prohibitory law of 1917, an effort to eliminate the traffic.

My reason for reciting these things is to emphasise that we in these days should not forget that since the very earliest times in this western country, men and women have recognised the necessity of controlling this traffic and have endeavoured by legislative enactment so to do.

Every one of the systems which have been in effect up to now have been efforts by legislative and governmental organisations to control the traffic, and yet to hear some people talk one would think that the words "government control" constitute something new in the history of the world. Not only in our own country, but in every country for centuries past legislatures and governments have been endeavouring to control this business.

Why? Stated in simple language it appears to me men have made endeavours to control this traffic mainly for the reason that the tremendous private gains made possible by supplying a popular appetite renders the liquor traffic a menace to the free institutions of any country.

That is to me the basic consideration underlying the efforts of mankind not only in this country but elsewhere to control this traffic.

Men everywhere have felt if this traffic with its peculiar difficulties were not controlled by the state, it would itself control the state.

That has been the basic motive behind all the efforts to control this traffic since governments and legislatures first attempted to deal with it.

The problem is made more difficult for the reason that under every one of these systems which have been in operation in our country those who traffic in liquor were to a very great extent violators of the law. Those who traffic in liquor and stood to make great personal gain as a result of it, broke the law under the permit system, broke the law under the liquor license system, broke the law under government dispensaries and broke the law under the prohibitory system, and men who desire to make money with this traffic will break the law under any system.

Why, then, do we come on the floor of this Legislature and say that what we want is a law that no one or only a few will break when we know from the efforts of years of many different kinds of law in many different countries liquor law violators have been present, and that it would be impossible to draft a law that these men would not violate short of throwing down all the barriers and saying let every one drink and sell and do what they like?

I am speaking now of those who consistently, in and out of season, for the sake of private gain, violate the liquor laws of any country and in any period in the history of that country.

I am endeavouring to confine myself to moderate statements of the truth as history reveals and every one knows that this statement is entirely correct.

Moreover, violations of liquor law by those who traffic in liquor are made easy because of the extent of the popular desire to drink. I am not complaining of that popular desire. I am contrasting the fact of that desire with the other fact which I have just stated—the great popular desire to control the traffic so that the free institutions of the country should not be prostituted to the traffic.

There is the great problem. On the one hand, the recognition by all good citizens of the necessity of controlling this traffic, and on the other hand, the great popular appetite for alcoholic beverages. Because of the latter the way for the law violator has always been made much easier than in connection with other law because violation of any liquor law has never been regarded by our people or any other people as so serious a matter as violation of the ordinary provisions of the Criminal Code or the Ten Commandments.

The violations which occurred under the liquor license system in this province and other provinces were mainly responsible for the extreme prohibition agitation. Those engaged in the traffic pushed the pendulum too far until people in this province, not normally prohibitionists, not usually desiring to tie their fellow men, said there is only one way to get real control of this traffic and that is to eliminate it altogether.

Many men of otherwise moderate minds took that view during the period of great violation under the liquor license system. Violations reached a point where the liquor traffic threatened the integrity of this Legislature itself during that period.

Walter Scott courageously grappled with the root of the problem when he said there shall be no more private vested interests in Saskatchewan in the liquor traffic and instead created government monopoly or sale.

Walter Scott, I say, courageously grappled with the root of the problem—the private vested interest in the traffic, the possibility of private gain which betrayed men into actions which, in connection with any other law, they would be the first to condemn.

That experiment, government monopoly of sale, in my judgment, never had a fair trial. Extreme prohibition sentiment and war fever combined to prevent that system having a fair trial. I advised prohibitionists then not to push the pendulum too far. It is a human

tendency, particularly in connection with popular movements, to continue pushing until the maximum of resistance is reached, and when you push the pendulum of public opinion until the maximum of resistance is reached, it is likely to swing back to the other extreme. This has been the experience of Saskatchewan on this question.

Today I say to the moderationists do not push the pendulum of moderation too far. Be true to the literal meaning of the word "moderation" lest the experience which befell the prohibitionist extremists in their day of power befall you also and with you the people of Saskatchewan.

Two years ago most moderationists in this province would have been well satisfied with the inauguration by this Government of two or three mail order dispensaries where liquor could be secured. There was a suggestion of two, one in the south and one in the north, and it was seriously proposed to the government by men who are now prominent in the organisation of the Moderation League. Just as the prohibitionists could not get the law dry enough, just so now in the day of power of the moderationists they are losing all sense of moderation and cannot get the law wet enough.

Regarding the debate so far I have only one complaint regarding the address of the Leader of the Opposition (*Mr. Harris Turner*). When he quoted the statement I made to the Hotel Keepers' Association delegation to the effect that I could hold out very little hope to them that their desires would be granted, the Leader of the Opposition says by that statement I plunged this question into politics. I have been trying to follow the logic of that reasoning and I can only follow it by linking up with it his further statement bearing on the same matter when he said that having made that statement my followers had to be brought into line to back it up, or words to that effect.

