

JOURNALS
of the
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
of the
Province of Saskatchewan

From 18th day of January, 1927, to 3rd day of March, 1927.

(Both days inclusive)

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

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

SESSION 1927

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of the
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
of the
Province of Saskatchewan

Volume XXIV.



MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

H. W. NEWLANDS,
Lieutenant Governor.
[L.S.]

CANADA:

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN.

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

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

A PROCLAMATION

A. L. GEDDES, }
Deputy Attorney General. } WHEREAS, it is expedient for causes
and considerations to convene the
Legislative Assembly of Our
Province of Saskatchewan, WE DO WILL that you and each of you
and all others in this behalf interested on TUESDAY, the EIGHTEENTH
day of JANUARY, 1927, at Our City of Regina, personally be and
appear for the DESPATCH OF BUSINESS, there to take into considera-
tion the state and welfare of Our said Province of Saskatchewan and
thereby to do as may seem necessary, HEREIN FAIL NOT.

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

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

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

By Command,

J. W. McLEOD,
Deputy Provincial Secretary.

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OF THE
PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

SECOND SESSION—SIXTH LEGISLATURE

REGINA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 1927.

3 o'clock p.m.

This being the first day of the meeting of the Second 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 twenty-first day of December, 1926, 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:

When I prorogued Parliament in the month of January last, I was about completing the term usually allotted to the office of Lieutenant Governor, but it has pleased His Excellency, the Governor-General-in-Council, to continue me as the representative of the Crown in Saskatchewan and, therefore, it is my great pleasure to greet you at the opening of this Session.

Since you last met Saskatchewan has been honoured by a visit from His Excellency Baron Byng of Vimy, then Governor General of Canada, while making a farewell tour before discontinuing his duties as the representative of the Crown in Canada. I am sure you will join with me in extending greetings and good wishes to His Excellency, Lord Willingdon, Successor in office to Baron Byng of Vimy, and in assuring His Excellency and Lady Willingdon that a cordial reception awaits them in Saskatchewan whenever they may visit us.

It is with great pleasure that I note the prevalence of an ever increasing spirit of optimism among the people of our province as a result of the improved financial position which has been achieved. Opinions may differ as to the degree in which the present financial position is due to wise administration of the different institutions of government, to the adoption of new methods of marketing, to greater returns as a result of better climatic conditions, but it will be generally conceded that the splendid spirit of our people, during the years following the war, played the most important part in bringing about the present favourable attitude toward the future development of our province.

The improved financial standing of our people is indicated by a falling off in the demands made upon the services of the Debt Adjustment Bureau, by increased building programmes within our cities, by improved financial conditions in our municipalities and by the favourable sales of bonds, which the government has been able to negotiate in recent weeks.

My Ministers indicated last Session their intention to provide for an investigation into the possibilities for the development and distribution of power within the province. A Commission has been appointed with instructions and powers to investigate and report.

The necessity for the superannuation of Civil Servants has been urged upon the Government for a number of years. My Ministers will present for your consideration and action a bill based upon the principles of the resolution introduced by the Senior Member for Regina City and agreed to unanimously at the last Session of the Legislature.

The line of elevators brought into being by an Act of the Legislature in the year 1911 has been purchased since the last Session of the House by the Saskatchewan Pool Elevators Limited. This will necessitate the introduction of validating legislation, together with other enactments which will be submitted to you for consideration.

The continued growth of the province makes constant consideration of our educational requirements necessary. The Government hopes at this Session to lay the foundation for further development of the educational system to meet the growing needs of all our people.

Among other important matters of legislation with which you will be asked to deal are measures providing for the consolidation of and revision of the various child caring acts, consolidation of The Town Act and amending bills relating to insurance, municipal and 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 1, 1927.

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 County by the resignation of the Honourable Charles Avery Dunning.

In the Electoral Division of Pipestone by the acceptance of an office of emolument under the Crown by the Honourable William John Patterson.

In the Electoral Division of Prince Albert by the acceptance of an office of emolument under the Crown by the Honourable Thomas Clayton Davis.

In the Electoral Division of Kerrobert by the resignation of John Albert Dowd, Esquire.

In the Electoral Division of Saskatoon City by the resignation of the Honourable Archibald Peter McNab;

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

Of the Honourable William John Patterson as member for the Electoral Division of Pipestone.

Of the Honourable Thomas Clayton Davis as member for the Electoral Division of Prince Albert.

Of A. Jules Marion, Esquire, as member for the Electoral Division of Ile a la Crosse.

Of Thomas Waddell, Esquire, as member for the Electoral Division of Moose Jaw County.

Of Alexander L. Grant, Esquire, as member for the Electoral Division of Notukeu.

Of Donald Laing, Esquire, as member for the Electoral Division of Kerrobert.

(Sessional Paper No. 1.)

The Honourable William John Patterson, member for the Electoral Division of Pipestone, the Honourable Thomas Clayton Davis, Member for the Electoral Division of Prince Albert; A. Jules Marion, Esquire, Member for the Electoral Division of Ile a la Crosse; Thomas Waddell, Esquire, Member for the Electoral Division of Moose Jaw County; Alexander L. Grant, Esquire, Member for the Electoral Division of Notukeu; and Donald Laing, Esquire, Member for the Electoral Division of Kerrobert, 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. Cross,

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 and 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 3.30 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 1927.

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

- By Mr. McNiven—Of the City of Regina.
- By Mr. Sahlmark—Of the Lutheran College and Seminary.
- By Mr. Garry—Of the Queen Victoria Cottage Hospital at Yorkton.
- By Mr. Huck—Of Les Reverends Peres Oblats de Marie Immaculee des Territoires du Nord-Ouest.
- By Mr. McGregor—Of Reverende Soeur Marie-de-la-Redemption and five others.
- By Mr. Smith—Of Sister Ida Horvath and three others.
- By Mr. Buckle—Of Reverend Sister M. Fr. Jouin and two others.
- By Mr. Baker—Of the Orange Benevolent Society of Saskatchewan.
- By Mr. Scott—Of George Frederick Edwards and three others.
- By Mr. Scott—Of Bertha Holmes and five others.
- By Mr. Gamble—Of the Saskatchewan Registered Seed Growers' Co-operative Association Limited.
- By Mr. McNiven—Of Charles W. Morgan and four others.

The Hon. Mr. Latta, 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 | Anderson | Pickel |
| Agar | Garry | Sahlmark |

Three shall be a quorum.

ON PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS.

Messieurs

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

Eight shall be a quorum.

JANUARY 19, 1927

ON PRIVATE BILLS.

Messieurs

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

Eight shall be a quorum.

ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND PRINTING.

Messieurs

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

Eight shall be a quorum.

ON AGRICULTURE.

Messieurs

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

Eight shall be a quorum.

ON MUNICIPAL LAW.

Messieurs

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

Six shall be a quorum.

ON EDUCATION.

Messieurs

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

Eight shall be a quorum.

ON RAILWAY, TELEPHONES AND TELEGRAPHS.

Messieurs.

| | | |
|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Parker | Gardiner | Miller |
| Agar | Gemmell | McGregor |
| Buckle | Hagarty | McIntosh |
| Cockburn | Halvorson | Marion |
| Creighton | Hassard | Patterson |
| Cross | Huck | Stipe |
| Donaldson | Laing | Tran |
| Dodds | MacLachlan | Wilson |

Six shall be a quorum.

ON LAW AMENDMENTS.

Messieurs.

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

Five shall be a quorum.

JANUARY 19, 1927

ON LIBRARY.

Messieurs

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

Four shall be a quorum.

By leave of the Assembly,

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

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

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

Annual Report of the Department of Education for the year ended December 31, 1925. (*Sessional Paper No. 2.*)

The Hon. 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 Highways for the fiscal year ended April 30, 1926. (*Sessional Paper No. 3.*)

The Assembly then adjourned at 3.20 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 1927.

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

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

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 the ratification of a Bylaw and Agreement respecting the erection of an hotel.

Of the Lutheran College and Seminary, praying for An Act to amend its Act of incorporation.

Of the Queen Victoria Cottage Hospital at Yorkton, praying for An Act to amend its Act of incorporation.

Of Les Reverendes Peres Oblats de Marie Immaculee des Territoires du Nord-Ouest, praying for certain exemptions from taxation.

Of Reverende Soeur Marie-de-la-Redemption and five others, praying for An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs Adoratrices du Precieux Sang de Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan.

Of Sister Ida Horvath and three others, praying for An Act to incorporate The Sisters of Social Service.

Of Reverend Sister M. Fr. Jouin and two others, praying for An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs de la Charite de Notre Dame d'Evron.

Of The Orange Benevolent Society of Saskatchewan, praying for An Act of incorporation.

Of George Frederick Edwards and three others, praying for An Act to incorporate United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, Limited.

Of Bertha Holmes and five others, praying for An Act to incorporate the Saskatchewan Co-operative Poultry Producers, Limited.

Of The Saskatchewan Registered Seed Growers' Co-operative Association Limited, praying for An Act to amend its Act of incorporation.

Of Charles W. Morgan and four others, praying for An Act to incorporate The Religious Education Council of Saskatchewan.

The Hon. Mr. Davis, 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, 1926.

(Sessional Paper No. 4.)

Also,—Annual Report of the Provincial Secretary, including the Report of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, 1925-26.

(*Sessional Paper No. 5.*)

Also,—Annual Report of the Bureau of Labour and Industries for the year ended April 30, 1926.

(*Sessional Paper No. 6.*)

And also,—President's Report of the University of Saskatchewan, including Financial Statements, for the year ended June 30, 1926.

(*Sessional Paper No. 7.*)

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

First Annual Report and Financial Statement of the Liquor Board, for the period ended March 31, 1926.

(*Sessional Paper No. 8.*)

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. Grant, seconded by Mr. Laing,

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.

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

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

REGINA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 1927.

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

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. 1—An Act to facilitate the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments in Saskatchewan and in other parts of His Majesty's Dominions.

Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 2—An Act to amend The Deserted Wives' Maintenance Act.

Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 3—An Act to amend The Minimum Wage Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 4—An Act respecting Towns.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 5—An Act to amend The Factories Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 6—An Act to amend The School Assessment Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 7—An Act to validate Certain Tax Sales.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Tuesday next.

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, 1926. (*Sessional Paper No. 9.*)

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Grant of the twentieth instant.

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

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

REGINA, MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1927.

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

Your Committee met for organisation and appointed Mr. Gamble as its Chairman, and Mr. Anderson as Deputy Chairman.

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

Of the City of Regina, praying for the ratification of a Bylaw and Agreement respecting the erection of an hotel.

Of the Lutheran College and Seminary, praying for An Act to amend its Act of incorporation.

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

Of the Queen Victoria Cottage Hospital at Yorkton, praying for An Act to amend its Act of incorporation.

Of Les Reverendes Peres Oblats de Marie Immaculee des Territoires du Nord-Ouest, praying for certain exemptions from taxation.

Of Reverends Soeur Marie-de-la-Redemption and five others, praying for An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs Adoratrices du Precieux Sang de Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan.

Of Sister Ida Horvath and three others, praying for An Act to incorporate The Sisters of Social Service.

Of Reverend Sister M. Fr. Jouin and two others, praying for An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs de la Charite de Notre Dame d'Evron.

Of The Orange Benevolent Society of Saskatchewan, praying for An Act of incorporation.

Of George Frederick Edwards and three others, praying for An Act to incorporate United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, Limited.

Of Bertha Holmes and five others, praying for An Act to incorporate the Saskatchewan Co-operative Poultry Producers, Limited.

Of The Saskatchewan Registered Seed Growers' Co-operative Association Limited, praying for An Act to amend its Act of incorporation.

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

Bill No. 8—An Act respecting the Welfare of Children.
Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 9—An Act respecting Agisters and Keepers of Livery, Boarding and Sale Stables.
Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 10—An Act respecting Live Stock and Live Stock Products.
Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Wednesday next.

The Clerk laid on the Table the following 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 the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

Bill No. 02—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Lutheran College and Seminary.

Bill No. 03—An Act to amend The United Church of Canada Act.

Bill No. 04—An Act to amend An Ordinance to incorporate "The Yorkton Queen Victoria Cottage Hospital," being chapter 23 of the Ordinances of 1902.

Bill No. 05—An Act to provide Exemption from Taxation upon Certain Lands to Les Reverends Peres Oblats de Marie Immaculee des Territoires du Nord-Ouest.

Bill No. 06—An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs Adoratrices du Precieux Sang de Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan.

Bill No. 07—An Act to incorporate The Sisters of Social Service.

Bill No. 08—An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs de la Charite de Notre Dame d'Evron.

Bill No. 09—An Act to incorporate The Orange Benevolent Society of Saskatchewan.

Bill No. 010—An Act to incorporate United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, Limited.

Bill No. 011—An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Poultry Producers, Limited.

Bill No. 012—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Registered Seed Growers' Co-operative Association, Limited.

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

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Grant of the twentieth instant.

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

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

REGINA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1927.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Gardiner have leave to introduce Bill No. 11—An Act to amend The Agricultural Aids Act.

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

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

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

Bill No. 12—An Act to amend The Steam Boilers Act.

Hon. Mr. Uhrich, Second reading Thursday next.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Grant of the twentieth instant.

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

The Assembly then adjourned at 11.05 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1927.

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

Annual Report on the administration of The Deferred Charges Act, 1925-26. (*Sessional Paper No. 10.*)

And also,—Annual Report of the Department of Railways for the year ended December 31, 1925. (*Sessional Paper No. 11.*)

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Grant of the twentieth instant.

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

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

Bill No. 01—An Act to confirm a Certain Bylaw of the City of Regina and a Certain Agreement entered into between the City of Regina and the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

Bill No. 02—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Lutheran College and Seminary.

Bill No. 03—An Act to amend The United Church of Canada Act.

Bill No. 04—An Act to amend An Ordinance to incorporate "The Yorkton Queen Victoria Cottage Hospital," being chapter 23 of the Ordinances of 1902.

Bill No. 05—An Act to provide Exemption from Taxation upon Certain Lands to Les Reverends Peres Oblats de Marie Immaculee des Territoires du Nord-Ouest.

Bill No. 06—An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs Adoratrices du Precieux Sang de Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan.

Bill No. 07—An Act to incorporate The Sisters of Social Service.

Bill No. 08—An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs de la Charite de Notre Dame d'Evron.

Bill No. 09—An Act to incorporate The Orange Benevolent Society of Saskatchewan.

Bill No. 010—An Act to incorporate United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, Limited.

Bill No. 012—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Registered Seed Growers' Co-operative Association, Limited.

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

REGINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 1927.

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

Bill No. 13—An Act to amend The University Act.
Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Tuesday next.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Gardiner have leave to introduce Bill No. 14—An Act to validate a Certain Agreement respecting the Distribution of Relief.

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

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

Statement of Attorney General's opinions, and Treasury Board decisions, and of Special Warrants and Expenditures thereunder, for the fiscal year 1925-26. (*Sessional Paper No. 12.*)

Also,—Annual Report of the Administration of The Agricultural Aids Act as at April 30, 1926. (*Sessional Paper No. 13.*)

Also,—Statement of Temporary Loans issued under Section 13 of The Treasury Department Act. (*Sessional Paper No. 14.*)

Also,—Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Saskatchewan Farm Loan Board for the year ended December 31, 1925. (*Sessional Paper No. 15.*)

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, 1926. (*Sessional Paper No. 16.*)

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

Ordered, That the Public Accounts of the Province of Saskatchewan for the fiscal period ended April 30, 1926, be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Printing.

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

Record of Convictions under The Liquor Act, 1925, for the period ended December 31, 1926. (*Sessional Paper No. 17.*)

Mr. Speaker laid before the Assembly:—

The Annual Report of the Legislative Library, dated January 24, 1927. *(Sessional Paper No. 18.)*

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Grant, seconded by Mr. Laing,

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. Hamilton,

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. Gardiner, 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. Gardiner, 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.

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

- (1) How many of the Justices of the Peace of this Province are employed as Vendors in Government Liquor and Beer Stores?

Answer: There are none on the new Commission of the Peace.

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

- (1) What was the cost of construction of the following schools: Willow School, Township 36, Range 6; and Chernos School, Township 37, Range 5?

Answer: Willow S.D. No. 4334—Debentures issued \$4,000.
Cheremosz School No. 4004—Debentures \$2,000

- (2) What periods of time have these schools been open since construction?

Answer: Willow S.D. No. 4334.
1922—126 days.
1923— 97 days.
1924—118 days.
1925—not open.
1926—118 days.

Cheremosz S.D. No. 4004:

1919—not open.
1920—124 days.
1921— 59 days.
1922—82½ days.
1923—not open.
1924—108 days.
1925—not open.
1926—124 days.

- (3) Are the people in these districts able to take care of their debenture indebtedness?

Answer: Yes.

- (4) Did the Department make any investigation to ascertain the financial position of these Districts prior to granting the permission to build?

Answer: The Local Government Board requires detailed information as to the necessity for the school and the financial position of the district before a debenture loan is authorised.

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

- (1) How many men are now employed in the liquor stores of Saskatchewan?

Answer: Liquor Stores 129
Beer Stores 135

Total 264

- (2) How many are returned men?

Answer: Liquor Stores 53
Beer Stores 20

Total 73

- (3) How many beer stores are located on hotel premises?

Answer: None, but portions of same buildings are occupied as beer stores in 32 cases, there being no entrance from the hotel premises.

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(4) How many hotel keepers are Government Liquor Vendors?

Answer: There are no hotel keepers employed as vendors in Liquor Stores, but 16 hotel keepers are employed as vendors in Beer Stores.

According to Order, Bill No. 011—An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Poultry Producers, Limited, was read the second time and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills.

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

Bill No. 1—An Act to facilitate the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments in Saskatchewan and in other parts of His Majesty's Dominions.

Bill No. 2—An Act to amend The Deserted Wives' Maintenance Act.

Bill No. 8—An Act respecting the Welfare of Children.

Bill No. 3—An Act to amend The Minimum Wage Act.

Bill No. 4—An Act respecting Towns.

Bill No. 5—An Act to amend The Factories Act.

The Assembly then adjourned at 11.10 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 1927.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Davis have leave to introduce Bill No. 15—An Act to amend The Corporations Taxation Act.

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

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

A Detailed Statement of all Remissions made under The Penalties and Forfeitures Act, for the period ended January 24, 1927.
(*Sessional Paper No. 19.*)

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

Annual Report of the Provincial Auditor upon the accounts of the Administrator of the Estates of the Mentally Incompetent for the fiscal year ended April 30, 1926.
(*Sessional Paper No. 20.*)

And also,—Annual Report of the Local Government Board for the year ended December 31, 1926.
(*Sessional Paper No. 21.*)

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

(1) Does the principle of employing Returned Soldiers to civil positions apply to all Departments of this Government?

Answer: Yes.

(2) Are the Returned Soldiers' organisations notified when vacancies occur?

Answer: No.

(3) Does the Liquor Board apply this principle?

Answer: Yes.

(4) How do you account for the appointment of R. J. Ramsland as Liquor Inspector?

Answer: R. J. Ramsland, B.A., was transferred from the Civil Service, to the Liquor Board Head Office Staff and, being well qualified for the position, was appointed an Inspector of General Liquor Stores.

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

- (1) On what date was a Beer Store opened at Balgonie?
Answer: August 31, 1926.
- (2) Was there a vote taken under The Liquor Act in the district in which Balgonie is situated?
Answer: No. The petition against the establishment of stores filed with the Liquor Board did not contain the required fifteen per cent. of the Municipal electors necessary in order to have the question submitted to a vote of the said electors.
- (3) If so, when, and what was the result?
Answer: See explanation contained in the answer to Question No. 2.

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

- (1) What amount of money was spent on the road between Summerberry and Grenfell during the year 1926?
Answer: (a) Road Improvement work \$ 132.75
(b) Construction of reinforced concrete bridge 4,782.53
- (2) How was the money spent?
Answer: (a) Under road foreman appointed by the Department of Highways. The work done was filling holes, general repairs and trimming with grader.
(b) Under contract, let by tender, with John Mercer, Regina, building reinforced concrete beam bridge on portion of road in section 12, township 17, range 8, west 2nd meridian.
- (3) Under whose direction and between what dates?
Answer: (a) J. A. McCowan, Summerberry, acted as foreman. Dates worked—July 16, 17, 19, 20 and 21; and October 12, 13, 14, 25 and 26, 1926.
(b) Department of Highways, between dates May 12th and August 3rd, 1926.

NOTE.—The above answers refer to road between Summerberry and Grenfell, surveyed through sections 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, township 17, range 8, west of the 2nd meridian; and through section 7, township 17, range 7, west of the 2nd meridian.

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

- (1) At what centres in the province are Third Class Sessions of the Normal School being held?
Answer: Third Class Normal Schools are now in session at the following centres: Moose Jaw, Moosomin, Prince Albert, Estevan, Weyburn and Yorkton.

- (2) How many students are in attendance at each such centre?

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| <i>Answer:</i> Moose Jaw | 87 |
| Moosomin | 26 |
| Prince Albert | 45 |
| Estevan | 30 |
| Weyburn | 23 |
| Yorkton | 71 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total | 282 |
| | <hr/> |

- (3) What are the age and academic requirements for admission to such sessions?

Answer: To be admitted to the Third Class Normal School Sessions, students must be at least seventeen years of age or attain that age before the close of the sessions, and must hold at least Grade XI standing.

- (4) Does the Government contemplate any immediate change in the regulations respecting the training of teachers? If so, what?

Answer: Yes. In addition to extending the period of training for Second and First Class teachers from thirty-three to thirty-eight weeks—a change which became effective on July 1, 1926—Third Class Normal School Sessions will no longer be operated and all students entering the Normal School, including University graduates, will be required to attend the full period from September 1st until the first Friday in June following. Students must be at least eighteen years of age or attain that age before the close of the session.

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

By Mr. Anderson, for a Return showing,

- (1) The names of all Canadian and foreign Distilleries from which liquor was purchased for sale in Saskatchewan liquor stores during 1926.
- (2) The amounts paid each Distillery.
- (3) The names of Canadian agents, if any, who have sold to the Liquor Board.
- (4) The names of all provincial and other breweries from which beer has been purchased and the amount paid each during the above period.

By Mr. McIntosh for Mr. McAfee, for a Return showing,

The number of candidates at the Grade VIII Examination each year from 1921 to 1926 inclusive, indicating:—

- (a) The number who wrote;

- (b) The number recommended for promotion to Grade IX without examination;
- (c) The number who passed the written examination;
- (d) The number who failed;
- (e) The number who received Grade VIII diplomas.

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. 6—An Act to amend The School Assessment Act.

Bill No. 7—An Act to validate Certain Tax Sales.

Bill No. 9—An Act respecting Agisters and Keepers of Livery, Boarding and Sale Stables.

Bill No. 10—An Act respecting Live Stock and Live Stock Products.

Bill No. 11—An Act to amend The Agricultural Aids Act.

Bill No. 12—An Act to amend The Steam Boilers 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. 1—An Act to facilitate the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments in Saskatchewan and in other parts of His Majesty's Dominions.

Bill No. 2—An Act to amend The Deserted Wives' Maintenance Act.

Bill No. 3—An Act to amend The Minimum Wage Act.

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

Bill No. 8—An Act respecting the Welfare of Children.

The Order of the Day being called for the motion of Mr. MacPherson for an Address, by leave of the Assembly, the said motion was amended and agreed to as follows:

Moved by Mr. MacPherson, seconded by Mr. Anderson,

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

All correspondence that has passed between the Minister in charge of the Bureau of Labour and Industries of the Government of Saskatchewan and the Minister of Labour of the Government of Canada during the years 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926 and 1927 dealing with the matter of Old Age Pensions.

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

REGINA, MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 1927.

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

Bill No. 16—An Act respecting the Assignment of Book Debts.
Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 17—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Evidence Act.
Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Wednesday next.

The Hon. 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, 1926. (*Sessional Paper No. 22.*)

The Hon. Mr. Gardiner, 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, 1926. (*Sessional Paper No. 23.*)

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

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated January 28, 1927, showing:—

The number of candidates at the Grade VIII Examination each year from 1921 to 1926 inclusive, indicating:—

- (a) The number who wrote;
- (b) The number recommended for promotion to Grade IX without examination;
- (c) The number who passed the written examination;
- (d) The number who failed;
- (e) The number who received Grade VIII diplomas.

(*Sessional Paper No. 24.*)

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

- (1) What was the total number and area of plans of proposed subdivision of land approved by the Director of Town Planning in each of the following fiscal years?

| <i>Answer:</i> | Number | Area in acres |
|-------------------|--------|----------------------------|
| 1922-23..... | 66 | containing.... 708 acres |
| 1923-24..... | 233 | containing.... 2,772 acres |
| 1924-25..... | 217 | containing.... 2,653 acres |
| 1925-26..... | 217 | containing.... 1,950 acres |
| 1926 to date..... | 186 | containing.... 2,433 acres |

- (2) What was the total number of plans of new townsites approved by the Director of Town Planning in each of the following fiscal years:

| | |
|-----------------------------|----|
| <i>Answer:</i> 1922-23..... | 1 |
| 1923-24..... | 22 |
| 1924-25..... | 19 |
| 1925-26..... | 18 |
| 1926 to date..... | 14 |

- (3) How many townsites approved since May 1st, 1922, have since become incorporated as Villages?

Answer: 8.

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

- (1) What was the total number of persons applying for work at the Employment Offices of the province during the year 1926?

Answer: Men—66,521. Women—8,475. Total—74,996.

- (2) How many orders for help were received during the same period?

Answer: Men—75,573. Women—9,764. Total—85,337.

- (3) What was the number of placements made?

Answer: Men—65,255. Women—7,862. Total—73,117.

- (4) How many Old Country Domestic were placed during the year 1926?

Answer: 140.

- (5) Is it the intention of the Bureau of Labour and Industries to secure and place Immigrant girls as domestics during the year 1927?

Answer: Yes. 200 have been asked for.

- (6) What is the average cost to the province for each person placed in a situation?

Answer: Sixty-seven cents.

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

- (1) What educational live stock trains were operated by the Department of Agriculture in 1926?

Answer: Cattle Improvement Cars were operated over Canadian Pacific Railway lines in Central Saskatchewan in June and July last.

Sheep and Swine Cars were operated over the Canadian National Railways to Saskatoon, Unity, Battleford, Lloydminster, Prince Albert and Melfort in December.

- (2) What live stock was sold from the said trains?

Answer: The live stock sold from these cars included 39 pure bred bulls; 29 pure bred boars; 46 pure bred sows; 64 grade sows; 32 pure bred rams and 406 grade ewes.

- (3) What was the attendance at the lectures given from the said trains?

Answer: The attendance at the Cattle Improvement Cars was approximately 8,000; and at the Sheep and Swine Cars, 2,000.

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. 4—An Act respecting Towns.

Bill No. 8—An Act respecting the Welfare of Children.

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

REGINA, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1927.

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 Petition for a Private Bill and finds that the provisions of Rules 82 and 83 have been sufficiently complied with:—

Of Charles W. Morgan and four others, praying for An Act to incorporate The Religious Education Council of Saskatchewan.

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 the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

Bill No. 02—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Lutheran College and Seminary.

Bill No. 05—An Act to provide Exemption from Taxation upon Certain Lands to Les Reverends Peres Oblats de Marie Immaculee des Territoires du Nord-Ouest.

Bill No. 06—An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs Adoratrices du Precieux Sang de Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan.

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

Bill No. 04—An Act to amend An Ordinance to incorporate "The Yorkton Queen Victoria Cottage Hospital," being Chapter 23 of the Ordinances of 1902.

Bill No. 08—An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs de la Charite de Notre Dame d'Evron.

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

Bill No. 18—An Act to amend The Drugless Practitioners Act. Mr. Knowles, Second reading Thursday next.

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

Bill No. 013—An Act to incorporate The Religious Education Council of Saskatchewan.

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

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

- (1) Is the Province of Saskatchewan appearing before the Supreme Court of Canada in the matter of whether Clause 17 of The Alberta Act, 1905, is *intra vires* or *ultra vires*?

Answer: Yes.

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

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

Answer:

| | |
|---|-------|
| Shops and Stores | 999 |
| Laundries and Factories | 266 |
| Mail Order Houses | 285 |
| Hotels, Restaurants and Refreshment Rooms | 549 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total | 2,099 |
| | <hr/> |

- (2) How many inspections were made of these establishments for the year ended April 30, 1926?

Answer: 550 inspections in 1925-26.

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

- (1) How many plants are there in the Province for the manufacture of sodium sulphate?

Answer: Three.

- (2) Where are they located and what is their production?

Answer: Dunkirk—20 tons daily.

Dana—idle.

Alsask—small intermittent production.

- (3) What was the total production during 1924 and 1925?

Answer: 1924 1,083 tons

1925 1,916 tons

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

- (1) What was the estimated number of Harvesters required to harvest the 1926 crop?

Answer: 40,000.

- (2) How many actually came?

Answer: Total 26,132. From British Columbia, 4,248; Alberta, 727; Eastern Canada, 17,700; Manitoba, 1,698; United States, 1,759.

- (3) What steps were taken to secure additional men to help with the harvest?

Answer: A temporary office was opened in Winnipeg for a period of one month. The Railway Companies were asked to run a fourth series of excursion trains from the East. The Department of Immigration were asked to circularise their offices in the United States, with a view to securing men.

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

- (1) How many Road Foremen were paid by the Highways Department in the Canora Constituency in 1926?

Answer: Twelve (12).

- (2) Is a Foreman supposed to draw pay as a man and team as well as a Foreman?

Answer: No. But he may employ not more than two teams of his own when such teams are driven by another person.

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

By Mr. Anderson, for a Return showing:—

All correspondence between the School Board of Delisle School District and the Department of Education relative to the formation of the present High School District.

Moved by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. McAfee,

That, in the opinion of this Assembly, construction of the Hudson Bay Railway should be carried on without interruption so that the line may be completed to Nelson, and that work may be commenced on the Port terminals during 1927.

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

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

Bill No. 13—An Act to amend The University Act.

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

Bill No. 15—An Act to amend The Corporations Taxation Act.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 8—An Act respecting the Welfare of Children, 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, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1927.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Gardiner have leave to introduce Bill No. 19—An Act respecting the Superannuation of Civil Servants.

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

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

Bill No. 20—An Act respecting Local Improvement Districts.
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 21—An Act respecting Benevolent and Other Societies.
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 22—An Act to amend The Vehicles Act, 1924.
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 23—An Act to amend The Theatres and Cinematographs Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 24—An Act to provide for the Registration of Names of Homes.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 25—An Act to amend The Crop Payments Act.
Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Friday next.

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

- (1) In what Judicial Districts were Court Houses erected during the year 1926?

Answer: Wynyard, Shaunavon and Gravelbourg.

- (2) What was expended by the Government in each case in the construction of these Court Houses?

Answer: Wynyard contract price \$42,270; deductions \$2,387.20; cost \$39,882.80.

Shaunavon contract price \$42,500, extras \$189.30; cost \$42,689.30.

Gravelbourg contract price \$44,200; deductions \$1,572.40; cost \$42,627.60.

- (3) What was the amount paid in each instance for the building site of the Court Houses and from whom was the purchase made in each case?

Answer: Wynyard, 3 acres purchased from the Canadian Pacific Railway at a total cost of \$135.60.

Gravelbourg, Lots 19-20 purchased from the Town of Gravelbourg at a price of \$382.83. Lots 21 to 27 inclusive, purchased from the Canadian Northern Town Properties Ltd. at a price of \$1,750.

Shaunavon site donated by Town of Shaunavon.

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

- (1) What was the yearly remuneration, including Sessional Indemnity, of the Hon. A. P. McNab while he was Minister of Public Works?

Answer: Salary \$6,000.00—Sessional Indemnity \$1,800.00.

- (2) What is his remuneration as a member of the Local Government Board?

Answer: \$6,000.00 per annum.

- (3) Is he Junior member of the Board?

Answer: No. Mr. McNab was appointed a Commissioner of the Board and the Commissioners have equal status.

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

- (1) What was paid by the Government on account of wolf bounties in Saskatchewan during the past fiscal year?

Answer: The sum paid by the Government on account of wolf bounties during the past fiscal year was, on 2,936 coyote pups and 8 timber wolves, \$1,503.50.

- (2) How many coyote pelts were sold out of Saskatchewan during the same period?

Answer: There were 30,475 coyote pelts sold out of Saskatchewan during the past fiscal year.

- (3) Has the marketing of coyote pelts increased or decreased during recent years, and to what extent?

Answer: According to fur dealers' returns to the Department the number of pelts sold in the fiscal years 1921-22 and 1922-23 were 12,843 and 12,490 respectively; and for the past three fiscal years royalties were paid on 21,536, 31,009 and 30,475 coyote pelts respectively.

- (4) What is the number of sheep owned in Saskatchewan?

Answer: 133,000.

- (5) Has the number increased or decreased during the same period, and to what extent?

Answer: The number of sheep in Saskatchewan for the past six calendar years were as follows:—

| | |
|-----------|---------|
| 1921..... | 188,021 |
| 1922..... | 191,937 |
| 1923..... | 137,240 |
| 1924..... | 123,326 |
| 1925..... | 131,359 |
| 1926..... | 133,000 |

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. 4—An Act respecting Towns.

Bill No. 9—An Act respecting Agisters and Keepers of Livery, Boarding and Sale Stables.

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

Bill No. 5—An Act to amend The Factories Act.

Bill No. 10—An Act respecting Live Stock and Live Stock Products.

Bill No. 12—An Act to amend The Steam Boilers Act.

Bill No. 13—An Act to amend The University 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. 16—An Act respecting the Assignment of Book Debts.

Bill No. 17—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Evidence Act.

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

By Mr. Gemmell, 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 1925-26; also from May 1st to December 31st, 1926.
- (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 1925-26, also from May 1st to December 31st, 1926.

- (3) The total amount expended upon Capital bridges in each constituency during the fiscal year 1925-26; also from May 1st to December 31st, 1926?

By Mr. Baker, for a Return respecting the Grade VIII and High School Examinations for 1921 and 1926, showing:—

- (1) Total number of candidates who wrote.
- (2) Total number of examination papers read.
- (3) Number of examiners employed.
- (4) Basis of payment.
- (5) Average number of days reading.
- (6) Average number of papers read per day per examiner.
- (7) Total cost of reading papers.
- (8) Average cost of reading per paper.
- (9) Average amount earned per day per examiner.

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. 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 the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

Bill No. 02—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Lutheran College and Seminary.

Bill No. 04—An Act to amend An Ordinance to incorporate "The Yorkton Queen Victoria Cottage Hospital," being chapter 23 of the Ordinances of 1902.

Bill No. 05—An Act to provide Exemption from Taxation upon Certain Lands to Les Reverends Peres Oblats de Marie Immaculee des Territoires du Nord-Ouest.

Bill No. 06—An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs Adoratrices du Precieux Sang de Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan.

Bill No. 08—An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs de la Charite de Notre Dame d'Evron.

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

REGINA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1927.

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 with amendments:

Bill No. 07—An Act to incorporate The Sisters of Social Service.

Bill No. 010—An Act to incorporate United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, Limited.

Bill No. 011—An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Poultry Producers, Limited.

Bill No. 012—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Registered Seed Growers' Co-operative Association, Limited.

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

Bill No. 26—An Act to amend The Trustee Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 27—An Act to amend The Trust Companies Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 28—An Act respecting the Two-Platoon System for Employees of Certain Municipal Fire Departments.

Mr. Baker, Second reading Monday next.

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

- (1) Is it a fact that in the City of Saskatoon there is a tie-up in the Telephone System, and is it impossible in that City to obtain new telephone service?

Answer: There has been no interruption in the service given to existing telephone subscribers at Saskatoon, but, pending completion of the new sub-exchange in Nutana, new applications for service are temporarily held up.

- (2) Is there any assurance that there will not be a similar situation develop in the City of Regina?

Answer: The plans of the Department provide for the estimated requirements of the City of Regina and no interruption of service is expected.

- (3) If this assurance can be given, why are new subscribers given numbers already in the telephone book in this City?

Answer: It has been the practice for many years to assign new subscribers numbers which appear in the current telephone directory.

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

- (1) Has the Provincial Architect of this Province reported on the safety of the old Exchange Building used by the Telephone Department at Saskatoon?

Answer: Yes.

- (2) Has any person reported to the Department or the Provincial Architect relative to the safety of the said building?

Answer: Yes.

- (3) If so, by whom were the reports made, when were they made, and to what effect?

Answer: W. M. Sharon, Provincial Architect, on January 25th, 1926, reported that alkali had damaged concrete footings and that no further loads should be placed on the top floor without installing supporting columns.

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

- (1) How many mothers received aid under The Mothers' Allowances Act during the fiscal year 1925-26?

Answer: 1,281.

- (2) What amount was paid to mothers under the said Act during the said period?

Answer: \$301,280.00.

- (3) Has the Government a record of the number of children who were thereby benefited? If so, how many children?

Answer: Yes. 4,483.

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

- (1) Does the Department of Telephones do business with a concern known as the Consumers' Supply Company?

Answer: The last purchase from this Company was made in the fiscal year 1918-19.

- (2) If so, what was the amount paid each fiscal year by the Department of Telephones during the past ten years?

Answer: 1916-17 \$169.00
 1917-18 81.40
 1918-19 151.35

- (3) Is one E. F. Pratt employed by the Department of Telephones?

Answer: Yes.

- (4) If so, what is his official position?

Answer: Chief Clerk and Purchasing Agent.

- (5) Has the Government any information as to any relationship between the said Mr. Pratt and any proprietor of the Consumers' Supply Company?

Answer: No.

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

- (1) How many parcels of land were offered for sale in the Moose Range Drainage Districts?

Answer: One hundred and forty-two (142) quarter sections.

- (2) How many were sold?

Answer: Forty-one (41) quarter sections.

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

Answer: \$10.22.

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

- (1) Is Julius Andrewchowicz still in the employ of the Government? If so, in what capacity?

Answer: Yes. Julius Androchowicz is employed as an inspector attached to the Motor License Branch of The Provincial Secretary's Department.

- (2) Was the Government responsible in any way for his going to Europe in 1926?

Answer: No.

- (3) Was he granted leave of absence during 1926? If so, for how long?

Answer: Yes. From 12th June to 11th September, inclusive, 1926.

- (4) Did he receive salary from the Government during the period of his absence from the Province?

Answer: Was granted three months' leave of absence, without pay, with the exception of the statutory allowance of three weeks for recreation for which pay is provided.

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

By Mr. MacPherson, for a Return showing:

The detailed expenses incurred by Alfred A. Wilson, an Inspector in the Department of Highways, during the months of May, June, July and August in the year 1925.

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

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

Bill No. 16—An Act respecting the Assignment of Book Debts.

Bill No. 7—An Act to validate Certain Tax Sales.

Bill No. 15—An Act to amend The Corporations Taxation Act.

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

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

Bill No. 17—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Evidence Act.

Bill No. 11—An Act to amend The Agricultural Aids Act.

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

Bill No. 6—An Act to amend The School Assessment Act.

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

REGINA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1927.

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

Bill No. 29—An Act to amend The Arrears of Taxes Act.
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 30—An Act to amend The City Act.
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 31—An Act to amend The Municipal Hail Insurance Act.
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 32—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Insurance Act, 1925.
Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Tuesday next.

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

Report of Saskatchewan Anti-Tuberculosis League for the year 1925. *(Sessional Paper No. 25.)*

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

Return to an Order of the Assembly dated February 2, 1927, respecting the Grade VIII and High School Examinations for 1921 and 1926, showing:

- (1) Total number of candidates who wrote.
- (2) Total number of examination papers read.
- (3) Number of examiners employed.
- (4) Basis of payment.
- (5) Average number of days reading.
- (6) Average number of papers read per day per examiner.
- (7) Total cost of reading papers.
- (8) Average cost of reading per paper.
- (9) Average amount earned per day per examiner.

(Sessional Paper No. 26.)

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

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated January 28, 1927, showing:

All correspondence that has passed between the Minister in charge of the Bureau of Labour and Industries of the Government of Saskatchewan and the Minister of Labour of the Government of Canada during the years 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926 and 1927, dealing with the matter of Old Age Pensions.

(Sessional Paper No. 27.)

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

- (1) For how many years has Alfred Ashdown, of Theodore, been a Justice of the Peace?

