

JOURNALS
of the
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
of the
Province of Saskatchewan

From 24th day of January, 1928, to 7th day of March, 1928.

(Both days inclusive)

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

BEING THE THIRD SESSION OF THE SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF
THE PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

SESSION 1928

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JOURNALS
of the
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
of the
Province of Saskatchewan

VOLUME XXV.



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 Great Britain, Ireland and 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 TUESDAY, the TWENTY-FOURTH day of JANUARY, 1928, at Our City of Regina, personally be and appear for the DESPATCH 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 THIRTEENTH day of DECEMBER, ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SEVEN, and in the EIGHTEENTH year of Our Reign.

By Command,

J. W. McLEOD,
Deputy Provincial Secretary.

JOURNALS
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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
OF THE
PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

THIRD SESSION—SIXTH LEGISLATURE

REGINA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 1928.

3 o'clock p.m.

This being the first day of the meeting of the Third Session of the Sixth 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 thirteenth day of December, 1927, 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 welcome you with pleasure to the Third Session of the Sixth Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan.

Saskatchewan had the honour during the year 1927 of entertaining as its guests, His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, and His Royal brother, Prince George; The Right Honourable Stanley Baldwin, Prime Minister of Great Britain, and Lieut.-Colonel The Right Honourable L. C. M. S. Amery, Secretary of State for the Dominions. The warm place which the Princes have established in the hearts of our people, together with the knowledge of local affairs displayed by the Ministers of the Crown in the Imperial Government, have given a deeper meaning to that loyalty which binds the Empire.

It has been our pleasure to receive His Excellency, Lord Willingdon, the Governor General of Canada, accompanied by

Her Excellency, Lady Willingdon. On this occasion our people had the honour to greet for the first time His Excellency as representative of His Majesty, The King. The kindly interest of Their Excellencies in all that concerned the welfare of our people has endeared them to us and assures them a hearty welcome in the future.

During the year the people of our Province joined enthusiastically in the celebration of Canada's Diamond Jubilee, thus lending their best support to a better understanding among the provinces and a closer unity of Canada's people from coast to coast.

A very important conference of Provincial Governments with the Federal Government was held at Ottawa since the last session of the Legislature. The conference contributed a broader and more tolerant outlook upon Canadian development, each province of the Dominion giving sympathetic and disinterested consideration to the problems confronting every other province and the Federal Government attempting to co-ordinate the views of all in an effort to find a solution based upon national requirements.

I am pleased to say that improvement in economic conditions within the province has continued steadily throughout the year.

Industrial possibilities together with activities in relation to power development are presenting new problems to my Government which you will be asked to deal with during the Session.

The ever growing importance of good roads to accommodate the increasing investment in automobiles by all classes of our people will be recognised during the Session through the introduction of a bill to provide for the imposition of a tax on gasoline in order that revenues may be secured upon which a more extensive programme of road construction and maintenance can be based.

Negotiations have been under way between my Government and the Dominion Government for almost two years pertaining to the policing of the province. These negotiations have resulted in an understanding being reached and a proposed agreement will probably be ready for presentation to the House during this Session.

The seasonal nature of agriculture, the severity and length of our winter and the need for a greater degree of supervision in our schools has induced the Government to give consideration to the necessity for certain changes in the school law. These proposals will be placed before you for consideration.

It is proposed to extend the activities of the Department of Railways under the name of the Department of Railways, Labour and Industries. Legislation providing for this extension will be submitted to you.

To meet the growing needs of agriculture, my Government has decided to make provision for a further extension of the activities of the Department of Agriculture, both in regard to matters of production and to matters of marketing.

Among other important legislation with which you will be asked to deal are measures providing for Old Age Pensions, the consolidation and revision of The Village Act, and amending bills relating to municipalities, highways, insurance, co-operative associations and many other matters.

The Public Accounts for the last fiscal year will be submitted to you as well as the estimates of revenue and expenditure for the year beginning May 1st, 1928.

I now leave you to your labours 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 Moose Jaw City by the resignation of William E. Knowles, Esquire;

In the Electoral Division of Morse by the death of William P. MacLachlan, Esquire;

In the Electoral Division of Maple Creek by the resignation of Peter L. Hyde, Esquire;

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

Of William G. Ross, Esquire, as member for the Electoral Division of Moose Jaw City;

Of Duncan M. Robertson, Esquire, as member for the Electoral Division of Morse;

Of the Honourable George Spence as member for the Electoral Division of Maple Creek. *(Sessional Paper No. 1.)*

William G. Ross, Esquire, Member for the Electoral Division of Moose Jaw City; Duncan M. Robertson, Esquire, Member for the Electoral Division of Morse, and the Honourable George Spence, Member for the Electoral Division of Maple Creek, 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. Gardiner 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. Gardiner, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Davis,

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

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

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. Gardiner, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Hamilton,

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 Garry, Tran, Anderson, Uhrich, Latta.

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 3.20 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1928.

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

- By Mr. McNiven—Of the City of Regina.
By Mr. Robertson—Of Daniel D. Neufeld and eleven others.
By Mr. Scott—Of United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, Limited.
By Mr. Pickel—Of Marie Sabourdy and two others.
By Mr. McNiven—Of Les Soeurs de Notre Dame de la Croix.
By Mr. McConnell—Of the City of Saskatoon.
By Mr. McNiven—Of His Grace Archbishop Mathieu, His Lordship Bishop Harding, and seven others.
By Mr. McIntosh—Of Charles Wilson and eight others.
By Mr. Ross—Of the Moose Jaw Electric Railway Company Limited.

The Hon. Mr. Uhrich, 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

| | | |
|----------|-------|----------|
| Gamble | Garry | Pickel |
| Anderson | Latta | Sahlmark |

Three shall be a quorum.

ON PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------|------------|----------|
| Parker | Gardiner | McKinnon |
| Anderson | Garry | McNiven |
| Agar | Gemmell | Pickel |
| Clinch | Hagarty | Ross |
| Cockburn | Hassard | Sahlmark |
| Cross | Keelan | Salkeld |
| Davis | MacPherson | Tripp |
| Donaldson | McGregor | Uhrich |

Eight shall be a quorum.

ON PRIVATE BILLS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Pickel | Gordon | Patterson |
| Agar | Hogan | Ross |
| Baker | Huck | Spence |
| Buckle | Keelan | Salkeld |
| Creighton | Lewis | Scott |
| Cockburn | Marion | Smith |
| Cross | MacPherson | Stipe |
| Davis | McAfee | Sykes |
| Gamble | McIntosh | Therres |
| Gardiner | McNiven | Uhrich |
| Garry | Nay | Whatley |

Eight shall be a quorum.

ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND PRINTING.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|--------|
| Sahlmark | Hogan | Pickel |
| Anderson | Latta | Ross |
| Baker | McClure | Spence |
| Cross | McConnell | Scott |
| Davis | McIntosh | Smith |
| Finlayson | McGregor | Steele |
| Gardiner | McNiven | Stipe |
| Hall | Miller | Tran |
| Halvorson | Nay | Uhrich |
| Hamilton | Patterson | Wilson |
| Hill | Paulson | |

Eight shall be a quorum.

ON AGRICULTURE.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Hogan | Grant | Miller |
| Agar | Hagarty | Parker |
| Buckle | Hall | Paulson |
| Clinch | Halvorson | Robertson |
| Cockburn | Hamilton | Spence |
| Creighton | Hassard | Smith |
| Dodds | Huck | Steele |
| Donaldson | Laing | Stipe |
| Finlayson | Lewis | Sykes |
| Gamble | MacPherson | Therres |
| Garry | McClure | Waddell |
| Gemmell | McGregor | Whatley |
| Gordon | McKinnon | Wilson |

Eight shall be a quorum.

ON MUNICIPAL LAW.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------|------------|---------|
| Agar | Gamble | Ross |
| Baker | Gordon | Salkeld |
| Buckle | Hamilton | Smith |
| Creighton | MacPherson | Steele |
| Cross | McKinnon | Tran |
| Davis | McConnell | Tripp |
| Dodds | Robertson | Waddell |

Six shall be a quorum.

ON EDUCATION.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Finlayson | Hall | Ross |
| Anderson | Keelan | Sykes |
| Clinch | Latta | Stipe |
| Creighton | Lewis | Scott |
| Davis | McAfee | Salkeld |
| Gardiner | McClure | Tran |
| Grant | Nay | Therres |
| Hill | Patterson | Tripp |
| Halverson | Paulson | Uhrich |
| | | Whatley |

Eight shall be a quorum.

ON RAILWAYS, TELEPHONES AND TELEGRAPHS

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Parker | Gemmell | McIntosh |
| Agar | Hagarty | Marion |
| Buckle | Halverson | Patterson |
| Cockburn | Hassard | Robertson |
| Creighton | Huck | Spence |
| Cross | Laing | Stipe |
| Donaldson | Miller | Tran |
| Dodds | McGregor | Wilson |

Six shall be a quorum.

ON LAW AMENDMENTS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|----------|---------|------------|
| Gordon | Hill | McConnell |
| Anderson | Keelan | McIntosh |
| Cross | Latta | MacPherson |
| Davis | Lewis | Ross |
| Garry | McNiven | Tran |
| | | Waddell |

Five shall be a quorum.

ON LIBRARY.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-------------|------------|---------|
| Mr. Speaker | McAfee | Scott |
| Baker | McClure | Sykes |
| Huck | MacPherson | Steele |
| Hogan | Nay | Therres |
| Laing | Paulson | Uhrich |
| Latta | Sahlmark | Wilson |

Four shall be a quorum.

By leave of the Assembly,
On motion of the Hon. Mr. Uhrich, seconded by Mr. Anderson,
Resolved, That this Assembly doth concur in the report presented this day of the Select 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. 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 Education for the year ended December 31, 1926. *(Sessional Paper No. 2.)*

The Hon. Mr. Spence, 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 ended April 30, 1927. *(Sessional Paper No. 3.)*

The Assembly then adjourned at 3.25 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 1928.

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

Of the City of Regina, praying for an Act to confirm a certain bylaw and agreement with P. Burns & Company, Limited.

Of Daniel D. Neufeld and eleven others, praying for an Act to incorporate the Herbert Bible School Association.

Of the United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, Limited, praying for an Act to amend its Act of incorporation.

Of Marie Sabourdy and two others, praying for an Act to incorporate Les Soeurs de l'Enfant Jesus du Puy.

Of Les Soeurs de Notre Dame de la Croix, praying for an Act to amend its Act of incorporation.

Of the City of Saskatoon, praying for an Act authorising and empowering it to raise by way of debentures the sum of \$1,300,000.

Of His Grace Archbishop Mathieu, His Lordship Bishop Harding and seven others, praying for an Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Of Charles Wilson and eight others, praying for an Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Insurance Agents' Association.

Of The Moose Jaw Electric Railway Company, Limited, praying for an Act confirming a new franchise agreement and extending its powers.

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

Annual Report of the Provincial Secretary, including the Report of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, 1926-27.
(*Sessional Paper No. 4.*)

And also, The President's Report of the University of Saskatchewan, including Financial Statements, for the year ended June 30, 1927.
(*Sessional Paper No. 5.*)

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. Ross, seconded by Mr. Robertson,

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

JANUARY 26, 1928

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. Anderson, adjourned.

The Assembly then adjourned at 4.40 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 1928.

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

By Mr. Ross—Of the Synod of Saskatchewan of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

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 for the Imposition of a Tax on Wild Lands.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 2—An Act respecting Villages.

Hon. Mr. Latta, 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 Municipal Affairs for the Financial Year ended April 30, 1927.

(Sessional Paper No. 6.)

The Hon. Mr. Uhrich, 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, 1927.

(Sessional Paper No. 7.)

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Ross of the twenty-sixth instant.

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

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

REGINA, MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 1928.

Mr. Speaker reported that the Petition of the Synod of Saskatchewan of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, praying for an Act to amend The United Church of Canada Act, presented to the Assembly on Friday, January 26, 1928, could not be favourably reported upon by the Clerk of the Assembly under Rule 71 (8), as objection had been filed on behalf of the United Church of Canada to the Reception of this Petition.

On motion of Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. McAfee,

Ordered, That the Petition of the Synod of Saskatchewan of the Presbyterian Church in Canada be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders for consideration and report as to its Reception by this Assembly.

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 Saskatchewan Evidence Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 5—An Act to amend The Crop Payments Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 6—An Act to amend The Assignment of Book Debts Act, 1927.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 7—An Act to validate and confirm a Certain Agreement between His Majesty the King in the right of Canada, The Saskatchewan Anti-tuberculosis League and His Majesty the King in the right of the Province of Saskatchewan.

Hon. Mr. Uhrich, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 8—An Act to amend The Timber Taxation Act.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 9—An Act respecting the Department of Railways, Labour and Industries.

Hon. Mr. Spence, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 10—An Act to amend The Drainage Act.

Hon. Mr. Spence, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 11—An Act respecting Open Wells and Other Things Dangerous to Stock.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 12—An Act to amend The Apiaries Act, 1924.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 13—An Act to amend The Department of Agriculture Act.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Thursday next.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Ross of the twenty-sixth instant.

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

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

REGINA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1928.

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

The Committee met for organisation and appointed Mr. Gamble as its Chairman.

Your Committee has considered the objection filed by The United Church of Canada to the use by the Petitioners of the name "The Synod of Saskatchewan of the Presbyterian Church in Canada," and feels that this objection raises an important constitutional question.

Your Committee therefore recommends:

That the Petition of the Synod of Saskatchewan of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, praying for an Act to amend The United Church of Canada Act, be received by the Assembly on the understanding that, when the said Bill to amend The United Church of Canada Act reaches the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills, that Committee shall first consider, as part of the preamble of the said Bill, the said objection filed by the United Church of Canada.

By leave of the Assembly,

On motion of Mr. Gamble, seconded by Mr. Anderson,

Resolved, That the first report of the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders be now concurred in.

The said Petition of the Synod of Saskatchewan of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, praying for an Act to amend The United Church of Canada Act, was accordingly read and received.

Mr. Gamble, 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 City of Regina, praying for an Act to confirm a certain Bylaw and Agreement with P. Burns and Company, Limited.

Of Daniel D. Neufeld and eleven others praying for an Act to incorporate the Herbert Bible School Association.

Of the United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, Limited, praying for an Act to amend its Act of Incorporation.

Of Marie Sabourdy and two others, praying for an Act to incorporate Les Soeurs de l'Enfant Jesus du Puy.

Of Les Soeurs de Notre Dame de la Croix, praying for an Act to amend its Act of incorporation.

Of the City of Saskatoon, praying for an Act authorising and empowering it to raise by way of debentures the sum of \$1,300,000.

Of His Grace Archbishop Mathieu, His Lordship Bishop Harding and seven others, praying for an Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Of Charles Wilson and eight others, praying for an Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Insurance Agents' Association.

Of the Moose Jaw Electric Railway Company, Limited, praying for an Act confirming a new franchise agreement and extending its powers.

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

Bill No. 15—An Act to amend The Chattel Mortgage Act.
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 16—An Act to amend The Farm Implement Act.
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Monday next.

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

Bill No. 01—An Act to confirm a certain Bylaw and a certain Agreement entered into between the City of Regina and P. Burns & Company, Limited.

Bill No. 02—An Act to incorporate the Herbert Bible School Association.

Bill No. 03—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, Limited.

Bill No. 04—An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs de l'Enfant Jesus du Puy.

Bill No. 05—An Act to provide Exemption from Taxation upon Certain Lands to Les Soeurs de Notre Dame de la Croix.

Bill No. 06—An Act to authorise the City of Saskatoon to raise by way of Debentures an Amount not exceeding the Sum of \$1,300,000 for the Construction of Works for the Manufacture and Supply of Electric Light and Power.

Bill No. 07—An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Bill No. 08—An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Insurance Agents' Association.

Bill No. 09—An Act to ratify a Certain Agreement between the City of Moose Jaw and the Moose Jaw Electric Railway Company, Limited.

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

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

Annual Report of the Local Government Board for the year ended December 31, 1927. *(Sessional Paper No. 8.)*

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Ross of the twenty-sixth instant.

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

The Assembly then adjourned at 10.40 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1928.

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 Friday next.

Bill No. 18—An Act to amend The Rural Telephone Act.
Hon. Mr. Patterson, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 19—An Act for the Licensing of Collection Agents.
Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Friday next.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) How many employees of Liquor or Beer Stores were dismissed or asked to resign during 1927?

Answer: Fourteen.

- (2) In what store or stores were they engaged?

Answer: In Stores Nos. 1 and 2 Regina; Nos. 3 and 4 Saskatoon; No. 8 Yorkton; No. 10 Swift Current; No. 107 Sedley; No. 112 Mazenod; No. 145 Meacham.

- (3) What was the offence in each case?

Answer: At Stores Nos. 1 and 2 Regina—Dismissed, unsatisfactory service.

Store No. 3 Saskatoon—Dismissed, unsatisfactory service.

Store No. 3 Saskatoon—Dismissed, Staff reduction.

Store No. 4 Saskatoon—Dismissed, unsatisfactory service.

Store No. 8 Yorkton—Dismissed, unsatisfactory service.

Store No. 10 Swift Current—Dismissed, unsatisfactory service.

Store No. 107 Sedley—Dismissed, Infraction of Liquor Act.

Store No. 112 Mazenod—Dismissed, unsatisfactory service.

Store No. 145 Meacham—Dismissed, unsatisfactory service.

- (4) Were these offences, if any, violations of The Saskatchewan Liquor Act?

Answer: See Answer to Question No. 3 referring to Store No. 107.

- (5) Were any of these employees, if any, prosecuted for infractions of The Liquor Act?

Answer: Yes.

- (6) If so, what cases were prosecuted and what was the result of the prosecution or prosecutions?

Answer: See answer to Question No. 3—Store No. 107, Vendor was prosecuted for infraction of the Liquor Act and fined Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) and costs.

Mr. Tran asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) In what way do the Returned Soldier Organisations obtain information as to vacancies in the Civil Service?

Answer: No organisation is notified of vacancies occurring in the Civil Service.

- (2) Was a returned soldier appointed to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of R. J. Ramsland as Liquor Inspector?

Answer: No.

- (3) If not, why not?

Answer: This position was filled by promoting an employee of the Board.

Mr. Stipe asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Has a man named John Kain been at any time in the employ of a Government Liquor Store? If so, what store?

Answer: Yes, Liquor Store No. 2, Eleventh Avenue, Regina.

- (2) Was he dismissed or asked or allowed to resign?

Answer: He was dismissed.

- (3) Was his conduct the subject of an investigation?

Answer: Yes.

- (4) If so, what was the result of this investigation?

Answer: His dismissal.

- (5) What was the reason for his resignation or dismissal?

Answer: The Board found on investigation the conduct of the business at the store had not been properly carried out. The Board was also satisfied that Mr. Kain had no personal knowledge of the irregularities which led to the dismissal of the store employees but as Manager was technically responsible.

- (6) Is said Kain now in the employ of the Government?

Answer: Yes.

- (7) If so, in what capacity?

Answer: As Bursar at the Mental Hospital, Battleford.

- (8) When did he begin his present duties and at what salary?

Answer: November 7th, 1927, at a salary at the rate of \$2200.00 a year.

- (9) What was his salary while employed in the Liquor Store?
Answer: Commenced at \$200.00 per month, increased to \$225.00.

- (10) Is he a returned soldier?
Answer: No.

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

- (1) Is R. Forsythe, who was formerly a member of this Legislature from Oxbow, and who was employed in one of the Government Departments, and who at one time resided in Room 306, Ross Block, Saskatoon, still in the employ of the Government?

Answer: There is an R. Forsyth in the employ of the Government. The Government has no information as to where he resides.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Is Edward J. Rooney, Junior, Manager of the Liquor Store at Estevan, and Edward J. Rooney, Junior, Implement Agent at Estevan, one and the same person?

Answer: Mr. Rooney is Manager of the Liquor Store at Estevan and is financially interested in an implement concern at Estevan but is not actively associated with the business in the management thereof, his interest being purely a financial one.

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

- (1) What is the cost to this Province per year for each deaf child, ordinarily resident within this Province, who is sent to Winnipeg and Montreal schools for the deaf to be educated?

Answer: \$600.80.

Mr. Buckle asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) How many Provincial Police Magistrates are there in the Province of Saskatchewan?

Answer: Seven.

- (2) Who are they and where do they reside?

Answer: J. C. Martin, Esquire, K.C., Weyburn.
 J. T. Leger, Esquire, Saskatoon.
 W. B. Scott, Esquire, K.C., Regina.
 G. C. Thomson, Esquire, Swift Current.
 D. Wedderspoon, Esquire, Yorkton.
 L. S. Sifton, Esquire, Moose Jaw.
 J. E. Lussier, Esquire, Prince Albert.

- (3) What has been paid to each on account of salary during the last fiscal year?

Answer:

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| J. C. Martin, Esquire, K.C..... | \$3,000.00 |
| J. T. Leger, Esquire..... | 2,600.00 |
| W. B. Scott, Esquire, K.C..... | 1,200.00 |
| G. C. Thomson, Esquire..... | 1,200.00 |
| D. Wedderspoon, Esquire..... | 808.06 |
| (Appointed 30th August, 1926.) | |
| L. S. Sifton, Esquire..... | 154.83 |
| (Appointed 15th March, 1927.) | |
| J. E. Lussier, Esquire..... | Nil |
| (Appointed 1st November, 1927.) | |

- (4) What has been paid to each on account of expenses during the last fiscal year?

Answer:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| J. C. Martin, Esquire, K.C.,.... | \$ 746.35 |
| J. T. Leger, Esquire,..... | 957.05 |
| W. B. Scott, Esquire, K.C.,.... | 10.90 |
| G. C. Thomson, Esquire,..... | Nil |
| D. Wedderspoon, Esquire,..... | 29.25 |
| L. S. Sifton, Esquire,..... | Nil |
| J. E. Lussier, Esquire,..... | Nil |

- (5) How many cases has each presided over in the last fiscal year?

Answer:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| J. C. Martin, Esquire, K. C.,.... | 152 |
| J. T. Leger, Esquire,..... | 264 |
| W. B. Scott, Esquire, K.C.,.... | 157 |
| G. C. Thomson, Esquire..... | 227 |
| D. Wedderspoon, Esquire,..... | 61 |
| L. S. Sifton, Esquire,..... | 6 |
| J. E. Lussier, Esquire,..... | Nil |

- (6) What policy is pursued in referring cases to them in the districts in which they reside?

Answer: The intention is for the Provincial Police Magistrates to take the more important cases in the Districts. In actual practice, of course, this depends greatly upon the work in the district at any one time.

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

- (1) What is the number of automobiles owned by the Government of Saskatchewan?

Answer: 43.

- (2) What is the number of automobiles operated by each Department of the Government?

Answer:

| | |
|---|----|
| Department of Agriculture..... | 1 |
| Department of The Attorney General..... | 10 |
| Bureau of Labour and Industries..... | 1 |
| Department of Highways..... | 3 |
| Insurance Office..... | 2 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Department of The Provincial Secretary.. | 4 |
| Department of Public Health..... | 6 |
| Department of Public Works..... | 8 |
| Department of Telephones..... | 8 |
| Bureau of Child Protection..... | Nil |
| Bureau of Publications..... | Nil |
| Office of the Civil Service Commissioner.. | Nil |
| Department of Education..... | Nil |
| Office of the Executive Council..... | Nil |
| Local Government Board..... | Nil |
| Department of The King's Printer..... | Nil |
| Office of the Legislative Assembly..... | Nil |
| Department of Municipal Affairs..... | Nil |
| Department of The Provincial Auditor... | Nil |
| Department of Railways..... | Nil |
| Department of The Provincial Treasurer.. | Nil |

- (3) What is the number of each make of car used by the Government?

Answer:

| | |
|------------------|----|
| Buick..... | 1 |
| Chevrolet..... | 5 |
| Chrysler..... | 1 |
| Dodge..... | 4 |
| Essex..... | 5 |
| Ford..... | 17 |
| Hudson..... | 2 |
| MacLaughlin..... | 3 |
| Nash..... | 1 |
| Paige..... | 1 |
| Star..... | 3 |

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- (4) Is insurance carried by the Government in all the Departments against loss of automobiles from theft?

Answer: Insurance is carried on cars operated by the following:—

Department of The Attorney General.
 Department of The Provincial Secretary.
 Bureau of Labour and Industries.
 Insurance Office.

No insurance is carried in respect of cars operated by:

Department of Agriculture.
 Department of Highways.
 Department of Public Health.
 Department of Public Works.
 Department of Telephones.

- (5) Is insurance carried by the Government in all Departments against loss of automobiles from fire?

Answer: See answer to Question 4.

Mr. Tran asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) What qualifications are necessary to hold an appointment as a Justice of the Peace?

Answer: See The Magistrates Act, Chapter 64 of The Revised Statutes of Saskatchewan, 1920.

- (2) From what source or sources does the Department obtain the information regarding qualifications?

Answer: From the appointee.

- (3) Does the Department feel satisfied that these men chosen from the laity are capable of administering justice?

Answer: The authority of a Justice of the Peace is limited to that which is expressly conferred to or is necessarily implied by some statute. It has been found on the whole the Justices of the Peace of this Province are a very capable and efficient body of men for exercising the duties which have been conferred upon them by statute.

- (4) Does the Department check up the verdicts?

Answer: Yes.

- (5) If so, have any of these been quashed? Give concrete example.

Answer: Yes.
Rex v. Hagerup, 48 C.C.C. page 95.

- (6) Is there any course of training instituted to fit these men for their positions?

Answer: No.

- (7) If so, what, and when instituted?

Answer: See answer to Question No. 6.

- (8) When dismissals occur, by whose recommendation are they dismissed?

Answer: The Attorney General.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Was Frank Helfrick of Sedley at any time Manager of the Beer Store at Sedley?

Answer: Yes.

- (2) If so, was he dismissed from that position?

Answer: Yes.

- (3) If dismissed, for what reason?

Answer: Infraction of The Liquor Act.

- (4) Was he a British subject?

Answer: Yes.

- (5) Was his father engaged at any time by the Liquor Board?

Answer: Yes.

- (6) Who is the present Manager of the Beer Store at Sedley?

Answer: Mr. Joseph Boos.

- (7) Is he a British subject?

Answer: No. Was resident in Saskatchewan eight (8) years prior to being appointed Vendor. Application for naturalisation now pending.

- (8) Were there any other applicants for this position at Sedley at the date of the last appointment?

Answer: No. Two applications were received subsequent to the appointment of Mr. Boos.

- (9) If so, who were they?

Answer: See answer to Question 8.

Mr. Buckle asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) In what year was the S.P.P. patrol boat put into service upon the Saskatchewan river?

Answer: May, 1921.

- (2) In what year was this service discontinued and the boat sent to Fond du Lac?

Answer: October, 1921.

- (3) What was the cost of the gasoline and oil used by this patrol whilst in service upon the Saskatchewan river?

Answer: \$903.25.

- (4) What was the cost of repairs to this patrol boat whilst in service upon the Saskatchewan river?

Answer: \$137.75.

- (5) What was the number of convictions obtained through the use of this patrol boat whilst in operation upon the Saskatchewan river?

Answer: The boat was used in general police work and it is not possible to ascertain the number of convictions obtained through the use of the boat.

- (6) What was the cost of removing and repairs to this boat since its removal to Fond du Lac?

Answer: Removing \$1030.61
Repairs 509.55

- (7) What other work has this boat been put to besides that of patrol work?

Answer: None.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) What was the total fees received by our Land Titles Offices in Saskatchewan during the fiscal year 1926-27?

Answer: \$586,657.39.

- (2) What was the total operating cost of our Land Titles Office system during said period; said operating cost to include salaries, supplies, maintenance of Land Titles Office Buildings, depreciation, etc.?

Answer: \$309,791.28.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Ross of the twenty-sixth ultimo.

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

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.55 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1928.

Leave to introduce the same having been granted; and the Ministers introducing the Bills having in each case 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 following Bills were severally received, read the first time, and second reading ordered:

Bill No. 3—An Act to provide Scholarships for Canadian Students in Paris.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 14—An Act to validate a Certain Agreement respecting the Distribution of Relief.

Hon. Mr. Patterson, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 20—An Act to provide for the Consolidation and Revision of the Statutes of Saskatchewan.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 21—An Act to amend The Succession Duty Act, 1923.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 22—An Act to provide for Old Age Pensions.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 24—An Act to amend The Civil Service Superannuation Act, 1927.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner, Second reading Monday next.

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

Bill No. 23—An Act to Regulate the Operation of Public Vehicles.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Monday next.

The Hon. Mr. Davis, 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 ended January 24, 1928. *(Sessional Paper No. 9.)*

And also,—Record of Convictions under The Liquor Act, 1925, for the period ended December 31, 1927. *(Sessional Paper No. 10.)*

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

Annual Report of the Department of Railways, for the year ended December 31, 1926. *(Sessional Paper No. 11.)*

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

- (1) From whom did the Government purchase the building now housing the Melfort Detachment S.P.P.?

Answer: The Royal Bank of Canada.

- (2) What was the price paid for this building?

Answer: \$2500.00

- (3) What has been the cost of repairs to this building since same was acquired by the Government?

Answer: \$1972.15.

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

- (1) How many school departments were in operation in each of the years 1906, 1911, 1916, 1921 and 1926?

| <i>Answer:</i> Year: | Departments in Operation. |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1906 | 1017 |
| 1911 | 2480 |
| 1916 | 4279 |
| 1921 | 5591 |
| 1926 | 6220 |

- (2) How many teachers were recorded as having taught in the province in each of those years?

| <i>Answer:</i> Year. | Teachers Employed. |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1906 | 1298 |
| 1911 | 3491 |
| 1916 | 5677 |
| 1921 | 6962 |
| 1926 | 7779 |

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

- (1) How many ferry crossings were operated by the Department of Highways during the summer of 1927?

Answer: 47.

- (2) How many new ferries were installed during the calendar year of 1927, and in what locations?

Answer: One. A cable ferry on the Beaver River, in township 71, range 2, west of the 3rd meridian, near La Plonge Mission.

- (3) How many new ferry scows were built in the calendar year of 1927?

Answer: Eight; seven of these replaced old scows worn out and unsafe for further use.

- (4) What was the total amount of traffic carried by the ferries in 1927 as compared with 1926?

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------------------|---------|---------|
| <i>Answer:</i> | Traffic Comparison | 1927 | 1926 |
| | Double Vehicles | 66,096 | 78,497 |
| | Single Vehicles | 18,510 | 24,728 |
| | Saddle Horses | 12,122 | 13,232 |
| | Loose Animals | 31,522 | 36,658 |
| | Passengers | 409,818 | 489,601 |
| | Autos | 176,677 | 169,198 |
| | Engines | 397 | 230 |
| | | 715,142 | 812,144 |
| | Total | 715,142 | 812,144 |

The table of traffic shows an increase in the number of automobiles and engines carried by the ferries. There is a falling off of general traffic, which is attributable to the wet season.

- (5) Are these Public Ferries free?

Answer: All ferries are free between the hours of 7 a.m. and 8 p.m., but between the hours of 8 p.m. and 7 a.m. ferrymen are allowed to collect a small toll on a schedule of rates authorised by the Government.

- (6) What is the present valuation of the ferry service equipment?

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| <i>Answer:</i> | Cables and tackle | \$ 67,546.00 |
| | Scows and row boats | 192,975.00 |
| | Other equipment | 150,206.10 |
| | | \$410,727.10 |
| | Total | \$410,727.10 |

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

- (1) How many concrete bridges were constructed under Capital Account between May 1 and December 31, 1927?

Answer: 4.

- (2) How was the construction carried out?

Answer: By contract, except in the case of the construction of traffic attachments and concrete retaining wall to the Canadian National Railway bridge at the St. Louis Crossing, which work of construction is being handled by the Railway under agreement with the Government.

- (3) Were contracts awarded to the lowest bidder in each case?

Answer: Yes.

- (4) How many bridge works were undertaken under Revenue Account between May 1 and December 31, 1927?

Answer: 192.

- (5) How many of these works were for new bridges and how many bridge repairs?

Answer: 110 new bridges constructed, and 82 bridges repaired.

- (6) What was the amount of floor width allowed on bridges constructed during this period?

Answer: 20 ft. clear roadway for all bridges on Provincial Highways, and 18 ft. clear for bridges on Main Market Roads.

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

- (1) How many quarter sections were obtained by the Province from the Dominion Government in connection with the Moose Range Drainage District?

Answer: 180.

- (2) How many have been sold?

Answer: 87.

- (3) What was the average price obtained per acre for the parcels sold?

Answer: \$11.28.

- (4) How were these lands sold?

Answer: By public auction.

- (5) Were any of these lands sold privately?

Answer: No.

Mr. Tran asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Is Mr. Hoar of Calder, Saskatchewan, and the Mr. Hoar, who is at present acting as a Justice of the Peace, one and the same person?

Answer: There is a Mr. W. H. Hoar of Calder who is a Justice of the Peace.

- (2) If so, is it not a fact that Mr. Hoar was found guilty of misappropriating some \$9,000.00 of public funds while he was Secretary-Treasurer of the Municipality of Calder?

Answer: No.

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

- (1) What was the total number of tons of coal purchased by the Government in 1927, and how much was paid for it?

Answer: 26,494 tons..... \$143,827.00.

- (2) Of this amount how much was Saskatchewan coal and how much was paid for it?

Answer: 9,090 tons..... \$38,312.00.

- (3) How much Saskatchewan coal and how much other coal was used in the Weyburn Mental Hospital during December, 1927?

Answer: 64 tons Saskatchewan Lignite,
893 tons Western coal.

Mr. Buckle asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) Has F. T. Hawryluk, School Inspector, been transferred from the Rosthern Inspectorate?

Answer: Yes.

- (2) If so, for what reason?

Answer: There was a re-arrangement of inspectorates.

- (3) If not, is it the intention of the Government to transfer him?

Answer: Answered by No. 1.

- (4) If so, for what reason?

Answer: Answered by No. 1.

- (5) Was a petition presented asking for his removal?

Answer: No.

- (6) If so, by whom was this petition received?

Answer: Answered by No. 5.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) How many teachers are teaching on permits?

Answer: Three.

- (2) What are their names and where are they teaching?

Answer: John Edward Hay—a returned soldier—in the War End S.D. No. 2433 near Insinger.

Marie J. L. D. St. Denis in the Charlebois R.C.P. School District No. 37 at Cumberland House.

Sister Mary Agatha in the Bruno S.D. No. 1587 at Bruno.

- (3) How many are teaching on extended certificates?

Answer: It is impossible to state how many teachers are teaching on extended Third, Interim Second, Interim First Class and Interim High School Certificates. Only two teachers, however, are teaching on extended permits, viz: John Edward Hay and Marie L. J. D. St. Denis.

- (4) How many of these are in village or rural districts and how many in town districts?

Answer: Answered in No. 3.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) What amount was paid for beer by the Liquor Board in the year 1927?

Answer: \$4,688,918.00.

- (2) What amounts were paid during 1927 for beer to the various breweries operating in and out of Saskatchewan?
Answer: Saskatchewan Breweries \$2,309,547.95
 Breweries located out of
 Saskatchewan \$2,379,370.05

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

By Mr. McConnell, for a Return showing:—

- (1) The total fees from all sources received by the Official Guardian for the year 1926 for performing his duties as Official Guardian; such fees to include fees not only charged by all of his agents in all twenty-three Judicial Districts of this Province, but to include all disbursements made by him and his agents as well.
- (2) The total fees received from Saskatoon Judicial District for the year 1926; such fees to include all disbursements in connection with the said business originating in said Judicial District and to cover all fees and disbursements of his agent for said district.
- (3) The total fees received from Regina Judicial District for the year 1926; such fees to include all disbursements in connection with the said business originating in said Judicial District and to cover all fees and disbursements of his agent for said district.
- (4) The number of solicitors in the office of the Official Guardian who devote their time exclusively to the work of the business of the Official Guardian.
- (5) Whether or not the Official Guardian is bonded, and if not, why not.

By Mr. Anderson, for a Return showing:—

Copy of pay sheet showing the names, hours of labour and remuneration of all workmen engaged on the Nutana, Saskatoon, Telephone Exchange during the month of September, 1926.

By Mr. Pickel, for a Return showing:—

- (1) The total amount expended in each Constituency under contract with Rural Municipalities, under road foremen, on maintenance of roads and on Revenue bridges during the fiscal year 1926-27, also from May 1 to December 31, 1927.
- (2) The location, name of contractor or foreman, and the total amount expended upon construction on each section of Provincial highways placed under construction during the fiscal year 1926-27, and from May 1 to December 31, 1927.
- (3) The total amount expended upon Capital bridges in each Constituency during the fiscal year 1926-27, also from May 1 to December 31, 1927.

By Mr. MacPherson, for a Return showing:—

- (1) The names and positions of all Civil Servants to whom, on their retirement from the Civil Service, gratuities or allowances were paid by the Government of Saskatchewan during the years 1924, 1925, 1926 and 1927.
- (2) The amount of such gratuities or allowances and the method of payment.
- (3) The length of service of each recipient and the reason for retirement.

By Mr. Anderson, for a Return showing:—

- (1) How much free telephone service the C.P.R. and C.N.R. received respectively during each of the past five fiscal years.
- (2) What the Government received by way of transportation costs.
- (3) Whether or not passes were issued, and, if so, how many over each line of railway.
- (4) Whether or not blank passes are supplied to the Department by each railway, and if so, who fills in these passes.
- (5) How many annual passes are issued each year over each line.
- (6) Whether any annual pass has at any time been handed to anyone after he has left the employ of the Department, and if so, for what reason and to whom.
- (7) Whether annual passes, if any, held by employees of the Telephone Department have been called in when any such employee resigned, and if not, for what reason?
- (8) Which line of railway is used most by employees of the Telephone Department.

By Mr. Stipe, for a Return showing:—

Copies of all correspondence relating to the transfer of Inspector A. W. Keith and the appointment of the late Inspector Hay to the Wilkie Inspectorate.

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 confirm a certain Bylaw of the City of Regina and a certain Agreement entered into between the City of Regina and P. Burns & Company, Limited.

Bill No. 02—An Act to incorporate the Herbert Bible School Association.

Bill No. 03—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, Limited.

Bill No. 04—An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs de l'Enfant Jesus du Puy.

Bill No. 05—An Act to provide Exemption from taxation upon Certain Lands to Les Soeurs de Notre Dame de la Croix.

Bill No. 06—An Act to authorise the City of Saskatoon to raise by way of Debentures an Amount not exceeding the Sum of \$1,300,000 for the Construction of Works for the Manufacture and Supply of Electric Light and Power.

Bill No. 07—An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Bill No. 08—An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Insurance Agent's Association.

By leave of the Assembly the Order "Special Order" was reverted to.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Ross of the twenty-sixth ultimo.

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

The Assembly then adjourned at 10.45 p.m.

REGINA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1928.

Mr. Gamble, from the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders, presented the third report of the said Committee, which is as follows:—

Your Committee has duly examined the following Petition for Private Bill and finds that the provisions of Rules 82 and 83 have been sufficiently complied with.

Of the Synod of Saskatchewan of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, praying for an Act to amend The United Church of Canada Act.

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

Bill No. 25—An Act to amend The Homesteads Act.
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 26—An Act to amend The Controverted Municipal Elections Act.
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Tuesday next.

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

Bill No. 010—An Act to amend The United Church of Canada Act.

The said Bill was read the first time and ordered for second reading at next sitting, pursuant to Rule 91.

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

Annual Report of the Department of Telephones for the fiscal year ended April 30, 1927. *(Sessional Paper No. 12.)*

Mr. Speaker laid before the Assembly, the Annual Report of the Legislative Librarian, which is as follows:—

REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE LIBRARIAN.

Regina, February 1, 1928.

*To the Honourable,
The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan.*

Sir:—

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report of the Legislative Librarian for the year ended December 31, 1927.

Under the terms of The Civil Service Superannuation Act, passed at the last session of the Legislature, and which came into

force on May 1, 1927, three members of the Library staff were superannuated as from November 1st, namely, John Hawkes, Librarian, W. H. Munro, Assistant Librarian, and Donald McMillan, clerk, all of whom had rendered years of faithful, painstaking service to the Province.

By Order in Council dated November 29, 1927, the undersigned was appointed Provincial Librarian and Archivist and took over the duties of that office. Mrs. Ramsland, for some years a clerk on the Library staff, succeeds Mr. Munro as Assistant Librarian.

In order to serve the interests of both efficiency and economy it is the intention to co-ordinate, as fully as may be possible, the work of the Legislative Library and the Open Shelf and Travelling Libraries branches of the Bureau of Publications, while at the same time preserving intact and unimpaired the Legislative Library under the control and authority of the Legislative Assembly.

During the past year the Library fulfilled all the functions for which it was created, and as it expands through the steady addition of new volumes it must inevitably prove of increased value to the members of the Assembly and all Departments of the Government. The Law Section, in particular, is becoming increasingly valuable and useful in the service of the Assembly and the Government. In this Section, all law reports have been kept up-to-date, also the Statutes of the Dominion and all the Provinces, as well as those of England and Australia. During the year a valuable addition was made through securing "The Solicitor's Journal" (British) from the date of its first publication in 1857 to date, seventy volumes in all. To the Law Section, also, was added thirty-one volumes of New South Wales Land Appeal Cases.

Credit is largely due to Mr. R. W. Shannon, K.C., Legislative Counsel, for the completeness of the Law Section. Mr. Shannon has taken a keen interest in the Library and it is upon his advice that selection is made of new text books added from time to time in the Law Section.

Among other noteworthy additions to the Library are fifteen volumes Books of Science, and twenty-two volumes Review of Historical Publications relating to Canada, and all volumes to date of the Canadian Historical Review. Approximately four hundred volumes of a general character appertaining to the different departments of government were received during the year.

Up to the present time no systematic or organised attempt has been made to build up the Archives of the Province through painstaking effort in locating, securing and preserving original documents and other material relating to the early history, development and growth of Saskatchewan. With each passing year the obtaining of such material becomes increasingly difficult through the death of pioneer settlers and others associated with events in the earlier history of the Province and from whom data may be obtained which is not otherwise available. Furthermore, with the passage of time existing documents, diaries, photographs, etc., become lost or are destroyed.

It is, therefore, proposed to give increased attention to the Archives branch of the Library's activities.

In this connection, the receipt is gratefully acknowledged, from the Department of the Attorney General, of a history of Saskatchewan's Law Stamps, written by Hon. James A. Calder, and which contains specimens of all issues of these stamps from the initial ones in 1907 to date. This constitutes a very valuable acquisition by the Archives.

Respectfully submitted,

W. F. KERR,
Librarian.

(*Sessional Paper No. 13.*)

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Patterson:—

- (1) Has the Municipal Hail Insurance Commission purchased any Government Bonds?

Answer: There is no statutory provision requiring the Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Association to make any reports to the Government of its investments, nor is the Association subject to audit by the Provincial Auditor, the Government therefore has no record of the Bonds owned by the Association.

- (2) If so, what is the total amount of money invested by the Commission in such Bonds?

Answer: Answered by No. 1.

- (3) What is the rate of interest payable on these Bonds?

Answer: Answered by No. 1.

Mr. Stipe asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Patterson:—

- (1) What amount, if any, was written off the School Lands Trust Account in the years 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926 and 1927?

Answer: The accounts of the School Lands Trust Fund are kept by the School Lands Branch of the Department of the Interior at Ottawa.

- (2) Does this Government keep a record of this Account?

Answer: Answered by No. 1.

- (3) If so, why is it not shown in the Public Accounts?

Answer: Answered by No. 1.

Mr. Tran asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Is it the policy of the Government to instruct or allow men in official positions, such as Sheriffs and Bailiffs, to take an active part in Election Campaigns?

Answer: No.

- (2) If not, how do they account for the action of one Dan Stephens and some of his Bailiffs during the last Provincial Election Campaign?

Answer: The Government has no knowledge of the action of the officials mentioned.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Was R. E. Brown retired from the Saskatchewan Provincial Police in the year 1927.

Answer: Yes.

- (2) If so, for what reason?

Answer: On account of the necessary reduction of the strength of the force.

- (3) Was any gratuity paid to him on his retirement?

Answer: Yes.

- (4) If so, was it based on a month's salary for each year of service?

Answer: No.

- (5) If not, why not?

Answer: The Lieutenant Governor in Council in the exercise of his discretion saw fit to allow the amount granted.

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

- (1) How much was paid by the Government to Orphanages in Saskatchewan during the past fiscal year?

Answer: \$4,400.00.

- (2) What institutions were assisted and to what extent in each case?

Answer:

| | |
|--|------------|
| St. Patrick's Orphanage, Prince Albert . . . | \$2,000.00 |
| Sacred Heart Orphanage, Yorkton | 800.00 |
| St. Ann's Orphanage, Ituna | 800.00 |
| Orange Benevolent Society, Indian Head . . | 800.00 |

- (3) Upon what basis are grants allotted?

Answer: Upon the basis of the number of children in the orphanage.

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

- (1) How many miles of roads have been gravelled in the Biggar Constituency during the past two years?

Answer: (a) In the year 1926:—on Main Market Roads, 7 miles lightly gravelled.

(b) In the year 1927:—on Provincial Highway, 2 miles.

- (2) Were tenders called for? If not, why not?

Answer: (a) Work done on Main Market Roads in 1926 by the Rural Municipality of Eagle Creek, No. 376, under contract.

- (b) When tenders were called for the construction of the Perdue-Biggar Highway and the contract was awarded to Mr. Fred Mannix, no gravelling was considered necessary. During the progress of the work it was revealed that a gravel surface on $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles of the Highway would be advantageous, and the contractor was requested to submit a price for putting on the gravel. The price he quoted was considered to be too high, and the departmental Engineer in charge of the job was instructed to secure quotations locally. He secured a figure which he considered reasonable and submitted this quotation to the Chief Field Engineer, who recommended the offer be accepted. On his recommendation the offer was accepted by the Deputy Minister.

- (3) Has the Government at any time sanctioned a contract entered into upon arrangement with the local member, without calling for tenders.

Answer: No.

- (4) If so, what were the circumstances and particulars?

Answer: See reply to Question 3.

By leave of the Assembly the Order "Special Order" was reverted to.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. Robertson,

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. Gardiner, 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. Patterson, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Latta,

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

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Patterson, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich,

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

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

Annual Report under The Deferred Charges Act for the fiscal year 1926-27. *(Sessional Paper No. 14.)*

Also,—Annual Report of the Administration of The Agricultural Aids Act for the fiscal year 1926-27.

(Sessional Paper No. 15.)

Also,—Statement of Attorney General's Opinions, Treasury Board Decisions, and of Special Warrants and Expenditures thereunder for the fiscal year 1926-27. *(Sessional Paper No. 16.)*

Also,—Annual Report of the Provincial Auditor upon the accounts of the Administrator of Estates of the Mentally Incompetent for the fiscal year ended April 30, 1927.

(Sessional Paper No. 17.)

And also,—by command of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor,

The Public Accounts of the Province of Saskatchewan for the fiscal period ended April 30, 1927.

(Sessional Paper No. 18.)

On motion of Mr. Patterson, seconded by Mr. Davis,

Ordered, That the Public Accounts of the Province of Saskatchewan for the fiscal period ended April 30, 1927, be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Printing.

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. 2—An Act respecting Villages.
- Bill No. 8—An Act to amend The Timber Taxation Act.
- Bill No. 19—An Act for the Licensing of Collection Agents.
- Bill No. 4—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Evidence Act.
- Bill No. 6—An Act to amend The Assignment of Book Debts Act.
- Bill No. 7—An Act to validate and confirm a Certain Agreement between His Majesty the King in the right of Canada, The Saskatchewan Anti-tuberculosis League and His Majesty the King in the right of the Province of Saskatchewan.
- Bill No. 11—An Act respecting Open Wells and Other Things Dangerous to Stock.
- Bill No. 12—An Act to amend The Apiaries Act, 1924.
- Bill No. 13—An Act to amend The Department of Agriculture Act.
- Bill No. 17—An Act to amend The Noxious Weeds Act, 1924.
- Bill No. 18—An Act to amend The Rural Telephone Act.

The Assembly then adjourned at 11.40 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1928.

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

By Mr. McNiven—Of John J. Boyle and four others.

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

Resolved, That the Legislature of the Province of Saskatchewan desires to express its deep sense of the loss sustained by the province in the death of the late Mr. William P. MacLachlan, Member of the Legislative Assembly for the Constituency of Morse, a useful and prominent figure in the Legislature of this Province.

Mr. MacLachlan was always interested in those activities pertaining to the progress of this Province and his name and work will long be held in intimate association with the development and upbuilding of this country. The Legislature avails itself of this opportunity to record its tribute of respect to a man who was one of its most distinguished members.

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

Ordered, That the resolution of condolence on the death of the late Mr. William P. MacLachlan, formerly a member of this Legislature, be communicated to the members of his family on behalf of this Assembly by Mr. Speaker.

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

Resolved, That the Legislature of the Province of Saskatchewan desires to express its deep sense of the loss sustained by the Province in the death of the late Honourable George A. Bell, for many years a member of the Legislative Assembly representing the Constituency of Estevan and for five years the Provincial Treasurer and Minister of Telephones for the Province.

As a member of the Legislature, as Provincial Treasurer and as Chairman of the Local Government Board Mr. Bell devoted many years of his life to the public service of the Province. His contribution to the development of Municipal and Provincial Institutions of Government on sound economic principles will bear fruit throughout all the years of Saskatchewan's history. The Legislature avails itself of this opportunity to record its tribute of respect to a man who served his country faithfully and well.

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

Ordered, That the resolution of condolence on the death of the late Honourable George A. Bell be communicated to the members of his family on behalf of this Assembly by Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

(1) Was Mr. Wallin dismissed from the Liquor Store at Biggar?

Answer: No. Mr. Wallin resigned.

(2) Who is the present agent?

Answer: Mr. C. K. Playford is the Vendor at Biggar.

(3) Is his wife also on the payroll?

Answer: Yes.

(4) If so, at what salary?

Answer: One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per month.

(5) What are her duties and for how many hours each day is she employed?

Answer: Duties of Cashier, employed during regular store hours with the usual time off for meals.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Patterson:—

(1) Is W. J. Reid, of Regina, Saskatchewan, in the employ of the Government?

Answer: Yes.

(2) If so, what are his duties?

Answer: Inspector in the Insurance Branch.

(3) What salary is he paid?

Answer: \$2,200 a year.

(4) What is he doing at the present time?

Answer: See answer to question (2).

(5) Where is his office?

Answer: In the general office of the Insurance Branch.

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

(1) How many students attended the short Second Class Sessions of the Normal School during the fall of 1927?

Answer: 270.

(2) How many students are now enrolled in each of the Normal Schools.

| | | | |
|----------------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| <i>Answer:</i> | Regina | Saskatoon | Moose Jaw |
| | 473 | 417 | 301 |

Moved by Mr. Stipe, seconded by Mr. McClure,

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:—

Copies of all correspondence between the Attorney General's Department and the Commissioner of Saskatchewan Police or any other person in reference to activities of the Bronfman interests at Regina and Yorkton, Saskatchewan, in the years 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925 and 1926.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was negatived.

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

By Mr. Buckle, for a Return showing:—

- (1) The wages and expenses paid by the Government to Ex-Constable Powers whilst employed on patrol service on the Saskatchewan river.
- (2) The wages and expenses paid by the Government to Ex-Constable McCabe whilst employed on patrol service on the Saskatchewan river.
- (3) The wages and expenses paid by the Government to Constable Munn whilst employed on patrol service on the Saskatchewan river.
- (4) The wages and expenses paid by the Government to Constable Nicholson whilst employed on patrol service on the Saskatchewan river.

By Mr. McAfee, for a Return respecting the Grade VIII and High School Examinations for 1921 and 1927, showing:—

- (a) The total number of candidates who wrote;
- (b) The total number of examination papers read;
- (c) The number of examiners employed;
- (d) The basis of payment;
- (e) The average number of day's reading per examiner;
- (f) The average number of papers read per day per examiner;
- (g) The total cost of reading the examination papers;
- (h) The average cost per paper of reading the examination papers;
- (i) The average amount earned per day per examiner.

According to Order, Bill No. 010, An Act to amend The United Church of Canada Act, was read the second time and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills.

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

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. 15—An Act to amend The Chattel Mortgage Act.

Bill No. 16—An Act to amend The Farm Implement Act.

Bill No. 20—An Act to provide for the Consolidation and Revision of the Statutes of Saskatchewan.

Bill No. 21—An Act to amend The Succession Duty Act, 1923.

Bill No. 10—An Act to amend The Drainage Act.

Bill No. 22—An Act to provide for Old Age Pensions.

Bill No. 3—An Act to provide for Scholarships for Canadian Students in Paris.

Bill No. 24—An Act to amend The Civil Service Superannuation Act, 1927.

Bill No. 14—An Act to Validate a Certain Agreement respecting the Distribution of Relief.

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. 8—An Act to amend The Timber Taxation Act.

Bill No. 7—An Act to validate and confirm a Certain Agreement between His Majesty the King in the right of Canada, The Saskatchewan Anti-tuberculosis League and His Majesty the King in the right of the Province of Saskatchewan.

Bill No. 11—An Act respecting Open Wells and Other Things Dangerous to Stock.

Bill No. 12—An Act to amend The Apiaries Act, 1924.

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

Bill No. 4—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Evidence Act.

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

Bill No. 6—An Act to amend The Assignment of Book Debts Act, 1927.

Bill No. 13—An Act to amend The Department of Agriculture Act.

Bill No. 19—An Act for the Licensing of Collection Agents.

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

REGINA, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1928.

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

Of John J. Boyle and four others, praying for an Act to incorporate the Prairie Driving Club Limited.

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 its Chairman.

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

Bill No. 01—An Act to confirm a certain Bylaw of the City of Regina and a certain Agreement entered into between the City of Regina and P. Burns & Company, Limited.

Bill No. 02—An Act to incorporate the Herbert Bible School Association.

Bill No. 03—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, Limited.

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

Annual Report of the President and Managing Director of the Saskatchewan Anti-tuberculosis League, including Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 1926.

(Sessional Paper No. 19.)

And also, —Annual Report of the Vital Statistics Division of the Department of Public Health for the year 1926.

(Sessional Paper No. 20.)

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

(1) Has Mr. Pattison of Delisle, whose commission as a Justice of the Peace was cancelled, been given back his commission since last Session?

Answer: Yes.

(2) If so, what representations were made on his behalf to cause the Government to reinstate him?

Answer: Representations and recommendations were made by the Attorney-General that the appointment be made and the Lieutenant Governor in Council upon his recommendation made the appointment.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Is it the policy of the Government to allow the Attorney-General's Department to provide and pay for defense counsel in criminal cases instituted by said Attorney-General's Department?

Answer: It has long been the practice of the Judges if they find the prisoner, owing to poverty, to be undefended in any case of exceptional difficulty to ask some counsel to undertake his defence. Under such circumstances if the Judge fixes a counsel fee within the tariff in criminal cases and requests the Department to pay the same it is the practice to do so.

- (2) Has this ever been done and is it being done in any case now before the Courts?

Answer. Yes. In the case of Rex v. Valentine Schmidt the Honourable Mr. Justice McDonald appointed counsel for the defence and on his recommendation a counsel fee was paid to the first defence counsel appointed.

In the case of Rex v. Braun now before the Court, while the Department has no official information to that effect, it appears from the press that the Honourable Mr. Justice McDonald has appointed counsel for the defence and if this is correct and the presiding judge recommends that a counsel fee be paid the Department will likely pay a counsel fee to the first counsel appointed. The Department pays for not more than one counsel.

- (3) Is it the policy of the Government to allow the Attorney-General's Department to pay expenses and fees of defence witnesses in criminal actions instituted by said Attorney-General's Department?

Answer: In cases in which a request is made to the Attorney-General's Department by the defence previous to the trial of a criminal case that the Department procure the attendance of witnesses for the defence on the ground that the accused is without funds to procure their attendance, it is required that an affidavit be submitted to the Department by the defence. It is required that such affidavit should show (1) that the accused is without funds to procure the attendance at his trial of the necessary and material witnesses for the defence, (2) that the witnesses, naming them with their addresses, are necessary and material witnesses for the defence and (3) stating shortly what evidence they will give to show that they are necessary and material witnesses for the defence. After such affidavit has been submitted to the Department, if it appears that the

accused is without funds and any of the witnesses are necessary and material witnesses, the Agent of the Attorney-General is then authorised to subpoena such witness or witnesses and to pay such witness or witnesses at the same rate to which Crown witnesses are entitled to be paid for attending at a criminal trial.

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

By Mr. Anderson, for a Return showing:—

Copies of all correspondence between the Minister and Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs and any individual or individuals relative to the payment of School Taxes in the Wakaw Protestant Separate School District and in the Wakaw Public School District.

By Mr. McIntosh, for a Return respecting the Grade VIII examinations from 1921 to 1927, inclusive, showing:—

- (1) The number who wrote.
- (2) The number recommended for promotion to Grade IX without examination.
- (3) The number who passed the written examination.
- (4) The number who failed.
- (5) The total number who received diplomas.
- (6) The total number of candidates.
- (7) The percentage of candidates who failed at the written Grade VIII examinations each year from 1921 to 1927 inclusive.

According to Order, Bill No. 4—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Evidence Act, was read the 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 next sitting:—

Bill No. 25—An Act to amend The Homesteads Act.

Bill No. 26—An Act to amend The Controverted Municipal Elections 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. 16—An Act to amend The Farm Implement Act.

Bill No. 20—An Act to provide for the Consolidation and Revision of the Statutes of Saskatchewan.

Bill No. 13—An Act to amend The Department of Agriculture Act.

Bill No. 14—An Act to validate a Certain Agreement respecting the Distribution of Relief.

Bill No. 3—An Act to provide for Scholarships for Canadian Students in Paris.

Bill No. 10—An Act to amend The Drainage Act.

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

Bill No. 6—An Act to amend The Assignment of Book Debts Act, 1927.

Bill No. 21—An Act to amend The Succession Duty Act, 1923.

Bill No. 22—An Act to provide for Old Age Pensions.

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

Bill No. 18—An Act to amend The Rural Telephone Act.

Bill No. 24—An Act to amend The Civil Service Superannuation Act, 1927.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.00 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1928.

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 Bills and has agreed to report the same without amendment:

Bill No. 04—An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs de l'Enfant Jesus du Puy.

Bill No. 05—An Act to provide Exemption from Taxation upon Certain Lands to Les Soeurs de Notre Dame de la Croix.

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

Bill No. 27—An Act to amend The Stray Animals Act.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 28—An Act respecting Agricultural Co-operative Associations.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 29—An Act respecting Union Hospitals.

Hon. Mr. Uhrich, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 30—An Act to amend The Surrogate Courts Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 31—An Act to amend The Executions Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 32—An Act to amend The Legal Profession Act.

Mr. McNiven, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 33—An Act to amend The Municipal Public Works Act.

Hon. Mr. Spence, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 34—An Act to amend The Public Utilities Companies Act.

Hon. Mr. Spence, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 35—An Act to amend The Useful Birds Act.

Hon. Mr. Spence, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 36—An Act to amend The Steam Boilers Act.

Hon. Mr. Spence, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 37—An Act to amend The Vehicles Act, 1924.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 38—An Act to amend The Trust Companies Act.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 39—An Act to amend The Corporations Taxation Act.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 40—An Act respecting Town Planning.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 41—An Act to amend The Public Libraries Act.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 42—An Act to amend The Companies Act.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 43—An Act to amend The Arrears of Taxes Act, 1926.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Friday next.

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

Annual Report and Financial Statement of the Liquor Board, Saskatchewan, for the year ended March 31, 1927.

(*Sessional Paper No. 21.*)

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

(1) How many contractors tendered on the construction of the Prince Albert Court House?

Answer: Four.

(2) What were the names of those tendering and what was the amount of each tender?

Answer: Wilson and Wilson.....\$140,800.00
 A. W. Cassidy and Co..... 139,437.00
 Poole Construction Co..... 144,800.00
 Smith Bros. & Wilson 137,970.00

(3) To whom was the contract awarded?

Answer: Smith Brothers and Wilson.

(4) Were tenders opened in public?

Answer: Yes.

(5) What was the total amount of extras authorised on this work?

Answer: Final settlement on contract and extras not yet made.

(6) Is the building completed and occupied?

Answer: Completed inside—painting yet to be completed outside, concrete walks and steps to be completed when weather conditions permit. Building will be occupied this month.

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

Bill No. 6—An Act to amend The Assignment of Book Debts Act, 1927.

Bill No. 21—An Act to amend The Succession Duty Act, 1923.

According to Order, Bill No. 1—An Act for the Imposition of a Tax on Wild Lands, 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 the undermentioned Bills:—

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

Bill No. 01—An Act to confirm a certain Bylaw of the City of Regina and P. Burns & Company, Limited.

Bill No. 02—An Act to incorporate the Herbert Bible School Association.

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

Bill No. 03—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, Limited.

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, on which progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again:—

Bill No. 15—An Act to amend The Chattel Mortgage Act.

Bill No. 25—An Act to amend The Homesteads Act.

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

REGINA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1928.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Patterson have leave to introduce Bill No. 44—An Act respecting the Superannuation of Employees of the Department of Telephones and Telegraphs.

The Hon. Mr. Patterson, 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 the first time, and ordered to be read the 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. 45—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Election Act.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 46—An Act to amend The Game Act, 1924.

Hon. Mr. Spence, Second reading Monday next.

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

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated the sixth day of February, respecting the Grade VIII and High School Examinations for 1921 and 1927, showing:—

- (a) The total number of candidates who wrote;
- (b) The total number of examination papers read;
- (c) The number of examiners employed;
- (d) The basis of payment;
- (e) The average number of day's reading per examiner;
- (f) The average number of papers read per day per examiner;
- (g) The total cost of reading the examination papers;
- (h) The average cost per paper of reading the examination papers;
- (i) The average amount earned per day per examiner.

(*Sessional Paper No. 22.*)

Mr. McClure asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) How many public schools in the Province are conducting their schools in buildings not owned by the Public School Districts?

Answer: The Department has no record from which this information could be obtained.

- (2) What are the particulars in each case?

Answer: Answered by No. 1.

Mr. McClure asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) What are the names and qualifications of the teachers at present engaged by the Bruno Public School District?

Answer: Susan Mary Schwinghamer holding Permanent Second Class Certificate.

Sister Catherina (Cecilia Agnes Distel) holding Interim Second Class Certificate.

Sister Xaveria (Juanita Sutcliffe) holding Third Class Certificate.

Sister Mary Agatha (Mary Schrameyer) holding a Provisional Certificate under temporary arrangement with board.

- (2) In what building is the Public School being conducted?

Answer: In two buildings.

- (3) Who owns the building?

Answer: One owned by the school district and one owned by the parish and rented by the school board.

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

- (1) How many road contractors, who had Government road Contracts last year and whose work is completed, have not yet been paid for their work?

Answer: 9.

- (2) If there are any such, how much is owing and why have payments not been made?

Answer: Amount cannot be determined until Final Estimates are received from the Engineers in charge of construction; payments can not be made until these Estimates are received.

- (3) If there are any such, will the accounts when paid be charged to the expenditure in 1927 or 1928?

Answer: All Public Accounts must be charged in the year in which they are paid.

Mr. Stipe asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

Is the teaching of Grade IX and X compulsory in Rural Schools under the existing school law and regulations.

Answer: The Department of the Attorney General advises the Department of Education that the existing school law and regulations leave with the board of trustees of a school district operated under the provisions of The School Act, the discretion as to whether it shall furnish education in any grade above grade VIII.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) What is the total amount of money received by our Land Titles Office system in this Province for the years 1921 to 1926, both inclusive, from fees to the Assurance Fund?

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| <i>Answer:</i> 1921 | \$98,680.40 | |
| 1922 | 66,444.66 | |
| 1923 | 56,728.46 | |
| 1924 | 48,111.16 | |
| 1925 | 41,666.79 | |
| 1926 | 46,379.34 | \$358,010.81 |

- (2) What moneys have been paid out of said Assurance Fund during the said period?

| | | |
|-------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| <i>Answer:</i> 1921 | \$7,779.99 | |
| 1922 | 3,499.68 | |
| 1923 | 6,418.76 | |
| 1924 | 1,122.47 | |
| 1925 | 3,799.09 | |
| 1926 | 2,695.68 | \$25,315.67 |

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

What amount of money is paid by the Liquor Board to the brewers for one bottle of beer of the size which retails at the Government Liquor Store for two bottles of beer for thirty-five cents?

Answer: The approximate cost of a bottle of beer to the Liquor Board is fifteen cents per bottle. This figure includes storage costs and freight charges to store points and cartage to the store.

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

- (1) Was there any loss in the crop of turnips and carrots on the Institutional Farm at Regina Jail in the year 1927?

Answer: No loss except that caused by adverse weather conditions and shrinkage. Turnips and carrots unsuitable for food fed to stock. Sorting over in the root cellar not completed.

- (2) If so, could this loss have been avoided?

Answer: No.

- (3) Was there any loss in the potato crop in 1926 or 1927 at the same farm?

Answer: No loss in 1926 except that caused by adverse weather conditions and shrinkage. Potatoes unfit for food fed to stock. 1927 crop—sorting over in root cellar not completed.

- (4) If so, could it have been avoided?

Answer: No.

- (5) Is any live stock being kept at the said farm other than live stock owned by the Government?

Answer: No, except one work horse and a Shetland pony. We use them both when necessary.

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

- (1) What amount of money was paid to John Bennett, Dan McMurchy, Ken. McDonald, Harry Carson, and John A. Blue, Supervisor, Municipality of Rudy, No. 284, for maintenance of the Government highway, Outlook to Hawarden, in 1927?

Answer: John Bennett \$230.35
 Dan McMurchy 173.40
 Ken McDonald 141.30
 Harry Carson 239.25
 John A. Blue (Supervisor) 53.46

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

- (1) What was the number of inmates in the Provincial Institutions on February 1st, 1927?

Answer: Battleford Mental Hospital 864
 Weyburn Mental Hospital 914
 Home for Infirm, Wolseley 82
 Prince Albert Jail 165
 Regina Jail 175
 Industrial School for Boys 60

- (2) What is the number of inmates in the various Sask. Provincial Institutions at present, February 1st, 1928?

Answer: Battleford Mental Hospital 882
 Weyburn Mental Hospital 930
 Home for Infirm, Wolseley 84
 Prince Albert Jail 174
 Regina Jail 175
 Industrial School for Boys 61

- (3) What is the maintenance cost per inmate, per day, in the different institutions?

Answer: Battleford Mental Hospital \$1.08
 Weyburn Mental Hospital 1.05
 Home for Infirm, Wolseley98
 Prince Albert Jail 1.33
 Regina Jail 1.29
 Industrial School for Boys 1.33

- (4) What is the cost of meals per inmate, per day, in the different institutions?

Answer: Battleford Mental Hospital 22c.
 Weyburn Mental Hospital 19c.
 Home for Infirm, Wolseley 35c.
 Prince Albert Jail 16c.
 Regina Jail 20c.
 Industrial School for Boys 28c.

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

- (1) How many estates has the Administrator of Estates of the Mentally Incompetent in charge?
Answer: 463 active estates.
- (2) What is the total value of the estates?
Answer: \$1,560,701.08.
- (3) What was the total amount collected for maintenance of all patients last fiscal year?
Answer: \$139,222.91.
- (4) What portion of this did the estates patients pay?
Answer: \$46,038.10.
- (5) What were the fees charged last fiscal year?
Answer: \$19,541.38.
- (6) What are the fees collected last fiscal year?
Answer: \$19,067.96.
- (7) What acreage of patients' farms was under cultivation this fiscal year?
Answer: 21,852 acres.
- (8) What acreage was under crop during last fiscal year?
Answer: 23,937 acres.
- (9) What was the total yield of all grains grown on estates during the last fiscal year?
Answer: 198,383 bushels—38,988 oat sheaves—248 tons hay.
- (10) Are any estates administered without charge?
Answer: Yes, in many cases where conditions do not justify a charge and wife and family require to have estate administered to carry on and provide a living for the family.
- (11) When a patient is admitted to a hospital is his estate inspected and attended to immediately?
Answer: Yes, if in seeding or harvest time; at other times within a few days, depending on the pressing work Inspectors may have on hand.
- (12) Is the personal property of a patient sold at once when his estate is taken over?
Answer: No, unless definite information is received from the Superintendent of the Hospital that the patient is incurable, otherwise property is held until such time as information can be obtained, or the interests of the patient demand disposal of the property.
- (13) From what point of view are estates managed?
Answer: That patients' interests are paramount.
- (14) Have relatives or friends of temporary patients the privilege of calling upon the Administrator for advice in looking after a patient's estate?
Answer: Yes, and many make use of this privilege.

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

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

Bill No. 03—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, Limited.

The following Bills were reported without amendment, read the third time and passed:—

Bill No. 04—An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs de l'Enfant Jesus du Puy.

Bill No. 05—An Act to provide Exemption from Taxation upon Certain Lands to Les Soeurs de Notre Dame de la Croix.

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. 25—An Act to amend The Homesteads Act.

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

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

Bill No. 26—An Act to amend The Controverted Municipal Elections Act.

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

Bill No. 15—An Act to amend The Chattel Mortgage Act.

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

REGINA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1928.

Mr. Pickel, 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 without amendment:

Bill No. 08—An Act to incorporate the Saskatchewan Insurance Agent's Association.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Latta have leave to introduce Bill No. 47—An Act to provide for the Imposition and Collection of a Tax on Purchasers of Gasoline.

The Hon. Mr. Latta, 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 the first time, and ordered to be read the second time on Tuesday next.

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

Bill No. 48—An Act to amend The King's Bench Act (No. 2).
Mr. Hill, Second reading Tuesday 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. 25.)

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 year ended April 30, 1927. *(Sessional Paper No. 23.)*

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

Return, to an Order of the Assembly, dated the seventh day of February, 1928, respecting the Grade VIII examinations from 1921 to 1927, inclusive, showing:—

- (1) The number who wrote.
- (2) The number recommended for promotion to Grade IX without examination.
- (3) The number who passed the written examination.
- (4) The number who failed.
- (5) The total number who received diplomas.
- (6) The total number of candidates.
- (7) The percentage of candidates who failed at the written Grade VIII examinations each year from 1921 to 1927, inclusive. (*Sessional Paper No. 24.*)

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

- (1) Does the Department of Railways, Labour and Industries distribute tourist literature and free road maps of the Province and if so to what extent?

Answer: Yes! In 1927 fifteen thousand road maps and tourist guides were distributed, largely in the United States.

- (2) Is tourist traffic in Saskatchewan on the increase?

Answer: Statistics compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics show that tourist revenue in Saskatchewan increased from \$500,000.00 in 1925 to \$1,030,000.00 in 1926.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

What are the total charges of maintaining our Land Titles Office system in this Province for the fiscal year 1926-27 which are properly chargeable against the receipts of \$586,657.39 for the fiscal year 1926-27?

Answer: \$309,791.28. This does not include the sum of \$27,402.14 interest on capital invested in the Land Titles Buildings and Sinking Fund charges. In order to provide the necessary funds to erect the Land Titles Buildings debentures were sold and this amount represents the interest and Sinking Fund charges on these securities.

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

- (1) What was the value of the commercial fish catch in the province in 1926?

Answer: \$444,288.00.

(2) Of what fish is the catch comprised?

Answer: Whitefish 73% of total. Other fish marketed include in order of importance trout, pike, pickerel, mullets, tullibee, sturgeon and gold eyes.

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

What was the total amount paid by the Government for printing for all Departments during the fiscal year,

- (a) to Regina Leader,
- (b) to Saskatoon Star,
- (c) to Moose Jaw Times,
- (d) to Western Producer?

Answer: See Public Accounts 1926-27, pages 248 to 250.

According to Order, Bill No. 03—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, Limited, was read the third time and passed.

According to Order, Bill No. 09—An Act to ratify a Certain Agreement between the City of Moose Jaw and the Moose Jaw Electric Railway Company, Limited, was, by leave of the Assembly, read the second time and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills.

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

The Order of the Day being read for the third reading of Bill No. 22—An Act to provide for Old Age Pensions;

It was moved by the Hon. Mr. Hamilton, and ordered;

That the said Bill No. 22 be not now read the third time but be referred back to a Committee of the Whole today for further consideration of clauses 3 and 8.

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

Bill No. 25—An Act to amend The Homesteads Act.

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

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. 37—An Act to amend The Vehicles Act, 1924.

Bill No. 38—An Act to amend The Trust Companies Act.

Bill No. 39—An Act to amend The Corporations Taxation Act.

Bill No. 35—An Act to amend The Useful Birds Act.

Bill No. 36—An Act to amend The Steam Boilers Act.

Bill No. 28—An Act respecting Agricultural Co-operative Associations.

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

The following Bill was reported with amendment; read the third time and passed;

Bill No. 22—An Act to provide for Old Age Pensions.

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

Bill No. 15—An Act to amend The Chattel Mortgage Act.

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

Bill No. 1—An Act for the Imposition of a Tax on Wild Lands.

Bill No. 2—An Act respecting Villages.

The Assembly then adjourned at 5.05 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1928.

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

Bill No. 49—An Act to amend The Creditors Relief Act, 1923.
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 50—An Act to amend The Threshers' Lien Act, 1925.
Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Wednesday next.

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

Annual Report and Financial Statement of the Saskatchewan Farm Loan Board for the year ended December 31, 1927.

(*Sessional Paper No. 26.*)

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

- (1) Were tenders for the supply of coal to the Saskatoon Normal School, Saskatoon Court House, Land Titles Office at Saskatoon, and Saskatoon Provincial Police Building called for last fall?

Answer: Yes.

- (2) Was the quality of coal required in each case set forth by the Government in its call for tenders?

Answer: Yes, approximately.

- (3) What was the price per ton in each of the above cases paid by the Government to the successful tenderer?

Answer: Normal School \$4.80 per ton
Court House 5.95 per ton
Land Titles Office 11.20 per ton
Police Building 8.25 per ton

- (4) Was the lowest tender in each case accepted?

Answer: No, the best value offered was accepted.

- (5) If the lowest tender in each case was not accepted, give the lowest tender per ton in any such case?

Answer: Normal School \$4.50 per ton
Court House 5.25 per ton
Land Titles Office 10.75 per ton
Police Building 5.55 per ton

- (6) If the lowest tender in each case was not accepted, why was it not accepted?

Answer: The heating value and other properties of the respective coals were taken into account and the best offer was accepted.

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

- (1) How many K.W. of power were used at the Weyburn and Battleford Mental Hospitals in 1926-27?

Answer:

Weyburn Mental Hospital 792,680 K.W.H.
Battleford Mental Hospital 448,998 K.W.H.

- (2) What was the average cost per K.W.
(a) at Weyburn,
(b) at Battleford?

Answer: (a) At Weyburn Mental Hospital .8582 cent
per K.W.H.
(b) At Battleford Mental Hospital 1.2196 cents
per K.W.H.