It is one of the tragedies of political leadership that during the addresses of honourable gentlemen on this side of the House who usually support me, not one took up the challenge to state the fact that no member of this Government, myself especially, and no organisation of the party, had attempted to get them to support the statement I made or to vote one way or another on the bill before the House.

It is all very well for that statement to be applauded, but I sat here yesterday and the day before and listened to many speeches from my own followers. They may have missed the point made by the Leader of the Opposition, but it is nevertheless the truth that every honourable member on this side of the House is free on this question to vote as he sees fit, as he is on every other question that comes before this House.

This Government decides on its policies as far as possible in consultation with its followers. If it cannot get the support of a majority of them in the House, it is for the Government to consider what at-

titude it will take as a result of forfeiting their votes, but it does not bind any member of the House. Nor has any member been threatened with an election and his defeat in convention, and neither has any other weapon that may be imagined by the Leader of the Opposition been held over him. They are more free than the Leader of the Opposition.

That is the only complaint I had to make of a political character regarding the address of the Leader of the Opposition. He has always been very wet.

Mr. Turner: Mr. Speaker, I take objection to that remark.

Premier Dunning: Perhaps the brief way I have of putting it may give rise to offence. The views expressed by him in this House at all times have been at least the outside edge of wet opinion in this province.

Mr. Turner: I must also object to that, Mr. Speaker. My views are not the outside edge of wet opinion in this province.

Premier Dunning: Suppose we take my honourable friend's own words. What he would do with regard to hard liquor was not discoverable to me in his address. Certainly he wanted a great deal more facilities for drinking it than now provided in the bill, and with regard to beer he advocated beer licenses and club licenses and canteen licenses. I have not heard any "wet" in the province recently who went much further than that.

Club licenses? In the face of the history of club licenses in British Columbia; in the fact of the near revolution which the clubs of Vancouver and Victoria brought about; club licenses for beer? I will not go any further on that subject. The advocacy of such a system by the Leader of the Opposition, who is, I know, honest in expressing his opinion, merely emphasises that he has not the information regarding the experiences of other provinces, otherwise I feel sure he would not have reached a conclusion that club licenses should be granted under any circumstances in this province.

Mr. Turner: I was referring of course to club licenses as they have them in Alberta but not like in Vancouver, which I do not think were legal. Does the honourable premier see anything wrong with the club license system of Alberta?

Premier Dunning: Yes. In Saskatchewan we have had difficulty in this legislature with clubs and the administration of the liquor law, gambling law, and other laws in connection with them. During all the years I have been here I do not believe you can embark on a system of club licenses and keep that system within any reasonable or decent control. It is not done in any province and is not being done satisfactorily in Alberta today, if my information is correct.

If one group of men can form a club another group can, and it is impossible to get a certificate of character in connection with an incorporated body. The honourable members for Moose Jaw City are familiar with this club business. They have raised the question in this House on more than one occasion, and I want to put myself on record as being against the extension of liquor licenses to incorporated or unincorporated clubs.

The Leader of the Opposition had another complaint regarding the method by which the Government handled the whole matter.

On August 15, on behalf of this Government, I gave out an official statement to the public which read as follows:

"By the plebiscite the people have plainly expressed their views regarding liquor legislation. It remains for the Government to present to the Legislature in due course such legislation as will give effect to the clearly expressed views of the electorate."

Does my honourable friend think I went too far in giving that statement?

Mr. Turner: A little bit, yes; on the ground that the Government had stated this was a plebiscite and it was not necessary for the Government to bring down legislation carrying out the expressed will of that plebiscite.

Premier Dunning: My honourable friend has a very queer idea as to why we had a vote at all. We took a vote to get the expressed will of the people. Truly, being a plebiscite, the British system of responsible government remained in being. We did not by taking a plebiscite abandon the prerogatives of this Legislature or the responsibilities of government which would have been the case had there been a referendum. That is the only difference.

We were left free. When we got the result of the plebiscite it expressed the will of the people as recorded at the polls, and then my honourable friend says that as the head of a responsible government organised under the British system I did a wrong thing in advising the people that it remained for the Government to present to the Legislature in due course such legislation as will give effect to the clearly expressed views of the electorate.

I have an idea that we are here in a representative capacity and while we are not compelled, any of us, to take note and be guided absolutely by a plebiscite, at least we should be, in my judgment, sufficiently serious in our work of representing the people to endeavour to really represent them when they express themselves so clearly as they have done on the subject now before the House.

After all, the intrinsic honesty of the Leader of the Opposition shines out in this statement which he made after criticising destructively many points in the bill. He said: "I will be quite frank and tell the House I do not know what to do about this thing."

That is the position of a very great many people everywhere, but because we have responsible government in Saskatchewan that government must make up its mind what to do on the question. I cannot, as head of the Government, take the attitude taken by the Leader of the Opposition. If he were on this side of the House in my position his responsibility as leader of the Government would be to evolve a policy, to take the responsibility for it on the floor of this House and before the people.