Answer: Approximately 12 years.

- (2) Has his Commission been renewed? If not, for what reason?

Answer: No. Not advisable in public interest.

- (3) During his long period of office, did he, in the opinion of the Government, perform his duties faithfully and to the satisfaction of the majority of the citizens in his community?

Answer: No.

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

- (1) How long has E. W. Early, of Marshall, been acting as Justice of the Peace in this Province?

Answer: 19 years.

- (2) Is he still acting in that capacity?

Answer: Yes.

- (3) During his period of office, has he, in the opinion of the Government, performed his duties satisfactorily to the majority of the citizens in his community?

Answer: Yes.

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

- (1) Was Constable Scotland of the Saskatchewan Provincial Police stationed at Vidora in 1926?

Answer: No, Constable Scotland was stationed at Robsart.

- (2) If so, was he removed from Vidora, and for what reasons?

Answer: No, but he was removed by the Commissioner from Robsart, as such action was regarded by him in the best interest of the force.

- (3) Were petitions forwarded to the Government asking that he be kept at Vidora?

Answer: No, they were received from Robsart.

- (4) If these petitions were disregarded, why were they disregarded?

Answer: See answer to question 2.

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

- (1) Is the Official Guardian bonded?

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

- (2) If not bonded, what protection is afforded the beneficiaries concerned in the estates handled?

Answer: Directly, by virtue of his appointment or pursuant to any requirements of The Infants Act, estates of infants are not handled by the Official Guardian. Indirectly, by order of various courts and by agreement of parties considerable monies do come into the hands of the Official Guardian for investment and safekeeping on behalf of infants. A half-yearly audit of the accounts of the Official Guardian and of the monies and securities in his hands is made by G. C. Rooke & Co., Chartered Accountants.

- (3) What was the gross amount charged by the Official Guardian for his official services for the year ended December 31, 1926?

Answer: \$21,170.01, the net fees being \$9,952.17.

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

- (1) How many barristers are employed in the Attorney-General's Department?

Answer: 9.

- (2) What is the total salaries of these barristers?

Answer: \$29,880.00.

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

- (1) How many school departments were in operation in each of the years 1906, 1911, 1916, 1921 and 1925, and how many teachers were recorded as having taught in the Province in each of these years?

Answer:

| Year | Departments in operation | Teachers employed |
|-----------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1906..... | 1,017 | 1,298 |
| 1911..... | 2,480 | 3,491 |
| 1916..... | 4,279 | 5,677 |
| 1921..... | 5,591 | 6,962 |
| 1925..... | 6,050 | 7,520 |

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

By Mr. MacPherson, for a Return showing:

- (1) The Telephone Exchanges at which the Agents were paid on a commission basis in 1916, 1921 and 1926.

- (2) The total amount of commissions paid to Agents in 1916, 1921 and 1926.
- (3) The Exchanges at which the Rural Telephone Companies act as Telephone Agents.
- (4) Whether the commissions paid to Rural Telephone Companies cover the cost of operating the Government switchboard; and, if not, whether the rural subscribers and the Government subscribers bear the additional financial burden on an equal per capita basis.
- (5) Whether, in cases where Rural Telephone Companies undertake to act as Agents of the Telephone Department, and the commission paid will not cover the expense of operation, the Department cancels the rental usually charged.
- (6) The sum annually saved to the Department of Telephones by having the Rural Companies act as Agents.

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

Bill No. 17—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Evidence Act.

Bill No. 11—An Act to amend The Agricultural Aids Act.

According to Order, the Hon. Mr. Gardiner moved:

That Bill No. 19—An Act respecting the Superannuation of Civil Servants, be now read a second time.

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

The said Bill was accordingly read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

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

Bill No. 20—An Act respecting Local Improvement Districts.

Bill No. 22—An Act to amend The Vehicles Act, 1924.

Bill No. 23—An Act to amend The Theatres and Cinematographs Act.

Bill No. 24—An Act to provide for the Registration of Names of Homes.

Bill No. 25—An Act to amend The Crop Payments Act.

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 Sisters of Social Service.

Bill No. 010—An Act to incorporate United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, Limited.

Bill No. 011—An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Poultry Producers, Limited.

Bill No. 012—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Registered Seed Growers' Co-operative Association, Limited.

According to Order, Bill No. 013—An Act to incorporate The Religious Education Council of Saskatchewan, was read the second time and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills.

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

REGINA, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1927.

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

Bill No. 33—An Act to amend The Rural Municipality Act.
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 34—An Act respecting the Destruction by Constables and Others of Injured Animals.
Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Wednesday next.

Bill No. 36—An Act respecting the City of Swift Current.
Mr. Sykes, Second reading Wednesday next.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Uhrich have leave to introduce Bill No. 35—An Act to amend The Tuberculosis Sanatoria and Hospitals Act, 1923.

The Hon. Mr. Uhrich, a member of the Executive Council, 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 Wednesday next.

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

H. W. NEWLANDS,
Lieutenant Governor.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,—

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

(Sessional Paper No. 28.)

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

Return, to an Order of the Assembly, dated January 28, 1927, showing:—

- (1) The names of all Canadian and foreign Distilleries from which liquor was purchased for sale in Saskatchewan liquor stores during 1926.
- (2) The amounts paid each Distillery.
- (3) The names of Canadian agents, if any, who have sold to the Liquor Board.
- (4) The names of all provincial and other breweries from which beer has been purchased and the amount paid each during the above period. *(Sessional Paper No. 29.)*

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

- (1) What was the number of persons who were arrested in the Province of Saskatchewan during the years 1924, 1925 and 1926, who were found to be suffering from venereal disease:

Answer: In 1924.....150
 In 1925.....164
 In 1926.....278

- (2) How many were discharged uncured during the same period of time?

Answer: As these cases are in jail for varying periods there is usually not sufficient time to cure them, although they receive treatment during the jail term. On discharge they are advised to attend the Public Health dispensaries, and the cases are followed up by officials of the Public Health Department.

- (3) Is there any provision made in Provincial jails for the isolation of persons suffering from these diseases?

Answer: Yes. Each prisoner suffering with venereal disease is supplied with marked dishes and every precaution necessary is taken to prevent the spread of the disease.

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

- (1) What is the number of beekeepers registered in Saskatchewan during each of the years 1924, 1925 and 1926?

Answer: The number of beekeepers registered in Saskatchewan during the past three calendar years were as follows:

1924.....406
 1925.....667
 1926.....860

- (2) What quantity of honey was produced in Saskatchewan during each of the years 1924, 1925 and 1926?

Answer: The quantity of honey produced in Saskatchewan during the past three calendar years was as follows:

1924..... 79,309 lbs.
 1925..... 162,175 lbs.
 1926..... 170,287 lbs.

- (3) What was the value of honey produced in Saskatchewan in each of the years 1924, 1925 and 1926?

Answer: The value of honey produced in Saskatchewan during the past three calendar years was as follows:

1924..... \$18,609.72
 1925..... 36,827.87
 1926..... 37,817.80

According to Order, Bill No. 28—An Act respecting the Two-Platoon System for Employees of Certain Municipal Fire Departments, 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.

Moved by Mr. Baker, seconded by Mr. McIntosh,

That, in the opinion of this Assembly, the subject of improving the condition of the aged deserving poor is worthy of and should receive the early and careful consideration of the Government.

A debate arising,

4.00 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 to facilitate the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments in Saskatchewan and in other parts of His Majesty's Dominions.

An Act to amend The Deserted Wives' Maintenance Act.

An Act to amend The Minimum Wage Act.

An Act to amend The Factories Act.

An Act to validate Certain Tax Sales.

An Act respecting Live Stock and Live Stock Products.

An Act to amend The Agricultural Aids Act.

An Act to amend The Steam Boilers Act.

An Act to amend The University Act.

An Act to validate a Certain Agreement respecting the Distribution of Relief.

An Act to amend The Corporations Taxation Act.

An Act respecting the Assignment of Book Debts.

An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Evidence 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 the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Lutheran College and Seminary.

An Act to amend An Ordinance to incorporate "The Yorkton Queen Victoria Cottage Hospital," being chapter 23 of the Ordinances of 1902.

An Act to provide Exemption from Taxation upon Certain Lands to Les Reverends Peres Oblats de Marie Immaculee des Territoires du Nord-Ouest.

An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs Adoratrices du Precieux Sang de Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan.

An Act to incorporate The Sisters of Social Service.

An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs de la Charite de Notre Dame d'Evron.

An Act to incorporate United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, Limited.

An Act to incorporate Saskatchewan Co-operative Poultry Producers, Limited.

An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Registered Seed Growers' Co-operative Association, Limited.

The Royal Assent to these Bills was announced by the Clerk:—

In His Majesty's name, His Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth Assent to these Bills.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor then retired from the Chamber.

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

By leave to 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. 26—An Act to amend The Trustee Act.

Bill No. 27—An Act to amend The Trust Companies Act.

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

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

Bill No. 20—An Act respecting Local Improvement Districts.

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

Bill No. 23—An Act to amend The Theatres and Cinematographs Act.

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

REGINA, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1927.

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

Bill No. 37—An Act to amend The Village Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 38—An Act to amend The Game Act.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 41—An Act to amend The Union Hospital Act.

Hon. Mr. Uhrich, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 42—An Act to amend The Medical Profession Act.

Mr. Knowles, Second reading Thursday next.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Uhrich have leave to introduce Bill No. 40—An Act to amend The Hospitals Act.

The Hon. Mr. Uhrich, a member of the Executive Council, 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 Thursday next.

The Honourable the Premier made a statement to the Assembly regarding the proposed amalgamation of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited, and Caulder's Creameries, Limited, and stated that, if necessary, an opportunity would be afforded for a full discussion of the whole matter by the Assembly.

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

- (1) What amount has been paid off the bonded indebtedness of the Department by the Department of Telephones?

Answer: \$2,293,523.54.

- (2) Has an adequate Depreciation Reserve been set up in the Department of Telephones chargeable against revenue?

Answer: The Department has, from surplus earnings, set up a Depreciation Reserve Account which is sufficient considering the present condition of the system.

- (3) If so, at what rate per centum per annum?

Answer: All surplus earnings are transferred to Reserves.

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

- (1) To what extent is Saskatchewan coal used in Government Institutions?

Answer: 16,075 tons were used during the last fiscal year.

- (2) How many tons of Saskatchewan and how many tons of other coals were burned in Weyburn Mental Hospital during 1926?

Answer: 4,790 tons of Saskatchewan and 5,684 tons Western nut slack used during 1926.

- (3) Is any other coal than Saskatchewan coal being used in any Government building south of the main line of the C.P.R.? If so, which?

Answer: Yes. Arcola Court House and Land Titles Office. Gravelbourg and Shaunavon Court Houses.

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

- (1) What was the contract price and the final price paid the general contractor for the erection of each of the following public buildings:

- (a) Regina Normal School;
- (b) Saskatoon Normal School;
- (c) Weyburn Mental Hospital;
- (d) Battleford Mental Hospital?

Answer:

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Regina Normal School..... | \$ 198,750.00 |
| | 221,139.50 |
| Saskatoon Normal School..... | 462,990.00 |
| | 466,159.58 |
| Weyburn Mental Hospital..... | 1,492,396.00 |
| | 1,528,421.79 |
| Battleford Mental Hospital..... | 446,906.00 |
| | 493,639.70 |

(The figures for Battleford are for the original contract.)

- (2) Who were the general contractors in each case?

Answer:

Regina Normal School—Parsons Construction Co.
 Saskatoon Normal School—A. W. Cassidy, Limited.
 Weyburn Mental Hospital—Poole Construction Co.
 Battleford Mental Hospital—Saskatchewan Building & Construction Co.

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

- (1) How many men now employed in Liquor or Beer Stores have at any time been convicted under The Saskatchewan Temperance Act or the present Liquor Act?

Answer: None since employment; 2 prior to employment for minor offences.

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

- (1) Is T. Corrigan, of Southey, now a Justice of the Peace in and for the Province of Saskatchewan?

Answer: No.

- (2) If not, was he at any time a Justice of the Peace?
Answer: Yes, under former commission.
- (3) If at any time a Justice of the Peace, on what date did his Commission expire?
Answer: The 31st of January, 1927.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 28—An Act respecting the Two-Platoon System for Employees of Certain Municipal Fire Departments, which was reported with amendment, considered as amended, and ordered for third reading 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. 6—An Act to amend The School Assessment Act.

Bill No. 22—An Act to amend The Vehicles Act, 1924.

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

Bill No. 26—An Act to amend The Trustee Act.

Bill No. 27—An Act to amend The Trust Companies Act.

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

Bill No. 19—An Act respecting the Superannuation of Civil Servants.

According to Order, Bill No. 21—An Act respecting Benevolent and Other Societies, was read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

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

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1927.

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

Bill No. 43—An Act to amend The Highways Act.
Hon. Mr. Patterson, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 44—An Act to amend The Homesteads Act.
Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 45—An Act to amend The Executions Act.
Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 46—An Act respecting the Duties of Agents in the Sale of Products of the Soil and Other Commodities.
Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 47—An Act for the Protection of Sheep and the Licensing of Dogs.
Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Friday next.

Mr. Speaker informed the Assembly that the Clerk of the Assembly had received from the Clerk of the Executive Council notification of the Election and Return of Howard McConnell, Esquire, as member for the Electoral Division of Saskatoon City.
(Sessional Paper No. 30.)

Howard McConnell, Esquire, member for the Electoral Division of Saskatoon City, having previously taken the Oath according to law, and subscribed the Roll containing the same, took his seat in the Assembly.

The Hon. Mr. Gardiner 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, 1927, and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.
(Sessional Paper No. 31.)

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

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

(1) How many ferry crossings were operated by the Department of Highways during the summer of 1926?

Answer: Forty-seven.

- (2) How many new ferries were installed during the above period and in what locations?

Answer: Two. One on the Red Deer River, South of Hudson Bay Junction, section 28, township 44, range 3, west 2nd meridian, and the other on North Saskatchewan River, South of Maymont on section 32, township 40, range 12, west of 3rd meridian.

- (3) How many new ferry scows were built in the calendar year 1926?

Answer: Six.

- (4) How many ferries were dismantled in the calendar year 1926, and in what locations?

Answer: One. The Elbow Ferry on South Saskatchewan River, section 8, township 25, range 5, west 3rd meridian.

- (5) What was the total amount of ferry traffic carried on in the year 1926, as compared with 1925, classified in each year as to the nature of the traffic:

| <i>Answer:</i> Traffic Comparison— | 1926 | 1925 |
|------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Double Vehicles..... | 78,497 | 84,206 |
| Single Vehicles..... | 24,728 | 30,179 |
| Saddle Horses..... | 13,232 | 13,851 |
| Loose Animals..... | 36,658 | 34,634 |
| Passengers..... | 489,601 | 408,656 |
| Autos..... | 169,198 | 135,782 |
| Engines..... | 230 | 148 |
| Total..... | 812,144 | 707,456 |

- (6) Is any charge made for the use of these ferries?

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. a small charge is made according to a schedule of rates set by the Department.

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

- (1) How many concrete bridges were constructed under Capital Account between May 1 and December 31, 1926?

Answer: Eleven (11).

- (2) How was the construction carried out?

Answer: By contract.

- (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, 1926?

Answer: One hundred and fifty-five (155).

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

Answer: One hundred and ten new timber bridges (110), five new steel bridges (5), and twenty-one timber bridges repaired (21), nineteen steel bridges painted and repaired (19).

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

Answer: All concrete bridges and timber bridges on Provincial Highways were built with a floor width of 20 feet. All other timber bridges were built with a floor width of 18 feet. Steel bridges were built with floor width of 16 feet.

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

Bill No. 6—An Act to amend The School Assessment Act.

Bill No. 22—An Act to amend The Vehicles 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. 34—An Act respecting the Destruction by Constables and Others of Injured Animals.

Bill No. 35—An Act to amend The Tuberculosis Sanatoria and Hospitals Act.

According to Order, Bill No. 18—An Act to amend The Drugless Practitioners Act, was read the second time and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Law Amendments for consideration and report.

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

Moved by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Stipe,

That, in the opinion of this Assembly, it is deemed expedient that the Government of this Province take immediate steps to appoint a Commission to conduct a thorough survey and investigation, during 1927, of educational conditions throughout the Province with a view to introducing at the next Session of this Legislature legislation to bring into effect any changes or reforms deemed advisable and necessary to meet the demands of our rapidly growing Province; and that, in this investigation, particular attention be paid to:—

- (a) Teacher training;
- (b) Equalisation of Assessment and Taxation;
- (c) The Curriculum;
- (d) Pensions for Teachers;
- (e) Larger units of administration in rural areas;

- (f) Departmental Examinations;
- (g) Standardisation of Text Books;
- (h) The advisability of placing Education under a permanent Commission.

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

The Assembly then adjourned at 4.50 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1927.

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 with amendments:

No. 013—An Act to incorporate The Religious Education Council of Saskatchewan.

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

Bill No. 48—An Act to amend The Chattel Mortgage Act.
Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 49—An Act to amend The Land Titles Act.
Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 50—An Act for the Regulation of Horse Racing.
Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Monday next.

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

Twenty-first Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture, for the twelve months ended April 30, 1926.

(*Sessional Paper No. 32.*)

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

- (1) Has the Government of Saskatchewan accepted surety and fidelity bonds from the Saskatchewan Guarantee and Fidelity Company during the past ten years?

Answer: Yes.

- (2) If so, what has been the liability, contingent or otherwise, of the Company during the past ten years?

Answer: The following guarantee bonds have been issued:

| Fiscal Year | Public Officials | Secretary Treasurers of School Districts | Employees and Agents of Telephones Department |
|-------------------|------------------|--|---|
| 1916-17 | \$201,200 | \$461,000 | \$102,100 |
| 1917-18 | 275,200 | 473,000 | 126,300 |
| 1918-19 | 280,800 | 517,666 | 162,400 |
| 1919-20 | 293,600 | 621,666 | 168,900 |
| 1920-21 | 361,200 | 745,333 | Nil |
| 1921-22 | 374,000 | 697,000 | Nil |

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1922-23 | \$395,200 | \$644,333 | \$241,000 |
| 1923-24 | 409,200 | 641,666 | 243,300 |
| 1924-25 | 388,000 | 666,666 | 240,200 |
| 1925-26 | 387,200 | 721,000 | 242,100 |

- (3) Has the Government knowledge of the resources of this Company?

Answer: This Company is duly licensed under The Saskatchewan Insurance Act. The financial statement of the Company is filed annually under the provisions of Section 92 of the said Act, such report being verified by the Superintendent of Insurance through annual examination.

According to Order, Bill No. 28—An Act respecting the Two-Platoon System for Employees of Certain Municipal Fire Departments, was read the third time and passed.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Stipe,

That, in the opinion of this Assembly, it is deemed expedient that the Government of this Province take immediate steps to appoint a Commission to conduct a thorough survey and investigation, during 1927, of educational conditions throughout the Province with a view to introducing at the next Session of this Legislature legislation to bring into effect any changes or reforms deemed advisable and necessary to meet the demands of our rapidly growing Province; and that, in this investigation, particular attention be paid to:—

- (a) Teacher training;
- (b) Equalisation of Assessment and Taxation;
- (c) The Curriculum;
- (d) Pensions for Teachers;
- (e) Larger units of administration in rural areas;
- (f) Departmental Examinations;
- (g) Standardisation of Text Books;
- (h) The advisability of placing Education under a permanent Commission.

The debate continuing, and the question being put, it was negatived on the following division:—

YEAS.

Messieurs

Tran
Salkeld
Whatley

McClure
Stipe
MacPherson

Anderson
Buckle
McConnell—9

NAYS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Garry | Davis | Miller |
| Scott | Patterson | Grant |
| Pickel | Finlayson | Laing |
| Hamilton | Paulson | Waddell |
| Cross | Parker | McGregor |
| Gardiner | Sahlmark | Tripp |
| Latta | Gamble | Donaldson |
| Uhrich | Smith | Hassard |
| Knowles | Nay | Hill |
| Clinch | Gordon | McIntosh |
| Baker | Hogan | Keelan |
| McKinnon | Gemmell | McAfee |
| Therres | Hall | MacLachlan |
| Halvorson | Sykes | Huck |
| Wilson | Hagarty | Cockburn |
| Dodds | Lewis | Agar—50 |
| Hyde | Steele | |

According to Order, Bill No. 40—An Act to amend The Hospitals Act, was read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

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

REGINA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1927.

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

Ordered, That Mr. Howard McConnell, Member for the Electoral Division of Saskatoon City, be placed on the following Select Standing Committees:—On Agriculture, On Law Amendments, On Municipal Law.

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

- (1) How many game guardians were employed by the Department during the fiscal year ended April 30, 1926?

Answer: During the fiscal year ended April 30, 1926, there were ten game guardians employed permanently and six employed for part-time. There were also four hundred and thirteen Voluntary Game Guardians.

- (2) What was the amount of royalty collected during this period?

Answer: Fur Royalty collected during the past fiscal year amounted to sixty-one thousand and ninety-one dollars and fifty-five cents (\$61,091.55).

- (3) What was the number of each kind of licenses issued under the provisions of The Game Act during the year?

Answer: The following licenses were issued during the past fiscal year:

1,700 Resident Big Game Licenses
14,411 Resident Game Bird Licenses
36 Nonresident Big Game
247 Nonresident Game Bird
7 Taxidermist Licenses
563 Resident Fur Dealers
26 Nonresident Fur Dealers
7,500 Resident Trappers Licenses
4 Nonresident Trappers Licenses
68 Permits to export Game
2 Cold Storage Licenses
2 Permits for Private Game Farms
68 Permits for Fur Farms
3 Tanners Licenses
18 Dog Trainers Licenses.

- (4) What was the total amount of revenue from all sources in connection with the administration of The Game Act during the year?

Answer: The total revenue collected under the provisions of The Game Act during the past fiscal year was one hundred and twenty thousand four hundred and forty-six dollars and sixty-two cents (\$120,446.62).

- (5) How many convictions were obtained for infractions of The Game Act during the fiscal year?

Answer: There were two hundred and twenty-three (223) convictions for violations of The Game Act during the past fiscal year.

- (6) What was the total amount of fines imposed in connection therewith?

Answer: The fines collected during the past fiscal year amounted to three thousand four hundred and sixty dollars (\$3,460.00).

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

- (1) For how many years have Chas. Riddell, of Birdview, and R. H. Pattison, of Delisle, been Justices of the Peace?

Answer: 14 and 12 years respectively.

- (2) Have their Commissions been renewed?

Answer: No.

- (3) During their years of service have they, in the opinion of the Government, performed their duties to the satisfaction of the majority of people in their respective communities?

Answer: This is a matter of opinion and it is not deemed proper to reply.

- (4) If their Commissions have not been renewed, does the Government intend to re-appoint either of these men?

Answer: No.

- (5) If so, because of what representations made to the Government?

Answer: See answer to question 4.

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. 32—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Insurance Act, 1925.

Bill No. 44—An Act to amend The Homesteads Act.

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

Bill No. 43—An Act to amend The Highways Act.

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

(In the Committee)

Resolved, That there be granted to His Majesty for the twelve months ending April 30, 1927, the following sums:—

Vote No.

| | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. For Legislation..... | \$ 5,220.00 |
| 2. For Executive Council..... | 13,750.00 |
| 3. For Provincial Secretary..... | 9,000.00 |
| 4. For Treasury—Miscellaneous (Chargeable to Revenue)..... | 51,732.61 |
| 5. For Public Works (Chargeable to Revenue)—Public Buildings and Institutions (Maintenance and Administration)..... | 82,049.80 |
| 6. For Public Works (Chargeable to Capital)—Public Buildings (Construction)..... | 147,000.00 |
| 7. For Highways—Public Improvements (Chargeable to Revenue)..... | 200,000.00 |
| 8. For Highways—Public Improvements (Chargeable to Capital) | 300,000.00 |
| 9. For Education..... | 9,918.00 |
| 10. For Agriculture—Assistance to General Agricultural Interests..... | 10,250.00 |
| 11. For Agriculture—Assistance to Live Stock Industry..... | 10,000.00 |
| 12. For Agriculture—Improvement and Protection of Field Crops..... | 5,000.00 |
| 13. For Agriculture—Game Protection and Museum..... | 4,000.00 |
| 14. For Agriculture—Co-operation and Markets | 1,000.00 |
| 15. For Municipal..... | 5,650.00 |
| 16. For Public Health..... | 73,100.00 |
| 17. For Bureau of Child Protection..... | 71,100.00 |
| 18. For Bureau of Publications..... | 4,000.00 |

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

The Assembly, 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. 21—An Act respecting Benevolent and Other Societies.

Bill No. 34—An Act respecting the Destruction by Constables and Others of Injured Animals.

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

Bill No. 9—An Act respecting Agisters and Keepers of Livery Boarding and Sale Stables.

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

Bill No. 24—An Act to provide for the Registration of Names of Homes.

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

REGINA, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1927.

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

- (1) How long is it since the matter of the condition of the old Telephone Exchange at Saskatoon was brought to the attention of the Department at Regina?

Answer: 1913.

- (2) Has the Official in charge of the Telephone Office at Saskatoon laid any complaint as to the condition of the Telephone Building at Saskatoon?

Answer: The Official in charge of the Telephone Office at Saskatoon has asked for an inspection of the building.

- (3) If so, when?

Answer: 1922.

- (4) Other than the Provincial Architect, have any other officials or persons reported on the said building to the Department or to the Provincial Architect?

Answer: Yes.

- (5) If so, who were such officials, when did they report and to what effect?

Answer: Storey and Van Egmond, Architects of Regina, inspected the building in 1913 and 1922, and in both cases reported the building safe for the load being carried.

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

- (1) What was the total amount received by the Government in respect of License fees for Motor Vehicles for the year 1926?

Answer: Total of \$1,694,702.54.

- (2) What was the amount paid in each of the seven cities of the Province?

Answer: Impossible to ascertain the amount paid in Motor Licenses in each of the seven cities of the Province. Total number of licenses issued in each of the seven Cities is—

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Regina..... | 5,540 |
| Saskatoon..... | 3,919 |
| Moose Jaw..... | 2,944 |
| Prince Albert..... | 843 |
| Swift Current..... | 785 |
| North Battleford..... | 748 |
| Weyburn..... | 700 |

making a total of..... 15,479, out of a total issued in the Province of 95,804.

- (3) Is it the intention of the Government to pay over or apportion a reasonable amount of the said revenue to the Cities, having regard to the fact that the Cities provide all the accommodation and service in the way of improvements, fire and police protection, etc., for these vehicles?

Answer: The Government has no discretion as section 10 of An Act respecting the Treasury Department and Auditing of Public Accounts, being chapter 16, Revised Statutes of Saskatchewan, 1920, provides that this revenue shall go into the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the province.

- (4) If not, will the Government state on what grounds it considers itself entitled to the whole of the said revenue?

Answer: Answer by virtue of said section of said Act.

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

- (1) Are any male employees in the Land Titles Office at Saskatoon receiving less than one hundred dollars per month salary?

Answer: Yes.

- (2) If so, what is the name of each such employee?

Answer: J. A. Geroux.
Sidney Appleby.
H. Harrison.
J. A. Bailey.

- (3) What salary is each of such men receiving?

Answer: J. A. Geroux, \$1,080 per annum.
Sidney Appleby, \$840 per annum.
H. Harrison, \$900 per annum.
J. A. Bailey, \$1,080 per annum.

- (4) How long has each of such men been employed at that office?

Answer: J. A. Geroux, five years and seven months.
Sidney Appleby, five years and nine months.
H. Harrison, six years and ten months.
J. A. Bailey, two years and seven months.

- (5) On whose recommendation have appointments to that office been made in the past?

Answer: The Attorney-General.

- (6) Have any appointments been made to that office on the recommendation of the Hon. A. P. McNab?

Answer: See answer to Question 5.

- (7) During those periods the Hon. A. P. McNab represented the City of Saskatoon in the Legislature, were any appointments to that office made without his recommendation or consent?

Answer: See answer to Question 5.

(8) If so, what were the names of the employees so appointed?

Answer: See answer to Question 5.

According to Order, Bill No. 9—An Act respecting Agisters and Keepers of Livery, Boarding and Sale Stables, 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. 29—An Act to amend The Arrears of Taxes Act.

Bill No. 49—An Act to amend The Land Titles Act.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 013—An Act to incorporate The Religious Education Council of Saskatchewan, which was reported without amendment, read the third time and passed.

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, which were reported without amendment, read the third time and passed:—

Bill No. 25—An Act to amend The Crop Payments Act.

Bill No. 32—An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Insurance Act, 1925.

Bill No. 44—An Act to amend The Homesteads Act.

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

Bill No. 20—An Act respecting Local Improvement Districts.

Bill No. 35—An Act to amend The Tuberculosis Sanatoria and Hospitals Act.

Bill No. 40—An Act to amend The Hospitals Act.

Bill No. 43—An Act to amend The Highways Act.

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

REGINA, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1927.

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

(1) Is there a man named Cooper engaged in one of the Regina Liquor Stores?

Answer: Yes.

(2) If so, what position does he hold?

Answer: Stock-keeper in the Regina Mail Order Branch, located in the Warehouse.

(3) When was he appointed to this position?

Answer: March 14th, 1925.

(4) Was he, previous to his appointment, convicted of one or more offences under The Saskatchewan Temperance Act or The Liquor Act?

Answer: No.

(5) If so, what are the particulars?

Answer: See answer to question 4.

Moved by Mr. Tran, seconded by Mr. Salkeld,

That whereas resolutions have for several years been passed by the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan declaratory of the rights of the Province to its Land and Natural Resources and urging upon the Parliament and Government of Canada the necessity for the complete restoration to the Province of the lands and resources wrongfully withheld from it in defiance of the Constitution of our Country; and

Whereas the resolutions so passed have never received any compliance from the Government of Canada and all hope of restitution through the free act of the Federal Government must be abandoned; and

Whereas in view of recent declarations at the Imperial Conference and elsewhere as to Canada's equality of status as a nation with the other entities of the Empire, the rectifying authority of the Imperial Parliament is brought into jeopardy as well as the right of appealing to the Privy Council on great constitutional issues, such as the ownership by the Western Provinces of their lands the same as the other Provinces of Canada in spite of any enactment of the Parliament of Canada to the contrary:

Therefore, Be it Resolved:—

(a) That, in view of the matters hereinbefore recited, the question of the ownership of our Lands and Natural Resources has now become a crucial and urgent problem for this Province.

(b) That this Assembly expresses its opinion that it has now become incumbent upon the Government to take prompt and commensurate steps to submit to the Privy Council for final

determination the whole question of the rights of this Province to its land, as well as the constitutionality of other limitations upon our Provincial rights set forth in the Statute establishing Saskatchewan as a Province of the Federal Union of Canada.

(c) That a copy of this resolution be sent forthwith by Premier Gardiner to the Honourable Premier MacKenzie King and the Honourable the Minister of Justice with a request for co-operation; and a protest against any action by the Parliament of Canada to disturb the *status quo* of the Province of Saskatchewan under The British North America Act, or its right of recourse to the Privy Council for a final determination of the said issues as between the Dominion and the Province of Saskatchewan.

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

The Hon. Mr. Gardiner 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, 1928, and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly. (*Sessional Paper No. 33.*)

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

According to Order, Bill No. 36—An Act respecting the City of Swift Current, was read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

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

Bill No. 31—An Act to amend The Municipal Hail Insurance Act.

Bill No. 47—An Act for the Protection of Sheep and the Licensing of Dogs.

Bill No. 50—An Act for the Regulation of Horse Racing.

The Order being read for the Assembly to again resolve itself into the Committee of Supply;

The Hon. Mr. Gardiner moved,

That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair.

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

The Assembly then adjourned at 9.40 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1927.

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 Bill No. 03—An Act to amend The United Church of Canada Act, and begs to report that it is of the opinion that all avenues of adjustment, other than by legislation, of the difficulties of the parties affected by this Bill have not been exhausted and suggests that before any legislation is further considered the parties concerned make a further effort to amicably adjust their differences, particularly with respect to relief of guarantors and the adjustment of church property.

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

Bill No. 09—An Act to incorporate The Orange Benevolent Society of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Pickel, from the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the fifth 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 Lutheran College and Seminary.

Bill No. 03—An Act to amend The United Church of Canada Act.

Bill No. 04—An Act to amend An Ordinance to incorporate "The Yorkton Queen Victoria Cottage Hospital," being chapter 23 of the Ordinances of 1902.

Bill No. 05—An Act to provide Exemption from Taxation upon Certain Lands to Les Reverends Peres Oblats de Marie Immaculee des Territoires du Nord-Ouest.

Bill No. 06—An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs Adoratrices du Precieux Sang de Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan.

Bill No. 07—An Act to incorporate The Sisters of Social Service.

Bill No. 08—An Act to incorporate Les Soeurs de la Charite de Notre Dame d'Evron.

Bill No. 09—An Act to incorporate The Orange Benevolent Society of Saskatchewan.

Bill No. 013—An Act to incorporate The Religious Education Council of Saskatchewan.

By leave of the Assembly,

On motion of Mr. Pickel, seconded by Mr. Agar,

Ordered, That the fifth 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. 51—An Act respecting the Winding Up of The Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, Limited.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 52—An Act respecting a Certain Sale by The Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, Limited, to Saskatchewan Pool Elevators, Limited.

Hon. Mr. Patterson, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 53—An Act to amend The Telephone and Telegraph Department Act.

Hon. Mr. Patterson, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 54—An Act respecting Personal Property forfeited to the Crown.

Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 55—An Act to amend The Masters and Servants Act.

Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 56—An Act to amend The School Act.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 57—An Act to amend The Secondary Education Act.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 58—An Act to amend The School Grants Act, 1920.

Hon. Mr. Latta, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 59—An Act to amend The Wild Lands Tax Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Friday next.

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

- (1) Is the Government aware that the Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited, The Saskatchewan Dairy Association, and the Saskatchewan Live Stock Association and other bodies have protested to the Dominion Government against those clauses of the Australian Treaty which remove their tariff protection against the importations of meats, butter and eggs?

Answer: The Government is aware that resolutions respecting the trade treaty between Canada and Australia were passed a year ago by the Saskatchewan Dairy Association, and by the Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited, but has no information that resolutions regarding the Australian trade treaty were passed by the Saskatchewan Live Stock Associations.

- (2) Whether the Government is aware of such protests or not, has the Government done anything to see that the Sas-

katchewan dairy and live stock industries get protection against the importation of meat, butter and eggs from Australia or New Zealand under the terms of the Australian Treaty?

Answer: The effect of the Australian Trade Treaty upon the produce trade of Canada was discussed with the Honourable the Dominion Minister of Agriculture some months ago. In his explanation of the situation at that time the minister emphasised the following facts:—

When the Australian Treaty became effective in 1925 the Canadian butter trade was in an abnormal state. Due to the seamen's strike in Australia and New Zealand and the high prices in Britain, Canadians sold more butter than usual, resulting in a shortage in the domestic market, with very high prices. When the strike ended the enormous supply of dairy products released caused butter prices to fall all over the world, and not only in Canada.

Canada has imported some butter from Australia and New Zealand, every year for thirty years. Their butter commands better prices in Britain than Canadian butter and under normal conditions the competition between their butter and ours takes place in the British market instead of in Canada.

Twenty years ago seven per cent. of the butter imported into Britain came from the southern hemisphere, but now practically half of the butter and cheese imported into that country comes from south of the equator. Then it was necessary to store summer butter for our winter market, today it is desirable to sell promptly when butter is at its best instead of storing for higher prices. If the treaty will induce more prompt selling of Canadian butter, it will help our reputation, and improve marketing, and benefit rather than injure Canadian dairying.

In addition to quoting the foregoing views expressed by the Dominion minister it may be stated that the Minister of Customs applied the "anti-dumping" provision of the Customs tariff about a year ago, which had the effect of imposing a duty on Australian butter coming into Canada equal to the former tariff.

- (3) If not, is the Government willing and does the Government intend to take any action towards assisting the above Provincial Associations in obtaining the relief asked for?
Answer: See answer to No. 2.

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

- (1) How many Government Cream Graders are there at present employed?

Answer: At present there are graders in eight of the larger creameries, the remainder being supervised by four inspectors.

- (2) How many were discharged during the past year?

Answer: There was a maximum of 75 graders employed during the season of heavy production. 42 men have been laid off, owing to the decreased volume of cream receipts. 22 men resigned from the service to take up other work. 6 men were discharged.

- (3) Is it the intention of the Government to retain the services of graders for the protection of the farmers in the event of the proposed merger of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries Limited, and Caulder's Creameries?

Answer: Graders will be retained in those plants where it is considered necessary, and in the remainder grading will be supervised by inspectors to insure fair dealing to all patrons and maintenance of the cream grade standards.

In reply to Questions 4, 5, 6 and 7 would say that as the delegates representing the shareholders of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited, are now considering the suggested amalgamation, it is not considered advisable to reply to these questions at this time, some of which would be a matter of opinion.

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

- (1) Did the Government of Saskatchewan pay the legal costs of Members of Saskatchewan Liquor Commission and the Commission in an action in the Courts of this Province in which one Johnson was Plaintiff and the said Commissioners and Commission Defendants?

Answer: Yes.

- (2) If so, what was the amount so paid and to whom?

Answer: \$2,951.44 paid to Messrs. Brown, Thomson and McLean, Barristers, etc., Regina.

- (3) Has any sum been collected from the Plaintiff in respect of judgment against him for costs?

Answer: \$513.86 costs. \$10,081.22 was realised from the sale of the liquor seized and \$1,608.00 is the value of the remainder of the liquor seized unsold.

- (4) If not, has any effort been made to collect such costs?

Answer: See answer to Question 3.

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

- (1) What was the number and kinds of live stock on the various Institutional Farms as on December 31st, 1926.

Answer:

Mental Hospital Farm, North Battleford—

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Horses..... | 55 |
| Cattle..... | 101 |
| Swine..... | 244 |
| Sheep..... | 63 |
| Poultry..... | 387 |

Mental Hospital Farm, Weyburn—

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Horses..... | 20 |
| Cattle..... | .. |
| Swine..... | 199 |
| Poultry..... | 310 |

Prince Albert Jail Farm—

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| Horses..... | 49 |
| Cattle..... | 62 |
| Swine..... | 205 |

Moosomin Jail Farm—

| | |
|-------------|----|
| Horses..... | 10 |
| Cattle..... | 3 |

Industrial School for Boys, Regina—

| | |
|--------------|----|
| Horses..... | 3 |
| Cattle..... | 20 |
| Swine..... | 47 |
| Poultry..... | 75 |

Regina Jail Farm, Regina—

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| Horses..... | 30 |
| Cattle..... | 4 |
| Swine..... | 102 |
| Sheep..... | 60 |

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Total number of horses... | 167 |
| Total number of cattle... | 190 |
| Total number of swine... | 797 |
| Total number of sheep... | 123 |
| Total number of poultry.. | 772 |

- (2) What were the kinds and quantities of crops grown on the Institutional Farms in the year 1926?

Answer:

Mental Hospital Farm, North Battleford—

| |
|------------------------|
| 2,349 bushels wheat |
| 11,766 bushels oats |
| 1,450 bushels barley |
| 6,000 bushels potatoes |

FEBRUARY 16, 1927.

Mental Hospital Farm, Weyburn—

200 bushels wheat
 4,660 bushels oats
 1,902 bushels barley
 4,000 bushels potatoes

Jail Farm, Prince Albert—

7,617 bushels oats
 881 bushels barley
 2,200 bushels potatoes

Jail Farm, Regina—

2,855 bushels wheat
 5,909 bushels oats
 2,439 bushels barley
 2,592 bushels potatoes

Jail Farm, Moosomin—

2,707 bushels wheat
 2,097 bushels oats
 1,302 bushels barley

Industrial School for Boys—

1,000 bushels potatoes

Grand Total—

8,111 bushels wheat
 32,049 bushels oats
 7,992 bushels barley
 15,792 bushels potatoes

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

- (1) What was the amount of taxes collected by the Department of Municipal Affairs on behalf of School Districts in Local Improvement District areas and transmitted to the said districts in the year 1926?

Answer: \$9,665.66.