- (3) How was the amount of \$309.50 paid to the C.N. Railway for freight made up?

Answer: Freight on coal \$293.55
Freight on power
house repairs 15.95

Total \$309.50

- (4) How was the amount of \$31,979.19, paid to the C.P. Railway at Weyburn made up?

Answer:

Freight paid to C.N. Railway as set forth
in question No. 3 \$ 309.50
Freight on coal 31,626.56
Freight on power house repairs and
renewals 43.13

Total \$31,979.19

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

- (1) How many K.W. of power were used in the Legislative and Departmental Buildings at Regina in the year 1926-27?

Answer: 526,320 K.W.H.

- (2) What was the average cost per K.W.?

Answer: .9037 cent per K.W.H.

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

- (1) How many women are employed in establishments coming within the regulations of the Minimum Wage Board?

Answer: 2,381.

- (2) How many firms are employing females coming under the Minimum Wage Regulations?

Answer: 428.

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

- (1) How many cases of the following animal diseases were reported in the years 1925, 1926 and 1927:

- (a) Hemorrhagic Septicemia,
- (b) Blackleg,
- (c) Pink eye,
- (d) Glanders?

Answer: Reports of Hemorrhagic Septicemia, Blackleg, Pink eye, and Glanders are not received by the Provincial Government except in certain cases where the assistance of the Provincial Veterinarian is asked in diagnosing animal diseases and, therefore, are not compiled for publication. Glanders is a reportable disease under the Federal Act respecting Animal Contagious Diseases and statistics for several years past are contained in the reports of the Department of Agriculture.

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

- (1) How many yearly subscriptions to The Regina Leader are being paid for out of public funds by the various Departments of the Government?

Answer: 51, of which 22 go to the various institutions.

- (2) What was the total amount paid for such yearly subscriptions during 1927?

Answer: \$488.00.

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

Resolved, That a Special Committee, consisting of Messrs. Robinson, Latta, Scott, Cross, Anderson and Tran be appointed to consider with Mr. Speaker the advisability of revising the Rules of the Assembly and to report to the Assembly at the present Session.

According to Order, Bill No. 15—An Act to amend The Chattel Mortgage Act, was read the 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 next sitting:—

Bill No. 41—An Act to amend The Public Libraries Act.

Bill No. 46—An Act to amend The Game Act, 1924.

Bill No. 44—An Act respecting the Superannuation of Employees of the Department of Telephones and Telegraphs.

Bill No. 45—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Election Act.

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

That Bill No. 9—An Act respecting the Department of Railways, Labour and Industries, be now read the second time.

A debate arising, said debate was, on motion of the Hon. Mr. Gardiner, adjourned.

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

REGINA, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1928.

Mr. Pickel, from the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the fourth 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. 07—An Act to Incorporate the Saskatchewan Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

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 Child Welfare Act, 1927.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 52—An Act to amend The City Act.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Thursday next.

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

Report of the Trustees of the Saskatchewan Agricultural Research Foundation, dated February 14, 1928, including Financial Statement for the period ended April 30, 1927.

(Sessional Paper No. 27.)

And also,—Report of the Saskatchewan Overseas Livestock Marketing Commission.

(Sessional Paper No. 28.)

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) Who examines text books for schools and recommends to the Minister their authorisation?

Answer: The Superintendent of Education either examines or arranges to have examined text books for schools and when deemed advisable recommends to the Minister that the same be referred to the Educational Council for discussion and report.

- (2) Does the Minister himself examine such text books before authorising them?

Answer: The examination of text books by the Minister before authorisation is at the discretion of the Minister concerned.

- (3) Did the Minister examine the text books authorised for the teaching of French in Public Schools before they were authorised?

Answer: As French text books were referred to and approved by the Educational Council in 1920 no information is available as to whether the same were examined by the Minister.

- (4) When was French made an optional subject in Grade VIII?

Answer: French has always been an optional subject in Grade VIII.

- (5) Was an authorised text book available at the commencement of the 1927 fall term for use in teaching Grade VIII French?

Answer: The text for use in teaching Grade VIII French was available in limited numbers at the commencement of the 1927 fall term, but by reason of delays in transit not in sufficient numbers for the heavy demand.

- (6) Are such text books available at the present time?

Answer: Yes.

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

By Mr. Anderson, for Mr. McConnell, for a Return showing:

The statement filed with the Government on or before the fifteenth day of January, 1928, by the Official Guardian of this Province and verified under oath setting forth the total amount of fees which have been received by him, the said Official Guardian, whether as costs under subsection (1) of Section 39 of The Infants Act, R.S.S. 1920, and amendments thereto, or otherwise, during the twelve months ended on the 31st day of December, 1927, together with such other facts or particulars as were for the said year 1927 required of the said Official Guardian by regulation of the Lieutenant Governor in Council in accordance with the provisions of Section 40 and amendments thereto of the said Infants Act, being Chapter 155 R.S.S. 1920, and amendments thereto.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 08—An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Insurance Agents' Association, which was reported without amendment, read the third time and passed.

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

Bill No. 32—An Act to amend The Legal Profession Act.

According to Order, Mr. Hill moved,

That Bill No. 48—An Act to amend The King's Bench Act, (No. 2), be now read the second time.

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

The said Bill No. 48 was accordingly read the second time and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Law Amendments.

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

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1928.

Mr. Pickel, from the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the fifth 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 amendment:

Bill No. 09—An Act to ratify a certain Agreement between the City of Moose Jaw and the Moose Jaw Electric Railway Company, Limited.

Mr. Gamble, from the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders, presented the fourth report of the said Committee, which is as follows:—

Your Committee has duly examined the Petition for Private Bill of John J. Boyle and four others, praying for an Act to incorporate the Prairie Driving Club Limited, and finds that, while the Rules relating to time for filing such Petition and the publishing of the necessary notices have not altogether been complied with, under all the circumstances and in view of the fact the interests of the public apparently have not been prejudiced in any way, it recommends that the said Rules in this regard be suspended, and the Bill be introduced.

By leave of the Assembly,

On motion of Mr. Gamble, seconded by Mr. Anderson,

Resolved, That the fourth report of the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders be now concurred in.

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

Bill No. 011—An Act to incorporate the Prairie Driving Club Limited.

The said Bill was read the first time and ordered for second reading at next sitting, pursuant to Rule 91.

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

Bill No. 53—An Act to amend The Conditional Sales Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 54—An Act to amend The Land Titles Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 55—An Act respecting the Dental Profession of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Ross, Second reading Friday next.

Mr. Tran asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Was one Ernest Holdfeld of Jansen, Saskatchewan, convicted for a breach of the Saskatchewan Liquor Act on or about August 24th, 1927?
Answer: Ernest Holdfeld of Jansen was convicted on the 24th of August, 1927, for a violation of The Liquor Act, 1925.
- (2) Who was the J. P. who tried the case?
Answer: Robert C. Barclay, Jansen.
- (3) Did the accused plead guilty, and if a fine was imposed was said fine paid?
Answer: Yes.
 A fine of \$200.00 and costs were imposed with the alternative of sixty days imprisonment.
 Accused was relieved from payment of the fine and costs by the Lieutenant Governor in Council upon recommendation of the Attorney General.
- (4) Was an appeal lodged?
Answer: No.
- (5) Who acted for accused, and if fine was paid, was said fine afterwards remitted?
Answer: Accused was not represented by counsel or agent at the trial.
 See answer to question 3.
- (6) Were any representations made to the Saskatchewan Police or to any other parties connected with the Government by or on behalf of the accused?
Answer: Yes.
- (7) If so, what were such representations and what were the results?
Answer: That the accused be relieved from the payment of the fine and costs.
 See answer to question 3.
- (8) If fine was remitted or not paid, what was the reason therefor?
Answer: The Lieutenant Governor in Council in exercise of the prerogative of the Crown and upon recommendations referred to in answer to question 3 relieved the accused from payment of fine and costs.

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

How many convictions were made by the Courts of this Province in the years 1925, 1926 and 1927 for theft of, or criminal breach of trust, concerning crop which vested in vendor, or lessor, or mortgagor by virtue of The Crop Payments Act?

Answer: 1925..... 8
 1926..... 2
 1927..... 3

Mr. Keelan asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) What was the total enrolment by grade of pupils in the elementary and secondary schools of the Province in the years 1906, 1916 and 1925-26 in
 (a) Grades I to VIII,
 (b) Grades IX to XII?

| <i>Answer:</i> | Grades I to VIII | Grades IX to XII |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1906 | 30,466 | 809 |
| 1916 | 122,334 | 7,105 |
| 1925-26 | 193,903 | 19,501 |

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

- (1) What steps, if any, have been taken by the Department of Agriculture during the past year to improve farm flocks of poultry?

Answer: During the past summer twenty-three municipalities were selected for flock culling demonstration work. 768 flocks were culled and out of the 46,674 birds inspected 15,542 were marked as culls.

- (2) What has been done during the past year by the Department of Agriculture to assist turkey raisers in improving the class of turkeys raised in Saskatchewan?

Answer: A system has been inaugurated whereby turkey raisers may have their flocks inspected and 'approved' birds banded on the leg with an official leg band. 60 flocks of turkeys were inspected, representing 2,500 birds. Of these 701 were banded and reports indicate that sales vary from \$8.00 to \$25.00 per bird, according to the class and value. Total sales to date have reached \$1,200.00.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) Have recommendations been made to the Government by the Teachers' Alliance of Saskatchewan as to the changes in the curriculum?

Answer: Yes.

- (2) If so, what were these recommendations and what action was taken in respect of them by the Government?

Answer: The Secondary Section of the Teachers' Alliance made recommendations and offered suggestions in regard to the following subjects of the curriculum, namely: agriculture, biology and botany, history, Latin, physics, trigonometry, geometry, literature, grammar and composition.

As the courses in these subjects of the curriculum and the text books for the same were already receiv-

ing the consideration of the officials of the Department it is impossible to say in how far action was or was not taken by the Government in respect to the recommendations of the Teachers' Alliance.

Mr. Buckle asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Is the Manager of the Liquor Store at Maple Creek also owner of a hotel at the same town?

Answer: Neither the Government nor the Liquor Board has any knowledge that the manager of the Liquor Store at Maple Creek owns an hotel at Maple Creek.

- (2) Has the Attorney General received any complaints re selling of liquor at said hotel?

Answer: See answer to question 1.

- (3) If so, what action has been taken and with what results?

Answer: See answer to question 1.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) How many Liquor or Beer Stores are being conducted on hotel premises?

Answer: None, but portions of same buildings are occupied as Liquor Stores or Beer Stores in 47 cases, there being no entrances from the hotel premises.

- (2) In how many cases are the hotel keepers also Vendors?

Answer: There are no hotel keepers employed as Vendors in Liquor Stores, but 18 hotel keepers are employed as Vendors in Beer Stores.

- (3) In how many cases is there an entrance from the hotel to the Liquor or Beer Store?

Answer: In no case is there such an entrance.

- (4) Are any Vendors or other employees at any store or stores also conducting bottle exchanges as private enterprises?

Answer: No.

- (5) How many bottle exchanges are there in the Province?

Answer: Twelve.

- (6) Do these exchanges pay a Provincial license?

Answer: No.

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) How many bottles of beer were purchased from Saskatchewan breweries during the year 1927 by the Liquor Board?

Answer: 16,302,691.

- (2) How many bottles of beer were purchased from breweries outside the Province of Saskatchewan during the year 1927 by the Liquor Board?

Answer: 16,795,553.

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

That Bill No. 9—An Act respecting the Department of Railways, Labour and Industries, be now read the second time.

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

The said Bill No. 9 was accordingly read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

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

REGINA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1928.

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

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated February 2, 1928, (as amended), showing:

- (1) The total fees from all sources charged by the Official Guardian for the year 1926 for performing his duties as Official Guardian; including therein not only fees charged by all of his agents in all twenty-three Judicial Districts of this Province, but also all disbursements made by the Official Guardian and his agents as well.
- (2) The total fees charged with respect to work from Saskatoon Judicial District for the year 1926; including all disbursements in connection with business originating in said Judicial District and covering all fees and disbursements of his agent for such district.
- (3) The total fees charged with respect to work from Regina Judicial District for the year 1926; including all disbursements in connection with the business originating in said Judicial District and covering all fees and disbursements of any agent of the Official Guardian for the said district.
- (4) The number of solicitors in the office of the Official Guardian who devote their time exclusively to the work of the business of the Official Guardian.
- (5) Whether or not the Official Guardian is bonded, and if not, why not. *(Sessional Paper No. 29.)*

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

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated February 2, 1928, showing:

- (1) How much free telephone service the C.P.R. and C.N.R. received respectively during each of the past five fiscal years.
- (2) What the Government received by way of transportation costs.
- (3) Whether or not passes were issued, and, if so, how many over each line of railway.
- (4) Whether or not blank passes are supplied to the Department by each railway, and if so, who fills in these passes.
- (5) How many annual passes are issued each year over each line.
- (6) Whether any annual pass has at any time been handed to anyone after he has left the employ of the Department, and, if so, for what reason and to whom.

- (7) Whether annual passes, if any, held by employees of the Telephone Department have been called in when any such employee resigned, and, if not, for what reason?
- (8) Which line of railway is used most by employees of the Telephone Department.

(*Sessional Paper No. 30.*)

And also,—Return to an Order of the Assembly dated February 2, 1928, showing:

Copy of pay sheet showing the names, hours of labour and remuneration of all workmen engaged on the Nutana, Saskatoon, Telephone Exchange during the month of September, 1926. (*Sessional Paper No. 31.*)

Mr. Tran asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) How many Beer Stores are there in the Vonda Constituency?

Answer: There are six stores all of which are in Liquor Districts the area of which extends into adjoining constituencies.

- (2) What is the name of the Vendor in each case?

Answer: Eugene Desaulniers,
Paul Wald,
Anton Gasper,
Charles Masson,
Robert Lynch and
Jacob Eull.

- (3) How many of these Vendors are returned soldiers?

Answer: None.

Mr. Stipe asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

Did Harry Bronfman in the year 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, or 1926, to the knowledge of the Government or Attorney General's Department or Commissioner of Saskatchewan Police, carry on extensive illegal liquor exporting activities at Regina or Yorkton?

Answer: No.

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

- (1) What is the rental charge per acre for lands used for fur farming?

Answer: The rental to be charged is 25 cents per acre yearly for the first three years and \$1.00 per acre yearly for each succeeding year.

- (2) Is the rental charged on the actual acreage used for this purpose, or for greater areas?

Answer: The proposed rental charge is to cover the actual acreage of the land and water area under lease.

- (3) Is the amount charged the same as that demanded by the Federal Government?

Answer: No. It was agreed that since the cost of administration was borne by the Provincial Government this authority should collect and retain the rentals.

- (4) How many applications have been received by the Department?

Answer: 92.

- (5) Have any complaints been registered as to the rental charge?

Answer: We have no record of any applicant complaining as to the proposed rental.

- (6) If so, by whom?

Answer: Answered by No. 5.

Moved by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Tran,

That the operation of the Australian Treaty in so far as it affects farm produce is not in the best interests of the Dairy Industry of this Province; and

That the Dominion Government be requested to take steps to remove from said Treaty existing handicaps to said industry.

A debate arising, said debate was, on motion of the Hon. Mr. Hamilton, adjourned.

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

Bill No. 07—An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Bill No. 09—An Act to ratify a Certain Agreement between the City of Moose Jaw and the Moose Jaw Electric Railway Company, Limited.

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. 23—An Act to Regulate the Operation of Public Vehicles.

Bill No. 40—An Act respecting Town Planning.

Bill No. 42—An Act to amend The Companies Act.

Bill No. 43—An Act to amend The Arrears of Taxes Act, 1926.

Bill No. 47—An Act to provide for the Imposition and Collection of a Tax on Purchasers of Gasoline.

Bill No. 30—An Act to amend The Surrogate Courts Act.

Bill No. 50—An Act to amend The Threshers' Lien Act, 1925.

Bill No. 33—An Act to amend The Municipal Public Works Act.

Bill No. 34—An Act to amend The Public Utilities Companies Act.

Bill No. 27—An Act to amend The Stray Animals Act.

Bill No. 29—An Act respecting Union Hospitals.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 37—An Act to amend The Vehicles Act, 1924, on which progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

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

REGINA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1928.

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

Bill No. 56—An Act to provide for One Day of Rest in Seven for Certain Employees.

Mr. Baker, Second reading Tuesday next.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) What amount, if any, was paid by the Saskatchewan Liquor Board during 1927 for liquor purchased from The Dominion Distilleries and from the Consolidated Distilleries?

Answer: No liquor was purchased from the Dominion Distilleries. The amount paid for liquor to the Consolidated Distilleries was \$111,175.23.

- (2) Has the Liquor Board during 1927 purchased any liquor from any distilleries owned or controlled by the Bronfman interests?

Answer: No.

- (3) If so, from what distilleries and for what amount in each case?

Answer: See answer to question 2.

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

- (1) How many new applications were received for Mothers' Allowances in 1927 by the Bureau of Child Protection?

Answer: 560.

- (2) Of these applications how many received the allowances?

Answer: 322.

- (3) How many families received allowance during the year 1927?

Answer: 1,441.

- (4) How many children have benefited in 1927 by the granting of the Mothers' Allowance?

Answer: 4,386.

- (5) What is the total amount paid in 1927?

Answer: \$343,975.00.

- (6) How many allowances in force December 31st, 1927?

Answer: 1,253.

Mr. Gordon asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) How many applicants could not be admitted to the sessions of the Normal Schools, which opened at Regina and Saskatoon in September, 1927?

Answer: Regina 237, Saskatoon 193 = 430.

- (2) Were all such applicants offered admission to the new Normal School at Moose Jaw?

Answer: Yes.

- (3) If so, how many of these accepted admission at Moose Jaw?

Answer: 260.

- (4) How many students are actually enrolled in the Normal School at Moose Jaw?

Answer: 301.

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

- (1) Is one J. Z. Walters still a guard at Regina or any other jail?

Answer: Yes.

- (2) Is this the same J. Z. Walters who served time when found guilty of manslaughter in this Province?

Answer: Yes. He appeared before His Lordship, Mr. Justice Elwood at Yorkton on the 3rd of December, 1913, and the jury brought in a verdict of manslaughter with a strong recommendation for mercy. His Lordship said he considered that the accused had a lot of provocation and on that account he would not give him a severe sentence.

- (3) Was he a returned soldier?

Answer: No.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Tran,

That the operation of the Australian Treaty in so far as it affects farm produce is not in the best interests of the Dairy Industry of this Province; and

That the Dominion Government be requested to take steps to remove from said Treaty existing handicaps to said industry.

The debate continuing, and the question being put, it was negatived on the following division:

YEAS

Messieurs

Stipe

MacPherson

Buckle—5

McClure

Anderson

NAYS

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Garry | Dodds | Steele |
| Scott | Agar | Miller |
| Cross | Spence | Marion |
| Pickel | Patterson | Grant |
| Hamilton | Finlayson | Robertson |
| Davis | Parker | Laing |
| Gardiner | Sahlmark | Waddell |
| Latta | Gamble | MacGregor |
| Uhrich | Smith | Tripp |
| Clinch | Cockburn | Donaldson |
| McKinnon | Gordon | Hassard |
| Baker | Hogan | Hill |
| Ross | Gemmell | McIntosh |
| Therres | McNiven | Keelan |
| Halvorson | Sykes | McAfee |
| Wilson | Lewis | Huck—48 |

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 32—An Act to amend The Legal Profession Act, which was reported without amendment, read the third time and passed.

According to Order, Bill No. 55—An Act respecting the Dental Profession of Saskatchewan, was read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

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

On motion of Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. Robertson,

Resolved, That, inasmuch as a grain inspection district has been created in the Province of Saskatchewan at Moose Jaw, and inasmuch as further inspection points may be created within the Province, and inasmuch as full inspection facilities are not now granted to the said district under the present provisions of The Canada Grain Act, this Assembly does now express its opinion that the Government of Canada should enact at this Session such legislation as will insure that all grain passing through the said inspection district or any other district that may be created within the Province be inspected at such district or districts.

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

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. 52—An Act to amend The City Act.

Bill No. 5—An Act to amend The Crop Payments Act.

Bill No. 31—An Act to amend The Executions Act.

Bill No. 49—An Act to amend The Creditors Relief Act, 1923.

Bill No. 53—An Act to amend The Conditional Sales Act.

Bill No. 54—An Act to amend The Land Titles Act.

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

REGINA, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1928.

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

Bill No. 57—An Act to amend The Executive Council Act.
Hon. Mr. Gardiner, Second reading Wednesday next.

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

- (1) How many Pure Bred Sire Areas have been established in the Province?

Answer: Six, consisting of six municipalities on the east side of Last Mountain Lake.

- (2) How many municipalities have requested the establishment of a Pure Bred Sire Area?

Answer: Six have completed and sent in both resolutions and petitions requesting the establishment of a Pure Bred Sire Area. Ten more have sent in resolutions and are working on petitions, and eighteen additional have made some progress.

- (3) Has the Live Stock Sire Licensing Board had any complaints or objections from farmers or live stock men living in the Pure Bred Area?

Answer: No complaints or objections have been received by the Live Stock Board from farmers in the existing Pure Bred Sire Areas. A few persons, less than two per cent. in the existing Pure Bred Sire Areas, refused to sign the petition.

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

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

Bill No. 19—An Act for the Licensing of Collection Agents.

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

Bill No. 41—An Act to amend The Public Libraries Act.

Bill No. 44—An Act respecting the Superannuation of Employees of the Department of Telephones and Telegraphs.

Bill No. 30—An Act to amend The Surrogate Courts Act.

Bill No. 31—An Act to amend The Executions Act.

Bill No. 53—An Act to amend The Conditional Sales Act.

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

Bill No. 40—An Act respecting Town Planning.

Bill No. 54—An Act to amend The Land Titles Act.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 55—An Act respecting the Dental Profession of Saskatchewan, which was reported.

On motion of Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. Baker,

Ordered, That Bill No. 55—An Act respecting the Dental Profession of Saskatchewan, be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Law Amendments.

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

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

Bill No. 58—An Act to amend The School Act.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 59—An Act to amend The Secondary Education Act.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner, Second reading Wednesday next.

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

REGINA, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1928.

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

Your Committee has had under consideration Bill No. 06,—An Act to authorise the City of Saskatoon to raise by way of Debentures an Amount not exceeding the Sum of \$1,300,000 for the Construction of Works for the Manufacture and Supply of Electric Light and Power, and, upon request of the Petitioners, begs to recommend that the said Bill may be withdrawn.

By leave of the Assembly,

On motion of Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. MacPherson,

Resolved, That the sixth 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. 60—An Act to amend The Public Health Act.
Hon. Mr. Uhrich, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 61—An Act to amend The Rural Municipality Act.
Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 62—An Act to amend The Town Act, 1927.
Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Friday next.

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

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated February 7, 1928, showing:

Copies of all correspondence between the Minister and Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs and any individual or individuals relative to the payment of School Taxes in the Wakaw Protestant Separate School District and in the Wakaw Public School District.

(Sessional Paper No. 32.)

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

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated February 2, 1928, showing:

- (1) The total amount expended in each Constituency under contract with Rural Municipalities, under road foremen, on maintenance of roads and on Revenue bridges during the fiscal year 1926-27, also from May 1 to December 31, 1927.

- (2) The location, name of contractor or foreman, and the total amount expended upon construction on each section of Provincial highways placed under construction during the fiscal year 1926-27, and from May 1 to December 31, 1927.
- (3) The total amount expended upon Capital bridges in each Constituency during the fiscal year 1926-27, also from May 1 to December 31, 1927.

(Sessional Paper No. 33.)

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

- (1) How many rams, ewes, boars and sows were sold from the Sheep and Bacon Hog Cars in 1927, compared with 1926 sales?

Answer: Breeding Stock Sold from Cars 1926-27

| | 1926 | 1927 |
|------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Rams (Pure Bred) | 32 | 38 |
| Ewes (Grade & Pure Bred) | 406 | 366 |
| Boars (Pure Bred) | 29 | 41 |
| Sows (Grade & Pure Bred) | 110 | 142 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Total | 577 | 587 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |

- (2) What was the attendance at the lectures in each of the years 1926 and 1927?

Answer: In 1926 the attendance was 2,075 and in 1927 it was 2,241.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) What was paid to each of the breweries in the Province of Saskatchewan for beer purchased by the Liquor Board in the calendar year ending December 31, 1927?

Answer:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Moose Jaw Brewery | \$567,656.29 |
| Regina Brewery | 635,351.09 |
| Saskatoon Brewery | 567,500.27 |
| Prince Albert Breweries | 539,040.30 |

- (2) What was paid to each brewery outside the Province of Saskatchewan for beer purchased by the Liquor Board in the calendar year ending December 31, 1927?

Answer:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Calgary Brewery | \$589,856.62 |
| Edmonton Brewery | 57,074.65 |
| Medicine Hat Brewery | 1,756.87 |
| Premier Brewing Company | 137,692.04 |
| Drewry's | 789,066.47 |
| Empire Brewery | 38,728.75 |
| Pelissiers Brewery | 185,513.87 |
| Shea's Brewery | 579,680.78 |

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

- (1) What educational work is being done to assist the bee-keeping industry in Saskatchewan?

Answer: During 1927 twenty-one beekeepers' field days were held at which lectures and demonstrations were given. Short courses have been held at Saskatoon and Regina, and another will be held at Moosomin, and a series of lectures has been arranged at country points to continue through February, March and early April.

- (2) Has disease been found among bees in Saskatchewan, and to what extent?

Answer: Only one disease of bees, American Foulbrood, is serious in Saskatchewan. Other diseases, European Foulbrood and Sackbrood, seldom appear and when they do are not serious: 1.8% of colonies inspected in 1927 (21 colonies) were infected with American Foulbrood.

- (3) What has been done by the Government to suppress bee diseases in Saskatchewan?

Answer: An inspection of the apiaries in the province has been undertaken. The apiaries in approximately one-third of the beekeeping territory in the province were inspected in 1927. In this area 1152 colonies were inspected and 21 or 1.8% were found infected with American Foulbrood. All hives of bees or bee equipment found infected with American Foulbrood were destroyed. The bees and contents of infected hives are burned and the hive-bodies sterilised with fire.

According to Order, Bill No. 56—An Act to provide for One Day of Rest in Seven for Certain Employees, was read the second time and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Municipal Law.

According to Order, Bill No. 19—An Act for the Licensing of Collection Agents, was read the third time and passed.

According to Order, Bill No. 51—An Act to amend The Child Welfare Act, 1927, 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 the following Bills:—

Bill No. 47—An Act to provide for the Imposition and Collection of a Tax on Purchasers of Gasoline, was reported without amendment, read the third time and passed.

On Bill No. 23—An Act to Regulate the Operation of Public Vehicles, progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

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

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1928.

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 respecting Horticultural Societies.
Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Friday next.

By leave of the Assembly,

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Davis, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Hamilton,

Ordered, That the Order of the Assembly, passed on the seventh day of February, 1928, for the Third Reading and Passage of Bill No. 16—An Act to amend The Farm Implement Act, be rescinded, and that the said Bill No. 16 be now referred back to a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of being amended by adding a paragraph to Form A of said Act.

The Assembly accordingly resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 16—An Act to amend The Farm Implement 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 Bill No. 5—An Act to amend The Crop Payments Act, on which progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

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. 57—An Act to amend The Executive Council Act.

Bill No. 59—An Act to amend The Secondary Education Act.

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

REGINA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1928.

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

Bill No. 64—An Act to amend The School Assessment Act.
Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 65—An Act to amend The Local Improvement Districts Act, 1927.
Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Monday next.

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

- (1) At what price was the building, formerly used for a Court House at Wynyard, purchased?
Answer: See Public Accounts 1913-14, Page 87.
- (2) From whom was the building purchased?
Answer: See answer to question 1.
- (3) Who acted as agent for the vendor?
Answer: No agent, bought direct.
- (4) Is the building now being offered for sale?
Answer: No.
- (5) If so, at what price?
Answer: See answer to question 4.

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

- (1) Who is in charge of the Government Employment Office at Estevan?
Answer: H. Werry.
- (2) Who was formerly in charge?
Answer: A. R. Dudfield.
- (3) Why were the services of the latter discontinued?
Answer: Unsatisfactory service.
- (4) Are either of these men returned soldiers?
Answer: Yes.

Moved by Mr. McConnell, seconded by Mr. Stipe,

That, in the opinion of this Legislative Assembly, the work of the Official Guardian for Saskatchewan should, in the future, be undertaken by the Attorney General's Department; and that all fees charged as a result of services rendered in this connection should accrue to the Province.

A debate arising, said debate was, on motion of the Hon. Mr. Davis, adjourned.

According to Order, Bill No. 011—An Act to incorporate the Prairie Driving Club, Limited, was read the second time and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills.

By leave of the Assembly,

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

Ordered, That the Order for consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bill No. 28—An Act respecting Agricultural Co-operative Associations, be discharged and the Bill withdrawn.

Leave to introduce the same without notice having been granted, the Hon. Mr. Hamilton presented Bill No. 66—An Act respecting Co-operative Associations, which was received, read the first time, and (by leave of the Assembly) 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 the undermentioned Bills:—

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

Bill No. 39—An Act to amend The Corporations Taxation Act.

Bill No. 40—An Act respecting Town Planning.

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

Bill No. 42—An Act to amend The Companies Act.

Bill No. 35—An Act to amend The Useful Birds Act.

Bill No. 36—An Act to amend The Steam Boilers Act.

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

Bill No. 23—An Act to Regulate the Operation of Public Vehicles.

Bill No. 49—An Act to amend The Creditors Relief Act, 1923.

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

REGINA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1928.

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

Bill No. 67—An Act to interpret Statutory References to the Saskatchewan Provincial Police.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 68—An Act to amend The District Courts Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 69—An Act to amend The Companies Winding Up Act.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Tuesday next.

Mr. Waddell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) How many children are receiving assistance at the present time under The Education of Soldiers' Dependent Children Act?

Answer: 178.

- (2) How many children have received assistance, but are not now receiving the same, since the Act came into force?

Answer: 260.

- (3) What means has the Department of ascertaining that the attendance and progress of beneficiaries under the Act warrants the assistance given?

Answer: A certificate showing details of attendance, progress and conduct is furnished in the case of each pupil every month by the principal of the school which the pupil is attending. The record as shown on the certificate must be satisfactory in these respects before the allowance is approved for payment.

- (4) Who are the present members of the Commission?

Answer: Captain A. H. Ball, Deputy Minister of Education,
Major M. A. MacPherson, M.L.A.,
Mr. W. F. Kerr.

- (5) Do the members of the Commission receive any remuneration for attending the necessary meetings and carrying out the duties entailed thereby? If so, what is the amount?

Answer: No.

- (6) How many meetings of the Commission were held during the year 1927 and what was the total number of cases considered at these meetings?

Answer:

| Number of meetings held | Number of cases considered |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
|-------------------------|----------------------------|

Mr. McConnell asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) Are competitive examinations set for entrance into any branch or department of our Provincial Civil Service?
Answer: No.
- (2) If so, in what department or departments, and how many employees have entered such service as a result of passing such examinations?
Answer: Answered by No. 1.

The Hon. Mr. Patterson 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, 1929, and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly. (*Sessional Paper No. 34.*)

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

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

According to Order, Bill No. 40—An Act respecting Town Planning, was read the third time and passed.

According to Order, Bill No. 58—An Act to amend The School 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 the following Bills:—

Bill No. 50—An Act to amend The Threshers' Lien Act, which was reported without amendment, read the third time and passed.

Bill No. 27—An Act to amend The Stray Animals Act, which was reported with amendment, considered as amended, and ordered for third reading at next sitting.

Bill No. 2—An Act respecting Villages, on which progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Order being read for the Assembly to resolve itself into the Committee of Supply;

The Hon. Mr. Patterson moved,

That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair.

A debate arising, said debate was, on motion of Mr. Tran, 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. 33—An Act to amend The Municipal Public Works Act.

Bill No. 34—An Act to amend The Public Utilities Companies Act.

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

Bill No. 43—An Act to amend The Arrears of Taxes Act, 1926.

The Assembly then adjourned at 9.55 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1928.

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

Bill No. 70—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Insurance Act, 1925.

Hon. Mr. Patterson, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 71—An Act to amend The Optometry Act.

Mr. McNiven, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 72—An Act respecting Agricultural Representatives.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Wednesday next.

Mr. Anderson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Is T. T. Turner of Eyebrow still a Justice of the Peace?

Answer: Yes.

- (2) If so, has the Attorney General's Department any record of his having been at any time convicted of assault or other offence?

Answer: Yes, fined \$5.00.

- (3) If such record exists, why was he appointed?

Answer: Recommendations were made by the Attorney General that the appointment be made and the Lieutenant Governor in Council upon his recommendation made the appointment.

Mr. Salkeld asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) Was representation made to the Attorney General re the case of Raney and Isaac disposed of by Justice of the Peace McInnis of Lipton on July 23, 1927?

Answer: Yes.

- (2) If so, what was the nature of same?

Answer: Complaint was made as to the manner in which the case was conducted.

- (3) Was any action taken against

(a) The Justice of the Peace;

(b) the parties in the case?

Answer: (a) The Justice of the Peace was advised very clearly as to the manner in which cases must be conducted by him.

(b) Charges of theft of an automobile and vagrancy against Isaac were withdrawn and judgment given in his favour for \$7.50 for wages.

- (4) How many cases has this J.P. tried in each of the years since his appointment?

Answer: 1925..... "nil"
 1926..... 9
 1927..... 27

- (5) What were the number of cases tried by other J.P.'s at this point in each of the five years immediately preceding the appointment of this J.P.?

Answer: 1921..... 12
 1922..... 19
 1923..... 22
 1924..... 18
 1925..... 18

Mr. McClure asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) What are the office hours of vendors in Liquor or Beer Stores?

Answer: Store hours from eleven o'clock A. M. to seven o'clock P. M., with the usual time off for meals.

- (2) Is there any regulation requiring these officials to devote their whole time during office hours to their work as vendors?

Answer: Liquor Store Vendors are required to devote their full time to duty as Vendor during store hours. In some few cases Beer Store Vendors employ men at their own expense to assist them in carrying on their work—the vendor being in charge and accepting full responsibility.

- (3) What are the qualifications considered in making appointments as vendors?

Answer: Average education, coupled with business experience and ability.

- (4) Is previous experience in the operation of Liquor Stores always considered?

Answer: No.

- (5) What is the schedule of salaries paid vendors?

Answer: The stores are classified and salaries paid accordingly. Liquor Store Vendors' salaries are from \$150.00 to \$225.00 per month, and Beer Store Vendors' from \$50.00 to \$125.00 per month, with one exception, and at that point the Vendor has found it necessary to have an assistant practically all the time. He is, therefore, paid \$175.00 per month out of which he pays his assistant.

Mr. McClure asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) What are the qualifications of F. T. Hawryluk, recently appointed as Inspector of Schools in the Canora District?

Answer: Graduate in Arts with the Degree of B.A.
Interim High School Certificate.
Permanent First Class Certificate.
Certificate of Physical Instruction, Grade B.

- (2) How many years did he teach (a) in rural schools; (b) in graded schools?

Answer: (a) sixteen years. (b) None.

- (3) What percentage of pupils in Canora District are Ukrainians and what percentage are English?

Answer: The Department has no record.

- (4) Is it the policy of the Government to appoint inspectors according to predominating nationality or religion of each district.

Answer: No. The policy of the Government is to appoint Canadians who are properly qualified.

- (5) If so, will this be the best way to avoid violation of The School Act in regard to instruction in English?

Answer: Answered in 4.

- (6) Will this policy be the most effective in developing among new Canadians a thorough knowledge of our ideals, morals, manners and British institutions?

Answer: Answered in 4.

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

- (1) What is the total amount of loans obtained from the banks by Rural Municipalities for the purpose of making advances of relief (coal, flour and fodder) during the years 1920 to 1925 inclusive?

Answer: \$2,038,374.00.

- (2) What is the total amount of such loans guaranteed by the Government?

Answer: \$2,038,374.00.

- (3) What is the total amount of such loans assumed by the Government?

Answer: The Government has implemented guarantees to the amount of \$429,578.24. Of this amount the sum of \$16,368.38 has since been collected from the debtors, leaving a balance of implemented guarantees amounting to \$413,209.86. 50% of this amount has been reimbursed by the Dominion Government under the agreement entered into between the two governments when the legislation providing for advances of relief was passed.

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- (4) What is the total amount of such loans still outstanding?
Answer: \$208,815.00.

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

Bill No. 39—An Act to amend The Corporations Taxation Act.

Bill No. 27—An Act to amend The Stray Animals Act.

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

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. Scott, adjourned.

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

REGINA, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1928.

Mr. Gordon, from the Select Standing Committee on Law Amendments, presented the first report of the said Committee, which is as follows:—

Your Committee met for organisation and appointed Mr. Gordon as its Chairman.

Your Committee has had under consideration Bill No. 55—An Act respecting the Dental Profession of Saskatchewan, and has agreed to report the same with amendment.

Your Committee has also had under consideration Bill No. 48—An Act to amend The King's Bench Act (No. 2), and has agreed to report the same with amendment.

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

Bill No. 73—An Act to make Uniform the Law respecting the Devolution of the Real Property of Deceased Persons.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 74—An Act to make Uniform the Law respecting the Distribution of Estates of Intestates.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 75—An Act to amend The Liquor Act, 1925.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 76—An Act respecting Savings and Loan Associations.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Thursday next.

The Hon. Mr. Davis, a member of the Executive Council, presented,

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated February 6, 1928, showing:—

- (1) The wages and expenses paid by the Government to Ex-Constable Powers whilst employed on patrol service on the Saskatchewan river.
- (2) The wages and expenses paid by the Government to Ex-Constable McCabe whilst employed on patrol service on the Saskatchewan river.
- (3) The wages and expenses paid by the Government to Constable Munn whilst employed on patrol service on the Saskatchewan river.
- (4) The wages and expenses paid by the Government to Constable Nicholson whilst employed on patrol service on the Saskatchewan river.

(*Sessional Paper No. 35.*)

And also, — Return to an Order of the Assembly dated February 14, 1928, showing:

The statement filed with the Government on or before the fifteenth day of January, 1928, by the Official Guardian of this Province and verified under oath setting forth the total amount of fees which have been received by him, the said Official Guardian, whether as costs under subsection (1) of Section 39 of The Infants Act, R.S.S. 1920, and amendments thereto, or otherwise, during the twelve months ended on the 31st day of December, 1927, together with such other facts or particulars as were for the said year 1927 required of the said Official Guardian by regulation of the Lieutenant Governor in Council in accordance with the provisions of Section 40 and amendments thereto of the said Infants Act, being Chapter 155 R.S.S. 1920, and amendments thereto.

(*Sessional Paper No. 36.*)

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

- (1) What are the rates of pay and what is the system followed in paying Road Supervisors?

Answer: Road Supervisors are not paid a regular salary; they are employed part time only during the summer season and, when employed on Government business, they are paid at a rate of sixty cents per hour and twelve cents per mile for the use of their cars, or twenty-five cents per hour for the use of their driving teams.

- (2) What amounts were paid to one James Pendergast of Lipton for road supervising in each of the following years 1924, 1925, 1926 and 1927?

Answer: 1924 \$ 60.72 (part season only)
 1925 266.28
 1926 290.58
 1927 438.33

- (3) What was the amount of road mileage over which he had supervision?

Answer: 1924 25 miles
 1925 29 $\frac{3}{4}$ miles
 1926 29 $\frac{3}{4}$ miles
 1927 49 miles.

Mr. Wilson asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) How many rural school districts were paid a grant for a teacher's residence during the fiscal year 1926-27?

Answer: 33.

- (2) What was the total amount of such grants?

Answer: \$6,600.00.

Moved by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Tran,

That, in the opinion of this Assembly, it is advisable that a Committee composed of private Members from both sides of this Assembly be appointed to visit and inspect during 1928 the jails, mental hospitals and other public institutions of the Province that may be decided upon by said Committee; and that said Committee report at the next Session of the Legislature.

A debate arising, said debate was, on motion of the Hon. Mr. Uhrich, adjourned.

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

Ordered, That when the Assembly adjourns this day, it do stand adjourned until 10 o'clock a.m. of the next day, (Wednesday).

According to Order, Bill No. 68—An Act to amend The District Courts Act, was read the second time and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Law Amendments.

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

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. Gamble, adjourned.

The Assembly then adjourned at 11.40 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1928.

10 o'clock a.m.

Mr. Agar, from the Select Standing Committee on Municipal Law, presented the first report of the said Committee, which is as follows:—

Your Committee met for organisation and appointed Mr. Agar as its Chairman.

Your Committee has had under consideration Bill No. 56—An Act to provide for One Day of Rest in Seven for Certain Employees, and recommends that the same be not further proceeded with at this session.

Your Committee further recommends, however, that the parties concerned in the subject-matter of this Bill, both employers and employees, endeavor to arrange a conference, and confer, with a view to reaching an amicable solution of the problem which proponents of the said Bill had in mind in drafting its provisions.

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

Bill No. 77—An Act to amend The Trustee Act.
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 78—An Act to amend The Interpretation Act.
Hon. Mr. Patterson, Second reading Friday next.

Mr. McClure asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

- (1) What do the one gallon stone jugs, used for wine containers, cost the Government?

Answer: The cost to the Liquor Board per one gallon stone jug is 16.853 cents.

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

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. McAfee, adjourned.

The Assembly then adjourned at 12.30 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1928.

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

Bill No. 79—An Act to provide for the Education of Deaf and Blind Persons.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner, Second reading Saturday next.

Bill No. 80—An Act to amend The School Grants Act, 1920.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner, Second reading Saturday next.

Mr. Huck asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

- (1) How many High School districts, organised under The Secondary Education Act, were in operation during the years 1923-24, 1924-25 and 1925-26 and what was the total enrolment for these years?

| <i>Answer:</i> | Number of High School Districts | Enrolment |
|----------------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1923-24 | 21 | 6,726 |
| 1924-25 | 20 | 6,756 |
| 1925-26 | 20 | 7,204 |

- (2) How many schools, organised under The School Act, were operating in these years rooms for Grade VIII and High School pupils or for High School pupils alone? How many such rooms were operated and what was the enrolment in grades above VIII?

| <i>Answer:</i> | Number of School Districts | Number of Rooms | Enrolment above Grade VIII |
|----------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1923-24 | 233 | 300 | 6,777 |
| 1924-25 | 264 | 360 | 7,647 |
| 1925-26 | 298 | 420 | 8,618 |

- (3) How many other school districts organised under The School Act gave instruction in these years to pupils in grades above VIII and what was the enrolment in these grades?

| <i>Answer:</i> | School Districts | Enrolment |
|----------------|------------------|-----------|
| 1923-24 | 844 | 2,511 |
| 1924-25 | 1,040 | 3,123 |
| 1925-26 | 1,323 | 3,679 |

Mr. Stipe, for Mr. McClure, asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Davis:—

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- (1) Has a complaint been made to the Attorney General's Department regarding the action of an Officer of the Provincial Police in securing affidavit evidence for a civil action?

Answer: A complaint of this nature was received.

- (2) If so, by what right and on whose authority did he so interfere in civil matters?

Answer: The Police have been instructed that under no circumstances are they to interfere in civil actions, and in connection with said complaint the Commissioner of the Saskatchewan Provincial Police advises that investigations made were in regard to criminal matters.

- (3) Was the Police Officer disciplined?

Answer: See answer to question 2.

- (4) If not, why not?

Answer: See answer to question 2.

Moved by Mr. Stipe, seconded by Mr. Buckle,

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:

Copies of all correspondence passing between this Government, the Attorney General's Department, the Commissioner of Police and any other parties relative to the extensive illegal exporting operations, or any other activities carried on by the following concerns: The Canada Drug Company, The Yorkton Distributors, The Prairie Drug Company, The Regina Wine & Spirits Company, The Dominion Distributors and the Regina Vinegar Company.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was negatived on the following division:

AYES

Messieurs

Whatley
Salkeld
Tran

Stipe
MacPherson
Anderson

Buckle
McConnell
Creighton—9

NOES

Messieurs

Garry
Scott
Pickel
Davis

Spence
Patterson
Finlayson
Paulson

Steele
Miller
Marion
Grant

| | | |
|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Gardiner | Parker | Robertson |
| Uhrich | Sahlmark | Laing |
| Clinch | Gamble | Waddell |
| McKinnon | Smith | McGregor |
| Baker | Cockburn | Hassard |
| Ross | Gordon | Hill |
| Therres | Hogan | McIntosh |
| Halvorson | Gemmell | Keelan |
| Wilson | McNiven | McAfee |
| Dodds | Sykes | Huck |
| Agar | Lewis | Nay—45 |

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

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. Parker, adjourned.

The Assembly then adjourned at 10.50 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 1928.

Mr. Pickel, from the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the seventh 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 amendment:—

Bill No. 011—An Act to incorporate the Prairie Driving Club, Limited.

The Special Committee appointed to consider the advisability of revising the Standing Orders, usually called the Rules of the Assembly, begs to report that it has considered all the said Rules and has agreed to certain amendments drafted with the view of conducting the public business with improved regularity and despatch.

Some of the Rules have become obsolete through changes in The Civil Service Act or do not conform with present day conditions and practice. Your Committee has had in mind that the greatest freedom should be allowed in debates and proceedings of the Assembly and factors which tend to restrict liberty have been eliminated. The tendency has been to reduce the number of Standing Orders and to make them clearer.

Standing Orders of this Assembly are based on those of the Canadian House of Commons, which in turn have been evolved from those of the British House of Commons, and the adoption of the amendments now proposed will bring the Standing Orders of this Assembly into conformity with those of the House of Commons of Canada, as recently revised, and, as the reference number to those Standing Orders is indicated in every case, your Committee is of the opinion that this will give Members convenient and ready access to the various authorities and particularly Beauchesne's Parliamentary Rules and Forms, Second Edition.

After consideration, the Committee recommends that the term "Standing Orders" be substituted for "Rules", as has been done by the Canadian House of Commons, principally for the reason that all "Rules" are not "Standing Orders"; they may be Sessional Orders, or merely precedents; but all "Standing Orders" are "Rules." By its Orders the Assembly directs its Committees, its Members, its offices and its own proceedings. The Standing Orders of the Assembly may be suspended by unanimous consent under Standing Order 32 or formally amended or repealed by giving two days' notice under Standing Order 31. The proceedings of this Legislature are governed by Statutes, by Rules and Orders adopted by itself and by those usages which have become part of its own practice or are derived from those of the Canadian House of Commons by which this Legislature has consented to be guided in all matters of doubt by Standing Order 1.

Attached hereto is a printed copy of the Standing Orders with the proposed amendments; if the changes are concurred in by the Assembly it will be necessary to re-number and re-print the Standing Orders in book form.

It is also recommended that the only Appendices to be included in such book shall be Appendices "C" and "D" now included in the present book of Rules of this Assembly.

Your Committee recommends that the amended Standing Orders, when adopted, shall be effective at the next Session of the Legislature.

W. G. ROBINSON,
Chairman.

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

Bill No. 81—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited.

Hon. Mr. Patterson, Second reading Monday next.

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

Return to an Order of the Assembly dated February 2, 1928, showing:—

- (1) The names and positions of all Civil Servants to whom, on their retirement from the Civil Service, gratuities or allowances were paid by the Government of Saskatchewan during the years 1924, 1925, 1926 and 1927.
- (2) The amount of such gratuities or allowances and the method of payment.
- (3) The length of service of each recipient and the reason for retirement. *(Sessional Paper No. 37.)*

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

Have any of the following gentlemen given evidence before the Provincial Power Commission, and if so, which?—Bob Hassard of the Bienfait Mine; Sam Hawley, Western Dominion Collieries; Alick Wilson, Manitoba and Saskatchewan Mines; William Hamilton, Crescent Collieries; Mr. Heptinstall, Lignite Utilization Board; E. W. Garner, Big Lump Coal Company; John Galloway, Sunlight Coal Company; Peter Holmgren, Mayor of Estevan; Harry Nicholson of Estevan; Mr. Hughes, Bismarck, North Dakota.

Answer: The meeting of the Power Commission at Estevan was advertised in the local papers and all parties interested were invited to attend and give evidence. The following gentlemen named in the question did give evidence: Sam Hawley, Western

MARCH 2, 1928

Dominion Collieries; W. G. Heptinstall, Lignite Utilization Board; E. W. Garner, Big Lump Coal Company; Peter Holmgren, Mayor of Estevan. Other gentlemen named in the question were present at the meeting of the Commission and were invited to give evidence, but did not do so.

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

Ordered, That, when the Assembly adjourns this day, it do stand adjourned until 11 o'clock a.m. tomorrow (Saturday), and that the Order of Business shall be the same as on Friday.

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

That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair (the Assembly to go into the Committee of Supply).

The debate continuing, and the question being put, it was agreed to on the following division:

AYES

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Garry | Agar | Laing |
| Scott | Spence | Waddell |
| Cross | Patterson | McGregor |
| Pickel | Finlayson | Tripp |
| Hamilton | Paulson | Donaldson |
| Davis | Parker | Hassard |
| Gardiner | Sahlmark | Hill |
| Latta | Gamble | McIntosh |
| Uhrich | Smith | Keelan |
| Clinch | Gordon | McAfee |
| Baker | Hogan | Huck |
| Ross | Hagarty | Nay |
| Therres | Lewis | Whatley |
| Halvorson | Steele | Tran—46 |
| Wilson | Grant | |
| Dodds | Robertson | |

NOES

Messieurs

| | | |
|------------|----------|-------------|
| Stipe | Anderson | McConnell |
| McClure | Buckle | Creighton—7 |
| MacPherson | | |

The Assembly, accordingly, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

Progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

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. 60—An Act to amend The Public Health Act.

Bill No. 62—An Act to amend The Town Act, 1927.

Bill No. 64—An Act to amend The School Assessment Act.

Bill No. 63—An Act respecting Horticultural Societies.

Bill No. 67—An Act to interpret Statutory References to the Saskatchewan Provincial Police.

Bill No. 75—An Act to amend The Liquor Act, 1925.

Bill No. 70—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Insurance Act, 1925.

Bill No. 78—An Act to amend The Interpretation Act.

To the Select Standing Committee on Law Amendments;

Bill No. 73—An Act to make Uniform the Law respecting the Devolution of the Real Property of Deceased Persons.

Bill No. 74—An Act to make Uniform the Law respecting the Distribution of Estates of Intestates.

The Assembly then adjourned at 10.40 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1928.

11 o'clock a.m.

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

Bill No. 82—An Act to amend The School Attendance Act.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 83—An Act to amend The Highways Act.

Hon. Mr. Spence, Second reading Monday next.

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. 65—An Act to amend The Local Improvement Districts Act, 1927.

Bill No. 69—An Act to amend The Companies Winding Up Act.

Bill No. 77—An Act to amend The Trustee Act.

Bill No. 80—An Act to amend The School Grants Act, 1920.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. McConnell, seconded by Mr. Stipe,

That, in the opinion of this Legislative Assembly, the work of the Official Guardian for Saskatchewan should, in the future, be undertaken by the Attorney General's Department; and that all fees charged as a result of services rendered in this connection should accrue to the Province.

The debate continuing, in amendment thereto, it was moved by the Hon. Mr. Davis, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Hamilton,

That all the words after "That" in the Resolution be struck out and the following substituted therefor:

"the Government do forthwith give consideration to the operation of the Office of Official Guardian in the Province of Saskatchewan with a view to making such changes, if any, as may seem advisable as the result of such investigations."

The question being put on the said amendment, it was agreed to.

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

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Tran,

That, in the opinion of this Assembly, it is advisable that a Committee composed of Members from both sides of this Assembly

be appointed to visit and inspect during 1928 the jails, mental hospitals and other public institutions of the Province that may be decided upon by said Committee; and that said Committee report at the next Session of the Legislature.

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

On motion of Mr. Agar, seconded by Mr. McConnell,

Resolved, That the first report of the Select Standing Committee on Municipal Law be now concurred in.

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:—

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

Bill No. 2—An Act respecting Villages.

Bill No. 52—An Act to amend The City Act.

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

Bill No. 46—An Act to amend The Game Act, 1924.

Bill No. 16—An Act to amend The Farm Implement Act.

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

REGINA, MONDAY, MARCH 5, 1928.

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

With respect to Bill No. 010, An Act to amend The United Church of Canada Act, your Committee begs to report that it has given consideration to the Reference from the Assembly:—

“That the Petition of the Synod of Saskatchewan of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, praying for an Act to amend The United Church of Canada Act, be received by the Assembly on the understanding that, when said Bill to amend The United Church of Canada Act reaches the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills, that Committee shall first consider, as part of the Preamble of the said Bill, the said objection filed by the United Church of Canada.”

Opportunity was given to representatives of those objecting to the use of the name “The Synod of Saskatchewan of the Presbyterian Church in Canada” by the Petitioners, and to those representing the Petitioners, to appear before the Committee, and the report of the Law Clerk on this question was carefully considered.

Your Committee finally decided that the Petitioners were not entitled to Petition in the name of “The Synod of Saskatchewan of The Presbyterian Church in Canada,” but that, under all the circumstances, the Petitioners might be given the opportunity of amending their Petition and the Preamble to the Bill, and that, if this were done to the satisfaction of the Committee, it might proceed with the further consideration of the Preamble to the Bill.

The Petitioners then suggested that they be allowed to Petition as “W. G. Brown and D. G. Cameron on behalf of those congregations and persons in Saskatchewan who were members of The Presbyterian Church in Canada immediately prior to the 10th day of June, A.D. 1925, and did not enter The United Church of Canada.” The opponents of the Petition intimated that this amended name would be satisfactory to them and the Committee therefore agreed tentatively to allow such amendments, and proceeded to hear representations for and against the Preamble to the Bill.

Further amendment to the Preamble by eliminating the reference to the appointment of a Commission was tentatively agreed to by the Committee, and a Bill was drafted to harmonise with these proposed amendments to the Preamble, and submitted to the Law Clerk, who advised that it was virtually a new Bill and under the Rules could not properly be considered.

The Committee noted with satisfaction that pursuant to the recommendation of the Assembly on this question last Session progress had been made in the release of guarantors and the adjustment and disposition of church properties in certain centres.

Your Committee therefore recommends

1. That the objection taken by the United Church of Canada to the use of the name "The Synod of Saskatchewan of The Presbyterian Church in Canada" by the petitioners be sustained, and
2. That Bill No. 010—An Act to amend The United Church of Canada Act be not further proceeded with, and
3. That the question of settlement of difficulties still outstanding between the parties concerned be given consideration by the Government.

By leave of the Assembly,

On motion of Mr. Pickel, seconded by Mr. MacPherson,

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

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

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

Bill No. 02—An Act to incorporate the Herbert Bible School Association.

Bill No. 04—An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs de l'Enfant Jesus du Puy.

Bill No. 05—An Act to provide Exemption from Taxation upon Certain Lands to Les Soeurs de Notre Dame de la Croix.

Bill No. 06—An Act to authorise the City of Saskatoon to raise by way of Debentures an Amount not exceeding the Sum of \$1,300,000 for the Construction of Works for the Manufacture and Supply of Electric Light and Power.

Bill No. 07—An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Bill No. 010—An Act to amend The United Church of Canada Act.

By leave of the Assembly,

On motion of Mr. Pickel, seconded by Mr. MacPherson,

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

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

Bill No. 84—An Act to amend The Sheep Protection and Dog Licensing Act, 1927.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading next sitting.

The Hon. Mr. Patterson 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, 1928, and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly. *(Sessional Paper No. 38.)*

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Patterson, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Davis,

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

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

- (1) Did the Town of Kindersley receive financial aid from this Government in the matter of providing a water supply about the year 1913?

Answer: Yes.

- (2) If so, what was the extent of such aid?

Answer: When constructing the bridge, forming part of the improvement of the Main Market Road south of Kindersley in the season 1912-13, the Government agreed to include in the design of this structure a concrete dam for the purpose of forming a water reservoir for the town of Kindersley. The town of Kindersley agreed to contribute a sum of \$5,400.00 as its share of the cost of the work.

- (3) What amount of the original sum has been paid off?

Answer: Nothing.

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

- (1) Does the Commissioner of Field Crops in Saskatchewan spend his time wholly in the performance of his duties in that office?
- (2) Does he spend a great portion of his time in the City of Moose Jaw?
- (3) If so, on what business, and is his salary and expenses paid during periods spent in Moose Jaw?

Answer: The Saskatchewan Registered Seed Growers' Association Limited was incorporated in 1924 for the purpose of conserving for seed purposes grain crops grown from registered seed. On account of the great importance of maintaining the quality of our wheat, the Government has permitted the Field

Crops Commissioner to act as Manager of the Association since its inception in order to promote the use of registered and improved seed by Saskatchewan farmers. The salary authorised by this Assembly is paid the Field Crops Commissioner and his expenses in connection with the marketing of registered seed are paid by the Saskatchewan Registered Seed Growers Limited.

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

Ordered, That when the Assembly adjourns today, it do stand adjourned until 11 o'clock a.m. tomorrow (Tuesday), 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.

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. McNiven,

Whereas the holding of a World's Grain Show and Congress would be of great value to the Dominion of Canada and especially to the grain growing provinces;

Therefore, be it Resolved, That this Assembly does now express its approval of the proposal of the Regina Agricultural & Industrial Exhibition Association, Limited, that a World's Grain Show and Congress be held in Regina in 1932, and that the Government of Canada should be asked to participate in the holding of the said World's Grain Show and Congress in a manner similar to their participation in the World's Poultry Congress in 1927.

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

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

Bill No. 46—An Act to amend The Game Act, 1924.

Bill No. 16—An Act to amend The Farm Implement 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. 61—An Act to amend The Rural Municipality Act.

Bill No. 79—An Act to provide for the Education of Deaf and Blind Persons.

Bill No. 83—An Act to amend The Highways Act.

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

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 undermentioned Bills:—

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

Bill No. 1—An Act for the Imposition of a Tax on Wild Lands.

Bill No. 37—An Act to amend The Vehicles Act, 1924.

Bill No. 23—An Act to regulate the Operation of Public Vehicles.

Bill No. 62—An Act to amend The Town Act, 1927.

Bill No. 64—An Act to amend The School Assessment Act.

The following Bills were reported without amendment, read the third time and passed;

Bill No. 69—An Act to amend The Companies Winding Up Act.

Bill No. 78—An Act to amend The Interpretation Act.

Bill No. 67—An Act to interpret Statutory References to the Saskatchewan Provincial Police.

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

Bill No. 2—An Act respecting Villages.

Bill No. 52—An Act to amend The City Act.

Bill No. 75—An Act to amend The Liquor Act, 1925.

Bill No. 29—An Act respecting Union Hospitals.

According to Order, Bill No. 71—An Act to amend The Optometry Act, was read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

The Assembly then adjourned at 11.40 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 1928.

11 o'clock a.m.

Mr. McConnell, for Mr. Anderson, asked the Government the following Question, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Gardiner:—

What amount was paid in grants to Strasbourg School District during 1926 and 1927?

Answer: 1926 \$4,158.85
1927 \$4,197.00

The Order of the Day being called for the motion of Mr. Whatley—

That this Assembly favours the reduction of Motor License Fees by the sum of Four Dollars on each car,

Mr. Speaker ruled,

That this motion could not be proceeded with as, in his opinion, it covered substantially the same question already dealt with this Session in connection with the Gasoline Tax Bill. (Beauchesne par. 384 and 386, p. 125.)

Also that the motion might be considered as infringing the provisions of Rule 73 of this Assembly.

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. 55—An Act respecting the Dental Profession of Saskatchewan.

Bill No. 48—An Act to amend The King's Bench Act, (No. 2).

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

Bill No. 71—An Act to amend The Optometry Act.

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

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 011—An Act to incorporate the Prairie Driving Club, Limited, which was reported with amendment, considered as amended, and ordered for third reading at next sitting.

By leave of the Assembly, the Order "Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees" was reverted to.

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 has 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 for the year 1927. (*Sessional Paper No. 8.*)
 - (b) Report of the Farm Loan Board and Balance Sheet for the year 1927. (*Sessional Paper No. 26.*)
 - (c) Report of the Trustees of The Saskatchewan Agricultural Research Foundation, including Financial Statement for the period ended April 30, 1927. (*Sessional Paper No. 27.*)
- (2) That the following be published with the Sessional Papers:
 - (a) Speeches of Mr. Ross, Mr. Anderson and Mr. Baker on the Debate on the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne.
 - (b) Speech of the Hon. Mr. Spence on the Second Reading of Bill No. 9—An Act respecting the Department of Railways, Labour and Industries.
 - (c) Budget Speech of the Hon. Mr. Patterson, and speeches on the Budget Debate of Mr. Tran, Mr. Creighton, Mr. MacPherson, Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Hon. Mr. Uhrich and the Hon. Mr. Gardiner.
- (3) That 500 copies of the Journals and 2,000 copies of the Sessional Papers be printed.
- (4) That 500 copies of the Standing Orders (Rules) of the Legislative Assembly be printed in book form.

On motion of Mr. Sahlmark, seconded by Mr. Anderson,

Ordered, That the first report of the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Printing be now concurred in.

Mr. Gordon, from the Select Standing Committee on Law Amendments, 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. 74—An Act to make Uniform the Law respecting the Distribution of Estates of Intestates.

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

Bill No. 68—An Act to amend The District Courts Act.

Bill No. 73—An Act to make Uniform the Law respecting the Devolution of the Real Property of Deceased Persons.

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

Bill No. 1—An Act for the Imposition of a Tax on Wild Lands.

Bill No. 37—An Act to amend The Vehicles Act, 1924.

Bill No. 23—An Act to Regulate the Operation of Public Vehicles.

Bill No. 64—An Act to amend The School Assessment 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. 72—An Act respecting Agricultural Representatives.

Bill No. 84—An Act to amend The Sheep Protection and Dog Licensing Act, 1927.

Bill No. 81—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited.

Bill No. 82—An Act to amend The School Attendance Act.

The Order of the Day being read for the third reading of Bill No. 62—An Act to amend The Town Act, 1927,

It was moved by the Hon. Mr. Latta, and Ordered:

That the said Bill No. 62 be not now read the third time but be referred back to a Committee of the Whole today for the purpose of inserting a new clause 5.

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

The following Bills were reported without amendment, read the third time and passed:—

Bill No. 65—An Act to amend The Local Improvement Districts Act, 1927.

Bill No. 57—An Act to amend The Executive Council Act.

Bill No. 79—An Act to provide for the Education of Deaf and Blind Persons.

Bill No. 83—An Act to amend The Highways Act.

Bill No. 54—An Act to amend The Land Titles Act.

Bill No. 75—An Act to amend The Liquor Act, 1925.

Bill No. 77—An Act to amend The Trustee Act.

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

Bill No. 62—An Act to amend The Town Act, 1927.

Bill No. 2—An Act respecting Villages.

Bill No. 38—An Act to amend The Trust Companies Act.

Bill No. 43—An Act to amend The Arrears of Taxes Act, 1926.

Bill No. 52—An Act to amend The City Act.

Bill No. 70—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Insurance Act, 1925.

Bill No. 18—An Act to amend The Rural Telephone Act.

Bill No. 45—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Election Act.

Bill No. 66—An Act respecting Co-operative Associations.

Bill No. 60—An Act to amend The Public Health Act.

Bill No. 29—An Act respecting Union Hospitals.

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

Bill No. 61—An Act to amend The Rural Municipality Act.

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

Progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Assembly then adjourned at 11.50 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 1928.

11 o'clock a.m.

By leave of the Assembly,

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Gardiner have leave to introduce Bill No. 85—An Act to amend The Legislative Assembly Act, without notice.

The Hon. Mr. Gardiner, 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 the first time and, by leave of the Assembly, read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole today.

Leave to introduce the same, without notice, having been granted, the following Bills were received, read the first time, and, by leave of the Assembly, read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole today:—

Bill No. 86—An Act to amend The Public Inquiries Act.

Bill No. 87—An Act to validate certain Renewal Statements filed for the Purposes of The Chattel Mortgage Act.

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

Bill No. 33—An Act to amend The Municipal Public Works Act.

Bill No. 34—An Act to amend The Public Utilities Companies Act.

Bill No. 2—An Act respecting Villages.

Bill No. 38—An Act to amend The Trust Companies Act.

Bill No. 43—An Act to amend The Arrears of Taxes Act, 1926.

Bill No. 52—An Act to amend The City Act.

Bill No. 62—An Act to amend The Town Act, 1927.

Bill No. 70—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Insurance Act, 1925.

Bill No. 18—An Act to amend The Rural Telephone Act.

Bill No. 45—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Election Act.

Bill No. 66—An Act respecting Co-operative Associations.

Bill No. 60—An Act to amend The Public Health Act.

Bill No. 29—An Act respecting Union Hospitals.

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

The following Bills were severally reported with amendment, considered as amended, read the third time and passed:

Bill No. 61—An Act to amend The Rural Municipality Act.

Bill No. 24—An Act to amend The Civil Service Superannuation Act, 1927.

Bill No. 9—An Act respecting the Department of Railways, Labour and Industries.

Bill No. 81—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited.

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

Bill No. 73—An Act to make Uniform the Law respecting the Devolution of the Real Property of Deceased Persons.

Bill No. 74—An Act to make Uniform the Law respecting the Distribution of Estates of Intestates.

Bill No. 85—An Act to amend The Legislative Assembly Act.

Bill No. 86—An Act to amend The Public Inquiries Act.

Bill No. 87—An Act to validate certain Renewal Statements filed for the Purposes of The Chattel Mortgage Act.

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

Bill No. 51—An Act to amend The Child Welfare Act, 1927.

Bill No. 59—An Act to amend The Secondary Education Act.

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

Return to an Order of the Assembly dated February 2, 1928, showing:

Copies of all correspondence relating to the transfer of Inspector A. W. Keith and the appointment of the late Inspector Hay to the Wilkie Inspectorate. *(Sessional Paper No. 39.)*

The Hon. Mr. Patterson 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 further Supplementary Estimates of certain sums required for the service of the Province for the twelve months ending April 30, 1928, and Supplementary Estimates of certain sums required for the service of the Province for the twelve months ending April 30, 1929, and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly. *(Sessional Paper No. 40.)*

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Patterson, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Davis,

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

On motion of Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. McIntosh,

Ordered, That the Assembly resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole immediately to consider the Report of the Special Committee appointed to revise the Standing Orders (Rules) of the Assembly, presented on Friday, March 2, instant.

The Assembly accordingly went into Committee of the Whole to consider the said Report, which was reported with amendments, considered as amended, and concurred in.

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, read the third time and passed:

- Bill No. 59—An Act to amend The Secondary Education Act.
- Bill No. 63—An Act respecting Horticultural Societies.
- Bill No. 49—An Act to amend The Creditors Relief Act, 1923.
- Bill No. 68—An Act to amend The District Courts Act.

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

- Bill No. 58—An Act to amend The School Act.
- Bill No. 80—An Act to amend The School Grants Act, 1920.
- Bill No. 82—An Act to amend The School Attendance Act.
- Bill No. 51—An Act to amend The Child Welfare Act, 1927.
- Bill No. 72—An Act respecting Agricultural Representatives.
- Bill No. 84—An Act to amend The Sheep Protection and Dog Licensing Act, 1927.
- Bill No. 5—An Act to amend The Crop Payments Act.

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

- Bill No. 55—An Act respecting the Dental Profession of Saskatchewan.
- Bill No. 48—Under its title as amended, An Act to amend The King's Bench Act.
- Bill No. 011—An Act to incorporate the Prairie Driving Club Limited.

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

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

(In the Committee.)

Resolved, That there be granted to His Majesty for the twelve months ending April 30, 1929, the following sums:—

| Vote No. | |
|----------|---|
| 1. | For Legislation.....\$ 168,390.00 |
| 2. | For Executive Council..... 68,620.00 |
| 3. | For Attorney General—Administration..... 65,080.00 |
| 4. | For Attorney General—Courts and Judicial Districts..... 299,631.00 |
| 5. | For Attorney General—Criminal Investigations 134,000.00 |
| 6. | For Attorney General—Police..... 349,700.00 |
| 7. | For Attorney General—Registration of Land Titles..... 274,380.00 |
| 8. | For Attorney General—Miscellaneous Services.. 11,500.00 |
| 9. | For Provincial Secretary..... 130,600.00 |
| 10. | For Treasury—Administration..... 90,160.00 |
| 11. | For Treasury—Audit..... 35,370.00 |
| 12. | For Treasury—Public Debt..... 2,560,002.00 |
| 13. | For Treasury—Farm Loans..... 597,000.00 |
| 14. | For Treasury—Miscellaneous (Chargeable to Revenue)..... 168,150.00 |
| 15. | For Treasury—Miscellaneous (Chargeable to Capital)..... 1,000,000.00 |
| | being: |
| | To provide for advances to the Saskatchewan Farm Loan Board for the purpose of mak- ing loans to agricul- turists.....\$1,000,000.00 |
| 16. | For Public Works (Chargeable to Revenue)— Administration..... 19,720.00 |
| 17. | For Public Works (Chargeable to Revenue)— Lieutenant Governor's Office..... 8,163.00 |
| 18. | For Public Works (Chargeable to Revenue)— Public Buildings and Institutions (Main- tenance and Administration)..... 1,281,386.00 |
| 19. | For Public Works (Chargeable to Revenue)— Miscellaneous Services..... 24,850.00 |
| 20. | For Public Works (Chargeable to Capital)— Public Buildings (Construction)..... 1,023,200.00 |
| 21. | For Highways—Administration..... 36,630.00 |
| 22. | For Highways—Public Improvements (Charge- able to Revenue)..... 1,538,740.00 |
| 23. | For Highways—Public Improvements (Charge- able to Capital)..... 1,238,000.00 |
| 24. | For Education..... 3,765,690.00 |
| 25. | For Agriculture—Administration..... 50,476.00 |
| 26. | For Agriculture—Assistance to General Agri- cultural Interests..... 173,100.00 |

| | | |
|-----|---|--------------|
| 27. | For Agriculture—Assistance to Live Stock Industry | \$ 62,650.00 |
| 28. | For Agriculture—Assistance to Dairy Industry | 56,400.00 |
| 29. | For Agriculture—Publicity and Statistical Work | 14,200.00 |
| 30. | For Agriculture—Improvement and Protection of Field Crops | 50,000.00 |
| 31. | For Agriculture—Co-operation and Markets | 29,500.00 |
| 32. | For Agriculture—Debt Adjustment Bureau | 13,800.00 |
| 33. | For Agriculture—Administration of the Agricultural Aids Act | 107,000.00 |
| | being: | |
| | To provide for the purchase and sale of live stock | \$75,000.00 |
| | To provide for assistance to agricultural enterprises generally as authorised by the Lieutenant Governor in Council | 25,000.00 |
| | Estimated amount required for interest charges (to be reimbursed) | 7,000.00 |
| 34. | For Municipal | 121,190.00 |
| 35. | For Local Government Board | 35,000.00 |
| 36. | For Public Health | 767,930.00 |
| 37. | For Railways, Labour and Industries | 202,460.00 |
| 38. | For Bureau of Child Protection | 494,830.00 |
| 39. | For Insurance | 13,290.00 |
| 40. | For King's Printer | 32,900.00 |
| 41. | For Bureau of Publications | 75,500.00 |
| 42. | For Civil Service Commissioner's Office | 6,850.00 |
| 43. | For Telephones (Chargeable to Capital) | 500,000.00 |
| 44. | For Telephones (Chargeable to Telephone Revenue) | 2,750,000.00 |

Resolved, That there be granted to His Majesty for the twelve months ending April 30, 1928, the following sums:—

| | | |
|----------|---|--------------|
| Vote No. | | |
| 1. | For Legislation | \$ 2,400.00 |
| 2. | For Executive Council | 8,500.00 |
| 3. | For Treasury—Miscellaneous (Chargeable to Revenue) | 55,208.00 |
| 4. | 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 |

| | | |
|-----|---|-------------|
| 5. | For Public Works (Chargeable to Revenue)— Lieutenant Governor's Office..... | \$ 500.00 |
| | For Public Works (Chargeable to Revenue)— Public Buildings and Institutions (Main- tenance and Administration)..... | 45,500.00 |
| 6. | For Public Works (Chargeable to Revenue)— Miscellaneous Services..... | 8,500.00 |
| 7. | For Highways—Public Improvements (Charge- able to Capital)..... | 100,000.00 |
| 8. | For Education..... | 193,900.00 |
| 9. | For Agriculture—Assistance to General Agri- cultural Interests..... | 35,370.00 |
| 10. | For Agriculture—Assistance to Live Stock Industry..... | 7,970.00 |
| 11. | For Agriculture—Assistance to Dairy Industry | 1,500.00 |
| 12. | For Agriculture—Improvement and Protection of Field Crops..... | 3,000.00 |
| 13. | For Agriculture—Co-operation and Markets.... | 18,000.00 |
| 14. | For Agriculture—Administration of The Agri- cultural Aids Act..... | 10,000.00 |
| | being: | |
| | To provide for the pur- chase and sale of live stock..... | \$10,000.00 |
| 15. | For Municipal..... | 23,000.00 |
| 16. | For Local Government Board..... | 2,250.00 |
| 17. | For Public Health..... | 52,220.00 |
| 18. | For Bureau of Labour and Industries..... | 11,500.00 |
| 19. | For Bureau of Child Protection..... | 32,000.00 |
| 20. | For King's Printer..... | 2,200.00 |
| 21. | For Bureau of Publications..... | 5,000.00 |

Resolved, That there be granted to His Majesty for the twelve months ending April 30, 1928, the following sums:—

| | | |
|----|----------------------------|--------------|
| 1. | For Legislation..... | \$ 15,600.00 |
| 2. | For Executive Council..... | 1,450.00 |

Resolved, That there be granted to His Majesty for the twelve months ending April 30, 1929, the following sums:—

| | | |
|----|----------------------------|--------------|
| 1. | For Legislation..... | \$ 15,600.00 |
| 2. | For Executive Council..... | 8,700.00 |

The said Resolutions were reported, and, by leave of the Assembly, read twice and agreed to.

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, 1928, the sum of one million one hundred and thirty five thousand five hundred and sixty eight 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, 1929, the sum of seventeen million seven hundred and twenty thousand three hundred and thirty eight 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, 1929, the sum of two million seven hundred and fifty thousand 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. Patterson presented Bill No. 88—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, 1928, and the Thirtieth day of April, 1929.

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 the second and third time and passed.

9.30 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, as follows:—

An Act for the Imposition of a Tax on Wild Lands.

An Act respecting Villages.

An Act to provide Scholarships for Canadian Students in Paris.

An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Evidence Act.

An Act to amend The Crop Payments Act.

An Act to amend The Assignment of Book Debts Act, 1927.