I appreciate what he said, however, regarding the desirability of keeping this question out of politics. I believe in saying that he had the same meaning in his mind that I have—not to keep it out of politics, for that is quite impossible because the question itself is politics, public business—but to keep it out of partisan politics, to avoid if possible lining up the people on one side or the other regardless of the other economic and social interests of the people and other political divisions. I feel sure my honourable friend is with me in a desire to avoid that position and I am foolish enough to think that on this question I can get the support of more of the members on that side of the House than he can. I think I can at least divide with him about fifty-fifty.

Mr. Turner: I think you are about right, and if you take away the threat of election from your own side, we might split the whole House.

Premier Dunning: Do I understand the honourable gentleman to say that if I take away the threat of election I might split the whole House?

Mr. Turner: From your own followers. If you are defeated on this bill you will have to go to the country. The fact that the Government has taken the responsibility makes it impossible for the followers of the Government to vote as they desire without bringing on an election.

Premier Dunning: My honourable friend is entirely wrong, and I am sure he knows more about British constitutional government than that. If a measure brought down by the Government is defeated in this House, it is then for the Government to decide in the circumstances what advice the Prime Minister shall tender to the representative of His Majesty. The circumstances of the case have everything to do with what happens, and again I say that I desire that those who generally support me shall be bound by no considerations other than the considerations of right and justice in dealing with this matter. He is a poor representative of the people in this House who because of fear of an election consequent upon his vote records a vote opposite to his convictions and the interests of the people he represents.

According to the Leader of the Opposition I did wrong in giving even that amount of indication of the position of the Government in this matter. Also, apparently, I did wrong in drafting the bill. As nearly as I can understand the criticism from the opposite side of the

House we should have come to this Legislature and said: "Well, gentlemen, what do you want to do about this matter?" or, in other words, we should have requested the sixty-three members here gathered to evolve a liquor policy and the bulky bill which is now before this House.

It may be possible to settle some things by way of debate, but it is not possible for sixty-three men to draft a bill. I can assure the House it is difficult enough for seven men to do it.

The responsibility was on the seven men who form this Government to evolve a policy guided by such consultation and investigation as it cared to make, and the men on both sides of the House during the months previous to the session have expressed their views to members of the Government regarding this question.

I did not tell any of them what the Government was going to propose to the House. One cannot in a responsible position do that. Finality is not reached in a moment. Consultation must occur with individuals and organisations to sense accurately what is best, having regard to the circumstances of the case.

I did consult with my followers and with anyone else who desired to give me their judgment, and for the first time on the floor of the House I learn that the Opposition believe I should have asked for their views and for the views of the Leader of the Opposition. If he had anything he wanted to say to me or any member of the Government regarding this matter he was quite as free to make the suggestion as anyone else.

Whatever was done in that regard it would still be necessary under our system of government for the Government to take responsibility for the measure.

So far as the complaint regarding caucus is concerned, the men who usually act with the Government on this side of the House, although most of them disagree with us on some occasions, have a right to be consulted, to tell us their views, and they have done so on this question very emphatically, but not one of them saw the bill until it was tabled in this House, and no one else saw it outside of the seven members of the Government and the Legislative counsel who had the detail work of drafting.

I have been trying to examine our conduct in this matter to see if we did anything calling for reproach, and I cannot. When the bill was placed on the table the Attorney General stated that because of its character and importance he did not propose to take the second reading within the two days called for under the rules, but would give a longer period. That period extended over the week-end. The Opposition and the members on this side of the House had a week in which to study the bill. Surely there can be no accusation of rushing the matter.

Regarding the interpretation the Government placed on the result of the vote I must congratulate the honourable member for Vonda (*Mr. Hogan*) on his dexterous handling of figures. I could not follow him in some of his conclusions but they carried an air of plausibility which made me rather doubtful if I could read figures aright.

When my honourable friend finished that argument one thing remained clear at any rate in my understanding of the vote, i.e., 119,000 votes were cast against prohibition, but 37,000 of those who voted against prohibition did not cast their votes for beer licenses and members of this House can twist the figures how they like but they cannot convince men otherwise than that a third of those who voted wet on the first question did not want beer licenses.

The conclusion is inescapable. It does not involve any theorising on what the people who did not vote would have done if they had voted. It merely involves a deduction of the number of votes cast for beer licenses from the number of wet votes on the first question and the conclusion, I say, is inescapable that one-third of those who voted wet were not in favour of a return to the license system called for by Question (*b*) of the plebiscite.

Then there was the other argument that the majority in favour of Question (*a*), just under 8,000, was too small and that the Government should not consider it. I wonder if those who take that ground will answer this question: suppose the wet majority of Question 1 had been only 7,800, and the prohibitionists had come to the Government and said this is not a sufficient majority; what would have been the attitude of those who today are arguing that 8,000 is not a sufficient majority against a beer license?

Had the wet majority on Question 1 been only 8,000 the attitude of the Government would have been precisely the same as its attitude today. We do regard a majority expression of 8,000 as a sufficient guide in a vote of that size to warrant our proceeding in accordance with the expressed will of the people.