- (2) What was the total amount of taxes paid by the Department to School Districts in the year 1926 on lands in respect of which tax enforcement proceedings have been taken under The School Assessment Act?

Answer: \$14,391.12.

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

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. McConnell, adjourned.

The Assembly then adjourned at 6.00 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1927.

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 Companies Winding Up Act.
Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 61—An Act to amend The Liquor Act, 1925.
Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Monday next.

Bill No. 62—An Act to amend The Animals Protection Act.
Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Monday next.

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

- (1) What was the number of loans made by the Farm Loan Board in the years 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925 and 1926?

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| <i>Answer:</i> 1920..... | 992 |
| 1921..... | 662 |
| 1922..... | 97 |
| 1923..... | 109 |
| 1924..... | 77 |
| 1925..... | 36 |
| 1926..... | 50 |

- (2) How many loans have been repaid?

Answer: 503.

- (3) What was the largest amount loaned to one individual borrower and on how much land was the loan made?

Answer: \$25,000. 1,120 acres.

- (4) What was the largest amount of indebtedness, principal and interest, of any individual borrower whose land has been re-possestted by the Board?

Answer: Principal..... \$8,500.00
Interest..... 4,173.57

- (5) How many farms are now owned by the Board?

Answer: 179.

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

- (1) What particular mine coal, other than Saskatchewan, was chiefly used in Weyburn Mental Hospital in 1926, and is mine run or slack used?

Answer: Galt and Tabor. Nut slack, no mine run used.

- (2) What is the price per ton for mine run and for slack paid to this mine?

Answer: \$2.00 per ton f.o.b. mine for nut slack. No mine run used.

- (3) What is the price at the mine paid for similarly prepared Saskatchewan coal?

Answer: \$2.00 per ton.

- (4) What is the freight per ton on the Alberta coal and on coal from Estevan?

Answer: Alberta coal . . . \$3.20 (Tabor)

Alberta coal . . . 3.30 (Galt)

Estevan coal . . . 1.20

- (5) What is the heat unit value B.T.U. of Alberta coal used and of Western Dominion mine coal?

Answer: Galt 10730

Tabor 9940

Western Dominion (Bienfait) 7480

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

- (1) What number of examinations were made in the Provincial Laboratory during 1918, 1921 and 1926:

Answer: In 1918—no record kept.

In 1921—12,995.

In 1926—20,711 (over 72 a day).

- (2) What was the expenditure in each year?

Answer: In 1918-19 \$10,306.04

In 1920-21 18,204.55

In 1921-22 22,537.51

In 1925-26 16,760.40

- (3) Has there been any increase in the number of employees?

Answer: In 1918-19 there were 6 employees

In 1920-21 there were 9 employees

In 1921-22 there were 9 employees

In 1925-26 there were 8 employees

- (4) Have farmers, veterinarians and others the privilege of referring work to the Laboratory?

Answer: Yes.

- (5) How many Wasserman's tests were done in 1918, 1921 and 1926?

Answer: In 1918 44

In 1921 2,675

In 1926 6,127

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

- (1) What investigations have been made by this or the Dominion Government to determine the feasibility of irrigating the dry areas of Saskatchewan?

Answer: No investigations have been made by this Government. The Dominion Government have been carrying on investigations over a considerable period of years, covering all parts of the west and south-west of Saskatchewan.

(2) What were the results of such investigations?

Answer: In many cases small irrigation projects are now in operation and are working satisfactorily. No projects have yet been constructed under the authority of The Irrigation Districts Act of Saskatchewan, 1920.

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

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. Stipe, adjourned.

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

REGINA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1927.

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

Bill No. 39—An Act to amend The King's Bench Act.

Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Tuesday next.

Bill No. 63—An Act to amend The Public Revenues Act.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner, Second reading Tuesday next.

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

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated February 1, 1927, showing:

All correspondence between the School Board of Delisle School District and the Department of Education relative to the formation of the present High School District. (*Sessional Paper No. 34.*)

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

(1) What is the enrolment of Keebleville School District No. 3410?

Answer: Enrolment for year ending June 30, 1926—33.

(2) What is the enrolment in each of the following Grades: 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1?

| <i>Answer:</i> Grade | Enrolment |
|----------------------|-----------|
| 8 | 0 |
| 7 | 0 |
| 6 | 0 |
| 5 | 0 |
| 4 | 3 |
| 3 | 1 |
| 2 | 7 |
| 1 | 22 |

(3) What are the ages of the pupils enrolled in Grade I?

Answer: Over six years and under seven years5

Over seven years and under eight years8

Over eight years and under nine years7

Over nine years and under ten years2

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

(1) What was the maximum amount of school grants, including teachers' residence grants, received by any rural school district for the year 1923?

Answer:

Belgrave S.D. No. 2587 (one roomed school)—

Regular grant \$ 315.00

Teachers' Residence
grant 200.00

Total \$ 515.00 (open 210 days)

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Grand Coulee S.D. No. 2415 (three departments)— | |
| Regular grant..... | \$ 919.50 |
| Continuation grant.. | 615.00 |
| Conveyance grant... | 1,248.70 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total..... | \$2,783.20 (open 205 days) |

- (2) What was the grant for the same school district for the years 1924 and 1925?

Answer:

| | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Belgrave S.D. No. 2587 (one roomed school)— | |
| 1924..... | \$ 315.00 (open 210 days) |
| 1925..... | 310.50 (open 207 days) |

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Grand Coulee S.D. No. 2415 (three departments)— | |
| 1924—Regular grant..... | \$ 922.50 |
| Continuation grant.. | 615.00 |
| Conveyance grant... | 1,243.28 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total..... | \$2,780.78 (open 205 days) |
| 1925—Regular grant..... | \$ 792.40 |
| Continuation grant.. | 570.00 |
| Conveyance grant... | 979.44 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total..... | \$2,341.84 (open 190 days) |

- (3) What were the amounts of grants to Prospect Valley School District No. 4121 for the years 1923, 1924 and 1925?
Answer: No grants. Not in operation.

- (4) What were the amounts of grants to Bern School District No. 3771 for the years 1923, 1924 and 1925?
Answer: No grants. Not in operation.

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

- (1) Is the Government aware of the fact that a member of the Advisory Board of Education of a sister Province publicly made the statement that the members of such Board of his Province were considering the stopping of the recognition of Saskatchewan Teachers' Certificates on account of the poor training given the teachers of the Province of Saskatchewan?

Answer: No.

- (2) If so, does the Government consider it a satisfactory state of affairs?

Answer: See answer to Question 1.

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

- (1) How many cattle and horses were pastured in the Matador Community Pasture in each of the past three years?

Answer:

| | Cattle | Horses |
|-----------|--------|--------|
| 1924..... | 3,141 | 480 |
| 1925..... | 4,211 | 333 |
| 1926..... | 4,651 | 264 |

- (2) What fees were charged in 1926 for summer grazing?

Answer: 40 cents per head per month for cattle and \$1.00 per head per month for horses.

- (3) How much did the Government pay for taxes on the ranch for 1926?

Answer: \$1,875.65.

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

- (1) What measures are taken to see that pasteurisation is effectually carried on in the plants established for that purpose in the Province?

Answer: Milk pasteurising plants are all located in cities and are subject to inspection and laboratory control by the municipal health department concerned. Monthly reports on these inspections and laboratory findings are submitted to the Department of Public Health.

- (2) What is being done by the Department of Public Health to prevent the spread of typhoid fever?

Answer: Typhoid fever is one of the diseases that are to be reported to the Department of Public Health. The Department then supervises and checks up the measures that are taken to prevent its spread through seeing that the Regulations are carried out and through the vaccination of all contacts with Typhoid with anti-typhoid serum which is supplied free of charge by the Department. Efforts to improve the sanitary condition of the Province are made by the sanitary officers of the Department.

The danger from Typhoid Fever is reduced through pasteurisation of milk and protection of water supply.

Whenever necessary an official of the Department is sent out to assist in the control of any outbreak of Typhoid Fever.

Sufficient Typhoid vaccine was sent out in 1926 to protect 2,671 persons.

- (3) How does the death rate in the Province from Typhoid Fever at the present time compare with the death rate from this disease in the year 1910?

Answer: The number of deaths from Typhoid Fever in 1910 were 151 or 34.2 per 100,000 population.

The number of deaths from Typhoid Fever in 1925 were 39 or 4.6 per 100,000 population.

- (4) What is being done by the Department of Public Health to detect physical defects in children in the pre-school age?

Answer: During the past five years 361 clinics have been held; 16,369 examinations of children were made and 32,104 defects found. Advice was given to have the defects dealt with by medical authorities, and follow-up work was done by writing letters to parents, asking if the recommendations had been carried out. In cases where, for financial reasons, medical treatment for these defects had not been secured, an effort is made by the Department to have the required assistance furnished.

- (5) What is being done for the prevention of diphtheria and smallpox?

Answer: The medical profession, the clergy, the press and municipal officials have been communicated with advising vaccination against smallpox and the use of toxoid to prevent diphtheria. A medical officer of the Department has been working during the past four months in the outlying districts of the province, vaccinating against smallpox and immunising against diphtheria and has, so far, protected 2,000 persons. The Department has sent the physicians sufficient diphtheria toxoid to immunise 41,420 persons during 1926. 6,200 Schick tests, and 46,230 points of smallpox vaccine.

- (6) What co-operation is carried out in public health work between the Departments of Education and Public Health?

Answer: Officials of the Department of Public Health give addresses on health work to the Normal School students and protect those students against smallpox and diphtheria by vaccination, the application of the Schick test and the giving of toxoid to those people who require it.

The nurses of the Department of Education assist in the follow-up work connected with the examination of children at the clinics, to see if the recommendations regarding defects have been carried out.

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

- (1) Did the Government purchase property in the Town of Kamsack described as Lot 8, Block 25, Plan A.J.2704?

Answer: Yes.

- (2) If so, for what purpose was it purchased?

Answer: For Provincial Police purposes.

- (3) What was the price paid?

Answer: \$1,000.00.

- (4) Was any inspection of the property made? If so, by whom?

Answer: Yes, October 22nd, 1924, by Commissioner of Provincial Police and Deputy Minister of Public Works.

- (5) Upon whose recommendation was the property purchased?

Answer: Department of Public Works.

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

- (1) What is the amount of bedding plants and perennials grown from seed and cuttings in the green house at the Legislative Buildings each year?

Answer: Approximately 75,000 annuals and perennials each year.

- (2) What other buildings throughout the Province are supplied with bedding plants from Regina?

Answer: All Court Houses and Land Titles Offices; Provincial Police Building, Saskatoon; Normal Schools; Salvation Army Rescue Home; Industrial School for Boys; Jail, Regina; Home for the Infirm, Wolseley.

- (3) Are other Government buildings supplied with pot plants?

Answer: Yes, to some extent at the Regina Normal School; Court House; Land Titles Building; Industrial School for Boys; Provincial Office Building; Sanatorium, Fort Qu'Appelle; the two mental hospitals and the Exhibition Building.

- (4) Is the amount of glass sufficient for the raising of these plants and to supply the Legislative Buildings with plants for receptions, etc.?

Answer: The amount of glass is insufficient to supply the increasing demands for plants, and a new and more up-to-date greenhouse has been contemplated.

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

- (1) Is it the practice of the Department of the Provincial Secretary to keep available for the use of citizens of this Province lists of car owners who have purchased car licenses?

Answer: No.

- (2) If not, is it true that the privilege of handing out this information has been handed over to a firm in the City of Winnipeg known as Messrs. Wiggins Systems?

Answer: Since 1921 the Department has had an arrangement with Wiggins Systems, Limited, of Winnipeg, for compiling lists of motor registrations in Saskatchewan.

- (3) What does this Winnipeg firm pay this Government for this privilege?

Answer: The contract for 1927 calls for the payment of three-quarters of a cent per name and nineteen printed copies of numerical lists. These copies are supplied weekly and are required for the Motor License Branch, Departmental Inspectors, Provincial Police Officials, and the Chief Constables of certain cities and towns in the Province. All that is required of the Department is a carbon copy of each license issued, the company compiling and printing the lists at its own cost. The present arrangement results in a profit to the Department instead of a loss as was the case when lists were compiled by the Department or the King's Printer, the demand for such lists not being sufficient to meet the cost of production.

- (4) Does the Department have any control over the price this Winnipeg firm may charge to Saskatchewan firms or citizens before it will consent to give out this information to them?

Answer: The Department does not stipulate any set price at which the lists shall be sold but keeps in touch with the company in regard to their schedule of prices, and in the event of such prices being considered excessive the contract would not be renewed.

- (5) Does the Department know that this Winnipeg firm makes a charge of \$125.00 to any Saskatchewan firm wanting this information before it will release same?

Answer: The charge would depend on the nature of the service required. Numerical lists may be obtained at the rate of \$2.00 per thousand or one-fifth of a cent per name.

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. 30—An Act to amend The City Act.

Bill No. 33—An Act to amend The Rural Municipality Act.

Bill No. 37—An Act to amend The Village Act.

Bill No. 38—An Act to amend The Game Act.

Bill No. 46—An Act respecting the Duties of Agents in the Sale of Products of the Soil and Other Commodities.

Bill No. 55—An Act to amend The Masters and Servants Act.

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

That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair (the Assembly to go into the Committee of Supply).

FEBRUARY 18, 1927

Saturday, February 19, 1927.

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

The Assembly then adjourned at 12.25 o'clock a.m.

REGINA, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1927.

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

- (1) What was the total amount of Hail Insurance placed by the Farm Loan Board during the year 1926?

Answer: It would probably require ten days or longer to compile the information asked for in this case.

The total hail premiums paid by the Board during 1926 amounted to \$33,189.47.

- (2) To what Hail Insurance Companies was this business given?

Answer: See answer to Question 1.

- (3) What are the names of the agents acting for these Companies?

Answer: Aetna Insurance Company
Additional Municipal Hail
Anderson & Lunney
Anderson & Mason
Bell and Mitchell
Black and Armstrong
British Crown
Butler, Byers and Company
Canadian Indemnity
Drope and Hosie
Eagle, Star and British Dominions
Farmers' Mutual Hail Insurance Company
K. J. Henderson, Ltd.
John Hancock
Kern Agencies
F. R. Logan and Company
McCallum, Hill and Company
F. MacCulloch Company
Morrow and McGill
New York Underwriters, Ltd.
Osler, Hammond and Nanton
Patton and McLeod
Royal Agencies
Rain and Hail Insurance Bureau
Scottish Canadian
Trotter and Company
United Grain Growers Ltd.
Union Mutual Hail Insurance Company
Western Producers Mutual Hail Insurance Company

- (4) What member of the Board is responsible for the placing of this Hail Insurance?

Answer: The Commissioner of the Board looks after the matter generally, but the whole Board is responsible for the placing of the Hail Insurance.

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

- (1) What is the annual salary of Mr. C. Fraser, Chairman of the Farm Loan Board?

Answer: \$8,000.00.

- (2) What are his qualifications for this position?

Answer: Mr. Fraser was brought up on a farm in Huron County, Ontario, and was educated at the Public School, Clinton High School, Galt Collegiate Institute and University College, Toronto, and he holds the Degree of B.A. from the University of Toronto. He later studied Law and became a Barrister-at-Law of Osgoode Hall, Toronto, in 1890.

During the period 1887 until 1892, he did sundry special loan inspection jobs in different parts of Ontario for the Western Canada Loan and Savings Company, from their Head Office in Toronto.

In 1892, thirty-five years ago, he was appointed by the same Company as their Inspector at Winnipeg for Manitoba and what is now the Province of Saskatchewan; and later on he became their Chief Inspector at Winnipeg for Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

In 1910, seventeen years ago, he came to Regina as Loan Manager for Saskatchewan for the Mutual Life of Canada and held this position until appointed in 1917 to the Saskatchewan Farm Loan Board.

- (3) What was the rate of interest charged to the Farm Loan Board by the Government in 1920, and what is the rate charged at the present time?

Answer: 5 1/3% from 1917 to date.

- (4) What was the rate of interest paid by the Government on borrowings in 1920 and what rate of interest is the Government paying at the present time?

Answer: In 1920, 5% Farm Loan Debentures were sold at par, the Treasury paying 1% commission to agents. At the present time 4 1/2% Farm Loan Debentures are sold at par, commission to agents being 1%. As the result of payment of said commissions and of the redemption at par of said debentures requested by holders at varying periods from date of issue the effective rate of interest or cost to the government is approximately 5 1/3%.

- (5) What was the rate of interest charged by the Farm Loan Board in 1920, and what is the rate of interest charged at the present time?

Answer: 6 1/2% in 1920. 6 1/2% at the present time.

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

- (1) Is M. M. Guillemin to whom Farm Loans Nos. 2032, 2033, 2034 and 2035 were issued, one and the same person?

Answer: Yes.

- (2) What is the legal description of the lands upon which these loans were issued?

Answer: NW. $\frac{1}{4}$ 28-8-7 W2nd
 S. $\frac{1}{2}$ and NW. $\frac{1}{4}$ 33-8-7 W2nd
 SE. $\frac{1}{4}$ 19-8-7 W2nd
 SW. $\frac{1}{4}$ 10-8-7 W2nd

- (3) What was the total amount of the original loan made?

Answer: \$11,100.

- (4) What was the amount of annual instalments repaid by M. M. Guillemin?

Answer: Nil.

- (5) What was the balance of principal owing at foreclosure?

Answer: \$11,100.

- (6) What was the amount of additional liability accumulated to the Provincial Treasurer up to the time of foreclosure?

Answer: \$7,962.21.

- (7) What was the amount of additional liability accumulated to the Farm Loan Board up to the time of foreclosure?

Answer: \$2,847.78.

- (8) What was the total liability of these loans as at December 31, 1926?

Answer: \$16,564.74.

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

- (1) What was the total amount of loans on foreclosed farms for the years 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925 and 1926?

Answer:

| | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1922 | \$ 34,550.00 |
| 1923 | 71,600.00 |
| 1924 | 132,700.00 |
| 1925 | 147,962.48 |
| 1926 | 127,516.28 |
| | ----- |
| | \$514,328.76 |

- (2) What was the total amount of annual instalments paid by these borrowers to the Board at December 31, 1926?

Answer:

| | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 1922 | \$ 106.09 |
| 1923 | 69.61 |
| 1924 | 1,077.37 |
| 1925 | 2,515.87 |
| 1926 | 2,771.45 |
| | ----- |
| | \$ 6,540.39 |

- (3) What was the total liability of the loans as at December 31, 1926?

Answer: \$831,905.61.

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

- (1) What grants were paid for road work done in Rural Municipality No. 364 during the years 1924, 1925 and 1926?

Answer: There is no Rural Municipality numbered 364; but there is a Local Improvement District by that number.

The expenditures in that District in the years mentioned were:

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1924..... | \$ 645.80 |
| 1925..... | 449.40 |
| 1926..... | 249.85 |

- (2) What was the amount of grant in each case and to whom was it paid?

Answer:

In 1924 Improvement of Roads—

| | |
|--|-----------|
| North of section 31, township 36, range 5, west of the 2nd meridian, Pay Roll and Material..... | \$ 200.00 |
| North of section 36, township 36, range 4, west of the 2nd meridian, Pay Roll and Material..... | 149.80 |
| East of section 20, township 37, range 5, west of the 2nd meridian; and on section 9, township 37, range 5, west of the 2nd meridian, Pay Roll and Material..... | 199.25 |
| North of sections 8, 9 and 10, township 37, range 6, west of the 2nd meridian, Pay Roll and Material.... | 96.75 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$ 645.80 |

In 1925 Improvement of Roads—

| | |
|---|-----------|
| East of section 12, township 37, range 7, west of the 2nd meridian, Pay Roll and Material..... | \$ 149.40 |
| North of section 31, township 36, range 5, west of the 2nd meridian, Pay Roll and Material..... | 200.00 |
| East of section 36, township 37, range 5, west of the 2nd meridian, Pay Roll and Material..... | 100.00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$ 449.40 |

In 1926 Improvement of Roads—

East of sections 1 and 12, township 37,
range 7, west of the 2nd meridian,
Pay Roll and Material \$ 249.85

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

- (1) Is it the policy of the Government to permit, approve of, and encourage civil servants in the Department of Highways, or any other Department, who are drawing salaries out of the Public Treasury, to participate actively in political campaigns during office hours?

Answer: No.

- (2) If not, does the Government know of any such participation?

Answer: No.

- (3) If so, to what extent?

Answer: See answers to Questions 1 and 2.

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

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.

The Assembly, accordingly, again 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 Companies Winding Up Act.

Bill No. 62—An Act to amend The Animals Protection Act.

Bill No. 57—An Act to amend The Secondary Education Act.

Bill No. 58—An Act to amend The School Grants Act, 1920.

Bill No. 53—An Act to amend The Telephone and Telegraph Department Act.

The Order being called for the second reading of Bill No. 54—An Act respecting Personal Property forfeited to the Crown, the Hon. Mr. Cross, a member of the Executive Council, 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.

FEBRUARY 21, 1927

According to Order, Mr. Knowles moved:

That Bill No. 42—An Act to amend The Medical Profession Act, be now read the second time.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was agreed to on the following division:—

YEAS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|----------|---------|------------|
| Garry | Therres | Grant |
| Agar | Wilson | Laing |
| Scott | Hyde | Waddell |
| Pickel | Parker | McGregor |
| Hamilton | Gamble | Donaldson |
| Gardiner | Gordon | Hassard |
| Knowles | Steele | McIntosh |
| Baker | Miller | MacLachlan |
| | | McClure—25 |

NAYS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| Cross | Finlayson | Hagarty |
| Latta | Sahlmark | Keelan |
| Uhrich | Smith | McAfee |
| Clinch | Cockburn | Nay |
| Davis | Hogan | Whatley |
| Patterson | McNiven | Tran |
| | | McConnell—19 |

The said Bill No. 42 was accordingly read the second time and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Law Amendments.

The Assembly then adjourned at 11.45 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1927.

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. 18—An Act to amend The Drugless Practitioners Act, and has agreed to report the same with amendments and recommends that the said Bill be reprinted.

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

The following Petitions have just been received by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly:

The Petition of Adam H. Bell and eighteen others, praying for An Act of Incorporation as “The Saskatchewan Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals;”

The Petition of John J. Boyle and four others, praying for An Act of Incorporation as “The Prairie Driving Club, Limited.”

Your Committee received a verbal Petition from the agent of the above Petitioners, praying that they be permitted to lay before the Assembly their Petitions for the passing of the necessary Acts, notwithstanding the expiration of time for bringing in Petitions for Private Bills.

Your Committee has given careful consideration to the matter but finds that the reasons for delay in coming to the Assembly for legislation, together with the fact that no advertising of the intent of the Petitioners has been done, are not sufficient to justify any suspension of the Rules, and therefore recommends that the said Petitions be not allowed to be presented to the Assembly at this Session.

By leave of the Assembly,

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

Resolved, That the third report of the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders 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. 64—An Act for the Improvement of Live Stock Breeding.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 65—An Act to amend The Administrator of Estates of the Mentally Incompetent Act, 1922.

Hon. Mr. Uhrich, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 66—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited.

Hon. Mr. Gardiner, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 67—An Act to amend The Companies Act.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Thursday next.

Bill No. 68—An Act to amend The Legal Profession Act.

Mr. McNiven, 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, 1927.

(*Sessional Paper No. 35.*)

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

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated February 2, 1927, 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 1925-26; also from May 1st to December 31st, 1926.
- (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 1925-26, also from May 1st to December 31st, 1926.
- (3) The total amount expended upon Capital bridges in each constituency during the fiscal year 1925-26; also from May 1st to December 31st, 1926.

(*Sessional Paper No. 36.*)

Also,—Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated February 3, 1927, showing:—

The detailed expenses incurred by Alfred A. Wilson, an Inspector in the Department of Highways, during the months of May, June, July and August, in the year 1925.

(*Sessional Paper No. 37.*)

And also,—Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated February 4, 1927, showing:—

- (1) The Telephone Exchanges at which the Agents were paid on a commission basis in 1916, 1921 and 1926.

- (2) The total amount of commissions paid to Agents in 1916, 1921 and 1926.
- (3) The Exchanges at which the Rural Telephone Companies act as Telephone Agents.
- (4) Whether the commissions paid to Rural Telephone Companies cover the cost of operating the Government switchboard; and, if not, whether the rural subscribers and the Government subscribers bear the additional financial burden on an equal per capita basis.
- (5) Whether, in cases where Rural Telephone Companies undertake to act as Agents of the Telephone Department, and the commission paid will not cover the expense of operation, the Department cancels the rental usually charged.
- (6) The sum annually saved to the Department of Telephones by having the Rural Companies act as Agents.

(Sessional Paper No. 38.)

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

- (1) What is the total acreage of oil and gas leases in the province?
Answer: 126,835 acres up to October 1, 1926. Considerable filing has taken place since that date.
- (2) How many wells were being actually drilled during 1926?
Answer: Five.
- (3) Were any of these wells productive of oil?
Answer: No. Three are still drilling or awaiting milder weather.

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

- (1) What charge was laid against Mrs. Laura Johnston, of Saskatoon?
Answer: Murder.
- (2) Was she sent up for trial on this charge?
Answer: Yes.
- (3) Was this trial held?
Answer: No.
- (4) Was she convicted or acquitted?
Answer: No. A stay of proceedings was entered under section 962 of the Criminal Code.
- (5) Is she now released unconditionally?
Answer: Yes. A stay of proceedings while it puts an end to the prosecution under the indictment then before the Court, is not a bar to a fresh prosecution for the same cause.

(6) If not, what is the status of this case?

Answer: See answer to Question 5.

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

By Mr. Anderson, for a Return showing:

Copies of correspondence between the Minister of Education or any official of his Department, or any member of the Government, and Mr. Henri Turcot, late of the Saskatoon Normal School, during the month of January, 1926.

By Mr. MacPherson, for a Return showing:

- (1) Copies of all correspondence between the Department of the Attorney General and the Solicitors for the Defendants in the action in the Court of King's Bench between one Johnson as Plaintiff and Hawkes *et al* as Defendants.
- (2) Copies of all correspondence between the said Department and the Attorney General of British Columbia relative to the said action.
- (3) Copies of all correspondence between the said Department and any other person relative to the said action, or in respect of the costs of the said action.
- (4) Copies of all correspondence or other documents relative to the seizure and sale of the car-load of liquor seized by the Saskatchewan Liquor Commission in respect of which the said action was brought.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 09—An Act to incorporate The Orange Benevolent Society of Saskatchewan, which was reported without amendment and ordered for third reading at next sitting.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 36—An Act respecting the City of Swift Current, which was reported without amendment, read the third time and passed.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Tran, seconded by Mr. Salkeld,

That whereas resolutions have for several years been passed by the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan declaratory of the rights of the Province to its Land and Natural Resources and urging upon the Parliament and Government of Canada the necessity for the complete restoration to the Province of the lands and resources wrongfully withheld from it in defiance of the Constitution of our Country; and

Whereas the resolutions so passed have never received any compliance from the Government of Canada and all hope of restitution through the free act of the Federal Government must be abandoned; and

Whereas in view of recent declarations at the Imperial Conference and elsewhere as to Canada's equality of status as a nation with the other entities of the Empire, the rectifying authority of the Imperial Parliament is brought into jeopardy as well as the right of appealing to the Privy Council on great constitutional issues, such as the ownership by the Western Provinces of their lands the same as the other Provinces of Canada in spite of any enactment of the Parliament of Canada to the contrary:

Therefore, Be it Resolved:—

(a) That, in view of the matters hereinbefore recited, the question of the ownership of our Lands and Natural Resources has now become a crucial and urgent problem for this Province.

(b) That this Assembly expresses its opinion that it has now become incumbent upon the Government to take prompt and commensurate steps to submit to the Privy Council for final determination the whole question of the rights of this Province to its land, as well as the constitutionality of other limitations upon our Provincial rights set forth in the Statute establishing Saskatchewan as a Province of the Federal Union of Canada.

(c) That a copy of this resolution be sent forthwith by Premier Gardiner to the Honourable Premier MacKenzie King and the Honourable the Minister of Justice with a request for co-operation; and a protest against any action by the Parliament of Canada to disturb the *status quo* of the Province of Saskatchewan under The British North America Act, or its right of recourse to the Privy Council for a final determination of the said issues as between the Dominion and the Province of Saskatchewan.

The debate continuing, in amendment thereto, it was moved by the Hon. Mr. Cross, seconded by Mr. Scott,

That all the words before and after the word "That" in clause (a) of the question be left out, in order to insert the following instead thereof after the said word "That":

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

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 unanimously on the following recorded vote:—

YEAS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| Garry | Davis | McGregor |
| Agar | Patterson | Tripp |
| Scott | Finlayson | Donaldson |
| Pickel | Paulson | Hassard |
| Hamilton | Parker | Hill |
| Cross | Sahlmark | McIntosh |
| Gardiner | Gamble | Keelan |
| Latta | Smith | McAfee |
| Uhrich | Cockburn | Huck |
| Knowles | Hogan | Whatley |
| Clinch | Gemmell | Salkeld |
| Baker | McNiven | Tran |
| McKinnon | Sykes | Stipe |
| Therres | Hagarty | McClure |
| Halvorson | Steele | MacPherson |
| Wilson | Miller | Anderson |
| Dodds | Laing | Buckle |
| Hyde | Waddell | Creighton—54 |

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. 54—An Act respecting Personal Property forfeited to the Crown.

Bill No. 39—An Act to amend The King's Bench Act.

Bill No. 63—An Act to amend The Public Revenues Act.

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

Moved by Mr. Whatley, seconded by Mr. Salkeld,

That, whereas in the revision of The Canada Grain Act in 1925 the Dominion Parliament did not establish the right of the producer to consign his grain from the country elevators to his own choice of terminal elevator, with full protection as to grade and weight; and

Whereas the Dominion Government has intimated its intention to introduce at this Session a Bill amending The Canada Grain Act; and

Whereas the establishment of the aforesaid right by statute is of vital importance to the welfare of the producer of grain and to the continuance and extension of the co-operative system of marketing grain;

Therefore, Be it Resolved, That this Assembly declares itself in favour of the aforesaid rights being established in their entirety, and requests the Government to urge the Dominion Government to introduce the necessary amendments embodying this principle and guaranteeing the aforesaid right by statute.

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

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

Wednesday, February 23, 1927.

Progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Assembly then adjourned at 12.30 o'clock a.m.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1927.

The Order being read for the introduction by the Hon. Mr. Cross of a Bill to amend The Choses in Action Act, the said Bill was, by leave of the Assembly, withdrawn.

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

Bill No. 69—An Act to amend The Wills Act.
Hon. Mr. Cross, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 70—An Act to amend The Anatomy Act.
Hon. Mr. Uhrich, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 71—An Act to amend The Noxious Weeds Act, 1924.
Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Friday next.

Bill No. 72—An Act to amend The Stray Animals Act.
Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Second reading Friday next.

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

Annual Report of the Vital Statistics Division of the Department of Public Health for the year 1925.

(*Sessional Paper No. 39.*)

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

- (1) What brick plants were in operation in Saskatchewan in 1926 and at what points are they located?

Answer: International Clay Products, Limited, Estevan, Saskatchewan.

Shand Coal and Brick Company, Shand, Saskatchewan.

Dominion Fire Brick and Clay Products Company, Claybank, Saskatchewan.

Bruno Clay Works, Bruno, Saskatchewan.

- (2) What was the total number of face brick, common brick, building tile, drain tile, hollow brick and fire brick made during the year by these Companies?

Answer:

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Face Brick | 2,189,000 |
| Common Brick | 3,310,000 |
| Building Tile | 600,000 |
| Drain Tile | 50,000 |
| Hollow Brick | 531,000 |
| *Fire Brick | 920,000 |

*Includes hand made shapes of all kinds, including locomotive tile.

- (3) How many men were employed by these plants in the manufacture of clay products?

Answer: 157 men.

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

- (1) How many Justices of the Peace have been appointed in the Canora Constituency since January 1, 1925?

Answer: 19.

- (2) Who were they and on what dates were they appointed?

Answer:

Wm. Andrew Gillespie, of Preeceville, February 1, 1927.

John B. McIntosh, of Canora, February 1, 1927.

Francis B. Reusch, of Sturgis, February 1, 1927.

Hugh M. Sutherland, of Canora, February 1, 1927.

Berry W. Tibbitt, of Rama, February 1, 1927.

Johann F. P. Barschel, of Canora, February 1, 1927.

David Nichol, of Canora, February 1, 1927.

John N. Ness, of Sturgis, February 1, 1927.

George B. Hopkins, of Stenen, February 1, 1927.

Frederick Strand, of Preeceville, February 1, 1927.

George Downs, of Preeceville, February 1, 1927.

Albert C. Jennings, of Buchanan, February 1, 1927.

Frederick W. Wright, of Preeceville, February 1, 1927.

Anton O. Morken, of Preeceville, February 1, 1927.

Thomas B. Nettleton, of Hazel Dell, February 1, 1927.

Albert Walker, of Rama, February 1, 1927.

John D. Paton, of Buchanan, March 20, 1925, and February 1, 1927.

Thomas R. Kennedy, of Canora, July 18, 1925, and February 1, 1927.

Daniel Patrick Glenn, of Stenen, February 7, 1927.

Moved by Mr. Nay, seconded by Mr. Scott,

That, in the opinion of this Assembly, the Government of Saskatchewan should continue to urge upon the Government of Canada the advisability of recommending to the Parliament of Canada the enactment of necessary legislation to confer on the Provinces power to regulate the sale of shares of Dominion companies or that such other action be taken as will insure the regulation of the sale of such shares.

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

According to Order, Bill No. 09—An Act to incorporate The Orange Benevolent Society of Saskatchewan, was read the third time and passed.

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

According to Order, Bill No. 61—An Act to amend The Liquor Act, 1925, was read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

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

That Bill No. 51—An Act respecting the Winding Up of The Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, Limited, be now read the second time.

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

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

Bill No. 55—An Act to amend The Masters and Servants Act, was reported with amendment, considered as amended, and ordered for third reading at next sitting.

Bill No. 54—An Act respecting Personal Property forfeited to the Crown, was reported without amendment, read the third time and passed.

On Bill No. 39—An Act to amend The King's Bench Act, progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

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

REGINA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1927.

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

- (1) Is James Alpin Smith, who is at this date employed in the Government Liquor Store at Estevan, and James Alpin Smith, who is Gazetted as a Justice of the Peace under the new Commission, one and the same person?

Answer: Yes. Subsection 23 of section 2 of The Liquor Act reads as follows: "Vendor" means the manager of a store.

According to Order, Bill No. 55—An Act to amend The Masters and Servants Act, was read the third time and passed.

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

That Bill No. 51—An Act respecting the Winding Up of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, Limited, be now read the second time.

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

The said Bill No. 51 was accordingly read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

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

Bill No. 67—An Act to amend The Companies Act.

Bill No. 48—An Act to amend The Chattel Mortgage Act.

Bill No. 56—An Act to amend The School Act.

Bill No. 41—An Act to amend The Union Hospital Act.

Bill No. 65—An Act to amend The Administrator of Estates of the Mentally Incompetent Act, 1922.

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, and ordered for third reading at next sitting:—

Bill No. 29—An Act to amend The Arrears of Taxes Act.

Bill No. 31—An Act to amend The Municipal Hail Insurance Act.

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

Bill No. 60—An Act to amend The Companies Winding Up Act.

Bill No. 57—An Act to amend The Secondary Education Act.

Bill No. 58—An Act to amend The School Grants Act, 1920.

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 10.50 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1927.

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

- (1) What appointments have been made in the Kindersley Constituency during each of the last two years under the following heads:
- (a) Commissioners for Oaths;
 - (b) Notaries Public;
 - (c) Justices of the Peace?

Answer:

- (a) Commissioners for Oaths, 1925–1926—
John Nash, of Fiske, March 20, 1925.
Daniel McEachern, of Empress, Alberta, May 15, 1925.
Benjamin Frey, of Mantario, June 9, 1925.
Malcolm C. Richardson, of Lacadena, July 7, 1925.
Austin H. Shannon, of Richlea, January 4, 1926.
Louis Wm. Atkinson, of Merid, January 21, 1926.
Wm. Jesse Crosby, of Netherhill, June 10, 1926.
John S. Armstrong, of Madison, June 18, 1926.
Baird McNeil Currie, of Lacadena, June 23, 1926.
Audry J. Treleaven, of Lacadena, June 23, 1926.
William Good, of Netherhill, August 11, 1926.
Wm. Herbert Wilson, of Chipperfield, August 25, 1926.
Arthur S. Hogg, of Kindersley, August 20, 1926.
John Roy Bruce, of Pinkham, December 24, 1926.
- (b) Notaries Public, 1925–1926—
Norman Albert Lamb, of Brock, June 9, 1925.
Stephen E. Spicer, of Alsask, December 31, 1925.
Gilbert H. B. Frere, of Kindersley, December 31, 1925.
George L. Pfeiffer, of Kindersley, December 31, 1925.
Louis L. Brown, of Fiske, December 31, 1925.
James C. Morgan, of Glidden, December 31, 1925.
Henry J. Burton, of Brock, December 31, 1925.
Richard D. Cardiff, of Lacadena, March 29, 1926.
Charles Asa Sargeant, of Gorefield, April 30, 1926.
Cyrus Basil Hewitt, of Netherhill, August 25, 1926.
George Edward Tracy, of Alsask, October 8, 1926 (Barrister).
John B. Dobson, of Madison, December 31, 1926.
Arthur M. Defoe, of Eatonia, December 31, 1926.
Chas. R. S. Stewart, of Kindersley, December 31, 1926.

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Franklin Edward Halpenny, of Madison, December 31, 1926.

David Burns, of Eston, December 31, 1926.

Christopher Ryland, of Plato, December 31, 1926.

(c) Justices of the Peace, 1925-1926—

Edward H. Wickett, of Fiske, March 20, 1925,
now residing at Rosetown.

Robin O. Macknight, of Eatonia, April 16, 1926,
now residing at Luella.

(2) Upon whose recommendation have such appointments been made?

Answer: The Attorney-General.

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

(1) Was there a fire in the Government Liquor Warehouse at Regina?

Answer: Yes.

(2) If so, on what date did the fire take place?

Answer: November 19th, 1926.

(3) What portion of the Building was burned and what was the amount of damage?

Answer: Fire destroyed the whole of the fifth floor of the building and the remaining four floors and basement damaged by smoke and water. Damage adjusted at \$30,235.17.

(4) Was any liquor purchased by the Government Liquor Commission from the Western Druggists or from one "Miquelon" stored in the top floor of the said building?

Answer: Yes. The Western Druggists Supply Co., Ltd.

(5) Did the Government Liquor Commission purchase any liquor from local vendors at the commencement of Government administration of the Act?

Answer: Yes, from wholesalers authorised to sell liquor under The Saskatchewan Temperance Act.

(6) If so, what amount and at what prices and from whom?

Answer: See schedule attached. (Return—*Sessional Paper No. 40.*)

(7) If liquor was so purchased, were any of the quart bottles or other containers holding such liquor stored on the top floor of the said warehouse?

Answer: Yes.

(8) Was any of such liquor destroyed by said fire, or were only a few eight-ounce bottles left in said warehouse at the time of the fire?

Answer: A quantity of such liquor was destroyed by fire, and there was a considerable quantity on the top floor of the warehouse at the time of the fire.

- (9) Was any insurance collected on liquor burned at said fire? If so, how much and what were the names of the Insurance Companies interested?

Answer: \$15,846.00 Insurance was collected for liquor burned at fire and the Insurance Companies interested are shown as per the attached list.

(Return—*Sessional Paper No. 40.*)

By leave of the Assembly, the answers to Questions 6 and 9 were allowed to be given by way of a Return.

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

- (1) Did the Provincial Police, about one year ago, seize fourteen cases of liquor, or any other quantity of alleged liquor, on the Moose Jaw road in charge of one William Ashton, with Saskatchewan Government labels, seals or wrappers on said liquor?

Answer: Yes.

- (2) Was the said matter reported to Mr. Amos through Sergeant Dunnett, of the Provincial Police, or any one else?

Answer: Yes.

- (3) Did Sergeant Dunnett obtain a statement from said William Ashton *re* the using of Government liquor labels on liquor manufactured from alcohol obtained from the Regina Vinegar Works?

Answer: Yes.