- An Act to validate and confirm a Certain Agreement between His Majesty the King in right of Canada, The Saskatchewan Anti-tuberculosis League and His Majesty the King in the right of the Province of Saskatchewan.
- An Act to amend The Timber Taxation Act, 1923.
- An Act respecting the Department of Railways, Labour and Industries.
- An Act to amend The Drainage Act, 1926.
- An Act respecting Open Wells and Other Things Dangerous to Stock.
- An Act to amend The Apiaries Act, 1924.
- An Act to amend The Department of Agriculture Act.
- An Act to validate a Certain Agreement Respecting the Distribution of Relief.
- An Act to amend The Chattel Mortgage Act.
- An Act to amend The Farm Implement Act.
- An Act to amend The Noxious Weeds Act, 1924.
- An Act to amend The Rural Telephone Act.
- An Act for the Licensing of Collection Agents.
- An Act to provide for the Consolidation and Revision of the Statutes of Saskatchewan.
- An Act to amend The Succession Duty Act, 1923.
- An Act to provide for Old Age Pensions.
- An Act to regulate the Operation of Public Vehicles.
- An Act to amend The Civil Service Superannuation Act, 1927.
- An Act to amend The Homesteads Act.
- An Act to amend The Controverted Municipal Elections Act.
- An Act to amend The Stray Animals Act.
- An Act respecting Union Hospitals.
- An Act to amend The Surrogate Courts Act.
- An Act to amend The Executions Act.
- An Act to amend The Legal Profession Act.
- An Act to amend The Municipal Public Works Act.
- An Act to amend The Public Utilities Companies Act.
- An Act to amend The Useful Birds Act.
- An Act to amend The Steam Boilers Act.
- An Act to amend The Vehicles Act, 1924.
- An Act to amend The Trust Companies Act.
- An Act to amend The Corporations Taxation Act.
- An Act respecting Town Planning.
- An Act to amend The Public Libraries Act.
- An Act to amend The Companies Act.
- An Act to amend The Arrears of Taxes Act, 1926.
- An Act respecting the Superannuation of Employees of the Department of Telephones and Telegraphs.
- An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Election Act.
- An Act to amend The Game Act, 1924.
- An Act to provide for the Imposition and Collection of a Tax on Purchasers of Gasoline.
- An Act to amend The King's Bench Act.
- An Act to amend The Creditors Relief Act, 1923.
- An Act to amend The Threshers' Lien Act, 1925.

- An Act to amend The Child Welfare Act, 1927.
- An Act to amend The City Act, 1926.
- An Act to amend The Conditional Sales Act.
- An Act to amend The Land Titles Act.
- An Act respecting the Dental Profession of Saskatchewan.
- An Act to amend The Executive Council Act.
- An Act to amend The School Act.
- An Act to amend The Secondary Education Act.
- An Act to amend The Public Health Act, 1924.
- An Act to amend The Rural Municipality Act.
- An Act to amend The Town Act, 1927.
- An Act respecting Horticultural Societies.
- An Act to amend The School Assessment Act.
- An Act to amend The Local Improvement Districts Act, 1927.
- An Act respecting Co-operative Associations.
- An Act to interpret Statutory References to the Saskatchewan Provincial Police.
- An Act to amend The District Courts Act.
- An Act to amend The Companies Winding Up Act.
- An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Insurance Act, 1925.
- An Act to amend the Optometry Act, 1924.
- An Act respecting Agricultural Representatives.
- An Act to make Uniform the Law respecting the Devolution of the Real Property of Deceased Persons.
- An Act to make Uniform the Law respecting the Distribution of Estates of Intestates.
- An Act to amend The Liquor Act, 1925.
- An Act to amend The Trustee Act.
- An Act to amend The Interpretation Act.
- An Act to provide for the Education of Deaf and Blind Persons.
- An Act to amend The School Grants Act, 1920.
- An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited.
- An Act to amend The School Attendance Act.
- An Act to amend The Highways Act.
- An Act to amend The Sheep Protection and Dog Licensing Act, 1927.
- An Act to amend The Legislative Assembly Act.
- An Act to amend The Public Inquiries Act.
- An Act to validate certain Renewal Statements filed for the Purposes of The Chattel Mortgage Act.
- An Act to confirm a certain Bylaw of the City of Regina and a certain Agreement entered into between the City of Regina and P. Burns & Company, Limited.
- An Act to incorporate the Herbert Bible School Association.
- An Act to amend An Act to incorporate United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, Limited.
- An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs de l'Enfant Jesus du Puy.
- An Act to provide Exemptions from Taxation upon Certain Lands to Les Soeurs de Notre Dame de la Croix.
- An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Insurance Agents' Association.

An Act to ratify a Certain Agreement between the City of Moose Jaw and the Moose Jaw Electric Railway Company, Limited.

An Act to incorporate The Prairie Driving Club, 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.

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, 1928, and the Thirtieth day of April, 1929,” 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 GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:

Having completed the labours 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 enactments which you have passed to provide for the better education of our people should meet with approval and bring forth beneficial results.

The provision made for the organisation of Health Districts should improve the physical condition of our citizens.

Legislation providing for the appointment of Agricultural Representatives, the control of power development, and the new Department of Railways, Labour and Industries should assist in further improving the economic standing of the Province.

The means which you have placed at the disposal of the Government for the provision of better roads within the Province should assist in bringing about conditions under which the social and business life of our people will be greatly improved.

Many other matters of great importance have had your attention from which the Province will receive benefit.

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 in the public interest.

In taking leave of you, I desire to thank you for the manner in which you have devoted your energy to all the activities of the Session and to wish you the full blessing of Providence as you return again to your respective homes.

The Hon. Mr. Latta, the 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.

W. G. ROBINSON,
Speaker.

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TO

JOURNALS

SESSION 1928

THIRD SESSION, SIXTH 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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Third Session of the Sixth

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

OF THE

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

SESSION 1928

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



REGINA:

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SESSIONAL PAPERS

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 8.

SYNOPSIS OF REPORT OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD OF SASKATCHEWAN.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1927.

REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN, *January 12, 1928.*

HONOURABLE J. G. GARDINER,
President of the Executive Council,
Regina, Saskatchewan.

SIR,—A review of the work of The Local Government Board for the year just ended shows an improved and decidedly advanced condition in Saskatchewan's municipal and school institutions, as well as in its several rural telephone companies. Heavy reductions in debenture indebtedness are an encouraging feature, while in practically all applications there is seen an element of caution in undertaking financial burdens which are not repayable during the current year, which attitude, if continued, must prove beneficial to the borrowing local authority. As an instance of improved conditions, reference may be made to a press dispatch of about two months ago, which indicated that a rural municipality in the southern part of the province had shown in 1922 a deficit of \$38,000. This condition has so changed in five years that in October, 1927, there was a liquid surplus of approximately \$70,000. At the end of the previous year there were total liabilities amounting to \$57.95, while the cash balance at the same time amounted to \$20,792. This is mentioned as a sample of substantial prosperity. A casual reference to the daily press shows that it is one of many.

The creating of fifty-seven school districts during 1927 resulted in the necessity of many new school buildings, which, as a matter of course, could not be paid for in one year. The amount of debenture indebtedness allowed for each of these depended upon the paying ability of the district concerned, as well as the number of pupils likely to require tuition. But generally the type of school building erected is constructed with a view to the greater comfort of the children, as well as to securing an improved style of architecture. Particulars of the authorisations granted to school districts appear in another portion of this report. There are now 4,777 school districts in the province, and from any of them at any time may come a request for permission to issue debentures, either for a new school or other capital expenditure.

So completely is Saskatchewan served with telephone systems that the number of applications to borrow by way of debenture

for new rural telephone lines is small, compared with the corresponding number of ten years ago. Proposals to borrow money by way of debenture during the last year were largely for extensions to existing systems. In dealing with desires to undertake capital loans, the Local Government Board has regard to the record of the community's ability to promptly pay taxes. As a matter of fact, the Board takes into consideration this vital factor in deciding on all applications, for if a local authority cannot meet the burdens it already has it is not safe to allow a further load.

Few rural municipalities borrow by way of debenture, so sufficient are the funds from the annual current levy of these three hundred and one rural municipal institutions. Debentures issued by this class of local authority are particularly valuable, so substantial is the security behind them and so wide is the margin between the paying ability and the limit of the borrowing power. The latter is restricted to \$3,000 per township, or, in other words, thirty-six square miles may become security for a rural municipal indebtedness of not more than \$3,000. Even under these circumstances not one rural municipality is near to the limit of its borrowing power.

Villages in their growth naturally require capital funds soon after their creation. Among the first essentials of these smaller municipal incorporations are a good water supply and fire-fighting equipment. Sidewalks and grading of streets follow. As indicated in the schedule to this report, a number of older villages have sought and secured permission to borrow by way of debenture sufficient to install electric lighting systems. A consent in a case of this kind is issued under the plain condition that the rates charged for electric current must be such that they will meet all debenture and operating charges, thus making the system self-supporting. As the plants are of necessity limited in their output, owing to the comparatively small number of consumers, the rate per kilowatt hour is frequently high in these isolated power units.

Particulars of the town and city applications, with the authorisations granted, are set out later in this report. The requirements in these cases were principally for street improvements, drainage, and water and electric light extensions.

Advantage of *The Union Hospital Act* has not been taken to any large extent during 1927. As mentioned in previous reports, different causes are ascribed for this fact, the more outstanding being the fear of heavy taxation on the part of the ratepayers, the difficulty in deciding on the town or village in which the hospital should be built and the lack of information as to the manner in which a municipal union hospital is organised, established and managed. The communities which have the benefit of these hospitals, however, can testify as to their value.

In the last report issued by The Local Government Board mention was made of the favourable prices offered for municipal and school debentures and the eagerness with which these were absorbed, not only by the debenture market but by local investors.

In 1927 this state of affairs has become even more pronounced. Municipalities and school districts are securing their capital funds at a rate much lower than at any previous stage of their existence. Prospective investors complain of the difficulty in securing investments in Saskatchewan's municipal and school issues, so keen is the demand for them.

The fortunate state of municipal and school sinking funds throughout Saskatchewan is another feature which deserves more than a passing reference. As mentioned in previous reports, the sinking fund method of borrowing money is allowed only in cities and towns and in the cities' related school districts. The Local Government Board is not favourably disposed towards the adopting by towns of the sinking fund method of borrowing money. The annuity or instalment plan of repaying debenture loans has been found preferable for all local authorities, excepting where it is possible to establish the proper and ready administration of the creating and investing of a sinking fund. In many instances it is decidedly better for the borrowing authority to face its creditor at least once a year. However, the condition of the sinking funds, where allowed, is satisfactory.

Section 378 (5) of *The City Act*, and its corresponding section in *The Town Act*, provides that "no part of the moneys at the credit of the sinking fund account shall be invested in any securities, whether by the council itself or by sinking fund trustees, without the previous approval of the Local Government Board to such investment." In this connection it may be mentioned that of the surpluses in their respective sinking funds the City of Regina was, early last year, allowed to use for current purposes \$65,000.00, Saskatoon \$50,000.00, Moose Jaw \$25,000.00. This happy condition resulting from carefully guarded investments of sinking funds has meant not only assurance of meeting all obligations at the maturing date, but has meant relief to the current tax rate. These surpluses are not paid out until substantial reserves are first established. Lighter interest rates on the usual securities in which sinking funds are invested will mean that surpluses so substantial can scarcely be expected during the next few years.

Examples of successful administration of the sinking fund are also found in statements just to hand from Saskatchewan's two largest cities. Reports covering this subject are not yet received from the remaining five cities for the calendar year recently closed. Those given, however, indicate that the sinking funds concerned are in a decidedly healthy state. Of \$4,166,605.04 invested by Regina, only \$2.82 arrears are shown at the end of the year. This small sum is made up of \$1.92 overdue interest and 90 cents exchange. In Saskatoon, whose investments aggregate \$3,326,225.84, all payments due to the sinking fund, either in the shape of principal or interest, are fully met. A record of this kind is unique in municipal financing. Of Regina's total investments, it will be noted that the sum of \$2,334,501.10, or over 50 per cent., is invested in Saskatchewan's municipal, school and rural telephone securities. Of Saskatoon's investments, the sum of \$933,486.74 represents the investment in municipal, school and rural telephone

debentures of the province. The fact stands out that the municipalities, school districts and rural telephone companies of Saskatchewan which are indebted to these sinking funds have promptly met (with the exception of \$2.82) all their payments. The following is supplied by the two cities mentioned:

SINKING FUND INVESTMENTS AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1927.

Regina:

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Province of Saskatchewan Debentures..... | \$1,282,049.82 |
| Province of Saskatchewan Registered Stock..... | 139,550.28 |
| Province of Saskatchewan Drainage..... | 23,590.28 |
| Province of Saskatchewan Farm Loans..... | 155,888.86 |
| Province of Saskatchewan G.T.P. Guarantee..... | 4,513.76 |
| Province of Alberta..... | 96,523.01 |
| Province of British Columbia..... | 110,759.91 |
| Province of New Brunswick..... | 3,780.37 |
| Dominion of Canada..... | 15,447.65 |
| City of Regina Bonds..... | 28,219.68 |
| Rural Telephones..... | 1,032,446.00 |
| Saskatchewan municipalities..... | 7,574.02 |
| Saskatchewan villages..... | 402.68 |
| School districts..... | 1,065,858.72 |
| Total..... | \$4,166,605.04 |

Saskatoon:

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Province of Saskatchewan..... | \$846,872.03 |
| Province of British Columbia..... | 339,217.17 |
| Province of Alberta..... | 844,258.88 |
| Province of Ontario..... | 80,152.08 |
| Dominion of Canada..... | 182,399.64 |
| Canadian N.W. Railway guaranteed by Province of Alberta..... | 40,415.35 |
| Saskatchewan School Districts..... | 6,061.15 |
| Vancouver and District Sewer and Drainage guaranteed by Province of British Columbia..... | 59,423.95 |
| Saskatchewan Rural Telephones..... | 37,746.21 |
| City of Saskatoon..... | 889,679.38 |
| Total..... | \$3,326,225.84 |

ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

The advisory committee of the Local Government Board consists of Mr. G. H. Hummell, president of the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities, and Mr. O. J. Godfrey, F.C.A., a past president of the Union of Saskatchewan Municipalities. These organisations are representative of the rural and urban municipal institutions of the province. The committee meets from time to time with the three members of the Local Government Board to discuss the work and general policy of the Board and other matters pertaining to its activities.

Following are the minutes of two conferences held in the year 1927:

June 13, 1927.

"Pursuant to notices to members of the Advisory Committee, appointed under section 6 of *The Local Government Board Act*, Mr. O. J. Godfrey, F.C.A., representative of the Union of Saskatchewan Municipalities, and Mr. G. H. Hummell, president of

The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities, which organisation appointed him its representative on the advisory committee, appeared with the Local Government Board for advisory and consultation purposes.

The first topic introduced was the marked improvement in tax collections throughout the province, as shown by reports from the majority of municipalities and school districts. This happy condition was accepted as one substantial reason for the improvement of the credit of our municipal and school institutions and the resulting better prices obtained for their debentures when placed on the market. It was mentioned during the discussion that much depends on the tax collector in the municipality as to getting the average ratepayer accustomed to paying his taxes while current. Members of the committee agreed that probably rural collections are better than urban. A reason for this was suggested in the fact that the influence of the useless subdivision is not yet over and that owners of subdivision lots are still hesitating as to the wisdom of paying taxes longer on their holdings in such subdivisions. The representative of the Union of Saskatchewan Municipalities intimated that he was in charge of the audit of many municipalities, and that in the majority of these it is unusual to find any valuable property actually passing from the ownership of the assessed person as a result of tax sale. It was mentioned that in farming areas more than 95 per cent. of the land sold for arrears of taxes is redeemed.

When dealing with improved credits and interest rates members of the committee agreed that prices for municipal and school securities were even better than when the advisory committee last met, and that never before in the history of the Local Government Board had municipal and school securities received a better reception on the market. Rural school districts are receiving premiums on $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. debentures; villages are floating debentures at less than 6 per cent. while towns are paying from $5\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. to 6 per cent., and one of the cities had sold its debentures within recent months at a yield rate of 5.03 per cent. Mr. Godfrey asserted that another cause for this fortunate scale of prices is the "plethora" of funds now in the hands of the public seeking investment. None could recall any time at which the margin between municipal debentures and provincial debentures was so narrow.

Debentures for fire-fighting apparatus and other improvements in hamlets formed the next item for discussion. The representative of The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities intimated that not in his experience had he seen permanent loans incurred for the purposes mentioned in hamlets being made from current account. It was thought that the stage of the hamlet just before it developed into a village sometimes called for permanent improvements, such as a water supply and fire protection for the buildings. Rural municipalities, however, had found financing so easy during the last few years that generally they are not now inclined to issue debentures.

Municipal ownership of utilities compared with the granting of franchises to companies was then dealt with at length. The topic was opportune since there are representatives of power companies now in Saskatchewan endeavouring to secure franchises from municipalities for the purpose of supplying light and power. The existence of a power commission appointed last fall by the provincial government also made the discussion on this question timely. Generally, municipal ownership has been favoured in Saskatchewan for many years, partially due to the fact that companies did not wish to invest money in this particular line, and, except in the larger centres, there was no person or corporation other than the municipality itself which could and would secure the funds necessary for the enterprise. However, the coming report of the power commission, with the possibility of lower rates, and the fact that there is much money for investment, means that the question of cheaper power is now to the fore. It was reported that in the towns of Watrous and Biggar electric lighting franchises had been acquired by an Edmonton company, but neither of these towns had a municipal utility, and there was nothing to prevent the arrangement from taking immediate effect in these cases. Section 265 (a) of *The Town Act* was referred to, and herein it was shown that until amending legislation is passed a town having a municipal utility could not grant a franchise to a company for the installation of a similar plant. It was agreed that the Local Government Board had no direct connection with the granting or withholding of a franchise, but it desired to see in every case where debentures had been issued for the purpose of acquiring the utility that the repayment of such debentures would be protected and that the amount of money required to meet the coupons as they fell due should not be borne by the ratepayers at large, but should continue to be met by those using the electric current. A proper adjustment of this matter might be made by having the purchasing company charge a slightly higher rate when it takes over the power scheme of a municipality along with the plant and the debenture indebtedness. Caution in the matter of granting a municipal franchise to any company, and thus tying up to a stated rate per K.W.H., was mentioned as being necessary, for in case a town undertook an agreement of the kind with one company a larger one spreading its power wires over a greater area might soon afterwards offer a lower rate, when the town could not accept it as a result of being under agreement by way of a franchise.

All members present agreed that both the urban and rural communities were interested in this new development for power, because farmers would be canvassed to connect with the current for their homes and buildings in those areas between centres. Further, the councils of rural municipalities would be approached for permission to cross or to build power lines along highways. The representative of the Union of Saskatchewan Municipalities stated that this topic was one of the most important that had yet come before the advisory committee. The debenture feature, however, is the only one so far with which the Local Government Board is connected. The towns would be left to themselves in deciding on the

granting of franchises. The Local Government Board's policy, however, is to assist the municipality and, when asked, to give advice and to lay facts before its representatives desiring any suggestion along these lines. In every case members of municipal councils are enjoined to exercise caution. It was agreed that the low rates offered by the power companies are decidedly attractive, as well as the relief to be secured by getting rid of the debenture indebtedness incurred for the securing of current.

The gravelling of roads and highways in municipalities from the proceeds of debentures formed the next topic. The representative of the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities stated that to attempt to gravel all the roads by way of debenture, or otherwise, would prove a burden too heavy for the average rural municipality. He was not favourable to exhausting the borrowing power for a purpose of the kind and was of the opinion that good roads and highways could be secured only by constant work and endeavour covering several years. The representative of the Union of Saskatchewan Municipalities suggested that gravel might be secured for the provincial highways only, but that in no case should the debenture term exceed ten years. The proximity to gravel pits had much to do with the possibility of gravelling roads and streets, either from current funds or from debenture proceeds.

The members of the advisory committee were assured that the policy of the Local Government Board had always been that the borrowing power should never be wholly exhausted, as a wide margin is always left for any emergency which might arise, as, for instance, the destruction of bridges by floods.

The fact that requests are commonly received from smaller urban municipalities for permission to issue debentures for the purpose of securing a hall or a general meeting place, apart from municipal requirements, was discussed at some length. It was explained that the Local Government Board had taken the ground that village and town funds should not be used for amusement halls or general meeting places, although it always recognised the necessity of supplying the town clerk or village secretary treasurer with proper quarters for carrying on his work and for meeting places for the council. The desirability of supplying a rest room, and shelter for fire-fighting equipment was also mentioned. Mr. Hummell stated that a hall or meeting place had been constructed in his nearest town by a man who borrowed funds from the citizens of the town for the purpose of erecting an entertainment hall. These funds, with voluntary labour contributed, resulted in a commodious place now existing for public meetings. The amounts borrowed from the citizens were gradually paid back from rental receipts earned by the hall.

Recreation grounds for municipalities generally were next discussed. It was agreed that where actually desirable debentures might be issued for the securing of land for the purpose, but in practically no case is an area of more than 20 acres required. An arrangement whereby the agricultural society should use the recreation grounds was mentioned by Mr. Hummell as being advantageous.

Sometimes a building to be used by the agricultural society in the summer would be useful as a skating rink in the winter. The case of Maryfield, which had secured \$3,000 for the old skating rink, had sold 200 life memberships to people of the community for another \$3,000, and thus gained a government grant of \$1,500, was spoken of as an example of financing which resulted in a good skating rink and agricultural building at the same time.

The construction of school buildings was the next topic. The advisory committee was not favourable to the use of brick veneer, in fact doubted if it is as satisfactory as a good frame construction. Stucco is becoming more popular and where tried on school buildings seems to have given satisfaction so far. The debenture term of fifteen years for good frame or stucco buildings, with basement, was deemed to be a proper term.

The satisfactory condition of the sinking funds of Saskatchewan's urban institutions generally was commented upon as a matter for gratification. In view of debentures generally bearing a smaller yield rate, the heavy surpluses experienced in past years could not be expected to continue. Mr. Godfrey reiterated his conviction expressed at a previous meeting, that where towns and cities are allowed to use sinking fund surpluses for current or other expenditure such disbursements should be restricted to those of a capital or permanent nature only, as the funds are secured really from capital undertakings.

All present agreed that good concrete cement sidewalks should last at least fifteen years and that the debenture term should correspond. It was stated, however, that in some soils these sidewalks easily lasted twenty years when properly laid, and that in such cases the debenture term might be extended over that period.

The meeting was then adjourned."

December 15, 1927.

"The first topic discussed was the desirability of village school districts securing financial assistance from rural school districts surrounding, in an effort to give secondary education for the benefit of the pupils in the entire community. An instance was cited in which a village school district had entered into an agreement with four nearby rural school districts to give tuition in advanced classes to the children of the rural areas concerned at a definite cost per quarter section. The advisory committee thought the arrangement to be generally advantageous, particularly so where the maximum of fees allowed would not nearly meet the capital and current costs of the additional class rooms necessary. By this means the scholars are kept at home under the guidance of their parents, and, as the representative of The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities pointed out, it was another example where co-operation in the community proved of decided benefit.

The tendency in some few instances to undertake heavy expenditures for the renovation of, or addition to, an old school

building was the next subject. It was agreed that it is very doubtful economy to expend as high as \$2,000.00 in an effort to improve a one-roomed frame building, which has long out-lived the term of its original debenture, when the expenditure would result only in a building which could not be classed as modern, although costing nearly as much. All were of the opinion, however, that a great deal depended upon the financial ability of the school district undertaking the loan, for some might be able to raise \$2,000.00 for alterations and improvements which could not with safety undertake the debt required for an entirely new and modern building. The Local Government Board had encouraged many village and town districts to start the development by commencing with one new unit or a plan providing for extensions to which additions might be made as necessity arose and their paying ability advanced. While enjoining school districts to conserve their resources and to make no unnecessary expenditure, the Local Government Board also desired to keep the local authority free from false economy. Mr. Godfrey suggested that the policy of the Local Government Board in considering expenditures might be harmonised with the condition now existing wherein the price of materials is lower than in 1919-21, and the cost of borrowed money is likewise decreased. Regarding the erection of buildings generally, it was mentioned that as lumber is even yet comparatively high, and may be higher, in price, an effort might be made by the manufacturers of brick to produce a type that would render buildings constructed of brick cheaper than those built of lumber.

The areas of school districts as they affect debenture loans, and the general paying ability of such districts, were then discussed. It was shown that in some municipalities which had been practically all organised as rural school districts a railway would enter, which would mean that stations and new community and business centres were speedily established. These centres would develop into hamlets or villages, and the desire for a school would follow. To form the new district would mean the withdrawal of certain areas from rural school districts, and as the latter would give up its assessable lands, naturally with reluctance, the result is that some of the later districts surrounding railway stations are small. This might appear on the surface to be a lessening of the security on the part of the rural school districts concerned. On the other hand the very advent of the railway means that as the value of land rises farming conditions become better, and the ratepayers are thereby enabled to pay their taxes more easily. Mr. Godfrey thought that, generally speaking, the security of local authorities should not be lessened to any extent without a reference to the Local Government Board. However, no serious results along these lines had yet occurred, while all authorities were seized with the necessity of keeping intact the security pledged for a debenture loan.

As at a similar meeting held a year ago, the advisory committee agreed with the Local Government Board that *The Union Hospital Act* should be revised and consolidated. It was reported that action of the kind was under contemplation, and the necessity of having an Act that would be more understandable by all concerned

would be a decided help in the further development of union municipal hospitals. Once again the old question as to why this act was not taken advantage of more generally came up for comment. The representative of the Union of Saskatchewan Municipalities, who audits the books of many rural as well as urban municipalities, said that more than once he had found a report current to the effect that the present union hospital Act is something for doctors only and for their convenience. The bringing in of all patients to some centre means less trouble for the medical practitioner, according to statements made. On the other hand, it was pointed out that a patient can get, as a rule, better treatment in an hospital than in his or her own home. However, Mr. Godfrey mentioned this as one cause for the establishment of comparatively few union hospitals, although the legislation has been in effect for over ten years. The advisory committee was not favourably disposed towards free hospitals and were decidedly opposed to a scheme whereby the expenses of a patient coming from a free hospital district should be paid at a hospital outside the district by the local municipality or district concerned. The committee decided to interview the Minister of Public Health relative to their views on the present Hospital Act.

It was readily agreed that the payment of taxes by the Federal Government on soldier settlement lands is generally beneficial to all rural municipalities concerned, assisting them and their related school districts, rural telephone companies and hospital districts in the meeting of debenture loans. Mr. Hummell, the representative of The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities, explained that the Federal Government had not yet agreed to pay taxes on Crown lands which had never been in any other classification, but an agreement had been reached whereby the Dominion Government would pay taxes on those lands which had been purchased from private holders by Federal authorities for the purpose of having them occupied by soldier settlers. It was recognised that in the first place the taxing authority had lost nothing by the soldiers taking up the property, whereas in the last case a previous source of taxes had been taken away.

The present fortunate condition in the debenture situation generally was next a subject of happy comment. Authorities issuing debentures were securing their money at exceptionally low rates, and so eagerly are Saskatchewan's municipal, school, rural telephone and hospital district debentures sought that it is hard indeed to purchase any, there being no such securities seeking for buyers.

The fact that four or more companies are now in Saskatchewan endeavouring to secure light and power franchises from municipalities in various parts of the province was the next topic. It resulted in a lengthy discussion. The representative of the Union of Saskatchewan Municipalities was of the opinion that a tribunal for governing rates should be established by the province. He pointed out that besides protecting municipalities from undue charges an authority of the kind would be a medium through which

disputes might be amicably and finally settled. The advisory committee also thought that where urban municipalities were selling their plants reference might be made to the Local Government Board in order that the latter might insist that the debenture indebtedness would be wholly protected in the agreement. The fact was brought out that in every case the council seemed to be alive to the necessity of having the purchase price include the debentures. All reported offers so far had a definite reference to debenture indebtedness, and the councils in each case seemed alive to the making of a beneficial arrangement. The advisory committee thought, however, that it would be well for the Local Government Board to be consulted in every case where there are debentures still to be met. Mr. Godfrey held that no franchise should be given for a period longer than twenty years, and that provision should be made for a rate revision every five years. He reported, as a resident of Indian Head, that the town had sold for cash its electric lighting plant and that ample provision had been made for caring for the debenture indebtedness by the purchasing company. He stated that the neighbouring town of Wolseley had also granted a franchise and received a price which meant that it actually had a surplus which he thought should be spent or invested under the direction of the Local Government Board. While no general declaration was made by the advisory committee on the merits of municipal ownership, as opposed to private ownership, it seemed to be agreed that in the smaller centres it is more beneficial to the consumer for franchises to be given to private companies when such centres can be part of a general electric lighting system covering a large area of the province. Power lines reaching from well populated cities or towns can supply to others, as a rule, electric current at a much cheaper rate than isolated plants where the consumption of power is limited. Mr. Godfrey stated, and all agreed, that the smaller villages and towns do not have experts to look after their plants, which fact so often results in loss. The possibility of the establishment of one or more power systems owned either by private companies, municipalities or the Government was looked forward to as a possible means of a reduction in the cost of living and in the supplying of conveniences to agriculturists throughout the province. The advisory committee intimated that the report of the Provincial Power Commission is awaited with interest.

The fact that lower interest yields on securities generally prevail should be taken as a warning to cities and towns that their sinking fund investments cannot show the same interest earnings as heretofore. It was agreed that those with surpluses should ever keep in view the possibility of their sinking funds failing to secure investments so profitable as they are even now.

The last subject brought up for discussion was the question of the keeping of country roads open for motor traffic in winter. Mr. Hummell stated that the demand for roads made passable for automobiles is one that is growing, and that the road-makers of the province would do well to give the matter close attention. He stated that in the vicinity of Abernethy a twelve-foot grader had been

used to clear the road of snow and that in the case cited the depression was not so narrow that snow gathered. It was agreed that when the travelled portion of the road is kept high the snow has a tendency to blow across without remaining on the highway. In the discussion it was mentioned that a packer had been used with good results in various instances. The question, however, is not sufficiently advanced to call for the issue of debentures, but is one that is much to the fore at present and promises to be one of vital import in the near future.

The meeting then adjourned."

ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER PLANTS IN MUNICIPALITIES.

Previous to 1927 it was quite uncommon for electric light and power plants in our cities, towns and villages to be other than municipally owned. Last year, however, at least four companies, each of which had in view the supplying of electric current, began activities in the province with a view to securing franchises. In several instances steps to this end were completed so far as possible, particularly in those cases where the company was in a position to supply light at a rate lower than could be furnished by the isolated municipal plant. Where a franchise is granted to a company by a municipality the people themselves by their votes invariably decide on the proposal. The Local Government Board has had no connection with their decisions in matters of the kind, but it has always requested, where instances were brought to its attention, that no matter what the details of the purchase might be the debenture indebtedness incurred for the municipal lighting plant should be protected. That is to say, where municipal debentures had been issued for the purpose of securing the present electric lighting plant, and their repayment depended on the earnings of such plant, the Local Government Board deemed it advisable to have the purchase price by the company take care of the outstanding debentures, without placing a burden on the general tax payers. In every case which has come to the attention of the Local Government Board the councils of municipalities arranging for the sale of franchises have had the protection of the debenture in mind. The policy of having the users of the electric current pay for the same, without dependence on the general taxation powers, is conceded to be advisable.

Municipalities generally have been advised to make haste slowly in borrowing money for the purpose of establishing isolated plants, particularly so in view of the possibility of much lower rates resulting from large power schemes which might connect centres and serve as well the agricultural communities between.

Another reason for caution at this time in the borrowing of money for electric lighting plants is the expected report from the Saskatchewan Power Commission, which has been making investigations during 1927.

It would appear that there is a strong possibility of cheaper electric power in Saskatchewan within the next few years. Herein

no attempt is made to comment on the development of Saskatchewan's water powers, but it is a subject brought to the fore in the discussion of possibly large province-wide electrical schemes.

In connection with this topic, it may be further added that one of the companies at least, in discussing its objects, intimated that it would desire a central tribunal of some kind to control rates, or before whom appeals in connection with a variation of rates might be laid for final and independent judgment. It was pointed out by the representative of the said company that a body of the kind would be of assistance in settling promptly possible disputes which might arise between the municipality and the franchise holder.

In concluding this subject, it may be stated that any proper methods which will lighten the debenture burden of our cities, towns and villages should receive close and earnest attention by the local officials concerned.

THE SASKATCHEWAN CO-OPERATIVE CREAMERIES, LIMITED.

By virtue of an amendment to the Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited, which became effective on the first day of March last, and which provided for the purchase of Caulder's Creameries, Limited, by The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited, an additional duty was placed on the Local Government Board, for after the date mentioned the Act concerned provides that "the company shall not acquire by purchase, lease or otherwise any additional plant other than that in operation at the date of the amalgamation, nor shall it make any capital expenditure, nor shall it make any purchase of finished products of any description in which the company deals without the consent in writing of the Local Government Board: Provided that the board may from time to time give general consents with respect to capital expenditures of the purchase of finished products, and may vary, alter or revoke the same." This added responsibility has increased the labours of the Local Government Board, and the correspondence in connection therewith has not been light. Further comment in this report will not be made, as the results of the year's operations of the said company are not yet available.

AUTHORISATION OF THE ISSUE OF DEBENTURES.

A larger number of authorisations of the issue of debentures have been granted than for some years past. Notwithstanding this there is evidence of careful economy in determining requirements by the applicant local authorities, all of which appear anxious to avoid incurring obligations except as absolute necessity demands.

Particulars of applications and the manner in which they were dealt with by the Board are given in the following statements and are further detailed in the schedules attached hereto.

Cities.

The following comparative statement shows that capital expenditure in cities has been kept approximately at the same level as last year. With the exception of the sum of \$180,000.00 for hospital extensions all of the borrowings were for utilities, street improvements and works of a similar nature. Last year public buildings took \$656,000.00 of the \$1,184,020.40 authorised.

| Purpose | 1927 | | 1926 | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| | Number of authorisations | Amount | Number of authorisations | Amount |
| Hospital extensions..... | 2 | \$180,000.00 | 2 | \$400,000.00 |
| Street railway extensions.... | 2 | 192,000.00 | .. | ..... |
| Pavements..... | 4 | 340,090.41 | 1 | 6,500.00 |
| Boulevards..... | 3 | 25,754.33 | 1 | 165.65 |
| Water house connections.... | 3 | 39,846.23 | 2 | 25,802.00 |
| Sewer house connections.... | 5 | 40,693.77 | 1 | 12,000.00 |
| Concrete walks..... | 9 | 88,869.70 | 8 | 31,548.97 |
| Water main extensions..... | 7 | 56,756.43 | 7 | 73,565.18 |
| Sewer main extensions..... | 6 | 50,861.19 | 4 | 12,171.50 |
| Gravelling streets..... | 3 | 20,474.12 | 4 | 76,974.00 |
| Storm sewers..... | 1 | 25,475.00 | 1 | 51,200.00 |
| Comfort station..... | 1 | 15,000.00 | .. | ..... |
| Electric light extensions.... | 1 | 40,000.00 | 2 | 205,000.00 |
| Water meters..... | 1 | 7,500.00 | 1 | 5,000.00 |
| Collegiate Institute..... | .. | ..... | 3 | 250,000.00 |
| Street crossings..... | .. | ..... | 1 | 2,500.00 |
| Traffic bridge..... | .. | ..... | 1 | 5,000.00 |
| Fire equipment..... | .. | ..... | 1 | 17,000.00 |
| Plank walks..... | .. | ..... | 1 | 9,593.10 |
| | 48 | \$1,123,321.18 | 41 | \$1,184,020.40 |

See Schedule "A."

Towns.

Fifteen authorisations were granted to towns, amounting to \$141,900.00, as compared with eleven in 1926 totalling \$66,600.00. The increase is due principally to five authorisations for electric light and power, amounting to \$88,500.00. Aside from this there was not a great difference in capital borrowings between this and the previous year.

| Purpose | 1927 | | 1926 | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| | Number of authorisations | Amount | Number of authorisations | Amount |
| Skating and curling rinks.... | 2 | \$ 7,700.00 | 3 | \$17,000.00 |
| Electric light..... | 5 | 88,500.00 | .. | ..... |
| Municipal building..... | 1 | 18,000.00 | .. | ..... |
| Hospital..... | 1 | 3,000.00 | .. | ..... |
| Fire fighting apparatus..... | 2 | 3,800.00 | .. | ..... |
| Concrete walks..... | 3 | 17,900.00 | 3 | 10,000.00 |
| Water supply..... | 1 | 3,000.00 | .. | ..... |
| Municipal hall and fire equipment..... | .. | ..... | 1 | 11,500.00 |
| Fire hall..... | .. | ..... | 1 | 5,000.00 |
| Sewers..... | .. | ..... | 2 | 19,100.00 |
| Agricultural building and skating rink..... | .. | ..... | 1 | 4,000.00 |
| | 15 | \$141,900.00 | 11 | \$66,600.00 |

See Schedule "B."

Villages.

Forty-three applications were received amounting to \$154,859.00. Of these, 9 aggregating \$35,150.00 were refused and reductions of \$11,800.00 were made in 6, making net authorisations as shown below:

| Purpose | 1927 | | 1926 | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| | Number of authorisations | Amount | Number of authorisations | Amount |
| Electric light..... | 4 | \$30,300.00 | 4 | \$22,300.00 |
| Concrete walks..... | 15 | 46,444.00 | 13 | 30,000.00 |
| Plank walks..... | 1 | 1,500.00 | 3 | 3,800.00 |
| Water supply..... | 2 | 3,000.00 | 4 | 7,100.00 |
| Curling and skating rinks.... | 2 | 8,000.00 | 3 | 9,000.00 |
| Municipal buildings..... | 4 | 11,500.00 | 1 | 3,000.00 |
| Fire equipment..... | 2 | 3,200.00 | 1 | 1,500.00 |
| Recreation grounds..... | 1 | 765.00 | 1 | 1,650.00 |
| Street grading..... | 1 | 1,500.00 | .. | ..... |
| Hospital grant..... | 1 | 500.00 | .. | ..... |
| Drainage..... | 1 | 1,200.00 | .. | ..... |
| | 34 | \$107,909.00 | 30 | \$78,350.00 |

For details see Schedule "C."

Rural Municipalities.

The practice of borrowing by way of debenture has never been followed to any great extent by rural municipalities, and this year has not been an exception to the rule.

Only four authorisations were granted amounting to \$35,000.00; while one of \$20,000.00 was refused:

| Purpose | 1927 | | 1926 | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| | Number of authorisations | Amount | Number of authorisations | Amount |
| Municipal buildings..... | 2 | \$20,000.00 | 4 | \$ 9,500.00 |
| Public highways..... | 1 | 5,000.00 | 1 | 7,000.00 |
| Hospital contributions..... | 1 | 10,000.00 | .. | ..... |
| | 4 | \$35,000.00 | 5 | \$16,500.00 |

Details are given in Schedule "D."

School Districts.

In 1926 borrowings by school districts showed a considerable increase compared with both 1925 and 1924.

The year 1927 shows a still greater increase. As a large part of the expenditure for school purposes is made in rural districts it is reasonable to conclude that increased activities in this direction are at least to some extent the result of improved financial conditions throughout the rural parts of the province; especially so when it is considered that delays in the payment of debenture coupons are now of rare occurrence.

The following table shows the number and amount of applications received as compared with last year. It will be noted that new schools constructed exceed those in 1926 by over 100 per cent., while authorisations for all other purposes are practically the same.

| Objects stated in bylaws | 1927 | | | | 1926 | | | |
|--|------|----------------|------------------------|----------|------|----------------|------------------------|-----------|
| | No. | Amount | Defeated by ratepayers | | No. | Amount | Defeated by ratepayers | |
| | | | No. | Amount | | | No. | Amount |
| New schools..... | 156 | \$1,412,423.25 | 10 | \$40,600 | 134 | \$636,420.00 | 15 | \$69,500 |
| New schools and teachers' residences..... | .. | ..... | .. | ..... | 5 | 38,450.00 | .. | ..... |
| Additions to buildings..... | 36 | 196,450.00 | 3 | 13,800 | 44 | 220,450.00 | 5 | 13,800 |
| Teachers' residences..... | 25 | 23,400.00 | 2 | 2,100 | 7 | 7,660.00 | 2 | 2,200 |
| Alterations to schools..... | 30 | 52,500.00 | 6 | 11,200 | 35 | 57,475.00 | 7 | 13,750 |
| New schools and stables..... | 14 | 46,425.00 | .. | ..... | 5 | 13,100.00 | 2 | 6,600 |
| School equipment | 2 | 1,700.00 | .. | ..... | 1 | 1,100.00 | .. | ..... |
| Alterations and equipment..... | 2 | 3,400.00 | .. | ..... | 7 | 20,400.00 | 2 | 12,500 |
| Sanitary systems. | .. | ..... | .. | ..... | 2 | 3,950.00 | .. | ..... |
| Stables and equipment..... | 2 | 2,300.00 | .. | ..... | .. | ..... | .. | ..... |
| Stables..... | 1 | 600.00 | .. | ..... | .. | ..... | .. | ..... |
| New schools, stables and teachers' residences..... | 3 | 18,410.00 | .. | ..... | .. | ..... | .. | ..... |
| School sites..... | 1 | 25,000.00 | .. | ..... | .. | ..... | .. | ..... |
| Additions and heating plants.. | 2 | 3,400.00 | .. | ..... | 3 | 13,600.00 | .. | ..... |
| Alterations and stables..... | .. | ..... | .. | ..... | 2 | 3,355.50 | .. | ..... |
| Purchasing building for school.. | 1 | 1,500.00 | .. | ..... | .. | ..... | .. | ..... |
| Less defeated by ratepayers..... | 275 | \$1,787,508.25 | 21 | \$67,700 | 245 | \$1,015,960.50 | 33 | \$118,350 |
| | 21 | 67,700.00 | .. | ..... | 33 | 118,350.00 | .. | ..... |
| | 254 | \$1,719,808.25 | .. | ..... | 212 | \$897,610.50 | .. | ..... |

Two applications, \$6,500.00 were refused, and reductions amounting to \$37,300.00 were made in 22, excluding those rejected by the ratepayers. 240 authorisations were granted, aggregating \$1,676,008.25, as compared with 211, \$886,810.50, in 1926.

Details are given in Schedule "E."

Rural Telephone Companies.

While in 1926 authorisations granted to rural telephone companies were almost three times greater than in 1925, this year they show a decided decrease from 1926.

The statement below shows a marked falling off in new companies, there being only one as compared with ten in the previous year. There is also a decrease in authorisations for extensions to lines of old companies.

| | 1927 Authorisations | | 1926 Authorisations | |
|---|------------------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------|
| | No. | Amount. | No. | Amount |
| New companies..... | 1 | \$ 16,250.00 | 10 | \$ 95,800.00 |
| Extensions to existing companies..... | 92 | 204,785.00 | 101 | 281,863.55 |
| Central office buildings..... | 3 | 2,000.00 | 4 | 7,400.00 |
| Central buildings and extensions..... | .. | .. | 2 | 6,650.00 |
| Reconstruction of existing systems..... | 13 | 22,200.00 | 2 | 2,300.00 |
| Automatic phones..... | 1 | 1,450.00 | .. | ..... |
| Extensions and reconstruction..... | 2 | 2,825.00 | .. | ..... |
| | 112 | \$249,510.00 | 119 | \$394,013.55 |

Reductions of \$5,175.00 were made in three applications.

See Schedule "F."

Union Hospital Districts.

No authorisations were issued to union hospital districts. In 1926 there was only one.

Summary of authorisations granted from January 1, 1927, to December 31, 1927, as compared with the previous year:

| | 1927 | | 1926 | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| | Number of authorisations | Amount | Number of authorisations | Amount |
| Cities..... | 48 | \$1,123,321.18 | 41 | \$1,184,020.40 |
| Towns..... | 15 | 141,900.00 | 11 | 66,600.00 |
| Villages..... | 34 | 107,909.00 | 30 | 78,350.00 |
| Rural municipalities..... | 4 | 35,000.00 | 5 | 16,500.00 |
| Schools..... | 273 | 1,743,708.25 | 244 | 1,005,160.50 |
| Rural telephones..... | 112 | 249,510.00 | 119 | 394,013.55 |
| Union hospitals..... | .. | ..... | 1 | 35,500.00 |
| | 486 | \$3,401,348.43 | 451 | \$2,780,144.45 |

Sale of Debentures.

In 1927 there was a substantial increase over the previous year in the number and amount of debentures sold, with prices ruling higher. That is, local authorities were able to borrow at a more favourable rate of interest than was obtainable last year, as the following comparison shows:

| Nature of local authority | 1927 | | | 1926 | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| | Highest interest rate | Lowest interest rate | Yearly average | Highest interest rate | Lowest interest rate | Yearly average |
| Cities..... | 5.184 | 4.90 | 5.03 | 6. | 5.11 | 5.27 |
| Towns... .. | 6.233 | 5.10 | 5.626 | 7. | 5.724 | 6.692 |
| Villages..... | 7. | 5.476 | 5.633 | 6.50 | 5.921 | 6.183 |
| Rural municipalities..... | 5.448 | 5.411 | 5.443 | 5.75 | 5.75 | 5.75 |
| Rural telephone companies . | 7. | 5. | 5.60 | 7. | 5.50 | 5.821 |
| Union hospitals..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 5.532 | 5.532 | 5.532 |
| Village and rural schools.... | 7. | 5. | 5.526 | 6.944 | 5. | 5.637 |
| City and town schools... .. | 5.468 | 5.10 | 5.093 | 5.799 | 5.50 | 5.598 |

Sales in each month of the year 1927 of the various classes of debenture, with the highest, lowest and average rate of interest, are given in the following tables:

| | 1927 | | | | | 1926 | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 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 | \$ 12,000.00 | 6. |
| April..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 6 | 254,360.00 | 5.189 |
| May..... | 5 | \$227,675.00 | 5.036 | 5.026 | 5.034 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| June..... | 16 | 256,796.85 | 5.076 | 5.038 | 5.057 | 16 | 158,329.93 | 5.284 |
| July..... | 3 | 43,600.00 | 5.03 | 4.98 | 4.989 | 5 | 104,400.00 | 5.239 |
| August..... | 12 | 580,558.00 | 5.184 | 4.90 | 5.020 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| December..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 185,000.00 | 5.341 |
| | 36 | \$1,108,629.85 | Average yearly rate | | 5.030 | 29 | \$714,089.93 | 5.270 |
| <i>Towns—</i> | | | | | | | | |
| January..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | \$ 10,860.00 | 6. |
| February..... | 1 | \$12,000.00 | 5.898 | 5.898 | 5.898 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| March..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 118,755.42 | 7. |
| April..... | 1 | 500.00 | 5.728 | 5.728 | 5.728 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| June..... | 3 | 69,000.00 | 6. | 5.584 | 5.648 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| July..... | 2 | 21,500.00 | 5.731 | 5.529 | 5.576 | 1 | 7,100.00 | 6. |
| August..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | 21,500.00 | 5.973 |
| September..... | 2 | 12,900.00 | 5.831 | 5.595 | 5.758 | 1 | 3,500.00 | 5.724 |
| October..... | 4 | 23,500.00 | 6.233 | 5.10 | 5.437 | 1 | 3,000.00 | 5.853 |
| November..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 4,000.00 | 6. |
| | 13 | \$144,400.00 | Average yearly rate | | 5.626 | 8 | \$168,715.42 | 6.692 |

| | 1927 | | | | | 1926 | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-------------|--------------|
| | Number of issues sold | Amount | Highest interest rate | Lowest interest rate | Average rate | Number of issues sold | Amount | Average rate |
| <i>Villages—</i> | | | | | | | | |
| January | 4 | \$10,000.00 | 6.125 | 6. | 6.041 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| March | 1 | 600.00 | 6. | 6. | 6. | 1 | \$ 1,000.00 | 6.50 |
| April ..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | 5,200.00 | 6.436 |
| May | 2 | 7,300.00 | 6.229 | 5.718 | 5.844 | 4 | 13,500.00 | 6.144 |
| June | 2 | 4,500.00 | 5.703 | 5.50 | 5.658 | 4 | 9,900.00 | 6.085 |
| July | 4 | 11,765.00 | 5.971 | 5.558 | 5.608 | 5 | 12,250.00 | 6.149 |
| August | 3 | 4,000.00 | 5.761 | 5.727 | 5.742 | 3 | 16,000.00 | 6.272 |
| September | 5 | 13,944.00 | 6.767 | 5.571 | 5.652 | 5 | 9,800.00 | 6.186 |
| October | 10 | 39,600.00 | 7. | 5.476 | 5.672 | 1 | 1,800.00 | 6.212 |
| November | 2 | 2,400.00 | 5.592 | 5.675 | 5.635 | 2 | 6,200.00 | 5.990 |
| December | 1 | 1,600.00 | 6.403 | 6.403 | 6.403 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| | 34 | \$95,709.00 | Average yearly rate | | 5.633 | 27 | \$75,650.00 | 6.183 |
| <i>Rural Municipalities—</i> | | | | | | | | |
| May | 1 | \$10,000.00 | 5.448 | 5.448 | 5.448 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| August | 1 | 1,500.00 | 5.411 | 5.411 | 5.411 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| September ..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | \$ 2,000.00 | 5.75 |
| | 2 | \$11,500.00 | Average yearly rate | | 5.443 | 1 | \$ 2,000.00 | 5.75 |

| | 1927 | | | | | 1926 | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Number of issues sold | Amount | Highest interest rate | Lowest interest rate | Average rate | Number of issues sold | Amount | Average rate |
| <i>Rural Telephone Companies—</i> | | | | | | | | |
| January..... | 9 | \$21,925.00 | 6.391 | 5.569 | 5.954 | 7 | \$ 9,730.00 | 6.039 |
| February..... | 6 | 9,435.00 | 6. | 5.50 | 5.708 | 2 | 2,375.00 | 6.138 |
| March..... | 10 | 30,575.00 | 6. | 5.50 | 5.635 | 2 | 2,100.00 | 6.143 |
| April..... | 7 | 23,645.00 | 6.426 | 5.259 | 5.532 | 2 | 2,000.00 | 6. |
| May..... | 8 | 10,350.00 | 6. | 5.472 | 5.676 | 6 | 12,700.00 | 6.079 |
| June..... | 12 | 19,370.00 | 6. | 5.50 | 5.697 | 5 | 37,300.00 | 5.718 |
| July..... | 10 | 27,750.00 | 6. | 5.445 | 5.568 | 9 | 58,008.55 | 5.935 |
| August..... | 15 | 33,275.00 | 7. | 5.269 | 5.456 | 12 | 36,655.00 | 5.733 |
| September..... | 19 | 36,975.00 | 6.125 | 5. | 5.591 | 14 | 39,660.00 | 5.736 |
| October..... | 13 | 24,800.00 | 7. | 5.375 | 5.589 | 17 | 56,725.00 | 5.812 |
| November..... | 8 | 14,350.00 | 6.081 | 5. | 5.471 | 13 | 40,611.00 | 5.808 |
| December..... | 13 | 31,025.00 | 8. | 5.420 | 5.528 | 10 | 31,798.00 | 5.751 |
| | 130 | \$283,475.00 | Average | yearly rate | 5.60 | 99 | \$329,662.55 | 5.821 |

| | 1927 | | | | | 1926 | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Number of issues sold | Amount | Highest interest rate | Lowest interest rate | Average rate | Number of issues sold | Amount | Average rate |
| <i>Village and Rural Schools—</i> | | | | | | | | |
| January..... | 1 | \$ 1,500.00 | 6.73 | 6.73 | 6.73 | 3 | \$ 2,620.00 | 6.201 |
| February..... | 4 | 6,600.00 | 7. | 5.625 | 5.876 | 6 | 17,850.00 | 6.006 |
| March..... | 2 | 5,000.00 | 5.916 | 5.625 | 5.683 | 4 | 14,600.00 | 5.904 |
| April..... | 12 | 33,500.00 | 6.663 | 5.485 | 5.948 | 14 | 63,200.00 | 5.995 |
| May..... | 18 | 76,920.00 | 6. | 5.406 | 5.502 | 21 | 143,810.00 | 5.814 |
| June..... | 38 | 182,235.00 | 5.75 | 5. | 5.381 | 34 | 137,425.00 | 5.747 |
| July..... | 28 | 104,700.00 | 6. | 5. | 5.505 | 32 | 128,200.00 | 5.697 |
| August..... | 32 | 117,500.00 | 6. | 5.375 | 5.461 | 27 | 80,850.00 | 5.727 |
| September..... | 26 | 128,800.00 | 5.968 | 5.347 | 5.438 | 22 | 83,500.00 | 5.547 |
| October..... | 26 | 107,400.00 | 6.50 | 5.338 | 5.707 | 13 | 30,755.50 | 5.772 |
| November..... | 19 | 30,800.00 | 6.875 | 5.420 | 5.778 | 18 | 54,350.00 | 5.852 |
| December..... | 9 | 20,600.00 | 6.919 | 4.97 | 5.662 | 3 | 4,700.00 | 5.959 |
| | 215 | \$815,555.00 | Average y | early rate | 5.526 | 197 | \$761,860.50 | 5.637 |

| | 1927 | | | | | 1926 | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Number of issues sold | Amount | Highest interest rate | Lowest interest rate | Average rate | Number of issues sold | Amount | Average rate |
| <i>City and Town Schools—</i> | | | | | | | | |
| January..... | .. | ..... | .... | .... | .... | 1 | \$ 2,000.00 | 5.50 |
| May..... | .. | ..... | .... | .... | .... | 1 | 20,000.00 | 5.646 |
| June..... | 1 | \$ 26,000.00 | 5.375 | 5.375 | 5.375 | 1 | 10,000.00 | 5.799 |
| August..... | 2 | 184,000.00 | 5.468 | 5.10 | 5.107 | 4 | 58,000.00 | 5.573 |
| September..... | 1 | 7,000.00 | 5.349 | 5.349 | 5.349 | 1 | 15,000.00 | 5.561 |
| October..... | 1 | 70,000.00 | 5.282 | 5.282 | 5.282 | 1 | 5,700.00 | 5.75 |
| November..... | .. | ..... | .... | .... | .... | 1 | 16,000.00 | 5.50 |
| December..... | 1 | 200,000.00 | 4.97 | 4.97 | 4.97 | .. | ..... | .... |
| | 6 | \$487,000.00 | Average | yearly rate | 5.093 | 10 | \$126,700.00 | 5.598 |

RECAPITULATION.

| | 1927 | | 1926 | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|
| | Number sold | Amount | Number sold | Amount |
| Cities..... | 36 | \$1,108,629.85 | 29 | \$714,089.93 |
| Towns..... | 13 | 144,400.00 | 8 | 168,715.42 |
| Villages..... | 34 | 95,709.00 | 27 | 75,650.00 |
| Rural municipalities..... | 2 | 11,500.00 | 1 | 2,000.00 |
| Rural telephone companies... | 130 | 283,475.00 | 99 | 329,662.55 |
| Union hospital districts..... | .. | ..... | 1 | 35,500.00 |
| Village and rural schools..... | 215 | \$15,555.00 | 197 | 761,860.50 |
| City and town schools..... | 6 | 487,000.00 | 10 | 126,700.00 |
| | 436 | \$2,946,268.85 | 372 | \$2,214,178.40 |

Distribution of sales among various classes of purchasers was as follows:

| | 1927 | | 1926 |
|---|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Number of issues | Amount | Amount |
| Saskatchewan dealers..... | 294 | \$1,290,079.20 | \$912,824.86 |
| Dealers outside Saskatchewan..... | 22 | 1,202,829.65 | 793,378.99 |
| Saskatchewan investors..... | 67 | 334,385.00 | 384,718.55 |
| Investors outside Saskatchewan..... | .. | ..... | 14,860.00 |
| Sold direct to Saskatchewan sinking funds | 53 | 118,975.00 | 108,396.00 |
| | 436 | \$2,946,268.85 | \$2,214,178.40 |

In previous years numbers of debentures of Saskatchewan local authorities which had been originally sold in Eastern Canada were returned to the province and resold to Saskatchewan investors. This year the Board has no record of any transactions of this nature.

SINKING FUNDS.

Sinking fund investments as compared with last year were made at a somewhat lower yield rate.

It will also be observed from the statements which follow that the amounts of investments made were considerably below those in the year 1926. This is due to various reasons, one of which is that several local authorities had large maturities to take care of, to which purpose it was necessary to apply the revenues instead of investing them.

Also there were fewer sales of securities from the various funds for the purpose of taking advantage of opportunities to reinvest on better terms. This was a further cause for the decrease referred to. During the year 177 applications for approval of investments were granted, as compared with 178 in 1926, as set out in the following table:

| | 1927 | | | 1926 | | |
|---|---------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Number of approvals | Face value | Purchase value | Number of approvals | Face value | Purchase value |
| Dominion of Canada bonds..... | 3 | \$105,000.00 | \$108,054.00 | 7 | \$271,500.00 | \$280,951.00 |
| Province of Saskatchewan bonds..... | 16 | 177,357.37 | 169,128.63 | 45 | 754,083.85 | 684,714.95 |
| Province of Alberta bonds..... | 4 | 10,000.00 | 11,072.70 | 11 | 262,000.00 | 257,839.50 |
| Province of British Columbia bonds..... | 6 | 81,500.00 | 85,962.95 | 8 | 157,000.00 | 152,858.15 |
| Province of Ontario bonds..... | 2 | 44,000.00 | 47,118.75 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| C.N.R. Government guaranteed bonds..... | 2 | 28,866.66 | 28,751.02 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures..... | 80 | 215,300.00 | 217,769.66 | 55 | 120,809.65 | 122,745.60 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures..... | 51 | 142,029.52 | 144,884.50 | 32 | 66,075.66 | 67,862.33 |
| Saskatchewan city debentures..... | 8 | 90,986.37 | 90,342.20 | 16 | 80,730.33 | 79,289.18 |
| Saskatchewan town debentures..... | 2 | 7,000.00 | 7,020.00 | 1 | 3,500.00 | 3,447.50 |
| Saskatchewan village debentures..... | 2 | 4,000.00 | 4,005.00 | 1 | 4,200.00 | 4,200.00 |
| Saskatchewan rural municipality debentures..... | 1 | 1,500.00 | 1,506.00 | 1 | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 |
| Province of New Brunswick bonds..... | .. | ..... | ..... | 1 | 4,000.00 | 3,752.50 |
| | 177 | \$907,539.92 | \$915,615.41 | 178 | \$1,725,899.49 | \$1,659,660.71 |

Details of investments by each local authority, showing face and purchase value and average interest yield, follow:

| Nature of investments | No. of approvals | Face value | Purchase value | Interest yield % |
|--|------------------|--------------|----------------|------------------|
| <i>City of Regina—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan school districts..... | 37 | \$127,800.00 | \$129,875.85 | 5.294 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone companies.. | 29 | 104,327.38 | 106,594.64 | 5.298 |
| Saskatchewan Government 4½%—1948.... | 1 | 25,550.00 | 24,019.20 | 4.875 |
| Saskatchewan Government 4%—1949.... | 1 | 9,733.20 | 8,768.53 | 4.72 |
| Saskatchewan Government 4%—1949.... | 1 | 39,906.12 | 35,929.83 | 4.70 |
| Saskatchewan Government 5%—1939.... | 1 | 5,100.00 | 5,168.85 | 4.85 |
| Saskatchewan Government 5%—1943.... | 1 | 16,000.00 | 16,355.00 | 4.80 |
| Saskatchewan Government 5%—1944.... | 1 | 4,500.00 | 4,385.50 | 4.85 |
| Saskatchewan Government 5%—1950.... | 1 | 5,100.00 | 5,130.00 | 4.82 |
| G.T.P. Saskatchewan Government Guaranteed 4%—1939..... | 1 | 4,866.66 | 4,503.82 | 4.82 |
| City of Regina (miscellaneous)..... | 5 | 38,006.63 | 38,034.86 | 4.989 |
| | 79 | \$380,889.99 | \$378,966.08 | Average 5.118 |
| <i>City of Saskatoon—</i> | | | | |
| Alberta Government 6%—1932..... | 4 | \$10,000.00 | \$11,072.70 | 4.929 |
| Ontario Government 6%—1931..... | 1 | 25,000.00 | 27,525.00 | 4.88 |
| British Columbia 6%—1931..... | 4 | 46,500.00 | 51,421.95 | 4.95 |
| | 9 | \$81,500.00 | \$90,019.65 | Average 4.915 |
| <i>City of Moose Jaw—</i> | | | | |
| Dominion of Canada 5½%—1932..... | 2 | \$ 95,000.00 | \$97,721.00 | 4.859 |
| C.N.R. Dominion Government Guaranteed 6%—1932..... | 1 | 24,000.00 | 24,247.20 | 4.80 |
| City of Moose Jaw (miscellaneous)..... | 3 | 52,979.74 | 52,307.34 | 5.116 |
| Saskatchewan school districts..... | 4 | 16,500.00 | 16,743.51 | 5.25 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone companies.. | 1 | 2,000.00 | 2,036.30 | 5.375 |
| | 11 | \$190,479.74 | \$193,055.35 | Average 4.961 |
| <i>City of Prince Albert—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan school districts..... | 2 | \$3,800.00 | \$3,864.41 | 5.395 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone companies.. | 2 | 4,700.00 | 4,767.26 | 5.392 |
| Saskatchewan Government 5%—1944.... | 1 | 2,500.00 | 2,545.00 | 4.85 |
| Saskatchewan Government 4½%—1944.... | 2 | 37,000.00 | 35,238.50 | 4.899 |
| Saskatchewan Government 5%—1950.... | 1 | 7,000.00 | 7,339.50 | 4.65 |
| Saskatchewan Government 4%—1951.... | 1 | 10,468.05 | 9,722.72 | 4.50 |
| | 9 | \$65,468.05 | \$63,477.39 | Average 4.874 |
| <i>City of North Battleford—</i> | | | | |
| British Columbia 4½%—1938..... | 1 | \$15,000.00 | \$14,541.00 | 4.85 |
| Ontario Government 5%—1948..... | 1 | 19,000.00 | 19,593.75 | 4.77 |
| | 2 | \$34,000.00 | \$34,134.75 | Average 4.804 |

| Nature of investments | No. of approvals | Face value | Purchase value | Interest yield % |
|---|------------------|-------------|----------------|------------------|
| <i>City of Weyburn—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan school districts..... | 2 | \$ 4,000.00 | \$ 4,020.08 | 5.406 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone companies.. | 2 | 11,413.48 | 11,837.76 | 5.50 |
| Saskatchewan Government 4½%-1945.... | 1 | 10,000.00 | 9,763.00 | 4.70 |
| Dominion of Canada 5½%-1934..... | 1 | 10,000.00 | 10,333.00 | 4.92 |
| Town of Ogema..... | 1 | 4,000.00 | 4,020.00 | 5.40 |
| | 7 | \$39,413.48 | \$39,973.84 | Average 5.135 |
| <i>Town of Melfort—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan school districts..... | 2 | \$5,500.00 | \$5,517.80 | 5.538 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone companies.. | 2 | 700.00 | 702.11 | 5.75 |
| | 4 | \$6,200.00 | \$6,219.91 | Average 5.559 |
| <i>Town of Davidson—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan Government 4½%-1955.... | 2 | \$3,500.00 | \$3,500.00 | 4.5 |
| <i>Town of Rosetown—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan school districts..... | 1 | \$ 300.00 | \$ 306.84 | 5.75 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone companies.. | 4 | 1,513.66 | 1,521.53 | 5.652 |
| | 5 | \$1,813.66 | \$1,828.37 | Average 5.668 |
| <i>Town of Biggar—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan school districts..... | 1 | \$2,000.00 | \$2,021.00 | 5.282 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone companies.. | 1 | 200.00 | 200.00 | 5.75 |
| | 2 | \$2,200.00 | \$2,221.00 | Average 5.324 |
| <i>Town of Francis—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan Government 5½%-1946.... | 1 | \$1,000.00 | \$1,053.00 | 4.97 |
| <i>Town of Duck Lake—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan school districts..... | 1 | \$ 750.00 | \$ 750.00 | 5.75 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone companies.. | 2 | 800.00 | 800.00 | 6. |
| | 3 | \$1,550.00 | \$1,550.00 | Average 5.879 |
| <i>Town of Indian Head—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan school districts..... | 1 | \$2,900.00 | \$2,900.00 | 5.50 |
| Town of Estevan..... | 1 | 3,000.00 | 3,000.00 | 6. |
| | 2 | \$5,900.00 | \$5,900.00 | Average 5.754 |
| <i>Regina Public School District No. 4—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan villages..... | 2 | \$ 4,000.00 | \$ 4,005.00 | 5.892 |
| Saskatchewan rural municipalities..... | 1 | 1,500.00 | 1,506.00 | 5.380 |
| Saskatchewan school districts..... | 29 | 51,750.00 | 51,770.17 | 5.516 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone companies.. | 8 | 16,375.00 | 16,424.90 | 5.543 |
| | 40 | \$73,625.00 | \$73,706.07 | Average 5.444 |
| <i>Saskatoon Public School District No. 13—</i> | | | | |
| British Columbia 6%-1941..... | 1 | \$20,000.00 | \$20,000.00 | 4.92 |

RECAPITULATION.

| Local authority | 1927 | | | | 1926 | | | |
|--|------------------|--------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| | No. of approvals | Face value | Purchase value | Interest yield % | No. of approvals | Face value | Purchase value | Interest yield % |
| City of Regina..... | 79 | \$380,889.99 | \$378,966.08 | 5.118 | 77 | \$907,889.05 | \$844,846.85 | 5.038 |
| City of Saskatoon..... | 9 | 81,500.00 | 90,919.65 | 4.915 | 18 | 263,280.00 | 254,344.31 | 5.036 |
| City of Moose Jaw..... | 11 | 190,479.74 | 193,055.35 | 4.961 | 7 | 269,000.00 | 277,703.50 | 4.952 |
| City of Prince Albert..... | 9 | 65,468.05 | 63,477.39 | 4.874 | 8 | 52,603.26 | 51,720.85 | 5.234 |
| City of Weyburn..... | 7 | 39,413.48 | 39,973.84 | 5.135 | 15 | 39,414.83 | 39,631.82 | 5.128 |
| City of North Battleford..... | 2 | 34,000.00 | 34,134.75 | 4.804 | 3 | 57,000.00 | 57,633.75 | 4.974 |
| *Town of Melfort..... | 4 | 6,200.00 | 6,219.91 | 5.559 | 8 | 12,400.00 | 12,400.00 | 5.936 |
| Town of Davidson..... | 2 | 3,500.00 | 3,500.00 | 4.5 | 2 | 3,000.00 | 2,865.00 | 4.85 |
| *Town of Rosetown..... | 5 | 1,813.66 | 1,828.37 | 5.668 | 2 | 1,361.00 | 1,361.00 | 6. |
| *Town of Biggar..... | 2 | 2,200.00 | 2,221.00 | 5.324 | 6 | 7,025.00 | 6,972.50 | 5.523 |
| Town of Francis..... | 1 | 1,000.00 | 1,063.00 | 4.97 | 3 | 2,400.00 | 2,433.07 | 5.118 |
| *Town of Duck Lake..... | 3 | 1,550.00 | 1,550.00 | 5.879 | 4 | 1,350.00 | 1,350.00 | 6. |
| Town of Indian Head..... | 2 | 5,900.00 | 5,900.00 | 5.754 | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| *Regina Public School District No. 4..... | 40 | 73,625.00 | 73,706.07 | 5.444 | 26 | 45,676.35 | 46,231.81 | 5.773 |
| Saskatoon Public School District No. 13..... | 1 | 20,000.00 | 20,000.00 | 4.92 | 1 | 63,500.00 | 60,166.25 | 4.92 |
| | 177 | \$907,539.92 | \$915,615.41 | ..... | 180 | \$1,725,899.49 | \$1,659,660.71 | ..... |

*Administered by the Local Government Board.

The Board gave its approval of the transfer from sinking fund to general account of the following amounts, representing a portion of the earnings in excess of the amount required by statute:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| City of Regina..... | \$65,000.00 |
| City of Saskatoon..... | 50,000.00 |
| City of Moose Jaw..... | 25,000.00 |
| Town of Davidson..... | 1,500.00 |
| Regina Public School District No. 4..... | 5,000.00 |

Substantial surpluses remain in each of the above funds notwithstanding the withdrawals.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD (SPECIAL POWERS) ACT, 1922.

During the year the Board made the following orders and recommendations under the Local Government Board (Special Powers) Act, 1922:

- January 27:* Revising and finally approving estimates of the town of Humboldt School District No. 1529 and fixing tax rates for 1927.
- February 7:* Permitting the town of Scott to take from its reserves the sum of \$2,000.00 to be expended in making necessary repairs to its waterworks system.
- March 22:* Revising and finally approving estimates of the town of Canora and Canora School District No. 1152 and fixing tax rates for 1927.
Authorising the town of Canora to disburse the sum of \$4,500.00 in paying debenture coupons maturing up to September 1, 1925.
- March 31:* Extending time for presentation of claims against the towns of:
Humboldt,
Battleford,
Sutherland,
Scott,
under agreements between these towns and their respective creditors to December 31, 1927.
- April 14:* Revising and finally approving estimates of the town of Sutherland and fixing tax rates for 1927.
- May 4:* Revising and finally approving estimates of the town of Scott and Champagne School District No. 2256 and fixing tax rates for 1927.
- June 14:* Revising and finally approving estimates of the town of Watrous and Watrous School District No. 1334 and fixing tax rates for 1927.
- June 21:* Authorising the town of Canora to distribute the sum of \$7,500.00 in payment of debenture coupons maturing up to February 28, 1926.

June 28: Revising and finally approving estimates of the town of Battleford, Battleford Public School District No. 71 and Public School District No. 11 of St. Vital of Battleford, and fixing tax rates for 1927.

December 3: Authorising the town of Canora to distribute the sum of \$8,400.00 in payment of debenture coupons maturing up to December 31, 1926.

Recommendations as listed below were made under sections 16 (1), 16 (2) and 22 of *The Local Government Board (Special Powers) Act, 1922:*

(a) Section 16 (1), providing for issue of tax sale titles to lands sold for arrears of taxes and purchased by the municipality without payment of school taxes by towns under the operation of this Act:

| | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| February 1, | Town of Scott, |
| March 28, | Town of Battleford, |
| August 23, | Town of Humboldt, |
| September 8, | Town of Battleford, |
| September 20, | Town of Sutherland. |

(b) Section 16 (2), providing for remission of public revenue taxes in respect of lands sold for arrears of taxes by local authorities under the operation of this Act:

| | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| February 1, | Town of Scott, |
| March 28, | Town of Battleford, |
| September 8, | Town of Battleford, |
| September 20, | Town of Sutherland. |

(c) Section 22, providing for issue of titles to lands sold for arrears of taxes and purchased by local authorities under the operation of this Act without payment of fees in land titles offices:

| | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| February 1, | Town of Scott, |
| June 23, | Town of Melville, |
| September 20, | Town of Sutherland, |
| November 28, | Town of Humboldt, |
| December 19, | Town of Battleford. |

ASSESSMENT APPEALS.

Appeals from decisions of Courts of Revision in cities are made to the Local Government Board, as provided by section 467 of *The City Act*.

In 1927 four appeals were received and heard as follows:

Moose Jaw, March 25,
North Battleford, April 6,
Saskatoon, April 7,
Prince Albert, August 19.

An appeal against the 1928 assessment of a certain property in the City of Swift Current was received but was subsequently withdrawn.

SALE OF SHARES ACT.

In its reports of previous years the Board has commented upon certain conditions which remove from the operation of *The Sale of Shares Act* all companies holding Dominion charters.

Funds available for investment in the province are ever increasing, and to assist and protect prospective investors in placing such funds to the best advantage *The Sale of Shares Act* was passed by the Legislature.

It provides, among other things, that no company may offer its securities for sale in this province until it has obtained a certificate from the Local Government Board permitting it to do so; and, while such certificate does not constitute a guarantee of the securities offered, it does assure the public that a most careful scrutiny has been made of the affairs of the applicant company, and that their aims, objects and methods of transacting business are such that, in the opinion of the Board, there will be the probability of a fair return on the money invested.

Subsequently the Supreme Court of Canada decided the Act to be *ultra vires* in so far as it applies to companies holding Dominion charters, the result being that many companies, whose principal objects were of a stock selling character, and whose affairs would not stand the rigid examination to which they would be subjected by the Local Government Board, applied for and obtained charters from the Federal Government, by means of which they are enabled to exploit the public through the sale of their shares.

Complaints of the operations of such companies, and reports of losses resulting from them, are repeatedly coming to the Board from various parts of the province, but unfortunately, owing to existing conditions, it is not able to take any action in respect of them, but, as this matter is of vital importance to the residents of Saskatchewan, the Board feels that it is justified in again referring to it in its report.