Then there has been that old argument of personal liberty, and quotations from statesmen regarding it. Even this personal liberty is now being demanded merely to drink beer by the glass. I wonder if it is an infringement of personal liberty to prevent the drinking of beer by the glass, why it is not also an infringement of personal liberty to prevent the drinking of whisky by the glass? No one who has advocated the drinking of beer by the glass has done that. The very fact that the advocates of beer licenses do not follow that argument to its logical conclusion demonstrates their recognition of the fact that interference with personal liberty is occasionally necessary in the public interest and does occur in all law. The only difference of opinion, the only question is when should that interference occur?

The Bill before the House attempts again to create a system of government monopoly of the sale of all liquors. There have been com-

plaints from both sides of House of what are described as the prohibition features of this law. Some one suggested it was not a liquor law but a prohibition law and suspected the presence of the prohibitionists during its drafting.

What are the facts in connection with a matter of this kind? A law creating a government monopoly of the sale of liquor must of necessity contain a very large number of prohibitory features in order to preserve the monopoly which it creates. We must have prohibition against the sale of liquor by others than the Government if we are to have the peculiar type of law, government sale in sealed packages, which moderationists have been asking for and which the people voted for. Therefore a combination of prohibitive and permissive sections is necessary. I have watched very carefully every speaker and each has commended the principle that the Attorney General's department and the provincial and municipal police are to be responsible for the enforcement of this Act and not any outside body. I would say if we make men responsible for the enforcement of this Act in the manner in which the Attorney General and the provincial and municipal police are to be, do not take all the teeth out of the law. Give them a chance. It is only a few years since members were demanding more teeth in the law. After I listened to some of the arguments in the House I am inclined to the view that some people thoughtlessly would take down all barriers and instead of having that strict government control of which we have heard so much, we are in danger of running to the extreme of license.

So I say that while, of course, all these matters can be dealt with in committee, section by section, as a broad principle give your enforcement officers a chance and leave teeth in the law.

The position of the hotel men under this new law has given me much concern because looking over the body of hotel men that met the Government in connection with the matter, I was struck, and I say it without flattery, with the fact that they were a much finer body of men individually and collectively than a similar body in the days when we had the liquor license law in the province. They are hotel keepers in the main endeavoring to make a living under adverse conditions, and not all of them want to have the sale of liquor back in their hands. Many of them also are saying to the Government today: "If you will not give us the privilege of selling liquor at least do not allow it in our guest room." This is a difficult question. Yet I believe that the hotel business standing on its own feet as a business for supplying accommodation to the public, is much better for everybody than in the days when it rested on another basis, that of the volume of liquor which the proprietor could sell.

I admit the difficulty regarding the question of drinking liquor in hotel guest rooms. Here you have on the one hand a hotel keeper with difficulties I have described; on the other hand you have a considerable section of the public, the travelling public, to whom a hotel for a con-

siderable portion of the year is a home or residence, and as between the two the Government decided to recommend to the House the provision which is now in the Bill.

Some speakers have laughed at the provision. What was the appeal at the time when Walter Scott abolished the bars? It was do not abolish the bars but abolish the treating system. They told us the whole evil was the treating system and wanted legislative enactment to stop it. Yet in this Act in order to play fair with the hotel man and put some power in the hands of the police, when we put a provision in the Bill to prevent treating in hotel rooms it is laughed at. Yet it strikes right at the treating system which was supposed to be the curse under the license system.

I say to those who are moderationists, do not push the pendulum too far. I can see if indiscriminate drinking in hotel bed rooms is permitted there will arise a class of hotel which the police will always have difficulty with. This provision gives the police in dealing with anything of that kind a weapon which can be placed in their hands in no other way, and I sincerely hope and believe that abuses of the use of it will not be common.

Then there is the suggestion that the constituency vote should be considered. I think it was the member for Vonda (*Mr. Hogan*) who suggested that those who voted dry should be kept dry, those who voted for government sale in sealed packages should have that system and those who voted for beer licenses should have them. The Attorney General of this province is made responsible for the administration of this Act, and I would ask any member who contemplates such a hodge-podge of systems to imagine himself in the Attorney General's place in endeavouring to enforce them. The constituency boundaries had nothing to do with the principle. The question submitted was a provincial question and constituency boundaries were taken because they were the only unit we had within which the franchise of the province could be exercised in order to secure a record of the will of the people.

Mr. Hogan: How about electing a member?

Premier Dunning: It is an entirely different thing to elect an individual representative to this House, as representation must be confined to a certain area. The vote on a question affecting the whole people alike must be taken in the aggregate. It is impossible to regard the settlement of a provincial question of principle as a settlement for each constituency according to its own vote. It would be impossible to operate on that basis.

Then the suggestion was made that beer licenses might be granted on a local option basis. The argument is used that there are certain local veto provisions in the Bill relating to beer stores. We are asked why not give the people the right to get beer licenses in the parts of the province favouring that system. I wonder if I can make clear that the constituencies are merely used as a part of the machinery for getting

an expression of the view of the people on the principle which every one understood would be provincially applied. When the vote was taken there was no doubt on the part of anyone that the decision was to be provincially applied. That point was never raised until the vote was over.