- (4) Is the Government aware that the Customs Commission investigation at Regina brought out the fact, through Mr. Ashton, that he had used Government labels on liquor he had manufactured himself?

Answer: Yes.

- (5) Has the Government taken any steps to ascertain the source from which these labels were obtained, and if so, what parties have been prosecuted, and if not, why not?

Answer: An investigation was made immediately upon receipt of this information. The investigation was carried on for some weeks during the early part of 1926, but without definite results. However, the issue of official seals then in use was withdrawn and destroyed and a new series issued. The new issue being numbered consecutively in order that a closer check might be kept upon the movement and use of all seals.

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

- (1) What was the number of transfers made from one detachment to another of members of the Saskatchewan Provincial Police during the year 1926?

Answer: 50.

- (2) What was the total cost to the Government of these transfers, including freight and draying charges on furniture, lumber used in and carpenter's wages paid for the crating of furniture, hotel and transportation and other expenses incidental to such transfers?

Answer: \$5,160.78.

- (3) What is the principal reason assigned by the Commissioner of Police for making these transfers?

Answer: To promote efficiency and discipline in 18 cases.

| | |
|--|----|
| Promotion..... | 7 |
| Reduction in Rank..... | 3 |
| To fill vacancies caused by Resignations | 5 |
| To fill vacancies caused by death..... | 2 |
| To fill vacancies caused by transfer.... | 13 |
| To open new detachments..... | 2 |

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

Bill No. 29—An Act to amend The Arrears of Taxes Act.

Bill No. 31—An Act to amend The Municipal Hail Insurance Act.

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. 4—An Act respecting Towns.

Bill No. 30—An Act to amend The City Act.

Bill No. 33—An Act to amend The Rural Municipality Act.

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

That Bill No. 66—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited, be now read the second time.

A debate arising, it was moved by Mr. Anderson,

That the debate be now adjourned.

The question being put on the said motion to adjourn, it was negatived.

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

The said Bill was accordingly read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

The Assembly then adjourned at 11.15 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1927.

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

Bill No. 73—An Act to amend An Act concerning the Village of Gainsboro.

Hon. Mr. Davis, Second reading Wednesday next.

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

- (1) What salary does each of the members of the Local Government Board receive?

Answer: Chairman, \$6,500.00; two commissioners each \$6,000.00.

- (2) What were the salaries in the fiscal year 1925-26?

Answer: Chairman, \$6,000.00; two commissioners, \$6,000.00 and \$5,000.00 respectively.

- (3) What new appointments were made to the Board in 1926?

Answer: S. P. Grosch, commissioner, made chairman, and Hon. A. P. McNab appointed a commissioner in his stead.

- (4) Who is chairman of this Board?

Answer: See reply to Question 3.

- (5) Has his salary been increased since his appointment as chairman?

Answer: Increased by \$500.00 at his appointment.

- (6) Was his appointment as chairman regarded by the government as a promotion?

Answer: Yes.

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

- (1) Are all the hotels in the Province of Saskatchewan inspected regularly or at all by officials of the Government of Saskatchewan?

Answer: Yes, with the exception of cities.

- (2) If so, how often are inspections made, and of what nature are these inspections?

Answer: Regular inspections as to the sanitary conditions of the premises are made.

- (3) Is J. J. Sullivan employed by the Government of the Province of Saskatchewan?

Answer: Yes.

- (4) If so, what are his duties?

Answer: He is employed as an Inspector on the staff of the Department of Public Health.

- (5) Was he allowed holidays in the years 1925 and 1926, and, if so, during what period in each year did he have holidays?

Answer: In 1925 from June 22 to July 6;

In 1926 from August 9 to 14;

from September 8 to 14;

from October 1 to 8.

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

- (1) What are the duties of A. Bodnarczuk?

Answer: Provincial Game Guardian in patrolling a portion of Saskatchewan for the purpose of assisting in the administration of The Game Act.

- (2) At what point is his headquarters?

Answer: St. Julien, Saskatchewan.

- (3) Did his duties necessitate his being in Saskatoon between December 15 and December 22, 1926?

Answer: The Government has not been informed that he was in Saskatoon between December 15 and December 22, 1926.

- (4) If so, what were his duties while in Saskatoon?

Answer: His duties necessitate his being in Saskatoon occasionally to confirm his field investigations regarding fur dealers and the payment of fur royalties.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 66—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited, on which progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again today.

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. 59—An Act to amend The Wild Lands Tax Act.

Bill No. 52—An Act respecting a Certain Sale by The Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, Limited, to Saskatchewan Pool Elevators, Limited.

Bill No. 72—An Act to amend The Stray Animals Act.

Bill No. 70—An Act to amend The Anatomy Act.

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. 30—An Act to amend The City Act.

Bill No. 47—An Act for the Protection of Sheep and the Licensing of Dogs.

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

Bill No. 4—An Act respecting Towns.

Bill No. 33—An Act to amend The Rural Municipality Act.

Bill No. 37—An Act to amend The Village Act.

Bill No. 50—An Act for the Regulation of Horse Racing.

Bill No. 24—An Act to provide for the Registration of Names of Homes.

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

Bill No. 67—An Act to amend The Companies Act.

The following Bill was reported with amendment, considered as amended; read the third time and passed:

Bill No. 62—An Act to amend The Animals Protection Act.

The Assembly, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 66—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited, which was reported with amendment, considered as amended, and ordered for third reading at next sitting.

The Assembly then adjourned at 11.35 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 1927.

Mr. Gordon, from the Select Standing Committee on Law Amendments, presented the second report of said Committee, which is as follows:—

Your Committee has had under consideration the following Bill:

Bill No. 42—An Act to amend The Medical Profession Act and begs to report the same with amendment.

It is the opinion of your Committee that the clauses in the Bill covering the request of the Osteopaths for registration under The Medical Profession Act should be disallowed as your Committee is not convinced that it would be desirable to grant such request.

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

- (1) How many persons employed in any capacity in Government Liquor Stores or Beer Stores are also holding commissions as Justices of the Peace?

Answer: Three. They have not been authorised to act since the 25th ultimo.

- (2) Is it the policy of the Government to appoint employees in Government Liquor Stores as Justices of the Peace?

Answer: No.

- (3) During the absence of the official Vendor, through illness or any other cause, who then becomes the Vendor of a Liquor Store within the meaning of subsection 23 of section 2 of The Liquor Act?

Answer: It is not the practice to answer a question of this nature. The Act speaks for itself.

- (4) How many cases arising out of infractions of The Liquor Act were tried by James Alpin Smith, J.P., of Estevan, during the year 1926?

Answer: 14. In all cases the accused pleaded guilty and penalties were imposed.

- (5) Were said cases, if any, that were sat on by James Alpin Smith, employee of Government Liquor Store at Estevan, tried during business hours?

Answer: No.

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

Bill No. 4—An Act respecting Towns.

Bill No. 33—An Act to amend The Rural Municipality Act.

Bill No. 37—An Act to amend The Village Act.

Bill No. 50—An Act for the Regulation of Horse Racing.

Bill No. 24—An Act to provide for the Registration of Names of Homes.

Bill No. 66—An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 59—An Act to amend The Wild Lands Tax Act, which was reported with amendment, considered as amended, read the third time and passed.

3.30 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 to incorporate The Orange Benevolent Society of Saskatchewan.

An Act to incorporate The Religious Education Council of Saskatchewan.

An Act to amend The School Assessment Act.

An Act respecting Agisters and Keepers of Livery, Boarding and Sale Stables.

An Act respecting Local Improvement Districts.

An Act respecting Benevolent and Other Societies.

An Act to amend The Vehicles Act, 1924.

An Act to amend The Theatres and Cinematographs Act.

An Act to amend The Crop Payments Act.

An Act to amend The Trustee Act.

An Act to amend The Trust Companies Act.

An Act respecting the Two-Platoon System for Employees of Certain Municipal Fire Departments.

An Act to amend The Arrears of Taxes Act, 1926.

An Act to amend The Municipal Hail Insurance Act.

An Act to amend The Saskatchewan Insurance Act, 1925.

An Act respecting the Destruction by Constables and Others of Injured Animals.

An Act to amend The Tuberculosis Sanatoria and Hospitals Act, 1923.

An Act respecting the City of Swift Current.

An Act to amend The Hospitals Act.

An Act to amend The Highways Act.

An Act to amend The Homesteads Act.

An Act to amend The Executions Act.

An Act respecting Personal Property Forfeited to the Crown.

An Act to amend The Masters and Servants Act.

An Act to amend The Secondary Education Act.

An Act to amend The School Grants Act, 1920.

An Act to amend The Companies Winding Up Act.

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

The Royal Assent to these Bills was announced by the Clerk:—

In His Majesty's name, His Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth Assent to these Bills.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor then retired from the Chamber.

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

Moved by Mr. Tran, seconded by Mr. Stipe,

That, whereas the best interests of the people of this Province demand relief from unjust taxation; and

Whereas the Customs Tariff is a most unfair system and imposes an undue burden on consumers and producers;

Therefore, be it Resolved, that this Assembly requests this Government to urge upon the Federal Government the necessity of immediate reductions in the Customs Tariff, particularly on the implements of production and the necessities of life.

A debate arising, in amendment thereto, it was moved by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Buckle,

That the preamble and all the words after "Resolved" be struck out, and the following inserted after the word "Resolved":

"That this Assembly requests our Provincial Government to urge upon the Federal Government the necessity of a Tariff policy that will be national, fair and equitable to all Canadian industries and all sections of the Dominion; and that adequate provision be made to guard against any undue exportation of our raw materials, particularly pulp wood and asbestos."

The debate continuing, and the question being put on the said amendment, it was negatived.

The debate continuing, in amendment thereto, it was moved by the Hon. Mr. Latta, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Uhrich,

That all the words after "and" in the second line be struck out and the following substituted therefor:

"Whereas the protective Customs Tariff is a most unfair system and imposes an undue burden on consumers and producers;

Therefore, be it Resolved, that this Assembly requests this Government to urge upon the Federal Government the necessity of immediate removal of the protective element from the Customs Tariff, particularly on the implements of production and the necessities of life."

The debate continuing, and the question being put on the said amendment, it was agreed to on the following division:

YEAS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Garry | Wilson | Lewis |
| Agar | Dodds | Steele |
| Scott | Hyde | Miller |
| Pickel | Davis | Marion |
| Hamilton | Patterson | Grant |
| Cross | Finlayson | Laing |
| Gardiner | Paulson | McGregor |
| Latta | Parker | Donaldson |
| Uhrich | Sahlmark | Hassard |
| Clinch | Smith | McAfee |
| Baker | Cockburn | MacLachlan |
| McKinnon | Hogan | Huck |
| Therres | Hall | Nay—41 |
| Halvorson | Hagarty | |

NAYS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|---------|------------|-------------|
| Whatley | Stipe | Anderson |
| Salkeld | McClure | Buckle |
| Tran | MacPherson | McConnell—9 |

The question being put on the main motion as amended, it was agreed to on the following division:

YEAS.

Messieurs

| | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Garry | Hyde | Miller |
| Agar | Davis | Marion |
| Scott | Patterson | Grant |
| Pickel | Finlayson | Laing |
| Hamilton | Paulson | McGregor |
| Cross | Parker | Donaldson |

| | | |
|-----------|----------|--------------|
| Gardiner | Sahlmark | Hassard |
| Latta | Smith | McAfee |
| Uhrich | Cockburn | MacLachlan |
| Clinch | Hogan | Huck |
| Baker | Gemmell | Nay |
| McKinnon | Hall | Whatley |
| Therres | McNiven | Salkeld |
| Halvorson | Hagarty | Tran |
| Wilson | Lewis | Stipe |
| Dodds | Steele | McClure |
| | | Creighton—49 |

NAYS.

Messieurs

| | |
|------------|-------------|
| MacPherson | Buckle |
| Anderson | McConnell—4 |

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, 1928, the following sums:—

Vote No.

| | |
|---|---------------|
| 1. For Legislation | \$ 166,210.00 |
| 2. For Executive Council | 68,690.00 |
| 3. For Attorney General—Administration | 65,360.00 |
| 4. For Attorney General—Courts and Judicial Districts | 108,982.00 |
| 5. For Attorney General—Criminal Investigations | 134,000.00 |
| 6. For Attorney General—Police | 349,520.00 |
| 7. For Attorney General—Registration of Land Titles | 285,704.00 |
| 8. For Attorney General—Miscellaneous Services | 11,500.00 |
| 9. For Provincial Secretary | 105,800.00 |
| 10. For Treasury—Administration | 85,240.00 |
| 11. For Treasury—Audit | 30,970.00 |
| 12. For Treasury—Public Debt | 2,504,352.00 |
| 13. For Treasury—Farm Loans | 590,000.00 |
| 14. For Treasury—Miscellaneous (Chargeable to Revenue) | 173,400.00 |
| 15. For Treasury—Miscellaneous (Chargeable to Capital) | 500,000.00 |

being:

To provide for advances
to the Saskatchewan
Farm Loan Board for
the purpose of mak-
ing loans to agricul-
turists \$ 500,000.00

| | | |
|-----|--|--------------|
| 16. | For Public Works (Chargeable to Revenue)—Administration..... | \$ 19,540.00 |
| 17. | For Public Works (Chargeable to Revenue)—Lieutenant Governor's Office..... | 7,563.00 |
| 18. | For Public Works (Chargeable to Revenue)—Public Buildings and Institutions (Maintenance and Administration)..... | 1,229,612.00 |
| 19. | For Public Works (Chargeable to Revenue)—Miscellaneous Services..... | 55,820.00 |
| 20. | For Public Works (Chargeable to Capital)—Public Buildings—Construction..... | 287,500.00 |
| 21. | For Highways—Administration..... | 36,042.00 |
| 22. | For Highways—Public Improvements (Chargeable to Revenue)..... | 1,138,052.00 |
| 23. | For Highways—Public Improvements (Chargeable to Capital)..... | 1,137,188.00 |
| 24. | For Education..... | 3,595,340.00 |
| 25. | For Agriculture—Administration..... | 49,306.00 |
| 26. | For Agriculture—Assistance to General Agricultural Interests..... | 123,800.00 |
| 27. | For Agriculture—Assistance to Live Stock Industry..... | 59,150.00 |
| 28. | For Agriculture—Assistance to Dairy Industry.. | 40,900.00 |
| 29. | For Agriculture—Publicity and Statistical Work | 14,200.00 |
| 30. | For Agriculture—Improvement and Protection of Field Crops..... | 48,000.00 |
| 31. | For Agriculture—Game Protection and Museum | 47,500.00 |
| 32. | For Agriculture—Co-operation and Markets..... | 20,500.00 |
| 33. | For Agriculture—Debt Adjustment Bureau..... | 13,800.00 |
| 34. | For Agriculture—Administration of The Agricultural Aids Act..... | 72,100.00 |
| | being: | |
| | To provide for the purchase and sale of live stock..... | \$ 50,000.00 |
| | To provide for assistance to agricultural enterprises generally as authorised by the Lieutenant Governor in Council..... | 15,000.00 |
| | Estimated amount required for interest charges (to be reimbursed)..... | 7,100.00 |
| 35. | For Municipal..... | 108,770.00 |
| 36. | For Local Government Board..... | 31,000.00 |
| 37. | For Public Health..... | 642,870.00 |
| 38. | For Bureau of Labour and Industries..... | 94,650.00 |
| 39. | For Bureau of Child Protection..... | 464,870.00 |
| 40. | For Insurance..... | 14,000.00 |
| 41. | For King's Printer..... | 31,980.00 |

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| | |
|--|--------------|
| 42. For Bureau of Publications..... | \$ 62,000.00 |
| 43. For Civil Service Commissioner's Office..... | 6,850.00 |
| 44. For Railway Department..... | 1,500.00 |
| 45. For Telephones (Chargeable to Capital)..... | 1,000,000.00 |
| 46. For Telephones (Chargeable to Telephone Revenue) | 2,250,000.00 |

The said Resolutions were reported and ordered to be received at the next sitting of the Assembly; and the Committee given leave to sit again at next sitting.

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, 1927, the sum of one million and two thousand seven hundred and seventy dollars and forty-one cents 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, 1928, the sum of fifteen million six hundred and thirty-four thousand one hundred and thirty-one 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, 1928, the sum of two million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars be granted out of the Telephone Revenue of the Province.

The said Resolutions were reported and ordered to be received at the next sitting of the Assembly, and the Committee given leave to sit again at next sitting.

The Assembly then adjourned at 11.15 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 1927.

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

Financial Statement of Caulder's Creameries, Limited, for the year ended December 31, 1926. (Sessional Paper No. 41.)

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

- (1) What was the enrolment of each of the following School Districts during the first term of 1926:

| <i>Answer:</i> School District | Enrolment |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Clear Valley S.D. No. 4358..... | 11 |
| Muller S.D. No. 2362..... | 28 |
| Schroeder S.D. No. 2922..... | 19 |
| Mackay Creek S.D. No. 3180... | 26 |
| Heller S.D. No. 3634..... | 30 |
| Newport S.D. No. 3996..... | 53 |
| Bitter Lake S.D. No. 4276..... | 47 |
| Oadas S.D. No. 3477..... | 50 |
| Bowden S.D. No. 3626..... | 30 |
| Ingebright S.D. No. 2896..... | 20 |
| Downey Lake S.D. No. 4305.... | 22 |
| Kincorth S.D. No. 2776..... | 34 |
| Boxelder Creek S.D. No. 2975.. | 25 |
| Neuheim S.D. No. 3211..... | 39 |
| Kassel S.D. No. 3093..... | 18 |
| Lake Lillian S.D. No. 4213..... | 11 |
| Wienreview S.D. No. 2904..... | 57 |
| Berne S.D. No. 3771..... | 39 |
| Seattle S.D. No. 3468..... | 44 |
| Pentonville S.D. No. 3283..... | 26 |

- (2) How many days during the first term of 1926 were each of the schools mentioned in Question 1 kept open?

| <i>Answer:</i> School District | Days open |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Clear Valley S.D. No. 4358..... | 39 |
| Muller S.D. No. 2362..... | 68 |
| Schroeder S.D. No. 2922..... | 73 |
| Mackay Creek S.D. No. 3180... | 78 |
| Heller S.D. No. 3634..... | 42 |
| Newport S.D. No. 3996..... | 95½ |
| Bitter Lake S.D. No. 4276..... | 74 |
| Oadas S.D. No. 3477..... | 103 |
| Bowdon S.D. No. 3626..... | 124 |
| Ingebright S.D. No. 2896..... | 100½ |
| Downey Lake S.D. No. 4305.... | 75 |
| Kincorth S.D. No. 2776..... | 57 |
| Boxelder Creek S.D. No. 2975... | 73 |
| Neuheim S.D. No. 3211..... | 34 |
| Kassel S.D. No. 3093..... | 84 |

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Lake Lillian S.D. No. 4213..... | 70 |
| Wienreview S.D. No. 2904..... | 97 |
| Berne S.D. No. 3771..... | 42 |
| Seattle S.D. No. 3468..... | 125 |
| Pentonville S.D. No. 3283..... | 57 |

- (3) What financial assistance by way of loans or special grants was given to any of the school districts mentioned in Question 1?

| <i>Answer:</i> School District | Loan |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Muller S.D. No. 2362..... | \$ 950.00 |
| Heller S.D. No. 3634..... | 1,225.00 |
| Oadas S.D. No. 3477..... | 900.00 |
| Bowdon S.D. No. 3626..... | 825.00 |
| Ingebright S.D. No. 2896..... | 1,750.00 |
| Downey Lake S.D. No. 4305..... | 900.00 |
| Kincorth S.D. No. 2776..... | 1,075.00 |
| Boxelder Creek S.D. No. 2975... | 1,150.00 |
| Seattle S.D. No. 3468..... | 1,500.00 |
| Pentonville S.D. No. 3283..... | 1,800.00 |

- (4) How many days were each of the schools mentioned in Question 1 kept open during the second term of 1926?

| <i>Answer:</i> School District | Days open |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Clear Valley S.D. No. 4358..... | 88 |
| Muller S.D. No. 2362..... | 112 |
| Schroeder S.D. No. 2922..... | 39 |
| Mackay Creek S.D. No. 3180... | 21 |
| Heller S.D. No. 3634..... | 88 |
| Newport S.D. No. 3996..... | 84 |
| Bitter Lake S.D. No. 4276..... | 5 |
| Oadas S.D. No. 3477..... | 107 |
| Bowdon S.D. No. 3626..... | 98 |
| Ingebright S.D. No. 2896..... | 69 |
| Downey Lake S.D. No. 4305..... | 10 |
| Kincorth S.D. No. 2776..... | 110 |
| Boxelder Creek S.D. No. 2975... | 88 |
| Neuheim S.D. No. 3211..... | 96 |
| Kassel S.D. No. 3093..... | Information not available |
| Lake Lillian S.D. No. 4213..... | Information not available |
| Wienreview S.D. No. 2904..... | 108 |
| Berne S.D. No. 3771..... | 84 |
| Seattle S.D. No. 3468..... | School not open |
| Pentonville S.D. No. 3283..... | 68 |

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

- (1) Upon whose recommendation were the Justices of the Peace appointed in the Canora Constituency in 1927?

Answer: The Attorney-General.

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

- (1) Is the Financial Statement of Caulder's Creameries, Limited, 1926, available?

Answer: Yes.

- (2) If so, why was it not read by the Premier in presenting his argument on Thursday last?

Answer: The Premier did not read the Financial Statement of either company, but quoted figures from both statements giving the essential features.

- (3) By whom were their books audited?

Answer: Messrs. Hodge, Thompson & Bamford, Chartered Accountants.

- (4) Is the Auditor's Report available for the information of the House?

Answer: Yes.

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

- (1) At what places during 1925 and 1926 have the Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries had their products stored outside of their own facilities?

Answer: In 1925 the Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited, had their products in storage outside their own facilities at Regina, Moose Jaw and Prince Albert and in Great Britain. In 1926 they had products stored at Toronto and Montreal in addition to the above mentioned places.

- (2) What has been the total cost of such outside storage during these two years?

Answer: In 1925 the Company paid \$4,700.30 for storage of its products, and in 1926 such storage cost \$19,121.72. These figures in certain cases include insurance and incidental charges.

- (3) What was the total revenue taken in for storing other commodities than their own during these two years?

Answer: The storage revenue of the Company on commodities other than its own was \$64,584.92 in 1925, and \$87,826.03 in 1926.

- (4) What percentage of Saskatchewan farmers are engaged in dairying?

Answer: Approximately fifty per cent. of the farmers of the province are reported to the Department of Agriculture as marketing dairy products from the farms. A further percentage are engaging in dairying to the extent of producing milk, cream and butter for home requirements.

According to Order, Resolutions Numbers 1 to 46, adopted in Committee of Supply on the first instant, were received, read twice and agreed to.

According to Order, Resolutions Numbers 1 to 3, adopted in Committee of Ways and Means on the first instant, were received, read twice and agreed to.

Leave having been granted, the Hon. Mr. Gardiner presented Bill No. 74—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, 1927, and the Thirtieth day of April, 1928.

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.

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. 69—An Act to amend The Wills Act.

Bill No. 64—An Act for the improvement of Live Stock Breeding.

Bill No. 71—An Act to amend The Noxious Weeds Act, 1924.

Bill No. 73—An Act to amend An Act concerning the Village of Gainsboro.

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

Bill No. 18—An Act to amend The Drugless Practitioners Act, was reported with amendment, considered as amended, and ordered for third reading at next sitting.

Bill No. 42—An Act to amend The Medical Profession Act, was reported without amendment, read the third time and passed.

According to Order, Bill No. 68—An Act to amend The Legal Profession Act, was read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole at next sitting.

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

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

Return, to an Order of the Assembly dated February 22, 1927, showing:

Copies of all correspondence between the Minister of Education or any official of his Department, or any member of the Government, and Mr. Henri Turcot, late of the Saskatoon Normal School, during the month of January, 1926. (*Sessional Paper No. 42.*)

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. 8—An Act respecting the Welfare of Children.

Bill No. 19—An Act respecting the Superannuation of Civil Servants.

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

Bill No. 63—An Act to amend The Public Revenues Act.

The Assembly then adjourned at 6.25 o'clock p.m.

REGINA, THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 1927.

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) Reports of the Farm Loan Board and Balance Sheets for the years 1925 and 1926. (*Sessional Papers Nos. 15 and 23.*)
 - (b) Synopsis of the Annual Report of the Local Government Board for the year 1926. (*Sessional Paper No. 21.*)
 - (c) Report of the Trustees of The Saskatchewan Agricultural Research Foundation. (*Sessional Paper No. 35.*)
- (2) That the following be published with the Sessional Papers:
 - (a) Speech of the Hon. Mr. Latta, Mr. Tran and Mr. Anderson on the Debate on the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne.
 - (b) Speech of Mr. Hill on the Debate on the Resolution respecting the Hudson Bay Railway.
 - (c) Speech of Mr. Baker on the Debate on the Resolution respecting Old Age Pensions.
 - (d) Speech of the Hon. Mr. Davis and Mr. Tran on the Debate on the Resolution respecting Natural Resources.
 - (e) Budget Speech of the Hon. Mr. Gardiner, and speeches on the Budget Debate of Hon. Mr. Davis, Hon. Mr. Urich, Mr. MacPherson, Mr. Stipe and Mr. Buckle.
- (3) That 500 copies of the Journals and 2,000 copies of the Sessional Papers be printed.

By leave of the Assembly,

On motion of Mr. Sahlmark, seconded by Mr. Tran,

Ordered, That the first report of the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Printing be now concurred in.

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

- (1) What salary is being paid to each representative on the Power Commission?

Answer: Members of the Power Commission are acting without salary. It is customary in such matters to vote an honorarium upon completion of the investigation.

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

- (1) Does the Liquor Board purchase liquor in bulk and have it bottled in Canada?

Answer: No. The only exceptions being in Native Wine from Ontario, Tarragona Wine from Spain and Australian Wine from Sydney, Australia. These wines are shipped in in bulk and put into jars at the warehouse of the Liquor Board.

- (2) If so, what firm or firms does the bottling?

Answer: See answer to Question 1.

- (3) Does any firm or firms, controlled by Harry Bronfman, bottle liquor for or sell liquor to the Saskatchewan Liquor Board?

Answer: No.

- (4) If so, what firms?

Answer: See answer to Question 3.

- (5) Where are the Government Liquor labels printed?

Answer: The Liquor Board purchases liquor in the original packages and the labels are placed on the bottles by the Manufacturers with the exception of certain wines referred to in answer to Question 1, the labels being supplied in such cases by the Manufacturers.

According to Order, Bill No. 18—An Act to amend The Drugless Practitioners Act, was read the third time and passed.

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 68—An Act to amend The Legal Profession Act, which was reported with amendment, considered as amended, and ordered for third reading today.

According to Order, Bill No. 63—An Act to amend The Public Revenues Act, was read the third time and passed.

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

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

Bill No. 49—An Act to amend The Land Titles Act.

Bill No. 56—An Act to amend The School Act.

Bill No. 73—An Act to amend An Act concerning the Village of Gainsboro.

Bill No. 72—An Act to amend The Stray Animals Act.

Bill No. 64—An Act for the Improvement of Live Stock Breeding.

Bill No. 41—An Act to amend The Union Hospital Act.

Bill No. 65—An Act to amend The Administrator of Estates of the Mentally Incompetent Act, 1922.

Bill No. 70—An Act to amend The Anatomy Act.

The following Bills were severally reported with amendment, considered as amended, read the third time and passed:

Bill No. 8—An Act respecting the Welfare of Children.

Bill No. 46—An Act respecting the Duties of Agents in the Sale of Products of the Soil and Other Commodities.

Bill No. 47—An Act for the Protection of Sheep and the Licensing of Dogs.

Bill No. 38—An Act to amend The Game Act.

Bill No. 71—An Act to amend The Noxious Weeds Act, 1924.

Bill No. 30—An Act to amend The City Act.

Bill No. 53—An Act to amend The Telephone and Telegraph Department Act.

Bill No. 19—An Act respecting the Superannuation of Civil Servants.

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

According to Order, Bill No. 68—An Act to amend The Legal Profession Act, was read the third time and passed.

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

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

Bill No. 39—An Act to amend The King's Bench Act.

Bill No. 69—An Act to amend The Wills Act.

Bill No. 61—An Act to amend The Liquor Act, 1925.

Bill No. 52—An Act respecting a certain Sale by The Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, Limited, to Saskatchewan Pool Elevators, Limited.

The following Bills were severally reported with amendment, considered as amended, read the third time and passed:

Bill No. 48—An Act to amend The Chattel Mortgage Act.

Bill No. 51—An Act respecting the Winding Up of The Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, Limited.

11.35 o'clock p.m.

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

Mr. Speaker addressed His Honour:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

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

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

- An Act respecting Towns.
- An Act respecting the Welfare of Children.
- An Act to amend The Drugless Practitioners Act.
- An Act respecting the Superannuation of Civil Servants.
- An Act to provide for the Registration of Names of Homes.
- An Act to amend The City Act, 1926.
- An Act to amend The Rural Municipality Act.
- An Act to amend The Village Act.
- An Act to amend The Game Act.
- An Act to amend The King's Bench Act.
- An Act to amend The Union Hospital Act.
- An Act to amend The Medical Profession Act.
- An Act respecting the Duties of Agents in the Sale of Products of the Soil and Other Commodities.
- An Act to provide for the Protection of Sheep and the Licensing of Dogs.
- An Act to amend The Chattel Mortgage Act.
- An Act to amend The Land Titles Act.
- An Act for the Regulation of Horse Racing.
- An Act respecting the Winding Up of The Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, Limited.
- An Act respecting a certain Sale by The Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, Limited, to Saskatchewan Pool Elevators, Limited.
- An Act to amend The Telephone and Telegraph Department Act.
- An Act to amend The School Act.
- An Act to amend The Wild Lands Tax Act.
- An Act to amend The Liquor Act, 1925.
- An Act to amend The Animals Protection Act.
- An Act to amend The Public Revenues Act.
- An Act for the Improvement of Live Stock Breeding.
- An Act to amend The Administrator of Estates of the Mentally Incompetent Act, 1922.

An Act to amend The Companies Act.

An Act to amend The Legal Profession Act.

An Act to amend The Wills Act.

An Act to amend The Anatomy Act.

An Act to amend The Noxious Weeds Act, 1924.

An Act to amend The Stray Animals Act.

An Act to amend An Act concerning the Village of Gainsboro.

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, 1927, and the Thirtieth day of April, 1928,” 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:

As you have completed the labours for which you were brought together, it is my duty to relieve you from further attendance at the present Session of the Legislative Assembly. It is thought that the result of your deliberations will prove of great benefit to our people.

Greater permanence and contentment should prevail in the Civil Service of the Province through the adoption of a superannuation measure.

The provision made for the amalgamation of two of our Creameries into one Co-operative organisation should pave the way for greater advancement in the dairy industry of the Province.

Your efforts to safeguard the interests of shareholders in one of the great co-operative undertakings which is in process of being wound up is worthy of the highest commendation.

Many other matters of great importance have received your most careful consideration to the end that the whole Province will benefit.

An effort to place the discussion of the Educational needs of our people on the highest possible plane has met with response from all parts of the House and I trust that discussion on a high level will be continued among our people with the object of giving to Saskatchewan the most efficient schools obtainable.

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. Uhrich, for 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 1927.

SECOND SESSION, SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Province of Saskatchewan

ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
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| 1 R.—First Reading. | Com.—Committee of Whole or Select |
| 2 R.—Second Reading. | Standing or Special Committee. |
| 3 R.—Third Reading. | S.O.C.—Committee on Standing Orders. |
| P.—Passed. | S.P.—Sessional Paper. |
| A.—Assent. | |

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Second Session of the Sixth

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

OF THE

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

SESSION 1927

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



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1927



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SESSIONAL PAPERS

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 21

SYNOPSIS OF REPORT OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD OF SASKATCHEWAN.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1926.

REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN, *January 15, 1927.*

HONOURABLE J. G. GARDINER,
President of the Executive Council,
Regina, Saskatchewan.

SIR,—No better indication of the improved status attained by Saskatchewan's municipalities, school districts and rural telephone companies can be found than in the decidedly lowered interest rates which were paid by these local authorities during 1926 for moneys borrowed by way of debenture. Not at any time since the war have Saskatchewan's municipal and school securities found so receptive and advantageous a market as that now existing. Some years ago Eastern buyers did not look for debentures issued by Saskatchewan's local authorities, nor were they in demand to any great extent. Now the reverse is the case. A dealer in debentures intimated not long ago that Eastern bond firms are now eagerly searching for securities issued by the urban and rural municipalities, school districts and rural telephone companies of this province, a statement borne out by actual conditions.

During the year just passed city debentures have sold at a rate which caused the issuing authority to pay as low as 5.11 per cent. on the money secured. The position reached by the municipal securities of the province is so strong that the prices paid for them approach the rates received for provincial securities.

Villages have no difficulty in securing money at 6 per cent., while many rural school districts have sold their debentures at a yield of from 5½ per cent. to 5 7-8 per cent., with a lowering tendency.

So keen is the competition for the debentures of Saskatchewan's local authorities generally that prospective buyers have often entered into negotiations for the purchase of the issue even before the ratepayers have had a chance to pronounce upon the proposed loan.

It is evident that Saskatchewan's cities, towns, villages, rural municipalities, school districts, rural telephone companies and hospital districts are finding a solid basis. The artificial has been

eliminated to a large degree from their assessment rolls, and consequently the receipts of the year can now be more easily estimated.

The progress and solidarity of a community is shown in its ability to collect taxes. It is a direct result of its prosperity. Where ratepayers are either unwilling or unable to meet the annual levies for municipal, school and telephone purposes difficulty is encountered. Throughout Saskatchewan a general clearing of arrears of taxes has been taking place during the last few years, and with this collection comes, as a natural result, the clearing of debt.

As the end of last year approached the public press had news items from communities throughout the province, showing improved municipal conditions. Two of these press despatches are quoted as samples. Beyond being selected from parts of the province far distant from each other, they were chosen at random:

"Ponteix, December 9.—Bank liabilities which totalled over \$37,000 in 1923 have been reduced to less than \$6,000, which will be wiped out by the end of the year from current tax collections, it was reported to the ratepayers of the rural municipality of Auvergne (No. 76) at their annual meeting here Monday."

"Yorkton, December 9.—An exceptionally strong financial condition exists in the rural municipalities of Orkney (No. 244) and Wallace (No. 243), it was disclosed at the annual meetings of these two places here yesterday.

Bank loans and borrowings have decreased steadily and taxes have been paid with greater promptness than has been the case for years past.

The financial statement for Orkney showed that all bank loans had been paid and with collections continuing as they have been, it is expected that the municipality will close the year clear of all liabilities.

The 1926 tax sale was the smallest in years, only 15 parcels being sold compared with 75 in 1924. This year only \$8,000 was borrowed from the bank as against \$33,000 in 1924.

In Wallace municipality the total tax levy has been decreasing yearly and bank borrowings have dropped from \$39,050 in 1921 to \$12,000 in 1926. The tax sale this year was the smallest on record, only seven parcels being sold as compared with 55 in 1921. At this date in 1921 the amount owing to banks, schools and telephone companies was \$56,260, while now the bank has been paid in full and the amount due schools and telephones is but \$18,666. Of a total of \$26,000 debentures, only \$7,200 remains unpaid."

With thorough tax collections and the benefits which flow therefrom, it is easy to conclude that even temporary defaults in meeting debts as they fall due are rapidly becoming a thing of the past.

SINKING FUNDS.

In cities, towns and town school districts only is the sinking fund plan of borrowing money allowed. As a matter of fact, the Local Government Board does not approve of the sinking fund method of raising money in any but our larger centres. It recognises the fact that in the majority of cases it is well for the borrower to face the creditor at least once a year. Under the sinking fund plan this is not necessary. Again, smaller centres are not always equipped for the advantageous handling of a sinking fund. In the following municipalities and school districts only do sinking funds exist:

| <i>Cities</i> | <i>Towns</i> | <i>School Districts</i> |
|------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Moose Jaw | Arcola | Regina |
| North Battleford | Biggar | Saskatoon |
| Regina | Davidson | |
| Saskatoon | Duck Lake | |
| Swift Current | Francis | |
| Prince Albert | Indian Head | |
| Weyburn | Melfort | |
| | Rosetown | |

The condition of a sinking fund is a good index to the standing of the authority which holds this fund in trust. A somewhat unusual provision exists in the law governing cities, towns and town school districts. It is to the effect that if the sinking fund has a surplus over and above the amount required to meet the debenture indebtedness the surplus may be used for current or other purposes, subject always to the approval of the Local Government Board.

It is interesting to note in this connection that for 1925 the city of Regina was allowed to use from its excess sinking funds \$65,000.00, Saskatoon \$55,000.00 and Moose Jaw \$22,000.00. Before leaving this topic it should be recorded that in every case the Local Government Board insists that there must be a substantial reserve amount in each sinking fund. Not in any instance is the full surplus used.

It is realised that the time is at hand when moneys to the credit of sinking funds cannot be invested at such advantageous rates as those prevailing within recent years, as comparative statements covering the last few years, given in another portion of this report, clearly demonstrate.

Before investing any of its sinking funds in a security of any kind the local authority must first submit the proposal to the Local Government Board for its examination and approval or rejection. Caution is observed in approving of such securities, for the board recognises that only the safest should be accepted for sinking funds. In this connection some dealers have difficulty in understanding why the Local Government Board may grant its authorisation to the issue of debentures by a certain municipality or school district and still refrain from approving of the resulting debentures as an investment in the sinking fund. This is accounted for in the fact

that the class and dates of maturity may not be such as to balance the particular sinking fund concerned. Again, the possibility of immediate conversion into cash should be taken into consideration when sanctioning a security as an investment for a sinking fund. Further, it might be pointed out that there are degrees of safety even among good investments and that only the very best should be purchased by a sinking fund which, as intimated, is guarded with extreme care by the Local Government Board.

READJUSTMENT OF FINANCES OF CERTAIN TOWNS.

Again, it can be recorded that during the year just passed no towns or cities have been added to that small list referred to in the board's last report which had failed to meet, when due, debenture instalments, and all who have studied the situation are agreed that there is no likelihood of that list being enlarged. Mention has been made in previous reports of the difficulties which encountered Battleford, Scott, Humboldt and Sutherland during the period which followed the boom days of 1910, 1911 and 1912. The creditors and debtors simply got together in their common difficulties and, agreeing upon a settlement in each case, had such agreement ratified by legislation. As shown in last year's report, legislation covering the town of Sutherland in this regard came into effect on the 19th day of December, 1925, while similar bills for Battleford, Scott and Humboldt, and their related school districts, became law on the 28th day of January last. In each of these cases the town concerned is to forward annually to the Local Government Board for distribution to the creditors a certain fixed sum. It is pleasing to note that in good time, before these payments were due, each of these towns had the amount in full duly deposited with the Local Government Board, by whom cheques were mailed to the persons entitled thereto on the due date. In every case where a settlement was reached a decidedly improved and more permanent condition is noticed. Taxes are paid to a greater extent and the citizens generally have a brighter outlook.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

The Local Government Board Act provides that there shall be associated with the board for advisory purposes a committee consisting of two members to be appointed annually, one by the executive of the provincial organisation representing rural municipalities and the other by the executive of the provincial organisation representing urban municipalities. The duties of the committee are to confer with the board concerning matters of general interest in relation to the carrying out of the Act.

This advisory committee meets from time to time with the Local Government Board, when subjects of interest to the local authorities of the province and to the policy of the Local Government Board are discussed at length.

On this advisory committee for more than a decade the late Mr. G. F. Blair, K.C., represented the Union of Saskatchewan

Municipalities. The Local Government Board records with profound regret the loss sustained in his sudden death on the 1st of March last. Mr. Blair's legal acumen, along with his breadth of vision and public spirited attitude towards all municipal and school questions made his counsel valuable. Mr. Blair was succeeded by Mr. O. J. Godfrey, F.C.A., a past president of the Union of Saskatchewan Municipalities and a former member of the advisory committee. Mr. J. J. Lamb, president of the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities, is its representative on the advisory committee.