During the year 28 applications for certificates were received, which were dealt with as follows:

| | Name of company | Head office | Authorised capital | Certificate granted | Certificate refused | Remarks |
|------|--|-------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 9253 | Sterling Securities Corporation, Ltd.. | Regina.... | 1,000,000 | Oct. 11 | ..... | 1,000 cum. preference @ \$120 |
| 9318 | Western Homes Ltd..... | Winnipeg.. | 500,000 | Sept. 20 | ..... | 4,000 shares @ \$120 |
| 9374 | The Outlook Silver Fox Co., Ltd..... | Outlook... | 40,000 | April 25 | ..... | 1,400 shares @ \$10 |
| 9404 | Central Canadian Ins. Co..... | Winnipeg.. | 500,000 | Aug. 11 | ..... | 500 shares @ \$105 |

| | Name of company | Head office | Authorised capital | Certificate granted | Certificate refused | Remarks |
|------|---|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| 9405 | Maxim Valley Oil Co., Ltd..... | Weyburn.. | 100,000 | Jan. 14 | ..... | 50,000 devpt. shares @ \$1.00 |
| 9406 | Eatonia Silver Fox Co., Ltd..... | Eatonia... | 20,000 | Jan. 24 | ..... | 800 shares @ \$25 |
| 9407 | Engineers Oil & Gas Co., Ltd..... | Biggar.... | 500,000 | ..... | April 9 | |
| 9407 | Engineers Oil & Gas Co., Ltd..... | Biggar.... | 500,000 | June 30 | ..... | 5,000 devpt. shares @ \$1.00 |
| 9408 | Horn Silver Mining Co., Ltd..... | Vancouver | 500,000 | ..... | Jan. 26 | |
| 9409 | Tufts Manufacturing Co., Ltd..... | Saskatoon.. | 150,000 | ..... | ..... | Withdrawn. |
| 9411 | Davis Dairy Co., Ltd..... | Saskatoon.. | 30,000 | May 9 | ..... | 200 shares @ \$50 |
| 9412 | Tulameen Gold & Platinum Recovery Co., Ltd..... | Vancouver | 2,500,000 | ..... | Feb. 4 | |
| 9413 | Sunrise Morning Star Mining Co., Ltd..... | Vancouver | 1,000,000 | ..... | Mar. 21 | |
| 9414 | Lake St. John Power & Paper Co., Ltd. | Toronto... | 24,500,000 | May 16 | ..... | 50,000 first mtge., 6½% s.f. bonds |
| 9415 | New Regina Trading Co., Ltd..... | Regina.... | 500,000 | May 14 | ..... | 100,000 second mtge. debenture |
| 9416 | Delainey & Co., Ltd. | Wilkie.... | ..... | ..... | ..... | Withdrawn. |
| 9417 | Moose Jaw Community Hotel Co., Ltd..... | Moose Jaw | 393,750 | April 28 | ..... | Full authorised capital. |
| 9418 | The United Merchants, Ltd..... | Saskatoon.. | 250,000 | July 4 | ..... | 200 shares @ \$250 |
| 9419 | Canadian Western Natural Gas, Light, Heat & Power Co., Ltd... | Calgary... | 8,000,000 | Nov. 17 | ..... | 2,000 shares @ \$250 |
| 9420 | Sterling Silver Black Fox Co., Ltd..... | Regina.... | 50,000 | June 24 | ..... | 600 shares @ \$50 |
| 9421 | Provincial Paper, Ltd..... | Toronto... | 3,600,000 | ..... | Oct. 14 | |
| 9422 | New England Investment Trust Incorporated..... | Boston, Mass.... | 316,800 | ..... | ..... | Pending. |
| 9423 | The Steppe Silver Black Fox Co., Ltd..... | Theodore.. | 50,000 | ..... | ..... | Pending. |
| 9424 | The North Parkside Silver Fox Co., Ltd..... | Parkside... | 40,000 | Nov. 15 | ..... | 600 shares @ \$25 |
| 9425 | The Empire Life Ins. Co..... | Toronto... | 2,000,000 | Oct. 14 | ..... | 1,000 shares @ \$135 |
| 9426 | Forward Land & Development Co. Ltd..... | Swift Current. | 95,000 | Oct. 26 | ..... | 600 shares @ \$100 |
| 9428 | Assiniboia Curling Rink Co., Ltd.... | Assiniboia. | 10,000 | ..... | ..... | Pending. |
| 9430 | Western Importing Co., Ltd..... | Wymark... | 25,000 | ..... | ..... | Pending. |

The following certificates, previously issued, have been revoked:

| Name of company | Date of revocation | Cause |
|--|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Saskatchewan General Trusts Corporation (F. Boyd)..... | Dec. 19 | Failure to file statements. |
| Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers, Ltd..... | Mar. 4 | Own request. |
| Monarch Investment Co., Ltd..... | Dec. 13 | Own request. |
| Cowell's New Method Harness Co., Ltd..... | Nov. 9 | In liquidation. |
| Pine River Lumber Co., Ltd..... | Feb. 14 | Failure to file statement. |
| Regina Films Ltd..... | Dec. 19 | Failure to file statement. |
| Provincial Gas & Oil Co., Ltd..... | Oct. 26 | Failure to file statement. |
| Farmers Grain & Supply Co., Ltd..... | Mar. 7 | Failure to file statement. |
| Bay Sulphite Co., Ltd..... | Nov. 24 | Failure to file statement. |
| Weyburn Bottling Works, Ltd..... | Nov. 3 | Failure to file statement. |
| Blue Ribbon Milling Co., Ltd..... | Dec. 6 | Failure to file statement. |
| Western Petrifying Products, Ltd..... | Feb. 18 | Failure to file statement. |
| Consumers' Trading Co., Ltd..... | Feb. 18 | Failure to file statement. |
| Veregin General Merchants, Ltd..... | Feb. 18 | Failure to file statement. |
| Reimer Abattoirs, Ltd..... | Dec. 20 | Failure to file statement. |
| National School Supply Co., Ltd..... | Nov. 29 | Own request. |
| Westland Oil Company..... | Dec. 7 | Failure to file statement. |
| Laplante Bros. Co., Ltd..... | April 14 | Irregular methods. |

Following is a list of the 58 companies holding the Board's certificate at December 31, 1927:

| File No. | Name of company | Head office |
|----------|---|---------------|
| 9113 | International Loan Co., Ltd..... | Winnipeg |
| 9115 | The Agricultural Insurance Co..... | Regina |
| 9189 | United Grain Growers, Ltd..... | Winnipeg |
| 9129 | Commercial Life Assurance Co., of Canada..... | Edmonton |
| 9210 | Western Debenture Co., Ltd..... | Outlook |
| 9212 | Northern Saskatchewan Co-operative Stock Yards, Ltd..... | Prince Albert |
| 9216 | Regina Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition Association, Ltd..... | Regina |
| 9219 | Yorkton Skating and Curling Rink Co., Ltd..... | Yorkton |
| 9221 | Regina Silver Black Fox Co., Ltd..... | Regina |
| 9242 | Pelly Electric Light and Power Co., Ltd..... | Pelly |
| 9244 | Scottish Provincial Investment Co., Ltd..... | Regina |
| 9253 | Sterling Securities Corporation, Ltd..... | Regina |
| 9265 | W. E. Mason Discount Co., Ltd..... | Regina |
| 9292 | Saskatchewan Mortgage and Trust Corporation, Ltd..... | Regina |
| 9298 | Indemnity Agencies, Ltd..... | Regina |
| 9312 | Cameron Securities, Ltd..... | Saskatoon |
| 9318 | Western Homes, Ltd..... | Winnipeg |
| 9321 | P. Burns Co., Ltd..... | Calgary |
| 9320 | Rosthern Creamery and Produce Co., Ltd..... | Rosthern |
| 9334 | Belgo Canadian Paper Co..... | Montreal |
| 9336 | Scandinavian Silver Fox Co., Ltd..... | Prince Albert |
| 9340 | Guardian Insurance Co., Ltd..... | Regina |
| 9342 | West End Grocers, Ltd..... | Moose Jaw |
| 9347 | Big Lump Coal Co., Ltd..... | Estevan |
| 9349 | Sunrise Milling Co., Ltd..... | Biggar |
| 9351 | Citizens Rink Co., Ltd..... | Swift Current |
| 9355 | Kelliher Silver Black Fox Co., Ltd..... | Kelliher |
| 9360 | International Clay Products, Ltd..... | Estevan |
| 9363 | David J. Dyson, Ltd..... | Winnipeg |
| 9364 | Retailers Trust Co., Ltd..... | Saskatoon |
| 9366 | St. Maurice Valley Corporation..... | Montreal |
| 9371 | Van Slyek's, Limited..... | Plato |

| File No. | Name of company | Head office |
|----------|---|----------------------|
| 9372 | Kyle Hall Co., Ltd..... | Kyle |
| 9374 | The Outlook Silver Fox Co., Ltd..... | Outlook |
| 9375 | Riley Hooker, Limited..... | Regina |
| 9378 | Queen City Oil Co..... | Great Falls, Montana |
| 9380 | Regina Hat Manufacturing Co., Ltd..... | Regina |
| 9387 | Swift Current Oils and Gas Co., Ltd..... | Swift Current |
| 9389 | Standard General Investments, Ltd..... | Meyronne |
| 9396 | W. W. Cooper Co., Ltd..... | Swift Current |
| 9400 | Neal Brothers, Ltd..... | Winnipeg |
| 9401 | Renards Argentes de Gravelbourg, Ltd..... | Gravelbourg |
| 9402 | Canadian Fur Pool, Ltd..... | Regina |
| 9403 | Estevan Rinks, Ltd..... | Estevan |
| 9404 | Central Canadian Insurance Co..... | Winnipeg |
| 9405 | Maxim Valley Oil Co., Ltd..... | Weyburn |
| 9406 | Eatonia Silver Fox Co., Ltd..... | Eatonia |
| 9407 | Engineers Oil and Gas Co., Ltd..... | Biggar |
| 9411 | Davis Dairy Co., Ltd..... | Saskatoon |
| 9414 | Lake St. John Power and Paper Co..... | Toronto |
| 9415 | New Regina Trading Co., Ltd..... | Regina |
| 9417 | Moose Jaw Community Hotel Co., Ltd..... | Moose Jaw |
| 9418 | The United Merchants, Ltd..... | Saskatoon |
| 9419 | Canadian Western Natural Gas, Light, Heat and Power Co., Ltd..... | Calgary |
| 9420 | Sterling Silver Black Fox Co., Ltd..... | Regina |
| 9424 | The North Parkside Silver Fox Co., Ltd..... | Parkside |
| 9425 | The Empire Life Insurance Co..... | Toronto |
| 9426 | Forward Land and Development Co., Ltd..... | Swift Current |

THE UNION HOSPITAL ACT.

Three applications under *The Union Hospital Act* were dealt with, as follows:

Brock Union Hospital District, established August 25, 1927, comprising the Town of Arcola, the Village of Kisbey and the Rural Municipality of Brock No. 64. Its scheme provided for the erection of a 10-bed hospital in the town of Arcola at an estimated cost of \$25,000; \$10,000 of this amount had been obtained through voluntary contributions, and the balance, \$15,000, will be provided by the issue of debentures. On the 10th of October the Board made an order fixing the proportion of the cost to be borne by the constituent areas, as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Town of Arcola..... | 11.687% |
| Village of Kisbey..... | 4.328% |
| Rural Municipality of Brock No. 64... | 83.985% |

This scheme was approved by the ratepayers on the 11th of November.

Vanguard Union Hospital.—A scheme for making extensions to the present hospital, to cost \$7,000.

On the 23rd of November the Board made an order proportioning the cost as follows:

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Village of Vanguard— | one-fifteenth. |
| Rural Municipality of Glen Bain No. 105— | seven-fifteenths. |
| Rural Municipality of Whiska Creek No. 106— | seven-fifteenths. |

The scheme was rejected by the ratepayers.

Melfort Union Hospital.—This district, established the 25th of August, includes one town, two villages, the whole of five rural municipalities and part of another, as set out below.

The scheme contemplated the erection of a 50-bed hospital at a cost of \$120,000. On the 8th of November the Board made an order proportioning the cost as follows:

| | |
|--|---------|
| R. M. of Weldon No. 459..... | 15.275% |
| R. M. of Carrot River No. 429..... | 19.422% |
| R. M. of Willow Creek No. 458..... | 17.030% |
| R. M. of Star City No. 428..... | 18.996% |
| R. M. of Pleasantdale No. 398..... | 11.198% |
| North half of R. M. of Lake Lenore No. 399..... | 7.071% |
| Town of Melfort..... | 10.152% |
| Village of Beatty..... | .390% |
| Village of St. Brieux..... | .466% |

The scheme was rejected by the ratepayers voting thereon.

THE SUBDIVISION ACT.

Town of Scott—

On the 23rd of August application was received from the town of Scott for permission to enter upon and occupy all vacant lands in the south-east quarter of section twenty (20), township thirty-nine (39), range twenty (20), west of the third meridian, an addition to the town of Scott, registered as Plan G.133, for the purpose of cultivating the same, in common with the greater portion of the said subdivision owned by the town.

The application was heard by the Board on the 27th of October, when no one appearing against it an order was made as applied for.

Town of Wilkie—

On the 26th of November application was received from the town of Wilkie for permission to enter upon and occupy portions of the following subdivided areas for the purpose of cultivating the same in common with the greater part of the said areas owned by the town:

NE. $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 31, township 39, range 19, west third meridian, plan G.326.

NE. $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 32, township 39, range 19, west third meridian, plan G.365.

Portion of the NW. $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 32, township 39, range 19, west third meridian, described as blocks 5 to 20, inclusive, plan G.140.

Blocks 21 to 36, inclusive, and 38, 39, 40, plan G.341.

Hearing of the petition is fixed for Monday, February 6, at the Board room, Regina.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The following bylaws under section 515 of *The Town Act* were approved:

Town of Shaunavon.—Amending bylaw fixing rentals charged against users of domestic sewers.

Town of Gravelbourg.—Fixing rentals to be charged against users of domestic sewers.

November 10th.—The following properties in the city of Saskatoon were approved as school sites for the Saskatoon School District No. 13:

Lots 27 to 40, inclusive, block 18, plan F.F.

Lots 19 to 24, inclusive, block 7, plan C.E.

Lots 1 to 6 and 40 to 44, inclusive, block 27, plan M.J.

All of block 29, plan F.W.

(Section 52 of *The School Act*).

An application from the town of Delisle for extension of time for passing bylaw No. 6 to March 1, 1927, and an application for further extension to July 1, 1927, in respect of same bylaw, were granted.

*Use of Unexpended Balances.**City of Regina—*

September 22: Permission was given the city of Regina to use unexpended balances under certain bylaws for:

| | |
|--|--------------|
| (a) Meeting over expenditure on by-laws 1138 and 1139..... | \$ 359.51 |
| (b) Paying cost of constructing storm sewers in 1927..... | 23,530.99 |
| (c) Paying a portion of the purchase price of land at Boggy Creek.... | 1,668.75 |
| (d) Paying the cost of water meters and water house connections previously authorised..... | 6,860.70 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$ 32,419.95 |
| | <hr/> |

The Local Government Board records with regret the death of The Honourable George A. Bell on the thirteenth day of September last. Mr. Bell had held the position of Chairman of The Local Government Board from May 16, 1918, until August 3, 1926, when by reason of his having reached the age of seventy, the age limit mentioned in *The Local Government Board Act*, he retired. His impress on the work and policy of The Local Government Board will be lasting. Mr. Bell's practical knowledge of municipal development on the prairies, where he lived for a period of forty-five years, proved to be of exceptional value.

Respectfully submitted,

C. O. DAVIDSON,

Secretary.

RECAPITULATION OF SCHEDULES A, B, C, D, E AND F, TO REPORT OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD
FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1927.

| | Total Number of applica- tions | Amount | Number refused | Amount | Number reduced | Amount | Number author- ised | Amount |
|--|--|----------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Cities (Schedule A)..... | 50 | \$1,395,459.01 | 2 | \$43,673.00 | 11 | \$228,464.83 | 48 | \$1,123,321.18 |
| Towns (Schedule B)..... | 18 | 169,500.00 | 3 | 20,500.00 | 3 | 7,100.00 | 15 | 141,900.00 |
| Villages (Schedule C)..... | 43 | 154,859.00 | 9 | 35,150.00 | 6 | 11,800.00 | 34 | 107,909.00 |
| Rural Municipalities (Schedule D)..... | 5 | 55,000.00 | 1 | 20,000.00 | .. | ..... | 4 | 35,000.00 |
| Schools (Schedule E)..... | 275 | 1,787,508.25 | 2 | 6,500.00 | 22 | 37,300.00 | 273 | 1,743,708.25 |
| Rural Telephones (Schedule F)..... | 112 | 254,685.00 | .. | ..... | 3 | 5,175.00 | 112 | 249,510.00 |
| | 503 | \$3,817,011.26 | 17 | \$125,823.00 | 45 | \$289,839.83 | 486 | \$3,401,348.43 |

Schedules E and F not published.

SCHEDULE A.

APPLICATIONS TO BORROW BY WAY OF DEBENTURE FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1927.

Cities

| Name | Amount | Purpose of debentures | How disposed of | | | Date debentures sold |
|-------------|--------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|
| | | | Refused | Reduced | Authorised | |
| Regina..... | \$50,000.00 | Hospital extension..... | | | \$50,000.00 | ..... |
| | 110,000.00 | Street railway extensions..... | | | 110,000.00 | ..... |
| | 175,000.00 | Pavements..... | | | 175,000.00 | May 4 |
| | 10,300.00 | Boulevards..... | | | 10,300.00 | May 4 |
| | 25,000.00 | Concrete walks..... | | | 25,000.00 | May 4 |
| | 11,775.00 | Water extensions..... | | | 11,775.00 | May 4 |
| | 5,600.00 | Sewer connections..... | | | 5,600.00 | May 4 |
| | 10,000.00 | Sewer connections..... | | | 10,000.00 | ..... |
| | 14,000.00 | Water connections..... | | | 14,000.00 | ..... |
| | 25,475.00 | Storm sewers..... | | | 25,475.00 | ..... |
| | 228,073.49 | Pavements..... | | \$78,020.08 | 150,053.41 | ..... |
| | 54,703.95 | Concrete walks..... | | 24,884.67 | 29,819.28 | ..... |
| | 20,411.08 | Boulevards..... | | 5,669.41 | 14,741.67 | ..... |
| | 41,950.00 | Sewer connections..... | | 35,450.00 | 6,500.00 | ..... |
| | 2,780.00 | Sewer extensions..... | | | 2,780.00 | ..... |
| | 9,625.00 | Sewer extensions..... | | | 9,625.00 | ..... |
| | 3,690.00 | Water extensions..... | | | 3,690.00 | ..... |
| | 7,537.00 | Pavements..... | | | 7,537.00 | ..... |
| | 1,571.30 | Concrete walks..... | | | 1,571.30 | ..... |
| | 712.66 | Boulevards..... | | | 712.66 | ..... |
| | \$808,204.48 | | | \$144,024.16 | \$664,180.32 | ..... |

SCHEDULE A.

APPLICATIONS TO BORROW BY WAY OF DEBENTURE FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1927.

Cities—Continued.

| Name | Amount | Purpose of debentures | How disposed of | | | Date debentures sold |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|------------|--------------|----------------------|
| | | | Refused | Reduced | Authorised | |
| Moose Jaw | \$1,256.00 | Water extensions | | | \$1,256.00 | ..... |
| | 1,359.00 | Sewer extensions | | | 1,359.00 | ..... |
| | 5,978.65 | Concrete walks | | \$2,240.70 | 3,737.95 | ..... |
| | 33,673.00 | Street paving | \$33,673.00 |  |  | ..... |
| | 6,518.00 | Water extensions | | | 6,518.00 | ..... |
| | 1,846.23 | Water connections | | | 1,846.23 | ..... |
| | 2,593.77 | Sewer connections | | | 2,593.77 | ..... |
| | 1,600.00 | Water extensions | | | 1,600.00 | ..... |
| | 3,390.12 | Concrete walks | | | 3,390.12 | ..... |
| | 944.12 | Concrete walks | | | 944.12 | ..... |
| | 855.00 | Concrete walks | | | 855.00 | ..... |
| | 2,010.70 | Concrete walks | | | 2,010.70 | ..... |
| | 9,627.00 | Sewer extensions | | | 9,627.00 | ..... |
| | 130,000.00 | Hospital extension | | | 130,000.00 | ..... |
| | \$201,651.59 | | \$33,673.00 | \$2,240.70 | \$165,737.89 | ..... |
| Saskatoon | \$20,000.00 | Comfort stations | | \$5,000.00 | \$15,000.00 | ..... |
| | 40,000.00 | Electric light extensions | | | 40,000.00 | ..... |
| | 7,500.00 | Water meters | | | 7,500.00 | ..... |
| | 7,500.00 | Street paving | | | 7,500.00 | ..... |
| | 7,775.00 | Gravelling streets | | | 7,775.00 | ..... |
| | 10,000.00 | Public works equipment | \$10,000.00 |  |  | ..... |
| | 90,000.00 | Street railway extension | | 8,000.00 | 82,000.00 | ..... |

| | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--|
| | 2,312.52 | Sewer extensions..... | | | 2,312.52 | |
| | 4,261.82 | Water extensions..... | | | 4,261.82 | |
| | 16,000.00 | Sewer connections..... | | | 16,000.00 | |
| | 24,000.00 | Water connections..... | | | 24,000.00 | |
| | 34,950.00 | Gravelling streets..... | 26,000.00 | | 8,950.00 | |
| | 3,749.12 | Gravelling streets..... | | | 3,749.12 | |
| | 25,063.75 | Concrete walks..... | | 3,522.52 | 21,541.23 | |
| | 43,781.40 | Sewer extensions..... | | 18,623.73 | 25,157.67 | |
| | 48,709.33 | Water extensions..... | | 21,053.72 | 27,655.61 | |
| | \$385,602.94 | | \$10,000.00 | \$82,199.97 | \$293,402.97 | |

Summary.

| | Applica- tions | Amount | Number | Refused | Number | Reduced | Number | Authorised |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------|--------|-------------|--------|--------------|--------|----------------|
| Regina..... | 20 | \$808,204.48 | .. | ..... | 4 | \$144,024.16 | 20 | \$664,180.32 |
| Moose Jaw..... | 14 | 201,651.59 | 1 | \$33,673.00 | 1 | 2,240.70 | 13 | 165,737.89 |
| Saskatoon..... | 16 | 385,602.94 | 1 | 10,000.00 | 6 | 82,199.97 | 15 | 293,402.97 |
| | 50 | \$1,395,459.01 | 2 | \$43,673.00 | 11 | \$228,464.83 | 48 | \$1,123,321.18 |

SCHEDULE B.
APPLICATIONS TO BORROW BY WAY OF DEBENTURE FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1927.
Towns.

| Name | Amount | Purpose of debentures | How disposed of | | | Date debentures sold |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|------------|--------------|----------------------|
| | | | Refused | Reduced | Authorised | |
| Eastend..... | \$3,000.00 | Hospital..... | | | \$ 3,000.00 | Oct. 6 |
| Estevan..... | 40,000.00 | Electric light plant..... | | | 40,000.00 | Aug. 10 |
| Gravelbourg..... | 5,000.00 | Electric light plant..... | | | 5,000.00 | July 28 |
| Kamsack..... | 25,000.00 | Electric light plant..... | | | 25,000.00 | June 13 |
| Lanigan..... | 16,500.00 | Electric light plant..... | | | 16,500.00 | July 4 |
| Lloydminster..... | 18,000.00 | Municipal building..... | | | 18,000.00 | Oct. 27 |
| Lemberg..... | 1,300.00 | Fire equipment..... | | | 1,300.00 | Oct. 10 |
| Lemberg..... | 3,200.00 | Skating and curling rink..... | | | 3,200.00 | Oct. 10 |
| Milestone..... | 2,500.00 | Fire equipment..... | | | 2,500.00 | ..... |
| Ogema..... | 5,000.00 | Concrete walks..... | | \$1,000.00 | 4,000.00 | Sept. 15 |
| Radville..... | 4,500.00 | Skating and curling rink..... | | | 4,500.00 | ..... |
| Tisdale..... | 10,000.00 | Concrete walks..... | | 1,100.00 | 8,900.00 | Sept. 30 |
| Saltcoats..... | 8,000.00 | Electric light plant..... | \$8,000.00 |  |  | ..... |
| Star City..... | 10,000.00 | Entertainment hall..... | 10,000.00 |  |  | ..... |
| Vonda..... | 10,000.00 | Concrete walks..... | | 5,000.00 | 5,000.00 | ..... |
| Wilkie..... | 2,500.00 | Skating and curling rink..... | 2,500.00 |  |  | ..... |
| Wilkie..... | 3,000.00 | Water supply..... | | | 3,000.00 | Oct. 6 |
| Wapella..... | 2,000.00 | Electric light extensions..... | | | 2,000.00 | ..... |
| | \$169,500.00 | | \$20,500.00 | \$7,100.00 | \$141,900.00 | |

Summary.

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| 18 Applications..... | \$169,500.00 |
| 3 Refused..... | 20,500.00 |
| 3 Reduced..... | 7,100.00 |
| 15 Authorisations..... | 141,900.00 |

SCHEDULE C.

APPLICATIONS TO BORROW BY WAY OF DEBENTURE FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1927.

Villages.

| Name | Amount | Purpose of debentures | How disposed of | | | Date debentures sold |
|-----------------------|------------|---|-----------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| | | | Refused | Reduced | Authorised | |
| Bateman | \$1,200.00 | Cement crossings and fire equipment | | | \$1,200.00 | Nov. 11 |
| Bateman | 500.00 | Hospital grant | | | 500.00 | ..... |
| Blaine Lake | 1,500.00 | Electric light plant | \$1,500.00 |  |  | ..... |
| Balcarres | 5,000.00 | Skating and curling rink | | | 5,000.00 | Oct. 7 |
| Bengough | 5,000.00 | Concrete walks | | \$2,000.00 | 3,000.00 | ..... |
| Bienfait | 1,800.00 | Electric light plant | | | 1,800.00 | May 11 |
| Climax | 8,000.00 | Public hall | 8,000.00 |  |  | ..... |
| Cudworth | 11,000.00 | Electric light plant | | | 11,000.00 | Oct. 13 |
| Coderre | 5,000.00 | Electric light plant | 5,000.00 |  |  | ..... |
| Edenwold | 2,000.00 | Electric light plant | 2,000.00 |  |  | ..... |
| Fillmore | 5,500.00 | Electric light plant | | | 5,500.00 | May 9 |
| Fort Qu'Appelle | 12,000.00 | Electric light plant | | | 12,000.00 | ..... |
| Fort Qu'Appelle | 1,600.00 | Electric light plant | | | 1,600.00 | ..... |
| Fielding | 1,500.00 | Plank walks | | | 1,500.00 | Aug. 13 |
| Fairlight | 2,500.00 | Concrete walks | | | 2,500.00 | Sept. 6 |
| Hawarden | 7,000.00 | Public hall | 7,000.00 |  |  | ..... |
| Hawarden | 3,500.00 | Municipal hall | | 700.00 | 2,800.00 | Oct. 31 |
| Imperial | 3,500.00 | Concrete walks | | | 3,500.00 | June 30 |
| Leask | 2,300.00 | Concrete walks | | | 2,300.00 | ..... |
| Laird | 1,000.00 | Concrete walks | | | 1,000.00 | July 6 |
| LaFleche | 7,000.00 | Concrete walks | | 2,000.00 | 5,000.00 | Oct. 19 |
| Montmartre | 1,200.00 | Municipal hall | | | 1,200.00 | July 15 |
| Montmartre | 2,000.00 | Water supply | | | 2,000.00 | July 15 |
| Macrorie | 3,000.00 | Public hall | 3,000.00 |  |  | ..... |

SCHEDULE C.
APPLICATIONS TO BORROW BY WAY OF DEBENTURE FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1927.
Villages—Continued.

| Name | Amount | Purpose of debentures | How disposed of | | | Date debentures sold |
|------------------|--------------|--|-----------------|-------------|--------------|----------------------|
| | | | Refused | Reduced | Authorised | |
| Maymont..... | \$1,000.00 | Water supply..... | | | \$1,000.00 | June 20 |
| Plato..... | 1,500.00 | Street grading and nuisance ground..... | | | 1,500.00 | Aug. 31 |
| Perdue..... | 1,500.00 | Concrete walks..... | | | 1,500.00 | Oct. 28 |
| Perdue..... | 4,500.00 | Municipal hall..... | | \$1,000.00 | 3,500.00 | Oct. 28 |
| Raymore..... | 3,000.00 | Concrete walks..... | | | 3,000.00 | Sept. 23 |
| Robsart..... | 3,500.00 | Electric light plant..... | \$3,500.00 | | | |
| Rush Lake..... | 3,500.00 | Public hall..... | 3,500.00 | | | |
| Stoughton..... | 4,000.00 | Concrete walks..... | | | 4,000.00 | July 15 |
| Shellbrook..... | 5,444.00 | Concrete walks..... | | | 5,444.00 | Aug. 10 |
| Strongfield..... | 3,000.00 | Skating and curling rink..... | | | 3,000.00 | Oct. 4 |
| Shellbrook..... | 1,650.00 | Gravelling roads..... | 1,650.00 | | | |
| Tessier..... | 3,000.00 | Concrete walks..... | | | 3,000.00 | |
| Tuxford..... | 765.00 | Recreation grounds and water supply..... | | | 765.00 | July 11 |
| Turtleford..... | 1,000.00 | Concrete walks..... | | | 1,000.00 | Sept. 13 |
| Val Marie..... | 2,700.00 | Sidewalks, fire equipment and grading..... | | 1,100.00 | 1,600.00 | Dec. 10 |
| Wawota..... | 1,200.00 | Drainage..... | | | 1,200.00 | Nov. 11 |
| Wakaw..... | 10,000.00 | Concrete walks..... | | 5,000.00 | 5,000.00 | July 23 |
| Woodrow..... | 4,000.00 | Municipal hall..... | | | 4,000.00 | Sept. 14 |
| Windthorst..... | 5,000.00 | Concrete walks..... | | | 5,000.00 | Aug. 19 |
| | \$154,859.00 | | \$35,150.00 | \$11,800.00 | \$107,909.00 | |

Summary.

| | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| 43 Applications..... | \$154,859.00 |
| 9 Refused..... | 35,150.00 |
| 6 Reduced..... | 11,800.00 |
| 34 Authorised..... | 107,909.00 |

SCHEDULE D.

APPLICATIONS TO BORROW BY WAY OF DEBENTURE FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1927.

Rural Municipalities.

| Name | Amount | Purpose of debentures | How disposed of | | | Date debentures sold |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|---------|-------------|----------------------|
| | | | Refused | Reduced | Authorised | |
| Cory No. 344..... | \$15,000.00 | Municipal building..... | | | \$15,000.00 | May 26 |
| Fillmore No. 96..... | 5,000.00 | Public highway..... | | | 5,000.00 | ..... |
| Lone Tree No. 18..... | 20,000.00 | Road building..... | \$20,000.00 |  |  | ..... |
| Lake Johnston No. 102..... | 5,000.00 | Municipal building..... | | | 5,000.00 | ..... |
| Gravelbourg No. 104..... | 10,000.00 | Contribution to hospital..... | | | 10,000.00 | ..... |
| | \$55,000.00 | | \$20,000.00 | | \$35,000.00 | |

Summary.

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| 5 Applications..... | \$55,000.00 |
| 1 Refused..... | 20,000.00 |
| 4 Authorisations..... | 35,000.00 |

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 26.

(In Part)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE SASKATCHEWAN FARM LOAN BOARD FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1927.

REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN, January 31, 1928.

TO THE HONOURABLE W. J. PATTERSON,
Provincial Treasurer.

SIR,—We have the honour of transmitting herewith our Report concerning the work of the Board for the year ended December 31, 1927, as provided by Section 28 of *The Saskatchewan Farm Loans Act*, being Chapter 25 of the Statutes of 1917.

Applications for loans were received during the year to the number of 328 for an aggregate amount of \$1,105,990, making a total of \$35,266,662 since the Board began business in 1917.

The season for threshing and marketing was very unfavourable. Notwithstanding this adverse condition the payments made by the borrowers exceeded \$900,000 and the Board was enabled to pay the Provincial Treasurer all interest due to December 31, 1927, and in addition to repay all money advanced for the year for administration expenses. The balance now owing amounts to \$140,407.83 out of a total of \$455,666.64 advanced for administration expenses to December 31, 1927.

The revenue for the year covered all operating expenses and depreciation and left a surplus of \$56,739.32. Of this sum \$50,000 was transferred to Real Estate Reserve. The Real Estate Reserve now stands at \$166,176.90 and the net Surplus carried forward to the year 1928 stands at \$289,636.75. The two accounts, Real Estate Reserve and Surplus, now aggregate \$455,813.65.

Prior to 1927 the Board had acquired title to 279 farms, almost entirely by transfer or foreclosure following abandonment. During 1927, 57 additional farms came on the Board's hands, making a total of 336, and 45 farms were sold during the year 1927, leaving the number of farms now on hand at 191. Many of these are rented.

The demand for farm lands is steadily improving both for selling and for renting and the Board looks to the future with confidence. The Reserves are, in the opinion of the Board, more than ample to cover any losses from the lands on hand.

During the year 99 new loans were made and 80 loans were paid off and, as in previous years, no notice or bonus was required.

Improved conditions have made it difficult for other lending institutions to maintain their 8 per cent. rate and during the last two seasons many loans have been made by other lending institutions at 7 per cent. and it is anticipated that the 7 per cent. rate will be more general for the coming season.

Respectfully submitted,

COLIN FRASER,
Commissioner.

J. O. HETTLE,
Member.

J. H. GRAYSON,
Member.

THE SASKATCHEWAN FARM LOAN BOARD BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1927.

LIABILITIES

ASSETS

| | | | |
|---|----|---------------|--------------|
| To ROYAL BANK—Overdraft..... | \$ | 42,901.47 | |
| To PROVINCIAL TREASURER | | | |
| For <i>Working Capital</i> | \$ | 10,198,277.45 | |
| Less Repayments..... | | 2,705,447.29 | 7,492,830.16 |
| For <i>Hail Insurance Advances</i> | | 247,146.95 | |
| Less Repayments..... | | 239,504.37 | 7,642.58 |
| For <i>Seed Grain Advances</i> | | 246,900.32 | |
| Less Repayments..... | | 235,209.88 | 11,690.44 |
| For <i>Taxes Advances</i> | | 735,059.59 | |
| Less Repayments..... | | 630,905.47 | 104,154.12 |
| For <i>Foreclosed Loan Advances</i> | | 688,911.06 | |
| Less Repayments..... | | 82,530.65 | 606,380.41 |
| For <i>Tax Sale Certificate Purchases</i> ... | | 155,780.41 | |
| Less Repayments..... | | 155,780.41 | |
| For <i>Real Estate Sales Advances</i> | | 485,919.71 | |
| Less Repayments..... | | 104,363.74 | 381,555.97 |
| For <i>Real Estate Sales Charges Advances</i> | | 8,264.10 | |
| Less Repayments..... | | 4,904.46 | 3,359.64 |
| For <i>Administration Expenses</i> | | 455,666.64 | |
| Less Repayments..... | | 315,258.81 | 140,407.83 |
| For <i>Interest on Advances</i> | | 3,500,082.20 | |
| Less Repayments..... | | 3,500,082.20 | |

| | | | |
|---|----|---------------|----------------|
| By CASH..... | \$ | 47,762.69 | |
| By INVESTMENTS AND ACCRUALS— | | | |
| <i>First Mortgages on Lands</i> | \$ | 10,197,826.04 | |
| Less Payments..... | | 2,705,447.29 | 7,492,378.75 |
| <i>Hail Insurance Advances</i> | | 247,146.95 | |
| Less Payments..... | | 239,504.37 | 7,642.58 |
| <i>Seed Grain Advances</i> | | 246,900.32 | |
| Less Payments..... | | 235,209.88 | 11,690.44 |
| <i>Taxes Advances</i> | | 735,059.59 | |
| Less Payments..... | | 630,905.47 | 104,154.12 |
| <i>Foreclosed Loan Advances</i> | | 688,911.06 | |
| Less Payments..... | | 82,530.65 | 608,380.41 |
| <i>Tax Sale Certificate Purchases</i> | | 155,780.41 | |
| Less Payments..... | | 155,780.41 | |
| <i>Real Estate Sales Advances</i> | | 492,096.61 | |
| Less Payments..... | | 102,076.15 | 390,020.46 |
| <i>Real Estate Sales Charges Advances</i> ... | | 8,264.10 | |
| Less Payments..... | | 4,904.46 | 3,359.64 |
| <i>Interest on Loans and Advances</i> accrued to October 31, 1927, due on November 1, 1927..... | | 4,212,243.03 | |
| <i>Interest on Foreclosed Loans</i> | | 37,392.74 | |
| <i>Interest on Real Estate Sales</i> | | 40,142.86 | |
| | | | \$4,289,778.63 |

OTHER LIABILITIES—

| | | | |
|--|----|----------|----------|
| Saskatchewan Farmers' Mutual Insurance Co..... | | 1,066.43 | |
| Wawanesa Farmers' Mutual Insurance Co..... | | 169.60 | |
| J. W. Blyth..... | | 177.26 | |
| Suspense..... | \$ | 1,491.80 | |
| Suspense, K. McDonald Loan..... | | 596.80 | |
| <hr/> | | | |
| Less net payments made in Suspense... \$ | | 2,088.60 | |
| On account of Real Estate..... | | 1,044.08 | 1,044.52 |

RESERVES—

| | | | |
|---|------------|----------------|------------|
| <i>Real Estate Reserve</i> set apart from Profit and Loss to provide for Losses... \$ | | 160,000.00 | |
| <i>Real Estate Earned Reserve</i> , Profits from sales foreclosures..... | \$8,464.49 | | |
| Less Debit Balance of <i>Liquidated Reserve</i> being losses on Paid Out Real Estate Sales..... | 2,287.59 | 6,176.90 | 166,176.90 |
| <hr/> | | | |
| <i>Profit and Loss</i> | | 298,656.75 | |
| <hr/> | | | |
| | | \$9,258,214.08 | |

| | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| <i>Less Interest Payments</i> | 3,750,153.14 | |
| <i>Less Interest Payments</i> , Foreclosed Loans..... | 37,392.74 | |
| <i>Less Interest Payments</i> , Real Estate Sales..... | 27,795.13 | |
| <hr/> | | |
| | \$3,815,341.01 | 474,437.62 |
| <hr/> | | |
| <i>Interest on Loans</i> accrued for November and December, 1927, not due till November 1, 1928..... | | 93,032.96 |
| <hr/> | | |
| EXPENDITURES RECEIVABLE— | | |
| <i>Mortgage Charges</i> Advanced..... | 367,744.11 | |
| Less Payments..... | 351,348.74 | 16,395.37 |
| <hr/> | | |
| <i>Solicitor's Disbursements</i> | | 209.29 |
| <i>Inspection Revenues</i> | | 400.00 |
| <hr/> | | |
| EQUIPMENT— | | |
| Office Furniture..... | 7,736.55 | |
| Less depreciation..... | 386.80 | 7,349.75 |
| <hr/> | | |
| Automobiles (6)..... | 3,934.50 | |
| Less depreciation..... | 934.50 | 3,000.00 |
| <hr/> | | |
| | | \$9,258,214.08 |

FARM LOAN BOARD

I certify that for the year ended December 31st, 1927, I have audited the Books and Accounts and have examined the securities of The Saskatchewan Farm Loan Board.

All my requirements have been complied with and in my opinion the above statements are properly drawn so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Board's affairs as shown by its books, but they must be considered only in connection with and subject to the attached schedules and report.

The Mortgagor's Trust Account is treated in a separate Statement.

(Signed) W. O. LOTT,
Deputy Provincial Auditor.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 27.

THE REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE SASKATCHEWAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION, MADE PURSUANT TO SECTION 6 OF THE ACT TO INCORPORATE THE SAID FOUNDATION, BEING CHAPTER 60 OF THE STATUTES OF SASKATCHEWAN, 1925-26.

TO THE HONOURABLE THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN.

Your Trustees respectfully beg to submit the following Report:

The members of the Commission appointed by the Saskatchewan Live Stock Pool, with the concurrence of the Trustees, to investigate the system of co-operative live stock marketing in operation in Great Britain and Denmark, duly sailed for Europe on the 25th of February, 1927, and actively pursued their investigations, not only in the said countries, but also in Germany, Poland, Holland and Ireland, until the last week of the following April. Since their return they have been preparing their Report regarding such investigations. Such report and a copy of their recommendations to your Trustees thereupon are submitted herewith.

The amount paid out by your Trustees in connection with the expenses of the said Commission has so far amounted to \$6,365.35.

At a meeting of your Trustees held on the 8th day of November last, Dr. W. C. Murray, President of the University of Saskatchewan, presented requests for grants to enable certain scientific investigations to be carried on by said University in respect of the marketing qualities of wheat, and of plant diseases. As a result your Trustees have decided to make the following grants to the said University for the following purposes:

- (a) For investigations into the environmental factors affecting the milling properties of Saskatchewan wheats and the baking qualities of flours made from them (1) the sum of \$3,070.00 for the purchase of periodicals and apparatus; (2) an annual amount of \$2,500.00 to \$3,000.00 for three years ending June 30, 1930, to provide the salary of a chemist specially trained in Colloidal Chemistry; (3) the sum of \$1,200.00 for the year ending June 30, 1928, for chemical supplies, payments to co-operators, collection of soil samples, inspection of plots, current periodicals, and other outlays similarly incidental to the proper fulfilment of such purpose.
- (b) To enable Professor Fraser to carry on investigations in Plant Pathology, root rots, "take all" glume rot, and certain fundamental researches in the pathology of rusts, feeding value of rusted straw, etc. (1) a sum not exceeding \$3,000.00 annually for three years ending June 30, 1930, to provide the salary of a trained plant pathologist; (2)

a sum not exceeding \$1,200.00 for the year ending December 1, 1928, to cover cost of student assistance, travelling and field expenses, and other outlays similarly incidental to the proper fulfillment of such purpose.

An audit was made by the Provincial Auditor of your trustees' accounts in respect to the above mentioned Foundation for the period beginning with the receipt by them of the Capital Fund thereof and ended upon the 30th day of April, 1927. A copy of the report of the said Auditor is attached hereto. The amount received to the credit of your Trustees in respect of income to the date hereof is \$20,445.61.

Dated this fourteenth day of February, A. D. 1928.

P. E. MACKENZIE,
Chairman.

W. J. RUTHERFORD,
C. M. HAMILTON,
Trustees.

TRUSTEES OF THE SASKATCHEWAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION.

REVENUE STATEMENT PERIOD ENDED 30TH APRIL, 1927.

| RECEIPTS | PAYMENTS |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Interest on Investments.....\$ 13,500.00 | Secretary's Bond.....\$ 60.00 |
| Interest on Bank Account... 19.96 | Rent of Safety Deposit Box.. 3.00 |
| | Travelling Expenses..... 84.10 |
| | Books and Stationery..... 24.00 |
| | Sundry..... 4.60 |
| | Overseas Commission..... 6,260.00 |
| | \$ 6,435.00 |
| | Balance in Bank..\$ 7,394.26 |
| | Less Capital |
| | Account... 310.00 7,084.26 |
| <u>\$ 13,519.96</u> | <u>\$ 13,519.96</u> |

CAPITAL BALANCE SHEET 30TH APRIL, 1927.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Cash due by Current Account\$ 310.00 | Capital Funds.....\$284,200.00 |
| Investments..... 283,890.00 | |
| <u>\$284,200.00</u> | <u>\$284,200.00</u> |

CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCE SHEET.

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Bank.....\$ 7,394.26 | Due to Capital Account.....\$ 310.00 |
| | Current Surplus..... 7,084.26 |
| <u>\$ 7,394.26</u> | <u>\$ 7,394.26</u> |

Certified correct,

G. L. HOPKINS,
Provincial Auditor.

Speech delivered by

MR. W. G. ROSS, K.C., M.L.A.

(*Moose Jaw City*)

in the

DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE SPEECH
FROM THE THRONE

in the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,

Thursday, January 26, 1928.

Mr. Ross, in moving that an Humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, thanking His Honour for his gracious Speech which His Honour had addressed to the Assembly at the opening of the Session, said:

Mr. Speaker, before commenting on the subject matter of the address which has been presented to you by His Honour the Lieutenant Governor of the Province, may I be permitted to allude to the long period of public service His Honour has given, not to Saskatchewan alone but to all Western Canada. Members of the Bar of this House, whether seated to the right or the left of the Chair, without exception will agree with me when I say that it is difficult to find sufficient words of praise for the service His Honour has given. While on the bench, he was always a fearless and accurate judge of facts, but I think that his greatest service was in the interpretation of the Statute Law of the Province. A famous United States judge has said that it was his conviction that "the law never leads civilisation but rather follows in its wake; that its purpose and its object is to regulate and control the relations of men with each other, and their relations to the state; but these relations must first come, must first be established, before there is anything for the law to regulate. Progress goes on; new inventions are made; new relations between men occur and it is the office and the purpose of the law to march behind them, to regulate and order and systematise them, and produce, if need be, justice out of injustice." As legal adviser to the Yukon Council from 1902 to 1904, as a judge of the Supreme Court of the North West Territories, later of the Supreme Court of Saskatchewan, and later still as a judge of the Court of Appeal of the Province, His Honour has had a long record of earnest, untiring public service that always will remain a colorful part in the history of Saskatchewan and its people. I think I voice the sentiments of every honourable member of the House and of all the people of the Province, when I express the hope that he will have many years before him to continue his active participation in public affairs in this Province.

May I also be permitted to allude to the absence from this House today, of a very dear old friend of mine, of us all, one who was a member of this House during the sessions of 1925, 1926 and 1927—I refer to the late William MacLachlan, former Member for Morse constituency. Always genial, cordial, earnest and self-sacrificing in service to his constituents; always keenly interested in and supporting, every movement that affected Saskatchewan's basic industry, agriculture, he will be missed on the floor of this House, in the caucus of his party, and on the Committees of the House. I am sure that the sincere sympathy of every honourable member of this House goes out to the members of his family in their sad bereavement.

May I also, at this time, offer my congratulations to the honourable member for Maple Creek (*Hon. George Spence*) on his return to the Provincial field of politics after a brief sojourn at Ottawa, on his well-merited election to this Legislature and on his elevation to the Executive Council of this Province. The honourable Member to whom I refer has seen long service in this House, and has rendered long and very efficient service to the people in the south-western part of this Province. I think even my honourable friends sitting opposite will agree that the Premier of the Province should be congratulated on having taken into his Council one whose knowledge of the needs of the Province and one whose ability to solve those problems is so pre-eminent as that of the honourable member for Maple Creek. I do not think that I presume too much when I say that no member of this House, either in the House or on the hustings, will ever accuse the honourable member of lack of sincerity or earnestness in service, in anything that he does in the administration of his Department or in carrying out his part of the policies of the Government.

With your indulgence, Mr. Speaker, and that of honourable members of the House, I venture to express the hope that sometime during the session we will receive a comprehensive report of the proceedings of the conference between Provincial Prime Ministers and the Dominion Government held at Ottawa during the summer of 1927. I must confess that I do not know what the procedure has been in the past in this House as to reports of this nature. I do know, however, that one of the most interesting days I have spent, was spent in the gallery of the House of Commons at Ottawa, last March, listening to the report made by Rt. Hon. W. L. MacKenzie King and the Hon. Ernest Lapointe on the last Imperial Conference. I venture to hope that a similar report given by our own delegates to the last Inter-Provincial Conference would be equally interesting to every honourable member of this Legislature.

Honourable members opposite, perhaps, will not agree with me when I say that the stamp of approval should be given to the Premier of Canada, his Minister of Justice and other Members of the Dominion Government for the part that they played not only in the arrangements for the conference, but in the manner in which they assisted in leading discussion and in smoothing out the differences that arose between different sections of Canada.

It is always a source of satisfaction to anyone in public life to know that, once in a while, one of his most bitter opponents can find some good in him. With your permission, Mr. Speaker, and with the indulgence of the House, I want to refer to some portions of an article entitled "The Inter-Provincial Conference, its Problems and Personalities" written by Gratton O'Leary and appearing in a Canadian magazine published this month. It is probably unnecessary for me to state that it is a marvellous thing for Mr. Gratton O'Leary to find anything good to say about the present Government of Canada, its leaders, its ministers; or of the Government of this Province, its leaders or its ministers. I find, however, that he commences his article in this manner:

"Talleyrand, who was a very wise man, as well as a great diplomatist, said that he knew of no political problem which could not be settled by twelve men of good will sitting down together around a table. The claim has frequently been vindicated. It has found vindication, for example, in the Imperial Conferences which meet periodically in London, and now Premier King, who has more political wisdom than even his friends will admit, has invoked the idea in Canada. For the Inter-Provincial Conference, in Ottawa, was the child of his thought. He inspired the idea; outlined its organisation; put it, like the Imperial Conference, upon a grand scale; set the tone of its discussion; and, what is by no means unimportant, vested it with that political and social significance, and pomp and circumstance by which men love to be governed."

Later on in the same article, he has this to say:

"Sectionalism could never thrive in an atmosphere like that.

"It did not. Not that all delegates agreed. They disagreed, indeed, about amending the Constitution, and about reforming the Senate, and about many other things. But they disagreed in the British way, openly, candidly, and good-humoredly. Always, too, there was a sustained recognition of the need of unity; a recognition that Confederation, which was founded upon compromise, must exist by compromise; a recognition also that government is a procession of second-best choices, and that the surest indication a people can give of their capacity to govern themselves is their ability to recognise that they cannot have everything they want in a very imperfect world. That one thought, was the temper of the delegates when, replying to their request for concessions which would have taken \$100,000,000 out of the Dominion treasury, Mr. Robb turned the Provinces away empty-handed but with words of such mellow wisdom and good humor that nobody seemed much to care.

"'Oh, East is East, and West is West', sang Kipling, 'and never the twain shall meet'. But they met at this Conference, and fraternised. And, after all, little wonder, for most of Canada's Western Leaders were cradled in the East. Premier Maclean, of British Columbia, was born, reared and grew up in Prince Edward Island. Premier Brownlee, of Alberta, first looked out upon the world from a little farmhouse in Ontario. So did Gardiner, of Saskatchewan; so did Bracken, of Manitoba. And it is the same with Western Legislatures. Of the two hundred and twenty-six men who make up their membership, only twelve were born in the Provinces they serve. The rest are from the East. The harbors and ships of Nova Scotia; the winding rivers and the valleys of New Brunswick; the countryside and the towns of Ontario—all these they remember and cherish."

Mr. O'Leary concludes with these words:

"As for the Conference's achievements, they were not tangible; but they were great. It ironed out difficulties; created sympathy, knowledge and understanding of inter-provincial problems; broke down barriers of suspicion; made for harmony and good will. That, in Canada, sixty years after Confederation, is a splendid thing. These Provinces will never sever while men who mould their destiny can meet together and, hopefully, prayerfully and unitedly, work for the common good."

May I say again that it is a source of satisfaction to know that the pen of one of the most consistent political opponents of the Liberal Government at Ottawa, finds some good in the part played by Liberals in this great movement; and I commend the writer for

the broad-minded spirit with which he has treated his subject. If, and when, my desire for a full report of these proceedings is gratified, I am sure that the congratulations and approval of this House will go to the Premier and those of his Ministers who assisted him at Ottawa, for the part they played in that important Conference.

Before I leave this subject, I venture to express the hope that these Conferences will continue, because in them we have one great means of ensuring both the abolition of sectionalism, racial and religious prejudices, and the establishment of a real, lasting Canadian unity. Again with your indulgence, and that of this House, may I quote from an address given by Mr. MacKenzie King at Quebec, in 1923, in which he said:

"Canada has been a land of reconciliation. Many strains of blood go to make up our nation. Through the veins of some of us flows alike loyalist and rebel blood. But we are essentially one people. We have learned to admire principle and the spirit which is ready to fight to maintain it, but we have learned also to respect honest differences of opinion. In our soil, the enmities of past generations lie buried; enmities of race which have occasioned war; enmities of political hate which have occasioned rebellion. Today, we are a united people, seeking first and foremost an enduring unity, not a unity which aims at uniformity, but the unity which delights in diversity. Such, I believe, is the model on which the community of British nations is patterned."

Such, Mr. Speaker, I believe, is the model on which the community of Canadian Provinces is patterned, and the continuation of the Inter-Provincial Conferences is the best means of constructing the final edifice.

It is a source of very great satisfaction to me to find that, in the Speech from the Throne, the matter of Old Age Pensions is referred to this House for consideration. As chairman for some years of the Health and Relief Committee in the City Council of my home City; as a member of the General Hospital Board there for some years, and as one of the officers of the executive of the Saskatchewan Red Cross Society, I have had ample means of acquiring a knowledge of the degree of suffering which comes to some of our people in the later years of their lives.

Honourable members of this House, who represent cities, and honourable members who represent constituencies where the larger towns of the Province are located, are closer in touch with this situation than those who represent the more purely rural constituencies, and are vitally interested in the passage of this measure. May I say, too, that credit is due the honourable, the senior Member for Moose Jaw City (*Mr. Baker*) for having introduced with a very able speech at a previous session of this House, a resolution approving of the principle of Old Age Pensions in this Province. It is also to the credit of members of this House sitting on both sides of the Chair, that the resolution was passed unanimously. It is also to the credit of the Parliament of Canada that it has provided the necessary machinery whereby the pension scheme may be made operative as a joint effort of the Dominion and the Provinces.

Ever since the Dominion Statute became law, I have had many enquiries from people who would come under the operation of the Act, as to when it would come into effect. I have had to

tell them all that it could not go into effect in Saskatchewan until the Legislature of the Province had taken action. I sincerely trust that the House will favourably receive this Legislation so that the fullest measure of relief may be granted. I do not want, and I think most honourable members do not want, to go back and face their constituents unless this measure is completely passed at this session.

I desire at this stage, Mr. Speaker, to direct some attention to the highway problem in the Province. I want to make it clear that I have no criticism to make of the past policy of the Government to which it has consistently adhered. With a main highway system of 7,300 miles and a market road system of 25,000 miles more, with a scarcity of good road-making material and a prohibitive cost of permanent road surfacing, the problem has been a gigantic one. The Government, the Highways Department, and the Municipalities are to be congratulated on the splendid progress made so far. But I submit, Sir, that the time has arrived when some step must be taken to bring our highway system up to a standard even better than other Provinces have attained.

In a very short while our population will have reached the 1,000,000 mark. The number of motor-propelled vehicles will soon reach the 200,000 mark. I do not know the number of tourist cars that passed through the Province last year, but it is safe to say that, within two or three years, that number will be doubled.

When you have listened to some of the complaints made by our friends in the Maritimes, and when you read the reports of some of the commissions that have investigated conditions there, you come to the conclusion that the Maritime Provinces are in a bad way. But the little Province of Nova Scotia has 15,000 miles of constructed highway, 5,000 of which is gravelled and in splendid condition. Alberta has a main highway system of 2,500 miles, of which 1,003 miles have been built and 485 miles gravelled, while Alberta's district road system comprises 10,500 miles. Manitoba, up to April 30, 1927, had 1,954 miles of gravelled highway.

P. A. C. Henry, Director of the Bureau of Economics, speaking at the Inter-Provincial Conference of the Canadian Good Roads Association, at Niagara Falls, last summer said (speaking for the C.N.R.):

"We believe that the future of this country depends, primarily, upon the way in which its transportation facilities are developed, as, upon their excellence, depends the extent to which the people of the Province prosper."

I say, therefore, that as long as we fail to inaugurate and carry out a policy of all-weather roads in this Province, just so long will our prosperity fail to reach the standard which it should. May I say, Mr. Speaker, to the Government of this Province and to the honourable members of this House, that there is now, throughout the whole of this Province, a demand for immediate action, not from residents of towns and cities alone, but from the rural communities as well, a demand which, I think, no honourable member can overlook.

This leads us to the point where consideration must be given to the financial problem incidental to increased activity in road

construction. The address which His Honour has presented to this House refers to means whereby this money can be found. The Premier in his Budget Address a year ago, intimated the possibility of the establishment of a Gasoline Tax. The report of the Fact-Finding Committee (appointed at the Inter-Provincial Conference in 1925) submitted to the Canadian Good Roads Convention, as set out in Vol. 53 of the "*Canadian Engineer*" at page 166, has this recommendation under the heading "Uniform Tax Regulation:"

"A general legislative programme be undertaken by the Provinces embracing

1. The regulation of the motor fuel tax as the fairest method of measuring the use of the road by motor vehicles;

2. The taxation of commercial, private or common carrier vehicle for highway wear and tear, based on

- (a) Passenger carriers—potential passenger mile capacity;

- (b) Freight carriers—potential ten miles capacity."

May I suggest, by the way, that the Government consider the advisability of placing a copy of the full report of the Convention held by the Good Roads Association, last year, in the hands of every member of the House? This report contains the most complete and valuable discussion of ways and means of road construction that has been published.

Now, I do not propose to weary honourable members of this House with statistics as to the successful operation of this Gasoline Tax in a large percentage of the States to the south of us and in other Provinces of the Dominion. It has been a popular tax, easy and cheap to collect, and has been productive of large returns.

No accurate figures are available, as far as I know, as to the exact number of gallons of gas sold in a year in this Province, but it has been estimated that a three-cent tax per gallon would yield approximately \$750,000. This, in my opinion, is a low estimate.

In Alberta, in 1926, there were 65,590 cars registered, and the gasoline consumed amounted to 21,188,898 gallons.

In Manitoba, in 1926, the number of cars registered was 58,724, and the quantity of gasoline used was 17,433,810 gallons.

This gives a total for the two provinces of:

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Cars | 124,314; |
| Gas used | 38,622,708 gallons. |

The quantity of gasoline used per car, therefore, was:

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| In Alberta— | 323 gallons; |
| In Manitoba— | 296.8 gallons; |
| Average per car— | 310 gallons. |

In the Province of Saskatchewan in 1926, there were 97,267 motor vehicles registered, and at an average of 310 gallons of gasoline per car, the total quantity of gasoline consumed would amount to 30,152,770 gallons. This amount, at a one cent tax, would yield \$301,527; at a two cent rate, \$603,054, and at a three cent rate, \$904,581.

But, to be conservative, let us take the figure of \$750,000. This amount would provide interest at 5% per annum and an adequate sinking fund for a debenture issue, running 20 years, of

\$9,350,000. It is safe to say that the return from the tax would always be safe and sure, and that the annual return would tend to increase from year to year. Debentures could be issued annually for an amount fixed on the basis of the increased return from the tax due to the increased consumption of gas, or on an increased gallonage tax if that should be found advisable.

But it would not be necessary to use any such sum as \$9,350,000 for this purpose at the present time. The distance, roughly, from the Manitoba boundary to the Alberta boundary, along Federal Highway No. 1, is 385 miles. The distance from Prince Albert to the U.S. boundary, allowing for diversions that might be necessary and taking the shortest possible route, namely that from Prince Albert to Saskatoon to Moose Jaw to Poplar River, would be, roughly, 350 miles. The distance from Kamsack to Lloydminster would be, roughly, 405 miles, making a total mileage in this gravel road system of 1,140 miles. At \$15 a mile, which is the estimate given by the Highways Department for gravelling, the amount of money required would be only \$1,710,000. Assuming that no part of the 1,140 miles were built ready to receive gravel, it would cost at \$2,300 per mile, \$2,622,000 to construct this mileage fit to receive the gravel surface.

I think, perhaps, it would be fair to say, without having accurate figures as to the amount of this highway that is already constructed, and inasmuch as our total Provincial Highway system consists of 7,000 miles, half of which is already constructed, that it would take half of that sum of \$2,622,000 I have mentioned to put this suggested gravel system into shape to receive this surface. This would mean, therefore, that the sum of \$1,311,000 would be required for road construction outside of the gravel, and that the total amount necessary in order to complete the whole system, gravel and all, would be \$3,021,000.

Allowing still further for unforeseen expenditure and possible errors in my computation or estimate as to the mileage, let us assume that we will expend in this work, \$3,500,000. At 5% per annum with debentures running over 20 years, the amount of money required to pay interest and provide an adequate sinking fund for the retirement of the bonds, would be \$292,537. This would leave out of our total return from the tax of \$750,000, an annual sum of \$457,463 for maintenance charges or new construction.

I can readily understand, of course, that if this expenditure were made, some honourable gentlemen sitting opposite would endeavour to make great capital out of it when the next election is held, in an endeavour to show the people of this province that this Government had unwarrantably increased the provincial debt by the sum of \$3,500,000. I am not so sure too, that there are not Members sitting on this side of the House who would be rather fearful of taking such a step. For my part, I can say frankly, that, if I had to choose between the expenditure of \$3,500,000 on the basis that I have mentioned, with a reasonable assurance of an adequate return and adequate provision for interest and

sinking fund, and defeat at the next election, I would be very glad indeed to take the defeat, because I would feel satisfied that even though we had been defeated, we had given this province a constructive, advanced road programme that had had the result of placing Saskatchewan in its proper place among the provinces of this Dominion. But, as I said before, I am satisfied that there is in this province, among all its people, a real demand for such a programme, and that the carrying out of such a programme would not result in the defeat of the Government, but in increased majorities for its present supporters.

In this connection I would like to refer to certain details regarding motor vehicle registrations in Canada and returns from Gasoline Taxation as set out in Circular No. 8 of the Highways Branch of the Dominion Government. The main features of these details are as follows:

DETAILS REGARDING MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION IN CANADA,
1926.

Table No. 1—Car Registration:

| Province | Population | Total registration | Persons per vehicle |
|---------------------------|------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| British Columbia..... | 568,400 | 68,436 | 8 |
| Alberta..... | 607,584 | 65,590 | 9 |
| Saskatchewan..... | 821,042 | 97,267 | 8 |
| Manitoba..... | 639,056 | 68,724 | 11 |
| Ontario..... | 3,145,600 | 390,126 | 8 |
| Quebec..... | 2,561,800 | 107,994 | 24 |
| New Brunswick..... | 407,200 | 21,182 | 19 |
| Prince Edward Island..... | 87,000 | 3,458 | 25 |
| Nova Scotia..... | 540,000 | 24,006 | 21 |
| Yukon..... | 3,450 | 142 | 24 |
| | 9,381,132 | 838,925 | 11 |

Table No. 2—Revenues from Registration Taxes, etc.:

| Province | Registration Fees | Gasoline Tax | Total Revenue |
|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|
| British Columbia..... | \$1,445,211 | \$710,279 | \$2,155,500 |
| Alberta..... | 1,125,224 | 423,778 | 1,549,002 |
| Saskatchewan..... | 1,692,690 | nil | 1,692,690 |
| Manitoba..... | 750,268 | 523,014 | 1,273,282 |
| Ontario..... | 6,415,712 | 3,535,775 | 9,949,487 |
| Quebec..... | not known | ..... | ..... |
| New Brunswick..... | 568,378 | nil | 568,378 |
| Prince Edward Island..... | 71,595 | 31,760 | 103,355 |
| Nova Scotia..... | 604,456 | 206,497 | 810,953 |

Table No. 3—Revenue per Vehicle:

| Province | Registration Fees per vehicle | Gasoline Tax per vehicle | Total Revenue per vehicle |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| British Columbia..... | \$21.12 | \$10.37 | \$31.49 |
| Alberta..... | 17.14 | 6.47 | 23.61 |
| Saskatchewan..... | 17.40 | nil | 17.40 |
| Manitoba..... | 12.77 | 8.91 | 21.68 |
| Ontario..... | 16.44 | 9.06 | 25.50 |
| Quebec..... | not known | ..... | ..... |
| New Brunswick..... | 26.83 | nil | 26.83 |
| Prince Edward Island..... | 20.70 | 9.18 | 29.88 |
| Nova Scotia..... | 23.24 | 7.94 | 31.18 |

Table No. 4—Gasoline Tax:

| Province | Gasoline used gallons | Tax per gallon | Gas used per car gals. |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| British Columbia..... | 23,675,975 | \$.03 | 345 |
| Alberta..... | 21,188,898 | .02 | 323 |
| Saskatchewan..... | nil | ..... | ..... |
| Manitoba..... | 17,433,810 | .03 | 297 |
| Ontario..... | 117,792,494 | .03 | 302 |
| Quebec..... | not known | .03 | not known |
| New Brunswick..... | nil | .02 | ..... |
| Prince Edward Island..... | 1,588,024 | .02 | 459 |
| Nova Scotia..... | 6,883,228 | .03 | 264 |
| | 188,562,429 | ... | 307 |

NOTE.—The Gasoline Tax in Alberta was raised to .03c. per gallon in 1927.

Table No. 3 is particularly interesting in view of the demand for a reduction in the cost of motor licenses. You will note, in the final analysis, from the above table, that the Province of Saskatchewan has the lowest cost in the way of taxation on automobiles of any province in the Dominion, with the exception, possibly, of the Province of Quebec, the figures for which province, for some unknown reason, are not available. Leaving out the question of gasoline taxation altogether, and dealing only with license fees collected as motor licenses, you will note that Saskatchewan is the fourth lowest province in the Dominion; Alberta being very close to our figure, and Ontario also very close. This, I think, is a satisfactory answer to those who are demanding reduction in motor licenses, and I submit for the consideration of this House that, even although the Gasoline Tax be put into effect, these motor license fees should not be reduced until not only our highway system, but also our market road system, is on a very substantial way to completion.

At the Good Roads meeting at Niagara Falls, last year, it was further suggested that the Federal Government be approached with the object of securing an extension of the Federal Roads Grants.

There is ample warrant for such action. It is possible that, during the session, we may receive information as to whether this matter was discussed during the Inter-Provincial Conference at Ottawa, and what conclusion, if any, was reached. I wish, therefore, to make this suggestion: That the Government should direct its attention this session to immediate action in the matter of completing Highway No. 1, the present Federal Highway, with a proper gravelled surface; that it should commit itself to a policy of construction of a gravelled North-and-South highway from Prince Albert through Saskatoon, thence along the present highway from Saskatoon to Moose Jaw; thence to either Estevan along the Soo Line highway, or from Moose Jaw to East Poplar River; that, when this is completed or well underway, a third surfaced road be built from Kamsack on the east, thence to Saskatoon, thence to Lloydminster.

Before leaving this discussion, I would like to refer to another recommendation of the Fact-Finding Committee which I have already mentioned;—that consideration should be given to the taxation of commercial, private or common carrier vehicles for highway wear and tear based on: (a) Passenger carriers—potential passenger mile capacity; (b) Freight carriers—potential ton mile capacity.

Within the last three years there has been a remarkable increase in the passenger-carrying business. In my own constituency, there are at least, half-a-dozen motor bus lines with routes radiating from the city of Moose Jaw in all directions, and the same holds true of other cities. The heavier passenger buses, driven at high speed, are exceedingly destructive to road surfaces, and when they are driven over wet roads, the effect is worse still. With continued improvement in our highway system, the 'bus traffic and truck traffic is going to increase enormously. I venture the hope, therefore, that at this sitting of the House, adequate Legislation will be brought down providing for some equitable system of licensing such vehicles to insure a proper contribution by them towards the expense of maintaining our highways.

There is just one further highway problem to which I want to refer and that very briefly. If we are going to get the maximum benefit out of our highways once they are built, attention must be given the matter of keeping them open twelve months in the year. Here again, we come up against a financial matter. May I suggest, however, that the Highways Department at an early date, obtain and make available to honourable members of the House, all possible data from other Provinces of this Dominion and from the Northern States on snow removal? I would further suggest that some study be made as to the possible decrease in the cost of summer maintenance as result of the roads being kept open and clear of snow throughout the winter months. I offer the opinion of Charles F. Talman as set forth in an article in the New York Times of January 8, last:

“When snow is permitted to remain on the roadway, heavy traffic will soon wear ruts down to the road bed and then constant tracking in the same ruts has a ruinous effect on the surface. Unpaved roads require an excessive amount of

re-grading, if the snow is allowed to melt on the roadway instead of in the ditch. In one State, we are told that an average of \$50,000 spent in each winter, saves \$200,000 in maintenance expenses later in the year."

If this statement is even approximately correct, this angle of the problem deserves the serious consideration by our Government. I am convinced the fact the roads are impassable during the greater part of the winter entails a considerable loss of business to the cities and towns of this Province.

I trust, Mr. Speaker, that I have not wearied the members with this discussion of our transportation problem. If I have, it is because, as a native-son of this Province, I am vitally interested in seeing it stand second to none in the excellence of its transportation system, just as I am interested in its Government, both municipal and provincial, its educational institutions, its standard of public health, and in the administration of law and order within its boundaries.

Before I turn this motion over to the seconder (*Mr. Robertson*), I want to refer to another problem of equal importance with the highway problem, the problem of immigration. In the past we have felt that this was a Federal matter, that it was a part of the function of the Dominion Government to operate a Department of Immigration and Colonisation, which should serve all Canada. That has been no easy matter, because of the great diversity in climatic conditions, the wide choice of avocations, the varying agricultural methods necessary in the different provinces, different customs, etc. Saskatchewan, on the whole, has not done badly, as the following statistics show:

Population of Saskatchewan in

1906—257,763

1911—492,432

1916—647,835

1921—757,510

1926—821,042

But I am not sure that we should be satisfied with that record. I am not sure that we should leave the matter entirely to the Dominion Government. British Columbia did not; neither did Alberta. Some years ago, the Government of British Columbia appointed an Agent General to reside in London. That official had two functions to perform; one, to find markets for the products of the province, and the other to find immigrants for the province. I am told he performed both these functions exceedingly well.

Saskatchewan is the third province in the Dominion so far as population is concerned. It has the greatest wheat area in the world, excelling both in quantity and in quality of this product. In its mining industry, its lumber and pulp, its fur and fishing resources, development has only commenced. It has available more unoccupied agricultural land than any other province of the Dominion. Granting all this, I ask the question again: Are we doing all that we can do towards filling this Province with new people of the right kind?

I trust that, as one of the junior Members of this House, I will not be considered presumptuous if I suggest to the Government the advisability of early and careful consideration of the suggestion to appoint an Agent General in England, whose duty it will be to see that the interests of Saskatchewan are protected, to find markets for our surplus produce, and the best class of immigrants to fill our vacant spaces. In saying this, I wish it understood that I am not critical of what has been done in the past. I realise that during the war years, and the years of post-war reconstruction, we had to move slowly and carefully. I am convinced now we are round the corner. Canada has this year paid off \$55,000,000 of its National Debt out of current revenue. That is fair evidence of the prosperity that is here. The next few years are going to be Canada's years.

If, therefore, I may have offered anything constructive in the way of speeding up the early solution of those two great problems, transportation and immigration, both of which so vitally affect the prosperity of this Province, I shall consider that my time at the session of the Legislature has been well spent.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, may I express my appreciation of the honour that has been conferred on the Constituency of Moose Jaw City in according me the privilege of moving this motion. I am quite aware that this honour has not been conferred because of any qualification of my own, but because of the excellence and importance of the constituency which I have the honour to represent along with my honourable friend, the senior Member for Moose Jaw City. I desire, therefore, to express to the Premier of the Province and to his colleagues on behalf of my constituents, their sincere thanks.

I beg to move, Sir, seconded by the honourable member for Morse, (*Mr. Robertson*), "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.

Speech delivered by

MR. J. T. M. ANDERSON, M.L.A.

(*Saskatoon City*)

in the

DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE SPEECH
FROM THE THRONE

in the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,

Friday, January 27, 1928.

Mr. Anderson, in speaking during the debate on the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne, said:

Mr. Speaker,—Before dealing with the various matters upon which I wish to touch in connection with the Speech from the Throne, I would like, first of all, to take the opportunity of congratulating the members who are taking their seats in this House for the first time. I refer to the honourable member for Moose Jaw City, the honourable member for Maple Creek, and the honourable member for Morse. In connection with the constituency of Morse, I would be negligent in my duty were I to omit making reference to the death of the late member, Mr. McLachlan, one of the finest men who sat in the House, and who was held in very high esteem by every member. With regard to the constituency of Maple Creek, I desire to express my regret at the absence, at this session, of Mr. Hyde, who was a strong, astute member, and a fair political fighter with whom we had no differences—outside the House! I regret very much he is not in his seat today, and that he was not taken into the Government.

I also wish to congratulate the mover of the Address, the junior member for Moose Jaw City (*Mr. Ross*) on his very able “maiden speech” in this House. I never had the pleasure of meeting him until he came to take his seat in the House, but I would say to him that, if ever he comes to the city of Saskatoon and wishes to address a Conservative meeting, I will see that every arrangement is made to accommodate him. I think I can promise him that he will not be treated as he treated me during the Moose Jaw by-election, when, after refusing my request for permission to speak from the same platform as himself, he broadcasted a radio invitation to any opposition speaker. I congratulate him, however, on the speech he made here, and I shall deal with his reference to highways and immigration later on.

With regard to the seconder, the honourable member for Morse (*Mr. Robertson*), I also wish to congratulate him on his address, and now that he knows the difficulties facing a member

who makes his "maiden speech" in this House, he may sympathise with those of us on this side who had to make our "maiden speeches", facing so large a group of opponents. I am reminded of the dream which the honourable member for Hanley (*Mr. Stipe*) told us about; when dreaming of the Ballad of "The Revenge,"

"Spanish ships of war at sea
"We have sighted fifty-three,"

he awakened to the realisation that there were fifty-three stalwart opponents occupying the seats opposite.

Now, Mr. Speaker, there has been a reshuffle and re-arrangement of the cabinet since the last session of this House, and, as matters of that kind are of considerable importance to the people of this Province, I consider I have a perfect right to pass some remarks on the changes made since the General Election of 1925. If I remember rightly, I was referred to on one occasion as being a "chameleon" or something of the kind, but the remark amused me at the time and I was interested enough to look in the dictionary for a definition of the term.

When we consider the changes of Government that have taken place, the "chameleon-like" qualities of the Government become very apparent. In 1925, for example, we had the Dunning Government. Not the Liberal Government, mind you; it was called the Dunning Government. When Mr. Dunning departed, the opposition was quite contented feeling that it had seen the last of that style of Government for all time to come. The opposite proved to be true, however, for in 1926, the Gardiner Government came into power with two new members in the Cabinet, and what we find in 1927 is that only two of the original ministers hold the same portfolios they started with. If there is any valid reason for these changes, I would like to know it. It is not fair to the people of this Province not to give the real reason for the changes made. Yes! it has "chameleon-like" qualities, and it was interesting to look up the dictionary for the definition of the term. The dictionary tells us that the chameleon is a little animal with a very "extensile tongue." We can appreciate that very much after reading the address of the Attorney-General (*Hon. Mr. Davis*) in last year's Sessional Papers. Then it says "they live on air." I leave to yourselves to draw the comparison. Then "their period of life covers 24 years," sometimes 23—you'll grasp the significance of that life-term and apply it to this Government. Since 1925, therefore, the description "chameleon-like" is very appropriate as applied to this Government.

During the period of which I speak we have seen the passing of the Minister of Public Works. I do not know why that happened but I do feel that the late Minister of Public Works would have preferred to stay in that position. Also, we have seen the passing of the late Minister of Education—from that portfolio at least. Now, I respect the late Minister of Education, and, while we on this side of the House have had frequent occasion to criticise the system, we are not prepared to blame entirely the former Minister for the defects of that system. Then we have seen the passing of

an Attorney-General (*Mr. Cross*) for whom we had great respect in spite of what will go down in history as the "J. P. Session." I refer to the last Session of this House. He too has gone out of the picture, though still a member of the House. We regret his passing, for he always treated the opposition with the utmost courtesy. You can visualise the situation. The Premier needed a new Minister of Education and a new Attorney-General. He had forty-seven gentlemen to choose from, and made his decision for better or for worse. He himself took over the Department of Education, and transferred the Minister of Municipal Affairs to the Attorney-General's Department, putting the former Minister of Education into Municipal Affairs. All that was done without drawing on the forty-seven. Then he finds need for another minister and scans the list but finds all the portfolios filled, so he creates a new Department of Railways, the scope of which, we are told, he proposes to extend. But why we should have a Minister of Railways in a Province such as this, and for a Department which is expending only some \$1,065 a year, I cannot, for the life of me, see! Far more essential that we have a Minister of Colonisation and Immigration than a Minister of Railways! The Press, in reporting the announcement made by the ex-Minister of Education during the absence of the Premier, said that the new Minister would be Minister of Railways. The *Gazette* notice, later on, said he would be Minister of Highways. Now we are told he is to be Minister of Railways with the Department extended to include Labour and Industries as well. There is some evidence of vacillation here. Apparently the Government did not know its own mind. But, the Premier wanted to find a new minister, and apparently he had not the material in his large family of 47 from which to select the new minister. He looked around, and having done that he decided to go afield for his new minister. He went to Ottawa.