This principle which it was understood was to be provincially applied, the people determined in favour of government sale in sealed packages, and I would say to the member for Regina City (*Mr. McNiven*) that the principle must in fairness have full provincial application. It was submitted as a provincial question to all of the people of the province.

Giving the people the right to veto the establishment of stores in their community under sale by the Government of liquor in sealed packages, is different from giving them the right to determine to have in their community what the whole people declared should not be allowed in any community.

There is a certain plausibility in the argument when one uses the term local option. I am endeavouring to demonstrate that the principle is different. A majority of the whole people said you shall sell liquor in sealed packages, and also said there shall be no sale of beer on licensed premises. Now we propose by the Bill to give the people of a community a right not to change the system or the principle but to determine whether they will have in that community one of these institutions for the sale of liquor in sealed packages; but we do not give them the right to say they will have in their community that which a majority of the whole people of the province declared should not be allowed in any community.

The member for Wilkie (*Mr. Bingham*) said he objected to local option because it will be a disturbing factor in the local community, quarrelling all the time about it. I do not expect to live to see the day when this liquor question, however we deal with it, will cease to be a disturbing factor in a local community. I say to my prohibitionist friends that, judging by the experience of the last few years, the real way out on this question is two-fold—the elimination of the private vested interest from the business itself and a steady growth in numbers of individuals in the province who have decided that for their own good as individuals and for the good of the community they had better stop drinking liquor. A combination of these two things in my judgment will prove the only sound way of improvement and ultimately a possible solution to the problem.

The member for Wilkie said this was a timid Bill, displayed a lack of courage on the part of the Government. I took that rather hard, because I always had the idea that it required a little courage to defy the liquor interests of this continent. They are largely outside the province, and certainly this legislation does not suit those engaged in the traffic outside our borders and who desire to engage in the traffic

inside this province. Does it require no courage to defy that power? Those who are in favour of the license system can secure plentiful backing politically from those outside the province if they care to go and look for it, and everyone knows who has studied political campaigns that the prohibition element is a mighty poor thing to lean on politically.

My honourable friend opposite accused me of timidity when I know the stand I take today makes it sure that the liquor interest will attempt to defeat me in my own constituency and I know how much good it will be for me to rely on the extreme prohibition vote because the prohibitionist says: "We are prohibitionists; this is a liquor system and I cannot vote for you because you brought the system in."

I am quite prepared to leave it to the people of the province which attitude requires the greater courage to take.

May I just point here the proper procedure to take for those who advocate beer licenses. It is to move an amendment at this stage of the Bill, declaratory of the principle which they desire to see established and which is different from the principle in the Bill. I am not disposed to attempt to make party capital at the expense of men who take either view of this question, but I do say if any of the advocates of a beer license system desire to test the House on the occasion of the second reading of this Bill that is the proper procedure to follow.

I am not inviting it or discouraging it. I would only say that so far as every member supporting this Government is concerned on such a motion I would leave them absolutely free either from threat of election or anything else in standing exactly where they feel they should stand when the division bell rings. I make this statement publicly and without fear of the result. The Leader of the Opposition has said he does not speak for all the members on his side of the House.

So far as I am concerned and as leader of the Liberal party in Saskatchewan, this question is out of party politics and will remain out until my political opponents put it in. The responsibility will be on them.

Many of the matters which have been discussed during the debate should more properly have been dealt with at the committee stage, the quantity of liquor, the determining of the number of institutions and the penalties and matters such as that, all are questions which can better be discussed at the committee stage. Many addresses have been made generally condemnatory of this Bill, but because of some factors in it which could be discussed and can be changed if the committee desires.

Finally: I must confess that on this question of the two principles (private vested interests or government monopoly, a return of the license system or not) I have some regard for the place I might occupy in the history of the province. The Hon. Walter Scott will always be remembered as the first Premier in the British Empire to abolish the

bar and with it private vested interest in the sale of liquor. Those who are asking the Government of this province to inaugurate again a liquor license system are asking me to go down in the history of Saskatchewan as the man who defied the expressed will of the people by again bringing into being a liquor license system.

I am making no personal appeal, but I do not intend to be that man. If the people had voted for it I would not stand in their way for a moment; I would rather go down to defeat than impose it on the people against their expressed desire.

Speech delivered by
THE HONOURABLE J. G. GARDINER
(*Minister in Charge of the Bureau of Labour and Industries*)

on

THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

in the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,

Wednesday, January 7, 1925.

The Honourable Mr. Gardiner, in speaking to a Resolution again urging upon the Government of Canada the necessity of arranging for the transfer to the Province of Saskatchewan of the public domain within its limits, said:

Mr. Speaker,—It has been stated by the mover and seconder of the resolution that the question under discussion is an old one and that very little which is new can be said upon it. To a great extent I agree with them, but I submit that in these days of drafting platforms some new ideas seem to have entered the minds of those who are creating material to submit to the electors when the next general election comes around.