Following are minutes from the last meeting, which was held on the ninth *ultimo*:

"The first item discussed was the favourable prices at which urban and rural municipalities, school districts, rural telephone companies and hospital districts have been selling their securities in recent months. These were shown to be more favourable than had existed since the beginning of the war, or since the creation of the Local Government Board. The city of Regina had sold an issue this year at a yield of 5.11 per cent., while rural school districts are obtaining the capital funds they require at a rate in some cases as low as $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. It was agreed that the low interest rates now paid by Saskatchewan's local authorities are a very decided intimation that the status of our municipalities, school districts, rural telephone companies and hospital districts is being firmly established and to such an extent that their management inspires confidence in those with money to invest. The fact also that in many instances people of the communities directly concerned purchase the securities of the latter without hesitation is a hopeful sign. So low are the interest yields that some sinking fund trustees who up till recently decided not to invest their funds in municipal securities at a yield rate lower than $5\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. have been obliged to change their decision in this regard, for moneys standing to the credit of sinking funds have been invested in this class of securities recently at a rate to yield as low as $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. While this condition does not cause the sinking fund to show increased surpluses, yet it is an indication of the improved reputation being gained by the local authorities of the province.

"The representative of The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities referred to a practice which he had learned had been followed in some school districts where schools were being erected, or old schools re-equipped or remodelled. This practice, he stated, consisted of the trustees giving notes to supply firms for equipment, which notes were made to bear interest at a rate sometimes as high as 10 per cent. It was pointed out that such notes were clearly illegal and could not be collected. He thought that it might be well for the Department of Education to thoroughly examine all financial statements sent to it from schools and, where illegal notes had been issued, to draw the attention of the local authority to the fact that such notes were not valid and that their payment could not be enforced. It was agreed that every effort should be made to stop this illegal practice. The chairman volunteered to give

the advisory committee citations of cases where courts decided definitely that notes given as mentioned were not enforceable.

"Sinking funds of Saskatchewan's cities and towns and town school districts were next commented on at some length. References were made to the fact that the three largest cities have substantial surpluses in their sinking funds and that, under the somewhat unusual privilege allowed by legislation, from the excess earnings in the sinking funds of the city of Regina \$65,000.00 were allowed to be devoted to current expenditure of the city concerned. For the same purpose, Saskatoon received \$55,000.00 and Moose Jaw \$22,000.00. The representative of the Union of Saskatchewan Municipalities suggested that such surpluses, being gathered from capital funds, should be devoted to capital expenditure. The representative of The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities agreed in this. The fact that, as already intimated, the surpluses were not secured in any way from current funds would naturally decide that they should not be used for current or maintenance purposes. In view of the difficulty which sinking fund trustees are experiencing in obtaining high interest rates for their sinking fund investments it was agreed that surplus or excess earnings of sinking funds should not be withdrawn to the same extent as during the last three years. It was the general consensus of opinion that a policy of exceptional caution should be continued in regard to approval of sinking fund investments and the granting of excess earnings for current or any other purpose.

"The subject of issuing debentures for gravel roads on the streets of our urban centres, or for the roads of rural municipalities, was then discussed. It was generally agreed that where the debentures are issued for the purpose they should be for a short term only, and that in no case should the borrowing for the purpose mentioned be heavy. The cost of maintenance was shown to be one of the problems in gravel roads. Mr. Lamb stated that in one municipality in Manitoba he had learned that gravel roads were maintained at a cost of only \$11.00 per mile. The members of the Board thought this figure to be exceptionally low and not at all a basis which could be accepted generally. A member of the Board mentioned the fact that in the Dakotas arrangements were made between the railway companies and the State Governments to haul gravel to stations, sidings or crossings near where roads were to be built or improved and where the cars would be unloaded, this being done in the months of probably February and March, when a slack time in railway activities is experienced. It was agreed that if this plan were followed in Saskatchewan the cost of road building might be reduced. Mr. Godfrey expressed the opinion that towns should not be allowed to borrow money by way of debenture for the purpose of gravelling their streets, the expense of maintenance being high.

"Construction costs generally in urban and rural municipalities were next dealt with briefly. It was mentioned that corrugated culverts, which previous to the war could be bought for 62 cents per lineal foot, now cost in some instances as high as \$2.15

per foot. It was thought that a general trend downward might be noticed and that some materials were about the same as just prior to the war. It was the consensus of opinion, however, that the 1912 and 1913 scale of wages and the cost of lumber were not likely to return.

"The Union Hospital Act was the next topic. The advisory committee had no hesitation in agreeing that this portion of the statutes which had undergone several amendments since its last printing over six years ago should be revised and consolidated, merging parts one and two. It was thought that the method of allowing hospital districts which do not necessarily follow municipal boundaries is the plan to be preferred. Should whole municipalities wish to combine themselves as a district it would be quite possible. Revision and consolidation as suggested would shorten the Act, and cause less confusion in its reading. In this connection the question of free hospital accommodation was mentioned. The advisory committee was not favourable to this plan, all agreeing that when the hospital is erected and a burden on the tax levies of the community those able to pay for treatment should be required to do so. Mr. Godfrey, who is the secretary of the Indian Head hospital, claimed that that institution is self-supporting, a somewhat unusual condition to find in a municipal hospital. The question of the treatment of indigents was discussed, in which the decision of Mr. Justice Brown as to what an "indigent" actually is was mentioned at length. The fact that hospital charges could not be entered as taxes against lands owned by the recipient of hospital benefits was mentioned by one of the members as being a hardship on the municipality.

"The members of the Local Government Board and the advisory committee all heartily agreed on the good work being carried on by the Red Cross Outposts. It was felt that the original idea behind the creation of municipal hospitals was to secure for rural communities the relief now being given by these Red Cross Outposts.

"Rural telephone extension was the next topic brought under review. Mr. Lamb cited the case of Ogema, in which town seven telephone lines converged. He intimated that they had a local working arrangement whereby a central telephone board was created. It consists of one member from each of the companies and in functioning attends to matters of general interest to the seven telephone companies concerned. To work on each line its individual directorate gives attention. Mr. Lamb thought it might be a good idea to suggest to the Telephone Department a change in the Act to provide for this central board of administration. The Local Government Board promised to convey his proposal to the superintendent of rural telephones. The mileage of the average rural telephone company was referred to, when the representative of the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities stated that, in his opinion, he thought a direct extension of twenty-four miles should be the limit and that it was easily possible for a telephone company to extend over an area altogether too

great for its economical operation. As extremes in this regard, Eastman Rural Telephone Company, Limited, with six miles of line, as one of the smallest, and North Forres Rural Telephone Company, Limited, with five hundred and twenty-four miles, as the largest in the province, were referred to at some length."

AUTHORISATION OF THE ISSUE OF DEBENTURES.

During the year 1926 the number and amount of applications for permission to borrow by way of debentures shows a material increase over the previous year.

Particulars of such applications and their disposition are given in the following pages, and are further detailed in the schedules attached hereto.

Cities.

In 1925 there was a noticeable reduction in the amount of debenture borrowings by cities, as compared with 1924, but in the year 1926 there has been a decided change in the other direction, applications increasing from 38, aggregating \$511,121.82, in 1925 to 42, totalling \$1,269,596.95, in 1926.

Of these, one of \$15,000.00 was refused; reductions amounting to \$70,575.35 were made in four, and authorisations were granted as follows:

| | Number of authorisations | Amount |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Hospitals..... | 2 | \$400,000.00 |
| Storm sewers..... | 1 | 51,200.00 |
| Street paving..... | 1 | 6,500.00 |
| Water—house connections..... | 2 | 25,802.00 |
| Sewer—house connections..... | 1 | 12,000.00 |
| Collegiate Institute..... | 3 | 250,000.00 |
| Concrete sidewalks..... | 8 | 31,548.97 |
| Concrete crossings..... | 1 | 2,500.00 |
| Water extensions..... | 7 | 73,565.18 |
| Sewer extensions..... | 4 | 12,171.50 |
| Electric light extensions..... | 2 | 205,000.00 |
| Boulevards..... | 1 | 165.65 |
| Gravelling roads..... | 4 | 76,974.00 |
| Water meters..... | 1 | 5,000.00 |
| Traffic bridge..... | 1 | 5,000.00 |
| Fire equipment..... | 1 | 17,000.00 |
| Plank walks..... | 1 | 9,593.10 |
| | 41 | \$1,184,020.40 |

For details see Schedule A.

Towns.

Twelve applications were received from towns, aggregating \$81,600.00. Of these one of \$15,000.00 was refused, and authorisations for the remainder were granted, as follows:

| | Number of authorisations | Amount |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Skating and curling rinks | 3 | \$17,000.00 |
| Municipal hall and fire equipment | 1 | 11,500.00 |
| Fire hall | 1 | 5,000.00 |
| Sewers | 2 | 19,100.00 |
| Concrete walks | 3 | 10,000.00 |
| Agricultural building and skating rink | 1 | 4,000.00 |
| | 11 | \$66,600.00 |

Details are set out in Schedule B.

In 1925, 11 authorisations, amounting to \$121,710.00 were granted.

Villages.

Thirty-four debenture applications, aggregating \$100,250.00, were received from villages, as compared with 23, totalling \$58,700.00, in 1925. Four, totalling \$16,000.00, were refused, and reductions of \$5,900.00 were made in eight. Authorisations were granted as set out below:

| | Number of authorisations | Amount |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Electric light | 4 | \$22,300.00 |
| Concrete walks | 13 | 30,000.00 |
| Plank walks | 3 | 3,800.00 |
| Water supply | 4 | 7,100.00 |
| Curling and skating rinks | 3 | 9,000.00 |
| Municipal building | 1 | 3,000.00 |
| Fire equipment | 1 | 1,500.00 |
| Recreation ground | 1 | 1,650.00 |
| | 30 | \$78,350.00 |

For details see Schedule C.

In 1925 a total of 18, amounting to \$41,200.00 were authorised.

Rural Municipalities.

This class of local authority does very little financing by means of the issue of debentures, usually meeting its capital requirements from current revenue. In 1926 only five applications were received, all of which were granted, as follows:

| | Number of authorisations | Amount |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Municipal buildings..... | 4 | \$9,500.00 |
| Roadways..... | 1 | 7,000.00 |
| | 5 | \$16,500.00 |

Details are given in Schedule D.

In 1925, four authorisations were granted, amounting to \$21,000.00.

School Districts.

Applications received from school districts in 1926, for various purposes, as set out in the table below, show an increase of 20 in number and \$64,990.00 in amount over the 1925 figures, exclusive in both years of those rejected by the votes of the ratepayers.

Comparatively few applications were received from newly organised districts, so that the increase may be ascribed principally to the growing necessity for increased and better accommodation in older established districts, which is becoming more apparent from year to year:

| | 1926 | | | | 1925 | | | |
|---|------|----------------|------------------------|-----------|------|-----------|------------------------|----------|
| | No. | Amount | Defeated by ratepayers | | No. | Amount | Defeated by ratepayers | |
| | | | No. | Amount | | | No. | Amount |
| New schools..... | 134 | \$636,420.00 | 15 | 69,500 | 129 | \$708,450 | 13 | \$41,500 |
| New schools and teachers' residences..... | 5 | 38,450.00 | .. | ..... | .. | ..... | .. | ..... |
| Additions to buildings | 44 | 220,450.00 | 5 | 13,800 | 29 | 92,150 | 5 | 15,950 |
| Teachers' residences.. | 7 | 7,660.00 | 2 | 2,200 | 9 | 7,535 | 1 | 1,000 |
| Alterations to schools. | 35 | 57,475.00 | 7 | 13,750 | 32 | 53,835 | 3 | 4,300 |
| New schools and stables | 5 | 13,100.00 | 2 | 6,600 | 5 | 21,000 | .. | ..... |
| School equipment.... | 1 | 1,100.00 | .. | ..... | .. | ..... | .. | ..... |
| Alterations and equipment..... | 7 | 20,400.00 | 2 | 12,500 | 5 | 6,750 | .. | ..... |
| Additions and heating plant..... | 3 | 13,600.00 | .. | ..... | .. | ..... | .. | ..... |
| Sanitary systems..... | 2 | 3,950.00 | .. | ..... | 1 | 1,200 | .. | ..... |
| Alterations and stables | 2 | 3,355.50 | .. | ..... | .. | ..... | .. | ..... |
| Stables..... | .. | ..... | .. | ..... | 3 | 1,350 | 1 | 500 |
| Heating plant..... | .. | ..... | .. | ..... | 1 | 2,000 | .. | ..... |
| Alterations and teachers' residences..... | .. | ..... | .. | ..... | 1 | 1,600 | .. | ..... |
| Less defeated by ratepayers..... | 245 | \$1,015,960.50 | 33 | \$118,350 | 215 | \$895,870 | 23 | \$63,250 |
| | 33 | 118,350.00 | .. | ..... | 23 | 63,250 | .. | ..... |
| | 212 | \$897,610.50 | .. | ..... | 192 | \$832,620 | .. | ..... |

Details are given in Schedule E.

One application, \$1,800.00, was refused and reductions amounting to \$9,000.00 were made in eight, excluding those rejected by the ratepayers. Two hundred and eleven authorisations were granted, aggregating \$886,810.50, as compared with 187, \$798,670.00 in 1925.

Rural Telephone Companies.

Authorisations of the issue of debentures by rural telephone companies are listed in Schedule F.

The number and amount of such authorisations are considerably increased over those in 1925. Extensions to existing companies account for a large part of the 1926 expenditure, there being in this class alone \$165,053.55 made up in most cases of small amounts of from under \$500.00 to \$2,000.00.

Other classes also show increases, as indicated in the following table:

| | 1926 | | | | 1925 | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|
| | Applications | | Authorisations | | Applications | | Authorisations | |
| | No. | Amount | No. | Amount | No. | Amount | No. | Amount |
| New companies.. | 10 | \$95,800.00 | 10 | \$95,800.00 | 3 | \$9,610 | 3 | \$9,610 |
| Extensions to existing companies | 101 | 287,803.55 | 101 | 281,863.55 | 61 | 122,260 | 60 | 116,810 |
| Central office buildings..... | 4 | 8,400.00 | 4 | 7,400.00 | 4 | 3,375 | 4 | 3,375 |
| Central buildings and extensions. | 2 | 6,650.00 | 2 | 6,650.00 | 1 | 1,775 | 1 | 1,775 |
| Reconstruction of existing systems | 2 | 2,700.00 | 2 | 2,300.00 | 6 | 5,050 | 6 | 5,050 |
| Automatic phones | .. | ..... | .. | ..... | 1 | 780 | 1 | 780 |
| | 119 | \$401,353.55 | 119 | \$394,013.55 | 76 | \$142,850 | 75 | \$137,400 |

Reductions, amounting to \$7,340.00, were made in 11 applications.

Union Hospital Districts.

Only one application was received from union hospital districts, amounting to \$35,500.00, which was granted. Details are given in Schedule G.

In 1925, three authorisations were granted, aggregating \$33,500.00.

Sale of Debentures.

During the year 372 issues of debentures of all classes, aggregating \$2,214,178.40, have been sold, as compared with 288 issues, \$1,460,811.20, in 1925. It will be noted from the following table that over 50 per cent. of this amount was placed in Saskatchewan:

| | Sold to dealers in Saskatchewan | Sold to dealers outside Saskatchewan | Sold direct to Saskatchewan investors | Sold direct to investors outside Saskatchewan | Sold direct to Saskatchewan sinking funds |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Cities..... | | \$481,809.93 | \$185,000.00 | | \$47,280.00 |
| Towns..... | \$9,246.36 | 132,109.06 | 16,500.00 | \$10,860.00 | |
| Villages..... | 63,350.00 | 3,000.00 | 5,100.00 | | 4,200.00 |
| Rural municipalities..... | | | | | 2,000.00 |
| Union hospital districts..... | 35,500.00 | | | | |
| Rural telephone companies..... | 267,873.00 | 7,200.00 | 41,418.55 | | 13,171.00 |
| Village and rural schools..... | 483,855.50 | 113,560.00 | 118,700.00 | 4,000.00 | 41,745.00 |
| City and town schools..... | 53,000.00 | 55,700.00 | 18,000.00 | | |
| | \$912,824.86 | \$793,378.99 | \$384,718.55 | \$14,860.00 | \$108,396.00 |
| Total in 1926..... | \$772,428.00 | \$435,805.00 | \$97,723.20 | \$3,800.00 | \$151,055.00 |

The amount of debentures being returned from Eastern Canada for resale in this province shows a decided decrease, information having been obtained of 10 issues amounting to \$17,023.45, as against 16 issues, \$50,815.54, in 1925, and 54 issues, \$255,523.28, in 1924.

The following tables show the distribution of sales throughout the year, and the highest, lowest and average interest paid in respect of each class for each month in the year. Comparison of these figures with those for 1925, and previous years, indicates a gradual reduction in rates in favour of the issuing local authority:

| | 1926 | | | | | 1925 | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 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. | 6. | 6. | 6 | \$246,000.00 | 5.356 |
| April..... | 6 | 254,360.00 | 5.191 | 5.128 | 5.189 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| June..... | 16 | 158,329.93 | 5.50 | 5.173 | 5.284 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| July..... | 5 | 104,400.00 | 5.345 | 5.11 | 5.239 | 10 | 134,505.00 | 5.752 |
| October..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3 | 12,240.20 | 5.844 |
| November..... | 1 | 185,000.00 | 5.341 | 5.341 | 5.341 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| | 29 | \$714,089.93 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 19 | \$392,745.20 | ..... |
| <i>Towns—</i> | | | | | | | | |
| January..... | 1 | \$10,860.00 | 6. | 6. | 6. | .. | ..... | ..... |
| March..... | 1 | 118,755.42 | 7. | 7. | 7. | .. | ..... | ..... |
| May..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | \$11,800.00 | 7.798 |
| July..... | 1 | 7,100.00 | 6. | 6. | 6. | 3 | 18,500.00 | 6.402 |
| August..... | 2 | 21,500.00 | 6. | 5.951 | 5.973 | 2 | 28,800.00 | 7.156 |
| September..... | 1 | 3,500.00 | 5.724 | 5.724 | 5.724 | 2 | 22,500.00 | 6.435 |
| October..... | 1 | 3,000.00 | 5.853 | 5.853 | 5.853 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| November..... | 1 | 4,000.00 | 6. | 6. | 6. | 1 | 21,500.00 | 6.431 |
| December..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | 38,356.00 | 6.220 |
| | 8 | \$168,715.42 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 11 | \$141,456.00 | ..... |

| | 1926 | | | | | 1925 | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-------------|--------------|
| | Number of issues sold | Amount | Highest interest rate | Lowest interest rate | Average rate | Number of issues sold | Amount | Average rate |
| <i>Villages—</i> | | | | | | | | |
| January..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | \$1,500.00 | 7.437 |
| March..... | 1 | \$1,000.00 | 6.50 | 6.50 | 6.50 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| April..... | 2 | 5,200.00 | 6.50 | 6.355 | 6.436 | 1 | 800.00 | 7.30 |
| May..... | 4 | 13,500.00 | 6.239 | 6.118 | 6.144 | 1 | 3,500.00 | 7.142 |
| June..... | 4 | 9,900.00 | 6.157 | 6. | 6.085 | 2 | 7,100.00 | 7.224 |
| July..... | 5 | 12,250.00 | 6.198 | 6. | 6.149 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| August..... | 3 | 16,000.00 | 6.403 | 6.152 | 6.272 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| September..... | 5 | 9,800.00 | 6.222 | 6.125 | 6.186 | 4 | 5,500.00 | 6.692 |
| October..... | 1 | 1,800.00 | 6.212 | 6.212 | 6.212 | 3 | 5,400.00 | 6.598 |
| November..... | 2 | 6,200.00 | 6.214 | 5.921 | 5.990 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| December..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 7,500.00 | 6.50 |
| | 27 | \$75,650.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 13 | \$31,300.00 | ..... |
| <i>Rural Municipalities—</i> | | | | | | | | |
| May..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | \$3,500.00 | 6.039 |
| August..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 8,000.00 | 5.943 |
| September..... | 1 | \$2,000.00 | 5.75 | 5.75 | 5.75 | 1 | 4,000.00 | 5.674 |
| October..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 3,000.00 | 6.088 |
| | 1 | \$2,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 4 | \$18,500.00 | ..... |

| | 1926 | | | | | 1925 | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 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..... | 7 | \$9,730.00 | 6.625 | 5.928 | 6.039 | 6 | \$6,750.00 | 6.482 |
| February..... | 2 | 2,375.00 | 6.937 | 6. | 6.138 | 8 | 13,400.00 | 6.490 |
| March..... | 2 | 2,100.00 | 7. | 6. | 6.143 | 2 | 8,350.00 | 6.251 |
| April..... | 2 | 2,000.00 | 6. | 6. | 6. | 4 | 3,350.00 | 6.258 |
| May..... | 6 | 12,700.00 | 6.450 | 5.75 | 6.079 | 8 | 8,925.00 | 6.391 |
| June..... | 5 | 37,300.00 | 6. | 5.661 | 5.718 | 4 | 11,800.00 | 6.529 |
| July..... | 9 | 58,008.55 | 8. | 5.653 | 5.935 | 7 | 9,200.00 | 6.213 |
| August..... | 12 | 36,655.00 | 7. | 5.632 | 5.733 | 13 | 25,325.00 | 6.098 |
| September..... | 14 | 39,660.00 | 5.967 | 5.587 | 5.736 | 3 | 1,150.00 | 6.766 |
| October..... | 17 | 56,725.00 | 6.392 | 5.50 | 5.812 | 6 | 28,925.00 | 6. |
| November..... | 13 | 40,611.00 | 7. | 5.513 | 5.808 | 7 | 5,930.00 | 6.603 |
| December..... | 10 | 31,798.00 | 6.203 | 5.698 | 5.751 | 6 | 12,720.00 | 6.036 |
| | 99 | \$329,662.55 | .... | .... | .... | 74 | \$135,825.00 | .... |
| <i>Union Hospitals—</i> | | | | | | | | |
| July..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | \$6,500.00 | 6.060 |
| September..... | 1 | \$35,500.00 | 5.532 | 5.532 | 5.532 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| October..... | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | 27,000.00 | 6.048 |
| | 1 | \$35,500.00 | .... | .... | .... | 3 | \$33,500.00 | .... |

| | 1926 | | | | | 1925 | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Number of issues sold | Amount | Highest interest rate | Lowest interest rate | Average rate | Number of issues sold | Amount | Average rate |
| <i>Villages and Rural Schools—</i> | | | | | | | | |
| January..... | 3 | \$2,620.00 | 6.944 | 6.250 | 6.201 | 5 | \$14,400.00 | 6.431 |
| February..... | 6 | 17,850.00 | 6.125 | 5.937 | 6.006 | 1 | 1,500.00 | 7. |
| March..... | 4 | 14,600.00 | 6. | 5.814 | 5.904 | 1 | 2,500.00 | 6.672 |
| April..... | 14 | 63,200.00 | 6.173 | 5.750 | 5.995 | 9 | 16,300.00 | 6.379 |
| May..... | 21 | 143,810.00 | 6.109 | 5.608 | 5.814 | 16 | 65,100.00 | 6.179 |
| June..... | 34 | 137,425.00 | 5.931 | 5.422 | 5.747 | 18 | 80,150.00 | 6.054 |
| July..... | 32 | 128,200.00 | 6. | 5.50 | 5.697 | 27 | 89,950.00 | 6.289 |
| August..... | 27 | 80,850.00 | 5.969 | 5.466 | 5.727 | 30 | 97,735.00 | 6.103 |
| September..... | 22 | 83,500.00 | 5.937 | 5. | 5.547 | 18 | 68,700.00 | 6.021 |
| October..... | 13 | 30,755.50 | 6. | 5.50 | 5.772 | 19 | 74,600.00 | 6.097 |
| November..... | 18 | 54,350.00 | 6.50 | 5.692 | 5.852 | 8 | 30,800.00 | 6.049 |
| December..... | 3 | 4,700.00 | 6.50 | 5.857 | 5.950 | 9 | 21,720.00 | 6.288 |
| | 197 | \$761,860.50 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 161 | \$563,435.00 | ..... |
| <i>City and Town Schools—</i> | | | | | | | | |
| January..... | 1 | \$2,000.00 | 5.50 | 5.50 | 5.50 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| May..... | 1 | 20,000.00 | 5.646 | 5.646 | 5.646 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| June..... | 1 | 10,000.00 | 5.799 | 5.799 | 5.799 | 1 | \$50,000.00 | 5.983 |
| August..... | 4 | 58,000.00 | 5.625 | 5.530 | 5.573 | 1 | 93,000.00 | 5.408 |
| September..... | 1 | 15,000.00 | 5.561 | 5.561 | 5.561 | 1 | 1,050.00 | 6. |
| October..... | 1 | 5,700.00 | 5.75 | 5.75 | 5.75 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| November..... | 1 | 16,000.00 | 5.50 | 5.50 | 5.50 | .. | ..... | ..... |
| | 10 | \$126,700.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3 | \$144,050.00 | ..... |

SINKING FUNDS.

The various Acts relating to the accumulation of sinking funds for the repayment of municipal debentures issued under the sinking fund plan provide that a sum shall be levied and raised annually, which, compounded at 4 per cent. will be sufficient at the end of the repayment period to retire the debentures to which it applies.

For some years past interest rates have been obtainable which have permitted the administrators of the various funds to invest the moneys at their disposal on such advantageous terms as to enable them to meet the requirements of the Act and, in addition, to accumulate substantial surpluses, portions of which have in some instances been returned to the local authorities to be expended for current and other purposes, pursuant to sections in the respective acts in that behalf, while the remainder has been applied to building up reserves.

In the last seven years the peak of interest earnings on sinking fund investments was attained in 1921, and since that year a steady decrease is apparent from an approximate average of 7 per cent. to an approximate average of 5 per cent., as indicated in the following table:

| | 1920 | | 1921 | | 1922 | | 1923 | | 1924 | | 1925 | | 1926 | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Amount invested \$ | Average interest yield % | Amount invested \$ | Average interest yield % | Amount invested \$ | Average interest yield % | Amount invested \$ | Average interest yield % | Amount invested \$ | Average interest yield % | Amount invested \$ | Average interest yield % | Amount invested \$ | Average interest yield % |
| <i>Cities—</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Regina..... | 491,818.00 | 6.282 | 685,073.00 | 7.452 | 775,722.00 | 6.108 | 504,759.00 | 6.075 | 826,103.00 | 5.732 | 972,413.00 | 5.161 | 844,846.85 | 5.038 |
| Saskatoon... | 198,653.00 | 6.402 | 839,519.00 | 6.433 | 273,829.00 | 5.63 | 359,000.00 | 5.322 | 604,890.00 | 5.223 | 64,587.00 | 5.332 | 254,344.31 | 5.036 |
| Moose Jaw... | 397,404.00 | 6.052 | 224,091.00 | 7.397 | 146,326.00 | 5.737 | 176,927.00 | 6.096 | 183,106.00 | 5.482 | 619,548.00 | 5.054 | 277,703.50 | 4.952 |
| Weyburn.... | 21,000.00 | 6.615 | 5,000.00 | 7.375 | ..... | ..... | 25,000.00 | 5. | 32,336.00 | 5.24 | 89,641.00 | 5.215 | 39,631.82 | 5.128 |
| North Battle- ford..... | 35,000.00 | 6.091 | 16,250.00 | 6.120 | 29,074.00 | 5.244 | 40,487.00 | 5.341 | 27,012.00 | 5.02 | 24,392.00 | 5. | 57,633.75 | 4.974 |
| Prince Albert ..... | ..... | ..... | 16,700.00 | 6.108 | 7,120.00 | 5. | 2,000.00 | 5.50 | ..... | ..... | 67,865.00 | 5.952 | 51,720.85 | 5.234 |
| <i>Towns—</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Indian Head. | 500.00 | 6. | ..... | ..... | 5,000.00 | 5. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Melfort..... | 2,560.00 | 5.50 | 3,500.00 | 5. | ..... | ..... | 7,418.00 | 6.55 | 10,339.00 | 6.576 | 9,906.00 | 6.102 | 12,400.00 | 5.936 |
| Davidson.... | 3,100.00 | 5.611 | 1,700.00 | 6.608 | 4,900.00 | 5.965 | 2,959.00 | 5.10 | 3,952.00 | 5.011 | 1,658.00 | 4.961 | 2,865.00 | 4.85 |
| Rosetown.... | 600.00 | 7.50 | 1,350.00 | 7.579 | 950.00 | 7.644 | 1,000.00 | 6.80 | 1,200.00 | 6.50 | 1,225.00 | 6.423 | 1,361.00 | 6. |
| Biggar..... | 2,900.00 | 7.492 | 3,250.00 | 7.784 | 3,300.00 | 7.401 | 5,400.00 | 6.805 | 5,400.00 | 6.353 | 15,113.00 | 6.026 | 6,972.50 | 5.523 |
| Francis..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,500.00 | 6. | 2,433.07 | 5.118 |
| Duck Lake.. | 500.00 | 6.75 | 1,100.00 | 7.5 | 1,260.00 | 7.623 | 800.00 | 6.5 | 625.00 | 6.92 | 1,325.00 | 6.169 | 1,350.00 | 6. |
| Sutherland.. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,650.00 | 7.25 | 4,200.00 | 6.566 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| <i>Public School Districts—</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Regina No. 4 | 35,200.00 | 7.16 | 32,850.00 | 7.73 | 43,021.00 | 7.621 | 51,065.00 | 6.695 | 44,337.00 | 6.299 | 82,786.00 | 5.995 | 46,231.81 | 5.773 |
| Saskatoon No. 13.... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 14,000.00 | 6.5 | 28,615.00 | 5.287 | 43,695.00 | 4.955 | 60,166.25 | 4.92 |

In the year 1926 the Board granted approval of 178 applications as set out below:

| | No. of approvals | Face value | Purchase value |
|---|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Dominion of Canada bonds..... | 7 | \$ 271,500.00 | \$ 280,951.00 |
| Province of Saskatchewan bonds..... | 45 | 754,083.85 | 684,714.95 |
| Province of Alberta bonds..... | 11 | 262,000.00 | 257,839.50 |
| Province of British Columbia bonds..... | 8 | 157,000.00 | 152,858.15 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures.. | 55 | 120,809.65 | 122,745.60 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures | 32 | 66,075.66 | 67,862.33 |
| Saskatchewan rural municipality debentures..... | 1 | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 |
| Saskatchewan city debentures..... | 16 | 80,730.33 | 79,289.18 |
| Saskatchewan town debentures..... | 1 | 3,500.00 | 3,447.50 |
| Saskatchewan village debentures..... | 1 | 4,200.00 | 4,200.00 |
| Province of New Brunswick bonds..... | 1 | 4,000.00 | 3,752.50 |
| | 178 | \$1,725,899.49 | \$1,659,660.71 |

In 1925, 210 applications were approved, the face value of which was \$2,003,356.62 and the purchase value \$1,995,656.46.

The following statements show in detail the sinking fund investments approved by the Board in 1926:

| Nature of investment | No. of approvals | Face value | Purchase value | Interest yield % |
|---|------------------|--------------|----------------|------------------|
| <i>City of Regina—</i> | | | | |
| Province of Saskatchewan 4%—1949..... | 4 | \$224,837.25 | \$194,784.96 | 4.97 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 6%—1936..... | 1 | 1,500.00 | 1,617.00 | 5. |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5%—1944..... | 2 | 11,500.00 | 11,568.15 | 4.943 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 4%—1951, Reg. stock..... | 5 | 142,504.72 | 124,202.52 | 4.911 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 4%—1954 Reg. stock..... | 2 | 8,988.62 | 8,415.59 | 4.914 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 4½%—1945.... | 1 | 10,000.00 | 9,494.00 | 4.90 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5%—1939..... | 1 | 5,000.00 | 5,022.50 | 4.96 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5%—1954 Farm loan..... | 1 | 15,000.00 | 15,150.00 | 4.94 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5%—1950 Farm loan..... | 1 | 20,000.00 | 20,200.00 | 4.94 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5%—1956..... | 2 | 17,300.00 | 17,384.16 | 4.97 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5%—1954..... | 1 | 3,000.00 | 3,015.00 | 4.97 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 4½—1944..... | 1 | 50,000.00 | 47,550.00 | 4.91 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 4%—1944..... | 1 | 15,000.00 | 14,231.25 | 4.95 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5%—1932..... | 1 | 6,000.00 | 6,021.00 | 4.94 |
| Province of British Columbia 4½%—1952... | 1 | 85,000.00 | 79,900.00 | 4.90 |
| Province of British Columbia 4½%—1942.. | 1 | 30,000.00 | 28,395.00 | 5. |
| Province of British Columbia 4½%—1947.. | 1 | 12,000.00 | 11,352.00 | 4.95 |
| Province of New Brunswick 4%—1935.... | 1 | 4,000.00 | 3,752.50 | 5. |
| Province of Alberta 4½%—1946..... | 2 | 95,000.00 | 89,912.50 | 4.917 |
| Dominion of Canada 5½%—1934..... | 1 | 15,000.00 | 15,525.00 | 5. |
| City of Regina debentures..... | 13 | 42,050.33 | 40,894.18 | 5.173 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures... | 19 | 55,410.08 | 56,672.19 | 5.72 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone debentures.. | 14 | 38,798.05 | 39,787.35 | 5.687 |
| | 77 | \$907,889.05 | \$844,846.85 | Average 5.038 |

| Nature of investment | No. of approvals | Face value | Purchase value | Interest yield % |
|--|------------------|--------------|----------------|------------------|
| <i>City of Saskatoon—</i> | | | | |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5%—1948..... | 1 | \$3,500.00 | \$3,517.50 | 4.96 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5%—1944..... | 1 | 3,000.00 | 3,018.00 | 4.95 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 4½%—1944..... | 1 | 34,000.00 | 32,172.50 | 4.95 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5%—1950..... | 1 | 2,500.00 | 2,525.00 | 4.93 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5%—1950, Farm loan..... | 1 | 3,000.00 | 3,031.50 | 4.93 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 4%—1951, Reg. stock..... | 1 | 10,200.00 | 8,780.16 | 4.99 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 4%—1949..... | 1 | 94,900.00 | 82,463.00 | 4.97 |
| Province of Alberta 6%—1941..... | 2 | 29,500.00 | 32,450.00 | 5.06 |
| Province of Alberta 6%—1941..... | 1 | 5,000.00 | 5,495.50 | 5.05 |
| Province of Alberta 5%—1943..... | 1 | 21,000.00 | 21,000.00 | 5. |
| Province of Alberta 5%—1940..... | 1 | 10,000.00 | 10,000.00 | 5. |
| Province of British Columbia 6%—1941..... | 3 | 21,000.00 | 23,114.50 | 5.05 |
| Province of British Columbia 6%—1945..... | 1 | 2,000.00 | 2,237.40 | 5.05 |
| Province of British Columbia 6%—1946..... | 1 | 7,000.00 | 7,859.25 | 5.02 |
| City of Saskatoon debentures..... | 1 | 16,680.00 | 16,680.00 | 5.50 |
| | 18 | \$263,280.00 | \$254,344.31 | Average 5.036 |
| <i>City of North Battleford—</i> | | | | |
| Province of Saskatchewan 4½%—1944..... | 1 | \$26,000.00 | \$25,468.50 | 5. |
| Province of Alberta 5%—1943..... | 1 | 21,000.00 | 21,152.25 | 4.92 |
| Province of Alberta 6%—1941..... | 1 | 10,000.00 | 11,013.00 | 5.02 |
| | 3 | \$57,000.00 | \$57,633.75 | Average 4.974 |
| <i>City of Prince Albert—</i> | | | | |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5%—1946..... | 1 | \$15,000.00 | \$15,067.50 | 4.96 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 4½%—1946..... | 1 | 7,000.00 | 6,620.60 | 4.93 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 4%—1949..... | 1 | 5,353.26 | 4,646.63 | 4.97 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5%—1941..... | 2 | 5,000.00 | 5,031.00 | 4.95 |
| Dominion of Canada 4½%—1944..... | 1 | 2,500.00 | 2,412.50 | 4.80 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone company debentures..... | 1 | 5,750.00 | 5,942.62 | 5.50 |
| City of Prince Albert debentures..... | 1 | 12,000.00 | 12,000.00 | 6. |
| | 8 | \$52,603.26 | \$51,720.85 | Average 5.234 |
| <i>*Town of Melfort—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan rural municipality debentures..... | 1 | \$2,000.00 | \$2,000.00 | 5.75 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone company debentures..... | 1 | 500.00 | 500.00 | 6. |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures... | 6 | 9,900.00 | 9,900.00 | 5.971 |
| | 8 | \$12,400.00 | \$12,400.00 | Average 5.936 |

*Administered by the Local Government Board.

| Nature of investment | No. of approvals | Face value | Purchase value | Interest yield % |
|--|------------------|--------------|----------------|------------------|
| <i>City of Moose Jaw—</i> | | | | |
| Dominion of Canada Victory Bonds 5½%—1932..... | 2 | \$107,000.00 | \$110,170.50 | 4.927 |
| Dominion of Canada Victory Bonds 5½%—1934..... | 3 | 147,000.00 | 152,843.00 | 4.929 |
| City of Moose Jaw debentures..... | 1 | 10,000.00 | 9,715.00 | 5.30 |
| Moose Jaw school district debentures..... | 1 | 5,000.00 | 4,975.00 | 5.50 |
| | 7 | \$269,000.00 | \$277,703.50 | Average 4.952 |
| <i>City of Weyburn—</i> | | | | |
| Province of Saskatchewan 4½%—1945..... | 1 | 5,000.00 | 4,782.50 | 4.85 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5%—1950, Farm loan..... | 3 | 4,000.00 | 4,049.63 | 4.909 |
| Province of Alberta 4½%—1946..... | 1 | 7,000.00 | 6,650.00 | 4.90 |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures... | 2 | 7,800.00 | 7,994.76 | 5.725 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone company debentures..... | 8 | 15,614.83 | 16,154.93 | 5.604 |
| | 15 | \$39,414.83 | \$39,631.82 | Average 5.128 |
| <i>Town of Davidson—</i> | | | | |
| Province of Saskatchewan 4½%—1944..... | 2 | \$3,000.00 | \$2,865.00 | 4.85 |
| <i>*Town of Rosetown—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone company debentures..... | 1 | \$461.00 | \$461.00 | 6. |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures... | 1 | 900.00 | 900.00 | 6. |
| | 2 | \$1,361.00 | \$1,361.00 | Average 6. |
| <i>*Town of Biggar—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures... | 3 | \$2,975.00 | \$2,975.00 | 5.863 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone company debentures..... | 2 | 550.00 | 550.00 | 6.182 |
| Town of Biggar debentures..... | 1 | 3,500.00 | 3,447.50 | 5.125 |
| | 6 | \$7,025.00 | \$6,972.50 | Average 5.523 |
| <i>Town of Francis—</i> | | | | |
| Province of Saskatchewan 4½%—1945..... | 1 | \$1,000.00 | \$ 956.20 | 4.87 |
| Province of Saskatchewan 5½%—1946..... | 1 | 1,000.00 | 1,063.60 | 5. |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures... | 1 | 400.00 | 413.27 | 6. |
| | 3 | \$2,400.00 | \$2,433.07 | Average 5.118 |

*Administered by the Local Government Board.

| Nature of investment | No. of approvals | Face value | Purchase value | Interest yield % |
|--|------------------|-------------|----------------|------------------|
| <i>*Town of Duck Lake—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures... | 1 | \$600.00 | \$600.00 | 6. |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone company debentures..... | 3 | 750.00 | 750.00 | 6. |
| | 4 | \$1,350.00 | \$1,350.00 | Average 6. |
| <i>*Regina Public School District No. 4—</i> | | | | |
| Saskatchewan village debentures..... | 1 | \$4,200.00 | \$4,200.00 | 6. |
| Saskatchewan school district debentures... | 21 | 37,824.57 | 38,315.38 | 5.752 |
| Saskatchewan rural telephone company debentures..... | 4 | 3,651.78 | 3,716.43 | 5.766 |
| | 26 | \$45,676.35 | \$46,231.81 | Average 5.773 |
| <i>Saskatoon Public School District No. 13—</i> | | | | |
| Province of Alberta 4½%—1946..... | 1 | \$63,500.00 | \$60,166.25 | 4.92 |

*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, to be used for current or other expenses:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Regina..... | \$65,000.00 |
| Saskatoon..... | 55,000.00 |
| Moose Jaw..... | 22,000.00 |
| Weyburn..... | 10,977.85 |
| Regina Public School District No. 4..... | 5,000.00 |
| Saskatoon Public School District No. 13..... | 3,000.00 |

Since 1920, in which year the sections providing for the use of surplus earnings of sinking funds for current or other purposes were introduced into the various municipal acts, the sums set out below have been authorised by the Board to be so applied; notwithstanding which, information at hand indicates that substantial reserves are being maintained:

| | Amount authorised to be with- drawn up to Dec. 31, 1926 | Reserves as at Dec. 31, 1925 |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| City of Regina..... | \$284,000.00 | \$147,127.40 |
| City of Saskatoon..... | 316,967.11 | 130,213.45 |
| City of Moose Jaw..... | 93,387.82 | 131,733.21 |
| City of Weyburn..... | 12,477.85 | 4,567.98 |
| Town of Davidson..... | 2,700.00 | 2,027.00 |
| Regina Public School District No. 4..... | 15,000.00 | 12,854.65 |
| Saskatoon Public School District No. 13..... | 3,000.00 | 3,363.75 |

It will be noted that reserves are figured as at December 31, 1925. Doubtless it will be found when reports for 1926 are available that they will show a material increase.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD (SPECIAL POWERS) ACT, 1922.