Why was there a change in the Department of Education? Was it because the criticism levelled against that Department from this side of the House had been found justified? Why the change in the Department of the Attorney-General? Are the rumours of laxity in enforcement of the law correct? Why did the Premier overlook the older members of his party in choosing successors for his departing ministers? However, we have no desire to criticise the new ministers, and we congratulate them on their appointments, but, at the same time, we wish to express our sincere sympathies with those who have been overlooked, and offer our condolences to those who have felt the keen blade of political ingratitude.

There is evidently no great amount of harmony in the large family on the opposite side. The frantic actions of the Government would suggest there are troubles in government circles. We have every sympathy with the Premier. His family is far too large. Here, on the Opposition side of the House, perfect unity and harmony prevails, and practical co-operation exists. It is quite agreeable to us to be referred to as the "Co-operative Party," for, since Confederation, all the greatest achievements have been the work of co-operative governments formed of different parties.

With regard to the Speech from the Throne, and the matters contained in it, it proves the justice of the criticisms we have made, and the value of the suggestions we have offered. It is unique, fairly comprehensive, somewhat inclusive, but remarkably exclusive. The one thing about it that is reprehensible is that not a single word is said to give the Opposition some of the credit for advancing all of the policies in the Speech that are of a constructive nature, policies that, when enunciated by us on this side of the House, were received with idle laughter by the Government. The Opposition, however, thanks the Government for introducing the constructive policies mentioned in the Speech, which are Opposition policies in every detail. It is true that since Confederation Liberal Governments have remained in power through adopting the policies advocated by their political opponents. That is substantially true in the present case also.

Last year, Canada's Jubilee was widely celebrated. If you look back over the sixty years since Confederation, you will find that the most notable, most far-reaching and constructive economic and political achievements (no man can deny) were accomplished through groups uniting and acting in the spirit of co-operation. In 1854, the Conservatives with the John H. Baldwin Reformers of Ontario, together with some of the leading French-Canadians, formed a co-operative party to promote national welfare. In 1855, during a reconstruction of the cabinet, Sir George Cartier was brought in to help solidify and unite the two great races, and in 1867 under Macdonald, with Cartier, Galt, Tupper and Brown acting co-operatively, Confederation was achieved. It was a Co-operative Government which extinguished the rights of the Hudson's Bay Company over the great North West and thus made a veritable empire available for Canadians. It was a Co-operative Government that built the Canadian Pacific Railway despite opposition from a great many Liberals, and so opened the West for colonisation and development. It was a Co-operative Government that created the Canadian National System out of the floundering mess of the Canadian Northern and the Grand Trunk railways. It was a Co-operative Government that passed the first Dominion Franchise Act, not a Liberal Government. And it was a Co-operative Government that extended the franchise to women, while the last great measure of Civil Service reform was credited to such a government. A Co-operative Government for 30 years protected Atlantic fisheries from aggression and saved the coastal fisheries of Nova Scotia. During the Behring Sea controversy, a Co-operative Government successfully vindicated the rights of Canadian vessels to trade freely and at will on the Pacific Ocean. A Co-operative Government threw the whole national strength into the Great War and saw it through to a successful end.

Slight reference is made in the Speech to the conference of Premiers held at Ottawa, but little regarding the decisions of that conference is revealed, and we have been told that we are not likely to get much of a report. But we want to hear of the deliberations of the delegates. We want to know what was done, and the people

are interested to know what was said in regard to immigration, and also what stand was taken on the question of the return of our natural resources. Was that decided? These are matters in which the people of Saskatchewan are intensely interested. We also would like to be told what they intend to do in connection with Senate Reform, the wild statements made in regard to which, it would seem, have resolved into a policy of waiting until the older senators die off then fill their places with younger men.

With regard to economic conditions, improvement in which is noted in the Speech, we are proud of the fact there is improvement in the economic condition of this Province. But, did the Government have anything to do with it? No! It was not because of any action of the Government, but because of the action of the farmers themselves in establishing the Wheat Pool, an institution which we on this side have consistently supported and will continue to support. We are prepared to give some credit to the Government for having got behind the movement after it was started, but the Government had nothing whatever to do with initiating the Pool.

The growth in the cities is also a matter of pride and satisfaction. In my own City of Saskatoon, remarkable growth in population and in industries was noted during the past year. New industries are being established, and in the last year the Robin Hood Flour Mills had a daily capacity of 20,000 bushels and 22,000 pounds a day was shipped to Vancouver for the Orient. The Quaker Oats plant also increased its output.

A statement of Premier Gardiner, last year, was that we were on the eve of great industrial development in this Province. This is substantially true. If we as a people, as a government, as a legislature recognise we are on the eve of great industrial development we must look to the development of our own natural resources and to the development of our power. We will not be satisfied if an interim report of the Power Commission is brought down late in the Session. It was a serious blunder to appoint part-time men to go into this vital question. I cast no reflection on the members of the Commission, but it was a full-time job and should have been so regarded. This is too big a matter for a part-time Commission. Give the present Commission full-time work!

As the situation now stands, private corporations are coming in here and buying up power plants in our larger centres and in our cities. Surely something should be done in this connection, and we ourselves should undertake the development of the power in our northern waters and in our southern coal fields. Does the Government believe in Public Ownership?

We recommend, with regard to power development, that a Public Utilities Commission be established, a commission of experts qualified to superintend the work of developing our power resources. We also recommend, in view of the mineral development in the north of the province, the establishment of a mining bureau here with a joint audit by the Federal and Provincial Governments, so that

all claims may be registered in the Capital City, and all royalties be paid in this city. Of course there will be very little revenue from this source at the start, but in a few years there will be considerable revenue in such a branch. The statement was made recently, that 77 per cent. of the Flin Flon property is situated in this province. There is, I am convinced, untold wealth in our Northland, and I hope the member for Ile a la Crosse (*Mr. Marion*) will tell us the story. I would like him to get up and tell us something about this great country to the north, some time during this session of the House.

With regard to roads, the highway policy of the Government has been a colossal failure, and public opinion is aroused. In 1917, the Opposition platform urged the appointment of a Good Roads Commission to have general supervision over all road work, but setting forth that the initial step had to be undertaken by the municipalities concerned which would also have retained control of the expenditure. Special attention has been attracted to the subject of good roads because we find that, though millions of dollars have been spent, this province is pointed at as having the worst roads in Canada. Even the Government Press has been forced to take notice of the condition, and the great loss suffered by the province, and I suppose the Government is taking action now because the matter has been forced upon its attention; and so it follows the opposition's suggestions.

"We did not get our share of the \$190,000,000 spent in Canada by tourists in the past year." This was the statement of Cecil Richardson, speaking at Saskatoon to the Rotary Club of that city. He also said that according to a definition he had read, "roads were an indication of the state of civilisation that the people of a country had reached." He was talking on the subject of "road making and road machinery." (Laughter).

Why the laughter? Is the inference that he was not competent to speak on anything else? He further stated: "In the past year, there had been about 600 miles of road built in the province, making 3,700 miles in all during the past six years. These roads had cost about \$1,000 a mile. The rate set for maintenance had been \$65 a year, and this was generally exceeded in Saskatchewan."

You could not credit this coming from an Opposition speaker, but Mr. Richardson supports the Government.

We are quite in sympathy with the suggestion that the Government concentrate its attention, as a first step, upon three main permanent highways, two east and west, and one north and south from the international boundary to the National Park, north of Prince Albert. I had intended to make this proposal, but the member for Moose Jaw (*Mr. Ross*) got in ahead of me. There should be two highways running east and west, one running across the northern part of the province, the other across the south.

Mr. Hill: Where would you run the north one?

Mr. Anderson: I'm speaking in general terms. I would suggest after conferring with automobile owners and garage men, that we

are losing in depreciation in value of automobiles and on repair work through unnecessary breakages due to the poor condition of our roads, somewhere between \$5,000,000 and \$10,000,000 a year.

We are quite in sympathy with the Gasoline Tax. The only thing is, this Government is late in adopting it. It has been advocated repeatedly by the Opposition, the member for Tisdale (*Mr. Buckle*) in the Session of 1925-26 and again last Session, strongly urged the introduction of the tax. I don't recall that he found any support for his contentions on the Government side of the House, but we are glad to see that the Government recognises the value of the suggestions made from this side of the House. My personal feelings in the matter are that the Gas Tax should be accompanied by a reduction in motor license fees.

With regard to the matter of educational reform, I could not help thinking as the Speech was being read about the Premier "going up and down the province" declaring he was "sick and tired of hearing criticisms of the Department from this side of the House." But I expressly charge him that we still stand for educational reforms, and as long as the right of criticism remains with us, we will continue to criticise if we see cause.

The Opposition has shown up the weaknesses of the system, and has urged reforms. Mention is made of educational reforms, but there is no clue in the Speech as to what the Government proposes to do, nothing to show why a new minister was necessary or why the old one went. Was it because his hands were tied?

I warn the Minister not to repeat the blunder that was made a few months ago in connection with the Moose Jaw Normal School. I understand that the junior member for Moose Jaw City said he would resign his seat in protest, as the price of his by-election, if the school were not opened. The sacrifice was not required of him, but the Normal School was opened one month later than the Normal Schools at Regina and Saskatoon, with the result that classes were disorganised and the students were thrown back in their studies, and this was true also of the schools from which inspectors had been withdrawn. Had the Government not the vision to do these things before the term started?

With respect to the staffs, the question of promotion because of special merit and qualifications, is not carried out to the fullest possible extent in this province. Length of service and experience should be the qualifications required for promotion. We must give the former minister credit—he was not responsible for the present practice.

We want the Government to tell us what steps it proposes to take with regard to the "seasonal nature of agriculture, and severity and length of our winters, and need for more supervision." It is rather late in the day to discover the "seasonal nature of agriculture." Have they just discovered our winters are "long and severe?"

Educational reforms are forecast in the Speech from the Throne, but, as I have said, no clue is given as to their nature. There are certain educational reforms we would suggest, and we are quite prepared to co-operate with the Premier to see them put into effect.

First, we advocate the appointment of a non-political educational commission to investigate and report on educational conditions, and recommend that this be done as it would be the best thing for this province at the present time. The Provincial School Trustees, last year, endorsed some of our suggested reforms, and I can see no reason why there should not be initiated some system of agricultural education particularly in our rural schools. A committee of three experts could review the whole subject, and bring in recommendations that would be a valuable guide for us in this province.

In the second place, we stand for a teachers' pension system. In 1917 we adopted this in our platform, and if the Opposition had been elected in that year, the teachers of this province would have had their pensions ten years ago.

We also want to try out a larger unit of school administration to replace the school district of the present time. All we are asking for is permissive legislation. There is nothing compulsory in the suggestion we make. Why does the Government hesitate? What is the hindrance? It is a question of finance? If the municipal system is too small, make it a county system if you will. The chief inspector has suggested twenty schools. A business man will tell you that it is necessary economy in the interests of business to have a manager of departments. It is quite evident that it would be good business to have say five competent persons administering the affairs of 20 schools in a municipality, engaging the 20 teachers, purchasing all school equipment under the reduced prices that would be possible under such a system than is the present practice whereby 60 trustees and 20 secretaries or 80 persons in all do the business of the schools of the municipality. There would be a saving of \$500 a year per school, or \$10,000 for the schools of the municipality.

The proposal was unanimously endorsed by the trustees some years ago, but nothing came of it, because, some years ago, it was practically impossible to get the people of different races to agree to the larger unit. What does the Government mean to do about it now? If the Government is not going to do anything, we are prepared to introduce a measure next Session. If they let us know, we'll take action. What is the opposition? I believe our French friends are objecting because they think they are going to be affected. But they are not going to be hurt. I can't see why they should.

While on this subject, I think I am justified in asking the late Minister of Education (*Hon. Mr. Latta*) to explain his statement to the Catholic Trustees convention at Regina, as quoted in "*Le Patriote*":

"My child is my own. God has given him to me, and at the same time has given me the privilege, the right of instructing him, and this right I will not surrender to anyone."

This is given in quotation marks as the direct statement of the former Minister of Education. How, I ask, does he reconcile that statement with the compulsory system of education in this Province. Will he let, for example, an Old Colony Mennonite maintain his right to instruct his child in his own home and give him no knowledge of the common language of the country? If this is so in connection with the administration of education in this Province, I say—God help Saskatchewan!

We want a larger unit of administration than the present school district. It would effect a saving, and in addition to that it would facilitate the appointment of local superintendents.

We want agricultural schools in rural areas to train immigrant boys and also our own rural boys, and so hasten the time when our rural boys will cease to leave the farm and come into the cities or go to foreign countries.

There should be an extension of consolidated schools in some areas. We believe that would be a good thing.

I again wish to advocate written examinations for Grades IX and X. When I advocated this two years ago, Mr. Dunning laughed. But apparently there is some hope now, for, when the trustees brought the matter up, the ex-Minister of Education (*Hon. Mr. Latta*) stated that he was "favourably impressed with the suggestion." That, I say, is some advance. It has been our experience in this House that, no matter what constructive suggestions we have made, they first have been laughed at and then adopted by the Government without acknowledgment. If they were received in the unselfish spirit in which they are offered, it would be a better thing for the people of this Province; and credit should be given where credit is due.

We want standardisation and uniformity of the textbooks used in our schools. A start has been made in this direction, I am pleased to say, but as yet the surface only has been scratched. I learn that French has been instituted as an optional subject in Grade VIII. No press notice of the change was given, but apparently a circular was sent out by the Department. A change of this kind should have been made widely known, given all the publicity possible, and not communicated through a personal letter to a School Inspector. You'll have lots of trouble later on. But the change was made. Strange to say however, there was no authorised textbook ready for it. One hundred and fifty Grade VIII pupils at Saskatoon elected to take the French course, but there was no textbook! Surely, this is unpardonable blundering at the expense of our children!

While on the subject of a French textbook. There was a letter in Tuesday's "*Leader*" and under it a statement by the Minister of Education. Apparently controversy had arisen over some of the lessons contained in the textbook used in the schools, which

were considered objectionable, and the book was withdrawn. But the Minister of Education according to his statement, allowed the book to be continued in use. Who passed on this book? Was it the Superintendent? Was it the Educational Council? Did the Minister of Education look it over? Who was responsible for the elimination of objectionable lessons? Surely there was gross carelessness here! But the Minister allowed the use of the book! This is a bad precedent, to allow an unauthorised textbook to be used in our schools. In any case, it surely was the duty of the Minister to see that a treatise was ready for the teaching of this optional subject in Grade VIII. I would like to say something more about the qualifications of school inspectors. I admit it was difficult in the past to insist upon a high educational standard for the inspectors, but no one should be appointed now who is not a University graduate, and thoroughly competent and experienced. Summer courses should be provided so that the ambitious may work up to degrees in paedagogy and education.

With regard to instituting permanent staffs in Normal Schools, the Opposition policy has been vindicated. The argument had been made that it is a good thing to bring in the inspectors to spend a few months teaching in the Normal Schools. Far better results are achieved, however, if you have specialists in their various lines training our teachers. This is now being done, and I have no hesitation in congratulating the Government. A very fine staff may be secured, and very fine academic work will be ensured if the teachers at our Normal Schools are permanent.

While on the subject of Normal School staffs, you will recall that when I protested against members of the Normal School staff engaging in a political campaign, the Attorney-General, last year, came forward in their defence stating it was not right that you should "muzzle educational leaders," and at Saskatoon one of these "leaders of thought" made a statement referring to the fact that "our Normal Schools were only functioning 25 per cent. efficiently, owing to lack of time, lack of brains, and other reasons."

Hon. Mr. Davis: Did I say that?

Mr. Anderson: Look it up! I may say that, whatever his opinion may be, I do not feel discouraged. But I shall deal with the speech and undignified statements of the present Attorney-General in a later debate. The only statement of his I would refer to is that contained in his speech during the Budget Debate of last year, in which, in his blustering way ("blustering" was the word he used in regard to myself)—in his blustering way, he said: "Neither he (that is, myself) nor those in the group beside him, have made any specific suggestions that could be worked out for the betterment of conditions in the province."

I would say in answer to that, that the Premier himself has been fairer than this. He has admitted that we can make helpful suggestions on this side of the House.

I was speaking of educational reforms. We would also advocate a more extensive scale of night schools in this province,

to take care of the many willing to learn who are illiterate through no fault of their own, but simply because they have not had the opportunity to learn. It is essential that something be done to introduce these night schools in different parts of the province, particularly in rural areas, where there is a number of illiterates. It is not the part of the Y.M.C.A., the Daughters of Empire, or generally, of private enterprise to seek to overcome and solve this problem of illiteracy. It is up to the Government of this province to do this; the large number of illiterates necessitates something of the kind.

We would also urge upon the Government that school grants should be based upon the assessed value of the lands within the school districts. There is no need to enlarge on this theme. We also insist that the care of the feeble-minded is a problem which this Government should undertake. It is the duty of the Government to look after the feeble-minded in the province.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton: Is that an original idea?

Mr. Anderson: No! Nor of the Minister of Agriculture either! The care of the feeble-minded is one of the greatest problems of the day. I would refer you to the letter of the Child Welfare League on this subject, and urge you to read it carefully. We have had Bills coming before this Assembly for the protection of sheep from dogs. Surely it is far more important that we look after those unfortunate human beings who, through no fault of their own, are unable to look after themselves. A provincial investigation was held in 1922, but the report of this investigation was never published. It must have contained such startling revelations that the Government was ashamed of the conditions discovered, and decided to suppress the report. Anyway, that report is not available, though it cannot be said that the Government is unaware of the situation.

We would recommend that another commission be appointed to investigate conditions as they are now. Ontario, British Columbia and Nova Scotia have had such commissions in recent years, and their reports are available. Saskatchewan had its investigation in 1922, but, as I have said, no report has been published yet.

We also recommend that the care and training of the deaf mutes and blind be undertaken here. Surely a province whose boast it is that it is the richest per capita in the Dominion, should look after its own deaf, dumb and blind. Why should you send them to Manitoba and Ontario to have them trained even though you pay them for doing it? They should be trained here, near where their friends are. The responsibility is ours. We can afford it. Manitoba and Ontario should not be asked to look after our afflicted.

Some sort of a course should be provided for our young men and women who, for any reason, are unable to continue their studies, and for this purpose we urge that extension courses be made on a wider scale to give senior pupils a chance to continue their studies and acquire the requisite standard. This should be

done through a correspondence school conducted as a branch of the University or in connection with the Normal Schools, using the present staffs.

We also would like to see some wider provision made for the teaching of high school work in rural schools. The recent ruling in regard to Grade IX in rural schools under which the trustees have power to refuse to undertake high school work, and have been refusing it, is creating a serious condition in some districts, though in some schools it is not so very serious, I admit.

We also advocate the payment of grants during the illness of teachers. The extra expenditure upon the district is very serious in some places, and I contend the school district should not be penalised. We suggest, also, that more assistance should be given smaller schools doing high school work. Then, all occupied lands not in school districts, should be taxed for school purposes, and I believe that telephones used in schools should be charged for on the same basis as business telephones.

With regard to the Civil Service, I would like to pay tribute to the work of most of the members of the service which is, in the highest degree, efficient. The political activities of some of them, I do not blame them for. It is not their fault, but the fault of the system that permits it. They are forced to do this. Our contention is that the Civil Service should be free from politics. It has been consistently advocated by the Opposition that appointments to the service should be based on merit, and that promotions in the service should be based on length of service and experience. This was the policy enunciated in our platform of 1917, which reads as follows:

"With the idea of establishing an efficient and permanent Civil Service, all appointments thereto to be based on a system of competitive examinations under the administration of a Civil Service Commission, preference being given to returned soldiers."

When we are in power, we shall carry out that policy.

The Civil Service Commissioner of this province, a man whom I hold in high esteem, delivered an address before the Canadian Tax Conference at Toronto which was the subject of an editorial in a Saskatoon paper. According to this Editorial, the Commissioner informed the gathering that "Saskatchewan was the first province in the Dominion to adopt what is known as the 'merit system' in filling Civil Service appointments."

"It was in 1913," the Commissioner pointed out, "that the merit system was adopted in Saskatchewan and after a lapse of fourteen years it is still in use * * *

"The essence of this system is the competitive examination, when necessary * * *."

Yes, "when necessary"—there's the proviso! We, for our part, would have examination as the basis of appointment with promotions the result of experience and length of service, a non-political Civil Service Commission, with, as I said before, preference given to returned men.

I remember asking the Minister of Agriculture (*Hon. Mr. Hamilton*), last session, to state his views on the Australian Trade

Treaty and its effect upon the dairy industry of this province. He gave me no direct answer at the time, obviously was much embarrassed, and accused me of unfairly trying to start an argument on the tariff question. I would like to ask the Minister what his attitude is at the present time, since that delegation of dairy farmers went down to Ottawa asking relief from the effects of that treaty.

The delegation to Ottawa was headed by Mr. J. A. Caulder, a man for whom I have great admiration and who, when the bankrupt Co-operative Creameries was bought out by a private company, took hold of the joint concern and put it on the paying basis of today. I congratulate Mr. Caulder on that achievement. Mr. Caulder went to Ottawa with this delegation which represented the National Dairy Council and the Canadian Council of Agriculture. He urged, on behalf of the dairymen, that the dumping clause be applied to Australia butter and that New Zealand be excluded from the operations of the treaty which, he added, should be concluded with the required six months' notice. Mr. A. E. Darby, of the Canadian Council of Agriculture, argued that the "Australian Treaty had not improved Imperial relations, nor added appreciably to inter-Imperial trade. On the contrary, it has been the occasion of quite strenuous commercial warfare between Canada and Great Britain in the Australian market, and had raised in Canada feelings of resentment against Australian trade methods."

Mr. Caulder, in stating the case for the Dairy Council, would not say that a return to the British preferential rate of three cents a pound in place of the treaty rate of one cent a pound, would solve all the present troubles of the dairymen, but claimed it "would certainly encourage the industry which is now under severe tariff handicaps."—

Imagine, "severe tariff handicaps" under a Liberal Government.

Mr. Caulder spoke of Saskatchewan's decline in butter production during the past year and of the greater decline of 700 per cent. over a period of 13 years. "We feel that the dairy producers, particularly in the West, must have some support," he said. Are they going to get the support of the Saskatchewan Government?

Now, with regard to Agriculture in Saskatchewan: Year by year, lengthy reports full of statistics with reference to stock, etc., are trotted out before the members, telling the number of pure bred bulls and "Bonnie Fyvies" there are in the Province. I do not wish to speak disparagingly about statistics, and they are, to some extent, necessary; I give credit to the Minister where credit is due. But we have far too much of statistics, and not enough of wide, visionful policies for the benefit of the agricultural community.

Apparently, the Government has decided all is not well with agriculture in Saskatchewan. If you refer to the Speech from the Throne, you will read:

"To meet the growing needs of agriculture, my Government has decided to make provision for a further extension of the activities of the Department of Agriculture, both in regard to matters of production and to matters of marketing."

Is this just a confession of failure to grasp the situation? If it is put forward as a vote-catcher, I do not think it will get the Government very far. If it is an expression of action, I think they are too late. Any mediocre government could have accomplished the same as this Government has done. The greatest achievement of recent years for the benefit of the farming community, the Wheat Pool, was brought into being by the farmers themselves. Who first introduced the idea of co-operation in this House? Those who sat in Opposition saw the whole of the Government side ridicule the idea at the time.

Who started the Wheat Board, was it a Liberal Government? No.

Who started the voluntary pool? It was not the suggestion of the Liberal Government.

Who is responsible for the present pool? The farmers themselves, certainly not a Liberal Government.

We have some suggestions to make which, we think, will be of benefit to the agricultural community.

We want wider attention given to the teaching of agriculture in all the schools of this Province, and particularly in our rural schools. We would like to see rural agricultural schools established in this Province similar to those which Alberta has. Some of these ideas have been advanced before from this side of the House, only to be received with laughter from Government Benches. Some extremely practical and common-sense suggestions have been made from the two groups on this side, but our stand is always met with ridicule.

We maintain that something should be done to encourage the farmers of this Province, and particularly the new settlers. We want farmer representatives, able to speak the language, to go out through the newer settlements and instruct and advise these people. Our Ukrainian friends, for example, should receive such attention. We have two men in the Department at the present time who can speak their language. One of them is a Game Guardian, but, strange to say, whenever there is an election on, you'll find him hanging around the city. Pretty small game he'll find around the cities then! But, these men could do excellent work in the new settlements.

We stand in great need of some system of short term loans in this Province. Instead of lending one man \$15,000, why not arrange to lend 15 men smaller amounts? This would be considerably more in harmony with conditions that exist here.

How does the Government explain the fact that, in spite of all efforts to populate the Province with farmers, the number of occupied farms in the Province is less by 1,667, than it was five years ago? I believe the Minister is doing his best to increase the population, but how does he explain that fact?

In 1926, there were 1,667 fewer occupied farms in this Province than in 1921! Here are the figures:

1921 119,454;
 1926 117,787.

Actually, 1,667 fewer occupied farms.

When you think of the tide of immigration flowing toward our shores, and hear Hon. Mr. Forke state "Get the land, and I'll get the settlers," how do you account for the fact that so many of our farmers have gone (I am going to let the Minister of Agriculture say where) either to the cities, or to the United States. The sad part of it is they have left the farm, many of them having gone across the border. I contend it is the duty of the Government to give serious consideration to the proposal of the Federal Government to provide \$50,000 toward the cost of repatriating these people, if the Provincial Government will put up another \$50,000 to get these people back. There is no reason why a scheme of this kind should not be successful. What is the Government going to do about it?

Mr. Therres: Who is going to pay to bring these people back?

Mr. Anderson: Has my friend been outside? Does he not know that the Federal Government is willing to pay half the expense of getting these people back, and that several thousands already have been brought back? Better I say to spend a few thousands to bring these people back than to spend millions bringing people in from Europe.

The Government should do more with regard to Co-operative schools in the Province. The Pools initiated the movement, after the Department of Agriculture had dabbled with the idea, and the schools have been established on a business-like basis due to the excellent work the committee in charge is doing. In this connection, I desire to acknowledge the assistance given by the Department, but more should be done throughout our rural districts.

We want more pure bred stock. I believe the Minister is thoroughly in sympathy with that, and I think the agricultural communities are also, so a solution should not be difficult.

The weed menace still requires that much work should be done. We consequently recommend that the Federal and Provincial Governments get together on this thing, just as is done in the United States between the Federal and State governments. Any attempt on the part of the Government to arouse the interest of the Federal government with regard to the financing of an anti-weed campaign, will get our support.

I have urged this matter before, but still I maintain we should have an agricultural textbook for use in our public and high schools. We are the only Province that has not got one. We want a wider, more comprehensive, more visionful policy on agriculture, and we are looking forward to what will be forthcoming as indicated in the Speech from the Throne.

I have a few words to say in connection with the Department of Municipal Affairs. First I would state that we are in favor of

grants to municipalities for road purposes being paid, not as now where the road foreman receives his cheques from Regina, but direct to the municipalities, and I think the road foreman should be appointed and paid by the municipal council. The present practice has been a continued breach of faith with the people and contrary to the pledge contained in the "Dime Novel" (I call it a "dime novel" because you charged 10 cents for it). On page 27 of this little red Handbook (issued during the 1925 election) the pledge is made:

"One of our desires is to lessen overhead cost by leaving the small local jobs entirely to the municipal councils that are right on the ground, and confining our work, as far as possible, to larger undertakings situated altogether on either main market roads or the Provincial Highway."

We demand that the system be changed and the promise made in your 1925 Handbook kept. School grants are paid direct, why not road grants?

With regard to neglected children of subnormal parents, we take the stand that the Government should pay. If an adult is jailed, the children have to be looked after, and in the case of a juvenile taken to the detention home also, the cost should be borne by the Government and not by the municipality. Indigent patients fall within the same category, in our opinion. Another problem affecting the municipalities is this: If a man is fined and sent to jail, the Province gets the fine yet the municipalities have to keep the children, at considerable expense, during the period of incarceration. This should be paid by the State.

The matter of the Farm Loans Board I will have an opportunity of dealing with later on. There is one thing, however, I wish to comment on at the present time, one phase of its work which I consider unpardonable and wholly reprehensible, and that is the resale of farms for small cash payments out of all proportion to the selling price of the farms. I would draw your attention to the list of sales to December 31, 1926, brought out in last year's discussion:

| | | | | |
|---------|---------------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Loan 89 | Selling Price | \$4,500 | cash paid | \$1.00 |
| 202 | " | " | 8,000 | " " 1.00 |
| 332 | " | " | 6,400 | " " 25.00 |
| 334 | " | " | 6,000 | " " 1.00 |
| 797 | " | " | 15,900 | " " 3.00 |

This was sold to three men of the same name. Were they brothers?

| | | | | |
|-----------|---------------|---------|-----------|----------|
| Loan 1174 | Selling price | \$7,000 | cash paid | \$1.00 |
| 1562 | " | " | 6,000 | " " none |
| 1879 | " | " | 14,000 | " " 1.00 |

Does this look like good business? It might be all right for grafonolas or washtubs, but certainly not for a farm.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton: The C.P.R. does it. The C.P.R. sells farms on very low cash terms. Are you aware of that?

Mr. Anderson: I know they sell on very reasonable terms, but not a "dollar-down" as is done by the Farm Loans Board.

The Opposition thoroughly condemns the present system. Un-businesslike methods are being followed, and there are too many large loans.

We also stand for a fair deal for the returned men. They are not getting it here at the present time, and there are many cases of destitution among them and their dependents. The attitude toward these men is not what it should be. The responsibility is not alone upon the Federal Government. It is the duty of this Government to see what can be done to better the conditions of the destitute returned men and their families. What is the Government going to do about it? It is not too late to do something. In 1917, the Opposition promised:

"Hearty and sympathetic co-operation with the Dominion Government authorities in their efforts to assist soldiers of the C.E.F. in resuming their civil occupations. The granting of supplementary pensions to the dependent mothers and widows of members of the C.E.F. who have given their lives for their country and who resided in the Province before enlistment. Payments to be continued while such beneficiaries retain their domicile in Saskatchewan."

With regard to the Civil Service, I am not prepared to admit that first consideration is given to returned men, at the present time. I believe we are justified in asking that the Province make supplementary pensions to those granted by the Dominion, in some cases where the dependents are experiencing hardship. I believe the Government would be justified in doing that. We also think there should be a branch of the department set up in Regina to look after the interests of our soldier citizens. Something of the kind is needed.

Regarding the two great questions of natural resources and immigration in which the people of this Province are most vitally interested at the present time, there is no reference to either in the Speech from the Throne. However, the member for Moose Jaw (*Mr. Ross*) set forth views almost entirely the same as advanced a year ago, from this side of the House. Here is what I said a year ago:

"This Province is behind some of the others in the matter of encouraging immigration. The Province of Alberta recently appointed Mr. Greenfield to a position as overseas representative of that Province to carry on that particular work. He is now at work in his own office and it is something we require for this Province."

I do not know whether the member for Moose Jaw enunciated the Government's policy, but, as I said, his ideas on immigration are the same as were advanced a year ago from this side of the House. If we had such a representative, and if an agricultural survey were made and a minister appointed, part of whose duties it would be to look after the immigrants, help and co-operate with them on behalf of the Government, and if, some time before the end of 1928 there is appointed as representative of this Province, an outstanding citizen of this Province with headquarters in London, we will be behind the Government. On looking around, I can suggest no better man than the late Minister of Education (*Hon. Mr. Latta*).

There is room for more people in this Province. I want to make my position clear in this matter. There is room for many more of the citizens of all nationalities. I am not in sympathy

with the designations "preferred" and "non-preferred" races. The doors should not be closed to those from Slavonic countries. Some of our finest citizens are the sons and daughters of parents who came from Slav countries, for example, the Hungarians, Poles and Ukrainians.

I wish to take this opportunity of stating, most emphatically, that my attitude toward the people of various races who have come to this Province to make their homes, has always been one of tolerance and sympathy. I have been, at all times ready to severely condemn those men of the East who, through lack of knowledge of these people have said harsh things about them. Notwithstanding the statement of members of this Government to the contrary, I always have done, and always shall do my utmost to assist these newcomers in obtaining a knowledge of the laws and customs and common language of this country. My attitude toward them has been characterised by sincerity, and has not been for political reasons.

I am reminded of an instance which would indicate that these people wish to be fairly treated by men in public life. In a recent election campaign, I was driving with a man of Ukrainian birth to the polls. He told me of a previous election where a Cabinet Minister was contesting the seat. Thinking that he would make himself popular, the minister attended a picnic of Ukrainian Canadians where he distributed peanuts and five-cent pieces. My friend laughed at such action and remarked in broken English: "Me no vote for peanuts, me vote for man."

We have too many "peanut politicians" among the Liberals of this Province and even among the members of the Government, the Premier included.

We have people of all these different races here, and consequently we must be very careful that we do not antagonise them in making a demand for more British immigrants. But we must face the fact that we must have a preponderance of British people in our Province. Any member opposite who would deny that, dare not go back to his constituency and repeat the statement there. But, what with the thousands and tens of thousands of people from Central Europe knocking at our door, we must put forth a special effort to encourage British people to come here. There is great need, therefore, for an agent in London to tell the British people what is being done and to induce them to come here. Let's try the experiment, anyhow.

Every attempt should be made to try to encourage people to come here, yet what do we find? The Premier speaking in the east, tells the mothers of Ottawa not to send their sons to the States, not to send their sons to this Province, but to send them "to the Peace River." And that statement is repeated in the Press.

We must not be dependent upon the weak-kneed policy of the Federal Government in regard to immigration. During the meetings of the Anglican Synod at Kingston, last year, a resolution

was brought before the gathering commending the immigration policy of the Federal Government. The Synod, by a large majority, repudiated the idea.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Were you there?

Mr. Anderson: Yes. I was there.

Hon. Mr. Davis: That's the reason.

Mr. Anderson: Mr. Speaker, the remark of the Attorney-General is not dignified, and I would ask him to withdraw it.

Hon. Mr. Davis: I won't withdraw.

Mr. Anderson: I have always thought but now I am convinced that it was a serious blunder on the part of the Premier to appoint as Attorney-General the present incumbent of the position. I'll go on. As a matter of fact, though, I did not speak to that resolution. I purposely refrained, although I had spoken in another discussion relative to immigration the previous day.

We are on the eve of great industrial development in this Province. The fact is recognised by nearly all classes of the community. But, to be able to push this development to the fullest extent we require trained men here. What has the Government done to prepare for the advent of industrial development?

The Federal Government made grants which were available to the provinces for vocational training. Most of the provinces of the Dominion took advantage of the opportunity, but Saskatchewan did not and a sum of \$200,000 which was available to us for the purpose of assisting in the technical and vocational training of our youth, was allowed to lapse. The Government of this Province let that \$200,000 slip through its hands, a sum that might have helped us train our youth in preparation for this advent of industry. What is the use of us looking forward to such a development if we leave our men untrained, without the opportunity of acquiring the technical education that will be required?

I do not believe that the definition of Liberalism handed out by the Premier in an address in Toronto some time ago, indicates the right kind of policy for this Province or the right kind of policy to cope with such a situation as I have suggested. The Premier said: "Liberalism is—the basing of the action of today upon the experience of yesterday."

Does this definition mean that the Liberals have no vision for the future, but are content to live solely in the present? Was this the spirit that actuated the men who brought about Confederation? No! They saw a century beyond their time. They based the action of the day upon the needs of future generations. We want the action of today based on the requirements of a hundred years from now. That is the policy of the Opposition.

There is a suggestion contained in the Speech of a matter that has been widely mentioned in the newspapers—that there is going to be an amalgamation of the police forces in the Province. This was

the policy of the Opposition in 1917, which members of the Government side held up to ridicule. At that time we advocated the "return of the R.N.W.M.P. to the performance of the work in which they had been so long engaged," immediately after the close of the war. Ten years ago, the Provincial Police were instituted, and the cost to the Province has been about \$400,000 a year, whereas the annual cost to the Province of the Mounted Police was only about \$75,000. Now, we are told, the Government is going to do away with the Provincial Police. If the R.N.W.M.P. had been retained, (as we advocated in 1917), to do what they had previously done, there would have been a saving in the years since the war, of more than \$3,000,000. That is, we would have had \$3,000,000 as a fund with which to carry out the road building programme set forth so ably by the Junior member for Moose Jaw (*Mr. Ross*) the other day. But why did the Government at the time, ridicule the suggestion of the Opposition?

In conclusion, let me read part of the address of the Premier of this Province to the Canadian Manufacturers' Association in their meeting at Regina:

"Saskatchewan is on the verge of a general advance in all lines of industry
* * * I am going to make bold to suggest to you that there is a
line of thought developing in Western Canada, even among agriculturists, which
recognises the importance of the development of industry as essential to the
reaching of the destiny which is naturally ours."

We hope the actions of his Government in the coming year, and for the short time he is likely to remain in office, will be consistent with this promise. Unless something is done right away, to put into effect the very essential policies which we, from this side of the House have so steadfastly and consistently advocated and upon which the future of this Province so largely, if not entirely, depends, this Government should give way to another capable and willing to put these things into effect, a government formed of the co-operative groups on this side of the House. What we want is action.

Mr. Speaker.—In view of the fact that every change or reform suggested in the Speech from the Throne, that everything of a constructive nature in it, is directly in accord with the policies which have been repeatedly advanced from this side of the House, I must compliment His Honour on recognising the ability of these groups on this side of the House, and I hope and trust the remainder of the constructive programme advocated by these co-operative groups, will be embodied in the next Speech from the Throne which His Honour presents in this House. For this reason only, and anticipating such future action, I support the motion.

Speech delivered by

MR. W. G. BAKER, M.L.A.

(*Moose Jaw City*)

in the

DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE SPEECH
FROM THE THRONE

in the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,

Tuesday, January 31, 1928.

Mr. Baker, in speaking in the debate on the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, said:

Mr. Speaker, may I, at the outset, express my congratulations to the new members (*Mr. Ross and Mr. Robertson*) who have taken their seats here, for the first time. The speeches we have listened to from the mover and seconder of the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, indicate that they both have something constructive to add to the discussions in this Assembly. The honourable member for Moose Jaw, as a member of the City Council and through other public activities, has obtained a knowledge and experience that should be valuable to this Legislature. The honourable member for Morse, also, has had a wide experience of municipal affairs in the rural parts of our Province, and his knowledge should be of considerable value to this House.

I desire to join in the regrets expressed by previous speakers in this Debate, relative to the death of the former member for Morse, Mr. MacLachlan. He will be sadly missed in this Legislature, and our sincere sympathy goes out to members of his family in their great loss.

I desire also to offer my congratulations to the member for Maple Creek (*Hon. George Spence*) for the high honour conferred upon him in being chosen as a Minister of this Government. For centuries, the position as adviser to the King has been the highest honour that could be conferred upon a citizen.

The development of responsible government in England from the 17th century until the present day, is as interesting as the most enticing pages of fiction. Prior to that date, the King chose his own ministers. These ministers did not sit in the House, and each was entirely independent of the other. It is true that sometimes, some minister of outstanding ability gave a general direction to the policies to be followed out, but all were responsible to the King, and to the King alone. With the introduction of the party

system, the prerogative of the King gradually passed to the First Minister, and the ministers became responsible to the Legislature, until today, the people themselves choose their own ministers.

While the powers of the sovereign have gradually passed to the people, the sovereign still remains as the symbol of that unity which binds us all together as members of a British nation, and we welcome here in Canada H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and his royal brother, Prince George, as indicating to us the unity of the Empire. We welcome Mr. Baldwin, the Prime Minister of Great Britain, as the First Minister of the nation that, through the turmoil of centuries, has worked out the most democratic system of government known today, and has handed it to us as a priceless heritage rich in tradition, and rich in the ideals of personal freedom and civil and religious liberty. And so I must admit that I am a great admirer of the genius for government exhibited by the people Mr. Baldwin represents, and join in the welcome to His Excellency, Lord Willingdon, the visible link that binds us to a great people.

It is interesting to note that our ever changing constitution continues to change and that, through the Imperial Conference and the conference between the Dominion and Provincial governments, we are working out a means of assuring continued unity in the Empire and a satisfactory method of co-ordinating the action of the Provinces within the Dominion. It is a source of satisfaction, I am sure, to all the people in this Province that the Inter-Provincial Conference had such successful results.

One of the most outstanding questions mentioned in His Honour's speech was his reference to power development in this Province. At the last Session of this Legislature a commission was appointed to investigate the power possibilities within the Province, and to report to this Legislature. I had hoped that this report would be before us for consideration.

The development of modern electric power has revolutionised industry, and marks the beginning of a new era in industrial development. It is not too much to say that they who control the electric power of this Province will control its industrial development. In speaking in this Legislature last session, in connection with the appointment of this commission, the Honourable Minister of Agriculture stated that the object sought was that the drudgery of the farm, now done by hand, be performed by electricity. That, I think, is the desire of every Member of this Legislature. In addition to this, we had in mind the establishment of central power stations and the development of cheap electrical power and its distribution, not only to farms but to towns, villages, cities and industries as they are located in this Province. Without cheap power, we cannot hope to have industries. The old idea of a factory of whirling pulleys, belts and power shafts endangering the lives of the employees and piling up overhead costs, has passed away, and in its place has come the individual electric motor attached to each machine and using power only when the machine is in use. Because of its economy, no other power can compete with electricity.

With the appointment of the Power Commission in this Province, what do we find? We find that, at least five private companies have rushed into the Province and are endeavouring to buy up the light and power franchises in the Province. Under date of Dec. 12, 1927, *The Regina Leader* has the following news item:

"With reference to a news despatch emanating from Bismark, N.D., that the Northern Light and Power Company were to erect a five million dollar electrical energy distributing plant at Estevan, Senator Schlosser, today, said there was some exaggeration about the statement. The company, said Senator Schlosser, is now operating plants at Indian Head, Wolseley, Moosomin, and Balcarres. They are also seeking franchises at Abernethy and Lemberg, and to purchase the power plants at Melville and Yorkton. On the outcome of the attempt to get the franchise at Melville and Yorkton will depend whether the plant at Estevan will be erected."

Another item appeared in *The Leader* of Dec. 15, 1927, which reads as follows:

"At 3.26, Monday afternoon, Hon. George Spence, Minister of Railways in the Saskatchewan Government, lifted the lever that connected the first high tension electric transmission line in Saskatchewan and sent electrical energy from the City of Regina to Pilot Butte, Balgonie, McLean and Qu'Appelle.

"Officers of the Montreal Engineering Company, headed by Mr. G. A. Gaherty, general manager, were pleased with the success of the ceremony which was carried out without a hitch.

"Next spring, as soon as possible, two new lines will be built by the company, one north and another south from Qu'Appelle. The north line will serve farmers between Qu'Appelle, the Qu'Appelle Valley, Fort Qu'Appelle, Lebert and all summer resorts in the valley. The line south will serve Milestone and intermediate points."

In *The Leader* of Jan. 25, 1928, a despatch referring to the Yorkton situation, had this to say:

"The council decided not to consider the tender of the Northern Engineering and Development Company, of Winnipeg, in view of its having been sent in after its closing date.

"Three companies are now in the field: The Mid-West Utilities Co., the Northern Light and Power Co., Ltd., and the Montreal Engineering Co., Ltd."

And then, in *The Regina Post* of Dec. 12, 1927, there is the following item:

"At a purchase price of one hundred thousand dollars, the Dominion Electric Co., Montreal, has bought the interests of the Shaunavon Light, Power and Milling Co., Ltd. A cash payment of \$75,000 is to be paid."

These despatches indicate what is taking place in this Province. We find, therefore, that we have now in the Province, five companies: Northern Light and Power Co., Montreal Engineering Co., Northern Engineering Co., of Winnipeg, the Mid-West Utilities Co., and the Dominion Electric Co., of Montreal.

Now, Mr. Speaker, why are all these companies rushing into the Province at the present time, and immediately following the appointment of our Power Commission?

They are coming here, Sir, because they see a great opportunity to exploit the people, and earn big dividends for themselves out of the electric power used in the Province. The history of power development in other countries proves that, if people want cheap power, they must develop it for themselves.

I want to give a few examples of how the public has been "fleeced" by private companies, and we will compare the cost of light and power in Washington, the capital of the United States,

under private ownership, with the cost in Ottawa, the capital of Canada, under public ownership.

I have here two bills for electric current for the months of October and November, 1927, one from Washington, the other from Ottawa:

“Washington—160 k.w.h., cost \$10, or 6.25c. per k.w.h.

“Ottawa—531 k.w.h., cost \$4.77, or .9c. per k.w.h.

That is, Mr. Speaker, the cost of light and power at Washington D. C., is seven times the cost of light and power at Ottawa, Ont.

Let us make another comparison, and take Washington D. C., again, under private ownership as against Tacoma, State of Washington, under public ownership, (These figures are for an actual light and heat bill):

| Current used | Cost Tacoma | Cost Washington |
|-------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 686 k.w.h., light..... | \$8.75 | \$35.29 |
| 1,563 k.w.h., heat..... | 7.80 | 47.18 |
| <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| 2,249 k.w.h. | \$16.55 | \$82.47 |

Resolving those totals to give the average cost per kilowatt hour:

Public Ownership..... \$0.73 per k.w.h.

Private Ownership..... \$3.70 per k.w.h.

The Washington rate, Mr. Speaker, is five times greater than that of Tacoma, where, as I have said, public ownership prevails.

Mr. Homer T. Bone, Port Consul for Tacoma, is authority for the following statement:

“The municipal power development of Tacoma, owned by the people of Tacoma, will produce about \$900,000 net profit for 1927.”

I also want to refer to a news item dated from Toronto, Jan. 9, 1928, which reads as follows:

“The twentieth annual report of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario, is now being prepared. It is a matter of gratification to be able to say, that it will show that the progress made during the past year has in no respect been inferior to that of previous years,” declares Chas. A. McGrath, chairman of the Commission.”

What is more important, the cost of “juice” in Ontario is less than 2c. per k.w.h., or almost five cents less than the average for the Unites States.

Now, Mr. Speaker, what is the cost of power in this Province? The City of Moose Jaw has an up-to-date plant, and the costs for the first ten months of 1927, are as follows:

Cost per k.w.h.:

Fuel..... \$.80

Other costs..... \$.45

This gives a total cost at the switchboard, of \$1.25

Add to this the cost of distribution....1.26

and you have a total cost of....2.51

The average selling price is....3.00

Thus there is a "net" profit of about a half-cent per k.w.h. As a matter of fact, for the first 10 months of 1927, there was a surplus at Moose Jaw of \$64,380, the estimated surplus for the whole year being \$98,000.

Here is a statement of cost of electrical power in Regina, as given in the City Commissioner's report published in "*The Leader*," Nov. 26, 1927:

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| Coal per k.w.h..... | .59 |
| Other costs..... | .82 |
| Cost of distribution..... | 1.25 |
| Total cost per k.w.h..... | 1.68 |
| Revenue per k.w.h..... | 2.45 |
| Net profit per k.w.h..... | .77 |

With a profit of three-quarters of a cent per k.w.h., Regina had an estimated surplus of \$202,250 in 1927. Saskatoon during the same period had a profit of \$88,000, and Moose Jaw of \$98,000.

Is it any wonder that Commissioner Leslie, of Saskatoon, in discussing the sale of their light plant with the city council, is reported in *The Leader* of Dec. 23, 1927, as follows:

"This course would involve selling the utility and I would recommend against that even if we were offered \$10,000,000."

"*Ald. Priel*: 'Surely you do not mean that!'"

"*Commissioner Leslie*: 'Yes, I do. If the plant were sold, the people would have to buy back the purchase price with good interest. At the end of this year, the utility would have paid back \$90,000 to the city towards the reduction of taxation.'"

I only want to quote one more reference on this subject, a news item dated from Albany, New York, Jan. 9, 1928 as follows:

"The eighth and final message of Gov. Al. Smith was presented to the Legislature, last week. It attracts nation-wide attention because of the strong possibility that the Governor will be his party's candidate for President of the United States. On the important subject of power he declared for public ownership and development.

"There is one sure way to get the full benefit of hydro-electric energy for the small storekeeper, the small home-owner and the people on the farm and that is, to have the state retain the ownership not only of the source of power but also the development work. I think that you will have to agree with me that all the talk we hear about regulation after we have parted with the sources of power is largely academic."

I think I have said enough to indicate that the time has come when this Government should give serious consideration to some scheme of power development in this Province by the Government for the benefit of the people. It is unthinkable that, in a Province where our people have gone so far to solve their problems by co-operative enterprise, they should now be exploited by private monopoly. Public ownership assures us power at cost, absolute control of power rates, and if there should be a surplus, it is returned to the people.

There is some doubt as to the rights of cities, towns and villages to sell their light and power plants and franchises to private concerns. The plants form a part of the assets pledged to the bondholders who bought the bonds that made these plants possible. It is

possible that all these agreements for the purchase of power plants and franchises may be set aside and the way cleared for a government-developed system in this Province.

I should like to express my appreciation of the prompt action of the Government in bringing down a Bill to provide for Old Age Pensions following the resolution that I had the honour to introduce with the able assistance of the honourable member for Kinistino (*Mr. McIntosh*), at the last session of the Legislature. I know of no other Legislation that is so anxiously awaited by the people of this Province and I am sure it will do much to assist those who, because of age, are unable to help themselves.

With regard to the changes in education, I believe the time has arrived when we should make some provision for the education of our deaf, dumb and blind. The deaf and dumb do not require any very expensive equipment, and arrangements might be made to accommodate them in rooms in our public schools, in the cities. With the blind, however, the situation is different, and an institution should be provided at Saskatoon in connection with our University, for their education.

There is another matter that I desire to bring to the attention of the Assembly. Some few days ago, there appeared in *The Regina Leader* an account of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Saskatchewan Anti-Tuberculosis League, held in the City of Regina, and called for the purpose of selecting a location for another sanatorium. After some discussion, the Board was unable to agree upon a location.

There is no doubt that by far the greatest need for a sanatorium is in the south of the Province. I have here a statement showing the population and death rate in the territory adjacent to the City of Prince Albert in the north, and Moose Jaw in the south of the Province. May I say that, before the sanatorium was built at Saskatoon, the Minister of Public Works looked over a site in the City of Moose Jaw, which the City offered to the Government, and declared it to be an ideal site for a sanatorium. The site is still available and is a beautiful location facing south on the valley of the Moose Jaw River. It is served by the street railway, and is ideal in every way for this purpose.

In the tables which I have compiled, I have included as tributary to Moose Jaw, the federal constituencies of Assiniboia, Weyburn, Willow Bunch, Maple Creek, Swift Current, Moose Jaw, Long Lake and Kindersley. In the territory tributary to Prince Albert, I have included the federal constituencies of Melfort, Prince Albert and North Battleford. The figures follow:

| | Moose Jaw | Prince Albert |
|---|--------------|------------------|
| Population | 312,626 | 121,318 |
| Cases treated in sanatoria, 1926. | 272 | 96 |
| Deaths in 1925. | 79 | 73 |

I would draw to the attention of the House the fact that the population I have given for the area tributary to Moose Jaw is 38% of the population of the Province; while that for Prince Albert constitutes only 14½% of the total population of the Province.

The total number of patients treated from the territory included in the Moose Jaw area was 30% of the total treated in the Province; while the number treated in the Prince Albert area was but 10.6% of the total number treated.

There were 79 deaths from tuberculosis in the Moose Jaw area in 1925, which figures represent 24.9% of the total deaths from this scourge; while in the northern area there were 73 deaths, or 23% of the total deaths.

I quote these percentage figures for the purpose of showing that percentage is not a proper basis upon which to compute the needs of any particular territory for sanatoria facilities. If there were two persons in the northern area and one of them died, that would be a 50% death rate of the population. Density of population can be the only basis upon which the needs of a given area can be ascertained.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that I have proved the greater need of accommodation for tuberculous patients lies in the southern part of the Province. I would draw your attention to the exceptional facilities which the City of Moose Jaw offers to an institution of this kind. Eight lines of railways radiate in every direction, with 16 regular trains per day running into the city. It also has direct connection with Swift Current with the Coderre, Vanguard and Empress Branches of the C.P.R., making it readily available for the relatives of patients who desire to visit them. In addition to these railway facilities, four main highways radiate from the city, making it readily accessible by automobile.

I have always understood that the Government of Saskatchewan is desirous of placing its institutions where they will be of the greatest service to the greatest number of people. With this in view, the obvious conclusion must be that the new sanatorium should be located in the southern part of the Province, and that Moose Jaw is the most suitable location.

Mr. Speaker: It being 5.30 o'clock, I do now leave the Chair.

Resuming at 8 p.m., Mr. Baker said:

Mr. Speaker, before you left the Chair, I had dealt with the power question, and had shown, I think conclusively, that the new sanatorium should be built at Moose Jaw.

There is another point with reference to the City of Moose Jaw which I would like to mention, Moose Jaw, after considerable agitation, had been made a grain inspection point, but it has never really functioned as such. Consistent efforts, by parties outside this Province, have been made to make the Order-in-Council establishing the inspection point, non-effective, and these efforts

have been successful to the extent that little or no grain whatever is inspected at Moose Jaw although it is a grain inspection point. I think that representations should be made to the Federal Government and to the Board of Grain Commissioners to the end that the fullest inspection facilities should be made available at Moose Jaw, and that every carload of Saskatchewan grain pulled into the city should be inspected there.

I would also like to refer for a few moments to the pulpwood situation in this Province. We have large areas of pulpwood in the northern part of the Province, large quantities of which are cut and shipped to mills at The Pas and other points in Manitoba, without this Province deriving any revenue whatever from it. I think the time has come when this Province should take a firm stand and oppose the exportation of our resources, such as pulpwood, for other Provinces to reap the benefit, insofar as revenue is concerned. I do not intend to take a narrow view in connection with this matter, but I submit, Sir, it is the first duty of the Government to see that our natural resources are not depleted without a reasonable return therefrom to the treasury of the Province.

With reference to the proposed amalgamation of the police forces, I feel like the honourable member for Saskatoon (*Mr. Anderson*) feels in regard to the whole Speech of His Honour, that some credit is coming to me for the arrangement proposed to be carried out. Shortly after I came here as a member in 1921, I advocated the consolidation of all the police forces in the province, and I think I have advocated consolidation every session since. I want to commend the Government on the progress made, and, if some arrangement could be made whereby the city police would form a part of the one organisation for the whole Province, I am certain it would add greatly to the effectiveness of law administration in Saskatchewan.

I would also like to commend the Government for following out the suggestion I made, last session, regarding construction of a Normal School at Moose Jaw. The need for a Normal School was very apparent, and no finer location for an institution of the kind could be found in the Province. The City of Moose Jaw gave the Government an excellent site, and the citizens co-operated in every possible way to get the Normal classes in operation when the Government decided that a full Normal course should be taught, following the summer holidays. I want to express my appreciation of the services of those who assisted the students in getting located, and to the people who opened their homes on short notice, in order that all might find comfortable accommodation.

In regard to the new Department of the Government—It has always appeared to me that, in re-organising the Department of Labour and Industries including Railways, the Department of Labour is by far the most important. Under this Department, it would seem that we should have our social legislation, including Minimum Wage laws, Workmen's Compensation, Old Age Pensions, Children's Protection, Mothers' Allowances and legislation providing for safety standards in industry. Railways operate under

Dominion charter, and control, and the control and development of industry depends to a large extent, upon the return to the Province of our natural resources. And for these reasons, I contend that Labour is the most important phase of the work assigned to the new Department.

On the question of roads, the mover of the reply (*Mr. Ross*) has covered the ground so ably and well that I am sure I have nothing to add except again to commend him for the very comprehensive way he handled the subject.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, may I say that the future looks bright for this Province. We have a hardy and vigorous people, loyal to our institutions, aggressive, law abiding and tolerant of each other's views no matter what they may be. We are free from many of the customs and conventions that so restrict people in other lands, and we feel like endorsing the sentiments so well-expressed by the poet who said:

“Put me west of Old Fort Garry,
Where the prairie roses bloom,
Where the auto laughs at distance,
And a man has elbow room.
Let me ride upon the pilot
When the first through train goes out,
Let me hear the settlers welcome it
With joyous, ringing shout.
Let me be upon the prairie
When they start a baby town,
When they're living under canvas,
While the first mud sills go down,
For it truly stirs the blood
To see cities in the bud,
And to feel a nation growing,
From the fertile prairie mud”.

Mr. Speaker, I intend to support the motion.

Speech delivered by

THE HONOURABLE GEORGE SPENCE.

(*Minister of Railways, Labour and Industries*)

on the

DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS, LABOUR AND
INDUSTRIES.

in the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,

Monday, February 13, 1928.

The Honourable Mr. Spence, in moving the Second Reading of Bill No. 9, An Act respecting the Department of Railways, Labour and Industries, said:

Mr. Speaker,—In rising to move the second reading of this Bill, "An Act respecting the Department of Railways, Labour and Industries," it is perhaps necessary to explain in some detail the necessity for this legislation.

It was thought advisable in creating this new Department, that with the Department of Railways should be incorporated those other activities which had been carried on as branches or bureaux of the Government. A re-organisation such as this, it was thought, was justifiable on grounds of economy, and would result in more effective and efficient organisation, if Railways were brought under one heading with Labour and Industries, *The Steam Boilers Act*, *The Game Act*, and such other Acts as may from time to time be assigned to the new Department by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. Beneficial results would accrue, it was thought, from centralising these various matters under one authority and in one Department. The need for this re-organisation has arisen from the natural and growing development in these various branches and bureaux, and it is felt that the work could be better fostered and more efficiently co-ordinated if looked after by one executive head.

Perhaps the most important work under the Railway heading of the Department is the matter of freight rates which, it is proposed, should be added as a branch of railways. The Province has spent large sums of money in the past in freight rate investigations, much of this money having been paid to individuals outside the Province, and much good work was done. Much still remains to be done, however, and so we propose now to set up a freight rates branch the function of which will be to make a very careful study and complete overhauling of the whole freight rate structure, so that all the facts, all the data, and information possible to get

will be available here. The Government feels that the time has arrived when such a branch could render great service to the economic and industrial life of the Province.

It is also proposed that the Department of Railways should concentrate more attention and effort, in future, on the matter of pressing the needs of various large and important districts, upon the railroad companies, for more branch line construction. Some of the honourable members opposite have made reference to immigration and colonisation. Well, immigration and colonisation cannot be successfully carried out where the distances to market towns are so great that farming becomes an economic impossibility. Only recently, I received a petition signed by 800 people praying for relief in their section of the Province which had been in dire need of such construction for many years, and where they are confronted with these long hauls. I maintain it is economically impossible to farm under such a handicap as that. With a view to correcting this state of affairs, the Department of Railways will gather data at first hand with regard to population, soil, climatic conditions, distances to market, and other necessary information, and will also survey those localities and ascertain the engineering difficulties (if any), and all relative factors with a view to securing the much-needed branch line facilities which are urgently required in ten or twelve important districts in this Province in the least possible space of time. This is one of the very substantial contributions this Department will be able to make to our work in aid of colonisation.

Now with regard to the Bureau of Labour: The Bureau operates nine important offices located at central points throughout the Province. These offices last year directed 63,490 men to employment within the Province, of whom 48,697, or practically 77% of the total, were placed in agricultural employment. This, of course, will have a reflex action on colonisation. No immigrant coming into Saskatchewan who is able and willing to accept farm employment need be unemployed if he has a natural bent for an agricultural life. There is no better or more practical training than that which is obtained through employment with experienced farmers in the Province, and no individual makes a better success of farming than the man who has had his start under an experienced farmer. The experience so gained will lay the foundation for future success when the man has the means to start in for himself and in his turn become an employer. This has been the case with thousands of men, of whom honourable members must have knowledge, who rent or lease lands after gaining the necessary experience and means to launch out for themselves.

It is the intention of the Government to enlarge and encourage this activity by adding to it an intelligent service more directly relating to colonisation, thus, in a measure at least, anticipating a solution of the whole question of natural resources, and getting ready for the day when we will have these resources returned to us. At the same time as we are rounding out agriculture, we shall endeavor to link up agriculture and industry in this great food

factory where there are thousands of opportunities for the man able and willing to work. The service now given free will thus be enlarged to cover every phase of agriculture and industry, and it will not cost the employer or the worker one single red cent. This has been the policy in the past. This will be the policy in the future.

The Department, through its branches, will continue to supply agriculture and industry with their necessary manpower, both skilled and unskilled labour. No branch of industry or of agriculture shall suffer through a shortage of labour if it is within human power of the Department to supply it. This is true of every industry from agriculture to the brick yard, or packing plant, and to the smallest tradesman employing labour. But, while we are doing that, it is necessary that we guard against undue unemployment. The soup kitchen and the breadline represent the adjustment between the demand for labour and the excess supply on the one hand, and the unscientific, unintelligent, misdirected, unorganised human effort on the other. In the best light of economic and industrial experience, we hope to avoid this mistake if we can.

I think our Province has been remarkably free from industrial troubles, and we sincerely hope it will be even more free in the future. But, as the Province becomes more industrial, the possibility of differences arising as between the employer and the employee will tend to become more acute. It will be the function of this Department to seek to prevent strikes and lockouts, to iron out difficulties as they arise between capital and labour, and at the same time to pay strict attention to the working of our social and kindred Legislation.

It has been brought to the attention of the Government that our *Workmen's Compensation Act* is not working as smoothly as we would like it to do. It has been represented to us that our law is obsolete and out-of-date, and should be overhauled; that it has a tendency to keep some industries from establishing themselves in the Province. If this is the case we want to know all about it, and have the matter remedied. We are consequently seeking a means of overcoming the difficulty in respect to our *Workmen's Compensation Act*, and we have appointed a commission to enquire into the whole situation in the Province and to suggest such amendments as will, in its wisdom, make the Act satisfactory in its operation to all concerned.

Now what have we in mind to assist industry and to entice capital into the Province? First, as I have already detailed, we propose to furnish a reliable source from which to obtain manpower. To the man seeking investment in our mining areas, we propose to offer the benefit of our study into our mining resources. We have much information now, but we propose to go further. We propose to get the best and latest maps showing where our resources are, and so to the investor or the prospector we will hand our geological map showing where these mineralised areas are and will say to him: "Here you can find gold, and there copper or zinc."

We will go even further than that. If the prospector or miner finds ore of a refractory nature, and if the ordinary smelting process is unable to cope with it, we will put the resources of our University at his disposal to help him in his trouble. If he is interested in clays or coal—we will do what we can to help industry to be established in the southern part of the Province. We will go further than that. Take, for instance, brick (and some of the members appear to be interested in that to the degree that they carry bricks, or half-a-brick, in their pockets) we say to the company which is experiencing some difficulty local to itself: "We will lend you our staff of engineers and chemists, and our laboratory facilities to help you overcome your difficulty; and we will charge you only for the actual material used in the research work, whether that research have reference to clays, ores, sodium sulphate deposits, or volcanic ash." We have been doing this in connection with clay products, and the same help will be offered if the matter relates to gas or oil, the whole idea being to help in the development of any proposition by lending expert assistance in the particular branch of research seeking to find a means of overcoming some difficulty affecting any particular industry. In this way we try to remove all the natural barriers which may prevent themselves against the establishment of any particular industry in this Province.

Further, if an industry wishes to enlarge its activities in some way which might be purely of a local character, but which runs up against a problem similar to those I have indicated, we help them in our laboratories by lending the time and skill of an expert; or they may send their own expert research man, who will work in our laboratories with our material and with all the assistance our staff can supply, and we charge then not a cent except for the materials used.

To the capitalist we say: "Here are our minerals; here are water powers, and here is our coal. We are here to help you develop these resources, to co-operate with you in every possible way."

To the tourist we say: "Here are our beauty spots and places of interest, our fishing and hunting grounds, and here are our road maps to show you how to get there."

Regarding colonisation, by which I mean the bringing in of people to settle on the land, we have now no free land to give away, but we have something infinitely better to offer. We offer a free opportunity of making good in a new country, where there is a superabundance of good land awaiting their industry. We want men and women of character, not afraid of hard work, but with the will to do and the soul to dare. Given these, they have the elements of success in agriculture. On these broad prairies there is room and opportunity to prosper, and on our park lands and bush lands (which some people prefer) as well. The immigrant of the right type, we bid welcome. This Department is intended to help all such as are willing to work and build a home for themselves. We are not offering a gold mine, but we do offer a golden opportunity in a new land, a healthful land of sunshine and pure air, where men are free.

This work of colonisation is a great human problem. I am not hospitable of the idea that you can successfully herd people into groups with ready-made schemes. The real man, with the elements of success in his make-up, does not respond properly to the "straight-jacket" of rules, forms and regulations exercised over him by some central authority. The problem is this. We must see that we find the right kind of work for the right kind of willing hands to do. We can give the newcomers advice, and we can direct them where to go, and co-operate with them in every possible way. But the great factor, I repeat, is the opportunity to succeed with freedom from burdens of taxation, while they, for their part must have the will to do and the soul to dare, and further—they must be prepared to live for a time under inhospitable social conditions, the hardships and drudgery incidental to pioneer life.

Our proposal, of course, involves a cataloguing of our lands and classifying them. This is no new thing with us, and the soil survey work being done under charge of the University and the Minister of Agriculture must be continued. We are coming more and more to realise the value of that survey, because we appreciate that, above all, the immigrant must be supplied with the right information on matters relating to soil, climate, and a hundred other things, for knowledge of the land is most important. This we will endeavor to get and place within his reach.

Questions have been asked in this House, and a great deal has been said in the country, about arable lands suitable for settlement. Just what is meant by arable lands? Are arable lands the only lands upon which settlers may make a living in this Province? The dictionary says that arable lands are lands that can be ploughed or are suitable for tillage. To ascertain how many acres of arable land there are in Saskatchewan, it would be necessary to make an intensive study of every acre of land in the Province, taking each separately and deducting from the area the exact acreage there is in sloughs, creek bottoms, and stony ridges, if any, and when this tremendous and futile work was completed, all we would have would be a mass of detail and figures that would stagger the most astute brain in grasping its meaning or comprehending the information obtained.

Because lands are not arable does not necessarily mean that a living cannot be made, or that they are entirely unfit for settlement, that, indeed, they are valueless. We have people making a living and putting money in the bank by running stock, fattening hogs, chicken-ranching, or beekeeping on lands that are not generally understood to be arable lands.

This then is the problem to which we are addressing ourselves—carefully to catalogue each parcel of land or district of the Province in accordance with its adaptability for maximum production of a commodity to which it is best suited. We shall know where we have lands in demand by wheat growers, and where we have marginal lands for beekeeping, hog raising, chicken ranching, and so on. We have already completed a soil survey of a considerable

portion of the Province, and this work is proceeding just as fast as we have money available for the work. As I have already stated, enough has been completed to give us a general idea of the usefulness of such a survey, and to convince us of the immense amount of valuable information that is thus obtained. It will be of tremendous assistance in solving the problem of colonisation. What we aim to do is to reveal the opportunities in the Province in all its branches. The opportunities are here for people who are willing to work. Why talk of arable lands only, when we talk of colonisation? Our aim is, therefore, to locate and guide the people who desire opportunities to those districts where their particular training and adaptability will have the best chance of being successfully realised.

The best kind of immigration literature is the letter from the successful settler to his friends or relatives back in the homeland. To make a successful settler, the primary essential, next to the character of the individual man or woman, is to have him or her placed in a position or in a district where his or her ability will have the best chance of success. I have here a pamphlet giving locations of farms that can be bought, but nothing is said as to what the land is good for, and the important thing to know is what the opportunities are.

Mr. MacPherson: Is the pamphlet compiled by the Government, or by a private concern?

Hon. Mr. Spence: This one was issued by a private company. But, as I said, it is not enough to know just where arable lands are open for settlement and the total acreage available. What is infinitely more important, we must know what each particular district is best suited for.

Through our nine employment agencies we are now placing a great many people who, because they were properly placed in the right district, have written back home and are bringing out their families and friends. Cases are on record in the Employment Service where even one humble domestic has, in a few years after her arrival in Saskatchewan, surrounded herself with all the members of her family. I purpose to co-operate more than before with the Dominion Government in this service. Through these nine offices, we can maintain close contact with the municipalities, through them learn where help is needed, where grain-growing land is situated and where the marginal lands to which we may direct the stock-raiser and beekeeper. It is proposed to maintain an intelligent service, so that, once the intending settler has stated his desires, he will be told where to go and what to grow. An effort, as I have said, will be made to classify lands, good lands, marginal lands, and poor lands, but the big factor will be kept in mind of where the opportunity offers for the best chances of success.

We have lists of land by the hundreds and thousands of acres that can be purchased on almost any kind of terms, from a cash purchase to payments spread over a thirty-year period. Land can be leased on almost any terms or on a great many terms at least. But one fact cannot be too emphatically stressed for anyone

starting farming, and it is this: The initial load of debt must not be too great. I have seen, possibly we have all seen, good men, possessed of means and ability, who have failed because of the initial burden. The first load must not be too great. Here also, we can advise and so help at least to pave the way for the new settler's success.

With regard to immigration, let me say first and foremost, that I look on this as purely a Dominion matter.

Mr. Anderson: Mr. Speaker, is the Honourable Minister in order in speaking on a matter which is the subject of a resolution standing on the order paper in my name?

Hon. Mr. Spence: I am discussing a matter in connection with the Department concerned in this Bill.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner: I think, Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Minister is perfectly in order. It cannot be said that he is anticipating a motion, because the motion to which he is speaking has been standing on the Order Paper for two days, at least. The Rules, as I read them, bar further discussions of subjects which already have been fully discussed or decided in the House, not of those that might, in future, be discussed.

Mr. Anderson: On that point—Was not in migration discussed at some length in the debate on the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne?

Hon. Mr. Gardiner: Yes! It was. But I would remind the honourable gentlemen that the Honourable Minister is now speaking on a matter which has specific relation to a new Department over which the Honourable Minister presides.

Hon. Mr. Spence: If the honourable gentleman will have patience, I think he will find my remarks are quite in order.

As I was saying: I consider immigration purely a Dominion matter, and not provincial at all. With your permission, Sir, and with that of the House, in order to prevent misconception or misunderstanding, I will read my statement on this matter.

The work is being carried on by Dominion authority under its own regulations, and properly so. Why should we duplicate that effort in London or any where else? It has been suggested in some quarters that we might have an Immigration Agent of our own with permanent headquarters in London, England. I do not think that would be in the best interests of Canada's immigration policy or of the immigrants themselves to have nine provinces all competing with one another in London—and if in London, why not in Edinburgh, or in Dublin? Why rule our Scotch and Irish friends out of court?

“Mr. Speaker,—I may be open to conviction on this point from the honourable gentleman opposite, but I venture to affirm that it would not be in line with the best thought on this subject or the best experience up till now. More and more we are getting away from senseless, sectional rivalry in this work, which must, in my judgment, always remain a Dominion responsibility. Personally, I think we should centralise and co-ordinate our activities more intensively than we have in the past. If an inter-provincial board were set up on which all the Provinces should be represented, this board could have headquarters at the heart of the Empire and advise the High Commissioner there as to the requirements, both

as to the qualification and quantity of the immigrants for each Province. In this way, there could be no overlapping, no needless waste of time or energy, and every Province in the Dominion would get a square deal and the greatest number of immigrants, who would all be handpicked to suit the particular needs of each particular Province. To this end, the efforts of this Department, not away from but toward centralisation, will be directed.

"I am aware that some of the more highly industrialised Provinces have an Agent-General with headquarters in London. The work of all such should be purely industrial and commercial, and when the need for it arises, if it ever does, we might then give consideration toward having a representative of Saskatchewan. But the work should primarily be of a commercial and industrial nature, and such immigration work as might come within his jurisdiction would, in my judgment, be better performed by co-operating and acting with the central authority.

"The policy of the Minister directing the affairs of this Department will be directed to securing the best and most reliable information respecting both agricultural opportunities, industrial and commercial, and every other field of human endeavor that will round out our agricultural development. With this information, we shall be in a more intelligent position to indicate our wants, and insist on the manpower which will best develop our resources and preserve for posterity this great heritage which is ours. We shall resolutely set our faces against a policy of dumping down carloads of human freight, and then leave them to hunt for themselves. This Department will endeavour to keep in touch, in its colonisation work, with each family and individual that comes within its orbit of service, until reasonably satisfied that each has become absorbed in our social structure.

"Success and prosperity will conduce to a happy and contented people. The whole success of any plan will rest first, upon the character of the individual himself, and second, upon the intelligent placing of the individual in the right work and in the right environment, and knowing when the point of saturation for any community or line of industry has been reached."

I wish now to say a few words on the power question. Here again, Mr. Speaker, in view of the importance of the subject and to avoid any misunderstanding and with your kind permission, I will read what I have to say:

"A great deal has been said in this House about the public ownership of power. I have already pointed out, in a previous debate, that 80 per cent of the power in Saskatchewan is consumed in the three cities, and the plants are all municipally-owned. It would be safe to say another 15% is publicly-owned in the towns and larger urban centres, thus leaving only 5% in the hands of private individuals. There is perhaps no Province in Canada in which power is more publicly owned than it is in the Province of Saskatchewan. I am aware that this condition may not continue if private companies now entering the Province procure franchises at the rate which they are doing at the present time.

"The Government will not announce its policy with respect to power until after the commission, now making an intensive study of the question, has made a report in full to the Government, and not until the Government has had ample time to study the report in its utmost details. Meantime, we are introducing Legislation at this session, having as its aim the protection of the bondholders of urban centres which are now disposing, or may in future dispose, of their municipally-owned power plants to private interests.

"In the matter of high voltage transmission, legislation will also be introduced for the protection of life and property, and this measure will also contain provision for supervision and control over rates, after full and complete study of the whole question of power production, distribution, and consumption.

"This Department is asking this House for power in this Bill by a House Amendment or in a separate measure, to construct and operate central power plants and substations, erect high transmission lines and transformers, expropriate existing power plants and transmission lines and other equipment at its replacement value, and to sell current, electrical appliances and equipment to urban and rural dwellers.

"This Act does not in any way alter the legal standing of the companies that have entered the Province prior to its enactment. Their legal position will be just the same. Nothing has been taken away, and nothing has been added. I wish to state very emphatically, that no undertaking has been asked by any company and no undertaking has been given by the Government to any company, engaged in this industry of electrical production and distribution."

Mr. Speaker, I move the Second Reading of this Bill.

Speech delivered by

THE HONOURABLE W. J. PATTERSON

(*Provincial Treasurer and Minister of Telephones and Telegraphs*)

on

THE BUDGET

in the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

Friday, February 24, 1928.

The Honourable Mr. Patterson, in moving that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair for the Assembly to go into the Committee of Supply, said:

Mr. Speaker,—In rising to move that you do now leave the chair that the Assembly may go into Committee of Supply, it becomes my duty in accordance with long established practice, to present to the members of the Legislature a resumé of the financial affairs of the Province. The Federal Minister of Finance has been receiving many commendations on the fact that, in presenting the Federal Budget he spoke for scarcely an hour. I hope to merit your approval, Sir, and the approval of the House, by following his example.