I should like to read to the House, Mr. Speaker, the plank of the Provincial Progressive Party dealing with the question. It is as follows:

“We pledge ourselves to co-operate with the members from Saskatchewan in the Dominion Parliament in securing an immediate settlement of Saskatchewan’s claim to a return of the national resources.”

I do not know that I have much criticism to offer of this,—unless it be of the method of approach which a provincial party is taking,—as the plank would seem to suggest that they intend to advocate the same claim as has been put forward by this Government in behalf of the people of Saskatchewan.

I have also in my hand the platform of the Liberal-Conservative Party for Saskatchewan, in which I find the following plank: “That we continue to urge upon the Dominion Government our claim in connection with Saskatchewan lands and natural resources and deplore the action of the Provincial Government in this regard.”

This is somewhat different. Our Conservative friends deplore our action. What action? What have we done that we should not have done or left undone that we should have done? They do not say, but in order that there may be no misunderstanding as to where we stand on the question, I am going to run the chance of wearying some of my friends, who do not like history, with an historical sketch of this whole question. I promise you, however, Mr. Speaker, that I shall not detain you with detail. This reminds me that certain members of the House have a habit, after each historical recital in this House, of standing up and proclaiming that the previous speaker has wearied the House with an historical recital reaching from the most ancient times down to the present. I am always inclined to think when listening to such an off-handed method of waving aside historical facts that the speaker is brushing aside his own ignorance of history. With this thought in mind, Mr. Speaker, allow me to review historically this question, and base argument upon historical facts as the only safe foundation upon which to base conclusions upon this and most other questions that have a past.

The question of administration and control of the Natural Resources has always been a live one within the confines of the British Empire. The Monarchical idea dating back to the time of feudalism at least was that all land was the property of the Crown, to be dealt with as the Crown saw fit. This idea has been replaced gradually in the mind of British people by the Democratic idea which was well expressed by the Colonial Office in dealing with the Rupert's Land Settlement in these words: "It is clear that Colonists of the Anglo-Saxon race look upon the land revenue as legitimately belonging to the community." In other words, it has come to be accepted as a principle in granting responsible government to any part of the Empire to pass over the administration and control of lands and resources to those who have accepted the duties and rights of self-government. Under the old Feudal System, from which our system of government has been developed through experience, the cost of administration was borne by the Crown, and the Crown claimed full control over the resources. From the time of Henry II down to the present, there has gone on a continual struggle for the control of the resources of revenue by the representatives of the people, and whenever that control has been won, there has been assumed with it the responsibility to supply a civil list—i.e., pay for the executive officials and employees.

The Western Provinces in Canada enjoy the distinction of being the only part of the British Empire where the practice has been reversed. We have assumed the duty of providing the costs of administration, we have assumed the duties of responsible government, without obtaining the administration and control of the Natural Resources and lands which are the sources of revenue.

We have reached this position as a province partly because of a set of circumstances over which we have no control and partly because of conditions which, although once existing, have now entirely changed.

The set of circumstances has to do with the history of all that territory which is drained into the Hudson's Bay and which was given to the Hudson's Bay Company by James II in 1670. The title to this land was passed back to the Crown by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1870. In 1870 Rupert's Land, together with the Northwest Territory, was united to Canada by Imperial Order-in-Council. An examination of the documents shows that the chartered rights in Rupert's Land passed from the company to the Crown, and that the territory now forming the greater part of the three Western provinces, together with a part of the present Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, passed from the Crown to the Dominion of Canada by the process of session.

The Bill, introduced into the Imperial Parliament providing for the taking over of Rupert's Land, stipulated that £300,000 was to be paid to the Hudson's Bay Company. While the Bill was passing through Parliament it was amended to make it perfectly clear that this money would not be taken from the Imperial Treasury, therefore it became apparent that if an Agreement were going to be reached the money must be provided by the Dominion. This was done, but in doing it the Dominion made it perfectly clear that they were having no dealings with a third party, but were paying the "cost of legal proceedings necessary to recover possession."

In the light of these circumstances, it will be seen that the position taken by Sir John A. Macdonald in 1870, and to a lesser degree by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in 1905, is scarcely in accordance with the actual transactions. These lands were not purchased from the Hudson's Bay Company by the Dominion Government. They were transferred to Canada by the British Crown.

It is sometimes stated in arguing this question that Prince Edward Island and British Columbia came into Confederation under circumstances similar to those under which the Prairie Provinces came in and, for that reason, our treatment should have been the same as theirs. British Columbia retained her Natural Resources and Lands. Prince Edward Island was reimbursed for lands which had been alienated and provided with funds with which to purchase unoccupied lands from non-resident owners. There is this essential difference, however, that both Prince Edward Island and British Columbia were Crown colonies before entering Canada, while the Prairie Lands were a part of the Dominion before being formed into separate legislative and administrative units.

But, this fact remains to be faced, Mr. Speaker, that while the British Empire stretches around the world, embracing parts of every continent and many islands of the sea, and while these have been added to the Empire under varying circumstances, there is today no part of the British Empire, excepting the Prairie Provinces, to which Responsible Government has been granted, that does not and at the same time enjoy the right to administer and control its own lands. The Canadian Colonies were the first to prove the right of a self-governing colony to control and administer their lands and resources for their own benefit.