The following orders were made under *The Local Government Board (Special Powers) Act, 1922*:

- March 9:* Revising and finally approving estimates of the town of Humboldt and Humboldt School District No. 1529, and fixing their tax rates for 1926.
- March 9:* Approving form of bylaw of the town of Sutherland providing for the issue of registered stock of the town in exchange for outstanding debentures.
- March 23:* Recommending to the Master of Titles cancellation of whole of plan of subdivision of a part of the north-east quarter of section 3 township 37 range 5 west of the third meridian, registered as Plan No. G 252, town of Sutherland.
- March 30:* Revising and finally approving estimates of the town of Sutherland and fixing tax rates for 1926.
- April 17:* Approving form of bylaw of the town of Scott providing for the issue of registered stock of the town in exchange for outstanding debentures.
- April 29:* Revising and finally approving estimates of the town of Canora and Canora School District No. 1152 and fixing their tax rates for 1926.
- May 11:* Recommending to the Master of Titles the cancellation of plan of subdivision of certain lots in blocks 76 to 79 and 88 to 95, Plan No. 1700, City of Swift Current, and the closing of streets therein except Chaplin Street.
- May 25:* Revising and finally approving estimates of the town of Melville and Melville School District No. 2187 and fixing their tax rates for 1926.

- June 5:* Revising and finally approving estimates of the town of Watrous and Watrous School District No. 1334 and fixing their tax rates for 1926.
- July 5:* Approving form of bylaws of the town of Humboldt providing for
 (a) the issue of registered stock of the town in exchange for outstanding debentures of the town and accounts of the Royal Bank, and,
 (b) the issue of registered stock of the town in exchange for outstanding debentures of Humboldt School District No. 1529.
 Approving form of bylaw of Humboldt School District No. 1529 providing for the levying and raising of an amount sufficient to make the annual payment on registered stock of the town of Humboldt issued in exchange for outstanding debentures of the Humboldt School District No. 1529.
- August 9:* Recommending to the Master of Titles the exchange of lots 37 to 46, inclusive, in block 11, and lot 3, block 18, Plan 4755, for lots 11 to 14, inclusive, and lots 21 to 24, inclusive, block 3, Plan No. Edmundson H.3605, Swift Current.
- September 18:* Approving of forms of bylaws of the town of Battleford providing for
 (a) the issue of registered stock of the town in exchange for outstanding debentures of the town;
 (b) the issue of registered stock of the town in exchange for outstanding debentures of the Catholic Public School District of St. Vital No. 11, and
 (c) the issue of registered stock of the town in exchange for outstanding debentures of Battleford Public School District No. 71.
 Approving of form of bylaw of the Catholic Public School District of St. Vital No. 11, providing for the levying and raising of sums sufficient to make the annual payments on registered stock of the town issued in exchange for debentures of the Catholic Public School District of St. Vital No. 11.
- September 18:* Approving of forms of bylaws of Battleford Public School District No. 71 providing for the levying and raising of sums sufficient to make the annual payments on registered stock of the town of Battleford issued in exchange for debentures of the Battleford Public School District No. 71.
- October 6:* Revising and finally approving estimates of the town of Battleford, Battleford Public School District No. 71 and the Catholic Public School District of St. Vital No. 11, and fixing their tax rates for 1926.

October 22: Revising and finally approving estimates of the town of Scott and Champagne School District No. 2255 and fixing their tax rates for 1926.

December 17: Approving of the distribution of \$8,000.00 in paying 1925 coupons of the town of Canora.

Recommendations were made as listed below under sections 16 and 22 of *The Local Government Board (Special Powers) Act, 1922*, in connection with titles to lands sold at tax sales:

(a) Remission of public revenue taxes:

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| January 25..... | Town of Canora |
| March 29..... | Town of Scott |
| June 1..... | Town of Battleford |
| June 14..... | Town of Humboldt |
| July 25..... | Town of Humboldt |
| September 30..... | Town of Sutherland |
| November 16..... | Town of Battleford |
| December 16..... | Town of Humboldt |

(b) Services of land titles offices without payment of fees:

| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| January 10..... | Town of Sutherland |
| January 25..... | Town of Canora |
| February 25..... | Town of Melville |
| March 29..... | Town of Scott |
| June 1..... | Town of Battleford |
| June 14..... | Town of Humboldt |
| October 12..... | Town of Battleford |
| November 29..... | Town of Battleford |
| December 16..... | Town of Humboldt |

(c) Issue of titles without payment of school taxes:

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| March 29..... | Town of Scott |
| June 1..... | Town of Battleford |
| June 14..... | Town of Humboldt |
| September 30..... | Town of Sutherland |

ASSESSMENT APPEALS.

Only one appeal from decisions of courts of revision was received, being from the city of North Battleford, which was heard on April 8th.

SALE OF SHARES ACT.

In the Board's report for 1925 attention was called to the steady decrease in the number of applications under *The Sale of Shares Act*, the reason ascribed for which being the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada excluding companies holding Dominion charters from the operation of the Act.

This year there has been a remarkable increase in the number of applications, a total of 39 having been submitted, which is the highest number in any previous year excepting 1920, when 40 were received. This may be taken partly as an indication of an awakening interest in the industries and resources of the province, and it is possible that while companies of a purely speculative nature avail themselves of Dominion charters, as providing an easier means of offering their securities for sale to the public, those who do not object to the close scrutiny to which their affairs

are subjected by the Local Government Board find that it is easier to interest the public in their offerings when they are supported by the Board's certificate.

Of the 39 applications received in 1926, 23 were granted and certificates issued. Three were refused; two were withdrawn and 11 are still pending. Details are given below:

| | Name of company | Head office | Authorised capital | Certificate granted | Certificate refused | Remarks |
|------|---|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| 9216 | Regina Agricultural and Exhibition Association..... | Regina.... | ..... | April 26 | ..... | \$60,000, 7% debentures. |
| 9318 | Western Homes Limited..... | Winnipeg . | 5,000,000 | Nov. 12 | ..... | 500 shares @ \$120 |
| 9340 | Guardian Investment Co., Ltd.... | Regina.... | 100,000 | April 6 | ..... | 800 shares @ \$110 |
| 9355 | Kelliher Silver Black Fox Co., Ltd..... | Kelliher... | 15,000 | Oct. 4 | ..... | 50 shares @ \$ 50 |
| 9363 | David J. Dyson, Ltd.,..... | Winnipeg . | 200,000 | May 18 | ..... | 150 preferred @ \$100 |
| 9365 | Riverhurst Oil, Gas and Development Co., Ltd..... | Riverhurst. | 50,000 | ..... | ..... | Pending |
| 9366 | St. Maurice Valley Corporation..... | Montreal.. | 1,750,000 | Nov. 18 | ..... | 750 cum. preference @ \$100 |
| 9367 | Veregin General Merchants, Ltd.... | Veregin... | 20,000 | Mar. 6 | ..... | 100 shares @ \$100 |
| 9369 | Reimer Abattoirs, Ltd..... | Saskatoon . | 25,000 | April 1 | ..... | 196 shares @ \$50 |
| 9371 | Val Slyek's Limited. | Plato..... | 100,000 | Mar. 31 | ..... | 1005 shares @ \$10 |
| 9372 | Kyle Hall Co., Ltd.... | Kyle..... | 10,000 | April 21 | ..... | 200 shares @ \$50 |
| 9374 | Outlook Silver Fox Co., Ltd..... | Outlook... | 40,000 | ..... | ..... | Pending |
| 9375 | Riley Hooker Ltd.... | Regina.... | 100,000 | April 23 | ..... | 150 cum. preference @ \$100 |
| 9376 | Universal Silver Fox Co., Ltd..... | Swift Current... | 50,000 | ..... | ..... | Pending |
| 9378 | Queen City Oil Co. | Great Falls Mont.... | 150,000 | May 3 | ..... | 50,000 shares @\$1 |
| 9380 | Regina Hat Mfg. Co., Ltd..... | Regina.... | 25,000 | Sept. 8 | ..... | 150 shares @ \$100 |
| 9382 | Orpheum Theatre Co., Ltd..... | Prince Albert... | 50,000 | ..... | ..... | Pending |
| 9383 | National School Supply Co., Ltd.. | Regina.... | 40,000 | May 18 | ..... | 5,000 cum. preference @ \$10 |
| 9386 | McBride's Limited.. | Regina.... | 100,000 | ..... | ..... | Withdrawn |
| 9387 | Swift Current Oils and Gas Co., Ltd. | Swift Current. | 20,000 | July 29 | ..... | 480 shares @ \$25 |
| 9388 | Oxville Oil, Gas and Development Co., Ltd..... | Oxville, Alb..... | 70,000 | ..... | July 9 | |
| 9389 | Standard General Investments, Ltd. | Meyroune.. | 100,000 | July 17 | ..... | 2,000 shares @\$23 |
| 9390 | Saskatoon Clay Products, Ltd.... | Saskatoon . | 50,000 | ..... | ..... | Withdrawn |
| 9394 | Westland Oil Co.... | Scobey, Mont.... | 297,100 | Aug. 23 | ..... | 100 shares @ \$100 |
| 9395 | Northwest Oil Co... | Noonan, N.D.... | 100,000 | ..... | Oct. 7 | |

| | Name of company | Head office | Authorised capital | Certificate granted | Certificate refused | Remarks |
|------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 9396 | W. W. Cooper Co., Ltd..... | Swift Current. | 250,000 | Nov. 23 | ..... | 2,900 shares @ \$50 |
| 9397 | Laplante Bros., Co., Ltd..... | Gravelbourg | 150,000 | Nov. 24 | ..... | 200 shares @ \$100 |
| 9398 | Holdon Oil and Gas Co..... | Sunburst, Mont... | 50,000 | ..... | Oct. 18 | |
| 9400 | Neal Bros. Ltd..... | Winnipeg | 100,000 | Dec. 13 | ..... | 2,500 shares @ \$10 |
| 9401 | Renards Argentes de Gravelbourg, Ltd. | Gravelbourg... | 50,000 | Nov. 24 | ..... | 200 shares @ \$100 |
| 9402 | Canadian Fur Pool, Ltd..... | Regina... | 20,000 | Nov. 24 | ..... | 3,000 shares @ \$10 |
| 9403 | Estevan Rinks, Ltd. | Estevan... | 20,000 | Nov. 30 | ..... | 1,500 shares @ \$10 |
| 9397 | Laplante Bros. Co., Ltd..... | Gravelbourg... | 150,000 | ..... | ..... | Pending |
| 9404 | Central Canadian Ins. Co..... | Winnipeg.. | 500,000 | ..... | ..... | Pending |
| 9405 | Maxia Valley Oil Co., Ltd..... | Weyburn.. | 100,000 | ..... | ..... | Pending. |
| 9406 | Eatonia Silver Fox Co., Ltd..... | Eatonia... | 20,000 | ..... | ..... | Pending |
| 9407 | Engineers Oil and Gas Co., Ltd..... | Biggar.... | 500,000 | ..... | ..... | Pending |
| 9408 | Horn Silver Mining Corp., Ltd..... | Vancouver. | 1,000,000 | ..... | ..... | Pending |
| 9409 | Tufts Manufacturing Co..... | Saskatoon. | 150,000 | ..... | ..... | Pending |

The following certificates previously issued were revoked:

| | Date of revocation | Reason for revocation |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Great West Garment Co., Ltd..... | Mar. 9 | Failure to file annual statement. |
| Machinery Manufacturers Ltd..... | April 27 | Failure to comply with conditions of certificate. |

Following is a list of certificates in force as at December 31, 1926:

| File No. | Name of company | Head office |
|----------|---|----------------------|
| 9113 | International Loan Co., Ltd. | Winnipeg |
| 9177 | Saskatchewan General Trust Corporation, Ltd. | Regina |
| 9183 | Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Co., Ltd. | Regina |
| 9189 | United Grain Growers, Ltd. | Winnipeg |
| 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 |
| 9263 | Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers, Ltd. | Toronto |
| 9265 | W. E. Mason Discount Co., Ltd. | Regina |
| 9271 | Monarch Investment Co., Ltd. | Regina |
| 9292 | Saskatchewan Mortgage and Trust Corporation, Ltd. | Regina |
| 9298 | Indemnity Agencies, Ltd. | Regina |
| 9312 | Cameron Securities, Ltd. | Saskatoon |
| 9314 | Cowell's New Method Harness Co., Ltd. | Winnipeg |
| 9317 | Pine River Lumber Co., Ltd. | Prince Albert |
| 9318 | Western Homes, Ltd. | Winnipeg |
| 9320 | Regina Films, Ltd. | Regina |
| 9321 | P. Burns Co., Ltd. | Calgary |
| 9322 | Provincial Gas and Oil Co., Ltd. | Regina |
| 9325 | Farmers' Grain and Supply Co., Ltd. | Kincaid |
| 9330 | Rosthern Creamery and Produce Co., Ltd. | Rosthern |
| 9332 | Weyburn Bottling Works, Ltd. | Weyburn |
| 9336 | Scandinavian Silver Fox Co., Ltd. | Prince Albert |
| 9340 | Guardian Insurance Co., Ltd. | Regina |
| 9342 | West End Grocers, Ltd. | Moose Jaw |
| 9343 | Blue Ribbon Milling Co., Ltd. | Ponteix |
| 9347 | Big Lump Coal Co., Ltd. | Estevan |
| 9349 | Sunrise Milling Co., Ltd. | Biggar |
| 9353 | Western Petrifying Products, Ltd. | Saskatoon |
| 9351 | Citizens' Rink Co., Ltd. | Swift Current |
| 9356 | Kelliher Silver Black Fox Co., Ltd. | Kelliher |
| 9358 | Consumers' Trading Co., Ltd. | Davidson |
| 9360 | International Clay Products, Ltd. | Estevan |
| 9363 | David J. Dyson, Ltd. | Winnipeg |
| 9364 | Retailers Trust Co., Ltd. | Saskatoon |
| 9366 | St. Maurice Valley Corporation | Montreal |
| 9367 | Veregin General Merchants, Ltd. | Veregin |
| 9369 | Reimer Abattoirs, Ltd. | Saskatoon |
| 9371 | Val Slyck's, Limited. | Plato |
| 9372 | Kyle Hall Co., Ltd. | Kyle |
| 9375 | Riley Hooker, Limited. | Regina |
| 9378 | Queen City Oil Co. | Great Falls, Montana |
| 9380 | Regina Hat Mfg. Co., Ltd. | Regina |
| 9383 | National School Supply Co., Ltd. | Regina |
| 9387 | Swift Current Oils and Gas Co., Ltd. | Swift Current |
| 9389 | Standard General Investments, Ltd. | Meyronne |
| 9394 | Westland Oil Co. | Scobey, Montana |
| 9396 | W. W. Cooper Co., Ltd. | Swift Current |
| 9397 | Laplante Bros. Co., Ltd. | Gravelbourg |
| 9400 | Neal Bros., Ltd. | Winnipeg |
| 9401 | Renards Argentés de Gravelbourg, Ltd. | Gravelbourg |
| 9402 | Canadian Fur Pool, Ltd. | Regina |
| 9403 | Estevan Rinks, Ltd. | Estevan |

THE UNION HOSPITAL ACT.

The following orders were made under *The Union Hospital Act*:

Assiniboia Union Hospital—

Estimated cost \$35,500.00.

May 21: Order allocating cost among contributing units as follows:

| | |
|--|--------|
| The Town of Assiniboia | 17.25% |
| Village of Willows | .75% |
| R. M. of Lake of the Rivers No. 72 | 52.50% |
| R. M. of Stonehenge No. 73 | 29.50% |

Moose Mountain Union Hospital—

Estimated cost \$43,200.00.

June 29: Order allocating cost among contributing units as follows:

| | |
|--|---------|
| Town of Arcola | 6.246% |
| Town of Carlyle | 3.798% |
| Village of Kisbey | 2.312% |
| R. M. of Brock No. 64 | 45.372% |
| R. M. of Moose Mountain No. 63 | 42.272% |

The Moose Mountain Union Hospital scheme was rejected by the ratepayers.

MISCELLANEOUS ORDERS.

- January 15:* Approving of the compromise of taxes on certain lands in Plans X3516, Z5383, Z5364, Z5500, Z3861 and AA1253, town of Canora, owned by Woods & McKee, to the extent of a reduction of 10 per cent.
- March 3:* Approving change in interest rate on certain debentures of the city of Regina, \$6,292.00, from 5½ per cent. to 5 per cent.
- March 11:* Approving change in interest rate on certain debentures of the city of Saskatoon, aggregating \$109,730.75, from 6 per cent. to 5 per cent.
- March 19:* Permitting James J. Scott and Jules Gauvreau to enter upon and cultivate the south-east quarter of section 6 township 22 range 6 west of the second meridian, known as University Heights, being an addition to the town of Melville.
- March 19:* Approving bylaw of the town of Shaunavon fixing rates to be charged by way of rent or service charge for use of sewers, under section 483a of *The Town Act*.

- May 17:* Approving change of interest rate on certain debentures of the city of Saskatoon, \$16,680.00, from 6 per cent. to 5½ per cent.
- July 30:* Permitting the town of Scott to enter upon and cultivate a subdivision in the town of Scott registered as Plan No. G.133.

Summary of authorisations granted from January 1, 1926, to December 31, 1926, as compared with the same period last year.

| | 1926 | | 1925 | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| | Number of authorisations | Amount | Number of authorisations | Amount |
| Cities..... | 41 | \$1,184,020.40 | 35 | \$ 473,775.22 |
| Towns..... | 11 | 66,600.00 | 11 | 121,710.00 |
| Villages..... | 30 | 78,350.00 | 18 | 41,200.00 |
| Rural Municipalities..... | 5 | 16,500.00 | 4 | 21,000.00 |
| Schools..... | 244 | 1,005,160.50 | 210 | 861,920.00 |
| Rural Telephones..... | 119 | 394,013.55 | 75 | 137,400.00 |
| Union Hospitals..... | 1 | 35,500.00 | 3 | 33,500.00 |
| | 451 | \$2,780,144.45 | 356 | \$1,690,505.22 |

That portion of the statutes under which the Local Government Board is constituted provides that when a member thereof reaches the age of seventy years he shall cease to hold office. As a result, the Honourable George A. Bell, who had been chairman since the sixteenth day of May, 1918, retired on the third day of August, his seventieth birthday. The chairmanship thus vacated was filled on the first day of November by the appointment to that position of Mr. S. P. Grosch, K.C., who had been a member of the Board since its inception. At the same time the Honourable A. P. McNab, formerly Minister of Public Works and Minister of Telephones, became a commissioner of the Local Government Board.

Respectfully submitted,

C. O. DAVIDSON,
Secretary.

RECAPITULATION OF SCHEDULES A, B, C, D, E, F AND G, TO REPORT OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD FOR YEAR
ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1926.

| | Total number of applica- tions | Amount | Number refused | Amount | Number reduced | Amount | Number author- ised | Amount |
|--|--|----------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Cities (Schedule A)..... | 42 | \$1,269,596.95 | 1 | \$15,000.00 | 4 | \$70,576.55 | 41 | \$1,184,020.40 |
| Towns (Schedule B)..... | 12 | 81,600.00 | 1 | 15,000.00 | .. | ..... | 11 | 66,600.00 |
| Villages (Schedule C)..... | 34 | 100,250.00 | 4 | 16,000.00 | 8 | 5,900.00 | 30 | 78,350.00 |
| Rural Municipalities (Schedule D)..... | 5 | 16,500.00 | .. | ..... | .. | ..... | 5 | 16,500.00 |
| Schools (Schedule E)..... | 245 | 1,015,960.50 | 1 | 1,800.00 | 8 | 9,000.00 | 244 | 1,005,160.50 |
| Rural Telephones (Schedule F)..... | 119 | 401,353.55 | .. | ..... | 11 | 7,340.00 | 119 | 394,013.55 |
| Union Hospitals (Schedule G)..... | 1 | 35,500.00 | .. | ..... | .. | ..... | 1 | 35,500.00 |
| | 458 | \$2,920,761.00 | 7 | \$47,800.00 | 31 | \$92,816.55 | 451 | \$2,780,144.45 |

Schedules E, F and G not printed.

SCHEDULE A.

APPLICATIONS TO BORROW BY WAY OF DEBENTURE FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1926.

Cities

| Name | Amount | Purpose of debentures | How disposed of | | | Date debentures sold |
|----------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|----------------------|
| | | | Refused | Reduced | Authorised | |
| Regina..... | \$200,000.00 | Hospital extension..... | | | \$200,000.00 | ..... |
| | 55,200.00 | Storm sewers..... | | \$4,000.00 | 51,200.00 | July 7 |
| | 6,500.00 | Street paving..... | | | 6,500.00 | July 7 |
| | 23,100.00 | Water connections..... | | | 23,100.00 | July 7 |
| | 12,000.00 | Sewer connections..... | | | 12,000.00 | July 7 |
| | 160,000.00 | Collegiate Institute..... | | | 160,000.00 | Defeated |
| | 30,000.00 | Collegiate Institute..... | | | 30,000.00 | Defeated |
| | 8,604.90 | Concrete walks..... | | | 8,604.90 | ..... |
| | 1,515.00 | Water mains..... | | | 1,515.00 | ..... |
| | 670.00 | Water mains..... | | | 670.00 | ..... |
| | 881.50 | Sewer mains..... | | | 881.50 | ..... |
| | 475.00 | Sewer mains..... | | | 475.00 | ..... |
| | 165.65 | Boulevards..... | | | 165.65 | ..... |
| | 9,593.10 | Plank walks..... | | | 9,593.10 | ..... |
| | \$508,705.15 | | | \$4,000.00 | \$504,705.15 | ..... |
| Moose Jaw..... | \$1,968.70 | Concrete walks..... | | | \$1,968.70 | ..... |
| | 2,902.50 | Concrete walks..... | | | 2,902.50 | ..... |
| | 185,000.00 | Electric light extension..... | | | 185,000.00 | ..... |
| | 4,866.00 | Sewer extensions..... | | | 4,866.00 | ..... |
| | 7,534.00 | Water extensions..... | | | 7,534.00 | ..... |
| | 2,702.18 | Water and sewer extensions..... | | | 2,702.18 | ..... |
| | 189.83 | Concrete walks..... | | | 189.83 | ..... |
| | 72.59 | Concrete walks..... | | | 72.59 | ..... |
| | 4,000.00 | Water mains..... | | | 4,000.00 | ..... |
| | 49,000.00 | Water mains..... | | | 49,000.00 | ..... |
| | 60,000.00 | Gravelling roads and machinery..... | | \$45,000.00 | 15,000.00 | ..... |

| | | | | | |
|----------------|--|--|-------------|---|--|
| | 783.00 15,000.00 | Concrete walks..... Street railway extension..... | | | 783.00 |
| | \$334,018.80 | | \$15,000.00 | \$45,000.00 | \$274,018.80 |
| Saskatoon..... | \$200,000.00 14,850.00 1,604.00 2,124.00 20,000.00 17,000.00 3,000.00 5,000.00 60,000.00 65,000.00 7,846.00 5,949.00 5,000.00 2,500.00 17,000.00 | Hospital extension..... Gravelling streets..... Concrete walks..... Gravelling 6th Avenue..... Electric light extension..... Fire equipment..... Water extension..... Water meters..... Collegiate addition..... Gravelling roads..... Water mains..... Sewer mains..... Traffic bridge..... Concrete crossings..... Concrete walks..... | | \$20,000.00 1,576.55 | \$200,000.00 14,850.00 1,604.00 2,124.00 20,000.00 17,000.00 3,000.00 5,000.00 60,000.00 45,000.00 7,846.00 5,949.00 5,000.00 2,500.00 15,423.45 |
| | \$426,873.00 |  | ..... | \$21,576.55 | \$405,296.45 |

Summary.

| Name | Applica- tions | Amount | Number | Refused | Number | Reduced | Number | Authorised |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------|--------|-------------|--------|-------------|--------|----------------|
| Regina..... | 14 | \$508,705.15 | .. | ..... | 1 | \$4,000.00 | 14 | \$504,705.15 |
| Moose Jaw..... | 13 | 334,018.80 | 1 | \$15,000.00 | 1 | 45,000.00 | 12 | 274,018.80 |
| Saskatoon..... | 15 | 426,873.00 | .. | ..... | 2 | 21,576.55 | 15 | 405,296.45 |
| | 42 | \$1,269,596.95 | 1 | \$15,000.00 | 4 | \$70,576.55 | 41 | \$1,184,020.40 |

SCHEDULE B.

APPLICATION TO BORROW BY WAY OF DEBENTURE FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1926.

Towns.

| Name | Amount | Purpose of debentures | How disposed of | | | Date debentures sold |
|-------------------|-------------|---|-----------------|---------|-------------|----------------------|
| | | | Refused | Reduced | Authorised | |
| Carnduff..... | \$4,000.00 | Curling and skating rink..... | | | \$4,000.00 | ..... |
| Foam Lake..... | 11,500.00 | Municipal hall and fire equipment..... | | | 11,500.00 | Aug. 3 |
| Gull Lake..... | 4,000.00 | Agricultural building and skating rink..... | | | 4,000.00 | Nov. 15 |
| Kerrobot..... | 3,500.00 | Concrete walks..... | | | 3,500.00 | Dec. 22 |
| Lanigan..... | 3,500.00 | Concrete walks..... | | | 3,500.00 | Sept. 8 |
| Lloydminster..... | 12,000.00 | Sewers..... | | | 12,000.00 | ..... |
| Moosomin..... | 10,000.00 | Curling and skating rink..... | | | 10,000.00 | Aug. 19 |
| Shaunavon..... | 7,100.00 | Sewer extensions..... | | | 7,100.00 | July 24 |
| Saltcoats..... | 3,000.00 | Curling and skating rink..... | | | 3,000.00 | Oct. 25 |
| Tisdale..... | 5,000.00 | Fire hall..... | | | 5,000.00 | ..... |
| Whitewood..... | 3,000.00 | Concrete walks..... | | | 3,000.00 | ..... |
| Yorkton..... | 15,000.00 | Capitalisation of taxes..... | \$15,000.00 |  |  | ..... |
| | \$81,600.00 | | \$15,000.00 | | \$66,600.00 | |

Summary.

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| 12 Applications..... | \$81,600.00 |
| 11 Authorisations..... | 66,600.00 |
| 1 Refused..... | 15,000.00 |

SCHEDULE C.

APPLICATIONS TO BORROW BY WAY OF DEBENTURE FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1926.

Villages.

| Name | Amount | Purpose of debentures | How disposed of | | | Date debentures sold |
|-------------------|------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------|------------|----------------------|
| | | | Refused | Reduced | Authorised | |
| Avonlea..... | \$8,000.00 | Electric light..... | | \$500.00 | \$7,500.00 | Aug. 13 |
| Balcarres..... | 1,500.00 | Concrete walks..... | | | 1,500.00 | May 27 |
| Blaine Lake..... | 5,000.00 | Concrete walks..... | | 800.00 | 4,200.00 | June 25 |
| Bruno..... | 12,000.00 | Electric light..... | \$12,000.00 | | | |
| Brownlee..... | 2,500.00 | Concrete walks..... | | 1,000.00 | 1,500.00 | Sept. 8 |
| Bracken..... | 2,000.00 | Concrete walks..... | | | 2,000.00 | |
| Dodsland..... | 1,500.00 | Plank walks..... | | | 1,500.00 | |
| Eyebrow..... | 3,000.00 | Skating and curling rink..... | | | 3,000.00 | July 8 |
| Elrose..... | 6,500.00 | Electric light..... | | | 6,500.00 | Aug. 4 |
| Elbow..... | 3,000.00 | Municipal building..... | | | 3,000.00 | Sept. 21 |
| Harris..... | 5,000.00 | Concrete walks..... | | | 5,000.00 | May 26 |
| Kincaid..... | 2,500.00 | Concrete walks..... | | 500.00 | 2,000.00 | Aug. 25 |
| Kyle..... | 2,500.00 | Plank walks..... | | 1,000.00 | 1,500.00 | Nov. 4 |
| Lucky Lake..... | 3,000.00 | Water supply..... | | 300.00 | 2,700.00 | June 25 |
| Lockwood..... | 1,000.00 | Water supply..... | | | 1,000.00 | Oct. 1 |
| Lampman..... | 1,800.00 | Concrete walks..... | | | 1,800.00 | |
| Loreburn..... | 1,400.00 | Water supply..... | | | 1,400.00 | |
| Landis..... | 2,500.00 | Concrete walks..... | | | 2,500.00 | |
| LaFleche..... | 4,000.00 | Skating and curling rink..... | | | 4,000.00 | Jan. 5 |
| Montmartre..... | 800.00 | Plank walks..... | | | 800.00 | Sept. 29 |
| Mossbank..... | 2,500.00 | Concrete walks..... | | | 2,500.00 | |
| Perdue..... | 2,000.00 | Skating and curling rink..... | | | 2,000.00 | |
| Regina Beach..... | 2,500.00 | Entertainment hall..... | 2,500.00 | | | |
| Rocanville..... | 1,000.00 | Concrete walks..... | | | 1,000.00 | June 7 |

SCHEDULE C.

APPLICATIONS TO BORROW BY WAY OF DEBENTURES FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1926.

Villages—Continued.

| Name | Amount | Purpose of debentures | How disposed of | | | Date debentures sold |
|--------------------|--------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------|-------------|----------------------|
| | | | Refused | Reduced | Authorised | |
| Rocanville..... | 500.00 | Addition to rink..... | 500.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Shellbrook..... | 1,800.00 | Concrete walks..... | ..... | ..... | 1,800.00 | ..... |
| Southey..... | 1,500.00 | Fire equipment..... | ..... | ..... | 1,500.00 | ..... |
| St. Boswell's..... | 4,000.00 | Concrete walks..... | ..... | 1,500.00 | 2,500.00 | July 8 |
| Turtleford..... | 1,000.00 | Curling rink..... | 1,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Viscount..... | 3,600.00 | Electric light..... | ..... | ..... | 3,600.00 | July 2 |
| Vibank..... | 2,000.00 | Water supply..... | ..... | ..... | 2,000.00 | June 2 |
| Vanguard..... | 1,650.00 | Recreation ground..... | ..... | ..... | 1,650.00 | July 2 |
| Wiseton..... | 2,000.00 | Concrete walks..... | ..... | 300.00 | 1,700.00 | Sept. 29 |
| Wilcox..... | 4,700.00 | Electric light..... | ..... | ..... | 4,700.00 | Nov. 30 |
| | \$100,250.00 | | \$16,000.00 | \$5,900.00 | \$78,350.00 | |

Summary.

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| 34 Applications..... | \$100,250.00 |
| 4 Refused..... | 16,000.00 |
| 8 Reduced..... | 5,900.00 |
| 30 Authorisations..... | 78,350.00 |

SCHEDULE D.

APPLICATIONS TO BORROW BY WAY OF DEBENTURE FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1926.

Rural Municipalities.

| Name | Amount | Purpose of debentures | How disposed of | | | Date debentures sold |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-----------------|---------|-------------|----------------------|
| | | | Refused | Reduced | Authorised | |
| Britannia No. 502..... | \$2,500.00 | Municipal building..... | ..... | ..... | \$2,500.00 | ..... |
| Bratt's Lake No. 129..... | 7,000.00 | Roadway..... | ..... | ..... | 7,000.00 | ..... |
| Hillsdale No. 440..... | 1,500.00 | Municipal building..... | ..... | ..... | 1,500.00 | ..... |
| Nipawin No. 487..... | 2,000.00 | Municipal building..... | ..... | ..... | 2,000.00 | Sept. 9 |
| Winslow No. 319..... | 3,500.00 | Municipal building..... | ..... | ..... | 3,500.00 | ..... |
| | \$16,500.00 | | | | \$16,500.00 | |

Summary.

5 Applications..... \$16,500.00
 5 Authorisations..... 16,500.00

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 15.

(*In Part*)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE SASKATCHEWAN FARM LOAN BOARD FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1925.

REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN, *December 18, 1926.*

TO THE HONOURABLE JAMES G. GARDINER,
Premier and Provincial Treasurer.

SIR,—We have the honour of transmitting herewith our Report concerning the work of the Board for the year ended December 31, 1925, 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 288 for an aggregate amount of \$920,650. The demand for money was much more active during the year than these figures would indicate, for hundreds of other farmers wrote in to inquire about loans who were unable or unwilling to wait for perhaps a year to a year and a half for a loan from the Board. There are a great number of applications now in hand some of which have been in hand for several years. As the amount to be advanced to the Board for loaning was again limited by the Legislature to \$500,000 for the fiscal year and as the Board was required to make advances for seed grain, hail premiums and fire premiums for large numbers of borrowers, and as each year many borrowers have been allowing their lands to be sold for taxes, the Board was obliged to use the available funds for the protection of our existing securities; and only 36 new loans were paid out during the year, and some of these were mortgages given in connection with the completion of sales of some of the Board's farms.

From June, 1917, to December 31, 1925, the Board received altogether 13,055 applications for loans for an aggregate amount of over \$33,000,000.00, although for about half of that time the Board was almost without funds for active lending.

Collections during the year showed a considerable improvement over earlier years and it is gratifying to report that the Board was able to pay to the Provincial Treasurer all interest due and accrued on advances for working capital to December 31, 1925, and that in addition the Board repaid to the Provincial Treasurer \$74,108.71 of the money advanced to the Board for administration expenses.

The revenue for the year covered all operating expenses and depreciation and left a surplus of \$60,686.29. Of this sum \$30,000.00 was transferred to Real Estate Reserve bringing that account up to \$88,460.77, leaving a net surplus for the year of \$30,686.29. The surplus carried forward from the previous year was \$242,988.15 and the net surplus carried forward to the year

1926, after allowing for a small amount written off from the previous year's statement as probably only partially collectable, stands at \$273,350.05 exclusive of the Real Estate Reserve. The Real Estate Reserve and this surplus together aggregate \$361,810.82.

Prior to 1925 the Board had acquired title to 131 farms, almost entirely by transfers or foreclosures following abandonment by the borrowers. More borrowers abandoned their farms during 1925 and 83 additional farms came on the Board's hands and 25 farms were sold during the year. Many of the farms on hand are rented on a share crop basis. In some districts, however, it is difficult to obtain tenants and a few farms are not being worked. The demand for farm lands is steadily improving, however, and the outlook for the future is quite encouraging. The Board is confident that the reserves already set aside will more than take care of all possible losses on these abandoned farms.

During the year 36 loans were paid off and neither notice nor bonus was required by the Board in any case. The freedom with which borrowers have so far been permitted to pay off their loans is of great importance to those who are able to take advantage of it. In many cases the saving in bonus on ordinary loan Company terms exceeds the saving in interest from the 6½ per cent. rate established by the Board.

Respectfully submitted.

COLIN FRASER,
Commissioner.

J. H. GRAYSON,
Member.

J. O. HETTLER,
Member.

THE SASKATCHEWAN FARM LOAN BOARD BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1925.

| LIABILITIES | | | ASSETS | | |
|--|----|--------------|---|----------------|--------------|
| ROYAL BANK | | | | | |
| Overdraft..... | \$ | 41,520.65 | CASH..... | \$ | 24,385.31 |
| GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN | | | INVESTMENTS AND ACCRUALS— | | |
| For <i>Working Capital</i> | \$ | 9,532,053.23 | <i>First Mortgages</i> on land..... | \$ | 9,533,188.83 |
| Less repayments..... | | 1,844,956.58 | Less repayments..... | | 1,844,956.58 |
| | | 7,687,096.65 | <i>Seed Grain</i> advances..... | | 222,170.23 |
| For <i>Seed Grain</i> | | 222,170.23 | Less repayments..... | | 202,165.55 |
| Less repayments..... | | 202,165.55 | | | 20,004.68 |
| For <i>Taxes</i> | | 538,557.37 | <i>Taxes</i> advance..... | | 538,557.37 |
| Less repayments..... | | 505,907.60 | Less repayments..... | | 505,907.60 |
| | | 32,649.77 | <i>Hail Insurance</i> advance..... | | 194,277.16 |
| For <i>Hail Insurance</i> | | 194,277.16 | Less repayments..... | | 182,229.24 |
| Less repayments..... | | 182,229.24 | | | 12,047.92 |
| For <i>Foreclosed Loans</i> | | 564,871.65 | <i>Foreclosed Loans</i> (Titles)..... | | 564,871.65 |
| Less repayments..... | | 51,735.76 | Less repayments..... | | 51,735.77 |
| | | 513,135.89 | <i>Tax Sale Certificates</i> | | 137,655.23 |
| For <i>Tax Sale Certificates Purchases</i> | | 137,655.23 | Less redemptions..... | | 33,776.49 |
| Less repayments..... | | 33,776.49 | | | 103,878.74 |
| For <i>Real Estate Sales</i> | | 140,871.83 | <i>Real Estate Sales</i> | | 148,956.65 |
| Less repayments..... | | 33,079.35 | Less repayments..... | | 33,624.90 |
| | | 107,792.48 | | | 115,331.75 |
| For <i>Real Estate Charges</i> | | 1,817.04 | <i>Real Estate Sales Charges</i> | | 1,817.04 |
| Less repayments..... | | 1,356.06 | Less repayments..... | | 1,356.06 |
| | | 460.98 | <i>Interest</i> on loans and advances accrued to October 31, 1925, due on November 1, 1925..... | | 3,163,927.85 |
| For <i>Administration Expenses</i> | | 329,000.00 | <i>Interest</i> on Foreclosed Loans..... | | 6,287.35 |
| Less repayments..... | | 74,108.71 | <i>Interest</i> on Real Estate Sales..... | | 8,460.82 |
| | | 254,891.29 | | | |
| For <i>Interest</i> — | | | Total..... | \$3,178,676.02 | |
| Total accrued and charged..... | | 2,594,107.66 | | | |
| Less repayments..... | | 2,594,107.66 | | | |

OTHER LIABILITIES—

| | |
|--|------------|
| Saskatchewan Mutual Fire Insurance Co..... | 888.64 |
| Wawanesa Mutual Fire Insurance Co..... | 34.35 |
| J. W. Blyth..... | 764.69 |
| Suspense..... | 4,175.22 |
| Real Estate Reserve..... | 88,460.77 |
| Profit and Loss..... | 273,350.05 |

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Less interest payments | 2,654,996.04 |
| Foreclosed interest payments..... | 6,287.35 |
| Real estate interest payments..... | 6,932.98 |

| | | |
|---|----------------|------------|
| Total..... | \$2,668,216.37 | 510,459.65 |
| Interest on loans accrued for November and December, 1925, not due till November 1, 1926..... | | 92,715.35 |

EXPENDITURES RECEIVABLE—

| | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| Mortgage Charges advanced..... | 280,316.59 | |
| Less repayments..... | 264,835.60 | 15,480.99 |
| Solicitor's Disbursements..... | | 1,953.25 |
| Inspection Revenue..... | | 400.00 |

EQUIPMENT—

| | | |
|------------------------|----------|----------|
| Office Furniture..... | 7,911.83 | |
| Less depreciation..... | 395.58 | 7,516.25 |
| Automobiles..... | 3,820.25 | |
| Less depreciation..... | 1,320.25 | 2,500.00 |

\$ 9,141,152.77

\$9,141,152.77

FARM LOAN BOARD

I certify that for the year ended December 31, 1925, I have audited the Books and Accounts and have examined the securities of the Saskatchewan Farm Loan Board.