Reference already has been made in this House to the loss sustained by the Province in the recent death of the Honourable George A. Bell. Mr. Bell entered the Legislature in 1908 representing the Constituency of Estevan. In 1912, he became Provincial Treasurer and Minister of Telephones, delivering his first budget speech in January, 1913. He remained a member of the Government until 1918, when he became chairman of the Local Government Board, a position he occupied until retirement at the age of 70. Mr. Bell contributed to this Province many years of valuable public service. During his period as Provincial Treasurer, he followed closely a policy of careful and economical administration. Naturally a man of sound and deliberate judgment, he applied to the business of Government those abilities which had brought success in his personal affairs, and his record of faithful and efficient service will be a constant and abiding memorial.

AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS.

In a Province so largely agricultural, the barometer of agricultural production and returns reflects very largely the condition of all industries and business. The spring of 1927 was, in many

respects, a peculiar one. It was late and unusually wet; seeding was greatly delayed and in some districts was nearly a month later than usual. With ample moisture, the crops, though late, made good progress and during the latter part of July indications were for a better than average crop. Unfortunately, an early frost in some districts, rust damage in others and severe hail losses reduced very considerably the total crop, and in many sections of the Province the yields were very disappointing. The fall was stormy and much grain was threshed in poor condition with resultant loss in grade and price. One good feature of the year's returns is that, in those sections of the Province where for several years crops had been poor and conditions difficult, this year the crop was excellent both as to yield and grade, and while some portion of the crop remains unthreshed, the percentage of the total crop still in stook is very small.

In a statement which I shall ask the permission of the House to have printed as a schedule to this address, will be found details of agricultural production and values for the years 1926 and 1927. From this it will be seen that the grain production of 1927, while somewhat below that of 1926, is not as much less as might be expected in view of the exceptional conditions of the season. The total value of the 1927 crop is estimated as \$310,000,000, as against an estimated value of \$314,000,000 in 1926. While the total agricultural production value for 1927 is \$478,000,000 as against \$472,000,000 for 1926, the increase being largely accounted for by the increased value of live stock production.

Owing to the generally improved condition of agriculture in the Province what would have been, a few years ago, considered a very ordinary crop has not been followed by any great financial difficulty. On the contrary, the reports of municipal tax collections, the collections made by banks, loan companies and other organisations extending general credit, indicate that in 1927 further progress was made in the re-establishment of that industry.

OTHER INDUSTRIES.

The year just passed was a very active one for other industries. Building, especially in the larger centres, was greater in value than for many years. A notable feature was the number of houses constructed. This may be accepted as evidence that many who were, during the period of depression, unwilling to commit themselves to permanent investment or residence here, are now convinced that Saskatchewan offers as good a field for investment as any other part of the continent, and are quite satisfied to make it their permanent home.

The Flour Mills of the Province as well as the packing plants had a busy year and both classes of industry enlarged, or plan to enlarge, their capacities. The various brick and tile plants naturally benefitted by the increase in building, and their production was greater than in any previous year.

We have heard a good deal of search for oil, but so far no definite location of oil has been discovered, but further deposits of lignite coal are being opened up from time to time.

LIGNITE COAL.

The sale of the Briquetting Plant at Bienfait to the re-organised Dominion Western Collieries was an important event of the past year. This Company has undertaken to expend half a million dollars in rebuilding and enlarging the Briquetting Plant. Their chief engineer is now on the ground and work is to be commenced without delay.

If their system of briquetting is commercially practicable, and those behind the Company are investing a very considerable sum of money as evidence of their confidence, the putting of this plant into commercial operation may prove to be one of the most important events in our industrial progress and history. The Company has undertaken to have the plant completed and in operation by August of this year at a daily capacity of approximately 300 tons of raw coal representing 175 tons of briquettes.

THE FLIN FLON.

One of the most outstanding happenings of the year was the taking up by a New York Syndicate, of their option on the Flin Flon Mine. As has already been explained in the House, the main shaft of this mine is just outside the boundary of this Province, but it is a fact that a large percentage of the area of the Flin Flon Mine is within Saskatchewan.

Mining is one of the most speculative of all developments but the fact is established that there is vast mineral wealth in that part of Northern Manitoba and Northern Saskatchewan and further prospecting and development will no doubt establish new fields of mineral wealth.

The development of the Flin Flon will mean the investment of large amounts of money. It involves the construction of a railway, building a smelter, mine and office buildings and the supplying of all those facilities necessary for the conduct of an exceedingly large business, as well as houses for the men who work there. It will mean the employment of large numbers of men and will provide an opportunity to earn a grubstake to many who will come to Saskatchewan, with the desire to farm, but who do not bring with them sufficient capital to set up as farmers on their arrival.

It is yet too early to say to what extent the Flin Flon development and construction will actually be within Saskatchewan, but the development there is certain to be followed by further development extending westward into our northern hinterland.

PROVINCIAL FINANCE.

On the occasion of a budget speech, there are three different phases of Provincial finances to be considered: first, the final returns for the last completed fiscal period, in this case the fiscal year ended April 30, 1927; second, the standing of the present fiscal year, and third, the estimates for the coming fiscal period.

In respect of the year ended April 30, 1927, cash receipts on the revenue account of the Province were \$13,021,244.52, which included the sum of \$600,000 from liquor profits. The cash expenditures on the revenue account for the year were \$12,929,398.26, leaving a cash surplus of \$91,846.26.

It has been usual in budget addresses for some years now, to refer briefly to the cost of the several services of the Government and also to give particulars of the sources of revenue. I will not here, Mr. Speaker, attempt to give you full particulars as the same will be printed with the Budget Speech, but the salient features of this statement are as follows:

The main item of cost is still that incurred in developmental expenditures. The percentage of our total expenditures used for development services increased from 73.86% in 1925-26 to 74.53% in 1926-27. Of these developmental expenditures, particular mention should be made of Education, which accounts for nearly half of this class of expenditures, or one-third of the total expenditures for all purposes. The other expenditures remain fairly stationary. They are:

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Administrative..... | 4.21% |
| Legislative..... | 1.64% |
| Protective..... | 14.37% |
| Miscellaneous..... | 5.24% |

We hear a good deal about the cost of legislatures in the west, and the plea is made that some two of them should be done away with. I don't think there can be much complaint in that regard in this Province, where the cost of government is only 1.64% of the total expenditures.

For the purpose of arriving at the figures I have just quoted, public debt charges are distributed according to the nature of the service for which the debt was created, and the statements do not show public debt charges as an individual item.

The sources of revenue show a very slight variation: Dominion Subsidy, including school lands, was 24.86% in 1925-26 and 29.40% in 1926-27, while taxation has dropped from 36.34% in 1925-26 to 35.43% in 1926-27.

CURRENT FISCAL YEAR.

For the current fiscal year, 1927-28, I cannot say more than this—that the revenues to date are approximating the estimates of

revenue made when the main estimates were voted at last session. It is quite impossible to make, at this time, any definite forecast of the final returns for the year, but, as I said, revenues are keeping up with expenditures.

1928-29 ESTIMATES.

The estimates of expenditures for the fiscal year 1928-29 now placed before you, total a considerably larger amount than those for the previous year. They provide for increased activities in various Departments and in the services they render to the Province. The principal increases are:

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Salaries and Expenses, Sheriffs' Offices..... | \$190,000 |
| Old Age Pensions..... | 215,000 |
| Increased vote for Highways..... | 400,000 |
| “ “ “ Agriculture..... | 80,000 |
| “ “ “ Education..... | 170,000 |
| “ “ “ Public Health..... | 125,000 |
| “ “ “ Child Protection..... | 30,000 |
| “ “ “ Railways, Labour and In- dustries..... | 25,000 |
| | \$1,235,000 |

That is, Sir, a total increase of approximately one-and-a-quarter million dollars in estimates for next fiscal year.

For a number of years past the Sheriffs' Offices in the Province have been operated on a “fee basis.” That is, the Sheriff collected the revenues of his office, and out of those fees he paid his own office expenses and his own salary, remitting to the Government any surplus earnings. Now it has been decided to change this system and to place the Sheriffs and their staffs on a straight salary basis. All of the earnings of the Sheriffs' offices will be Provincial Revenue and the salaries and expenses will be paid from the Provincial Treasury. In this way it is believed that more efficient services can be given and at the same time no increased cost will be incurred, but both revenue and expenditure are increased by approximately \$200,000.

Old Age Pensions will not reach their maximum during the first year's operation of the Act, and \$215,000 should be sufficient for this purpose in 1928-29. Like every other form of social legislation, however, the expenditure is certain to increase from year to year.

In the estimates for the various Departments, provision has been made for increased service by the Department of Agriculture, the total vote for that Department being increased by the sum of \$80,000. Then there is also an additional sum of \$400,000 for Highways.

Provision has been made for the activities of the newly created Department of Railways, Labour and Industries. The increases for Education, Public Health and Child Protection provide mainly for expenditures fixed by legislation and over which the Government has no control. These annually recurring increases for these purposes, raise the question of whether Provincial grants to schools and hospitals can be maintained on their present basis.

No reduction has been made in the estimates for Police services. While it is confidently expected that an agreement will very shortly be completed with the Federal Government providing for the policing of the Province by the R.C.M.P.; until that agreement is definitely completed it is considered advisable to submit the estimates on their present basis.

Now, Sir, as against these increases in expenditures, we have two or three increases in revenues. Outside of an estimated revenue of \$200,000 from Sheriffs' Offices, which has already been explained, and the refund by the Dominion Government of one-half of the amount paid out for Old Age Pensions, the only considerable item of increased revenue to meet these increased expenditures is the Gasoline Tax. This has been estimated at \$600,000. It may be argued that this amount should be greater, but, taking into account the percentage of refunds in other Provinces and the extent of power farming in Saskatchewan, it is considered that this is a reasonable amount.

TAXATION.

It is interesting to note that the announcement of the imposition of a Gasoline Tax has been received with general approval, something unusual in connection with a new tax. But I must also point out, Mr. Speaker, that the imposition of any new tax is unusual in the Province of Saskatchewan.

In 1918, the Public Revenue Levy was increased to 2 mills, but during the intervening ten years no new or increased tax of a general nature has been levied by the Province. On the contrary, two very substantial reductions have been effected. In 1921, the Supplementary Revenue Tax, amounting to approximately half-a-million dollars per year, was repealed and again, in 1927, the Public Revenue Levy was reduced by about the same amount. The revenue from Wild Land Tax has also been decreasing each year. The result is that the total of the 1928 levies on lands in Saskatchewan for Provincial purposes plus the Gasoline Tax, will be less than if we reverted to the 1918 scale of land taxes and had no Gasoline Tax.

The past ten years has admittedly been one of the most difficult periods in Canadian history with respect to Governmental financing. During that period most of the Provinces have had to resort to new forms of taxation. Many of them have been compelled to capitalise deficits on revenue accounts. In some cases large

capital debts have been incurred to provide utilities which are not self-supporting. What is the history of Saskatchewan during that period? During the same period, the Province of Saskatchewan has kept its public debt within reasonable figures. Its self-supporting portion of the public debt is so in fact as well as in name. Its budgets have been balanced and no part of its public debt represents a revenue deficit. It has maintained and increased its public services. And it has done all this not only without increasing taxes, but has actually made substantial tax reductions.

Mr. Speaker, we have heard a good deal in this legislature as to why this Government remains in power. I point to these facts, and I respectfully recommend careful consideration of these facts to those Honourable Gentlemen who profess a difficulty in understanding why the people of Saskatchewan prefer this Government to any substitute which has been suggested.

BOND ISSUES.

During the past year maturing Provincial Debentures totalled the sum of \$3,815,540. Of this amount, \$2,065,540 was paid off, the balance of \$1,750,000 being refunded.

To date, the total redemptions by Sinking Funds of Provincial securities amount to more than \$8,000,000. I may say that this Province has followed a policy of using sinking funds to retire debentures as they mature. This explains why our Sinking Fund balances are smaller than in some Provinces where a different method is adopted. We believe our method is both a proper and a businesslike method, and see no reason for adopting any other at the present time.

Three issues of 30-year debentures for refunding and for current capital requirements were made on June 1, September 15, and November 15, 1927—a total amount so issued of \$4,637,300. The first two of these bear interest at $4\frac{1}{2}\%$, but the November 15 issue bears only 4% interest. I may say Saskatchewan was the first Province to sell a 4% bond since the war and, what is more, the results justified our action. Several other Provinces almost immediately followed our example. The 4% issue of November 15 was sold at a price of 91.652, making the cost to the Province 4.51% which is the lowest interest rate secured since 1911; in fact it is the lowest interest rate secured for bonds payable only in Canada or the United States. Previously the rate was low because it was possible to get the money in London.

On January 1, 1928, the interest rate on redeemable Farm Loan Debentures was reduced from $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ to 4%.

I notice in the papers that come to my office from Investment and Bond Dealers the comparatively small amount of Saskatchewan debentures listed for sale with these dealers from month to month. This is a very good indication of the favour in which our securities are held by the investing public.

PUBLIC DEBT.

The public debt of the province on February 1, 1928, stood at \$58,400,152.20. Of this amount, \$24,509,349.89 is self sustaining and consequently, the "net" debt is \$33,890,802.31.

Our per capita "gross" debt is \$71.13, and our per capita "net" debt \$41.27. In this respect Saskatchewan has maintained her favourable position and is still the fourth lowest of Canadian Provinces with respect to both "gross" and "net" per capita debt.

SUCCESSION DUTY.

Legislation has already been introduced increasing the exemption under *The Succession Duty Act* from \$10,000 to \$15,000 on estates passing to near relatives. It is quite true that we were requested to increase the exemption to a greater amount, as in some provinces the exemption is larger than in Saskatchewan. But it must be remembered that conditions in this province are very different from those where a large portion of the population is urban and where there have been great accumulations of wealth. In Saskatchewan, the average estate is small and our rates of duty in the smaller brackets are very low. In addition to that, in this province it is the practice to fix the rate of assessment by the "net" and not by the "gross" value of the estate, which makes a material difference in many cases, particularly in cases where the estate consists of encumbered land.

LIQUOR PROFITS.

On several occasions the suggestion has been made that the profits from the operations of the Saskatchewan Liquor Board were rapidly increasing. This is hardly correct, as a reference to the recently tabled report of the Board for the year ended March 31, 1927, will show. I might say that the monthly statements of the Board for the current year, indicate that the net results for this year will be approximately the same as for the previous year.

CO-OPERATIVE CREAMERIES.

At its last session, the Legislature passed an Act confirming the purchase of Caulder's Creameries by the Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries Company. The results of ten months' operation of the amalgamated system would appear to justify the wisdom of that action. A very material saving has been made in operating costs and further savings are expected. In this connection, as I remember it, the operating costs were \$400,000 less for these ten months than the costs of the two companies when operating separately, for the same period of the preceding year. Naturally, we look for even better this year. Considering the conditions existing at the time of the merger, and that it takes time to get an organisation of this kind running smoothly, the first year's results of the amalgamation can be considered satisfactory.

As anticipated at the last session, the Government has implemented the Bank Guarantee of the old Co-operative Creamery Company and now holds a blanket first mortgage for \$900,000 covering all of the plants and equipment of the old Company. The balance of the indebtedness of the Company to the Province is represented by the Company's "Government Redeemable Shares" for \$355,083.35.

SASKATCHEWAN FARM LOAN BOARD.

At the last Session of the Legislature, the estimates provided for \$500,000 Capital Advances to the Farm Loan Board. At that time, the Federal Rural Credits Scheme had not been finally passed at Ottawa, and it was not deemed wise to increase the operations of the Board until it was decided whether the Federal Scheme should be adopted in this province. After a careful study of the Federal Act, the Government decided that our own system is simpler and better fitted to the conditions existing in this province. I may say that this view has been confirmed by the United Farmers of Canada. When this decision was reached, a Special Warrant placed a further sum of \$500,000 at the disposal of the Board. It must be remembered that the Board's fiscal year ends December 31, and therefore, is not the same as that of the Government, but during the year ended December 31, 1927, the Board was supplied with just a little less than \$900,000, and on that date its total capital indebtedness to the Government was slightly less than \$9,000,000. This Government has had confidence in the ability and integrity of the members comprising the Board and believing it wise that there should be no suggestion of political interference, the Government has never attempted to interfere with the internal management of the Board, nor has it suggested that certain loans should or should not be made. It has never suggested that any loan should or should not be foreclosed, or the terms on which lands coming into the possession of the Board should be sold. I repeat. This Government has never interfered with the internal management of the Board in any way, shape or form.

The Board operates under several handicaps. It does not have local appraisers as the private companies have. The local appraisers, by their recommendations in placing loans and aid in collections are of material assistance to the loan companies. The private companies can select the districts in which they will operate, can loan in large or small amounts without criticism, and, by having a large number of loans in choice and particular districts, can materially reduce the overhead cost of administration. On the other hand, the Farm Loan Board is required to consider applications from every part of the province, is expected to favour the smaller loans although the cost of inspection, supervision and office administration is thereby greatly increased. The Farm Loan Board is restricted to a narrow margin for its administration costs. The Board has a margin of only one and one-sixth per cent. between the cost to it of the money advanced by the Treasury, and the rate at which the money is loaned. Taking into account the

fact its loans are scattered all over the province and the small amount of each loan (the average being less than \$2,500), it is to the credit of the Board that it is able to report a small margin of profit on its operating account.

There has been some criticism of the Board for making sales of lands that have come into its possession, without requiring a cash payment. Now this criticism has come from people who are loudest in advocating increased immigration, and who must know that most immigrants are not in a position to pay 'cash down' on lands they may purchase. Many are fortunate to have sufficient cash to get the necessary equipment, and I contend the claims made are not to be taken seriously. In addition, it may be noted that during the past few years thousands of acres of lands have been sold without a cash payment, and the Board has ample precedent for its actions in the policy of many large land-owning companies as well as hundreds of private individuals. In this matter, the Government proposes to leave the selling of lands in the hands of the Board, whose members will continue to use their discretion taking into account the circumstances in each case. The Government has decided to continue and extend the operations of the Board, and in the estimates for the coming year provision has been made for Capital Advances to the Board, of \$1,000,000. The suggestion will no doubt be made that this amount should be considerably larger. Some will even suggest that it should be as large as \$5,000,000. We feel, however, the amount we are asking is a very substantial sum and particularly so when account is taken of the purposes for which the Board was created. It was never intended, indeed it would never be possible, for the Farm Loan Board to provide all of the mortgage loan accommodation required by the farmers of the Province. To do so would increase the public debt of the Province to an amount which would seriously affect its standing and, without deprecating the value of first mortgage securities, we can imagine a condition where, with a series of poor crops, these securities would become "frozen" and the normal activities of the Government would be jeopardised. The purpose of the Farm Loan Board was to establish a loaning agency which would have the effect of stabilising interest rates. In this it has had considerable success, and now private companies are loaning, in some districts in the Province at 7%. As the amount of money available at this rate increases, the demands on the Farm Loan Board should become less, and the time should come and must come, when the board will become self-sustaining. When the Board has reached a certain stage, its collections in each year should be sufficient to provide for its advances in the same year, so that the advantages of dealing with the Board can be extended to as many as possible without further increase of the public debt.

The Board can only become a complete success to the extent to 'which its borrowers appreciate their responsibilities. To fail in making payments to the Board because its interest rates are lower, to depend on it to pay taxes or supply seed so that other creditors can be paid, is merely depriving some other farmer of mortgage accommodation at low interest rates, as well as making

more difficult the operations of the Board. In some cases, it seems to be the opinion that the Board should come to the rescue of, and make loans to, borrowers who have got into difficulty with a Private Loan Company and are likely to be foreclosed. In such cases the liability to the Private Company is usually larger than the margin of value which the Board is permitted to lend even if no consideration is given to the wisdom of making loans to borrowers who have already proved unsatisfactory.

Farm Loan Redeemable Bonds are now being sold at 4%, and this fact may suggest a lowering of interest rates on loans made by the Board. The Treasury Department charges the Board 5 1/3% on moneys advanced to it. Taking into account all of the moneys advanced to the Board and the different rates of interest paid on different issues for Farm Loan purposes, the Treasury, up to the present, has taken a slight loss at this rate, and a reduction in rate to the Board cannot be undertaken until the present rates on Provincial bond issues are more firmly established. The actual cost of redeemable bonds is always more than the indicated interest rate for not only must a certain amount of money always be kept on hand to meet applications for redemption, but the initial cost of sale and issue materially increases the cost when a bond is redeemed within one, two or three years of issue.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, may I say that the present favourable financial condition of the Province of Saskatchewan is due to careful and economical administration of its affairs during the 22 years of its existence. To maintain this position, equal care and economy is necessary in the future. I very well remember the first few sessions I sat in this House, the text of every speech delivered in the House was "Economy." During this session that word has not been heard. On the contrary, every demand made or policy suggested, would entail increased expenditure by the Government. While it is true that conditions have materially improved and our people are now enjoying a considerable measure of prosperity, I might point out that this improvement does not increase the revenues of the Government to the extent that might be expected. Many of our larger revenue items are practically fixed. The Dominion Subsidies and the Public Revenue Levy are not any greater in a good year than in a poor year. It is true that the latter may not be so easily collectable in a poor year, but ultimately the return to the Provincial Treasury is the same.

During the past year there has been much discussion on the subject of immigration. Saskatchewan welcomes new settlers, but here again large increases in population do not make easier the administration of the public business. New settlements extending further northward the settled area of the Province will call for the provision of schools, roads, health supervision and the protection of person and property, which will increase the responsibilities and financial calls upon the Government.

There is a constant demand for the establishment of new services and the extension of existing ones. We hear a great deal

of "free services." No service given by this or any other Government can be "free." Ultimately, every government activity must be paid for by the people.

It will continue to be the policy of this Government to maintain the high financial standing of the Province, to conduct its affairs with care and economy, and to this end to embark only on those enterprises and services for which the people of Saskatchewan can reasonably afford to pay.

Mr. Speaker, I move that you do now leave the Chair.

ESTIMATED PRODUCTION AND VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

| | 1926 | | 1927 | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| | Bushels | | Bushels | |
| Wheat..... | 218,643,000 | \$236,134,000 | 212,860,000 | \$206,474,000 |
| Oats..... | 110,726,000 | 46,505,000 | 142,526,000 | 62,711,000 |
| Barley..... | 21,896,000 | 9,853,000 | 27,129,000 | 16,549,000 |
| Flax..... | 3,706,000 | 5,930,000 | 3,373,000 | 5,127,000 |
| Rye..... | 5,396,000 | 3,993,000 | 7,941,000 | 6,273,000 |
| Other Field Crops..... | | 11,628,000 | | 12,653,000 |
| Total Value of Field Crops.. | | \$314,043,000 | | \$309,787,000 |
| Live stock..... | Head 3,029,132 | 122,223,000 | Head 3,259,245 | 135,075,000 |
| Other Farm Products..... | | 35,450,300 | | 33,440,150 |
| Total..... | | \$471,716,300 | | \$478,302,150 |

SCHEDULE 1
PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN—TREASURY DEPARTMENT
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF DISTRIBUTION OF REVENUES

| | 1925-1926 | | 1926-1927 | |
|--|------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1. DOMINION GOVERNMENT | Percentage 24.8647 | | \$2,835,659.02 | |
| (a) Subsidy..... | 16.2285 | \$1,850,755.00 | 18.1453 | \$2,032,575.00 |
| (b) School lands..... | 8.6362 | 984,904.02 | 11.2587 | 1,261,161.15 |
| 2. TAXATION | 36.3397 | | 4,144,301.21 | |
| (a) Public Revenues (Less Commission)..... | 20.3535 | \$2,321,181.25 | 20.3324 | \$2,277,572.66 |
| (b) Wild Lands (Less Commission)..... | 5.0072 | 571,037.68 | 4.1892 | 469,257.16 |
| (c) Supplementary Revenue (Less Commission)... | .1702 | 19,410.21 | .1770 | 19,825.89 |
| (d) Inheritance..... | 2.9165 | 332,607.04 | 2.5902 | 290,149.69 |
| (e) Corporation..... | 4.2749 | 487,525.21 | 4.6082 | 516,199.71 |
| (f) Timber Berth..... | .0215 | 2,448.27 | .0340 | 3,808.37 |
| (g) Railways..... | 3.0602 | 349,000.00 | 3.1156 | 349,000.00 |
| (h) Fur Royalties..... | .5357 | 61,091.55 | .3809 | 42,668.25 |
| 3. LICENSES | 17.5261 | | 1,998,735.04 | |
| (a) Detective..... | .0000 | Nil | .0000 | Nil |
| (b) Auctioneer..... | .0596 | \$ 6,792.00 | .0952 | \$ 10,659.00 |
| (c) Peddlers..... | .4025 | 45,902.00 | .3799 | 42,550.97 |
| (d) Marriage..... | .1532 | 17,466.00 | .1756 | 19,674.00 |
| (e) Motors..... | 15.0643 | 1,717,982.60 | 13.4825 | 1,510,262.59 |
| (f) Moving Pictures..... | .2921 | 33,312.40 | .3263 | 36,549.50 |
| (g) Circus..... | .0167 | 1,904.00 | .0483 | 5,414.00 |
| (h) Company..... | .1025 | 11,695.00 | .1059 | 11,870.00 |
| (i) Insurance..... | .7451 | 84,978.73 | .7365 | 82,496.60 |
| (j) Fur Dealer..... | .1178 | 13,438.42 | .1393 | 15,600.68 |
| (k) Game..... | .2300 | 26,231.51 | .2368 | 26,523.63 |
| (l) Slaughter House..... | .0316 | 3,599.88 | .0348 | 3,896.00 |

SCHEDULE 1 (Continued)

| | 1925-26 | | 1926-27 | |
|---|---------------|------------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| | Percentage | | Percentage | |
| (m) Plumber..... | .0020 | \$ 233.00 | .0046 | \$ 519.00 |
| (n) Embalmer..... | .0034 | 392.00 | .0018 | 204.00 |
| (o) Steam Boiler..... | .1653 | 18,845.00 | .1485 | 16,635.00 |
| (p) Cow Testing and Creameries..... | .0076 | 863.00 | .0066 | 737.15 |
| (q) Trappers..... | .1324 | 15,099.50 | .1169 | 13,093.50 |
| (r) Dog Trainer..... | .0000 | Nil | .0057 | 639.85 |
| 4. FEES..... | 8.0019 | \$912,567.11 | 8.3879 | \$ 939,579.79 |
| (a) Notary Public..... | .0294 | 3,350.00 | .0285 | 3,190.00 |
| (b) Commissioner for Oaths..... | .0054 | 620.00 | .0051 | 572.00 |
| (c) Police..... | .3481 | 39,703.04 | .2896 | 32,440.67 |
| (d) Succession Duty Fees..... | .0416 | 4,746.60 | .0450 | 5,042.00 |
| (e) Land Titles..... | 4.8787 | 556,378.00 | 5.2037 | 582,905.58 |
| (f) Court and Sheriff..... | .7563 | 86,246.22 | .8436 | 94,498.12 |
| (g) Company..... | .1740 | 19,841.25 | .2076 | 23,253.25 |
| (h) Examinations (Education)..... | .6382 | 72,780.10 | .6933 | 77,660.26 |
| (i) Teachers' Certificates..... | .0137 | 1,566.21 | .0168 | 1,880.31 |
| (j) Normal School..... | .2222 | 25,336.98 | .2310 | 25,877.13 |
| (k) Brands..... | .0239 | 2,722.51 | .0283 | 3,166.50 |
| (l) Stallion Inspection..... | .0205 | 2,340.00 | .0177 | 1,980.50 |
| (m) Stallion Registration..... | .0275 | 3,141.15 | .0301 | 3,369.54 |
| (n) Vital Statistics..... | .0531 | 6,059.60 | .0561 | 6,285.89 |
| (o) Administration of Estates of Mentally Incompetent..... | .1545 | 17,616.84 | .1723 | 19,304.52 |
| (p) Steam Boiler's Act..... | .1423 | 16,235.25 | .1400 | 15,743.10 |
| (q) Liquor Permits..... | .2808 | 32,022.00 | .1413 | 15,829.00 |
| (r) Miscellaneous..... | .1917 | 21,861.36 | .2373 | 26,581.42 |
| 5. REPAYMENTS OF ADVANCES AND LOANS (other than on Capital Account)..... | 2.8608 | 326,261.68 | 8307 | 93,053.36 |
| 6. INSTITUTIONAL REVENUE..... | 1.5783 | 179,993.91 | 1.7279 | 193,552.65 |
| 7. FINES, FORFEITURES AND ESTREATED BAIL... | 1.4229 | 162,265.80 | 1.2588 | 141,011.79 |
| 8. MISCELLANEOUS..... | 7.4056 | 844,548.34 | 6.9180 | 774,936.34 |
| being Interest, Sale of Publications and Materials, Liquor Profits, etc. | | | | |
| | 100.00 | \$11,404,332.11 | 100.00 | \$11,201,677.28 |

SCHEDULE 2

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN—TREASURY DEPARTMENT COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENDITURES

| | 1925-26 | | 1926-27 | |
|--|---------------|------------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| | Percentage | | Percentage | |
| 1. ADMINISTRATIVE..... | 4.0351 | \$ 457,511.03 | 4.2081 | \$ 467,275.80 |
| 2. LEGISLATIVE..... | 3.1837 | 360,972.79 | 1.6410 | 182,217.12 |
| 3. PROTECTIVE..... | 14.1719 | 1,606,833.06 | 14.3721 | 1,595,913.90 |
| (a) Police..... | 5.2445 | \$ 594,628.35 | 5.0615 | \$ 562,038.04 |
| (b) Courts..... | 2.0259 | 229,700.98 | 2.1440 | 238,076.36 |
| (c) Gaols..... | 1.6225 | 183,966.28 | 1.7707 | 196,627.79 |
| (d) Land Titles..... | 3.0214 | 342,563.89 | 3.0050 | 333,676.39 |
| (e) Miscellaneous..... | 2.2576 | 255,973.56 | 2.3909 | 265,495.32 |
| 4. DEVELOPMENTAL..... | 73.8617 | 8,374,468.87 | 74.5349 | 8,276,491.87 |
| (a) Education..... | 35.9541 | \$4,076,487.79 | 32.7894 | \$3,640,997.86 |
| (b) Public Health..... | 14.2935 | 1,620,604.97 | 15.7627 | 1,750,323.33 |
| (c) Child Protection..... | 4.0435 | 458,451.81 | 4.7669 | 529,327.97 |
| (d) Promotion of Agriculture and Commerce: | | | | |
| (1) Agriculture..... | 3.6291 | 411,465.81 | 3.8530 | 427,846.18 |
| (2) Highways..... | 15.2072 | 1,724,205.32 | 16.5966 | 1,842,009.94 |
| (3) Labour and Industries..... | .7343 | 83,253.17 | .7663 | 85,086.59 |
| 5. MISCELLANEOUS..... | 4.7476 | 538,280.78 | 5.2439 | 582,278.01 |
| | <u>100.00</u> | <u>\$11,338,066.53</u> | <u>100.00</u> | <u>\$11,104,176.70</u> |

Speech delivered by
MR. C. E. TRAN, M.L.A.
(*Pelly*)
in the
DEBATE ON THE BUDGET
in the
Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,
Monday, February 27, 1928.

Mr. Tran, in opening the debate on the Budget, said:

Mr. Speaker.—In rising to make my contribution to the Budget Speech, I do so with a feeling of both satisfaction and disappointment, satisfaction with the many important features which it contains, and disappointment that so many necessities of vital importance have been omitted. However, I must congratulate the Hon. Provincial Treasurer upon the clear, concise and deliberate manner in which he has in this, his “maiden” Budget, set the facts before the people of this Province. He apparently has in his possession all the financial data pertaining to the Province as they affect his Department, and his efforts should be highly commended by the people of Saskatchewan.

In presenting a speech of this nature, many things have to be taken into consideration. It is an annual report of the stewardship of the Government, and naturally the Minister is desirous of making a good showing. It is a financial recital of the manner in which the funds of the Province have been spent during the last year, and the manner in which the funds will be spent in the future. For these reasons and many others, this speech is of the greatest importance, and it is always considered so by the people of the Province, as well as this Assembly, but Mr. Speaker I contend that there is very little difficulty in preparing this speech, in fact as far as the Minister is concerned, there is none, as his work is concerned only with the delivery. The speech is prepared by the various servants in his office. These have all been busy for weeks, setting out, compiling, condensing and polishing the material for this speech, nevertheless, after all, the method of preparation is not the prime factor, it is the impression conveyed to the people, and the Budget speech must make an honest effort to outline activities, portray the results, and designate the future trend of Government Policy.

With regard to the substance and subject matter of the speech, it is an easy matter, of course, to make a mass of figures prove anything. To the ordinary layman they do not mean anything. A comprehensive meaning of this mass of figures is appalling, he

endeavours to glean something from them, but he gives up in despair, satisfied in the main that the country is safe when so much money is involved.

I was much impressed with the Minister's remarks with reference to Agriculture. This subject is of prime importance, as Agriculture is the basic industry of the Province. The Minister dwelt at length with the problems pertaining to this industry, and despite the adverse conditions, caused by uncontrollable agencies such as rust, frost, hail, etc., he states that enormous progress has been made, and generally, from a mercenary standpoint, the farmers in the Province were in an extremely prosperous and happy position.

It is customary, Mr. Speaker, for the Government to take some credit for the progress in this Department, indeed some Governments wish to take all the credit; but nothing of that nature could be claimed in this Province. The farmers themselves are responsible for the conditions as they exist. Through their dogged determination, love of country, force of character and undaunted confidence in this country, they have stuck to it through thick and thin. Through prosperity and adversity (mostly the latter), so that to-day, Mr. Speaker, we have developed a class of farmers whose spirits cannot be broken by the thought or actual application of any adverse condition or conditions, whatsoever. Let me repeat that this Government has had very little to do with conditions. All the Members in this House have been sympathetic towards the farmers (and rightly so), so if any credit is claimed, let it be divided amongst all the members of the House, I do not mean to suggest that this Government, through its Members has not done all possible to encourage this industry, but I do state, and believe it to be true, that any other Government, had it been in power, would have done equally as well, and probably better.

I was greatly disappointed by the omission from the Budget of a further reduction in the Public Revenue Tax. Anything along the line of tax reduction is very popular with the people, and I wish to commend the actions of this Government in making a 25 per cent. reduction in the Public Revenue Tax, last year, and judging from the optimistic report of the Minister, and the balanced Budget with a surplus, a further reduction of 25 per cent. in this very important Tax would have been advisable.

The Minister of Municipal Affairs last year stated, that this Tax would be cut altogether in the very near future, why not repeat the 25 per cent. reduction?

As I have stated, the Minister has reported a surplus, I am always a bit suspicious regarding surpluses in Budgets, and this one is no exception. The question occurs to me as to many others, is this a real surplus or is it merely a juggling of figures to make this showing? If we look up the figures, we find that some \$3,000,000 was borrowed during the year, part we are told was used for the redemption of loans at lower rate of interest (a very fine feature, but this is not paying the Loan); part for capital expenditure on Highways and other Departments in the Government.

Now, Mr. Speaker, any corporation could easily balance its Budget, providing it was permitted to use borrowed capital to do so, and it is my honest conviction that a part of this borrowed capital (indirectly) was used for the purpose of creating this \$91,000 surplus.

The question arises, would there have been \$91,000 actual money on hand, after making allowance for all monies obtained by the various revenues as against all the expenditures during the year? If not, there is no actual surplus and it should not be considered as such, there has been an addition to the Public Debt and a surplus shown at the same time (a peculiar situation) which goes to show, as I stated before, that any expert accountants could make a mass of figures mean and prove anything.

The Minister has stated that conditions in the Province are in a healthy financial state. This is a splendid tone, and I believe that improvement is being made, but there are a good many farming districts, and farmers, who live in them, that are not improving, the number of properties in the Tax Sales does not show conditions as painted by the Minister. I think it took about five issues of the *Gazette* to accommodate these items in the Tax Sale, of course many of these properties will be redeemed at the sale or before sale, but the fact that they are up for sale does not reveal a healthy condition. Let us look the situation squarely in the face, and let us get together to formulate a policy whereby special attention may be given to the districts where farmers are in distress. The fact that farmers are requesting the Farm Loan Board to loan more money, is not a good indication, but I am not adverse to this policy of farmers obtaining money through this channel and have no criticism to make of the proposed \$1,000,000 addition, but surely the time will soon come, when the farmers of Saskatchewan will not be compelled to pay the greater part of their earnings in interest charges.

Now, Mr. Speaker, it is my intention to be brief, thus emulating my honourable friend who proposed this motion, and who spent only 40 minutes in delivering his address, I cannot recall any session of this Assembly when only 40 minutes were occupied in the delivery of the Budget speech.

It has been repeatedly stated on the floor of this Assembly that this Government is still operating a policy formulated in 1905, and the members of the Cabinet seem to be proud of that situation, now let me say this, that if there has been no change in policy in 22 years, it is high time there was, as there is something radically wrong, because a policy inaugurated at that time, would not and could not be properly operated in the Province to-day. But let me state, Mr. Speaker, that there has been a change in policy (and, of necessity, must be). In a former speech in this Assembly, I pointed out where there was a radical change in policy as far as the Natural Resources question was concerned, Will honourable members contend that the statements made by the Honourable Premier in connection with this important subject are the same as

those made by Hon. Walter Scott in 1905? Is the Highway policy the same, the Education policy and other features of Government? No Mr. Speaker, they are not the same as in 1905. There has been from time to time, radical changes in policy, and there will be by any Government in the future.

There has been a change in policy since last summer with regard to taxation, if you read the speech of my honourable friend the Premier in Moose Jaw you will find that he stated that, on account of the present financial condition of the Government, having all the money required, there was no need to institute any new forms of taxation, and that his Government had no intention of invading any new fields of taxation. Apparently, since then, he too had a change of heart, and we have the Gas Tax, which is a new Tax and is a change of Government policy. This Tax has been advocated by this side of the House for the past three years, so if the Government does not wish to admit changing its policies, we shall take credit for this feature, I think it is ours anyway, as we have always maintained that this was the more equitable way of providing funds for building highways and other road improvements, and I can assure the House, that we will always be ready to change our policy, when time and circumstances warrant it.

I have no fault to find with the Gas Tax, therefore, if the proceeds will be used for the purpose of improvement of roads in the Province, and in any event the Gas Tax is here in spite of the declaration of the Premier, that there would be no invasion into new fields of taxation. Perhaps he did not consider it anything new, as nearly all the other Provinces in Canada, as well as nearly all the States to the south have instituted it; at any rate that was his statement, and he has frequently stated that there was never any change in Government policy. Of course at Moose Jaw, his remarks were made during an election campaign in a Bye-Election. That might be the reason.

Mr. Speaker, has this Government changed its policy with regard to the Provincial Police? It was the avowed policy to create, institute, and maintain a Provincial Police force, and now it is the policy to get rid of it. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police was entrusted with the policing of the Province during the days prior to the war, but owing to certain conditions the Federal Government could not allow the force to carry on. Then this Government was forced to create a force of its own, and whether or not it was the intention of making this permanent at the time, it certainly was on the completion of the war, as the members of the force were led to believe that it would be permanent. It was always my contention, that the Government should not have continued the Provincial Police upon completion of the war. At any rate you find, at the present time, that the members of that force are up in arms regarding the proposed changes, as they have incurred many liabilities, pursuant to permanent employment, and they are liable to suffer hardships no matter what is done. Now had this Government made any attempt to re-establish the old Police force on completion of the war, the Provincial men would not

have been led into a false position, but as the matter stands, hardships are bound to ensue when the force is broken up and their services discontinued.

We have been told that the reason for the change is an economical one, I have been enquiring into the feature and have come to the conclusion that other factors are playing an important part in the change. As far as the economical feature is concerned, I have grave doubts as to the great saving that is spoken of.

There are many buildings which have been purchased for the accommodation of the Provincial Police, and upon enquires as to how these buildings were acquired, and the price paid, and if any transactions were made similar to the one in Kamsack, there is going to be an enormous loss when these buildings are realised upon. I have some snapshots of this building in Kamsack, it is a wonderful piece of real estate. It was listed with a real estate agent a few months prior to sale to the Government, for \$400. The agent in question informed me that the owner instructed him to get anything he could for it; yet this Government bought it for the sum of \$1,000 cash and paid up the back taxes.

Opposition Member: Who from? It was not from a Tory or Progressive, surely?

Mr. Tran: It was not from a "He" at all. It was from a "She." I submitted a question concerning this last Session and honourable members will remember the answer.

This property could never have been properly inspected. If such had been the case, the Department would never have paid \$1,000 for it, even with the elasticity of conscience that these Departments are capable of exercising where Liberal friends are involved.

Mr. Hill: Are bare lots in Kamsack worth anything?

Mr. Tran: About the same as in Melfort, vacant lots are not of much value, and no demand.

This lot in question would be valued at about \$25 and the building at about \$100, but the Government paid \$1,000 for it and the arrears of taxes. That, I contend, Mr. Speaker, was purely a political deal and could not be construed to mean anything else. As a matter of fact, the property was purchased from my opponent in the last Provincial Election, and has never been occupied.

Now, Sir, if other buildings bought for housing the Provincial Police were purchased at the same ratio with regard to the values as this particular one, there will not be much saving, as the values are mythical in the extreme. Of course \$1,000 seems a small sum in comparison with the thousands and hundreds of thousands which are so freely mentioned in the Budget. It is not the matter of the \$1,000 alone, it is the principal, and the method of this Government in doing business, Any Government that would purchase property

at inflated values, as in this case and others, is not the kind of Government to be trusted to handle public monies, and I state, Mr. Speaker, if they would waste money in this particular case, they would be liable to do it on a larger scale. I hope if this is the policy of the present Government that has been in operation since 1905, there will be an immediate change.

I am not in a position to state what savings will be effected by the change or whether the service will be better than under the Provincial Police. I think it will be generally stated that the Provincial Police has been quite efficient, and there are a large number of good men in the force, who would remain good providing they were left alone. In Kamsack for example, we have a good man, a returned man who has spent 10 years in the service. He is married and has two children. What is going to become of this man, and many others, if this change is effected? The Government will be obliged to bonus them in some way, I would suggest one month's pay for each year's service upon retirement.

Hon. Mr. Davis: You are a good guesser!

Mr. Tran: I don't know about that, I am not usually credited with being any good by members opposite, especially by my honourable friend.

I have been asked by some honourable members what latitude a "common dirt farmer" has in this debate, but was not prepared to give a reply. However, if I trespass beyond the bounds of propriety and parliamentary rules and regulations, Mr. Speaker, I know you will deal leniently with me.

I should like, with your permission, Mr. Speaker, to make a few brief observations on the subject of Natural Resources, but have no intention of going into a general discussion of the matter. The subject has been a bone of contention since 1867, and I think I covered the history of the case quite fully in speaking to a resolution which I moved in this House last Session, and which was so graciously voted down by members opposite.

At the Inter-Provincial Conference a short time ago, my honourable friend the Premier, made a statement asserting our provincial rights in this connection. This being so, we have gone a long way towards a solution of this vital problem, and let me state this, Sir, that the present Premier is the only one since 1905 who has made a statement to the Federal Authorities assertive of our provincial rights. In any event we are satisfied that the Federal Government never had a shadow of right to withhold our lands, and it is the duty of this House to see to it that they are returned forthwith.

Let me repeat that no advance has been made in this matter until the Inter-Provincial Conference meeting, and we are convinced that the Premier has informed the eastern representatives in no uncertain terms, that our provincial rights have been gravely violated by the Federal Government, that our integrity as a Province has been subordinated, and that a complete restoration is

absolutely necessary in order that we may take our place as an entity in the Federal Union of Canada.

To accomplish this there are two courses open. First make a demand that our resources be returned, with accounting satisfactory to this Government. Second, refer the whole question to the Privy Council for a discussion as to legality.

There can be no dickering or bartering if we wish to retain our self-respect and autonomy as a self-governing Province, we will be prepared to attend to the necessary accounting, validate certain titles and make other necessary adjustments.

My friend the Premier stated, that the 25,000,000 acres of the Territorial Domain of this Province has been alienated by the Parliament of Canada, I think the Premier will find there are nearer 40,000,000.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner: I did not use the figure as my own figure. That figure is in the Agreement.

Mr. Tran: In any case let's keep to the 25,000,000! The Premier stated that this amount at \$1.50 per acre would bring about \$40,000,000. This sum invested at four per cent. would yield an annual income of considerably more than our maximum subsidy; at the present it would amount to twice as much as the subsidy.

If my honourable friend the Premier wishes his Government to remain in power, he could, by one stroke of the pen, create a situation in this Province that would relieve the financial burden of the people to a considerable extent, and thus justify himself in appealing to the people on behalf of his administration. This matter is of the greatest importance and there seems to be no sane reason why we should accept any settlement other than an unconditional surrender of the lands to its rightful owners according to the provisions of *The British North America Act, 1867*. The provincial government is in the best position to administer and provide for the disposal of these lands.

Of course there are many questions that may arise in this connection that are more or less baffling, for example there is clause 17, which has caused Alberta so much trouble. This clause has to do with minority rights, but I have no doubt these rights would be adequately protected by this Government, or indeed by any Government which happened to be in power.

All the power development which has found such an important place at the present time hinges upon this feature, and if there is to be any development to any extent in this province, it is essential that we own and control our resources, otherwise proper development is impossible.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully suggest that there is a solution to this matter, and may I suggest to the Premier, that a committee of this House be appointed to investigate the matter, and work out a basis of settlement, reporting to the House when

feasible, also have a Department created with the Premier as its head to take up the matter immediately the report was received.

I intended moving a resolution this Session with that object in view, but what transpired at the Inter-Provincial Conference, and being assured that a definition of the policy of the Government upon this issue would be given to the House before the end of this Session, I decided to await developments. A committee of this kind would divide the responsibility. This issue is too big for party politics, it will be adjusted by all members of this Legislature, irrespective of party feeling.

This has been a Progressive Policy for years, and no later than last year a resolution was passed at a Progressive Convention, which reads as follows:

"In view of the impending Conference of Provincial Premiers to consider matters of Inter-Provincial importance, the Executive of the Saskatchewan Progressive Association feels it necessary to place the following facts before the Government and people of Saskatchewan:

1. The Saskatchewan Progressive Association has always stood for the return to the Western Provinces of their Natural Resources by the Dominion Government, with a proper accounting of their administration, and due compensation for all lands and resources alienated, or profits received therefrom, since the Northwest Territories and Rupert's Land became a part of the Dominion of Canada;
2. Eminent legal counsel maintain that these Natural Resources belong as of right to the Western Provinces, and the Dominion Government has no rights of ownership or administration over them whatsoever;
3. That this constitutional question of paramount importance to the West, has never been brought before a Court of Competent Jurisdiction, for a decision;
4. That in view of the almost unanimous demand for many years by the people of Saskatchewan, expressed through various organisations, that the Natural Resources of Saskatchewan be restored and justice done it, is the duty of the Provincial Government:
 - (1) To demand immediate return of our Natural Resources by the Dominion Government, and an accounting of their administration;
 - (2) And if refused, that immediate steps be taken to obtain from a Court of competent jurisdiction, to determine the status of Saskatchewan on this important question."

To sum up, Mr. Speaker, regarding this question; remove it from political contamination; demand return of the Resources; appoint a committee composed of members from both sides of the House; create a department ready to take care of the situation when completed. If no amicable arrangement can be made with the Federal Government let the whole question be submitted to the Privy Council, and the Province be prepared to accept the results.

This address would not be complete, Mr. Speaker, if the Highway Department were left out. I have heard it stated that the present Government has no real practical policy, also that the policy is all right, but the operation of the policy is all wrong; that there is too much political interference and the political "machine" reaches its zenith of operation in this Department. Well, Mr. Speaker, all these observations may be perfectly correct, the casual observer would no doubt be able to associate them all without much study. As far as I am personally concerned, I know there is a great deal of "machine" work going on. There is no department in the Government where the "machine" could

find better material to work upon, and to say that the Government does take advantage of the opportunities, is not stretching the truth. Under my own personal observation comes a concrete case. A. J. Kalmokoff, who is appointed by the Highway Department as Highway Supervisor, does not know a Highway from a bridle path. One might reasonably ask, when was he appointed? Upon whose recommendation? What qualifications had he to warrant his appointment?

In the spring of this year I wrote the Deputy Minister regarding a complaint regarding conditions of the highway in my locality. In the first instance, the water was running across the Highway, doing considerable damage, all that was necessary was to cut a ditch through the snow at the side of the highway and let the water through. He was approached about the matter, but did not act for five days. The second instance was upon the main market road near Pelly, this road is under Government maintenance. A wash-out occurred, flooding the road for some distance and rendering it impassable. I reported this personally, to Kalmokoff and he informed me that men would be repairing it the following day. Eight days later nothing had been done. Kalmokoff wrote the Department that the matter had been attended to, which was a deliberate lie. Now, Mr. Speaker, this is the particular gentleman who offered his cousin, North of Veregin, a cream separator if he could secure 100 votes for my political opponent in the last election.

Mr. Hill: Did he get it?

Mr. Tran: No, he did not deliver the goods. This man's appointment was decidedly a political one, as it can be proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that he had no other qualification. It is very hard to estimate, Mr. Speaker, how much of this kind of thing is going on, and it might be possible that the Minister of this Department does not know that there is a vital machine operating there, but everyone else in the province knows it. Another feature in this respect: In my constituency practically all the Reeves, Councillors and Road Foremen are Liberals, and here is where the Road Inspectors get in their good work for the Party.

Hon. Mr. Patterson: They all work together.

Mr. Tran: You have said a lot. They all work together for a specific cause, not Highways, but to make provision for the election of Liberal candidates. Yes, Mr. Speaker, the "machine" is there, operating constantly, smoothly, without friction, for this specific purpose; but this sort of thing is bound to be the result if our system of elections allows Cabinet Ministers and Government Employees of every kind, in fact instructs them to take part in Election campaigns.

The state of affairs in Milton Campbell's Constituency during the last Federal Election is a good example of how this works out. All the Cabinet Ministers in the Province, many of the civil servants and some Federal Ministers were there, and for

what purpose? Simply to bring about the political defeat of a Progressive member of the House of Commons. Now, why all this concentration of force on one particular candidate? Was he not a properly qualified candidate? Was he not a fit representative for the Constituency? What particular psychology was involved here? Mr. Speaker, there is only one answer to these questions. Mr. Campbell was a force to be reckoned with. He was a very active Progressive member, well thought of by the farmers, and all this noise was to discredit him in the eyes of the electorate. You all know the result in this case.

In further commenting upon political propaganda, I notice that the Premier is still proud of the Highway policy of this Government inaugurated in 1905. Might I refer the Minister to the Cote Municipality, where it can be proved that \$50,000 has been wasted in this Department in the last decade, \$30,000 was wasted alone on one bridge (a mystery bridge). This is another political "landmark." There was strife between two factions in the vicinity. One wanted the bridge where it now is, the other a mile east. The Government engineer stated that it should be built one mile east. A petition was circulated by advice from the Department, which was signed by many people many miles away, in fact there were only six people who would benefit by the bridge where it is at the present time, while five times that many would benefit by one a mile east. However, the bridge was built where the few Liberals wanted it, and there stands a monument to the policy of political machinery in the Highway Department. There is now an agitation to have the bridge moved one mile east where it should have been in the first place.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner: When was that built?

Mr. Tran: Back in 1919, I think. Now, Mr. Speaker, I am only citing these few cases to show how Liberal propaganda is carried out and that there is actually a political machine operating in the Highway Department.

Since my advent to this House I have always shown my willingness and desire to be of some assistance to my constituents, but the inspectors and the officials in the Highway Department make it impossible for me to do anything, as without exception, all the recommendations I have made have been ignored. At the same time the inspectors persist in informing the Councils and others, that the only way to get anything of this nature completed, is to elect a Liberal member.

This is another breed of propaganda. I have, each year, made a trip over the greater part of the constituency, as I consider it my duty, and have made a study of the conditions, especially highways and other roads. Last year, I suggested the completion of the Benito-Arran road. This was supported by a large petition from two municipalities, which were willing to provide half of the expenses, but nothing was done, the reason being "you have a Progressive member." However, I still offer to co-operate, and I cordially invite the Minister, or any other official to call and see me

when in Kamsack. This has never been done. The nearest I came to it was one year ago. I met one of the Highway inspectors on the street, he was surrounded by Liberals, I introduced myself and requested that he come in and see me. This he promised to do, but he kept as far away as he could. He dare not do it, and I challenge the Minister to do it, Mr. Speaker. That gang of Liberals are so narrow between the eyes, they would register a protest and a vigorous one, if any of the officials dare take me into their confidence. But I represent the popular vote in that constituency, and it is my desire to serve them as best I can, and let me suggest that I am ready to assist any of the Government officials at any time.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner: Am I correct that the Minister did call at your Drug Store, but you were out?

Government Member: He had gone with the Band.

Mr. Tran: I am sorry I was out, but it is necessary for me to be away from my office at times, but the least my honourable friend could have done was to have left his card.

Let me make this final observation, that it is men we need in these Departments and not "politicians," and the sooner the proper recognition is observed by all parties concerned, the sooner will the efficiency in the work of this Department be greatly felt.

Now, Sir, there is another matter I should like to review at this time, I intended to have dealt with this in a previous address, but my friend the Premier was not in his seat at the time. It has to do with an article published in the *Western Producer* under the flaring headlines "Premier Gardiner Pours Ridicule on Progressive Movement in Regina Meet."

Now, Sir, when I allowed my name to go before the Progressive Convention for nomination, I had studied the ground very carefully before I made my decision. I was offered the Liberal nomination, but did not accept.

Mr. Cross: What about the Conservative nomination?

Mr. Tran: Yes, I was offered the Conservative nomination too. The Liberals assured me that I would be elected if I accepted the nomination, I declined, because I felt the Progressive movement had the most to offer to the people of this Province. Then, Mr. Speaker, after spending two years' sessions in this House, doing my utmost to propagate honest principles, an article of this nature appears in the public Press, and purported to be the words of the Prime Minister of this province. What chain of circumstances induced him to make a speech of that nature? It is not like him, it is not his style, I had always thought him to be tolerant and considerate.

Members: Read it.

Mr. Tran: I will, it if takes a month. Here is what the Premier said:

"We in the Province of Saskatchewan, during the last six months, have been noting that a campaign is being carried on throughout the constituencies of the province with a view to assembling in the City of Regina one of the largest political demonstrations that had ever been held in the province, a demonstration against the Government of this Province and the Federal Government. We were to have had 5,000 people meeting in the Stadium in the City of Regina. I was very much surprised, being as I was in the country during that week, to have noticed from the press that the meeting was being held in the city hall, and that when the delegates had assembled for the first gathering there were some 65 in attendance, and that the largest delegation was some 250. That, in itself, demonstrated something to the people of the Province of Saskatchewan, something to the people of the Dominion of Canada—it has demonstrated this fact that the day of the get-rich-easy politician is past in the Province of Saskatchewan."

Get rich easy? Does he by any chance refer to the Progressive Party? Does he refer to me? I am not trying to get rich and I am certain none of the members of this group are here for that purpose.

Mr. Gardiner: Read what goes before that. Read the "lead" of the story.

Mr. Tran: I know it says, "according to press reports," but it's given here as the Premier's own words. It seems to be the fashion to blame the reporters when anything goes wrong.

"The Premier then went on to say that in 1917 a certain group of men in the Province, some of them not even citizens of the Dominion, undertook to organise a new political party and they called it the Non-Partisan League. They went into the southern part of the province and collected \$70,000 in hard cash and notes from the farmers of some dozen constituencies, and they did not elect a single member to the Legislature as a result of the campaign. One man who was nominated as one of their candidates was returned because he received the nomination of all parties at that time.

"In the succeeding election in 1921, the same group of men with a few added to them, went into the north-eastern part of the province, collected a similar amount of money, and put forward a similar number of candidates and without electing a single member to the Legislature. One speaker declared that if they returned a government composed of the Non-Partisan League, inside of 12 months they would be buying binders in this province for \$75 apiece. That same gentleman at a subsequent period was selling binders to farmers in the neighborhood of \$300.

"Man after man had asked him who was the president of this organisation who held the convention last week, and he told him he was a lawyer in Regina. "Well that's funny," they would say, "a lawyer in Regina!"

"The five lawyers, the Premier said, who were responsible for the calling of the convention last week in the interests of the farmers had just about as much interest in the farmers as the average man who, in his own profession, had the qualifications that those particular men had. These men called a convention in order to stir up the farmers of the Province and they got the result that any group of men under present conditions in the Province of Saskatchewan would get from any similar motives. It seemed to him that attention should be called to these facts, because not only had that kind of campaign been carried on in the rural constituencies, but a similar one had been carried on from time to time in the urban centres, and, I believe, is being carried on in some of the urban centres of the province at the present time, and again by men, some of whom are not even citizens of the Dominion of Canada, and who are collecting money from citizens of our cities with the ostensible object of doing some good to the people of this country.

"Having made these remarks, let me say this, that in all the discussions that I have read in the press of this province, I have come to the conclusion that it is quite unnecessary for any Liberal in the Province of Saskatchewan to give any answer to opinions that were given expression to last week. As a matter of fact, one of the principal speakers on that occasion said that opinions had very little value, that opinions are unstable, that you cannot find anything upon opinions. Well, if that is true, why do we have public meetings at all? Why do we discuss public questions? Do we not discuss public questions in order to give expression to the opinions that we hold with regard to the questions which are concerning the people of the Dominion of Canada, and having given expression to these opinions, are we to come to the conclusion, as Mr. Wood states, that 50 to 90 per cent. of all opinions are based upon prejudice?

"I want to state this, that so far as the men who are on this platform tonight are concerned, and so far as the leaders of the political parties of Canada, as I have known them since I have been in public life, not 90 per cent., nor 50 per cent. of the opinions which they hold are based upon prejudice. Those men who are in the public life of Canada, today, whether in the Liberal Party or in the Conservative Party, as I have met them from one end of this country to the other, are inspired by motives to do these things which they believe to be in the best interest of the Dominion of Canada. We differ, it is true, with regard to the methods by which we should obtain the end, but we have in view the best possible development of the Dominion from one ocean to the other."

I am not going to read any more, this is all a rally to "Stand by Liberalism."

Members: Yes, go on, read it!

Mr. Tran: Referring to what I have read, I would like to say this, that in the first place, the Premier is all wrong when he says there were five lawyers who were responsible for the calling of the Convention. As a matter of fact, there were only two lawyers, and I venture to say, had there been five lawyers, they would have been just as good as any lawyer who has ever graced a political platform. I wonder he did not stick me in it somewhere, and I contend my purpose is just as honest as his or anybody's. As a matter of fact, myself and other of the Progressive members had just as much to do with calling this convention as these gentlemen had. I say we had a right to expect better treatment from the Premier, especially when he comes along with his pleas for the safeguarding of minority rights. We hear a lot about that. But what are we on this side of the House? We are certainly not a majority. The fact is, he has no use for minority rights except for political purposes. He "pours ridicule on the Progressives."

"Mr. Gardiner, going on to recall to mind 'some of the reasons why the group which met the other day was as small as it was' said it was only some four years ago, if you had called a Progressive rally in the Province, you would have filled very easily the largest auditorium that could have been found in the whole province. That was because men at that time were inspired by motives in which they believed, inspired by principles in which they believed. They said there are certain great questions confronting the people today, these are our opinions with regard to the questions. These are our opinions as to how this question should be settled, and upon these opinions we ask your support as people in the Province of Saskatchewan. That there is no definite programme in the minds of the men who are calling together certain rallies today was demonstrated last week. A gentleman who came from outside the province, H. W. Wood, said he had very little use for platforms and then after three days of discussion they drafted a platform, and when the platform had been drafted reports state that certain individuals in the hall began to ask questions with regard to matters which should be made more definite in the platform. The chairman left the chair and went down to the body of the convention in order to explain that you shall not make your platform too definite, that it should not be too concrete, because if you put concrete things in it, then one of the old parties will take them and put them into effect. Do you know of a political party or a political organisation previous to this one that drafts a platform and then tells the people of the province there is nothing in it? That was exactly what was done by the president of this organisation, which was brought into being for the purpose of proving to the people of Saskatchewan that something was radically wrong with the policies of the Government and that of the Dominion."

The rest is all "stand by Liberalism." The Premier's ridicule amounts to this. The Premier tells us, we have been such grand legislators, that we have accomplished all we set out to accomplish in these few years, and that there is no need for us to show our faces again.

In some respects that is true. We did accomplish a good deal of what we set out to accomplish, and whatever he may say of this Convention, in it we made at least, an honest endeavour to perpetuate our party. But we are not given credit for honesty of purpose, and I contend, Mr. Speaker, we have just as much material to base that sentiment upon, as he has, or any other party for that matter. Had my honourable friend wanted to be fair about it, had he been around for the three or four days we were meeting, had he wanted to be nice about it, he would have seen that we were making an honest endeavour to do something, and given us credit for honesty of purpose. Then also, conditions at the time militated against having a large crowd there. Many who would have come, were unable to do so because of these conditions. I myself started out for Regina with my car to attend the meeting, but slipped off your wonderful highway into a ditch, and had to come along by train. I am sure road conditions prevented many from attending who would otherwise have been there. But it seems to me, the whole idea back of the Premier's speech was "obliterate the Progressive Party, wipe it off the slate." But, Mr. Speaker, I can tell the Premier the farmers were never so much in politics as they are at the present time.

Government Member: They're in the Liberal party!

Mr. Tran: Are they? Don't fool yourself!

I would have excused my honourable friend the Premier, had he qualified his statement, that we had no honesty of purpose. I ask, Sir, would he have made that statement had he been speaking before a mixed crowd?

Mr. Gardiner: It was a mixed crowd. The city hall was full, and they were not all Liberals. Read the paper!

Mr. Tran: There it goes again, the Press Gallery gets the blame.

I want the Premier to retract the statement that we had no honesty of purpose. There is a great reflection in that. I think I am an honest man, and entitled to some respect and consideration. I would also like to correct the statement that there were five lawyers there. There were not five lawyers there. I also wish to contradict the statement that the chairman left the platform and told the audience "don't make your platform too specific, or they'll steal it from you." He never did that.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner: The Press report states that Mr. Wood left the chair, placed someone else in the chair and went down in the body of the hall and made a speech in which he advocated that very thing.

Mr. Tran: There's the Press again, always the Press; I think any member of this House or any honest individual outside this House, will admit that I have tried to do my best, sincerely and honestly to the best of my ability. In any public position I have held or been occupied in, I have tried to do that. After reading

the Premier's speech, I said to my wife, "What's the use? What's the use of trying to do the right and square thing, when all the thanks you get is this?" And she said: "Yes, get out of politics. Politics is too filthy, too pernicious."

I want the Premier to retract these statements. I don't know if he will do that. I notice he is not very particular about going somewhere else to substantiate some of the statements he has made on the floor of this House, when called upon to do so.

I now want to say a word or two on Education Policy. I think it has been demonstrated beyond all shadow of doubt, that there is something radically wrong with the education policy of this Government. The host of resolutions passed by school teachers and school trustees, prove that to be true. I admit some of the matters that have been the subject of resolutions, have been rectified, but others complained of, have not. I contend, however, we should not criticise the Department of Education too much or too harshly, as there are enormous difficulties in Saskatchewan to contend with. No blame attaches to the late Minister—I should say the ex-Minister. He worked hard, and did everything humanly possible under the circumstances during his connection with the Department. It is the system that is at fault, not the administration.

Now those organisations which have their ears to the ground through every part of the province, know best what conditions are. The Ministers get their information from certain sources, and I maintain that, under the circumstances and with the information he had, any Minister would have done what the former Minister did. Certain things have transpired in the province, and have been allowed. It is not necessary here to go into details, but as I said, some of these matters have been the subject matter of resolutions which have come in, and some of these resolutions have been carried into effect. We on this side of the House have been told in effect, that we did not have enough brains or knowledge to know anything about education. But I contend, the senior member for Saskatoon for one, knows something, through his long connection with the Department of Education, particularly with regard to the foreign element. We on this side, in honesty of purpose, have made some recommendations, some of which have been carried out, but we have received no credit for them.

The situation in this province would be corrected, if a commission were appointed to go into the whole situation, and get all the facts. My honourable friend contends we have had a commission, and that some of the commission's recommendations were carried out. That was several years ago, and though it may be true that some of the things they recommended have been put into effect, several things they recommended have not been carried out. I contend we need an educational survey at the present time. If we had such a survey, a condition such as that which arose at Wroxton last year would never have transpired. If we had a survey such as I suggest, and if the laws on education were clarified,

a condition such as I have referred to, could never have happened. Let's have something done that will clear the whole situation. I realise, of course, that we need to be a little reserved in our remarks, and that we should not be hypercritical, either in regard to the Department of Education, or for that matter, in regard to any department of the Government. But, with no **dishonesty** of purpose, I suggest that we have a survey of the situation, and that a commission go over it, lock, stock and barrel, and then you'll be able to do some little good.

I have done my level best to do something for education in this province, I mentioned in a previous speech in this House, in connection with the inspection of schools, that I had done my best to emphasise the importance of the example set by the teachers to the pupil. It is not what the teacher does inside the school that counts for most in the building up of the moral character of the pupil, it is what the teacher does outside the school, in his home, in the playground, in his social life. I attended a convention of the teachers in my district, by request, to address them, and in my address I was given a "roving commission," so I spoke on the influence of the teacher on the building of the character of the pupil, and I stated that the teacher's activities for the whole twenty-four hours of the day were before our young people, as an example. That idea was uppermost in my mind, and at the close, I was commended very highly on the subject. I went to one of your inspectors and offered to put up two prizes for the best essays on the subject on which I had spoken, and the inspector promised to take the matter up, and place it before the teachers in our district. I saw the inspector in July, and asked what was being done in the matter? He said then that he had placed the matter before the teachers, but had received only two essays, but promised to press the matter further at the next convention. I have since found out this was never done. I have these two essays here, and I am going to give them to the Minister of Education.

I think this is a very important matter, and it is extremely desirable, that our teachers appreciate what their example means to the children under their charge, and I am going to suggest to the Minister of Education, that he instruct the Inspectors, to see what can be done with the proposition. I intend to offer the prizes again this year. I feel, however, that the Inspector was negligent in his duty, I contend he was not on to his job, or he would have realised the importance of the subject. Had he been alive to the situation, he would have known this was an important feature.

Now, Mr. Speaker, we have a large community of foreign-born people to take care of. They are being educated at a rapid rate, and I am of the opinion that the idea expressed by the former Minister was wrong, that these people should be taught in their own language first. I made some analysis on the matter, chiefly as to the idea of Ruthenian teachers, teaching English. What I was getting at, was this. So far as the teaching of English in our public schools was concerned, if we are going to insist on English

being taught, should Ruthenians teach in Ruthenian schools, and English teachers in English schools?

Hon. Mr. Latta: I did not use the statement at all. That was not the idea at all.

Mr. Tran: I am not labouring the point. If the Minister did not say that, he at least left that impression with me. Now, Sir, I wish it understood that I am not averse to Ruthenians teaching in the schools of our province, but if we are going to have English taught, surely it is better to have it taught correctly, and not by someone who can scarcely speak the language. I have examples to prove, that if the Ruthenian teacher is placed in an English-speaking district, and an English-speaking teacher is placed in a Ruthenian district, the general result would be a decided improvement. They would be quite as competent to deal with the situation, and I believe that in the end, you would get better results. I have concrete evidence to prove that it is so.

I am living in a community where 65 per cent. of the people are Ruthenians, so I think I know something of the needs of the case. There are many of these people yet, after years in the country, (with the advantages of our wonderful school system) who cannot speak the English language. These have come under my personal observation, and therefore I am qualified to make this statement.

The final analysis convinces us of this fact, that the educational policy is not adequate to suit the needs of this province. We are spending millions yearly on Education, and are not getting results, and the proposed changes do not in any way tend to eliminate the evils.

Closely linked with Education is Immigration, and here again we have a difficult problem, but this Government never had, and has not now, any policy in this connection. Any policy instituted by the Liberal Government at Ottawa is approved of by this Government, whether feasible or not. What we need in this province, is a policy of our own, one which would be consistent with the requirements of Saskatchewan.

The Central Europeans have and are making good settlers, but in an English-speaking country, it is essential that we have a predominance of English, and we should see to it that this is effected, and not allow the Federal authorities to use Saskatchewan as a dumping ground. Then let me suggest this: That we formulate a Saskatchewan Immigration Policy, in addition to a repatriation policy, keep our native sons in Saskatchewan, do our utmost to stimulate the return of those who have left, and everything will work out for the best.

The Premier stated at Saskatoon, the other day, that we can progress as rapidly as the U.S.A. Well, Mr. Speaker, that may be true; but there are many radical changes in policy necessary before that can be effected. Two very important features would be: Selective Immigration and return of our Natural Resources.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I have tried in many ways to place certain important matters in their true light before the people of this province, and as long as I remain in the province, and am a member of this Assembly, I am going to embrace every opportunity to expound the principles of the Progressive party. I shall, as I have in the past, support the Government, where, in my opinion, it is in the best interests of the Province, and bitterly oppose, when I deem it expedient, and no matter whether I am the last one left on this side of the House, I am going to see to it, that the people's interest and welfare have precedence over party interests.

It is essential to have an active Opposition, and it should not be the desire of the Government, especially the Premier to try in every conceivable way to bring about its extermination.

If this administration is what it claims to be, there is no need for party play. Yes, Mr. Speaker, if one-third were true, there would be no need of organisers or campaign funds. The people would be glad to support such a Government, but, Mr. Speaker, the very fact, that they are not giving the people good Government accounts for the large staff of political organisers, their large "slush" funds and the manipulation with the "political machine."

When the next political campaign is on, let this Government go out to the people with the beautiful story of what they have done, and what they are prepared to do in the future, if elected. But they will not do that, if they did, they would never be elected.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, let me repeat that I repudiate the whole scheme of party politics. In my opinion it is not in the best interests of the people, as the people are controlled by the party, while in group system or "Co-operative Government" the Government is controlled by the people. We all have our place in the affairs of State, and I emphatically state, that this group has done sufficient to more than justify its existence in this House, despite anything said to the contrary by members opposite. One thing we shall all remember, that as human beings we are justified in entertaining ideas. These ideas have been co-ordinated, consolidated, and put into operation by this Government, and upon many occasions, we have been instrumental in advocating certain matters of policy, which have been used to advantage.

This, at least, we have done, and shall continue to do in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I intend to support the Motion.

Speech delivered by

MR. J. F. CREIGHTON, M.D., M.L.A.

(*Estevan*)

in the

BUDGET DEBATE

in the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,

Tuesday, February 28, 1928.

Mr. Creighton, in speaking during the Budget Debate, said:

Mr. Speaker, I did not have anything to say on the former debate so, with others, I wish to express my regret for the absence of several familiar faces of last year. At the same time, I am pleased to see that the vacancies have been so well filled. I especially regret the loss of the leader of my party in the person of Mr. Knowles, though I am pleased to note that his successor shows evidence of independent action. Mr. Peter Hyde was also a tower of strength in my party.

I am especially pleased to see my old friend the new Sergeant-at-Arms in his present place, and believe I can claim a longer association with him than any other member can. I think he and I are the only ones here who campaigned in the South African War—I, as a Private in "E Battery, Canadians," and he as a Non-Commissioned Officer of "Q Battery, Royal Horse Artillery." "Q Battery" occupies a very high place among the artillery units of the British Army, and our friend was present at Sanas Post when that Battery gained the very great distinction of being allowed to choose three of its members for the Victoria Cross. I believe this is the only time on record on which this privilege was allowed. We were both boys then (I know I was), and as my friend's hair is still much blacker than mine, I am sure he must have been a young fellow too; but what is more important, he still has the outlook of a young man.

My constituency, as you are aware, is chiefly concerned about coal, and securing consumers for it, but I notice that most of the members have something to say about Education, and consequently I suppose I may take my turn. In this connection, regarding the ancient custom of teaching the ancient languages in our schools and university, I think the teaching of Latin and Greek could be barred without much loss to the community. I realise that, to enter any of the so-called learned professions, one must have at least Latin. I took Latin for four years, and believe the chief result was an increase of the grey hairs in the head of my teacher. Wonderful

fellow Fred Clark!—But he seemed to like Latin, which, I believe, is evidence that he was a little queer.

In the second place, I wish to speak of a profession that has the respect of all of us. I mean the nursing profession. I do not know whether it comes under the Department of Education or Public Health—probably both. There is not any training that so well fits a young woman for life in this western country as the training given in our hospitals. I do not care whether a woman is going to shift for herself, keep a home, raise babies or raise 'blazes'—a trained nurse can do it better than anyone else. There will be the objection of overcrowding—I do not think this objection will stand, as most of them get married anyway, and I know of communities where the married trained nurse is frequently appealed to for help and advise.

A trained nurse is a valuable member of any community, whether married or single. At present, the regulation requires two or three years High School for entrance to a hospital, and I would not have that lowered; but only hospitals averaging 20 patients per day are recognised training schools. I believe hospitals averaging 10 patients can give a good training, providing they have the doctors and superintendent who will lecture and train the nurses. I would suggest that the Government permit hospitals averaging 15 or even 10 patients per day to take in young women for training. At the present time, I know that most of the training schools have long waiting lists, and I believe it would be a good move if the Government would make it so that more of these young women could get the advantage of this most valuable training. For the information of some members, I wish to say that the R.N. Examination is conducted by the University of Saskatchewan, and the Diploma is a University Degree.

Just another item and I will get along to other things! Perhaps I am partial to the David Livingstone type of man. We all have different ideas of what constitutes greatness. I think that, in the person of Mr. Stefansson, the West has produced our greatest living Canadian. I am afraid he has not had much consideration from Canadians, but it is not too late for us to recognise his services to Canada. I would like to see him back in Canada. I do not know where he is at present; someone told me he was in New York. Perhaps he does not want to come back to Canada, but I believe Saskatchewan should offer him a position on the University staff. If he could visit our high schools even once a year, and lecture to our boys, he would be an everlasting source of inspiration to them. Or what might be more fitting: There has been talk of an agent for Saskatchewan in London, and if the Government saw fit to offer him that position, I am sure it could not be better filled. Mr. Stefansson is a world figure, and undoubtedly better known in England than in Canada.

Now, Sir, I would like to say a word in regard to the T.B. Pool. In my opinion, membership in the pool should include all inhabitants of the municipality. T.B. takes years to cure. How many of us in this House could stand being taken away from our business

or farm for two or three years and come back and start again without being seriously handicapped, if not completely "broke," especially if paying into the Sanatorium. I believe less than 10% pay anyway. Why not make it universal? My town belongs to the Pool and if I get T.B., I expect to go to Fort Qu'Appelle and stay there until I am safe, or have ceased to be, and I don't expect to pay anything, either.

There is talk of a consultative clinic or free clinic. So far as any Government is concerned, there should be only two kinds of medicine, preventive and curative. I am afraid we doctors leave the preventive kind too much to the Government, but I find that, if I keep informed in the curative branches, it is all I have time for. Let the state stick strictly to preventive medicine—it is a highly specialised branch requiring prolonged training. If the Government sticks strictly to that, it will have the support of all us country doctors.