All the other colonies have based their rights upon the won position which Canada held. The Government of Canada is the only one within the Empire to deny the same rights to a self-governing province.

There must have been some weighty consideration confronting the two Governments that took that position at Ottawa—first the Government of Sir John A. Macdonald in 1870, and later the Government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in 1905. What were those weighty considerations?

First, that a great railway must be built from coast to coast to act as a uniting force upon this far-flung country and the lands of the prairies must form the financial basis for the construction and operation until the line would pay.

Secondly, this railway can only be made to pay and these lands can only be of benefit to Canada if and when populated by a thrifty people; for that reason these lands and resources must be retained in the hands of the Federal Government to be administered in the interests of an aggressive policy.

What have we done to fulfill our obligations to the Dominion of Canada in these matters?

So far as the provision of a trancontinental railway is concerned, we have contributed our full share toward the creation of the greatest privately-owned corporation on this continent and perhaps in the world. The foundations of that great transportation organisation were established in the land, the most fertile and accessible land in Western Canada. Our Government gave to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company a virtual empire in extent in the form of a land grant; financial backing that was to be reimbursed through the disposal of lands in Western Canada; exemption from taxation for twenty years which has been stretched into forty years, and a contract with regard to competition that left them in virtual control of this unlimited field ready for development. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company deserves credit for the manner in which it has thrived and built up an organisation for service second to none under such circumstances. There are a few people east of the Great Lakes who do not yet know that they did not build the C. P. R. across these western plains, and I think they should be told so. Western lands made the building of the C.P.R. possible. The development of Western lands and the traffic resulting made the C.P.R. pay. We believe that we have paid a price for the existence of a Canadian nation united from coast to coast, and we intend to stand for a policy that will tend to maintain and not disrupt that unity.

How about the second reason of importance put forward by our leaders of the past for the retention of the control and administration of our lands at Ottawa—namely, colonisation?

It was estimated in 1905 that there was, in what is now the Province of Saskatchewan 25,000,000 acres of land suitable for homestead-

ing. This land was held to be worth \$1.50 an acre or a total of \$37,500,000. It was also estimated that when we had reached a population of 800,000 people settled upon this 25,000,000 acres of land, together with any lands that had been disposed of by the railways and the Hudson's Bay Company, that we would be entitled to \$750,000 annually. It was estimated that when we reached a population of 1,200,000 people settled upon these same lands we would be entitled to \$1,112,500 per annum forever.

Up to January 1, 1923, there had been placed under homestead entry in this province 27,616,000 acres of land, and there remained available for entry 5,390,000 acres. There are in the province over 800,000 people at the present time, therefore I assume that we have fulfilled conditions considered necessary to the colonisation of Western Canada which would entitle us to a subsidy from the Federal Treasury of \$750,000 per annum forever. Had it not been for the war, that has kept our population at a standstill for the past ten years, I am quite satisfied we should today have more than 1,200,000 people which would entitle us to \$1,112,500 per annum forever.

But we have accomplished more than this in the interests of the Dominion. We have provided 7,663,300 acres of land which has been sold as pre-emptions at \$3.00 an acre or for \$22,989,900. Whether this money has been paid or not it is worth 5% to the Federal Government, which is \$1,149,495 per annum; or more than the entire maximum subsidy which Saskatchewan may earn.

To sum up, what is the price we have paid for our public domain to be a part of a Canada united from coast to coast? We have given:

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| To Railway companies | 15,177,063 acres |
| To Hudson's Bay Company | 3,183,600 acres |
| To Colonisation through homesteads | 27,616,100 acres |
| To Colonisation through pre-emptions | 7,663,300 acres |
| | Total 53,640,063 acres |

If we were to receive settlement for these lands on the same basis as Prince Edward Island received consideration in 1873, we would be entitled to \$2,482,000 per annum in perpetuity in addition to the return of those lands and resources not yet alienated. In other words, if the Federal Government were to return our resources to us tomorrow and continue to give us our total maximum subsidy of \$1,112,500 per annum forever, we would still be getting only half as good a bargain as Prince Edward Island got in 1873.

Should we pay that price to have a country continuous from coast to coast, Mr. Speaker? I think we should, provided the Government is so going to conduct the affairs of this continuous Dominion as to bring about a unity in spirit as well as in name. Canada! the land of strong men, the land of brave men, the land of free men, cannot continue to be a country in which the people of one section are treated differently from the people of another.

If we wish to look at the value of our province to the Dominion from the point of view of mere dollars and cents, let us examine the situation from another point of view. It was stated by some one in authority in 1905 that every man, woman and child going into Western Canada, under the immigration policy then being carried out, would be worth a thousand dollars of invested capital to the Dominion treasury. In those days they figured interest at 3%. Figured at this rate the statement meant that it would be possible to collect directly and indirectly from every man, woman and child in Canada at least \$30. What are we doing today? In 1923 the revenue amounted to \$394,000,000, which is at the rate of about \$44 per capita. This means that at a capitalised valuation of \$1,000 we are paying revenues to the Federal Treasury at the rate of 4.4%. I am sure that every member of this House will agree, Mr. Speaker, that through direct and indirect taxation, we pay at least our share of the revenues in Western Canada, and that therefore my estimate of \$44.00 per capita per annum is not too high for the Province of Saskatchewan.