All my requirements as Auditor 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 Mortgagors' Trust Account is treated in a separate statement.

(Signed) W. O. LOTT,
Deputy Provincial Auditor.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 23.

(*In Part*)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE SASKATCHEWAN FARM LOAN BOARD FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1926.

REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN, *January 18, 1927.*

TO THE HONOURABLE JAMES G. GARDINER,
Premier and Provincial Treasurer.

SIR,—We have the honour of transmitting herewith our Report concerning the work of the Board for the year ended December 31, 1926, 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 257 for an aggregate amount of \$997,300.00, making a total of \$34,160,672.00 since the Board began business in 1917.

The collections for the year exceeded \$1,000,000 and the Board was enabled to pay to the Provincial Treasurer all interest due and accrued to December 31, 1926, and in addition to repay to the Provincial Treasurer a further sum of \$173,089.17 of the money advanced for administration expenses. For the preceding year the Board had repaid \$74,108.71, a total of \$247,197.88, leaving the balance now owing to the Provincial Treasurer of \$141,802.12, out of a total of \$389,000 advanced on account of administration expenses to December 31, 1926.

The revenue for the year covered all operating expenses and depreciation and left a surplus of \$48,567.38. Of this sum \$30,000 was transferred to Real Estate Reserve, leaving a net surplus for the year of \$18,567.38. The surplus carried forward from the previous year was \$273,350.05 and the net surplus carried forward to the year 1927 stands at \$291,917.43. The Real Estate Reserve now stands at \$128,673.98. The two accounts, the Real Estate Reserve and the surplus now aggregate \$420,591.41.

Prior to 1926 the Board had acquired title to 214 farms, almost entirely by transfer or foreclosure following abandonment. More abandonments took place during 1926 and 65 additional farms came on the Board's hands, a total of 279, and the Board sold 44 farms during the year, leaving the number of farms now on hand at 179.

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 ample for any losses from the lands on hand.

During the year 50 new loans were made and 52 loans were paid off and, as in previous years, no notice or bonus was required by the Board in a single instance.

A great number of farmers requiring loans are waiting patiently for the Board to be supplied with money for lending and it has been difficult for the ordinary lending institutions to maintain their 8 per cent. rate and during the last season loans were made by a number of lending institutions at 7 per cent. in the choicer districts of the Province and it is anticipated that the 7 per cent. rate will be almost general for the coming season.

Respectfully submitted,

COLIN FRASER,
Commissioner.

J. H. GRAYSON,
Member.

J. O. HETTLE,
Member.

THE SASKATCHEWAN FARM LOAN BOARD BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1926.

| LIABILITIES | | | | ASSETS | | | |
|---|----------------|--------------|------------|--|----------------|----|--------------|
| To ROYAL BANK— | | | | CASH..... | | \$ | 61,026.19 |
| Overdraft..... | | \$ | 69,548.12 | INVESTMENTS AND ACCRUALS— | | | |
| To PROVINCIAL TREASURER— | | | | <i>First Mortgages</i> on land..... | \$9,769,522.24 | | |
| For <i>Working Capital</i> | \$9,769,586.23 | | | Less payments..... | 2,283,779.71 | | 7,485,742.53 |
| Less repayments..... | 2,283,779.71 | 7,485,806.52 | | Installments in arrears..... | \$177,166.86 | | |
| For <i>Seed Grain Advances</i> | 233,773.54 | | 10,975.95 | <i>Seed Grain</i> advances..... | 233,773.54 | | 10,975.95 |
| Less repayments..... | 222,797.59 | | | Less payments..... | 222,797.59 | | |
| For <i>Taxes Advances</i> | 593,901.24 | | 42,528.40 | <i>Taxes</i> advances..... | 593,901.24 | | 42,528.40 |
| Less repayments..... | 551,372.84 | | | Less payments..... | 551,372.84 | | |
| For <i>Hail Insurance Advances</i> | 227,422.47 | | 10,175.86 | <i>Hail Insurance</i> advances..... | 227,422.47 | | 10,175.86 |
| Less repayments..... | 217,246.61 | | | Less Payments..... | 217,246.61 | | |
| <i>Foreclosed Loans</i> | 574,652.16 | | 509,075.87 | <i>Foreclosed Loans</i> advances..... | 574,652.16 | | 509,075.87 |
| Less repayments..... | 65,576.29 | | | Less payments..... | 65,576.29 | | |
| For <i>Tax Sale Certificates Purchase</i> | 140,445.31 | | 62,538.53 | <i>Tax Sale Certificates Purchase</i> | 140,445.31 | | 62,538.53 |
| Less repayments..... | 77,906.78 | | | Less redemptions..... | 77,906.78 | | |
| For <i>Real Estate Sales Advances</i> | 369,239.81 | | 297,599.68 | <i>Real Estate Sales</i> | 387,913.79 | | 314,831.98 |
| Less repayments..... | 71,640.13 | | | Less payments..... | 73,081.81 | | |
| For <i>Real Estate Sales Charges</i> | 4,677.69 | | 2,247.87 | <i>Real Estate Sales Charges</i> | 4,677.69 | | 2,247.87 |
| Less repayments..... | 2,429.82 | | | Less payments..... | 2,429.82 | | |
| For <i>Administration Expenses</i> | 389,000.00 | | 141,802.12 | <i>Interest</i> on loans and advances accrued to | | | |
| Less repayments..... | 247,197.88 | | | Oct. 31, 1926, due on Nov. 1, 1926.... | 3,692,286.02 | | |
| For <i>Interest</i> on Advances..... | 3,045,411.06 | | | Ditto on foreclosed loans..... | 21,338.93 | | |
| Total Accrued to Dec. 31, 1926: | | | | Ditto on real estate sales..... | 21,594.24 | | |
| Less payments..... | 3,045,411.06 | | | Total..... | \$3,735,219.19 | | |

OTHER LIABILITIES

| | | | |
|--|----------|--|--|
| Saskatchewan Farmers' Mutual Insurance Co..... | 893.12 | | |
| Wawanesa Farmers' Mutual Insurance Co..... | 9.65 | | |
| J. W. Blyth..... | 764.69 | | |
| Suspense..... | 6,991.88 | | |

RESERVES—

| | | | |
|--|--------------|------------|------------|
| Real Estate Reserve—Set apart from Profit and Loss to provide for Losses..... | \$110,000.00 | | |
| Real Estate Reserve—Profits from Sales of Foreclosed Loans..... | \$24,146.24 | | |
| Less losses..... | 6,913.94 | 17,232.30 | |
| Real Estate Reserve Liqui- dated: | | | |
| Cash profits..... | 1,866.04 | | |
| Less losses..... | 424.36 | 1,441.68 | 128,673.98 |
| PROFIT AND LOSS..... | | 291,917.43 | |

\$ 9,061,549.67

| | | |
|--|--------------|-----------------------|
| Less Interest Payments..... | 3,255,426.66 | |
| Ditto foreclosed loans..... | 21,338.93 | |
| Ditto real estate sales..... | 15,844.35 | |
| Total..... | 3,292,608.94 | 442,610.25 |
| Interest on loans accrued for Nov. and Dec., 1926, not due till Nov. 1, 1927..... | | 91,469.90 |
| EXPENDITURES RECEIVABLE— | | |
| Mortgage Charges advanced..... | 331,765.92 | |
| Less payments..... | 315,803.65 | 15,962.27 |
| SOLICITOR'S DISBURSEMENTS..... | | 1,293.52 |
| Inspection Revenue..... | | 400.00 |
| EQUIPMENT— | | |
| Office Furniture..... | 8,074.25 | |
| Less depreciation..... | 403.70 | 7,670.55 |
| Automobile (6)..... | 5,195.50 | |
| Less depreciation..... | 2,195.50 | 3,000.00 |
| | | <u>\$9,061,549.67</u> |

FARM LOAN BOARD

I certify that for the year ended December 31, 1926, I have audited the Books and Accounts and have examined the securities of the Saskatchewan Farm Loan Board.

All my requirements as Auditor 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 Mortgagors' Trust Account is treated in a separate statement.

(Signed)

W. O. LOTT.
Deputy Provincial Auditor.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 35.

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.

The said Trustees respectfully submit the following report: The first meeting of the said Trustees consisting of the Honourable C. M. Hamilton, Minister of Agriculture of the said province; W. J. Rutherford, Esquire, Dean of the College of Agriculture; and the Honourable Mr. Justice P. E. Mackenzie, Chairman of the Board and Governors of the University of Saskatchewan, was held at Saskatoon on the eleventh day of March, A.D. 1926, when the said Trustees proceeded to the organisation of the said corporate body.

Mr. Justice Mackenzie was elected chairman of the said Foundation, and Mr. D. J. Graham, assistant bursar of the University of Saskatchewan, was appointed its secretary. As the secretary's duties required him to assist the said Trustees in the banking of their funds as well as in taking care of their securities, the said Trustees requested him to furnish the Foundation with a fidelity bond in the sum of \$7,500. The said secretary duly complied with this request.

The Trustees also procured a corporate seal as well as necessary books of account.

The Trustees then took up with the Provincial Secretary and a number of bond firms the matter of investing their funds in securities authorised by the above Act of Incorporation. After careful consideration and comparison of the respective offers submitted to them by the above parties, the Trustees decided to accept a proposition of the Provincial Treasurer whereby he offered to sell them at the price of 94.63 a provincial debenture of the Province of Saskatchewan for \$300,000, bearing interest at the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per centum per annum and maturing on the fifteenth day of September, A.D. 1945, and so yielding an income annually of $4.92\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., or a total income of \$13,500, since in the opinion of the Trustees this was the most advantageous investment offered to them having regard to both the income as well as the appreciation of capital.

The Trustees also prepared to open an account and to engage a safety deposit box in the Canadian Bank of Commerce at Saskatoon. Subsequently when a cheque for the Trustees' Capital fund in the sum of \$284,200 was received by them from the Provincial Treasurer, it was deposited in such account. Out of that account the Trustees paid the Provincial Treasurer the sum of \$283,890 for the above debenture. Such debenture was duly received by the

Trustees and placed in the safety deposit box above mentioned. The said debenture bears interest from the first day of May, A.D. 1926, which is payable half yearly on the first days of November and May in each year. The first payment of income amounting to \$6,750 was received by the Trustees from the Provincial Treasurer on the first day of November last.

In the month of September last the Trustees received a communication from the Provincial Board of the United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, Limited, making application on behalf of The Saskatchewan Agricultural Live Stock Marketing Association, Limited, known as the "Saskatchewan Live Stock Pool," for a grant from the funds from the income of the said Foundation for the purpose of sending a commission to Great Britain and Denmark to investigate the system of co-operative live stock marketing in operation in the said countries.

After a conference with representatives of the United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, Limited, above, the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, Limited, and the Saskatchewan Live Stock Pool respectively, the Trustees for their better information asked that they be furnished with more particular data respecting the nature and objects of the proposed investigation. The Saskatchewan Live Stock Pool accordingly submitted to the Trustees a memorandum of reasons for, and plan of such investigation.

A consideration of such memorandum satisfied the Trustees that they could properly use a portion of the income from the Fund under their investment for the purpose of such investigation, and in order that the information gained thereby might be placed at the disposal of the farmers of this province generally. They therefore invited the above farmers' organisations to suggest the names of persons properly qualified to act upon a commission for the purpose of carrying out the proposed investigation; and after further consultation between the representatives of the said farmers' organisations and the Trustees, a commission was appointed by the Saskatchewan Live Stock Pool with the concurrence of the Trustees of the four following:

Mr. Edward Evans, Vice President of the Saskatchewan Live Stock Co-operative Marketing Association, Limited, and manager of the Co-operative Stock Yards at Moose Jaw.

Mr. P. J. Hoffman, farmer of Annaheim, Secretary of the Red Poll Cattle Association and Secretary of the Provisional Board of the Saskatchewan Hog Pool.

Mr. R. A. Wright, farmer and rancher of Drinkwater, Chairman of the Western Canada Live Stock Union, and

Dr. W. W. Swanson, Saskatoon, Professor of Economics at the University of Saskatchewan.

The Trustees have consented to make a grant to the members of the said commission of \$5,500 to defray their expenses in making

such investigation. It is possible that such sum may not be sufficient for that purpose and that it may have to be increased.

Generally put, the work of the Commission will be to make a study of the co-operative system which has been so successful in Denmark for so many years in bringing the bacon products of that country to consumers in Great Britain, particularly with a view to obtaining detailed information pertaining to the production, processing and marketing of bacon hogs and to ascertain if that system or some modification of it can be advantageously made applicable to conditions in Saskatchewan.. The Commission is also to investigate the market for Canadian cattle in Great Britain and conditions affecting the cattle industry in Ireland.

The Commission has become organised and has appointed Dr. W. W. Swanson to act as its chairman. At its request the Government of Saskatchewan has authorised Mr. W. Waldron to act as its secretary and has consented to pay his expenses.

The Commission expects to sail for Europe on the 25th February instant and to be absent about two months.

The trustees have also decided to grant to the University of Saskatchewan from income the sum of eight hundred dollars for agricultural scholarships for the year 1926-27. They also have under consideration a plan for using a further portion of such income to provide for agricultural scholarships in the manner and within the limit specified by the said Act of Incorporation.

Dated this fourteenth day of February, A.D. 1927.

P. E. MACKENZIE,
W. J. RUTHERFORD,
C. M. HAMILTON,

*Trustees of
The Saskatchewan Agricultural
Research Foundation*

Speech delivered by
MR. C. E. TRAN, M.L.A.
(*Pelly*)
in the
DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE SPEECH
FROM THE THRONE
in the
Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,
Thursday, January 20, 1927.

Mr. Tran, in speaking on the debate on the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, said:

Mr. Speaker, a little over a year has elapsed since I had the opportunity of making my maiden speech on the floor of this Legislature. I have keen recollections of your consideration and tolerance on that occasion and I am sure that during the present Session we in this small corner of the House will endeavour to conduct ourselves in such a manner as to make your task an easy one.

I have listened with pleasure to the mover and seconder of this motion. I congratulate the former on the clear and concise manner in which he outlined his subject. The seconder, although naturally, slightly nervous, as I am myself at times, deserves a great deal of credit on his maiden speech for the manner in which he brought out the points he desired to emphasise.

I join with these two honourable gentlemen in congratulations to Hon. Mr. Dunning on his appointment as Minister of Railways and Canals in the Federal House. I have pleasant recollections of the ability, integrity and honesty of purpose of Mr. Dunning while Premier of Saskatchewan. We have every reason to believe that he will travel along the same successful lines upon which he operated when in Saskatchewan.

I also join with the mover and seconder in their remarks concerning the Minister of Public Works who has been pleased to resign from his position to take another position under Government control in the Local Government Board. I feel that he will operate with the same degree of success in that Department that has characterised his operations on the floor of this Legislature. I have every consideration and praise of his work although at times I think he was a little extravagant in the operations of his Department, but probably in time to come we will be able to see he has been operating with a single eye to the best interests of the province and his work will go as a monument to his services.

I have pleasure in congratulating the Premier of Saskatchewan. For him I have the greatest consideration of any man in this Legislature. Knowing him slightly personally I have kept a keen watch on his operations and have every consideration for his excellent services while a member of the Legislature. I trust we will never have any occasion to differ very seriously along the lines of policy. We will in all probability make some criticisms and I hope he will take them in the manner in which they are made, on a friendly and constructive basis. At all times he will find we are ready and willing to co-operate with him in matters of policy pertaining to the best interests of the province.

We, in this little group in the House, still contend that upon many occasions we have submitted policies and suggestions that would be beneficial to the administration. We do not contend, however, that we have a panacea for all the evils that invest human life or for all the troubles that human flesh is heir to, but still we contend many of our suggestions and policies on our programme would very well fit in to the programme of the Government. We have made some suggestions along lines of co-operation and have made many suggestions with regard to certain departments that we think it would be advantageous to adopt. There may be some good reasons why they have not been applied. The members of the Government may not feel they were applicable to any part of their working politics. They may not have adopted any part of these particular suggestions for fear we might make some political capital out of them. That has been intimated on the floor of this House. So it is reasonable to conclude that one of the reasons why they have not taken kindly to our suggestions is because of fear of this feature. I have every respect for this small group of agricultural warriors and I believe that the sentiments that prevail in our programme and the history which we have made in the Province of Saskatchewan and elsewhere is not going to die as our political opponents seem to think. It has been said from one end of the Dominion to the other during the past year that the Progressive Party was dead. I hear someone say "hear, hear." There are a few of them here not dead yet, or even dying, and I do not think the sentiments of the Progressive Party are dead in the Dominion by any means. Throughout Saskatchewan I believe this system and the principles we have so magnificently laid down in our programme, will continue with unabated success and I think all can agree that even some Liberals would like to see them adopted in the policies of the present Government. (I know some of them would.) Evolution is very slow and we have to wait and abide our time until such times as public sentiment and the ideas of the general public receives some improvement.

The Speech from the Throne is something to be marvelled at. As we have heard on many occasions it is a skeleton of the Government's programme for the Session. If that be the case I feel that this skeleton is undergoing political atrophy. There does not seem to be very much meat there. I would not expect to find a great deal more from this Government. Surely there are many

things the Government can do to develop along many different lines that this country needs at the present time. Whether or not they are necessary in a Speech from the Throne or whether they have them all up their sleeves to pull down at what they consider the proper moment I do not know.

I had expected to hear something about old age pensions. You may say it is a Federal matter. Probably it is because we have a number of them here and the Federal Government would be glad to receive some advice from us as to what *we* intended to do. If we wish to sit down and let the Federal Government do it, all well and good provided they are willing to stand all the expense.

I would have expected to find something more workable along the line of construction of highways. We have not heard a word about that in the Speech from the Throne. Is the system working absolutely perfectly? I have every respect for the new minister in the trying time he will have in his Department. He has already two requests from the mover and seconder. But surely there are some things regarding the Department that are not absolutely up to the mark. It is a big proposition in this province and I do not think there is any constituency in the province that would not be satisfied to receive a larger grant. I do not think the Department themselves are satisfied so far as the building of highways is concerned at the present time. The highways that the Government has built in the last few years are rapidly deteriorating. To my mind the only scheme of perfection is to gravel them. There are a few inches blow off every year and probably one or two feet splash off every year and gradually these highways begin to get down and it is necessary to conceive some better system and my suggestion would be if they cannot finance concrete that gravel is used when building is done. I am confident that before very long these dirt roads that have been built as highways will have to be rebuilt and that I think is not conducive to economy. I have tried to believe that the workings of the Highways Department was absolutely and teetotally removed from politics and have tried to satisfy myself that there was no political manœuvring about it, but rumours are rampant that there is a political atmosphere to it but I did not want to allow myself to be carried away with these rumours. I endeavoured to be of some assistance to my constituency in connection with the scheme, but there is not very much that we local representatives, especially in the Opposition, can do.

However, I wrote the Minister that I wished to co-operate with him and all of his lieutenants so far as the building and maintenance of these highways was concerned. I received a very nice letter stating he would be quite willing to have that co-operation and thanked me for my offer. Then I noticed the summer passing on, and the first intimation I got was a letter to the effect that \$8,000 would be spent in that big constituency for the improvement of highways.

Mr. Hyde (Maple Creek): Too much.

Dr. Tran: I responded and thanked him for that magnificent sum and I wrote him again asking him to give me a programme of

the different parts of the work that were to be done in that constituency so that I might co-operate in carrying it out. I asked him to have the inspectors call on me when they came to Kamsack. Many weeks rolled by and I saw work being done here and there and knew nothing about it. I wrote again complaining of this situation and received a reply stating he had instructed the inspector to call on me and to receive my assistance and co-operation when he was in Kamsack. He has never been there because I never saw him.

I took the trouble of travelling practically all over the outlying parts of the constituency to ascertain the needs of the people so far as roads were concerned. There were a great many roads to be repaired and built and bridges, and I selected what I thought was the most needed and requested some of the people to send in petitions which they did and, would you believe it, of all that I sent in they made an absolute official statement that they would not do any roadwork where I recommended it. They must have because they did not do one solitary foot of where I had recommended where the road work should be done. I do not know whether they figured I was doing it to try and make political capital or whether I was honest and sincere in my desire to co-operate with the Department but I assure you my idea and intention was to honestly co-operate with them so that I might be of some service to the Department and the constituents I represent and I notified the Minister to that effect.

I would have appreciated it very much had the inspector, when he visited that area come into my office or looked me up and asked where are those roads you are speaking about? I would have been pleased to have driven him through the constituency and pointed out to him the needs and have left it to his discretion as to where the roads should be built. I wrote a letter subsequently asking that a particular piece of road that was of the greatest necessity around the Norquay district, that some few dollars should be spent on it to facilitate children going to school. I received a letter from the Deputy Minister of Highways stating that all the money had been spent. I was sorry, of course, but that did not do any good.

As a matter of fact, I think the members of the constituencies should be taken into the confidence of the Government, of the Department, with a view to co-operating as far as possible in connection with roads. I was not trying to butt in, but was endeavouring to be of some service to the constituents with no intention of trying to make any political capital. I do not want political capital. It is poor capital. You cannot invest it and make anything on it.

I think the Department of Highways would do well to follow the lines of some of the suggestions I have stated because the roads are surely going to pieces. I know there is a feeling that they cannot afford any more money for highways but there are some places they can economise sufficiently to have this road policy carried out better and more satisfactorily. The highways are there

and are very important. One of the greatest reasons why the young men and women are so restless on the farm is because they have no proper roads to travel to where they can get a little amusement and diversion. It will be one of the best means of creating a better sentiment among the young people of the outlying districts to have good roads to travel from one place to another.

That is what we are endeavouring to do, to keep the young people on the land and this would be one factor that would be advantageous in that regard.

I would have expected to find in the Speech from the Throne something in regard to our natural resources, that long debated proposition. I am not going into that subject in detail as probably every member of the House has a knowledge of the conditions surrounding our natural resources. I think this Government would do well to take this matter up thoroughly and find out just exactly what status we have with regard to them. We have asked for them on several occasions and never got any definite assurance as to whether or not we are going to receive them. A fitting place for mention of them would have been in the Speech from the Throne so that we could have gone into the question thoroughly and have heard all the propositions relating to it and been able to form some wise conception as to the best action to take. This House would do well to go into debate on the question as to whether we should or should not get them or be satisfied as to whether we have any right to them. As far as I am concerned we are not satisfied with the subsidies we are getting in lieu of them but it opens up a big question which I will not discuss on this occasion.

I should also have expected to have heard something about the Senate, that heterogenous conglomeration of political derelicts.

Premier Gardiner: We have not got one.

Mr. Tran: I think we should have one. We are getting plenty of old men here. We must all realise beyond any doubt that as far as the Senate is concerned it is a body that functions very little or possibly too much. We have been trying to develop these western provinces and get branch lines and put other legislation through the Federal House but on how many occasions did we find that after our measures had passed through the Commons they have been killed in the Senate? I have no particular enmity towards those individual personages in the Senate, but I think they have long since passed the stage of usefulness and I feel they are rather a detriment to the democracy of the country because I do not know of any place in the civilised world where there is a body so autocratic as the Canadian Senate. It seems to me that it is not a principle of democracy to have a body of legislators appointed and not responsible to the people. To my mind this differs from the principles of democracy but there still are many people who wish to keep that venerable body in existence, the ages of whose members range from 67 to 100, average about 75.

I wonder what would happen in this Legislature if we were all old men like that. I respect old age, but not to the extent that

I wish men of that age to be placed in positions of importance, positions where they have the power to veto bills passing from the Commons that are to the interest of the country, and invariably act on political lines.

I have not satisfied myself as to whether I would be in favour of abolishing it. Some have gone that far, but I think it is the intention of a great many that if they had the power to abolish it, they would go, but the Senate may have some function if the members were not appointed but elected in the proper manner, by a popular vote of the people.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier many years ago saw the fallacy of the operations of the Senate and he, a man with foresight, felt in 1908 when discussing this particular question, that the proper method was to have them elected. He was not particular as to the number but he said there should be the same number of Senators for each province and that they should be elected and be responsible to the people. Is that democracy? It seems to me that is the proper way to handle the Senate if a Senate be needed to act as a governor on the other chamber. I think I would be in favour of some such proposition. Sir Wilfrid Laurier's idea was right. The way it is now Ontario and Quebec dominate and they will continue to do so so long as we give them the opportunity to do so. We should have some discussion in this Assembly with regard to this subject, go on record and say we are not in favour of that method of appointing a legislative body.

There might be something taken up with regard to survey of the lands of the province. I wonder if any Department in this Government has any definite idea as to the number of acres of arable land we have and whether there is a classification of that land as to whether it is fit for agriculture, ranching or fox farming? That seems to me to be necessary when we are trying to get immigrants—that we have some place to settle them. This Government should have some idea of the number of acres of land, where situated, and nature of the land, so that when people come to the Province they would have some idea of where they are settling. Several men came into my district last year in quest of land. I asked one of them if he had any idea of where he was going to obtain land in this Province. He said no. I said, did you ever try to get information along that line and he said he had not,

The different Boards of Trade in the Province endeavour to find out just how much arable lands they have in their districts. The Board of Trade in Kamsack was not very active but I referred this man to them. They did not have any survey of that particular district and he was obliged to go to the real estate agent.

I think there should be a survey made if that has not been done. If it has been done, I have not been able to find it. I do not think we have very much land and will not until we get a return of our natural resources. I do not think we have enough land to warrant an immigration policy that we have in operation today, to try and bring settlers in by the thousand. Where will we settle them?

It has been said there are twenty-two million acres of unoccupied land in the three Western Provinces within 15 miles of the railway. That may be correct. Do they belong to the Province or the Dominion? I think it is a question that should be gone into very thoroughly because we are essentially an agricultural country and when we have prospective buyers we should have something to offer them.

I do not see any mention of immigration. I do not suppose it is a very important factor in this Province. I have not been able to find the report of the last census taken in this Province. I read the report of Alberta and Manitoba. In their statements there was nothing to indicate whether they had maintained more than the natural increase and if that situation obtains here it is a sad state of affairs.

To my mind, we have never had in Canada an immigration policy. We have had immigration Acts and amendments and it has cost the country millions of dollars, but it is my idea and conviction that the Provinces of Canada should have some say as to immigration. It should be our duty to know what class of immigrant we are getting. There is not the slightest doubt but what it is of importance that we have a rigid scheme of immigration and get into this country agriculturalists. I am convinced there is plenty of land in this Province, if under proper control, and, that we should inaugurate through the machinery of this Government a rigid immigration policy. I do not think it matters very much from where we get our agriculturalists. We have found from experience that almost any nationality can be easily assimilated in this Province. We have the most cosmopolitan people that you will find in any quarter of the world and it has been somewhat of a task, but we have been successful in absorbing them and to a large degree they have conformed to our regulations at a rapid rate.

I have heard it said we should encourage English agriculturalists. I think that should be done as much as possible, but in the immigration from the British Isles we have few agriculturalists. They are mostly industrialists. When they come to this country they have to be taught agriculture, and it is not an easy matter sometimes to teach them agriculture. We have the question as to whether we will throw the immigration scheme wide open to the European. I do not think it matters very much from where we get our agriculturalists so long as they are healthy and will be able to comply with the regulations of this country. We have not had very much difficulty in the absorbing of any nationality into the public life of our province.

I would like to see this government do something like Alberta, appoint an Immigration Commissioner that would look after immigration to this country and get some concise plan as to how we can place these agriculturalists when they come to our land. I should like to see a report of the census of this Province and satisfy myself as to whether we are increasing or not. I believe that will be forthcoming before very long.

Most Speeches from the Throne contain something on economy. This one does not say anything about it. Probably it is not necessary in this province. There are many features of this Government that both sides of the House recognise can be economised upon. Strict economy is necessary in any governing body, and I pointed out last year that we could very well copy our neighbours on either side and dispense with a great many of the civil service. It seems to me there must be a great deal of overlapping and duplication of service in all Departments of this Government. I do not want to deprive any man of a job, and it is not my intention to throw some employee out into the cold world in the winter time, but there can be no sentiment in government. It is cold facts. You are spending the people's money and it is necessary that you apply economical principles to every department. If that be done there will be many thousands of dollars for roads and for other departments, and I warn this Government that the people look to them for economy. They are not satisfied as to whether the Government is exercising the closest economy. I am not satisfied as to that. I do not believe this Government is exercising the strictest economy and I believe that sentiment plays a considerable part in the retaining of many of the civil servants in their present positions.

I note that the Government is about to appoint a Commission to investigate the possibilities of distribution of power within the province. I think this was brought up last year and I objected to the government spending any great amount of money for investigation into this project. I think the best thing we can do is to try and get back our natural resources so as to have something to investigate. It would not be very hard for an inquirer to go into the Estevan country and find out the number of acres of coal land and how much they contain. It would not take very much of an inquiry to ascertain the amount of money necessary for transmission lines from Estevan to Regina or Weyburn to Moose Jaw or other places. It would not take very much of an expert to find out the consumption per kilowatt hour for these cities. After this Commission gets through and makes its report, is it the purpose of the Government, whether the report is feasible or whether it is economical, to go ahead and build transmission lines and supply the whole country with electricity? This would be interesting to know.

I saw an editorial in *The Leader* recently of how much it would cost estimating it on the same basis as the hydro-electric in Ontario and I feel satisfied that we will not be in a position for a few years to spend that amount of money. So far as investigating the water powers of Saskatchewan is concerned, that is known. We know the power facilities; we know what water power we have. I think the Provincial Secretary would be able through the Boards of Trade in Prince Albert and elsewhere to give a pretty clear conception of how much water power there is in the north.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Do you know what they are?

Mr. Tran: I do not, but you should. I am not an expert of water or any other power, but I am trying to get at the expense of

appointing this Commission to investigate and report on conditions that are known. I am not adverse to developing our country and I do not want to be reported that way. I am a keen advocate of the advancement of the country, but why spend a whole lot of money to find out what there is and learn you cannot use it? The most of it we know. It seems like the tail wagging the dog—starting at the wrong end. I do not think it is necessary at the present time to spend any more money to obtain something we already know or to a great extent that we already know.

I note another item in the Speech from the Throne with regard to superannuation of civil servants. Why not start with members of Parliament? Why not start with a few of the old farmers in the country who have long since outlived their life of usefulness and are in straitened circumstances? I think the scheme is all right and I am not going to seriously criticise it, but it seems to me in looking over the list that I have got regarding the salaries and expenses paid some civil servants there is no occasion to support them. They must be getting sufficient money to carry on and lay a little away. I assume this scheme will be on a sliding scale and when a man is getting so much money a year, a living wage and a little more he would not come under that scheme.

It seems to me there are a large number of those who are employed by the Government that have been and are getting sufficient money to take care of themselves and put some away. That is what I have got to do. Everyone has to do that. We are not going to depend on the Government to take care of us when we are old and there are many old farmers in the country who have worked and slaved for years. They have been unfortunate and cannot get a living at the proper time. Why not include them? You might superannuate the member for Saskatoon County (*Mr. Agar*). This scheme will only take care of one class of people—those working for the Government. Is that particular service any more important than thousands of other vocations in life where people work and slave, and through some difficulty and unforeseen circumstance cannot make a living for themselves when they get old, and have not sufficient laid up to take care of themselves. I am not going to seriously oppose this proposition, but these facts occur to me, and the basic principle of the scheme should be thoroughly analysed before anything is done.

I notice there is something about education, to lay the foundations for future development. I think there is considerable room for improvement in what we have already developed. We were very fair in criticising the Education Department last session. Some of the criticism was proper and just and some was probably thought unjust, I will admit. I have every sympathy for the Minister in the situation he has before him in his endeavour to work out a system that will be advantageous and I believe he can labour for years and he will never be able to find a system that will be 100 per cent. water proof. But there are certain things regarding the Education Department that come under the observation

and notice of every member of the Assembly, and I have been taking the keenest interest to ascertain how these rural schools conduct their programme. During the summer I visited fourteen different rural schools, and put some little tests to them. The ignorance of the 8th and 9th grade pupils was appalling. That is not the fault of the Minister and I hope the press does not put in that light, but the fault is in not getting the proper supply of teachers. The Minister is not in a position to know exactly the efficiency of every teacher who goes out into the Province, and I think there should be a checking up in the Normal schools. There should be a survey made of the schools and teachers through the local inspectors or some other way to see to it that those who are not efficient are eliminated. You do that in any other department. If they are not efficient, cut them off, and if they are efficient, keep them on. The Minister must know that there are quite a number of incompetent teachers throughout the Province and there should be a system of elimination because the large majority is competent, and it would be wise to instil into the minds of the teachers in the normal schools the necessity of sanitation and cleanliness. I visited some schools in my district that were neither sanitary or clean. Even the teacher himself was not clean, but I have not had the opportunity of visiting the Normal school to find out what they teach but I believe that is part of the curriculum. I went into one school and I noticed the outside looked good. One of the trustees was there and I said you have a good fence and your building looks nice. However, upon going inside I found the most filthy conditions. I asked the teacher the reason that you do not comply with the sanitary regulations of the country and he said he had told a couple of boys to scrub the floors but they had not done it, he made some excuse. These little things do not condemn the whole educational system, but I am honestly of the conviction that there should be a survey made of the entire country so far as teachers are concerned and then we would get better results.

The reason there is so much ignorance as far as these Grade VIII and IX pupils are concerned is not because they are foreign, as our English speaking children are just as bad. I think the non-English element have just as large a degree of intelligence as the others. There were Grade VIII and IX pupils in some schools who could not spell the simplest words. Give them a single sentence to write and there would be half a dozen mistakes. I am not trying to prove that is the fault of the Department or the Minister, but there are additional little things that would enhance the reputation of the Department if they were carried out. I would like to have the opportunity of assisting the Department in doing that. The Education Department is the most important Department in the Government today, because without education you cannot do anything. There may be some reason to change the curriculum. I think it could be changed in some ways and I think Mr. Dunning had something in his mind when he said he was going to subject the curriculum to a body of expert educationalists for analysis

and report. I do not know whether it was carried out or not, but the whole system would do well to check up and get an inventory with a view to greater efficiency.

I believe we have in the Province today sufficiently well trained and efficient teachers to man all the schools. Many are out of employment and there are many who are in employment that are no good. There is another thing that should be looked into. In Grade VIII all students should pass an examination. Examination has for centuries been the test for advancement and it is not a good thing to establish a system where one pupil in a school can get through without examination and the next one must take it. I do not think the factor of qualification should enter into it at all. Every pupil arriving at that important stage in his life should pass an examination to demonstrate his fitness to go on, because in the majority of cases they have not got the ground work and should not be allowed to proceed without it. I contend many students are passed who are not competent to carry on the advanced grades of education. It is important to the pupil that he be required to pass the Grade VIII examination.

I notice there is going to be some legislation regarding child-caring Acts. I think this is of the highest importance and I have no criticism to offer. I congratulate the Minister who will bring it down and will do everything to support it and assist it get a clear passage.

I shall try to finish my remarks before 5.30, Mr. Speaker. In speaking on the Budget last year, I said that the press reported me as saying that I was adverse to Ruthenian and Dukhobor teachers in the schools. I am not sure of the exact wording of my statement at that time, but that certainly was not my intention. I was trying to say that these teachers if they were put in English speaking districts and English speaking teachers put in non-English speaking districts it would enhance the value of the schools materially. I was taken to task for the statement as the press reported it and it was not my intention to convey that impression.

I also stated that the present curriculum was taking the children off the farm. I want to modify that to some extent this year. I do not think, literally speaking, that that term is absolutely correct, but one thing I do know is that the boys and girls from rural homes are not being maintained on the farms. We have thousands of boys and girls going through the schools but they are not getting sufficient agricultural stimulus or encouragement to induce them to remain on the farm. In my district they are not. It may be different in other districts. It will be interesting to note in this connection as to whether or not we are in the same category as Alberta and Manitoba in maintaining our natural increase in this Province.

It seems to me that the Minister of Education and his colleagues would do well to check up with the Minister of Agriculture the total number of the Grade VIII and IX pupils in the rural schools. I would be pleased to have the honourable gentleman come to my

constituency next summer and we will take a drive to the little red school houses, the rural schools, and go in and put a test in any way to ascertain how many of the Grade VIII and IX pupils know anything about agriculture. I hope they will have improved materially from what I found last summer. I contend it is an essential thing that the pupils in the rural schools get an education in agriculture. It is very beneficial to them and I believe they would learn more from a practical agricultural point of view than in the college because they see it and follow it. I do not know that I am a strong advocate of these text-book farmers. The best farmers we have in the country never learned farming in a college. They learned it in the school of hard knocks, those who are getting prizes for stock raising and so on are those who never saw the inside of an agricultural college.

Hon. Mr. Latta: Did you give the pupils any test in agriculture yourself?

Mr. Tran: I did. As far as agricultural knowledge is concerned I am not advocating that the college be eliminated, but I feel more stress should be put on agricultural demonstrations themselves and it would be better for the pupils. We have some 37 students in the Agricultural College today. After they graduate, are they being maintained in the Province or do they go somewhere else and become professors or teachers in colleges? It is a well known fact that they do not remain in the Province.

I do not think it is necessary to a farmer to be educated in an agricultural college to make him a competent farmer. You have agricultural experts who know everything about it. We have one in our district. He has a half section of land which the mortgage company owns. He is endeavouring to farm scientifically. He knows more about it than anyone else. He is examining weeds and grain and puts everything through a scientific test, but when it comes down to practical farming he is not there.

I do not think the college is necessary for the actual operations of the farm. I am not discouraging the idea of the college. I think it is a splendid thing for making teachers and professors and demonstrators. A man who has knowledge of the situation and is in a position to go into it is valuable and I believe the Department is establishing them in different parts of the country, locally. I believe I could farm myself and I was only on a farm two years. I am not an expert, but I know that the local farm demonstrations are a decided success in the Province.

Premier Gardiner: Do you consider yourself competent after two years of farming to examine pupils in a school?

Mr. Tran: I have learned a lot since. You do not have to live on a farm to learn something about farming. A man in any vocation of life can learn something about farming. I am in contact with farmers every day and have been for the last fifteen years and I have been talking farming with them. I have watched them farm and I would be dull indeed if I did not learn something

or acquire some information. I consider I have experience of farming and am competent to judge as to whether a child knows anything about agriculture in school or not. I do not know that I know every grade of wheat or class of barley or weed, but I know pretty nearly all of them growing throughout the country in which I live.

Mr. Hill: Does my honourable friend say he is as competent to judge farming with his two years' experience as the pupil in the 8th and 9th Grade born and living on a farm all his life?

Mr. Tran: I consider that my two years' experience operating a farm and my fifteen years' experience in a farming community that I have had since in being in places where farming is carried on and my close contact with it and attending farmers' meetings and agricultural meetings that I have acquired enough knowledge to be in a better position to judge than an 8th and 9th Grade pupil in a rural school who was raised on a farm.

Mr. Hill: You will permit me to differ with you.

Mr. Tran: It makes no difference to me whether you do differ with me or not. As far as agricultural education is concerned I do not want the House to get me wrong that I am adverse to agricultural colleges. I am not, but it is not necessary to spend enormous sums to build these colleges for the purpose of fitting men for agriculture. That education is got in the school of hard knocks and experience as demonstrated time and time again. Has my honourable friend from Saskatoon County (*Mr. Agar*) had any college experience in farming? Would you consider him a competent farmer? There are many more like him who are thoroughly successful in this branch. I believe an agricultural college education is very necessary and essential to training demonstrators and teachers to go out to these different places and demonstrate and give pupils who desire to go into agriculture some information. As agriculture is the basic industry of the Province, I think every consideration should be given through the rural schools to children to give them some idea of what agriculture really means. I was very much surprised that children of the 8th and 9th Grades born and raised on a farm who had done practically everything there was to do on a farm could not give three grades of wheat, three different species of wheat, and could not tell three different breeds of horses. There were other subjects they knew nothing about.