Speaking of country doctors—to be a good country doctor is a gift that training cannot give. I know country doctors, men of great understanding and of great humanity, whose place in their community no doctor in this House and no doctor in this city could take. Saskatchewan, I believe, has a very fine class of country doctors, and the good work they are doing is in no small measure due to the help they receive from the Department of Public Health. Unfortunately, our present Deputy Minister has reached the age limit, though, when I visited him a few days ago, his movements, appearance and alert mind, made me think he is still the man for the job. The efficiency of that Department has been frequently commended, and its success is entirely due to the highly trained, highly specialised and highly efficient individuals that constitute the organisation. When the time comes for the supercession of the Deputy Minister, if a successor is appointed from the Department, I am certain no mistake will be made.

Now, a few words regarding mining! Last year, I had the privilege of accompanying the British Congress of Mines and Metals during the trip across Canada. Some of the members were great and brilliant men. They were all good fellows, and we saw some great mines. These men were here to observe and learn all they could. Every province and town visited left pamphlets and printed matter on the train, and I was surprised and gratified to note that many carefully read these on the train, and many more carefully gathered them up, and, when they had accumulated a reasonable weight, stored them away in the express car for taking home, or shipping home for future reference. There were men from every corner of the Empire, and many from countries not of the Empire.

The Attorney General, who was at Estevan on the day of their visit to our town, can bear me out when I say that these mining experts were impressed with the possibilities of development in the lignite fields of Estevan and Bienfait. I heard discussions all along the way, but what pleased me most was a speech delivered before the Canadian Club of Vancouver, by Mr. Henry Walker, Chief

Inspector of Mines for Great Britain, and one of the great authorities on fuel. The following is a clipping from the Vancouver paper:

"Addressing the Empire Mining and Metallurgical Congress at luncheon, Friday, Henry Walker, of London, England, British Inspector of Mines, in behalf of the Congress declared that a successful research, dealing with the lignites in the Estevan district of Saskatchewan, is the most valuable research that could possibly be conducted in Canada at the present time."

That statement from a great authority should be encouraging to the members of the Legislature who were responsible for the expenditure on the old briquetting plant, though one might also infer that Mr. Walker thought you were too easily discouraged, and quit too quickly.

I had a long talk with an Australian who was interested in the lignite mines north of Melbourne. He informed me that the Commonwealth Government had spent \$10,000,000 experimenting with their lignite deposits, and, as they had decided upon a course of action, he thought that the money had been well spent.

Last week in Estevan, we had a moving picture displaying the Australian briquetting plant, in which coal containing 60% moisture is carbonised and briquetted and where electrical power is produced as a by-product of the process, at a cost of .06 of a penny per kilowatt.

A few days ago, I was down to the old Lignite Utilisation Plant, and it did me good to see life and hope there. Some of you who know Mr. Hepinstall, who was formerly in charge of the plant for the Government, will be pleased to know that he has been chosen plant manager for the new firm. He is full of enthusiasm and we all believe briquettes will be successfully produced during 1928, and by that I mean not only made, but commercially a success.

The Americans are putting in a plant 150 miles south of Estevan at Lee High near Dickenson, N. D., in a mining area containing lignite of much the same quality as ours. They are using the Lurgy process, which is a low temperature carbonisation system. The plant at Bienfait will be a higher temperature process, but I understand it is adaptable. We are glad to see the people of North Dakota trying a different system. We hope both systems are a success, the more successful either or both may be, the more certain we are to have half-a-dozen plants in the field in the next five or ten years.

Regarding the mining and quality of Saskatchewan coal— We have heard a good deal about the mining resources of the north. There is much allure and a considerable element of romance in the search for, and mining of, hard rock metals. No such romance exists in connection with coal mining. It is like digging sand; the difficulties vary, but, in a given mine, the quality of the product always remains practically the same. The dividend depends entirely upon getting out a large quantity of coal at a small cost; the larger the output of a given mine, the less will be the cost of each ton produced. Our difficulty in the south is not in the digging

for the product, but in the disposal of it. The price, I consider, cannot be lowered—\$1.00 per ton for slack; \$2.00 per ton for nut slack; \$2.10 to \$2.25 for mine run, and \$2.40 to \$2.75 for double screen lump coal. There is not any doubt but that there are efficient managers; also, the diggers' returns are low.

I understand that the grates at the Mental Hospital at Weyburn are to be changed so that Saskatchewan coal may be used exclusively, and I am going to try to point out to the Government why it should use a larger percentage of our coal, and in other ways give more encouragement and assistance to the mines in our own Province. The Government has given every encouragement to the clay industry, and has a Department of Ceramics at the University. It is costing something, but we are getting value received probably many times over. Why not test out our coal as compared with other coals; tabulate and advertise the results, and also help to make the best ways to use Saskatchewan coal more generally known?

If briquettes can be made successfully, it will be a great help, but the talk about briquettes has diverted attention from the coal itself. Briquettes can never displace the coal in large plants at a reasonable distance, say up to 200 or 300 miles from the mine. A few years ago, I understand, the Premier spent several months within 20 miles of the mines, and I am sorry he did not take a course in digging coal. From the reference in his speech, I think it is my place to take a few minutes explaining why the coal diggers and some of the operators in my constituency, thought it time to take a little independent action, and to give him some information which apparently neither the Government nor its engineers possess. I have heard men in this building ridicule Saskatchewan coal. I hope, today, to place before this house facts and figures which will prove that the attitude towards our coal is the result of ignorance both of its quality, and of the best methods of using it.

Many of the private companies which have experimented with our coal, have not said very much about the results of their experiments. Others have, and I am going to mention four or five concerns which have tested our different coals and are still using Saskatchewan coal in spite of efforts to induce them to change.

Drewrys Ltd., of Winnipeg, in 1926 put in turbine grates to burn Souris coal, and I have here a letter which says that Drewrys Ltd. had a fuel bill \$10,150 less in 1926 than in 1925. In other words their fuel bill dropped from \$24,000 to about \$14,000. I understand 1927 shows similar saving, with Souris coal used exclusively. It cost the company something to change the grates, but it found the saving made justified the expenditure.

Then there is Swifts, of Winnipeg—So far, I have been unable to get the results of their tests, but I do know that last year, a fuel engineer from a wellknown western mine spent some time pointing out to them the error of their ways, but Swifts still use our coal.

I know that tests were carried out at the Marlboro Hotel, Winnipeg, and the Canada Gas Company, Brandon, but, as I said, the private concerns are reluctant to make public the results of their research, but these concerns are still using Souris coal. In the city of Brandon, there is not a steam plant there using anything but Saskatchewan coal. The Canada Gas uses about 20,000 tons a year; Western Canada Flour Mills, 7,500 tons; the Empire and Premier Brewery and Rumford Laundry use it exclusively, and for the sole reason that they get efficiency and economy.

Now, take the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. No one would accuse that company of being a sentimental company. In 1927, the C.P.R. used 54,000 tons of Saskatchewan coal chiefly in roundhouses, pumping stations and water tanks, and I do not know how much the Canadian National uses, although I do know they use a lot and ship as far as Redditt, Ont., which is 129 miles east of Winnipeg.

I have a statement in connection with the C.P.R. Arlington roundhouse, Winnipeg. It shows that, January, 1924, they used 1,075 tons steam coal at a cost of \$4,874. January 1925, after putting in turbine grates to use Saskatchewan coal, they used 1,228 tons at a cost of \$2,010, a saving of more than 100% over the corresponding month of 1924.

Might I also draw your attention to the fact that the C.P.R. uses Saskatchewan coal in their plant at Sutherland, near Saskatoon, and yet we cannot get the Government to use it even at Arcola. The year before installation of the new grates at Sutherland, they used 5,636 tons of high grade steam coal at a cost of \$25,149. The year after installation of grates to use lignite coals, they used more coal (8,005 tons) but at a cost of \$16,015, a reduction in cost of \$9,134. Some of this was Drumheller coal, but a lot of it was Saskatchewan coal.

We hear there is going to be built a new sanatorium at Prince Albert. Notwithstanding the long freight haul, I am convinced that, with proper equipment to use our coal, this sanatorium can be heated just as cheaply with Saskatchewan coal as with any other you can buy. I do not expect you to believe that, but I am sure it is correct.

Now to come to something more definite. I have in my hand the synopsis of the long tabulated report compiled from tests made by the Manitoba Government during April and May, 1923. The experiments lasted over six weeks and were carried out at the Selkirk Mental Hospital, on the slacks of four well known brands of coal and also on one sample of Saskatchewan mine run—Souris, Drumheller, Saunders' Creek and Youghioghenny coals were tested. The report is extensive so I will go into three or four items only.

First, as to the cost of coal at the point where the experiments were carried out:

| | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Souris slack..... | \$3.20 |
| Saunders' Creek..... | 8.60 |
| Drumheller slack..... | 6.35 |
| Youghioghenny slack..... | 9.90 |
| Souris Mine Run..... | 4.45 |

Second, as to ash, I have heard men in this building laugh and say: "Why, with that Saskatchewan coal, you are shovelling more ashes than coal." I hope that this analysis will show that the laugh is "of the vacant mind."

Ash percentage:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Souris slack, 6 tests..... | 13.78% |
| Saunders' Creek, slack, 2 tests..... | 11.64% |
| Drumheller slack, 4 tests..... | 19.01% |
| Youghioghenny slack, 1 test..... | 12.54% |
| Souris mine run, 1 test..... | 7.22% |

This shows that our slack coal has practically three-quarters of the ash contained in Drumheller, one-seventh more ash than Saunders' Creek and Youghioghenny, and that our mine run coal contains only 7.22% ash.

One of the chief troubles in our coal industry is that engineers are trying to use a coal low in heat unit value in a furnace designed for a coal of high heat unit value, and expect to get the same heat result. Well, it can't be done! You have got to have a large firebox, and especially a larger grate surface.

I might say here a little about the grates. Stoker-grates are most suitable fireboxes for Saskatchewan coal. The firebox is better to be wider than the boiler. The grate area should be about one-half wider than the boiler. For the small steam plant, the turbine grate is suitable. For the old type plant, where the coal is simply shoveled into the grate, the ordinary "herringbone" grate with about a one-quarter inch opening is as good as any, and can be bought for three or four cents a pound. For the modern up-to-date plant using Souris coal, the traveling chain grate is suitable. There are several of these, the Universal, the Harrington, and others. I know places where these are being used, especially in Minot, N.D., and are giving 100% efficiency. In the Manitoba tests, the traveling chain grate was used, the speed varying from 15 to 18 feet per house in the Souris and Drumheller slacks, to nine feet in Saunders' Creek, Youghioghenny and Souris mine run.

Now I come to the whole reason why the tests were made—the cost! And the final summing up is, the cost of producing 1,000 pounds of steam:

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|---|
| Souris slack—39.95, 38.90, 32.5, 40, 42—or an average of 38.47 cents per 1,000 lbs. of steam. |
| Saunders' Creek—60.3, 63.5—or an average of 61.9 cents. |
| Drumheller—74, 70.5, 64.13, 64.4—average 68.25 cents. |
| Youghioghenny—64.3 cents. |
| Souris mine run—38.9 cents for producing 1,000 lbs. of steam. |

You will note that the cost of producing 1,000 lbs of steam at the Selkirk Mental Hospital is greatly in favour of Saskatchewan coal. Putting it in round numbers, all other coals cost over 60 cents and Saskatchewan coal less than 40 cents—one third less. And yet, within 50 miles of our own mines we have the Weyburn Mental Hospital using, in 1926, 4,790 tons of Saskatchewan coal and 5,684 tons of Western nut slack. Last December, Saskatchewan supplied 64 tons of coal to the same institution, and Western mines 892 tons, and I do not know for how many years, probably 20 or more, the Government buildings at Arcola have been using Western coal. Of course, we will get that old "wheeze" about the grates. I doubt if there is a single Government institution, even using our coal, that has the proper grates to use it economically. I doubt if the Government is getting the best out of the Saskatchewan coal it is using. You are wasting a good percentage of what you buy.

You may ask what is the result of these tests so far as the Manitoba Government is concerned? One result is that Manitoba is our chief market. In my hand I have the October (1927) number of *The Coal Review*. I will read what it says about the Manitoba Government coal contract:

"As announced, last month, the contracts for coal supplies for the Manitoba Provincial Government had been withheld on the ground that various details had to be studied before successful tenders would be named. Whether due to this delay or not, it is gratifying to note that Alberta received a noticeably larger percentage of the business than was the case last year—though, at that, Alberta takes the small end of the awards summarised. Of 31,770 tons involved, Alberta gets 4,770, United States 7,500, and Souris 19,500. This is a considerable improvement over last year, when, out of 22,240 tons, 1,590 tons went to Alberta, 7,150 to the United States, and 13,500 to Saskatchewan."

You will note that this journal is gratified that Alberta is getting a bigger percentage of the Manitoba Government's business, but you will note that Alberta contract was increased from 1,590 tons to 4,770 tons, an increase of 3,600, while the Saskatchewan contract was increased from 13,500 to 19,500 tons, an increase of exactly 6,000 tons. The Manitoba Government gives Saskatchewan about two-thirds of its coal business. Of 26,494 tons bought by the Saskatchewan Government, Saskatchewan mines got 9,090 tons, that is, about one-third of the total. We think our mines deserve more consideration than this.

I do not believe that one Saskatchewan Government institution that is using Saskatchewan coal, is using it economically. The chief thing we have to contend with is the lack of knowledge on the part of the Government Engineer, as to the proper and economical method of using our coal. When I make a statement of that kind, I think it only fair that I should bring evidence to support it.

Take the Parliament Buildings, for example. They were built in 1910, and I understand it was the intention to use Saskatchewan coal. The furnaces were put in so that very little was ever used or could be used. The Government, I believe, is going to change the grates at the Weyburn Mental Hospital.

When that building was put up, it was supposed to use Saskatchewan coal. It should not be now necessary to change these grates, had the engineer responsible for their installation taken the trouble at that time, to find out the most suitable apparatus to burn our coal. These mistakes go back over the years, but I wish to mention something that, to my mind, proves that the same lack of knowledge still exists. This is a sore point with Estevan.

Last summer, Estevan installed a new power plant. Your Local Government Board insisted on our town having the advice of the Government Engineer before they would authorise the town to borrow money to buy this plant. Estevan paid his expenses to the coast and back to look the plant over, and he, along with our Town Engineer, approved of the plant and it was bought and installed. Now, we expected advice of value, and not advice that would get us into trouble. The fact that another Government engineer, a Mr. Mayhue, had inspected the plant and found defects in it that were not reported at the original inspection, does not so much matter, as, I believe, we can overcome them by putting in super-heaters at a cost of about \$3,000. But now I come to the question of grates again. The Government engineer is equally responsible with our own engineer for the purchase of the grates, and they are a failure. That unsuitable, expensive grates should be installed in a plant situated not miles but yards from the mouth of a coal mine, and that those grates will not burn the coal mined there, is absolutely unforgivable, especially when it is so easy to find out the kind of grate that is being used and is giving 100% efficiency with lignite coal. There are plenty of men who know William Hamilton, of the Crescent Collieries, E. W. Garner, another coal mine manager, Bob Hassard, of the Bienfait Mine, and Mr. Hughes, of North Dakota, probably the greatest authority on the use of lignite in its raw state, and all your engineer had to do, was ask any of these men. Estevan paid \$6,470 for these grates and Mr. Nicholson, a coal mine owner and a mechanic of no small attainments, who is head of the Utilities Committee of our town, assures me it has cost the town a further \$5,000, changing, trying to improve on these grates, and in using unnecessary fuel, and still they can never be a success with lignite coal. I am sure that in original cost and in subsequent expense, these grates have cost the town of Estevan \$8,000 to \$10,000, and now they are lying flat and having coal shoveled on them like an ordinary "herring-bone" grate that could be bought for three cents to four cents per pound.

There are plants in Pennsylvania getting a k.w. hour out of $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of coal, and there are plants getting the same unit out of less than 5 lbs. of lignite. Our plant costs about 12 to 15 lbs. of coal per k.w. hour produced.

If the Government insists on us taking the advice of their engineer and that advice gets us into trouble and expense, then the Government should stand behind their engineer and pay the loss.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Didn't your engineer agree that the plant was all right?

Dr. Creighton: Yes! He did. If you do the same with your engineer as we did with ours, we'll be quite satisfied.

You may give extenuating evidence and engineers may give excuses, but one thing you cannot get over is this: That the Local Government Board insisted on us having the advice of your engineer on the purchase of that plant (the grates are part of it) and your engineer is equally responsible with our own. The Normal School is heated with Souris coal, and the cost of heating the Parliament Building is $6\frac{1}{2}$ times that for the Normal School. The Regina College used Souris coal efficiently and with satisfactory results. But last year, a new \$40,000 plant was put in and the Government engineer responsible for the installation of this plant, will not fit it for our coal.

Before concluding my remarks on the methods of using Saskatchewan coal, I wish to draw attention to a letter in my hand from Dr. David Stewart, of Ninette Sanatorium, Manitoba. I think this gentleman is well known to the Premier, and, before going any further, I wish to mention to the House the fact that both these gentlemen had an honorary degree conferred upon them by the University of Manitoba, last summer, and as an old graduate of that institution, I wish to congratulate sincerely the Premier on the honour that was justly deserved, and our University for choosing one who deserved the distinction conferred upon him. To return to Dr. Stewart's letter, I might say that the Sanatorium has used Saskatchewan coal for 17 or 18 years, and that, in order to use our coal efficiently, they installed turbine grates a little over a year ago, not to change the fuel remember, but to use that fuel more efficiently. I'll read part of his letter, and let you draw your own conclusions:

"We are absolutely for the turbine grate. Mr. Scott (the engineer) did not say in his letter but, with two turbines installed a little over a year ago and the other two only very recently, our coal bill is \$1,500 less than the year before."

I now wish to refer to what is going on in North Dakota. Our Minister of Public Works, when bringing in new legislation sometimes quotes from the State laws of our neighbours to the south, and quite rightly so. In many things we should learn from their more extensive experience. But I want to mention a law that exists in North Dakota, which is to the effect that all Government buildings must be heated by North Dakota fuel, which, as you probably know, is all lignite and some of it of a lower grade than ours. Partly as the result of this policy, the output has increased rapidly in recent years. I have a letter here from the Department of Mine Inspection of North Dakota, regarding output:

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1916 output..... | 634,912 tons |
| 1926 output..... | 1,385,362 tons |
| 1927 output..... | 1,529,154 tons. |

Saskatchewan's output in the same years follows:

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| 1916 output..... | 267,234 tons |
| 1926 output..... | 451,077 tons |
| 1927 output (about)..... | 488,000 tons |

In 1927, North Dakota put out over 1,000,000 tons more coal than Saskatchewan, or almost four times as much. Our output increased a little over 200,000 tons in 10 years; theirs increased a little less than 1,000,000. And yet, Saskatchewan has a larger population than North Dakota. The size of the building does not matter. The University of North Dakota, comprising about 20 separate buildings, is heated from a central heating plant using North Dakota lignite.

In concluding my remarks about coal, let me state that we want the Government to use more Saskatchewan coal, but more important than that, we want the Government to learn how to use it, and to give more publicity to its quality when properly used. It would be fine to have the Government carry out tests the same as was done in Manitoba, only on more varieties of fuel. The mines in the south would wish to have their fuel engineers present, not so much for the help they might give as for the amount they would learn. There is one Government man in whom the south has unbounded confidence; that is Prof. Worcester. I have never heard once of this man giving even remotely wrong advice. He is an expert on clays, but should the Government wish to investigate the quality of our coal, I am sure the south would be pleased to have Prof. Worcester make it, and any report given by him would be received without question.

We have heard a good deal about power during the last two weeks. I wish to say a few words further. Notwithstanding the fact that 85% of the power in the province is consumed in the three larger cities, I think all will admit that the greatest point of production in time to come will be around the coal mines. We are sure to have a large producing plant there. I think it probable that our town will dispose of its plant, and I think the Government can trust our town to get the best deal with the most reliable company. I believe the attitude down there is that we do not care if we get only 25 cents for the plant, provided we get a good rate. We are right at the source of supply and want the low rate. Of course we want a price at least equal to the debenture debt, but the price of the plant is of secondary importance.

As I told you a few days ago, we are getting a lot of attention down there. One company has had a great authority on steam production of electricity on the ground, and by this time I am quite sure his company knows exactly what can be done, and I am informed that since the advent of this engineer, the company he represents is much more active in trying to buy up surrounding plants. Once we get a man who really knows, we are not worried about what his findings will be.

A few days ago, the pamphlet I have in my hand came into my possession. It is an article read before the Empire Mining Congress last September, and is on the "Utilisation of Brown Coal in Victoria, Australia." To my mind, Victoria, Australia, is situated in a similar position to us as regards power and coal, more nearly, I should say, than any other state except North Dakota. They

have large beds of lignite, which is of a much lower grade than ours. They have little water power. They have sparsely settled districts, though in Melbourne, they have one large city.

I am going to go a little into electrical development in the province of Victoria, because the difficulties there are so nearly allied to our own. They decided on Government ownership, and are pushing it from that angle. I don't know whether I am for Government ownership or not, but I do know I am not for it under the present commission, although I can't see that it makes much difference so long as certain regulations are laid down. Now, to mention a few things in this pamphlet and again, Mr. Speaker, I must crave your indulgence for taking too much time, but as I read, I may find it necessary to make a few comments as I go along.

"The next important step was the appointment, in June, 1917, by the Victoria State Government, of an Advisory Committee of four engineers, to report on the commercial utilisation of brown coal, particularly for the purpose of generating electrical energy. Among the conclusions reached by the Committee which submitted its report in September 1917, were the following:

"That it was essential for the industrial development of the state that an ample supply of electrical energy, at the lowest possible cost, be made available at the earliest possible date; that this was particularly important if the Government desired to attract new industries to Victoria and to offset the existing disadvantages due to the high price of imported coal; and that, with the then price of black coal and estimated costs of mining brown coal, the brown coal fields of the State offered a much more economical fuel supply than black coal for the production of electrical energy, and that an electrical generation and transmission scheme be established with a power house at Yallourn (the name given at a later date to this particular locality); that an open-cut mine be established in the vicinity of the power house with the necessary equipment to provide an output equal to the power house requirements and any demand for other purposes; that steps be taken to obtain Parliamentary sanction for the scheme and for the creation of the necessary authority to initiate and control it; that the State should control and direct the co-ordination of all State and statutory generating and distributing schemes in Victoria so as to ensure the adoption of standards that would permit of the inter-connection of these schemes and the economical supply of electrical energy throughout the State."

You will note that the Commission was composed of four engineers, and I may say that more than once they have had consulting engineers from Germany. If this Government is going into the power business, they might as well get the very best experts at once. They will have to get them anyway, and will find it cheapest in the long run. The present commissioners are, undoubtedly, very fine gentlemen and good business men. They are getting a lot of evidence—a lot of it good and some of it "half-baked." These gentlemen are not engineers, and, in my opinion, are not strictly competent to separate the grain from the chaff, and the Government will not get a report from them on which they can act with absolute certainty that it is correct. I think the action of our friend, Hon. Mr. Dunning, regarding the Hudson Bay port, is a good example of what should be done here. The choice of port is of great importance to this Province, and Mr. Dunning to make sure goes to the greatest shipping nation the world has ever known, and, if he does not get the best, he certainly got one of the best authorities on ports and harbours that nation has produced, and he sends him up with instructions to find out and tell us. This engineer says Churchill, and I, for one, feel sure Churchill is the best point;

anyway, anyone who says Mr. Dunning did not take the right course, is not fair.

The other point on which the Australian commissioners lay special emphasis is standardisation of plants so that all are interchangeable. Moose Jaw should be a stand-by for Saskatoon, Saskatoon for Estevan, and Estevan for Regina. There should not be any stand-by plant in this Province. The Victoria Commission began active operations in 1919, and I read from the pamphlet:

"Stated in brief, the activities of the Commission are shown, today, in a daily output of 4,000 tons of raw coal, nearly 1,000,000 k.w. hours of electrical energy, and 400 tons of briquettes, beside the reticulation with transmission lines of a large portion of the State, carrying electrical energy, with its uses and comforts, into many remote areas that otherwise would not enjoy these advantages for an indefinite period.

"From the time when the State Electricity Commission took control of the electricity supply throughout the State in 1919, its policy has been to discourage the extension of small isolated plants, and to standardise voltage and frequency of supply systems.

"The most fundamental work of the Commission, from a constructive point of view, has been the erection at Yallourn of a power house established to obtain its fuel supply from brown coal won from the immediately adjoining mine, exactly on the lines adopted by large generating stations in the German brown coal fields of the Rhineland, Saxony, and East Germany.

"In taking this step, the Commission's own investigations, showing such a policy to be advantageous, were fortified by the knowledge that, in Germany, a number of very large power stations had been established on brown coal fields, and were expending, in competition with energy generating from black coal stations, under conditions that were comparatively worse than those for brown coal stations in Victoria. Among these stations are: Trattendorf (65,000 k.w.) and Lauta (66,000 k.w.) in East Germany; Golpa (160,000 k.w.) in Saxony; Fortuna (140,000 k.w.) and Goldenbergwerke (280,000 k.w.) in the Rhineland. The last named station transmits energy into the heart of the largest black coal field in Europe, that of Westphalia."

We should have some of the cheapest power in the world. We, in the south, are the tail of electrical production at the present time. The time is coming when the lignite coal fields will be the head end. The most expensive thing in the world is ignorance, and under the present policy being pursued, I do not think the Government will get the best information available regarding the production and distribution of electricity in Saskatchewan.

Electricity can be transmitted up to 200 miles with a loss of from 5% to 7%. The Regina plant is one of the most economic in America, but they must be paying from \$6 to \$7 a ton for slack. In our district, mine run, I am sure, can be put in the furnace for one dollar a ton, if the plant is at the mine. In Australia, it costs 70 cents to 80 cents. I might say that the coal is never touched with human hands.

Hon. Mr. Spence: Can this be done at Estevan?

Mr. Creighton: Yes! Right into the furnace, and as I say, at a cost of \$1 a ton, as against about 75 cents in Australia.

We are not electricians, but I believe all the members have common ordinary "horse-sense." Does it seem reasonable that power in large quantities can be produced as cheaply with \$7 coal as with one dollar coal, even though that \$7 coal has double the heat

unit value? Even though Regina be producing it at three-quarters of a cent, it is too much and some day, they are going to get it cheaper.

I suggest to the Government, though I am not sure that I am right: Let these companies go, but regulate construction so that all lines and producing stations are interchangeable. If that is done, I believe that some day my Constituency is going to be producing most of the power consumed in Saskatchewan, the same as Yallourn is doing in the State of Victoria.

I understand that the State of Victoria has spent over \$100,000,000, and Ontario over \$275,000,000, and if the Government of Saskatchewan is going into the power business, it is my opinion that they must be prepared to spend \$50,000,000 in the next 10 years.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner: The Australia scheme is a Government scheme is it not?

Mr. Creighton: Yes!

Hon. Mr. Gardiner: Their Commission was a controlling Commission of experts?

Mr. Creighton: As far back as 1910, German engineers had been consulted as to the utilisation of the brown coal fields, and then the Commission took control in 1917.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner: The Commission here, as distinct from that in Australia, is a "fact-finding" Commission. It is employing experts whenever there is the need, and they are always available to assist the Commission in its work. Some of them are the chief advocates of Souris coal in this province.

Mr. Creighton: I think that some time in the near future, the people of this province are going to force the Government to go into the power business in some form. It is hard for me to conceive of this Government spending \$50,000,000 to give the people this service, but if the Government does not care to do it, let the Government stand aside and let someone else do it. At the same time, let the Government keep an eye on these companies, and insist upon the standardisation of all these plants.

Speech delivered by
MR. M. A. MACPHERSON, K.C., M.L.A.
(Regina City)
in the
BUDGET DEBATE
in the
Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,
Tuesday, February 28, 1928.

Mr. MacPherson, in speaking during the Budget Debate, said:

Mr. Speaker, I desire to congratulate the Provincial Treasurer on the very concise and brief Budget speech which he delivered in this House, Friday night, and I will endeavour to emulate his example in that respect.

At the outset, I desire to associate myself with the tribute he made to the Honourable George A. Bell, a man who served Saskatchewan faithfully and well as a member of the Government, as a member of this House, and as Chairman of the Local Government Board. I think it is fit and proper that such service should be recognised, and I consider it the duty of this House to pay tribute to a distinguished public servant.

We have had the unusual experience of listening to three Budget speeches delivered during the lifetime of this Legislature, on each occasion by a different Provincial Treasurer. First there was Mr. Dunning, then there was the present Premier, and now there is this speech from the present Provincial Treasurer. I sometimes wonder whether or not there will be a change next year, whether, next year, the Budget will be delivered by a Provincial Treasurer of another political complexion, or if there will be another Provincial Treasurer next year of this Government—perhaps the honourable member for Saltcoats (*Dr. Sahlmark*). Having heard the honourable member for Saltcoats this afternoon, with the inspirational book he had to help him, we on this side would not be surprised if he qualified for the post.

So far as the Minister and his Budget speech are concerned, he gave what purported to be a statement of fact which we will accept as fact. But the conclusions he came to from the facts, I contend are in error and incorrect. Let me deal with the first fact he enlarged upon, that which had reference to our agricultural wealth.

The Provincial Treasurer stated that agricultural production in this Province for 1927, was valued at \$478,000,000. If the wealth produced last year, from our basic industry amounted to

\$478,000,000, then, adopting the process which the Provincial Treasurer himself adopted later in his speech, there was produced in this province, last year, wealth amounting to \$600 per head for every man, woman, and child in the province. If that figure is correct, if there was produced in this province last year, from this one industry, wealth to the value of \$600 per capita, then indeed, it must be an easy thing to bring down a balanced budget in this province. There should be no poverty, no indigence in Saskatchewan, and no difficulty whatever in running a Government with the wealth we have.

Now, Mr. Speaker, certain statements were given to the press in announcing the surplus. I wish to deal with that surplus. It was stated in the *Morning Leader*, last Saturday:

"The cash receipts on the revenue account of the Province for the year ending April 30, 1927, were \$13,021,244.52, which included the sum of \$600,000 from liquor profits. The cash expenditures on the revenue account were \$13,929,298.26, leaving a cash surplus of \$91,846.26."

I want you to note, Sir, there is included in the revenue receipts the sum of \$600,000 from liquor profits. Consequently, I contend, if it were not for liquor profits, instead of a surplus as announced by the Provincial Treasurer, there would have been a deficit of \$508,-153.74, and that, Sir, from the figures as given by the Minister himself.

Again, we have this from the report of the Liquor Commission: There was a profit of some \$2,100,000 from the sale of liquor in the province. That being the case, let me ask the Minister why, in adjusting the finances of the province, he only took \$600,000? Why did he not take \$500,000? The answer is that, if he had taken \$500,000 he would have had a deficit, small, indeed, but yet a deficit of some \$8,153.74. Yet notwithstanding the fact he had a fund of more than \$2,000,000 to draw from, he only took \$600,000. It must be admittedly easy for any Minister to have a surplus. No Minister can be a "wizard of finance" who, to change a deficit into a surplus, only has to take that amount which will be sufficient to establish a nice surplus, only has to change a cypher. I think we can commend him in that, when he went to take a sum from liquor profits, the figure he took was a reasonable figure, and that he did not take a larger sum than that he gave us.

In connection with the Public Debt of the province, the Provincial Treasurer announces that, as at February 1, 1928, it stands at \$58,400,152.20, of which \$24,509,349.89 is self-supporting.

You will remember that, last year, the Provincial Treasurer announced a surplus of some \$30,000, and at the same time he announced the Public Debt of the province had been reduced by almost \$350,000 till it stood at \$57,114,362, and, in announcing this, he announced it as a "triumph of financial achievement."

When you consider that, in place of a further reduction this year of approximately \$350,000, there is an increase of \$1,258,789.52, small wonder that this year the Minister has not adopted the language of last year, and announced it as a "triumph of financial achievement."

When we come to the "net" debt, the difference from last year is even more pronounced. Last year, the "net" Public Debt was given as \$32,571,264. This year, it is given by the Minister as \$33,890,802.31. In short, the "net" debt of this Province has been increased during the year by \$1,319,538. Consequently, Mr. Speaker, in comparing the Budget speech of last year with that of this year in connection with the debt of the province, you will note there is an increase of more than a million and a quarter dollars in both the "gross" and "net" debt of the province. Adopting the popular process of reduction to a per capita basis, there should be an increase in the per capita debt, of at least \$1.50. Taking the figures given last year (that is, \$75 per capita with respect to "gross" debt, and \$41 per capita with respect to "net" debt) and bearing in mind that there was an increase accounted for of a dollar and more in both these debts, we find this: Instead of there being an addition to the "gross" debt as it was given last year (that is \$75), we would infer that there had been a decrease, as it is now placed at \$71.13 per capita. We also find that, so far as the "net" debt is concerned, in place of that being increased by around \$1.50 per head, it is given as only 27 cents higher than last year.

Hon. Mr. Patterson: New census figures are available since last year.

Mr. MacPherson: The same excuse was given, last year, when attention was called to discrepancies.

Last year, in discussing the Budget, the Minister intimated that there was going to be a reduction in school grants. This year, not so much is said about that, but there still is the implied threat that school grants are to be reduced, and hospital grants as well. In discussing this question, I do not know what the intention of the Government in regard to these matters is, but I do say the time has not yet arrived when it is advisable to do either.

The Minister referred to the popularity of the Gasoline Tax, and he expressed considerable surprise that any tax should be popular.

Now, Sir, there is no doubt the Gas Tax is popular for this reason, and for this reason only: Because the people who are going to contribute, the people who are going to pay this tax, want to see better roads in the Province of Saskatchewan. They feel they will be paying to get these better roads. If the Government wants to perpetuate the popularity of this tax, if they want that popularity to remain, if the Government does not want it to become the most unpopular tax they impose, the Government must embark on a road policy, and build hard-surfaced roads. The member for Saltcoats (*Dr. Sahlmark*) referred to the highway policy of this Government in eulogistic terms. He was quite satisfied with it, and was quite sure the people of Saskatchewan were quite satisfied with it. Well, the people won't be satisfied to pay this tax, unless they are going to get hard-surfaced roads.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner: What do you mean by hard-surfaced roads?

Mr. MacPherson: I mean gravel roads.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner: These are not hard-surfaced roads. We are gravelling roads.

Mr. MacPherson: I asked the Minister a question about that some time ago, and as far as I could gather it was gravel he spoke of at the time. As to gravel roads—so far as the Government's highway policy is concerned, I ask the people of Saskatchewan to judge of the merits of this Government on its gravel roads. If the Premier says he has gravelled roads let him consider the mileage he has gravelled. There certainly is little by way of a record of achievement there.

As I have said, if the Gas Tax is to remain popular, the thing to do, is to make the people realise something is being done to give them better roads.

We have heard considerable commendation of the Government because no new taxes have been imposed in the last ten years. Both in the Budget Speech itself, and in the speech of the honourable member for Saltcoats, it was stated that no new fields of taxation had been invaded in these ten years. We will say then, no new tax, as such has been imposed. But, I submit, there is one field in which there has been considerable exploitation. I refer to licenses. I have no desire to invite any academic argument on the point whether or not a license is a tax. I do submit, however, to this House as a reasonable statement of fact that, whether you call it a license or a tax (the people of the Province are not concerned with the microscopic distinction of words) in creating new license fees in the last ten years, the Government has increased very materially, the revenue it obtains from the people. The people, I contend, are not concerned about the difference between a license and a tax. They form their opinion on the amount they have to pay into the provincial treasury.

The Public Accounts of the province show that, in 1920, the Provincial Secretary's receipts amounted to \$1,410,391.15—that is the Department through which most of the license fees are paid. This year, eliminating from consideration the Gasoline Tax, which is estimated to bring in \$600,000, receipts from license fees are expected to exceed \$3,000,000. That is, the income from this source has been doubled in the interval between 1920 and the present. So, when the Government preens itself on the statement that no new taxes have been imposed, it should take into consideration what it has done in connection with license fees.

Turning to current revenue: In dealing with this matter you must remember that with regard to current revenue, the subsidy from the Dominion Government and the School Lands Fund, which remain practically constant, may be left out of the reckoning. In 1920, current revenue was \$9,903,885.37. In the next fiscal year, 1928-29, the estimate places it at \$14,047,575. That is, there has been a 50% increase in current revenue in that time.

Here again, I would point out a difference between the Budget Speech of last year, and the Budget Speech of the Provincial Treasurer this year. Last year, there was an estimated reduction in public revenue from the preceding year, of almost \$400,000, whereas this year, there is an increase of \$1,000,000, although, in all fairness I would say, that increase includes the \$600,000 of Gas Tax revenue. Consequently, when you consider the story, that wonderful story of the Budget, when you consider that, notwithstanding our great agricultural wealth, notwithstanding the \$600 per capita wealth of this province, there has been an increase in Public Debt of \$1,200,000 and an increase in our "net" debt of \$1,300,000, and, in addition to that an increase in our current revenue of \$400,000 (leaving off the Gas Tax), you are forced to admit the story is not so wonderful after all.

Hon. Mr. Latta: What about expenditure?

Mr. MacPherson: True, there is an increase there. I simply point these facts out, and I do not think they can be challenged.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner: What about capital expenditure?

Mr. MacPherson: We have nothing in this Budget Speech to indicate whether the policy of laying aside \$300,000 a year for 45 years for the redemption of the Public Debt of the province is to be continued or not, a policy with which we heartily agreed, and do agree.

With reference to the Farm Loans Board, the Provincial Treasurer laboured to show that if $6\frac{1}{2}\%$ was charged by the Board when the Government was borrowing money at 6% , it was still necessary to continue to charge the $6\frac{1}{2}\%$ rate even now when it was issuing debentures at from 4% to $4\frac{1}{2}\%$. The farmer is beginning to ask why, with money down to 4% , he is not getting some reduction in the interest rate he is charged by the Board. He paid $6\frac{1}{2}\%$ when money was worth 6% , yet, with money at 4% , the rate to him is still at $6\frac{1}{2}\%$.

The argument the Minister used that the Board has cut down the rate of interest throughout the province, is not very substantial. The rates on money will be governed by the cheapness or dearness of money on the money markets of the world, and so there is not much credit coming to the Government or to the Farm Loan Board for the general reduction in the interest rate. I was much struck with the statement made by the responsible head of one of our loan offices speaking before one of the Select Standing Committees of this House, the other day. He told the Committee that of 2,100 loans his company had outstanding in the province, only 12 were in course of foreclosure. We endeavoured to get certain information given to us in this House relative to the Board's loans, which we could not get on the ground that it was not considered in the public interest to give such information. But I do say this, I do venture the opinion that, insofar as the Farm Loan Board is concerned, it has more loans in course of foreclosure than this Company we heard from the other day.

The Minister was at great pains to state there was no political interference with the operations of the Farm Loan Board. I do hope there won't be any suggestion of political interference in the future.

I want to refer for a moment to liquor prices. The Minister led us to expect there would not be very much of an increase to be looked for in liquor profits. I'm not going to concern myself with that. I would like to say something, however, about prices.

Prices are very considerably lower in the Province of Ontario, though I'm not saying that the price of whisky should be reduced in this province. But I would say that, if Ontario can make great sums on the margin they have there, then the Province of Saskatchewan should make much more than that, proportionately. If not, then the Government should see whether there is not too much being spent on overhead in this province. It is argued that the difference is due to freight rates. The fact is, however, there is a difference in prices in Ontario, and the difference in price cannot all be on account of freight rates; nor can this be said of New Brunswick, where, also, the prices are lower than in this Province. The Government should consider, in administration in this province, whether there are not too many inspectors or officials than are necessary for the purpose of the Act.

So far as the Board is concerned and the men employed by it, complaints have come to me suggesting that the Board give more consideration to the employment of the ex-service men in the Province. I am not speaking in a political or partisan way. I am speaking more on account of the men who get a small pension, who have something wrong with them—something in the head, something in the heart, neurasthenia, or something of the kind. I suggest to the Government that, when it comes to the appointment to vacancies under the Liquor Board or other Departments, consideration should be given these men who are "problem" cases. I hope that the Government will see to it that this is done.

I do not want to take up very much more of your time. I would, however, refer to this article which appeared in the *Leader* on Saturday, under the heading: "Plaster Falling from Roof of the Courthouse."

The story as given there is slightly exaggerated. The story given in the *Post*, tonight, is more close to the facts. I would say this to the Government: When capital expenditure is to be made, there is no better place to start it than in building a new courthouse in Regina.

Hon. Mr. Latta: That will increase capital expenditure!

Mr. MacPherson: Here was the "joke" of last year's estimates: "\$175,000 for New Courthouses" and the Attorney General got away with the whole of it for Prince Albert.

Hon. Mr. Davis: No! Not the whole of it. Only \$150,000.

Mr. MacPherson: All right! Nearly the whole of it. The courthouse at Regina is still in the same old building. In the Constituency of the honourable Minister of Agriculture (*Weyburn*), court is still held in a public hall, and the same can be said of Maple Creek. So far as last year's estimates were concerned, the plural was changed to the singular, and Prince Albert got "the courthouse."

Hon. Mr. Davis: Yes! But Land Titles went along with it.

Mr. MacPherson: The peculiar thing about it is that, at Weyburn, some \$12,000 or \$13,000 was paid for a site in the City of Weyburn ten or twelve years ago, but it hasn't got its courthouse yet!

In all seriousness, however, I would suggest that a new courthouse be built here (in Regina). The present building is not the kind of building we should have in the Capital City. Then, too, this year the Province of Saskatchewan and the City of Regina are being honoured as the meeting place of the Bar Association of Canada. We will have eminent jurists here from the United Kingdom and France as well as from the United States and from all over Canada. I feel sure the Attorney General, when he is escorting distinguished visitors over the city can bring them to these Parliament Buildings with some degree of pride. We are all proud of this building, and of our Normal School. But, when he takes them to the courthouse, in which presumably they will be very much interested, he will be thoroughly ashamed of it.

I won't take up any more of your time.

We have been told by the Provincial Treasurer that municipalities are paying their debts, and what a wonderful condition there is in the agricultural communities. But, when we analyse his statements and his conclusions, and so see how easy it must be for the Government to carry on, we are somewhat disappointed in the heart and meat of the Budget Speech as we had it from the Provincial Treasurer.

Speech delivered by

THE HONOURABLE C. M. HAMILTON,
(*Minister of Agriculture*)

on

SOME ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

in the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,

Tuesday, February 28, 1928.

Hon. C. M. Hamilton, speaking during the Budget debate, said:

Mr. Speaker,—I must thank the honourable member for Regina City (*Mr. MacPherson*) for his kindly interest in the constituency which I have the honour to represent and I think I can also thank him on behalf of the honourable member for Maple Creek (*Hon. Mr. Spence*). I just wondered as he made his references to court houses in these two constituencies, if, in his generosity, he was prepared to allow Weyburn to come before Regina, and the Constituency of Maple Creek to come before the City of Regina when expenditures of this kind are to be made. I also wondered whether his colleagues, the honourable members for Saskatoon, will be moved by the same spirit of generosity, and whether we may expect that they will permit the addition to the court house at Saskatoon as well as that in Regina to stand aside in favour of the constituencies of Weyburn and Maple Creek.

I would assure the honourable member, however, that the people of the Weyburn constituency realise that, in the matter of a court house, as well as in the matter of roads, it is not possible to serve the whole Province at one time, and that they must of necessity wait their turn.

The honourable member who has just concluded his address (*Mr. MacPherson*) made frequent reference to the improved conditions throughout the Province as dealt with by the Provincial Treasurer in his Budget Speech. As I listened to him saying "there should be no poverty, no indigence or destitution in the Province of Saskatchewan under these conditions," I could not help thinking to myself "Where am I, anyway? Surely this cannot be the Province of Saskatchewan, this must be Paradise to which the honourable member is referring." It is true, however, conditions have materially improved during the past few years, but not to the extent, as everyone is aware, including the member for Regina,

that there is neither indigence nor poverty in the Province. That, of course, is not the case, and, though conditions have improved considerably, there is still room for improvement.

In view of the remarks, such as the challenge which the honourable member for Saskatoon (*Mr. Anderson*) hurled across the floor of the House the other day, directed against the Department of Agriculture and declaring that the Department of Agriculture had shown no leadership, no initiative in grappling with the problems confronting the agricultural community, the obligation devolves upon me to dispute these statements of the member for Saskatoon. Fortunately, or unfortunately, I appear to have aroused the ire of the honourable member by a remark to which he has made frequent reference that "I had racked my brain to find any new idea or constructive policy that had been advanced by the honourable member." I think statements to the same effect have since been made by other members of this House since that time so I may expect, in the future, that I may share his vengeance with others.

A former Minister of Agriculture acquired a good deal of fame on account of his agricultural similies. Somehow, a Minister of Agriculture does appear to be able to express himself more forcibly when speaking in common barnyard terms. The honourable member for Saskatoon, by appropriating to himself, the various resolutions that have been placed before the Government by different organisations, has reminded me of a clucking hen which, not industrious enough to hatch out some chicks for herself, has adopted the chicks of some other members of the flock, and paraded them around as her own. By his adoption of these resolutions the member for Saskatoon has simply done nothing more than endeavour to profit by the industry of others.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the member for Saskatoon has had considerable experience, is of the same age as myself and has made his home for some years in this Province. Moreover, he is a graduate of the University, ranks high in the sciences, and has had ample opportunity for acquiring knowledge. But with all his experience, he has failed to realise that a brand new idea is one of the rarest things in the universe. A wise man is reported to have once said "Vanity, Vanity, all is Vanity; there is nothing new in the world."

In order to refute the statement of the honourable member for Saskatoon that the Department of Agriculture had shown no initiative, I propose to deal with some of the activities of the Department covering the period from 1920 down to the present time.

The first day I was in the office of the Minister of Agriculture, in this building, a reporter from the *Morning Leader* came into the office and said "Have you anything in mind for agriculture?" I answered, "I have two things—first, I think every effort of the Government should be directed towards curtailing the grasshopper plague which has infested the south-eastern portion of the Province during the past two or three years; second—I think a thorough

study should be made of the agricultural conditions in the south-western portion of the Province which has suffered so severely in recent years as a result of drouth."

I think everyone will agree, who is familiar with the facts, that as a result of the co-operation between the farmers themselves, the officials of the Rural Municipalities and the Department of Agriculture, millions of dollars were saved to the people of the Province by the distribution of poisoned bait for the purpose of controlling the grasshopper plague. At the beginning we did not have very much information to guide us, and it was necessary to develop our own plans of organisation. That these were successful is evidenced by the results obtained and the reports from municipal officials, and letters of appreciation on the files of the Department.

With regard to the condition in the south-western portion of the Province a Better Farming Conference was held in the city of Swift Current in July, 1920. To this Conference were invited representatives of the various Municipalities within the area, representatives of the Agricultural Societies, representatives of the Grain Growers' Association and other farmers' organisations. In addition to these were invited representatives of the College of Agriculture, the Experimental Farms and others engaged in scientific agriculture. Then, also, we invited certain representatives from the North-western States adjoining us to the south, where conditions of a similar character exist, believing that since the settlement of this portion of the United States was somewhat older than the western portion of our own Province their experience would be of value to us.

After a three days' conference, it was decided that the question should be further studied, and it was proposed that a Commission should be appointed. A Commission was appointed consisting of Dean Rutherford of the College of Agriculture, Mr. George Spence, now a member of the Provincial Government, then a private member representing the constituency of Notukeu, Neil McTaggart of Gull Lake, and H. O. Powell, general manager of the Weyburn Security Bank, Weyburn. Associated with these in an advisory capacity and for the purpose of study were Prof. John Bracken, then in charge of the Field Husbandry work at the Saskatchewan University, and now Prime Minister of the Province of Manitoba, and Prof. A. M. Shaw, in charge of the Animal Husbandry work at the University of Saskatchewan. After making a study of the situation in our own Province and in some of the States adjoining, the Commission made three recommendations: First, that there should be a soil survey, to determine the land which is fit for cultivation; second, that there should be more experimental work as a guide in methods of cultivation and suitability of crops and third, that the pasture lands should be made available for the settlers.

I am happy, Mr. Speaker, at this time to be able to report that every one of these three recommendations has been carried into effect.

In addition to the Community Pastures being operated by five Grazing Associations in the south-western portion of the Province, we are operating as a government pasture what is known as the Matador Ranch. In the year 1926, there were pastured on this lease some 4,651 head of cattle and 264 head of horses. Although it is not the policy of the Government to make a profit in the operation of these leases, I may say that in no year has there been a deficit in the operation. I might also say that taxes have been paid to schools and Local Improvement Districts and a reserve fund created which will take care of capital expenditure from year to year. The success of the Matador as a Government pasture has exceeded the expectations of the Department, and I believe has met with the approval of the people in that district to a very marked degree. I would like to ask the honourable member for Saskatoon if he can point to any other government in Canada or elsewhere operating a ranch of the extent of the Matador, and with so much success?

Criticism has been made that settlers have left the south-western portion of our Province. It is true that some who had located on land unfit for cultivation were assisted by the Dominion and Provincial Governments and railways to move to other portions of the Province but the movement of settlers has been restricted to these. As a result of the study of the Better Farming Commission the Government of the Province has evolved a policy with regard to the south-west, and it is that every section of our Province will sustain a population; that given the proper area as a farm, and by adopting the proper system of cultivation and crops, farming in every section of the Province can be made successful. In this we have not followed the Province of Alberta where it was decided that a large area in the south-east adjoining the Province of Saskatchewan was unfit for agriculture. The people were advised to move out. That would have been the easy way of settling the difficulty, but that has not been the policy of the Government of this Province.

I wish now, Mr. Speaker, to turn your attention to the activities of the different branches of the Department of Agriculture, and first I will deal with the Field Crops Branch.

Field Crops are the main agricultural product of this Province, and form the basis of that wealth to which the Provincial Treasurer and other speakers have referred in this debate. I have some figures here in connection with field crops, but before I deal with them, I should like to deal with the remarks of members opposite to effect that there has been a decrease in the population in the rural parts of the Province. The 1926 census shows that, if the number of farmers has decreased, the number of people living on the land has increased. Furthermore, there is no evidence that the farmers are discouraged; in fact the evidence is all to the contrary. The statistics show that in 1926, the acreage under cultivation in the Province was 26,264,000 acres, as compared with 26,589,832 acres in 1927. In 1927 also there were 12,979,279 acres in wheat in the Province. In the preceding year, however, the wheat acreage was 13,496,457,

making a decrease in the 1927 acreage sown to wheat. But you will remember that conditions in the early part of 1927 were not very propitious, and seeding was delayed in some districts for nearly a month, and in some parts no wheat was sown. While this was true to some extent of 1926 also, the conditions in that year were not quite so adverse as last year, and this accounts for the decrease in the wheat acreage for 1927. But if the acreage in wheat went down, the acreage in oats went up, and I find, by referring to the statistics, that there were 4,412,556 acres sown to oats in 1927 as compared with 3,940,431 acres in 1926.

Then again, Saskatchewan farmers, in 1926 brought under cultivation 485,000 acres of new land, and summerfallowed 5,678,206 acres. In 1927, new breaking amounted to 564,000 acres and summerfallow to 6,011,450 acres. That indicates, I think, a growth and development that bears testimony to an improvement in the conditions surrounding the agricultural population of the province.

There is also an interesting feature in connection with the value of field crops, already referred to by the Provincial Treasurer. The value in 1926 was \$314,043,000 as against \$309,787,000 in 1927, but if we take the farming operations as a whole, we find that the total value of agricultural products was greater in 1927 than in the previous year, the total agricultural production value for 1927 being \$478,000,000 as against \$472,000,000 for 1926, an increase of \$6,000,000.

The great problem in regard to the growing of grain in the Province at the present time, that of maintaining the quality of our grain, has been giving concern to all those who are engaged in agriculture, to the Wheat Pool, the Board of Grain Commissioners, as well as the farmers themselves. The question is how to maintain the quality of our wheat.

Why has this been so difficult in recent years? Two great factors are recognised as militating directly and indirectly against the maintenance of quality. These are first, rust; second, frost.

With regard to rust it might, quite properly, be asked what is being done by this Government and by the Federal Government to find a solution to a problem which is, admittedly, serious, and is having a very adverse effect upon the quality of our crops and upon production.

Some years ago Prof. Thompson began this research studies at our own University in the effort to combat rust. These have been in progress now for six years, and we have reason to believe that progress has been made toward the production of a variety of wheat more rust resistant than any in general use at the present time.

This House, some years ago, was asked to give assent to the creation of what is known as the Agricultural Research Foundation to administer the unclaimed funds left with the Canada Wheat Board of 1920. You will be pleased to learn that, from the interest accruing from the investment of our share of the Wheat Board

surplus, some \$13,500 a year, a portion was set aside to assist the College of Agriculture in its investigation in regard to rust. An appropriation of some \$3,000 a year for three years was made to provide a plant pathologist at the University with an additional \$1,200 for the same term for an assistant plant pathologist.

The Dominion Government has established a rust research laboratory at Winnipeg in co-operation with the Government of Manitoba, and progress, we believe, has been made both there and at Saskatoon.

What has been the effect of the difficulties which the farmers have encountered as result of this rust problem? Well, the farmers have looked around for the varieties of wheat that would appear to be most rust-resistant, and the general result is that the varieties of wheat in use throughout the Province have become more mixed than ever before. I have here the report of the Cereal Variety Committee presented to a Conference of Agricultural Specialists at Saskatoon, early this month, and prepared by men connected with our College of Agriculture, the Dominion Government's experimental farms at Indian Head, Scott and Swift Current.

One of the purposes of this Conference was to study this particular question and the conclusion reached was that there were "too many varieties of cereal crops in Saskatchewan," that in fact there were some 60 or more varieties in use in Western Canada. To overcome this condition, the Conference recommended that the Province be divided into zones for cereal crops and that definite zones for wheat, oats and barley should be defined and that a minimum number of varieties should be recommended for general use.

In the northern part of the Province, where most damage is done by frost, it was suggested that the variety which could best withstand the conditions was Reward with Garnet as a substitute; and in the south-eastern portion, where rust is the great enemy, Marquis was suggested in default of anything better provided facilities are available for profitably dusting the crops with sulphur in order to control stem rust, otherwise Mindum (a Durum variety) should be used. But for the great part of the Province, Marquis seemed best to answer the requirements, and its use was recommended until we have some other variety, equally good for milling to meet the demands of the wheat trade. That this, in time, would be produced there is very little doubt, but, in the meantime, it was recommended, that every effort be put forward to make the people of the Province do their best to maintain the high quality of our wheat, and consequently they are being urged to make the largest possible use of registered seed.

During the past year, a seed drill survey was made throughout the Province, and I should like to refer to the statement made in an address to the Canadian Club of Regina, to the effect that more than 50 per cent. of the seed sown in Saskatchewan never had been cleaned.

The Provincial Government through its different local agents and in co-operation with officials of the Dominion Seed Branch covered virtually the whole Province. We got samples of the seed grown, and also made examinations of the seed prepared and ready for use, and 762 samples of wheat taken from every part of the Province were tested, and thorough investigation was made through all the districts from which the samples were taken. The result of this survey was that it was found that 97.01 per cent. of all the seed used was cleaned before use; that is, less than three per cent. of the seed was not cleaned before it was put into the ground. Then it was found that 90 per cent. of the seed was cleaned and treated for smut before use; that 2.40 per cent. was treated only, and that only 0.5 per cent. was neither cleaned nor treated before being sown. I think that, on the basis of this report, the situation, though not as satisfactory as it might be, is much more satisfactory than was claimed by the speaker who addressed the Canadian Club at Regina. With the improvement of the seed cleaning machines, and the increasing number of farmers growing registered seed, I think you will agree there is not much excuse for any farmer not having clean seed.

Another factor I wish to refer to in connection with the keeping up of the standard of our crops, is the seed cars which are operated by the Provincial Government in co-operation with the two Railway Companies. Yesterday, I had the privilege of being present at the departure of the first train of the season from the City of Regina. The information on matters of seed grain selection and with regard to forage crops which it is possible to disseminate by these trains, is proving one of the most effective means we have of overcoming these difficulties. This year, we are operating two sets of cars, where formerly there was only one.

Last year, the seed train visited some 66 points throughout the Province, and demonstrations and lectures were given to an attendance of 6,891 persons. Three hundred and sixteen purchases of forage crop seeds were made from the cars, or some 38,775 pounds. But the purchases made from the train represent only a small proportion of the purchases made as result of the propaganda carried on from the seed cars, for the persons interested, who did not buy from the cars, bought from local merchants the seed they wanted. We believe that, in this way, great progress is being made in getting farmers to use the type of seed that is required to keep up the quality of our wheat, and to keep down the weed menace which has been referred to already in this House at this Session, and which is causing great concern in certain parts of the Province.

In connection with weeds, I gave some indication of the policy of the Government on a previous occasion in discussing the amendment to The Noxious Weeds Act. The whole spirit of the Act breathes of co-operation. The purpose cannot be accomplished by police methods, but by co-operation with the municipalities. For the purpose of combatting this menace, we have divided the Province into districts and there are some 12 or 14 of these districts in which Provincial Weed Inspectors have been appointed. The

inspector has familiarised himself with weeds, knows the varieties, the methods of weed control, and the different provisions of The Noxious Weeds Act. In this way, when he has interested a municipality to the point where it appoints a Weed Inspector, he is able to give the local man considerable assistance.

I have no figures as to what exactly has been accomplished as result of the activities of the weed inspectors, but many more municipalities are now interested and doing constructive work than ever before.

The Government has arranged Weed Inspectors' Courses in which the municipal inspectors are given instruction in the identification of weed seeds, and weed plants, and with regard to the provisions of The Noxious Weeds Act. They are thus enabled to familiarise themselves with the enemy they have to fight, and the steps that should be taken to eradicate weeds.

Some of the men who attend these courses have been appointed by municipalities as local weed inspectors, while others are just interested and take them in the hope, possibly, that some day they will be appointed weed inspectors by the municipalities in which they live. The attendance at the course given last year was 77—43 at Regina and 34 at Saskatoon. The attendance at the course, this year, was 111—46 at Regina and 65 at Saskatoon.

I had the privilege of addressing the inspectors who attended the course given at the Regina Normal School, a week ago, and found by inquiry that fully half the number present had attended the previous course, a fact which, I think, would indicate that, in their judgment, such a course has considerable value.

We have had some men in this Province, in recent years, Mr. Speaker, interested in the growing of pure seed, but when they had a surplus they found some difficulty in disposing of it for seed purposes. Consequently, they had very little incentive to continue, and, in order to help them find a market, the Provincial Department of Agriculture got out a catalogue in 1924 giving a list of the farmers in the Province who were growing registered seed. When the problem of marketing the seed arose the seed growers, at their convention, decided to ask that the Government undertake the marketing of their registered seed. We told them that it is not the policy of the Government to enter into business as a central marketing body, but that our policy is one of hearty co-operation in order to see that their efforts are successful. So we said to them "why don't you do it yourselves? You do it, and we'll help you market your seed." We then suggested that the best thing to do was to form a co-operative marketing association, and the association they formed is a "pool" in the real sense of the term. It pays no dividends but this association, organised in 1925, is now in its fourth season and going strong. The Field Crops Commissioner of this Government is secretary and manager of the association. He is a salaried official paid by the Province, but he is also an official of the association, loaned to them for a portion of his time to help solve their problems and at the same time to help improve the grain crops of Saskatchewan.

During 1927, the association marketed registered seed of wheat, oats, barley, flax, peas, sweet clover, as well as brome grass, western rye, millet, and alfalfa. I think you will agree that it is a most important undertaking. I know of no activity for the maintenance of the standard of our wheat that is more effective than the promotion of the growth of field crops from the use of registered seed. The Government, as I have said, has assisted with the work of organisation and management, but as soon as organisations of this kind are able to manage their own affairs, it is our practice to withdraw.

Now with regard to live stock: The Live Stock Branch of the Department of Agriculture is an important branch of agriculture, and no one will dispute the importance of live stock to agriculture with the financial stability it gives. Grain growing of itself is subject to hazards. A night's frost, or a week of rust may injure the crop. With live stock, however, the returns come in from day to day, and it can truly be said that no farm is a real farm unless it has livestock on it. The financial stability which live stock gives creates a new interest in the industry, which in turn leads to the erection of more and better buildings on the farm, better homes, and improved conditions generally.

I want to refer to some of the activities of the Government in connection with this important and essential industry. The Government's endeavour to improve the standard of live stock in the Province originated with the policy instituted in 1913, of Live Stock Purchase and Sale. I will ask the senior member for Saskatoon to note that the Province of Saskatchewan was the first in Canada to institute this policy, and that it is the only Province in Western Canada that has continued the policy. Manitoba and Alberta followed suit after we had started the policy in 1913, but both went out of it after a few years. Saskatchewan, however, has carried on from year to year, and, to the end of 1927, a total of 33,000 head of stock was handled under this scheme: 11,330 head of cattle, 19,570 sheep, and 2,100 swine. Included in this is a total of 2,884 pure bred sires of which 1,920 were pure bred bulls, 630 rams, and 334 boars.

Anyone with any knowledge of the live stock industry will tell you that the sale of these animals to the farmers of the Province, has done much to raise the standard of live stock in this Province. You will remember that when we were going through the depression following the War there was not much demand for pure bred stock. The demand for beef cattle also had fallen off, and it was only during last year, 1927, that the beef cattle industry was coming back into its own. For the purchase and sale of live stock during the fiscal year, we are seeking an increased appropriation, as there is a substantial demand for dairy cattle.

Better Live Stock Trains also are doing much to encourage the live stock industry in the Province, and I would remind the honourable member for Saskatoon that the train which ran in 1921 was the first of its kind in Canada. In the effort to encourage the

development of a bacon type of hog, Bacon Hog Cars were first operated in 1925, in order to get in touch with the producers, to help them with their problems, and also to place good breeding stock at available points. Sheep cars were added to the train, in 1926. In both cases, these were the first of their kind operated in any Province of the Dominion. Lectures and demonstrations were given and, in 1926, there were sold from these cars 438 sheep and 139 swine, while in 1927, 404 sheep and 183 swine were sold from the train. In addition to these sales from the hog and sheep cars, bred sows were sold at the Stock Yards at Moose Jaw and Prince Albert, and I would tell the honourable member for Saskatoon, that the Province of Saskatchewan is the only one in the Dominion in which an activity of this kind is carried on.

Then too, in the effort to raise the standard of live stock in the Province, importations have been made from time to time. In 1920, for example, we imported several horses and, looking around in my place to the senior member for Regina City (*Mr. MacNiven*) I will say to him that the importation made at that time is an important factor on the high standard of draft horses we have today. In addition to that, in the year 1923, we imported 19 sheep and 17 swine from the British Isles, and if you go to any of our shows, the breeders will point out to you the result of the importations made then.

Another activity to which I can refer in this matter of improving the live stock of the Province, is the elimination of tuberculous animals from the herds, through the establishment of a T.B. Free Area on the east side of Last Mountain Lake, including six rural municipalities. In 1926, a survey was made of all the cattle in this area, and some 21,417 head of cattle were tested. Of these, 176 reacted, and were shipped out of the district, the compensation for these reactors being paid by the Dominion Department of Agriculture. Only .8 per cent. of the cattle reacted to the test, and if that area is at all representative of the condition throughout the Province, then the Province of Saskatchewan is as free from tuberculosis among cattle as any other Province in the Dominion, except Prince Edward Island.

Last Session, when the bill respecting the establishment of Pure Bred Sire Areas was passed, it was felt that these six municipalities included within the T.B. Free Area should be given first consideration, and these municipalities have now been organised into a Pure Bred Sire Area as well. The farmers in this area, as earnest of their intention to eliminate the scrub bull as well as tuberculosis from their herds, sent in the required petition along with resolutions from the municipal councils, and the area was organised so that it is now illegal for any farmer in the area to own or use any non-pedigree male animal.

When the survey was made for bovine tuberculosis in 1926, it was found that there were in this area 210 pure bred sires and some 1,411 others. Now we have in these six municipalities, 266 pure bred sires and only 251 scrubs. It is a very fine thing to have

six municipalities grouped together such as these in which the herds are free from tuberculosis and where the scrub bull will, in a short time, be entirely eliminated. But we have some 301 rural municipalities in the Province, and we will never be satisfied or consider the work accomplished until 301 municipalities are rid of scrub sires, and bovine tuberculosis.

Our inspectors were asked to report on the attitude of the people with regard to the establishment of this Pure Bred Sire Area, and, out of the 330 farmers in the municipalities reported on, only five were opposed to it. I do not think you could get a better showing in any other part of Canada.

Of course, Mr. Speaker, honourable members must appreciate the fact that it is not possible to change the viewpoint of the people of this Province without years of preparation and educational work, such as has been carried on by the breeders' associations in conjunction with the Government, and I would now like to review the policies and activities of the Government which have contributed to bring about this change, and leading up to the establishment of Pure Bred Sire Areas.

First can be mentioned stallion enrolment: Since the grading and licensing of stallions was inaugurated in 1912-13, the total number of inspections of stallions down to April 30, 1927, was 10,482, while the total enrolments for the breeding season of 1927 numbered 1,311. It is significant to note that the bulk of the stallions in Saskatchewan now grade BB or higher, and that only 30 grade stallions were included in the enrolment last year. Again I would remind the honourable member for Saskatoon, that this province was one of the first in Canada to register and license stallions. Then followed, in natural course, the legislation by which, if the council of a municipality passes the necessary resolution it may be proclaimed an Approved Stallion District. Two hundred and forty-two of the 301 municipalities in the Province have passed such resolutions, and have been proclaimed "Approved Stallion Districts."

Then as to grading of rams and boars: The grading of rams was instituted in 1921, the system adopted being based on that initiated in the Maritime Provinces by the Dominion Sheep and Swine Division, and I would again remind the honourable member for Saskatoon that this Province was the first in Western Canada to undertake a policy of the kind.

We started the grading of boars at fall sales, in 1924, but decided last year, to extend the grading operations to country points throughout the Province, and again I would inform the member for Saskatoon, that this province was the first in Canada to do this.

It is due largely to such activities as these of the Live Stock Branch of the Department of Agriculture that so much progress has been made in live stock improvement, and that greater attention than ever is being paid to the matter of improving the quality of live stock in the province.

I now wish to refer to the activities of the Dairy Branch of the Department. The importance of the dairy industry is recognised by all in this province, and the industry has shown very substantial growth. In this connection, I would like to quote some of the figures I previously quoted in this House this Session, in which the growth of the industry is well shown:

In 1906 only 132,446 pounds of creamery butter were produced in the province; in 1920, 6,638,895 pounds were produced; in 1926, 16,632,765 pounds and in 1927, 11,995,531 pounds.

It will be noticed that there was a decrease of some 4,637,234 pounds as between 1926 and 1927, a fact upon which some of the members laid particular stress on a previous occasion, and they had their own explanation to offer for the decrease, which, however, was not the explanation accepted by this House. But some, no doubt have this question in mind: "What are you going to do about it?"

So far as the question of competition from the outside is concerned, that has been dealt with before, but there are two remedies that might be applied within the province in order to stimulate production and encourage the industry, and these are: First, herd improvement; second, better methods of marketing.

First, Mr. Speaker, I would deal with the possibilities that lie in herd improvement for increasing the production in this line. We think that a considerable amount can be done in this connection. I have here some excerpts from the report of Dean Rutherford, of the College of Agriculture, with regard to the production records of the Holstein herd at the College Farm:

"Our second bull, Bonerges Burke, by name, left us three heifers with the following records:

| | Milk | Butter- fat | Mature record |
|---|--------|----------------|------------------|
| | lbs. | lbs. | lbs. |
| Gerben Burke, age 5 years..... | 19,392 | 680 | 19,392 |
| Bonerges Blanche, age 3 years..... | 18,893 | 617.8 | 22,227 |
| Bonerges Gerben Ormsby, age 2 years..... | 15,027 | 575 | 18,784 |

The mature records of their respective dams were:

| Milk | Butterfat |
|-------------|-----------|
| 10,453 lbs. | 334 lbs. |
| 10,668 lbs. | 338 lbs. |
| 10,903 lbs. | 370 lbs. |

I quote these figures to show the possibilities in the matter of herd improvement as a result of better breeding. These two groups mentioned by Dean Rutherford, as result of better breeding, produced double the quantity of butterfat. "Yes * * * but that was at the University," I hear someone say! To that I would reply that the feed was grown in Saskatchewan and any good farmer can grow just as good on his own farm.

Let us see what some Saskatchewan herd owners have done under ordinary farm conditions: During 1927 a pure bred Holstein cow owned in Saskatchewan completed a 365 day record during which she produced 26,991 pounds of milk containing 1,067 pounds of butterfat. This is the third highest record ever made by any Canadian owned cow and it is significant also that the herd owner reports that with the exception of a small amount of bone meal and some bran all the feed she consumed while on test was grown on his own farm. Also during 1926, a herd of 15 cows owned in southern Saskatchewan, showed an average production of 501.8 pounds of butterfat per cow. It is doubtful whether any other herd of 15 cows in the Western provinces has ever equalled this record.

These are records of pure bred animals and may be considered as outstanding, in fact many outstanding records made by pure bred herds owned in Saskatchewan might be quoted, but let me also refer to the records of two grade herds to show what is being accomplished by breeding and selection of grade stock.

According to the Dairy Branch records on one grade herd, testing was commenced in 1923 and for the 12 months of 1924, the records show eight cows with an average production of 5,525 pounds of milk and 199.6 pounds of butterfat. Through the use of pure bred sires and the keeping in the herd of the heifers, this herd had by 1927 increased to 16 cows and for that year this larger herd showed an average production of 8,034 pounds of milk and 277.1 pounds of butterfat.

Another grade herd where testing was commenced in 1924, showed an average production for 1925 from 11 cows of 6,506 pounds of milk and 237.1 pounds of butterfat. In 1927, this herd had been weeded down to six cows which showed an average production of 8,852 pounds of milk and 324.9 pounds of butterfat.

The mere keeping of records of production does not increase the yield of the cow, but intelligent study of the records followed by careful breeding and selection as well as good feeding and care, will practically double milk and butterfat production on the average farm which means that the net profits are much more than doubled.

Cow testing and herd record work was taken over by the Dairy Branch of the Department of Agriculture from the Dominion Dairy Branch in 1921. That year only one man was engaged in promoting and supervising the work but since 1921 the work has increased rapidly and we now have three field men carrying on cow testing and other educational work amongst the dairymen. There are 60 testing stations operating throughout the Province with some 257 herds under test, comprising some 1,966 cows. It can be said without fear of contradiction, that systematic testing and recording to determine what each cow in the herd is producing, with the opportunities it gives of weeding out the unprofitable animals, is one of the most important activities in herd improvement work.

A new activity in connection with herd record work was commenced in Moose Jaw district on June 1, 1927, when 24 herd owners of the district organised themselves into a Herd Improvement Association. At the request of this Association, the Department engaged an official dairy recorder to take care of the records of the members. This official spends at least 24 hours each month with each herd owned by the Association members and he does the weighing, sampling and testing of the milk and also keeps the records of production. We thus have official records on these herds and accordingly, certificates of production are issued covering production of all cows which qualify for same by showing a yield of 300 pounds of butterfat or more during a 305 day period. The salary and expenses of this official recorder are shared between the Department and the herd owners, each paying approximately one-half the cost of the work.

I would again remind the honourable member for Saskatoon that British Columbia and Saskatchewan are the only provinces in the Dominion which are giving this service.

In connection with the dairy educational work being carried on, 78 meetings with producers were held during 1927, which were attended by 7,097 persons, or an average of 90 persons per meeting. This, I think you will agree, is very creditable.

Now as to marketing, for marketing and herd improvement go very close together in relation to the dairy industry: The amalgamation of the Co-operative Creameries with Caulder's was of considerable interest to the people of this Province, and particularly to those who are engaged in the dairy industry, because it was felt that the success of an undertaking of this kind was a matter having vital relationship with the success of the industry depending upon it. It is gratifying to learn that the first year's operations of the amalgamated concerns have resulted in a saving of some \$400,000 due to greater efficiency obtained in the marketing of the product, and the considerable reduction in operating costs made possible by the amalgamation.

The success of the amalgamated Companies and the resulting greater efficiency in marketing must prove of considerable benefit to the dairy industry in the Province.

Grading of cream for purchase according to legal grade standards was instituted in this Province in 1923. For practically ten years previously a voluntary system of cream grading had been practised but this had no legal standing. In 1922 the creamery operators and producers jointly asked the Government to establish legal grade standards for cream and to place government cream graders in the creameries of the Province to ensure uniform enforcement of the standards. It was agreed that the dairy industry should finance this service, the necessary funds to be raised by a monthly levy on the creameries of the Province. "Short courses" were put on for the instruction of the cream graders and this service was found to be of benefit so far as the public was concerned, but

the creamery operators complained that the cost was too heavy. Accordingly, in the spring of 1926, a change was adopted in the method of handling this work.

Under the new method the province is divided into nine creamery districts with one or two instructors or inspectors in charge of each. These instructors are men with special training in dairy work. In addition to making frequent visits to the creameries in their respective districts and carefully checking both the grading of the cream and the butterfat tests on which payments are based they also do considerable educational work amongst the producers to assist in improving the quality of the cream delivered as well as encouragement of better breeding and herd management. It is admitted to be a better system than the previous one and the service is appreciated by both manufacturers and producers. In proof of this the manufacturers have agreed voluntarily to pay part of the costs of this service.

With regard to butter grading, a start was made in 1914, samples being sent from every churning to a government grader and scored by him. This grading was purely of an educational character, but in 1917 commercial grading was instituted and in that year some 2,494,000 pounds were scored. In 1920, the amount had increased to 4,947,000 and in 1925 it was 14,614,000 pounds, or practically the whole output of the province was being graded by provincial government graders at that time. This was not compulsory, but it was done because the manufacturers recognised that the service was of value to them both in the province and outside it.

According to the provisions of The British North America Act both the Provincial and Federal Governments have certain responsibilities in connection with agriculture. Since it was agreed that the Federal Government should look after markets and the Provincial Government should look after matters pertaining to production, the grading of butter was considered to be a Federal Government matter and on July 1, 1926, the Federal Government took over the entire butter grading service in Saskatchewan as in other provinces of the Dominion.

The factor of yeast and mould is one of the big questions confronting the dairy industry of this province in recent years. It was thought for a time, that this was not a serious matter in the Province of Saskatchewan, but this has been found not to be the case. The samples that have been analysed at the University of Saskatchewan have shown that the problem is a serious one in this Province just as it is in other Provinces. The results of the studies of Professor Potts, at the University, in regard to yeast and mould, have been passed back to the people interested, and, while the condition was not so serious in the past year as in previous years, there is still much to be done. During the past year, 1,754 samples of butter from the same number of churnings were analysed at the University, and several hundred samples of water in addition, and the results passed back in each case. In this connection, Dr. Hood of the Dominion Dairy Research Branch also has done

some excellent work and given much valuable information, and a considerable improvement in our butter has been the result.