This would amount to \$35,200,000 per annum, all of which directly or indirectly comes from the land. I have not the figures before me, but I am quite satisfied that the Western provinces pay a higher rate of customs duty per capita than the Eastern provinces. These facts go to show that Canada has not become poorer because of the coming of Saskatchewan into Confederation. These facts go to prove that Saskatchewan has fulfilled her part in donating to the financial structure upon which Confederation rests. These facts go to prove that we should no longer be a suppliant at the feet of those who are in authority at Ottawa, but we should be admitted into Confederation on an equality with every other province of the Dominion.

Every immigrant, who has come to our province, has meant increased revenue to the Federal Government. Every immigrant who has come to Saskatchewan has meant greatly increased expenditure to the Provincial Government in providing schools, court facilities, roads and bridges, and the many other conveniences necessary in a settled community without a corresponding increase in revenues to the provincial authority.

We have now reached the time when a further settlement of our lands must proceed hand in hand with greater industrial development. This development can best be carried on under local control and administration. There are many reasons why this is so. Perhaps the most urgent reason is that any authority is more interested in a going concern that is paying revenue already than in looking for new development. The extent of hydro development in Ontario makes uninteresting the enormous possibilities in Northern Saskatchewan, and yet the development of our resources and the settlement of our unoccupied lands are two problems of the future which must be dealt with hand in hand. The greatest need to assist in the development of our resources in the province today is cheap power. We have in the north water power waiting to be utilised, and in the south latent power in the form of lignite coal. The Saskatchewan Government, the Manitoba

Government and the Federal Government have spent over \$1,000,000 in an attempt to utilise the coal of this field. This Government is responsible for one-quarter of that expenditure. I have no hesitation in saying that had the control of the expenditure been centered at Regina, instead of Montreal, better results would have been achieved than have been to date. At the same time I would remind you, Mr. Speaker, that private interests have spent \$750,000 on the development of the Sodium Sulphate industry in Saskatchewan during the same period covered by the operations of the Lignite Utilisation Board, and the results have been somewhat similar. I make this statement to remind those who are inclined to criticise the expenditure to Bienfait of the fact that private capital is ready to experiment and Government should be.

There is no government in Canada in a position better to direct those experiments than the local Government untampered by operations elsewhere.

Certain expenditures have been made in an endeavour to develop the coal fields of the south, but since making a trip north during the past summer I am convinced that great development is due there shortly. I am convinced that within the life-time of the members sitting in this Legislature today, there will be more people living in the Province of Saskatchewan, north of the City of Saskatoon than there are at the present time living south of that city.

In those waterways that are tributary to settlement and lands possible of settlement there is a maximum in water power of 1,000,000 H.P. and a minimum of 500,000 H.P.

The mining activities of Northern Ontario are yet in the development stage: Why should Ottawa waste time over a possible development in the same geological structures of Northern Saskatchewan? The fishing activities of the Maritimes, British Columbia and the Great Lakes overshadow the teeming lakes of Northern Saskatchewan. The coal fields of Alberta and Nova Scotia overshadow those of Southern Saskatchewan. The sodium sulphate and clay deposits scattered over the province are as yet untouched. There is a wonderful work at hand to be done which must be done by an authority whose interests are not divided. The Federal System of government is most efficient where the division of labour among the several governments is such as to bring into active control that authority which is most interested.

The time has now come when it is no longer necessary or desirable for the Dominion Government to retain lands to promote an immigration policy here which is different from that carried on for the other provinces. The time has come when the carrying on of an immigration policy from Ottawa without any control from Regina can only result in friction between the two authorities. The time has come when because of lack of industrial development it no longer pays the Federal Government to cling to the Natural Resources. For these reasons I believe that the time is drawing near when a reasonable settlement of this whole question can be reached.

In none of my remarks have I criticised the bargain which was reached in 1905. It has been lived up to the letter down to the present, and it was mutually beneficial down to the beginning of the war that the bargain should remain to a great extent unchanged. The maximum of benefit to be obtained by both sides to the agreement passed about ten years ago, but it is my firm conviction that since the Dominion Government secured the estimated amount which she expected in 1905, that this province should continue to enjoy the right to the subsidy provided for in the Autonomy Act.

In conclusion, let me state, Mr. Speaker, that this is one of those questions which is constantly creating a feeling of dissatisfaction with Confederation. In order to remove any reason for any such feelings the relation of each province to the Federal Authority should be exactly the same as the relation of every other province to that authority. This, to my mind, is the only way to secure the objective which we all have had in mind from Confederation to the present, namely: the creation of a united country from ocean to ocean, one in action, one in spirit, one in loyalty to a common authority within the British Empire formed to lay the foundation of this young nation sound and sure.