In connection with the marketing of our dairy products, and arising out of the success of the pool system of marketing our field products, the question has been asked, why not a Dairy Pool to solve the marketing difficulties of the dairy industry? When the dairymen started out to do this, however, they found themselves up against difficulties that the other pools had not experienced, while they were organising. Owing to the special difficulties met in the collecting, processing, storing, and marketing of milk and cream and particularly owing to the very perishable nature of dairy products, no practicable method has yet been worked out by Saskatchewan producers for the operation of a provincial dairy pool on what is generally known as the "commodity pool" basis, although a milk pool, has been formed at Saskatoon, and, I believe, another of the same kind is now being considered for Regina.

In connection with the dairy industry, I might say that we are asking an increased appropriation for this Branch, and it is the intention of the Government to assist in every way possible the efforts of the dairy industry to overcome the difficulties with respect to the production and marketing of dairy products, and we hope and believe that we will be able to cope with the situation.

One other activity of the Department, and then I am through: I wish to say a few words on the Co-operation and Markets Branch. Co-operation with the farmers in the marketing of farm products has been the established policy of the Government for several years. There has been considerable talk of changing policies. I do not say that we never change our policy. Of course we do, but this policy has remained unchanged.

Co-operative marketing of farm products is a development of recent years. It is a modern thing, but, as I say, the policy of the Government with respect to this matter has been to give every assistance possible, particularly at the start of an organisation. And here again, I would remind the honourable member for Saskatoon, that the Co-operation and Markets Branch was the first of its kind in the Dominion of Canada. It has been the policy of this Government to assist the producers through this Branch with their work of organising Provincial Associations, with loans and with the management of affairs at the beginning, if desired; but not to interfere once they are established on a sound footing.

The member for Saskatoon has said that we have done nothing to assist the farmers in their problems. That is not the opinion of others, and it is not the opinion of the producers themselves not only in this Province but in other parts of the Dominion. Miss Emma Griesbach, writing in the *Farmers' Sun* (Ontario), Nov. 17, 1927, on "What is Government doing for the farmer, and what is the farmer doing for himself" and discussing the question of co-operative marketing, has this to say:

"You have, of course, all received your own impression and formed your own conclusions; but so far as quick and full response on the part of the Government to the will and wish of the best element among the agriculturists is concerned, it seems to me that Saskatchewan carries off the palm."

The movement in the direction of co-operative marketing started in the early days with the establishment in different parts of the Province of dairy companies. When these started to encounter difficulties, and in order to safeguard the industry, the management of the Creameries was taken over by the Department of Agriculture. From the "Government Creameries" of early days, there evolved the Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries Limited, and following out its policy, the Government gave assistance to this organisation, until it was thought the producers themselves were in a position to manage their own affairs.

The work of collecting and marketing wool for Saskatchewan sheepowners was conducted by the Branch at the beginning, but when the wool growers of Canada organised on a Dominion-wide basis as the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers, Limited, the Saskatchewan wool growers joined with the Canadian organisation, and Government assistance was no longer necessary.

In the early days of Co-operative poultry marketing, provincial killing stations were operated in different sections of the Province, and from these grew the present Poultry Pool, toward the organisation of which the Government contributed financially, and otherwise in the work of organisation, and in addition, instructional courses were given and are still being given for poultry graders and flock cullers. In connection with the poultry pool, both farmers and dealers have written to the Market Commissioner commending the work being done. I have here a letter to the Commissioner from Alex. McGillis & Co., produce brokers, Montreal. It says, in part:

"We believe that the efficacy of the pool method of selling the western turkeys has been proven. We have not heard, this year, of a single instance of complaint of cars handled on the pooled method and weighed, graded and packed at original country points. It seems to us to be all so reasonable, following, of course, the very important educational campaign, and the supervision at the time by poultry experts."

And this letter I have here, which is addressed to myself, came from Gunn, Langlois & Co., Ltd., export provision merchants, Montreal. It says, in part:

"We have noted with a great deal of interest the practical educational work that your department is conducting with regard to the poultry work in your Province. The results that will come to your Province from such practical help will be very far-reaching, and we trust that the good work will be followed up by the other Provinces as well."

In connection with this method of marketing poultry then, from the work done in the killing stations of the earlier days and as a result of the educational campaign carried on by the Department, has developed the present Poultry Pool.

Then, too, in the earlier days we had live stock shipping associations, and from these associations has been evolved the Live Stock Pool; as from the Co-operative Elevator Company of earlier days, has been evolved the Wheat Pool owning its own elevator system.

To all of these we gave encouragement and support during the period of organisation. To the Wheat Pool in the early days of organising and when their organising campaign was in a critical stage, we loaned some \$45,000 in order to help them put this campaign over. This, of course, has been repaid. To the Poultry Pool, \$4,000 was loaned, and to the Live Stock Pool some \$25,000, all this to help them over the strenuous periods of organisation. Of their own efforts, and with the Government's assistance, the farmers of Saskatchewan have become fairly well organised in connection with these matters, and now of themselves have undertaken matters believed to be of benefit to themselves in the work they are carrying out.

With the idea of spreading the principles of co-operation, Co-operative Schools were started, last summer, and because we have agreed to assist in co-operative educational work of this kind, the member for Saskatoon says that the Department has failed, and he is reported in the *Western Producer* as having said, in an earlier debate:

"More co-operative schools were needed. The Department of Agriculture had dabbled with this, but finally the pools themselves had to take the matter in hand, assisted by the Department which, as usual, came along in the rear."

This, I may say, is the remark of a careless observer, and I tell the honourable member that he will not find a remark like that confirmed by any of the producers who are the most vitally interested. In this connection I would like to read, with your permission, Mr. Speaker, an article on Co-operative Schools which appeared on the Wheat Pool Page of the same issue of the *Western Producer* in which the address of my honourable friend was reported:

"The Co-Operative Schools which are now in progress throughout the Province and which are being held under the joint auspices of the various co-operative associations together with the Extension Department of the University of Saskatchewan and the Provincial Department of Agriculture, are evidences of the fact that co-operation in Saskatchewan is a very real thing and not merely an organisation of wheat producers for the purpose of securing more money for their product."

The writer of this article recognises the fact that this is co-operation among co-operating forces, and views with approval rather than with ridicule, the assistance which the Department of Agriculture is giving the work.

While dealing with the activities of the Marketing Branch of the Department, I wish to refer briefly to the Live Stock Marketing Commission which went to the Old Country and to Denmark and other parts of the Continent of Europe to investigate and report upon matters with regard to the marketing of our produce, as their findings will be of considerable interest to the producers of this Province. The report of the Commission was tabled earlier in the month, and eight recommendations are made. I may say that all the recommendations have been approved by the Agricultural Research Foundation which financed the inquiry.

Another activity of this Branch which is of considerable importance, is that of egg grading. You will remember the Bill of 1920, which was jokingly referred to as the "Rotten Egg Bill." This was brought about by the general demand for the improvement

of Saskatchewan eggs on the export markets, as it was recognised that sufficient care and attention was not being given to this product of our farms. This work of egg grading has now been taken over by the Dominion Government, in accordance with the policy that grading of agricultural produce is a matter which falls within the jurisdiction of the Federal Government.

One effect of egg grading, and of the 1920 Bill which prohibited the sale of eggs unfit for human food, has been, according to a recent speech of the Dominion Minister of Agriculture, that the per capita consumption of eggs in Canada has increased in a marked degree.

In this connection, we have reason to congratulate ourselves for we were (with Alberta) one of the first Provinces in the Dominion to institute egg grading. We have not tried the same means of increasing the consumption of our products as other producing countries have. We have not tried to do it by advertisements, but by standardising them, and maintaining a high quality, so that wherever our products are marketed the people can depend upon the quality.

The poultry culling service was instituted in 1919 with the idea of eliminating "boarders" or low egg producers, from the flocks. In 1927, the work was extended and five trained and qualified men were sent out to do the work in co-operation with the officials of the poultry pool. Some 768 flocks were culled, 46,674 birds were handled, and some 15,532 birds were culled or 33.3 per cent. of the total number handled. One-tenth of the Province was covered, last year, and it is our hope that this work will proceed until all our flocks are culled of low producers.

To improve the standard and the size of our turkeys by selecting large well-developed birds for breeding purposes, some 60 flocks were inspected last year, and some 701 birds handled. I would like to read to you the opinions expressed in letters received by the Commissioner with respect to the value of this work. One turkey raiser states:

"I have had to turn away \$150 in orders. You have created a good deal of enthusiasm among turkey raisers, and we now know the difference between just turkeys and good turkeys."

Another lady prominent in the poultry world states: "I firmly believe that the movement now started in Saskatchewan will be of further reaching consequences than others have any idea of at the present time."

Saskatchewan approved turkeys have been dispatched to points in Alberta and Manitoba, and the supply of banded birds has almost run out.

This Branch also carries out extensive educational work in connection with co-operative marketing by means of lectures and demonstrations, illustrated by motion picture films.

These are an indication, Mr. Speaker, of the many and varied activities of this Branch, and in addition to these there are 46 co-operative trading associations in the Province, in which consumers are organised together for the purpose of purchasing essential commodities, which, in their organisation, receive the assistance of this Department, by way of direction and advice.

Let me summarise: The producers of Saskatchewan are organised for the marketing of their wheat, coarse grains, live stock, poultry, wool and butter. With the organisation of these "co-operative pools," the Department of Agriculture has assisted, with loans, in some cases and with the organisation and management of co-operative marketing demonstrations in the early days. What now remains for the Department of Agriculture to do?

We are now asking the Legislature for an increased appropriation for this Co-operative Branch in order that new and wider work may be undertaken to assist in the marketing of surplus products; I mean work of a nature in which we could give more service than the producers themselves could give in connection with marketing.

We believe the producers themselves are now in a position to handle fairly well the marketing of their own products so far as the local field is concerned. We feel, however, that it is necessary for the Government to give consideration to the study of markets, and those factors which enter into the placing of our surplus produce upon the markets of the world. So it is proposed to enlarge the work of the Department of Agriculture to provide for the making of a study of world requirements for those products of which we have a surplus in the Province of Saskatchewan. We also propose to study world supplies with regard to our surplus products. At the same time, we propose to study the factors which enter into marketing, such factors as transportation and tariffs, which come within the scope of service of the new Department of Railways, Labour and Industries. When we find that some country has an advantage over us in the matter of transportation, such as has been argued in the case of Australia, we will bring the matter to the attention of the Minister of Railways, and ask him to take the question up with the transportation companies so as to secure the better service or the lower rates, that may be necessary, to enable our producers and marketing organisations to meet that competition.

Then we will investigate the possibilities of marketing our produce in the United States, and hope to make, in this way, some valuable information available for the live stock industry in this Province. It may be that we may want to find a man who will go to these people down there to tell them what we have here and ask them to come and see the things we have to sell. We do know that there are some farmers in the United States who wish to buy our Canadian cattle, but we would like to have more exact information about the situation.

These are some of the things we hope to improve upon in connection with the marketing of our farm products. We believe that we have given valuable service in assisting the producers in the organisation of co-operative marketing associations, but we also believe that we are only at the beginning of the work, and that we have a wider field of activity before us than in past years.

In this connection there is one new activity to which I would refer in closing—the District Representatives. A system of district agricultural representatives was undertaken some years prior to the war, but, as result of the war this service was discontinued, and has been in abeyance since that time. During the past two years, however, many people throughout the Province have recognised the need of such a service, and associations of one kind and another have passed resolutions asking the Government to establish such a system, and consequently we are asking the Legislature to make provision for this service. It is proposed that the local people in the municipalities will pay half the cost of the service, and while it will not be possible to cover the whole of the Province for some years, a start will be made as soon as the municipalities desire it, and this will be added to year by year. In order to develop it, it will be necessary for the municipalities to get behind the scheme, and support it with their money. Agricultural representatives have been established in the east for some years, and most of the adjoining States have something of the kind. As I said, we are proposing to start with a comparatively small number of men, and from what I have observed of this service, particularly in the Province of Ontario, and in the States of Montana, North Dakota, Minnesota and Wisconsin, it would appear to be of very considerable value to our agricultural people.

These district representatives will be trained men, capable of giving service to our agricultural people, assisting them with questions of production, the control of noxious weeds, marketing and so forth. They will be trained to occupy something like the position of a secretary of our Boards of Trade. As I have observed the activities of district representatives in other places, much of their work is devoted to young men and women, junior farmers' organisations, helping with the organisation of boys' and girls' clubs, school fairs, judging competitions and arranging short courses. Then in the winter months, I would hope that these young men and women could be gathered together in different parts of the Province in what might be termed "schools of agriculture," with which would be associated "schools of Household Science." Some of the graduates of our secondary schools, and some of our younger men and women who have not taken a high school course, might come into these centres for two or three months in the year—I think they can be referred to as real "schools of agriculture," and if the people are sufficiently interested I think members will agree that there is practically no limit to the field in which this work might be carried on.

There are some other branches of the Department to which it is impossible for me to refer at this time: The Game Branch,

which is being transferred to the new Department of Railways, Labour and Industries; the Statistics Branch; the Debt Adjustment Bureau; Horticultural Societies, and Beekeeping; but I hope I have said enough to show the vast field, and the complex texture of that field, we have to cover, and which is becoming greater every year. And so you will understand the reference in His Honour's Speech to "the growing needs of agriculture," and that we are trying to meet these growing needs as regards both production and marketing.

Speech delivered by

THE HONOURABLE J. M. UHRICH,
(*Minister of Public Health*)
and
(*Minister of Public Works*)

on

PUBLIC HEALTH IN SASKATCHEWAN

in the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,
Thursday, March 1, 1928.

The Honourable Mr. Uhrich, speaking during the Budget debate, said:

Mr. Speaker, it has been a custom with me, dating from the Session of 1922-23, when I first took charge of the Provincial Department of Public Health, upon the occasion of the Budget Debate to give to the honourable members of the House a short resumé of the activities of the Department during the year immediately preceding. With your kind permission, Mr. Speaker, I shall again do so at this time, and I shall try to be as clear as I possibly can with a subject that is bound to be a little technical occasionally, no matter how much one tries to avoid it. The subject is of decided importance, and should be tolerably interesting to the honourable members of this House.

The crusade for good health is the soundest and most rational of all human efforts.

Humanity is awakening to the value of health. Of what worth are a rich soil, vast forests, seas and inland waters teeming with fish, and minerals on every ridge, without a healthy population to develop and enjoy them?

The most prized achievements of literature, science and art would fail of their purpose, and their continuity be broken, if the physical basis of the people deteriorated.

Sound health is a great human need. It is an international problem, a national problem, a local, a family, a personal problem.

What is the base of life? Health. What does life begin with? Childhood. What, then, must be our principal care in children? Their health. What are the chief elements in good health? Good food, fresh air and exercise. If you want to make your son an intelligent man, begin by making him a healthy man.

The subject of preventive medicine and the application of its principles, reach out into the life of every individual. They are of great interest to the men and women who pass on the busy streets outside. Interesting is the great human movement just begun: the movement for the promotion and preservation of the health of the babies, children, men and women of the nations of the earth.

Perhaps nothing has a greater and more far-reaching influence in the development of individual and national vigour than periodic health examination.

Among the many benefits accruing from the doctrine of preventive medicine is the realisation of the fact that the early detection and correction of defects, faulty functions and faulty hygienic habits make not only for longevity, but for the physical and mental efficiency of the individual during life. It is for this reason that in recent years, periodical health examinations have been advocated by Insurance Companies for their policyholders. As a result of the statistics presented by these Insurance Companies, the general public is becoming convinced that such periodical examinations are of value, and of obvious individual and national benefit.

In the past, and to a large extent at the present time, the average man has accepted his variations from the normal as something to which he should be resigned. The army experiences demonstrated the high percentage of men, supposedly fit and actively engaged in every-day occupations, who had some physical impairment; also that this impairment in many cases had arisen from, or was due to, preventable causes; and, lastly, that improvement has resulted from the correction of defects and the establishment of proper hygienic and dietetic habits. These physical impairments are not confined to the poor, but are frequently in the persons and families of the well-to-do.

Periodic examinations, unquestionably, afford opportunity for the detection of the first evidences of focal infection, for observing the primary causes of disease, and the beneficial results which follow advice given and followed. It is appreciated by every physician that many cases of tuberculosis, cancer, and other pernicious conditions do not present themselves in the early, curable stages. They must be found. The early discovery of these conditions would result if every one were examined once a year.

Public Health had its origin in epidemics—to stop them after they had begun. The emphasis has shifted since—to prevent epidemics before they start. There is an increasing application of the things already known. There is also a widespread concentration of effort to safeguard child health.

When 6,600 educators from 32 countries met in Toronto last summer, more than 800 registered in the school health section, making it the largest of the 26 sections.

It has been said that the work of the sanitary engineer forms the substructure of public health. The activities of the Division of Sanitation of the Department of Public Health are concentrated on building a secure and safe foundation which will ensure that the health of the people will not be undermined by polluted water supplies, infected milk, impure air or unsanitary surroundings.

We take many things for granted in the complexity of our modern life. How many of us stop to think, when we draw water from the tap, of the death-dealing organism which might be delivered to our dwellings were it not for the protection planned by the engineer in providing filters, chlorination and other devices for destroying harmful bacteria; or who of us gives a passing thought, when the morning milk is delivered, to the inspection given this every-day article of diet during production, transportation, clarification, pasteurisation, cooling and bottling, so that it may reach us incapable of spreading disease.

Activities such as these may not be spectacular; they accomplish negative results; they become spectacular and positive only when they are neglected.

I am in the happy position of being able to report that we have not, during the past year, experienced in this province an epidemic of disease which can be attributed to improper sanitation.

That such epidemics do occur, and may visit our province if we are not vigilant, is instanced by the outbreak of typhoid fever which caused so much concern in the City of Montreal, and was responsible, during the early part of this year, for 5,014 cases and 488 deaths.

A working knowledge of sanitary science and of the health laws of the Province should be part of the equipment of every member of the council of our urban and rural municipalities, and it is the duty of our sanitary officers, who endeavor to meet these local authorities each year, to keep them informed of the means which should be employed to protect the people against communicable disease.

Our sanitary inspectors inspected 487 municipalities during the year, and a great number showed a marked improvement over the previous year in measures of sanitary control.

For the past two years we have had operating in the Weyburn area a sanitary district consisting of four rural and 14 urban municipalities. A sanitary officer, with Weyburn as his base of operations, devotes his whole time to improving health conditions in these municipalities.

Section 24 of *The Public Health Act* gives the Minister of Public Health power to appoint a district sanitary officer to any area of the Province in which such an appointment may be considered necessary, and requires that each municipality within the area shall contribute a proportion of the official's salary, the Department meeting his traveling expenses. As a result of this arrangement, the Weyburn Sanitary District was established to meet the expressed wish of the various municipalities included in the area.

No better evidence of this system and the appreciation of the sanitary work of this district can be given than by stating that, although every municipality had the opportunity of requesting, at the end of each year, that the services of the officer be discontinued, they have always asked that the existing arrangement be continued, and he has now entered upon the third year of his duties.

The Department was fortunate in securing, during the past summer, the co-operation of the American Child Health Association for the purpose of stimulating interest in the production of clean and safe milk in the rural districts of the Province.

A technician kindly sent by the Association, with a fully-equipped field laboratory, spent the month of July in the Province, making bacterial examinations and other tests of the milk handled by dairymen. The work was carried out from various centres, such as Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, Yorkton and Fort Qu'Appelle.

Public and domestic water supplies have again been under close supervision. Three hundred and ninety-seven water supplies have been inspected, and 522 bacteriological and chemical examinations made.

The larger urban centres have extended their systems of water supply. The water supply of 17 towns and cities has been examined and approved. The incidence of typhoid fever in any state or country is rightly regarded as an index to the standard of sanitary control existing, and it is significant to note that in 1910 there were 201 deaths from typhoid fever in Saskatchewan; in 1914, there were 92 deaths; in 1922, 71 deaths, and in 1926, 30 deaths.

The process of eliminating from the everyday environment of our people those things and conditions which may be responsible for the spread of communicable disease is slow, and at times discouraging, but real progress is being made, and I venture to say that Saskatchewan has already established for itself a standard in practical sanitation which is not surpassed by any province in the Dominion.

As far as the Division of Communicable Disease is concerned, I am delighted to report that the total number of cases during the first 10 months of 1927, as compared with those of the first 10 months of 1926, has been reduced 45%. We had 4,638 cases less during that time in 1927 than in 1926.

The incidence (that is, the number of cases) of diphtheria has decreased 22%, and the deaths by more than 40%. Issues of diphtheria antitoxin decreased by 12%, but the issues of toxoid (the protective serum against diphtheria) has increased 26%.

In the protection of the health of the public from the inroads of preventable and communicable disease, it is necessary that restrictions be placed upon the liberty of the infected individual, in order to prevent the spread. Yet, though we recognise this as a necessary immediate measure, no indication exists of the efficiency of eliminating epidemic disease in this way.

Keen observers of public health practice are, therefore, gradually coming to the conclusion that active immunisation is the only efficient agent available to eliminate the hazards of epidemic disease, and this is true in direct proportion to the use the public will make of this knowledge. The epidemiology of the future, so far as endemic infections are concerned, lies with active immunisation. That no other method known to us offers the least hope of stamping out these infective diseases, which, as it were, have grown up as a part of our civilisation, has been made increasingly apparent by the accurate study of human epidemics.

Competent critics no longer doubt the efficiency of smallpox vaccination, nor can we forget the results obtained from anti-typhoid inoculation during the recent war; and more recently still, the consistent results being published on the prevention of diphtheria by the use of toxin antitoxin and toxoid. Nearly five years ago, a province-wide campaign for the prevention of diphtheria was initiated, and having thus prepared the ground, subsequent procedures were accepted by the people with commendable spirit, so that not only are smallpox and diphtheria immunisation in demand, but also immunisation against scarlet fever.

Saskatchewan was the first Province in the Dominion to institute a diphtheria prevention programme on such a large scale. It is indeed gratifying to see that the results obtained in the reduction in incidence and mortality have amply justified the expenditure involved.

A study of detailed data shows that the number of cases of smallpox that occurs each year has a very definite relationship to the number of unvaccinated persons in the community. Massachusetts, with good vaccination laws, and Minnesota, with no vaccination law, during the years 1913 to 1923, are good illustrations of this. During those 11 years, Massachusetts had 457 cases and Minnesota had 53,152 cases, and the population of Massachusetts is 50% greater than that of Minnesota.

In the latter part of the summer and early fall of 1927 much concern was evidenced by a large portion of the public over the press reports of the serious epidemic of infantile paralysis which occurred to the west of us. With the lack of specific measures to combat an epidemic of this disease, having to rely upon early detection of cases and restrictive measures, every effort was made to acquaint local health authorities with the latest information on the best known method of controlling the outbreak. Isolated cases did occur in this Province, but prompt action on the part of the physicians and local medical health officers prevented the disease reaching epidemic proportions. We had only 10 cases of the disease during the first 10 months of 1927.

As a result of our pre-school examination clinics more attention is given pre-school children, with respect to general care, as our records show fewer deaths at this age period. Such improvement is, no doubt, due to this educational work and to more routine periodical medical examinations being done than formerly.

In 1926, sixty pre-school examination clinics were conducted, at which 2,472 children were given a complete physical examination, resulting in the discovery of 6,519 defects.

These clinics provide a splendid opportunity to give the mothers individual talks on the value and need for vaccination and protection against diphtheria. Quite often an immunisation clinic is arranged following the regular clinic.

Sixty-four nursing classes were conducted by nurses in the Division, and in addition 555 home visits were made. These classes consisted of lectures and demonstrations in home care of the sick. Last fall, Dr. Amyot and one nurse were sent into the local improvement districts in the northern part of the Province, as a travelling immunisation clinic, when 23 communities were visited and 725 persons were given toxoid and were vaccinated. This service was greatly appreciated by residents of the remote rural districts.

In general, there has been aroused in the Province a much greater interest in the health and welfare of the younger children, and a much greater effort is being made by the people themselves in an endeavour to protect the children of this age against preventable diseases, and to correct as early as possible, any defects which may exist.

The municipal councils in Saskatchewan deserve great credit for the manner in which they have co-operated with the Department in this vaccination and toxoid campaign to eradicate smallpox and diphtheria.

During the past two months, nurses from that Division have been employed in meeting the councils and school boards, and in assisting them in organising their campaigns. Practically all councils have responded splendidly. With this continued co-operation, diphtheria and smallpox would, by 1930, be practically eliminated in Saskatchewan.

During the fiscal year ended April 30, 1927, the net expenditure of the Department of Public Health amounted to \$687,438.85, \$9,926.53 of which was a grant from the Federal Government to assist in combatting venereal disease. Therefore the amount provided by the Provincial Treasury was \$677,511.73. This includes the cost of administering the following five Acts:

The Public Health Act;
The Vital Statistics Act;
The Union Hospital Act;
The Act to regulate Public Aid to Hospitals;
The Venereal Disease Act.

The per capita expenditure for public health activities, controllable and uncontrollable, based on a population of 821,042 for 1925-26 and 833,000 for 1926-27, was as follows:

| (VOTE) | Spent 1925-26 | Spent 1926-27 |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| 1 & 2. Administration | 1.8 cents | 1.8 cents |
| 3. General administration Control of Communicable Disease, Sanitation and Child Welfare..... | 9.7 " | 12.2 " |
| 4. Venereal Disease: | | |
| Province | 2.2 " | 2.4 " |
| Dominion | (1.2 ") | (1.2 ") |
| 5. Vital Statistics..... | 4.0 " | 3.9 " |
| 6. Aid to Hospitals | 46.6 " | 55.4 " |
| 7. Laboratory..... | 2.0 " | 2.1 " |
| 8. Antitoxin (Diphtheria)..... | .9 " | 1.0 " |
| 9. Sask. Hospital Association and | | |
| 10. General and Unforeseen..... | 5.0 " | 3.5 " |
| | 72.1 cents | 62.5 cents |
| Including Dominion Grant..... | 73.3 cents | 63.7 cents |

In 1926, three new hospitals were added to the list of Government aided hospitals—Willowbunch, Tuxford and Cudworth, which made 47 at the end of 1926 receiving Government aid. In 1927, three more were added—Assiniboia, Kamsack and Milden—making 50 in all at present. The number of union hospitals at present is 16.

The number of hospital beds was increased in 1926 by 230, making a total of 2,751 beds at the end of 1926. In 1927, three new hospitals added 50 more, and six of our largest hospitals increased their capacity by 315 additional beds. We have one hospital bed for every 298 of our population.

Six thousand seven hundred and twenty-four more patients were admitted to hospital in 1926, and the increase in hospital days was 79,606. In all, 44,238 patients received 658,833 days' treatment: that is, one person in every 18.6 or 5.4% of our population had hospital treatment, and every day an average of 121.2 persons were admitted as hospital patients. In 1925, the average was 103 daily. Each patient remained in hospital for an average of 15.6 days, or, excluding the sanatoria, for 12.5 days. The average number of patients in all our hospitals daily was 1,687.3 in 1926, an increase of 218 over the 1925 daily average.

The two sanatoria cared for 969 patients, 869 being pulmonary cases, and 100, other forms of the disease.

In all hospitals there were 1,384 cases of tuberculosis treated, 1,108 of which were pulmonary. This is 14 more hospitalised cases than in 1925.

The fourteen training schools graduated 115 nurses.

Maternity cases numbering 4,346 were cared for in hospitals, and this was 9.8% of the total cases admitted.

The Government grant paid in 1926 was \$409,502.00. This is over \$1,120 per day paid in grants, and is equivalent to \$9.26 for each patient admitted.

In the case of the sanatoria, the grant paid was \$155,412.00, being an average of \$95.70 for each patient admitted to them.

The cost per patient per day was \$3.05 on an average, being an increase of eight cents over 1925. In the union hospitals, the cost per patient per day was \$3.09, and in the sanatoria \$2.52.

During the year, 1,526 patients received treatment in the dispensaries operated by the Division of Venereal Disease, an increase of 206 over the previous year. Of this number, 1,031 were males and 495 females, while 571 were treated for syphilis, 953 for gonorrhoea and two for chancroid.

To physicians who have indigent patients suffering from venereal disease and who are willing to treat them, the Department supplies the necessary drugs, and has, during the year, supplied for such cases 658 doses of neo-salvarson or similar drugs, and 624 doses of mercury salicylate.

In the Laboratory, the total number of examinations for 1927 exceeded that for the year 1926. The number of examinations for 1926 was 30,711, while for 1927 it was 32,932. This is a difference of 2,221.

I would point out to you that this Laboratory has saved the public over \$100,000 in making these examinations free of charge. The commercial value of the work has been arrived at by using the lowest figures possible. Doctors and hospitals are also supplied with Wassermann tubes, sputum containers, Widal sets, sterile test tubes, sterile water containers, culture media, etc. Over 13,000 cultures were sent out during the year 1927 to doctors and hospitals.

A very important phase of the Laboratory work is the Wassermann test. During the year 1927, 7,140 such tests were made. This is an increase of over 1,000 as compared with the year 1926. We are doing routine Wassermans for some of the institutions of the Province, such as the Regina Jail, Prince Albert Jail, Fort Qu'Appelle Sanatorium, Weyburn Mental Hospital, etc. As we consider this very important work, we are looking forward to the day when routine Wassermans will be done for all of the hospitals in Saskatchewan.

As regards tuberculosis mortality, our Province is again in the unique position of having the lowest death rate of any province in Canada.

According to the figures compiled by the Canadian Tuberculosis Association, as contained in its bulletin for the month of September, 1927, the death rate from tuberculosis in this Province was 46.5 per 100,000 of population. We are naturally very proud of this record. And there is a reason for our pride when you contrast it with that of other provinces in the Dominion. For instance—going right to the Eastern seaboard—Nova Scotia's death rate from

this cause was 119.2. Coming west, we find Prince Edward Island with 103.4. Next comes New Brunswick with 102.4. In Quebec, we find the highest rate, 127.8. In Ontario, the death rate was 58.3; in Manitoba, 60.5; in Alberta, 60.1, and in British Columbia, 93.6. At the bottom of the list comes our own Province, with 46.5.

Personally, I am very proud of this record, which seems all the more impressive and outstanding when you compare it with the death rate per 100,000 from this scourge for the whole of Canada, which is given as 84.5.

Mr. Whatley: Is it not true that more people die from pneumonia in this Province than from any other cause?

Hon. Mr. Uhrich: No! Still-births still lead, but pneumonia comes second.

During the past year, Dr. Ferguson and the medical staffs of the Sanatoria made an intensive study of the incidence of tuberculosis in the Province, with a view to discovering which districts were, in effect, the greatest foci for this disease.

A similar survey was made some time ago, and at that time it was recommended that two sanatoria of at least 100 beds each should be constructed to meet the requirements. In 1922, when I made my first resume in this House as Minister of Public Health, I called attention of the members to the fact that two more were needed, and, in 1925, the one at Saskatoon with 150 beds, was completed. But this did not meet all the requirements, and a further survey was decided upon again to ascertain the districts which presented the greatest danger as foci for this disease, and with a view to determining where the proposed new sanatorium could best be located. That survey has been made, and I have in my hand a map (I had a number run off so that there is one for each member) showing the number of deaths from tuberculosis in the different districts of the Province.

I find that, if the Province is divided by a line east to west running, roughly, from Togo to Alsask, practically dividing the Province into two, in the southern half there were 186 deaths, and in the northern half 197 deaths. If I divided the northern part again into two by a line east and west through Batoche, I find that the northern half of this portion had 96 deaths, and the southern half 101 deaths. Now, if I divide the northern half again, by a line running northward from Batoche, and so into an eastern and western half, I find that 49 deaths occurred in the eastern part and 47 in the western.

As result of the investigation made by Dr. Ferguson of Fort Qu'Appelle Sanatorium, and the completion of the Saskatoon Sanatorium three years ago, I find that the Southern half of the Province with 186 deaths, has 300 beds (Fort Qu'Appelle Sanatorium), and I find that, for the Northern part with 197 deaths, there are 150 beds at the Saskatoon institution. Furthermore, I asked Dr. Ferguson to send me a report of his investigation, which I have here, and I shall be pleased with your permission, Mr. Speaker, to read it to the House:

RECOMMENDATION *re* LOCATION FOR ADDITIONAL SANATORIUM
ACCOMMODATION.

"In 1921, more than six years ago, a careful survey of the needs of Saskatchewan for treatment of tuberculosis showed that two sanatoria of 100 beds each were urgently required. In 1925, one of these, with 150 beds—the Saskatoon Sanatorium, was completed.

"During the past year a waiting list has been maintained larger than prior to opening the Saskatoon Sanatorium. To meet the present needs an additional sanatorium of 150 beds, with additional accommodation for medical and nursing staff, is required.

"At a meeting of the Board on the 2nd of July, 1927, the question of providing increased sanatorium accommodation as recommended at the last annual meeting, and the most suitable location, was discussed at some length. Instructions were given to make a study of the whole situation with a view to determining the location of greatest need, and a committee of the League was appointed to wait upon the Provincial Government to urge the building of a sanatorium in the North of the Province.

"With regard to the location of the new sanatorium: A study of the location of deaths from tuberculosis in Saskatchewan shows that half of the deaths during the last two years have occurred North of a line drawn between Alask and Togo. In the southern area is placed Fort Qu'Appelle Sanatorium with accommodation for 300 patients, while in the northern area is located the Saskatoon Sanatorium with accommodation for 150 patients. The greatest need for the new institution is evidently in this northern area. A further study in regard to the northern area revealed the fact that half of the deaths from tuberculosis in it occurred north of a line drawn through Batoche, approximately halfway between Saskatoon and Prince Albert; while when the eastern and western portion of this northern area was considered, it was found that half of the deaths occurred east of a line placed nine miles west of the third Meridian, which line falls approximately half-way between Saskatoon and Prince Albert.

"It should also be pointed out that in this area proximal to and north of the North Branch of the Saskatchewan River, the death rate from tuberculosis is twice that of the remainder of the Province.

"From these facts it is evident that in the northern half of the northern area there is greatest need for a centre of education, diagnosis and treatment, since it is the stronghold of tuberculosis in Saskatchewan.

"From the standpoint of prevention and cure of tuberculosis I wish to point out the advantages of small units and more centres of interest, education and available facilities for diagnosis.

"People in districts adjacent to a sanatorium get familiar with its advantages and when sick, get a diagnosis and treatment at an earlier stage of the disease, and thus lessen the danger of contagion. Furthermore, these early cases require a shorter period of treatment with a much greater proportion of cures.

"In a recent interview with Mr. W. M. Graham, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, he stated that approximately half of the Indians of Saskatchewan are accessible to or north of Prince Albert, and that for the service of this Northern area, in his opinion, Prince Albert was the most suitable location.

"Prince Albert is centrally located in the area of greatest need and is also a railway centre. If, therefore, a suitable site can be obtained and favourable arrangements secured regarding services and utilities, I would advise that this location be recommended.

(Signed) G. FERGUSON."

Now, Mr. Speaker, of course it is only logical that the sanatorium should be placed in the district where there are the greater number of patients. Sanatoria are built for patients. On the strength of the report which I have read, the Anti-Tuberculosis League met, discussed the whole situation, and adopted a resolution urging that the new sanatorium be built in the northern part of the Province. If honourable members will look in the estimates for the Department of Public Health they will find \$400,000 set aside for the purpose.

I wish to tender my thanks to various organisations, particularly the Saskatchewan Dental Association, etc., for their splendid

work in the promotion of health and for their kindly co-operation with the Department during the year.

We had another of those "brainstorms" (I has almost said the usual "brainstorm") from the junior member for Saskatoon, (*Mr. McConnell*), the other day. I was rather peeved and startled, and somewhat taken aback when one of my colleagues told me I had better get back to my seat as the junior member for Saskatoon was about to explode another bomb in the House. I hastened back, only to find that it was that five-year-old "chestnut" about poor food, or rotten food, in one of our institutions.

Honourable members will remember that a few days ago, in answer to a question in this House, I gave the cost of meals per inmate a day in our public institutions. The list I quoted then was as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Battleford Mental Hospital, | 22 cents; |
| Weyburn Mental Hospital, | 19 cents; |
| Home for Infirm, Wolseley, | 35 cents; |
| Prince Albert Jail, | 16 cents; |
| Regina Jail, | 20 cents; |
| Industrial School for Boys, | 28 cents. |

In this list we find that meals at the Wolseley Home are higher than in any other of our institutions, and yet the one complaint my honourable friend has to make relates to that particular institution.

I would also like to call the attention of the honourable member to the fact that the Medical Superintendent at the Home (*Dr. Elliott*) sat in the seat my honourable friend now occupies some time ago, and he is a very good, a very efficient, official. He always comes to see me when in Regina, and I cannot recall a single occasion on which he reported anything wrong, although he is the man responsible for the physical well-being of the old folks in the Home. Since I have been in office as Minister of Public Health, never once did *Dr. Elliott* bring to my notice that there was anything wrong down there. To understand a complaint of this kind, you must visualise the situation at the Home. Here are a number of old people with little or nothing to occupy their minds, nothing to do but brood, ready always to raise complaints at the suggestion of any trouble-maker—and there always is a trouble-maker around.

Three years ago we had an investigation of certain charges made at the time by an *Edgar Baxter*, one of the inmates at Wolseley, and I have here 200 pages of sworn evidence which clearly shows that complaints such as these are usually without foundation, and largely due to the fact these men, who are able to be about, have nothing to do to keep their minds occupied. I think it was found at the time that the meat had not been quite all it might have been on a certain occasion, but that the condition had been rectified.

With your permission, *Mr. Speaker*, I'll read some of the evidence taken at the time.

Here is what Richard Hazzard, an inmate, said.... This is sworn evidence, mind you:

"Q. How long have you been in this institution?

"A. Sometime in October or September last.

"Q. What do you say with regard to your treatment here?

"A. I came here sick and almost out. The doctor and nurse attended to me the next day, and brought me around. If I had not come here, I would not have been on top of the ground. They have taken the best care of me.

"Q. Have you any complaints to make against the staff?

"A. No, sir! I have no complaint whatever. I have been a good bit through the world and at one time I had a large establishment myself, a commercial house, and when I saw everything was clean and nice here and the staff so particular about taking care of me, and the doctor, I was satisfied I was going to get better.

"Q. Have you any complaint to make about the heating?

"A. No, sir! I have not. Sometimes, odd times, it would be a little cold but I have no complaint to make in the world against the staff.

"Q. Any complaint with regard to the food and cooking?

"A. No! Sometimes the best people in the world will have a little slackness, but, as a general rule, I have been well satisfied with everything here. I have no complaint to make against anyone.

Let's take another one—Andrew Hadden, another inmate, also testifying on oath:

"Q. How long have you been in the institution?

"A. Two years and two months.

"Q. What have you to say with regard to your treatment here?

"A. Nothing to say at all. I have been treated well all the time.

"Q. Any complaint to make?

"A. No, sir!

"Q. Are you satisfied with the heating?

"A. Perfectly.

"Q. The food?

"A. All right.

Here's another one, sworn evidence—Andrew Hepburn:

"Q. How long have you been in the institution?

"A. Three years, June 28.

"Q. What have you to say with regard to your treatment by the staff?

"A. I have no kick against them at all.

"Q. Quite satisfied?

"A. Quite satisfied.

"Q. With all the staff?

"A. Yes! No complaints. I used to have a scrap with Bowers, but he has gone.

"Q. You raise no complaints about it now?

"A. No!

"Q. With regard to the heating and food?

"A. I have been in many hospitals and institutions and it could not be better. It takes the lead of anything I have been in yet. For the last 20 years, I have been ill and this is the best. I have been in hospital since my wife died in 1904.

And another one—Thomas McInnis:

"Q. How long have you been in the institution?

"A. Two years and a half; over that a little—three years, July 1, next.

"Q. What have you to say with regard to your treatment by the staff?

"A. I have been treated with kindness by everyone connected with the staff. I have had the kindest treatment I have had anywhere.

"Q. What do you say with regard to the heating and food?

"A. I have nothing to say about that because I live in the school. I have charge of the fire at nights and I keep the stove going.

"Q. With regard to the food?

"A. It is all right. I have no fault to find with it.

I could quote statement after statement to show that things are in fine shape down there. I had the same letter as my honourable friend; so had the Premier.

Mr. McConnell: Mine was signed by 31 of the inmates.

Hon. Dr. Uhrich: But my honourable friend, with his judicial mind and legal training, must have seen there was something wrong with that letter. Everybody saw something wrong with it, I am certain, except, apparently, my honourable friend.

I went down there with my deputy, Mr. Smith, and there are 80 or 90 old people down there with nothing much to occupy their minds except complain, but they are getting the best of food. If there were any real grounds for complaint, surely they would have come to the ears of the honourable member for Wolseley (*Mr. McAfee*). But he has never mentioned any to me. The fact is we have complaints from Battleford, even from the jails. But they are getting the best of food procurable. The butter they get is creamery butter; nothing could be better. The milk is the best that can be got, and while there may have been some truth in the complaint that a Chinese cook had skimmed the cream off the milk on one occasion, that matter has been corrected. It is the same with all the food. It is as good as my honourable friend gets in his own home, himself; just as good, just as clean, just as well cooked. Sometimes my honourable friend's toast is somewhat blacker than he likes it in the morning. Surely, he would not consider that a matter serious enough to raise a fuss about.

It must be remembered that the people in this institution are naturally irritable, and prone to make all kinds of complaints. As a result of complaints last year, I went down there with my deputy and we made a thorough investigation into the matter, and everything is all right. I know the man who wrote this letter, the same man who wrote to my friend from Saskatoon. I talked with him, and I am convinced the complaint is greatly overdrawn.

If my honourable friend wanted to be fair and just, why did he not come to me in my office (it is always open), instead of exploding his "bomb" on the floor of this House? All our institutions are open and may be visited at any time, not only by the members, but by all men in any walk of life in the Province. We have nothing to hide. All our institutions, mental hospitals, Old People's Home, jails, are open to everyone. The members of this House often visit them.

My honourable friend is welcome to go at any time. With his legal mind, it should be easy for him to discover if there is anything wrong. But he should come to me with his complaint.

Let me emphasise again that Dr. Elliott, who sat in the seat my honourable friend now occupies, and who has charge of the institution at Wolseley, has never complained to me, and I am satisfied and convinced that all the old people there are well taken care of.

Mr. Speaker, I support the motion.

Speech delivered by
THE HONOURABLE J. G. GARDINER,
(*Premier and Minister of Education*)

in closing the
DEBATE ON THE BUDGET

in the
Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,

Friday, March 2, 1928.

The Honourable Mr. Gardiner, in what proved to be the closing speech of the Debate on the Budget, said:

Mr. Speaker.—I do not think I would take up the time of the House to speak in this debate were it not for the fact that I was in the Treasury during the greater part of last year, and so perhaps it is necessary for me to give some account of my stewardship during the time I was there. Before doing that, however, I wish to congratulate the Provincial Treasurer on the clear, concise and very effective manner in which he dealt with and summarised the financial affairs of this Province as they are at present and have been over a number of years, and also for the very effective manner in which he dealt with our proposals for the year to come.

I need make no other commendation of the Minister for the first Budget he has brought down in this House, than to refer to the manner in which it has been received by members on all sides of the House. Member after member has risen in his place, has congratulated the Minister, and, having for a short time dealt with the Budget Speech, has then left it to go into a discussion of other matters not in the speech. That, I think, is sufficient commendation of the Minister for the Budget he was able to present to this House. After having listened to the debate which has continued now for a week, I have concluded that members from all parts of the House are agreed that there is little ground on which to attack the Government so far as the present financial position of the Province is concerned.

Some members opposite, however, did take it upon themselves to criticise the Government, but those who have attempted to criticise usually succeeded in answering their own criticism before they sat down, or had their arguments shattered by some other member sitting on the same side of the House.

We were told, for example, by the member for Pelly (*Mr. Tran*) that we balanced our budget by increasing the Public Debt, and that it was just possible we had a surplus because we had spent from capital account. The Junior Member for Regina City

(*Mr. MacPherson*) replies to this argument accounting for the surplus by stating we had considerable profits from liquor in the Province of Saskatchewan, and had taken sufficient from these profits to give us a surplus. Then the member for Tisdale (*Mr. Buckle*) had two criticisms to offer. He is critical of the fact that there is an increase in the capital debt of the Province, and insists, on the other hand, that there is an increase in taxation. But, before he concluded his remarks, he made a statement to the effect that he had no fears of and was not opposed to an increase in the public debt particularly if the increase was to be applied to roads. He then proceeded to argue in favour of a capital levy based on the revenue from automobile licenses, that is, the licenses would be used to meet the carrying charges of the amount borrowed for road purposes. What he proposed would result in an addition of \$34,000,000 to the capital debt of this Province—that is a little more than is required to double that portion of the capital debt of the Province of Saskatchewan today, that is not self-supporting. I think that, when he made the statement that he was in favour of a capitalisation of the auto tax for road purposes which would result in an increase of the public debt by \$34,000,000, he forgot that the expenditure would also entail the spending of considerable amounts more from revenue account for the maintenance of the roads when built. If we were to follow his advice, then, we would at once increase the public debt of the Province by \$34,000,000 which money would be immediately expended upon roads. When we had done that, we would have shouldered upon the people of this Province the enormous burden of a capital debt just double the present “net” debt of this Province, with the further burden of maintaining through current taxation, the roads built. In short, the only condemnation of the proposals of the Provincial Treasurer which the honourable gentleman could conceive of, he would multiply the reasons for, many times over, were he Provincial Treasurer.

Let me again congratulate the Provincial Treasurer upon the success of his efforts as revealed in the fact that he has confounded his critics.

So many remarks have been made in the course of this debate with reference to the capital debt, that I should give some consideration to the capital debt of the Province and to that of the provinces on either side of us. Reference has been made to the statement of the Provincial Treasurer on capital expenditure in proportion to population, and it was stated by the member for Tisdale the comparison of expenditures in this Province with those in others was not a fair statement. Exception has been taken to the manner in which the matter of capital expenditures has been dealt with by the Provincial Treasurer, but the criticism coming from a member of a party in this Province, is not in agreement with the opinion of those belonging to the same party in another province or with an Edmonton paper supporting that party.

The *Edmonton Journal*, after stating that the population of Saskatchewan is 821,000 and that of Alberta 607,000, and that,

with practically the same revenues last year, Saskatchewan had a surplus of \$91,000 while Alberta had a deficit of \$216,000, goes on to say:

"At the same time, he pointed out, the public debt had been kept within reasonable figures. On February 1, it amounted to \$33,890,000 after deducting the portion that was self-supporting. In Alberta, the corresponding figure was approximately \$66,000,000 at the end of 1927."

The Conservative press of Alberta agrees with the Provincial Treasurer of Saskatchewan that the comparison is favourable to this Province, and goes on to say that "the contrast has steadily become more marked."

If opposition members are not willing to accept the figures of the Provincial Treasurer, or editorial opinion in the Province of Alberta, it might be well to review the growth of the public debt in this Province. So, if the House will bear with me, I will detail some of the circumstances that have affected the growth of the public debt, so that the whole matter will be brought clearly before the House, and clearly before the people of this Province.

No one will criticise seriously the growth of the public debts, or even the increasing expenditures of prairie governments prior to the year 1921. You will remember that, in this province down to the year 1921, little was said of economy, and the same was true of all the provinces. There has also been no reference during this debate, or at all during this session, on the question of economy. In fact, prior to the year 1921, the province heard little of the word either in or out of the Chamber, whether in affairs of the Government or in regard to private business. A reason for that was that revenues at the time were buoyant, and we had in this province a handsome surplus of approximately \$1,900,000 carried over from the two previous years. That is to say, \$1,900,000 more had been taken in on revenue account than was actually expended. It may appear to members of this House that the Government had taken too much from the people and that they should have given it back. As a matter of fact, that suggestion was made at the time. I was a private member of the House, and I remember that a suggestion was made that a certain amount should be divided among the municipalities for road work. That was in 1919. But in that year, the municipalities even with the small amount they had available for road purposes were finding difficulty in spending it, because the men had not all returned from overseas and it was a difficult thing to build roads because labourers were not available. In 1921, however, things were different, and people were beginning to realise that the province was going as far as it could go in the matter of public expenditure, and that a halt should be called. This was done; but not to the same extent in other provinces of Western Canada as in this province, and, to show that I am correct, I am going to give the figures on public debt for these provinces in comparison with our own.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I would ask the members opposite to keep these figures in mind when they are using the argument (as they have during this debate) that it is because this province is younger than Manitoba that it has a lower public debt, and that of Alberta

is larger than ours because Alberta owns railways and other public utilities.

At the 30th of April, 1921, the public debt of the province of Manitoba was (using round figures) \$51,000,000 as compared with \$45,000,000 for Saskatchewan and \$42,000,000 for Alberta, and practically all the utilities spoken of, such as railways, were in that province prior to the year 1921. In that year, the public debt of Alberta was, as I have said, \$42,000,000. Coming down to the last fiscal year what do we find? We find that the public debt of Saskatchewan (again in round figures) was \$58,000,000, that of Alberta had reached a total of \$89,000,000 while that of Manitoba was \$75,000,000. In other words, there has been an increase in the public debt of this province to the extent of \$13,000,000, while in Alberta the debt was more than doubled with an increase of \$47,000,000, and in Manitoba there is an increase of \$24,000,000 in that six year period. The public debt in all three provinces increased in spite of the fact that those were the six years in which governments were being called upon to economise, to restrict expenditures, and to keep down the costs of government, but you will note that Manitoba's debt increased by nearly twice as much as Saskatchewan's, and that of Alberta by considerably more than three times as much as the increase in this province.

Mr. Whatley: What about the "net" debt?

Hon. Mr. Gardiner: In a moment I will satisfy the honourable member. Examine into these figures just a little further and we will find that the figures for the "net" debt of Alberta do not date back to 1921, and are not available. I find, however, that the "net" debt of the Province of Alberta in 1927 amounted to \$61,000,000, and according to the editorial in the *Edmonton Journal* the other day, it is now placed at \$66,000,000. That is, Mr. Speaker, that the "net" debt of the province of Alberta today is \$24,000,000 higher than the "gross" debt of Alberta in the year 1921. In Manitoba, the "net" debt, last year, was \$32,674,104, or practically the same as that of Saskatchewan. I have not the figures for Manitoba for 1921.

I can make another reference to the public debt of this province to show that this Government has been economical. In 1921, as I have stated, the "gross" debt of Saskatchewan stood at \$45,000,000 as at April 30. At April 30, 1922, it was \$51,000,000 and at April 30, 1923, the debt was around \$54,000,000, there being an increase of \$9,000,000 in those two years. Why was there an increase in those two years? Every member of this Assembly will remember that those were the most trying years in the history of this province. We were endeavouring to readjust ourselves. It was the period of re-establishment. Revenues were coming in slowly, and yet we had to keep up our expenditures on public buildings in order to give employment to the men who had come back from overseas.

Coming down to the year 1927, the debt of this province, as stated the other day by the Provincial Treasurer, stood at \$58,000,000. That is, there was an increase since 1923 of only \$4,000,000 in the four years.

Another point more impressive still! At April 30, 1924, the public debt of this province amounted to \$56,000,000, and at April 30, 1925, it stood at \$57,885,000—that was only a month and two days before the Government went to the country in the last general election. Well, then, the public debt of this province was \$57,885,000 immediately prior to last election, and the public debt at February 1, 1928, as announced the other day by the Provincial Treasurer, was \$58,440,000. That is, Mr. Speaker, in the three years there has been a total increase of only slightly over half-a-million dollars—and yet my friends opposite are trying to account for surpluses in this province by saying we have increased the public debt to make them!

No other province in the Dominion of Canada can show a record in the matter of increases in public debt even approaching that of this province during the last four years. That is one reason why we have a surplus, and that is why we are not being condemned by the people as a “spendthrift” government.

What I have said not only applies to our capital expenditure but with respect to our expenditure in connection with revenue account as well. But before leaving the point, I would say this. In the Province of Alberta the total deficit, after deducting any surplus they may have had, since 1921, amounts to \$5,195,000. That is the total deficit in Alberta between the years 1921 and 1928.

Why do I make these statements? Certainly not because the comparison gives me pleasure, or that it is agreeable to me to compare the financial position of this province with that of Manitoba or Alberta—our neighbours. Nor do I wish to be construed as holding up these governments to criticism. Our friends on either side of us can look after themselves; we have no desire to interfere with them. But a few days ago the honourable member for Kindersley (*Mr. Whatley*) saw fit to repeat certain statements which had been made at a meeting held in the city of Regina, when the Provincial Treasurer of Alberta came to the opposition convention in this province to tell what was being done in his province, and to compare the record of his government with that of this government; and thus started in meetings all over the province a criticism under which we are held up as not bearing comparison with the government of the province to the west of us. On the same occasion, and from the same platform, a member of the Manitoba Government addressed the same gathering in criticism of the Government of this province. Now it is being repeated by members opposite. But, on the day the Provincial Treasurer made his statement in this House, on that same day in the Province of Alberta the budget was brought down, and on the same page of the morning newspaper we are shown with a surplus of \$91,000, they with a deficit of \$216,000, and that their total deficit over the years in office was over \$5,195,000 that, too, including an estimated surplus for next year not yet realised. The Province of Alberta has made a practice of capitalising its deficits, but, if you start accounting from 1905 down to the present you will find that we have a cash surplus of \$91,000. Not one single dollar of our

deficits has been capitalised. It is, what it purports to be, a cash surplus. What is more, I may tell honourable members that we expect to have a surplus also at the end of the financial year, 1927-28. That is our record, and there are reasons for it, but while doing that we have not stinted expenditures where expenditure was necessary.

I have here a statement on revenue and expenditure in current account:

| | Revenue | Expenditure |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1920-21..... | \$11,789,919.93 | \$12,088,330.10 |
| 1921-22..... | 11,801,894.00 | 13,258,784.21 |
| 1922-23..... | 12,576,762.60 | 12,823,208.81 |
| 1923-24..... | 12,520,411.25 | 12,414,413.10 |
| 1924-25..... | 12,378,755.04 | 12,464,196.36 |
| 1925-26..... | 13,317,389.37 | 13,177,747.02 |
| 1926-27..... | 13,050,217.18 | 12,930,772.77 |

You will remember that I stated a few minutes ago that in the two years prior to 1920-21 we had a surplus in the neighbourhood of \$1,900,000. How was that surplus used? We used it to carry on during the years when the men were returning from overseas. We had to expend money in order to find them work to do. We expended in 1920 about \$1,500,000 of the total accumulated surplus and still had a surplus of \$400,000. When the difficult year of 1921-22 came along we used up the remainder and had a deficit of some \$36,000. In other words, we got through the most trying years of a difficult period with a deficit of some \$36,000.

In the following year, we had a revenue deficit of more than \$200,000, but we were coming back to a certain extent of buoyancy in our finances then, so that, in the year 1923-24 we had a revenue of \$12,520,000 and an expenditure of \$12,414,000, or a surplus approaching \$100,000. In the following year, 1924-25, we again had a slight deficit and in 1925-26, when it appeared that revenues were again coming back we increased our expenditures with the result that we again had a deficit. In 1926-27, however, we wiped out all the accumulated deficits of these two years and we broke, at the end of last year, with a cash surplus of \$91,000. We spent that money in the way I have shown, and we think that, in the result, we are quite justified. We did not stint our expenditures upon the important services.

One very significant fact that I would mention is this, that in 1922-23, the interest on our public debt was \$2,167,000, while the interest on our public debt last year, was \$2,160,000. In other words, the interest on our public debt in 1926-27 was \$7,000 less than the interest on our public debt in 1922-23. That is another reason why we had a surplus last year. By keeping down the public debt of this province in the years when interest rates were high we saved the province from paying high interest rates. From 1921 to 1923, rates of interest were very high and any government which borrowed extensively during these years, placed a great burden on the people.

In the last year, this Government has made loans, and these loans have been made at the lowest rate of cost to the province since the war, or even before it. In other words, we are back to the time when we can get money at as cheap a rate of interest as we ever got. Now that we are back to the time when money can be secured cheaply, I say this is the time to speed up capital expenditures. It is a good principle to spend money on capital account when interest rates are low, and not to spend money on capital account, when interest rates are high. And we have been keeping down our expenditures for five years, and the total interest paid is less now than it was five years ago. Yet we have maintained our expenditures on essential services. We have maintained our expenditures on highways, and on education, and also on public health. There has been no falling off in our expenditure on highways. In 1921-22, our expenditures in connection with highways were increased by about half-a-million dollars. We boosted our expenditure in that year when the men to do the work were available, and there was a demand to speed up road construction all over the province in order to assist our farmers. We used up that large surplus of which I spoke, to build roads to help our farmers get their goods to market, and to give employment to our returned men.

I have here a statement of expenditures in connection with highways year by year since 1920:

1920, \$747,000; 1920-21, \$1,539,000; 1922-23, \$1,200,000; 1923-24, \$1,177,000; 1924-25, \$1,141,000; 1925-26, \$1,100,000; 1926-27, \$1,193,000. It will be noted that from 1921 to 1925 the Federal Government provided \$400,000 a year, but since 1925 the expenditure has been maintained.

This year, we propose to increase our expenditure from revenue account alone by another \$400,000. That is the method we have followed in expenditure on highways.

When we look at Education, we will note that the increase has been a gradual one. In 1919, our present system of school grants was passed by the legislature. In that year, Education cost us \$1,400,000, (the greater part being school grants) and in the year 1926-27, apart from the University grant, we spent \$3,347,000. We more than doubled our expenditure on education in the year 1927, as compared with 1919. This is our record in connection with education.

With regard to expenditure on public works, which involves the maintenance charges on homes, and other institutions, these increased from year to year. In 1919, \$900,000 was expended in this connection, and in 1926-27, the amount expended, including the costs of maintenance of all institutions was \$1,309,000.

In the matter of public health so ably dealt with the other day by the Minister, a department concerning which we hear nothing but praise on all sides of the House, our expenditures have increased from \$473,000 in 1919 to \$677,000 for 1926-27.

These I believe to be the essential expenditures, and you will note that in every one of these there have been material increases. Yet, in spite of that fact, the total expenditure in any year since 1921 never was so high as in 1921. In that year our total expenditures amounted to \$13,259,000, whereas in 1926-27 they amounted to \$12,930,000, a difference of \$300,000 in favour of last year. That has been the record of this Government in the matter of expenditures on revenue account—there is a decrease of \$300,000 from 1921 in spite of material increases in expenditure on highways, education, public works, and public health. I question very much whether there is any other government that can compare, and compare favourably with us, in the matter of expenditures on these essential services.

Some of our friends have said our surplus was due to liquor profits. I want to deal with that statement for a few moments. As every member is aware, most of the provinces in Canada have liquor profits, the only exception being Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. All the others have them. Quebec's liquor profits, according to a recent article from that province, amounted to \$7,000,000 last year, which was taken into revenue account. The liquor profits in Ontario for the first five months amounted to \$2,804,000, that is, almost three millions of net profits for five months, and so will approximate during the year, the Quebec figure. I make that statement to give reply to the statement of a member the other day in which he pointed to the price of liquor in Ontario being lower than in Saskatchewan, and he asked why we were not able to lower our prices and still have a considerable percentage of liquor profits.

The reason should be apparent to every one, including the junior member for Regina City (*Mr. MacPherson*). The sales of liquor in the five month period in Ontario amounted to \$17,553,000.

Mr. MacPherson: I see; greater bulk.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner: Not only that! In this province, we have to carry a certain amount of overhead in this business. The people voted for government sale of liquor and asked to be supplied with stores at which to purchase it. A great many of these stores are not paying at all; some of them not even paying running expenses. We could just as well, with a population of say 3,000,000 similar to that of Ontario, sell as much through the stores now in existence, as Ontario, without any greater overhead than at present, or very little more. That is the reason prices are what they are. Prices had to be higher in all western provinces in order to have profits at all. We had to do what the people voted for, that we had to give them service through stores. I am not using that as an argument for profits or for higher prices, but simply to show the difference between conditions here and conditions in Ontario and Quebec. There is no need for anyone to conclude that it is because our administration is inefficient that we cannot have the same percentage of profit with the same prices as in Ontario and Quebec.

In connection with the statement that our surplus came from liquor profits, we are told that if we had not had liquor profits we would not have had a surplus. To this I might say that, had we not known as a Government there were liquor revenues coming in, we would have cut our expenditures, but, knowing these revenues were coming we wiped out all the unforeseen expenditures made in previous years and capitalised over a five-year period, including accounts such as those which had to do with destruction of grasshoppers, accounts which provided for relief during the dry years, and other accounts. These expenditures, having been accounted for in deferred charges, were paid in one year from liquor profits.

In the Province of Alberta, in all the years they have had liquor profits, that is from 1922 to 1926, they took into revenue account the sum of \$6,733,000. We took \$1,774,000. Yet they have a total deficit of \$5,195,000 while we have a surplus of \$91,000. That is the comparison between the two provinces in regard to liquor profits, and yet my friends say it is due to liquor profits and to that alone, that we have a surplus in Saskatchewan.

The question may occur to you—what have we done with our liquor profits? Let me tell you what we did do with the profits. Take the liquor profits down to the end of last fiscal year, take in the estimated amount to the end of this year, and we will have taken into revenue account the sum of approximately \$2,700,000. Out of this we have redeemed a portion of our long term loans to the extent of \$775,000, we have cut off part of our deferred charges, treasury bills or short term loans, to the extent of \$889,000, and we have set aside \$190,000 (or are in a position to do so down to the end of this year) against our public debt, for sinking fund.

Let us summarise:

We have taken a total, used for redemption of capital to the amount of \$1,854,000, which, together with our surplus of this year, you will find amounts of \$1,946,000.

If we had done what our good friends of the opposition would have the people believe, that is, taken all liquor profits into revenue, we would have had a surplus, today, of practically \$2,000,000. That is what other provinces have done. They took the profits into revenue account with the exception of Manitoba which turned over 50 per cent. of the profits to the municipalities, until this year. Now they are going to take the whole of the profits into revenue account. Even with half the profits, they have taken as much as we have into revenue account. But even at that, they are estimating a considerable deficit for their next fiscal year.

Could we, I ask, in addition to having a surplus, in addition to redeeming our public debt to the extent of the figures I gave you, have taken half-a-million dollars off the tax-load of our municipalities by reducing the public revenue levy, and at the same time increased our highways expenditure from revenue, last year, by \$200,000, if it had not been for liquor profits? No! But with liquor profits we did all these things, and are proud of our record.

I want to say here, to the honourable member for Tisdale (*Mr. Buckle*) that there was no authority had anything more to do with the putting over of a successful briquetting plant at Bienfait than the Government of Saskatchewan. The Lignite Utilisation Board, on which were representatives of the Federal, Manitoba and Saskatchewan Governments, from its organisation in 1919 down to 1924 had spent about \$1,000,000 on the experimental work. Since Mr. Molloy took over in that year, the two governments have spent little more than \$30,000. If they had not been successful, there would be no criticism coming to any government for the part they took in it up to the time the Government of Manitoba withdrew from the Board leaving the work to be carried on by the Federal and Saskatchewan Governments. We spent a year trying to get the Government of Manitoba to remain in the arrangement for we were looking to the City of Winnipeg as a market for that coal.

After we had made two or three trips to Winnipeg and to Ottawa, we were finally told that Manitoba would have nothing more to do with it. At that time there was some \$40,000 left out of the \$1,000,000. We said to them: "Will you turn over that \$40,000 to us, and let us see what we can do with it?" And they did that. What did we do? We had the backing of that fine old man of the coal industry in this province, Hugh Sutherland. He went to the Old Country and while there, he cabled time after time when dealing with the financial men over there, that they were not going to take the word of a mining man from Winnipeg, they depended on government statistics. In answer to that we sent over samples of our coal. We sent the coal over in fifty sealed barrels. We sent Mr. Molloy over, and had half the samples briquetted in England and half on the continent of Europe and finally it was established that the coal at Estevan could be briquetted by both processes. We kept on until an engineer was sent over to look into what we had told them. After being on the ground for some time what he had to say was this, that it was one of the best things he had seen in the British Empire. That man is back in Canada and is now at Bienfait putting this thing over.

While this was going on, we were confronted with another difficulty, Hugh Sutherland died. Yet in spite of all the difficulties we encountered, we are now able to say to the people of Saskatchewan that with \$40,000 over a three-year period, we have brought to successful conclusion the experiment for the briquetting of coal at Bienfait. While we were negotiating and attempting to bring this matter about, we sent Mr. Molloy to England a second time to assist in the effort to influence the financiers to supply the capital to take over and operate the plant. The capital has been secured. The plant is being prepared for operation.

Though we have a public debt only \$515,000 greater than it was in 1924, we have this in addition to state that the one reason why we have any increase at all is because of the load we had to take on as result of the difficulties of the Creamery Company. One of our friends tried to hold the Government responsible for the

difficulties of the Creamery Company. I would say this to him that \$600,000 is not a considerable sum of money for this Government to have expended in assisting to put over the dairy business in this province. We could have expended considerably more and to worse advantage, and not considered it money wasted.

Mr. McConnell: Do you consider it a liquid asset?

Hon. Mr. Gardiner: We treat it as a deferred charge, the same as before, which we hope to liquidate over a five year period. I may say that we expect to be able to liquidate it in a much shorter time due to liquor profits.

I do want to say this, that money is not lost. We have security for the full amount against the plant that was operating last year, and I may say that the plant is now operating more successfully than formerly. We have hopes that, with the backing of the people of Saskatchewan and more particularly of the public men of the province, the creamery business in this province will be more successful than in years gone by. The first year's operations showed a decided improvement over previous showings, and it now seems probable that the amount in question will be taken care of within the five-year period.

Mr. Whatley: Was it in cash?

Hon. Mr. Gardiner: No. The money was guaranteed at the bank.

Mr. Anderson: What about the effect of the Australian Treaty?

Hon. Mr. Gardiner: I told the honourable member by my vote the other day, what my opinion was in that connection. The matter has been discussed and decided in this House; discussion is closed, a point on which the Rules have been referred to two or three times today. As to the matter of our responsibility for the condition of the Creamery Company, our position in the matter will bear the fullest investigation.

I have one or two things to say in regard to some other matters not having to do with revenues and expenditures.

First of all, I would like to deal with the remark of the junior member for Saskatoon (*Mr. McConnell*), yesterday, to the effect that because this province was younger than some of the other provinces we had been guided away from the mistakes they had made. His reference was to utilities such as telephones, elevators and railways.

In the same year, 1910, this province, along with Manitoba, considered an elevator policy. Our course was successful, their's the unsuccessful course. The Manitoba Government went boldly into a policy of Government elevators. This province, by investing beforehand, under the guidance of the Scott Government, set up a successful policy.

It was the same with telephones. The two provinces acted together but following the purchase from the Bell Telephone Company, Manitoba followed one policy, we another. Manitoba went in for a government monopoly; we investigated, adopted the co-operative principle in construction of rural lines, and this province succeeded to the extent that we have more than twice as many rural telephones as both the other prairie provinces put together.

Then in regard to railways, we did not build, we followed a policy of guaranteeing bonds and I say tonight, that was one of the factors that induced the construction of a considerable mileage of Canadian Northern and Grand Trunk Pacific branch lines, before the Federal Government was induced to take over the railways now included in the National system. If you were to charge up to revenue the interest charges on the debt of Alberta due to its railway policy, they would have an annual deficit of over \$2,000,000. That is one of the reasons why the public debt of the Province of Alberta is growing by leaps and bounds. I am informed they capitalise their railway debt. We were saved from that by the foresight of the Governments going before this one of which I have the honour to be leader.

Mr. McConnell: Was all this due to Liberal Government?

Hon. Mr. Gardiner: We took the responsibility and should get some of the credit.

With regard to the changes in the cabinet which several members opposite saw fit to criticise, I may say that five members of this Government have been Minister of Highways, and given very successful service to the people of this province while serving in that capacity. In Council, therefore, everyone of the five can criticise the expenditures of the Department, and give very useful advice. I think there are one or two members of the Government who have held down three or four portfolios, and when matters relating to the different departments are discussed in Council, the Minister in charge is not the only one able to give account of his department, and practically the only exceptions to this are the Attorney General's Department and the Department of Public Health. All other Departments have been administered by some other man still in the Government, who is thus able to bring into Council the information he gained during his administration of the other Department. I would ask my friends on the opposite side—is that not a much stronger position than if only one man knew anything about any one Department?

One word in regard to education since that matter has been discussed in connection with the Budget. With regard to expenditure, what the honourable member for Hanley (*Mr. Stipe*) said in connection with secondary education is substantially correct. So far as expenditure on secondary education is concerned there is no material increase, but provision will be made for the Winter High Schools. The proposal of the Government to establish Winter High Schools has been condemned and commended and by the same

gentleman both condemned and commended. Our position is this. We consider the case for the Winter High Schools not proven. They are in the experimental stage. They have never been tried by anyone else, but we propose to try them out, and we have made them optional. We do not propose in the first year to take this system and replace another system with it; but we do expect to go into districts where conditions are favourable and into some districts where conditions are not quite so favourable, and try to get a number of Winter High Schools started. If successful in getting schools started, we will try them out.

The Conservative Leader (*Mr. Anderson*) who has had something to say about boys and girls who cannot speak the English language, is gravely concerned about the students who have passed Grade VIII. I myself never passed Grade VIII, and it is to the credit of the honourable member himself, that he has a B.A. degree yet never attended a university. He took the work extra-murally—more credit to him! But to him I would say, again, that I have yet to meet a boy or girl of school age who is attending the schools of this Province, who cannot speak the English language. My friend said, today, that he had a wire from a man in the country saying there were people in his district who cannot speak the English language. Well, as to that—I do want to tell him that I have a boy in my own home who cannot speak the English language. As a matter of fact, very few children, before they reach the age of 18 months can speak the English language, and I would also say to him there are very few boys and girls born in foreign homes, who are able to speak the English language until they are six years old and are attending school, because at home what they usually hear is the foreign language spoken by their parents. In my own experience I will state they learn very rapidly. After three months at school I have known them to be so adept that one could not tell them by their speech from other boys and girls on the playground. It is my experience also that boys and girls learn the language not so much in the schoolroom as on the playground, and when I taught school I taught the language on the playground. I would say this to those of our friends who continually are saying there is "something wrong with our system," "something wrong with our teachers"—just be a little patient and some of these boys and girls will be walking into the communities in which they live to take up medical practice or the practice of law, or business and will become leaders of their communities, and later, perhaps, be coming into this House. I have been tempted to ask some of the critics, something else—to detail just what examination they ever passed. But it would be unkind for me to do so.

We in Saskatchewan are interested in our schools and in our teachers. We are also interested in the supervision of our schools, and I would suggest this to my friend the senior member for Saskatoon (*Mr. Anderson*), who has had experience in this connection, that there are opportunities for additional supervision of our schools in the Winter High School idea that are not possible under our system as at present.

Mr. Stipe: What about the Manitoba system?

Hon. Mr. Gardiner: I received my own high school education in Manitoba, and know something of the system. They have a continuation system there, and the only drawback to that is that there are many boys and girls who can take advantage of the Winter High School who cannot take advantage of the continuation or ordinary high school because of the time of the year these are open. But, as I said, there are opportunities for the supervision of our school, in that it may be possible to use the principal of the winter High School as a supervisor during the three and half months of the school year he is not engaged in teaching the Winter High School. All this is in the nature of an experiment, but I think we can demonstrate that, when they have been tried out and proved a success, Winter High Schools will spread over the Province rapidly enough.

I had the opportunity of speaking to the Saskatchewan School Trustees convention at Saskatoon at which a certain number of matters in connection with the Department of Education were discussed, and certain remarks were made which it would have been better had they never been made at all. I cannot understand why it is, but we have a certain type of individual in the Province of Saskatchewan whose chief delight it is, apparently, to play up something that is not in the best interests of the Province. When matters of government policy come up they are always ready with advice and with the suggestion that everything has been done wrong. But why that type of individual should go to the trouble of advocating from the public platform that the Government should do what it has already done, is something I cannot understand. There was some qualified approval given the Winter High School plan, but when the honourable gentleman started to discuss the Community School idea which is the complement of the other, he apparently had no information about our proposal and did not understand it. But, nevertheless, he had a resolution at the end of his address which implied in substance that nothing will be done in exactly the way it should be done, and I say he would be doing well by the Province, were he to withhold an expression of opinion until he is better informed. I refer to Mr. Bryant, past president of the School Trustees Association and the remarks he made, which, I repeat, were not in the best interests of the Province.

Reverting to the Budget, we will attempt to go into the details, when the House is considering the estimates for the various Departments. I believe the financial condition of Saskatchewan at the present time will bear the closest investigation of all members of the House, will bear comparison with that of any province of the Dominion, and will compare and compare favourably with that of the provinces on either side of us. The Province of Saskatchewan is in an enviable position in matters dealing with finance.

I regret to call the attention of the House to the impression left in regard to my remarks of last year in bringing down the budget. It was suggested that I referred to the reduction of the

public debt, last year, as a "triumph of financial achievement." I will read what I actually did say on that occasion:

"I do not speak of this as setting a precedent in the achievements of finance within the Province. I am prepared to contend that the whole financial policy of the Liberal Government in this Province, at least in so far as it touches capital expenditure, has been a triumph of financial achievement."

This, I contend, is the exact opposite of what I was made to say by the honourable the junior member for Regina (*Mr. MacPherson*). It was not the fact that we had reduced the capital debt last year (on which the honourable gentleman based his argument a week ago), that was a "triumph of financial achievement." My reference to that reduction was this: "I do not speak of this as setting a precedent in the achievements of finance," then I went on to say: "I am prepared to contend that the whole financial policy, in so far as it touches capital expenditure, has been a triumph of financial achievement." What was the argument of my friend if not that if it was a financial achievement last year to reduce the public debt, it cannot be a financial achievement this year, to increase it? My remarks, I contend, mean that the whole financial policy "at least in so far as it touches capital expenditure," was a triumph of achievement. My statement was that the whole achievement, over the whole period of Liberal government in this Province, was a "triumph of financial achievement."

Mr. MacPherson: I contend my interpretation was all right. Read the whole of it!

Hon. Mr. Gardiner: "I am prepared to contend that the whole financial policy" that is, the whole policy back to 1905 "was a triumph of financial achievement." In the sentence before that, speaking of the public debt, I said: "You will note that there has been a reduction of \$349,297 in the gross public debt of the Province." Immediately following that, I said "I do not speak of this as setting a precedent in the achievements of finance." I am prepared to contend that the whole financial policy of the Liberal Government in this Province, as indicated at the beginning of my address, and at least as it touches capital expenditure, has been a triumph of financial achievement.

I repeat again, that the whole financial policy of Liberal government in this Province from 1905 to the present time, has been a triumph of financial achievement.

Mr. Speaker, I support the motion.