Mr. Hill: You will have to prove that to me.

Mr. Tran: Before the Session is over it will be proved.

Mr. Hill: You cannot prove it.

Mr. Tran: A man convinced against his will is of the same opinion still. These things exist. I am confident if the Minister of Education would come around with me he would be astounded. I am not blaming him. He is doing everything possible, but it is necessary that he receive some of these reports from his outlying School Inspectors. They are the men who should give him the

knowledge of what is going on and I do not believe they are doing it. It is my conviction they are not doing it. I know the Minister has no time to cover all the schools in this Province, but there are a sufficient number of School Inspectors and some of them are competent and some are not. Those who are will study the situation thoroughly and report to the proper department.

I would like to tell the honourable gentlemen that in other branches it was appalling. I would suggest that the honourable member for Melfort (*Mr. Hill*) go through the rural schools in his district.

Mr. Hill: I have.

Mr. Tran: And get the information and I will get the information from the rural schools in my district and we will compare notes. We will manipulate it so that no one else has anything to do with it. My district may be a particularly ignorant district. I would not doubt that a bit. There are some like that but if my honourable friend thinks his district is any better, send in an impartial person and let him get the information. I have some of the papers the pupils wrote. I had not intended to bring them and burden you with them but I can do so.

Premier Gardiner: I would like to see them.

Mr. Tran: I will give you that opportunity.

Mr. McIntosh (Kinistino): Does that apply to Canora?

Mr. Tran: Where is that?

Mr. McIntosh: Opposite Pelly.

Mr. Sykes (Swift Current): Why do you not blame the Minister of Education? He is the key of the whole situation.

Mr. Tran: Do you want me to? I told you why. I believe his inspectors are not furnishing him with the proper information and proper conditions as they exist. Is that not satisfactory?

Premier Gardiner: He hires the inspectors.

Mr. Tran: And fires them?

Premier Gardiner: He recommends the firing of them.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Name the incompetent ones.

Mr. Tran: I think this is a matter of vital importance. There are in many districts young people leaving the farms. It is a serious matter. They cannot be absorbed in the cities. There is unemployment existing in our cities and they leave the farms and go to the cities where they cannot be absorbed and the result is as you all know that a large number of them find their way across the border. I have no particular solution for this difficulty, but I think it could be worked out co-operatively in this Assembly that some better and greater means be established to keep our Canadian born in Canada and in these Western Provinces.

I observe that it is 5.30 o'clock, Mr. Speaker, and as I cannot finish all my observations that I desired to make in just a few moments I beg leave to move the adjournment of the Debate.

Friday, January 21, 1927.

Mr. Tran, continuing his speech, said:

Mr. Speaker,—Before going into the matters I was reviewing when we adjourned yesterday, I wish to express regret that the honourable member for Moosomin (*Mr. Salkeld*) is unable to take his seat on account of illness, and I am sure members of the House will join with me in the wish that he might soon be restored to health and again resume his duties in this Assembly.

When the House adjourned yesterday I was speaking about the Education Department. I feel I have gone very materially into that Department and that a few of the suggestions and specific cases I have enumerated will be of some use to the Department and I trust they will accept them in the manner in which they were given.

I would like to say a few words regarding the Department of Agriculture. I have every consideration and sympathy with the Minister in his arduous duties. Agriculture, being the basic industry of the Province, there are many things to do and there is a great degree of credit due to the Department for the manner in which it has operated during the last few years. One little criticism may be made with regard to economy. We have recollection of certain purchases that have been made, money taken from the general treasury to make these purchases, and I am going to mention one or two of them in order that the Department might be on its guard and not repeat these mistakes. We were told a couple of years ago regarding the purchase of some pure bred stock. I read with a great deal of interest regarding the purchase of some stallions that came from the old country. I thought, due to the wonderful passage these royal gentlemen had across the ocean, every consideration being given to them, that they would be something of the greatest importance. They arrived but I understand these royal animals did not stand the trip very well or the climatic conditions. It might have been better to have had a special state room for them. I do not know what proceedings the Department went through to purchase the animals, but if I understand rightly I believe these canny Scotchmen across the water knew for some time that Saskatchewan was coming over to buy horses, and, being Scotchmen, I believe they prepared for it and if we had two or three of the Scotch farmers from Saskatchewan sent over to purchase them they might have been more successful in making a better bargain. I remember the Minister speaking about BONNIE FYVIE and BONNIE something else but he forgot to mention one important animal that should have had considerable care and attention—BONNIE TREASURY of the Province. It is a desirable thing to improve the breeding stock of the Province and for that reason I do not disapprove of the attitude of the Government, but I think some consideration should be given with regard to the purchase of these animals and every economy exercised. Apart from that aspect I have no criticism of the Agricultural Department. I trust the Minister will in the future take cognisance of the fact

that the people are paying for these improvements and have an eye on economy.

I will take a few moments to speak of the Department of Health. I do not want to leave out any of the Departments or they will get jealous. A great deal of credit is due to the Minister and his colleagues for the remarkable manner in which they have carried out the affairs of this Department. I am not going to criticise it but I feel there are some Departments that need some credit and praise from this side of the House. I think great strides have been made along the lines of preventative diseases. I do not think there is any province in Canada today that has made any greater strides and efforts with such success as Saskatchewan. There is one suggestion I would make. I have had the opportunity and pleasure of co-operating with Dr. Middleton and assisting him in every way I can because I believe his work one of the greatest done in that Department. I believe he is fairly well qualified to operate these child clinics; but I think some further education would be very instrumental to Dr. Middleton in carrying them out more successfully and I think it is necessary to suggest that Dr. Middleton be given a special course at the expense of the Department in some institution where he will learn and glean information that will make him more successful in the discharge of his duties.

I am very pleased with the attitude of the Department of Health in regard to furnishing medical attention and aid and assistance to the outlying districts. I met Dr. Amiyot last fall with the nurse when they were travelling under the most adverse conditions endeavouring to bring some assistance to the poor people in the outlying districts. I understand that is only the beginning of the operations of that particular branch and I trust the Minister will see that it is continued because I believe there is a great need for help in these outlying districts. These operations and work will in no way interfere with any medical practitioner in the Province and I believe every doctor will be pleased to co-operate and assist.

It is rather interesting to note that the Mental Hospitals and the Sanatoria are almost packed to their limit at the present time. I do not think this is any fault of the Department. In fact, I know it is not but we are just beginning to find out where these infectious diseases lie and utilising our special efforts to get them into institutions to get treatment and be restored to health. Improved conditions in the Province will improve the physical health of the community. During the last five or six years conditions have been so strenuous and the people's minds so occupied in making a living and liquidating their indebtedness, that their resistance has been materially lowered and, consequently, these diseases have made ravages. I do not believe it will be necessary to spend any more money in enlarging the Sanatoria. I believe the number of cases will diminish to a considerable extent now that conditions have improved and that the education the Department is giving in these various districts will tend to enormously eliminate these cases.

I cannot this year forget the Attorney General's Department and I am sorry the Attorney General is not in his seat at this moment. Because of his good sense and judgment and his ideas of fair mindedness I know he will not take exception to anything I may say. I believe the Attorney General's Department is more contaminated with political influence than any other department. I wish to read, with your permission, a couple of letters to prove that might be possible. I am absolutely positive it is.

"I have the honour to inform you that a new Commission of the Peace is about to be issued and under the circumstances I enclose herewith two lists (one for you to keep and one to be returned to me) of the names of the Justices of the Peace who reside in your constituency. Will you kindly write your initials opposite the name of each person whom you recommend for reappointment and draw a line through and write your initials opposite the name of each person whom you do not recommend for reappointment and sign your name at the foot. If any of the persons mentioned in this list do not now reside in your constituency, it will be of assistance to me if you will indicate in the column for remarks the present address of such persons."

I immediately started to gather the information that I might give the Attorney General. I said to myself this is the proper spirit. The Attorney General is endeavouring to co-operate with an Opposition member so I took the time and went to the trouble of finding out whether these gentlemen were in the particular constituency and as to whether they were competent in my opinion. I sent in a letter and recommended the most of them. Most of them were political opponents. Two of them I could not recommend because they were out of the constituency and I indicated that on my report. Those that were incompetent I marked as he suggested. After getting all the information I could from an unbiased standpoint I submitted it to the Attorney General. Some months after that I noticed these J.P.'s were still functioning or endeavouring to and I thought there was something peculiar about it. I also said in my reply to the Attorney General that I would be pleased to make recommendations of competent men in the different parts of the constituency that would make good J.P.'s. On August 23rd I wrote to the Attorney General asking for a list of the J.P.'s in the Pelly constituency. I had a letter back from the Deputy Attorney General with the list and the two lists are identical.

Premier Gardiner: The same in every seat in the province.

Mr. Tran: There had been no changes made. Even the men who are out of the constituency altogether are still acting as J.P.'s.

Premier Gardiner: May I be permitted to enlighten the honourable gentleman. I am sure he does not want to place anything before the House that might be taken as a misrepresentation. The Commission has not yet issued for any constituency in the Province. The list is the same in every constituency at present as it was when that notice was sent out.

Mr. Tran: I thank you. I considered it sufficient time from May 24 to August 23 to have the changes made. I was not aware that they had any intention of doing it when I got this reply. As I have said before I am not bringing this matter up for the purpose of political gain or criticism but I felt that I should bring

it forward as these men were still acting as J.P's. many months after I had made the recommendation asked for.

Hon. Mr. Latta: The notice went out many months before the time came to make the changes. That seems simple enough.

Mr. Tran: I accept that explanation and I will look forward with a great deal of pleasure to the report when it is ready and see if they have made any changes. There are changes that are absolutely necessary. Another thing about that Department. I notice in the press that there is some intention of taking the enforcement of The Liquor Act out of the Attorney General's Department. I do not believe that is a good thing.

Premier Gardiner: You are not correct.

Mr. Tran: It is my honest conviction that the Government through its machinery should be responsible for the enforcement of The Liquor Act and no special powers should be conferred on the Commission. I have nothing to say regarding the appointment of the Commission. That may be all right and good but I feel the responsibility of the enforcement of that Act should remain with the Government as it has all the machinery necessary to enforce it.

There has been I know some little exercise of economy in the Province in the last year and I noticed in the Premier's address in Saskatoon that he intimates that economy has been made. He told the people that he has dropped the Inspectors in the Highway Department from 29 to 13. I contend that is an admirable condition. I think he can drop them all and still have better efficiency but why was that principle not applied to all departments. I suggested last year they could cut the other departments in two and make just as much efficiency. If there were too many, fifty per cent. too many, they were superfluous and that has been remedied and we have every reason to believe that condition exists in other departments so why not exercise it to the full and apply it to all other departments?

I have a good deal of criticism with regard to the attitude of the Treasury Benches of this Province in their operations during elections. Mr. Dunning last year stated here that it was the duty of the Opposition to make constructive criticism and suggestions. This was one of the suggestions I made last year—that the Cabinet Ministers not be allowed to participate in these different elections. I notice in the *Saskatoon Star* that the Premier takes my name into consideration, for what purpose I know not. He is reported as saying that until two days before I was chosen Leader of the Progressives that I was a Tory Leader. That is absolutely false. It cannot be substantiated. What difference does it make to the constituency of Saskatoon whether it was a fact or not?

I challenge the Premier to substantiate that accusation or his statement. It seems to me that it must be a deplorable condition when the Premier has to resort to statements of that kind in order to do what? It is pretty hard to read the motive into it but the

only thing I can think of is that he wants to discredit all the Opposition he can so that he might get some credit for his Government candidate. The people of Saskatoon are not so narrow minded that they are going to take anything like that into consideration to influence them in voting. He also talks of propaganda. I do not know of any greater or more extensive propaganda that has been brought out than that which the Government has used during the last fifteen years since I came to this province. They have done everything possible in the way of propaganda for the purpose of winning elections. I have a sheet here. Does that not prove it? I will put it on the Table. I contend that it is not necessary in these days of civilisation to stoop to these methods to win elections.

The Premier also said something about a machine, machine impossible in Saskatoon. I hope it is. If it has gone out of Saskatoon it has just recently left because it has been there for some considerable time. The Premier is reported in the *Saskatoon Star* of yesterday as saying: "Mr. McConnell in the letter had said that a government or party with no positive policy to present should not be elected." I absolutely agree. "What is the machine?" he asked. I contend that throughout the whole province everyone knows the existence of a Liberal machine. You can call it what you will. The Premier says it is organisation. I don't care what you call it. I could call it a whole lot of worse names than that but it would not be consistent with the Rules of Parliament. We have been labouring for years against the greatest odds in the country owing to this machine. It is the most wonderful and vicious machine you can think of. It is operating twenty-four hours a day, twelve months in the year and 365 days in the year.

Mr. Hyde (Maple Creek): Perpetual motion.

Mr. Tran: Yes. The Premier says, where is the machine? Where was it in the Mackenzie constituency in the last Federal election? The Premier knows where it was. They all know. I will tell the House that that machine was the cause of increasing Mr. Campbell's majority.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Then what are you kicking about?

Mr. Tran: I am complaining about the methods of application. They went into the different parts of the constituency and the different constituencies with the machine lubricated to the hilt but up in Pelly and those constituencies where the true Progressives were they had too much water in their gas and the machine did not operate properly. They over-did it.

I think these things are of utmost importance to the Province. We have reached the stage where we abhor those kinds of things. There is no fair play about that. Is there any fair play in putting a whole Cabinet into a constituency to defeat a Progressive? These Cabinet Ministers are employed by the people of the province, paid a salary to operate in their own department and I indignantly repudiate the idea of spending my money to help pay their salaries to defeat principles which I hold dear. That is exactly what the machine is doing and the fact that the machine is mentioned is

proof that it exists. I have my doubts as to whether it exists in the city of Saskatoon in spite of the fact that the Premier says it could not possibly do so.

Mr. Hagarty (Elrose): How do you think they will get along today?

Mr. Tran: It does not make any difference to you or the Government. It was not necessary to resort to what they have done. One man said the Liberal Government was on trial and if it is he is the only witness for the defence. I do not think it is necessary to bring all that material into Saskatoon to convince the people how they should vote. That is what propaganda does and it is part of the machine.

When we become men we put away childish things. Saskatchewan is of age, twenty-one years old. Is it not nearly time that we were denouncing that kind of machine politics and getting down to the issues of the day. The Premier started off very nicely in his speech at Saskatoon, giving the people an outline of the history of the workings of the Government. That is what should be done but he deviated from that course. Why? With the specific purpose of influencing votes. Why did he not stay with his first principle and give the people an outline of what the Government had done, give an account of its stewardship and let the people of Saskatoon decide for themselves. Saskatoon is not the only constituency where political propaganda is going on. It is not confined to the Liberal party. There is propaganda going on in every department and the Premier had the greatest opportunity of his life to say to the people of Saskatoon that he did not need to stoop to that kind of business to win an election. If he had gone along with an outline and history of the development of the Province and pointed out what his Government had done and was prepared to do and stopped there and let the people decide he would have shown to the people of Saskatoon that it is not necessary to resort to mud raking and all this kind of stuff to influence the electorate.

It must be gratifying to the Liberal side of the House that all the by-elections returned Government members. They take that as an index that everything is absolutely all right with the Government. They think it would be the highest calamity if an Opposition member was elected at Saskatoon. What are they trying to do? Absolutely obliterate the Opposition? Would they be any more satisfied if we were obliterated?

Hon. Mr. Cross: We would miss some good speeches.

Mr. Tran: Under this system of Government where we have party politics (and I suppose it will always be in vogue much as I detest it) it is absolutely necessary that we get down to solid thinking, fundamentally. If the members of the Government would go through this Province and educate the people without any political interference, but with the honest desire to put before them the exact conditions as they exist, convince themselves that all it is necessary to do is to bring the different principles and issues of the

Government before the people and let them vote accordingly, apply the basic principles of true democracy, there will be no need for an Opposition. You can push the Treasury Benches to the centre of the floor and all the members can get around that table as a committee of the people of the Province and Government in this Province would then cost a great deal less. After all, what is the fundamental difference in policy so far as the members of this House are concerned? It is identically the same. The only place we differ is the method of application of these principles. Why is it necessary that we should be in a place by ourselves, to waste time in the House, with all these speeches, hours and hours of speeches? You can take myself as an example, if you wish. It is not necessary if you put those principles into operation and apply them to the whole Province. It will not be necessary to take up the time of the House as I have taken it up and as some other members will take it up before the Session is over. We can reason one with another in a co-operative spirit and give the people better service than we can by dividing our opinions so far as application is concerned. We could all agree on application.

I may be held up as an idealist. These are my firm convictions and I believe that evolution will bring about the situation I have described. It is nothing new. All have it in their minds and it would be well to ponder on it. The game of politics is not confined to any political cult. As far as the deciding of issues is concerned they play no part. There is no difference so far as we are concerned. Our ability might prove of benefit to the other side of the House because we have some pretty good men over here, and some pretty bad ones, and so have you on the other side of the House, so what is the difference? When it is put into the melting pot and boiled down take out the good and leave the bad. And that is the kind of government we should have.

Although there are 52 to 11 they do not represent all the people of the province. There are a lot of people who have different thoughts, not necessarily in regard to policy but in regard to application. It is not a true index of the feelings of the people. There may be more members but that is all. All great political organisations are due for a fall. That has been the history of the world. All these organisations of great power last so long. The Liberal Government was in power in Ontario for 33 years. It reached its zenith and was defeated at the polls and has never been elected since. There is every reason to believe that is what is going to happen to this one. There is no doubt about it. I feel confident that this Government is riding to a fall. The people should remember that—

The boast of heraldry, the pomp of pow'r,
 And all that beauty, all that wealth, e'er gave,
 Await alike the inevitable hour:
 The paths of glory lead but to the grave.

Mr. Speaker, I intend to support the motion.

Speech delivered by

MR. J. T. M. ANDERSON

(Saskatoon)

in the

DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE SPEECH
FROM THE THRONE

in the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,

Tuesday, January 25, 1927.

Mr. Anderson, in speaking on the debate on the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, said:

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to join with the other members of the Assembly in offering congratulations to the Premier and the new Ministers of his Government and also the private Members from the constituencies of Kerrobert, Moose Jaw County, Notukeu and Ile a la Crosse.

In the Speech from the Throne we had as usual some general references to certain proposed changes the Government has in mind. At the last Session considerable time was devoted to discussing the power possibilities of the northern part of the Province and a resolution was unanimously indorsed setting forth that something might well be done to investigate still further possibilities in that connection and I think every member of this Opposition is quite satisfied that something tangible is in sight and I do not think we should be severely criticised if we express our opinion by way of advising what in addition might be done along this line at the same time. A Commission has been appointed, one of the members being a prominent professor of the University of Saskatchewan and I think a man who will perform his duties well and satisfactorily. As to the other Commissioners I do not know anything about them personally but I do feel that while this Commission is performing its duties we should have something else in sight. We know pretty well the power possibilities of the north. Information is at hand secured by the Federal Governments of the past giving an idea of the available horse power and the possibilities in that connection and also considerable data in connection with coal deposits in the south. One of the chief duties of the Commission will be to investigate and report as to the possible cost of the power when developed. We might also agree that when we have secured this power and ascertained the cost we must have a market for its consumption and I think the Government, at the same time this Commission is operating, should be investigating possibilities along that line. Closely associated with this idea of providing a market for power consumption will be an

investigation of the settlement of much of our vacant land areas and the introduction of industries. I trust the Government will keep this in mind and be able when this Commission reports to tell the people of the Province that they have worked out a scheme whereby a market will in the near future be available for the consumption of this power.

I think there are almost untold possibilities so far as the men and women of this Province are concerned and we must prepare for the future and I think perhaps we have been going a little too slowly and from now on at any rate we should quicken our pace and it will be for our present Premier, as a young man in the full vigour of young life, to set an example that others who come after him will be able to follow.

Something has been said in connection with reclaimed lands in some parts of the Province. You will find in one of the issues of *The Public Service Monthly* an article setting forth that certain lands, certain areas, have been reclaimed, after being secured from the Dominion Government and drained and offered for sale at public auction. I am sure it was rather humiliating for any citizen of Saskatchewan when he read that, to feel that we had to go to the Government of Canada and ask them for this land which rightfully belongs to us, and in addition, having to pay them one dollar per acre, and having done that and having decided to spend our money in reclaiming the land, we had to promise the Dominion Government that we would sell them in a certain way—public auction. Before the end of the Session we will likely hear the result of these sales.

I do not know whether the Government has a list of the various parcels of land available for settlement. If not, they should have, and I do not know what steps they are taking to populate these parcels. If they have no definite policy it is time they had, but I am strongly suspicious they have no such policy. We know that certain colonisation agents are at work in Saskatchewan bringing in people from other lands and settling them in certain areas in the Province. I am wondering if our Government is watching to see that they receive fair treatment at the hands of these companies? I have been informed that land has been sold to these people at quite high prices spread over a long period of years on half crop payment plan and if that information is correct I am strongly suspicious that in some cases, at least, many of these people who have come from distant lands have been charged too much for their lands and, if so, it is something our Government should investigate. I believe Saskatchewan is behind some of the other provinces in encouraging immigration. It is all very well for some to say that we do not want immigration. I think every sane citizen of Saskatchewan realises that our future depends upon a larger population and we should get that larger population at the very earliest opportunity. It is the duty of the members of this Legislature to co-operate with this Government in trying to bring that about as soon as possible. Irrespective of the charges levelled against the members of this humble Opposition that they are not

ready to co-operate, they are willing to co-operate on any occasion in any way that is in the interests of Saskatchewan.

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 like that we require for this Province. I recently picked up a copy of a widely circulated periodical, *Canadian Opportunities*. It is distributed all through European countries. There was a very finely worded and impressive message by our new Premier, but I thought it would have been well if we had had a conspicuous advertisement setting forth in detail something of the possibilities of this Province. On the back page the Farmers' Government of Alberta had inserted an advertisement setting forth the possibilities of that province. It is only a small thing but it would indicate that we might be a little more alert in advertising our Province.

There is no doubt but that many of our people have left us. It is no use trying to deny it. Statistics, with all their weaknesses and faults, sometimes tell the truth and we know that many have left us for some reason or other. We must try and see that conditions are such that fewer will leave in the future and in addition we should try and make some effort to induce those who have gone to come back. The Province of Quebec at the present time is making a determined effort to induce many of her former citizens to come back from the United States, and they are meeting with considerable success. This is something I recommend our Government take in hand and consider. It is possible we should assign one of our Ministers to the work. Most of them are young and vigorous and healthy and can stand long hours. There is no reason why one of them should not add another title to his already numerous string of titles and call himself Minister of Immigration. Such a move would have the approval of the people of the Province.

It is the duty of the Government to co-operate with the Dominion Government in this matter. But the unfortunate thing is, in my humble opinion, that the Dominion Government up to the present has not had any policy so far as immigration is concerned. At least, nothing you can dignify by that name. There is a slipshod, hit and miss method of getting immigrants. We have had a lot of talk about "selective immigration," whatever that term may mean. We also hear about "preferred nations." I do not know what is meant by these terms. We have people in this Province representing five dozen nationalities from the nations that the Government has called preferred and non-preferred. It is a question for us to decide what people we want and let the Dominion Government know what our feeling is. We have a large body of people in our Province sometimes severely criticised by English speaking people—our Slav population. Many have come here and made good. We find those of Slavic origin in our Universities and High Schools and Normal Schools and one of them has a seat in the House of Commons, and no doubt before many years have gone by

some of their representatives will be in this Legislature. In the Manitoba Legislature, which I visited after our Session last year, we find four men of this race, two sitting on the Government and two on the Opposition side. One is a Conservative, representing Slavic Canadians, showing that these people, as is natural, are divided in their opinions politically.

These people in Saskatchewan are greatly worried at the present time for the following reason: Their brothers overseas are being persecuted severely and they are asking that some investigation be made into the conditions where their people are and I think this Government, which has received their political support for so many years, might well take the matter in hand and request the Dominion Government to take this matter up with the League of Nations and see whether or not the stories of persecution are true. That is only fair to the people we have here as part of our population.

I have pointed out what I think is the remedy. I do not want the Minister of Agriculture (*Hon. C. M. Hamilton*) to say in a year's time he has racked his brains to find something constructive in the address of the member for Saskatoon.

I have referred to the "hit and miss" method of immigration. A good many of you will remember that in the Public Accounts there are certain men classed as Inspectors of Motor Vehicles. One is named Julius Androchowicz. No doubt he is a good inspector but he has done considerable towards bringing in immigrants this last year. He went overseas at the instigation of the C.P.R. I do not know whether he had any mandate from this Government. Shortly before that our former Premier left for Ottawa, Mr. Androchowicz went overseas with the idea of securing 300 farm labourers to bring back and he is back again and I understand brought over a considerable number. It is a shame that when one of our civil servants is given a mission like that there is no publicity. I watched the newspapers to find out whether he was given credit for such work and I would be interested to know whether he was paid his salary as a civil servant while on that mission.

The member for South Qu'Appelle (*Mr. Huck*) is "fed up" with the subject of education. I do not want to overload his political stomach but I must refer to the subject. We have harped on this subject now for two Sessions and it is about time we were getting down to brass tacks and try to suggest a remedy. The present Premier is in the position of being a school master. A Session ago the member for Saskatoon was held up more or less to ridicule because he was an educationalist or a school master. On one occasion he was referred to by an irate political opponent as a glorified school master. We have one in the Premier's chair and I know he knows the problems of this Province and I believe he is quite prepared to assist in their solution.

There is no use our wasting time throwing political missiles at each other. It is time to get down to brass tacks in the interests of the rising generation. We know we will never have a perfect system, but we also know that in many sections of our Province

we are proud to say we have passed through the pioneer stage and are ready for development. The time is opportune and it is the duty of every member of the Opposition, whether he be medical doctor or farmer, to make his contribution without being held up to ridicule.

I think the subject is so important that we who are more or less affected by political feelings, probably more or less biased, should ask the Government to appoint an independent commission to investigate this subject and report, and I am going to make bold to mention three men who would, in my opinion, be the proper types of men. The President of the University would be one. He is held in the highest esteem all over Saskatchewan. Dr. Tory, of Alberta, and Professor Weir, of British Columbia, might be the other two. If we could get three men like that to go over the Province and report on educational conditions I almost venture to say there will be no word of protest from any member on this side of the House if the report comes in and the Government is willing to take action. In Manitoba, Premier Bracken asked Prof. Murray and others to make a report and the Government acted on that report and conditions are improving to such extent that they can say today that all their schools are in operation and things are going along very satisfactorily.

Permissive legislation in regard to municipal school boards is something else that we could as a Legislature give to the people. Nothing compulsory about it. Simply permit them to vote "yes" or "no" whether they want municipal school boards or not.

Free secondary education. This group stood for that last Session and we still stand for it. We opposed the imposition of fees for non-resident pupils. I feel the same now as then and in sympathy with the scheme worked out on the recommendation of Professor Murray in Manitoba where the Government gives by way of grant for non-resident pupils five dollars per month per pupil up to a maximum of \$50 a year. They are giving a \$50 grant. We are charging a \$50 fee. You will tell me that the enrolment is larger than it was before. I believe that will likely be the case, but that does not deny the fact that there are boys and girls in Saskatchewan who because of our action here last year are not able to take advantage of a secondary education. The School Trustees at their convention last year took the same stand as this little group and others who have been held up to the ridicule of the House. We know the secondary school teachers took the same stand and other men who are leaders in educational thought in Western Canada have taken a similar position.

Better teaching training has been mentioned. We do not want to say anything that will reflect upon the young men and women who are going out and performing a service as teachers. There is no blame attaching to them. We have asked this Government to put these young teachers through a longer period of training to better qualify them. They are planning to do this and we are not worrying about the credit. I understand it has already been

decided to close all the short term Normal Schools that we condemned last Session and to extend the Normal School for approximately a year. That is as it should be and we should get better results, but there is another condition that has been mentioned—the serious overcrowding in the two Normal Schools. Before Christmas time in the fall session at Saskatoon one room, originally intended for household science, had some 75 or 80 pupils in it. It was breaking all the rules of hygiene so far as air and floor space is concerned as set forth in the school regulations. We have a teacher of school hygiene in our Normal School and at the same time in our Government institutions we break the regulations laid down by us.

What is the remedy? I believe the time has come when the Government should investigate the situation carefully and find out whether or not we are not educating a surplus of teachers. If we are training more in our Normal Schools than we can absorb in our schools we are wasting the public money. I could show you two young men who are acting as taxi drivers because they cannot get positions. Young girls are working in stores and as domestics and they are graduates of our Normal Schools. If we are educating a surplus we are wasting the public money and we should say we will take in so many students this term and so many the next term and so on. I think that will be what will come about.

Another Normal School should in the near future be erected and the member for Moose Jaw (*Mr. Baker*) will not be sorry to know that I feel it should be in Moose Jaw.

In connection with these Normal Schools we should have permanent teaching staffs. I know there may be arguments advanced in favour of bringing in the inspectors to spend several months in the Normal School, but we have overdone that and I think it will be in the interests of all concerned if we have permanent staffs and I understand we are heading in that direction.

We asked the Minister of Education last Session how many students attended Normal School for a certain period of time and how many had failed. We learned that only three or four had failed out of 1,600. That is absurd. It does not happen in any other profession. Go to our University and at Christmas time you will find they have their tests and if they do not measure up to a standard in these examinations they are invited to the President's office and notified they are to go home and save their money and come back the next term, and I am informed that no less than 52 were sent home at the last Christmas holidays because they were only wasting their time and parents' money and I think that is proper. Political interference is apparently not affecting our University.

I want to join with other speakers in expressing my satisfaction with virtually all that is going on in our Department of Public Health. I may disapprove of some of the political activities of the Minister, but I feel that a very earnest and persistent effort is being put forth in connection with the public health of our Province. I would, however, call the attention of the Minister to the

question of medical examination of students entering our Normal Schools. There is every reason to suspect that the medical certificates are sometimes easily obtained. I am going to get into trouble with a couple of my Progressive friends, but I know of one case where a young girl came to a Normal School and a few months after she was in the Sanatorium, and I went to Dr. Ferguson and asked if it was safe for that young girl to be placed in charge of children and he answered "no." There is reason to suspect from investigations that have been made that some of those who apply for admission to the Normal Schools are afflicted with dread diseases and the greatest precaution should be taken.

Some reference has been made to examinations. I think the Premier made reference to them and I am sorry I was not here, as I was away on other important business. I think he said that examinations were not a very good method of testing a child's training.

Premier Gardiner: I do not think at any time I referred to the subject in my speech.

Mr. Anderson: Examinations are here for better or worse.

Premier Gardiner: Mr. Speaker, I made no reference to official examinations. I made a reference to a list of questions submitted to a number of children.

Mr. Anderson: More splitting hairs. Examinations consist of lists of questions. I believe we should have a written examination for all pupils in Grade VIII. I am opposed to promotion from Grade VIII on the recommendation of a teacher. If we follow our present policy we find in our larger centres that the child has no written examination in Grade VIII or IX or X, and the Department swoops down with a list of ten questions at the end of Grade XI. There should be a written examination for Grades VIII to X, inclusive.

I am sure the Minister agrees with me that we have too many subjects on our high school course each year. He will correct me if I am wrong, but I would say in Grades IX and X we have about 12 or 14 subjects taught in our high schools. In Alberta there are about six but a child in this Province is given more or less of a smattering of these subjects and not very much by way of thoroughness and I am informed that in the coming examinations the Department is going to put on two papers in each of the languages instead of one, for instance, two in Latin instead of one. The tendency seems to be to increase the number of papers rather than to reduce them.

Just a few words about agriculture. All sorts of things were said about the criticism we directed in connection with this subject last Session. I still maintain that we should have an agricultural text book for use in our public and high schools. We are the only Province that has none. I would almost venture to prophesy in view of the certainty we feel in this matter before another twelve months have gone by we shall have one.

The record of our University in regard to the subject of agriculture or the courses leading to degrees in agriculture is not very satisfactory. The figures I think are 36 enrolled at the present time in the degree course. About 90 are enrolled in engineering and 500 in arts and science. It will be said you do not need a degree in agriculture to make you a good farmer. We agree. But I contend we do not go far enough in the teaching of agriculture. We must go still further in the matter of taking training in agriculture to the rural boys and girls. We are considerably behind the sister Province of Alberta where they are making a decided effort to help the boys and girls in the rural districts by taking their agricultural schools out to these communities and I believe they have four at the present time and I will ask your indulgence while I read a couple of extracts from a letter received from the Minister of Agriculture of Alberta. I inquired what the Alberta policy was and received this reply:

"There are four agricultural schools operating in this Province, located at Olds, Claresholm, Vermilion and Raymond. At the present time we have just a few more than 500 students in attendance, including 130 girls and the balance boys from the farms of the province. These schools are operated under the direction of the Department of Agriculture. The course extends over two years and covers the same kind of work generally taken up in Household Science Institutions and in Colleges of Agriculture during the first two years of such courses. An important piece of work being undertaken by the Schools is that in connection with the training of Ukrainian farm boys and girls who are located in considerable numbers in the district north-east of Edmonton. The Agricultural School at Vermilion has given special attention to work with these students, and the number attending increases from year to year. At the time of entry some of them are scarcely able to read or write English. We give them special classes in these subjects and in mathematics, in addition to the regular classes in the other subjects. This special work is taken at night or after the regular classes are over in the afternoon. We have two district agriculturists located at Vegreville, which is the centre of this Ukrainian settlement. One of these men is a Ukrainian, born in the district and educated in the public and high schools of the province. He also holds a diploma from the Manitoba Agricultural College; speaks three languages, including English and, therefore, makes a splendid contact with these people. This is one reason why we have such a good attendance of Ukrainian students at the school. The association with the Canadian boys and girls undoubtedly gives these students a new idea of their opportunities and also of their responsibilities of citizenship.

"For three years we have had a policy in operation for the training of British boys at these schools of agriculture. An arrangement was entered into with the Overseas Settlement Board whereby British youths chosen by this Board would be given a five months' training course at the schools, after which they would be located with farmers throughout the province and given some supervision as long as it is considered necessary. The Overseas Settlement Board pay half the cost of training the boys. No tuition fee is charged, but they are required to pay for their board which amounts to about \$30 per month. The boys are required to actually do the practical work on the farm—such as taking care of the live stock, milking cows, harnessing, hitching and driving of horses, handling machinery, etc. In addition to this they take some lecture work in judging live stock and in soils, crops, etc. They also spend some time in the carpenter and blacksmith shops. To date we have had about 150 boys take this course. Those who came during the first two seasons have been located with farmers. A large percentage of them have made good and some of them have settled on farms of their own."

I would suggest that we have field representatives go out into the rural settlements stirring up an interest in agricultural education and giving private instruction where possible. Something like that has been requested of the Minister and something might come in the near future. I was speaking to Mr. Lukovich, the Federal member for Vermilion, and he was quite enthusiastic over the possibilities of this training. He had been a rural teacher

before he went into the political field and was interested in rural education and he assured me that in his opinion these agricultural schools were making a very valuable contribution which under present conditions can not be made by the rural school and I am going to go so far as to recommend that this Government takes into consideration the advisability of having schools like this operate at certain strategic points, for instance around Canora or Yorkton or Swift Current or Maple Creek, North Battleford or Prince Albert and Weyburn or Estevan. There is no reason why we should worry about the expense. If these schools are for the idea of teaching farming in a practical manner there is no reason why they should not be largely self-supporting. We have institutions in the United States of a similar character and these schools are conducted on a self-supporting basis.

All these problems can be solved and all we ask is that action be taken. We surely are not so vain that we cannot copy some of the things our Farmer Government has adopted in Alberta.

I think I made a statement a year ago that the most important educational institution we have in this province is the rural school. About 75 per cent. of our future citizens are enrolled there, at least 70 per cent. We know from our statistics that only about seven out of 100 pass Grade VIII and possibly about five in 100 in the rural schools pass Grade VIII which means that under present conditions most of them are leaving school, 90 per cent. or 95 per cent. of them, at about Grade V or VI. Surely it is time to pause and consider how we are going to remedy these conditions. We had the member for Hanley (*Mr. Stipe*) describe the conditions in the south-west part of the province. The Minister knows that similar conditions exist elsewhere. You cannot run schools without money, but we have to get the money. We now come to a problem that the Government will find difficult to deal with. In many parts of the Province we have passed through the pioneer stage. The farmers are getting prosperous and low school taxes are paid. You will go into other sections where they have high taxes and pioneer conditions still exist. It seems to me it is only carrying out a sane and logical principle if we consider whether it should not be in the best interests of all if those school districts which are comparatively wealthy do not receive as large a grant as the ones that are poor. I have seen districts where the farmers have to pay school taxes running as high as \$75 per quarter section and in Yorkton and older districts \$12 and \$13 and even as low as \$6.

There is nothing equitable about our system of school taxation and that is a problem that must be grappled with at some time in this Province and the sooner we begin to think about it the better. It will not be very popular I grant you. The Government that introduces it will be subject to criticism but in the long run it will be the proper policy and recognised as such.

I want to refer to the question of illiteracy in our province. We have far too many people who cannot read or write in any language. A few years ago there was a campaign worked out

under the then Minister of Education, Hon. Mr. Martin, to overcome this through the organisation of night schools. This was allowed to die out and shortly after amounted to nothing at all. I would suggest to the present Premier that he take up with the Minister of Education this matter of night schools in many of these districts. The Deputy Minister will be able to provide him from the files with reports of teachers who conducted this work and I am sure that his interest will be marked when he discovers the enthusiasm shown by these teachers and the work they did.

We have no Dominion statistics regarding illiteracy since 1921 and if you examine the census returns of that year you will find that the Province of Saskatchewan had 73,668 illiterates classified as five years of age and over or some 11.44 per cent. Of those of ten years and over, Saskatchewan had 31,817 or 5.92 per cent. In Ontario they had 2.96 per cent., and in Alberta 5.18 per cent. We were higher than Alberta. Of those twenty-one years of age and over, Saskatchewan had 22,919 or 6.9 per cent. and Alberta 4.42 per cent.

You cannot have efficient schools of any kind unless you have regular attendance and the schools are in operation for a reasonable length of time and it is my feeling that the school attendance might be better than it is at the present time even though it compares favourably with other provinces. I think sometimes we are a little bit too worried about what the other fellows are doing. It is nice to know it, of course, and it is nice to make the comparison when the balance is in our favour. Of children seven to 14 there were in Saskatchewan 17,113 or 12 per cent. of all who did not attend school at all. Manitoba had 10 per cent. and Alberta 11 per cent. Of those who attended from one to three months, Saskatchewan had 5 per cent., Manitoba 2 per cent., Alberta 5 per cent.; of from four to six months Saskatchewan 16 per cent., Alberta 12 per cent.; from one to six months, Manitoba 9 per cent. Saskatchewan 21 per cent., Alberta 17 per cent.

Of the population from seven to 14 years not attending school for any time, Saskatchewan had 11 per cent., Manitoba 9 per cent. and Alberta 10 per cent. Of those attending from seven to nine months, Saskatchewan had 67 per cent., Manitoba 80 per cent. and Alberta 72 per cent.

Something must be done to encourage longer school terms. It will be argued that on account of our severe climate we cannot operate a school all the year round. I will grant that in forty or fifty below weather, the school should be closed but there should be some arrangement whereby during the good weather in the winter time the schools would be in operation. During the winter of 1908-9 I taught a rural school and many of the children had to come two or three miles but their parents drove them to school and came for them at night and these people were living under pioneer conditions which do not exist today. They operated the school all through the winter. Sometimes the attendance was not large but it demonstrated that it can be done. It is being done in many

places and we should press for more schools being opened for a longer period of time than is the case at present and we should remedy the condition outlined by the member for Hanley.

Something was said the other day regarding the attitude of the Government or its intention to have the Liquor Commission take the responsibility of administering The Liquor Act. I was pleased to see the Premier deny that and say that the Government was still going to assume responsibility. That is as it should be. We know the mess we got into before by placing the administration in the hands of a Commissioner. We know what happened and there was more or less of a scandal and a trial with the result that a man was attacked by the press and later on I understand, although this has not been given very wide publicity, the press exonerated him by paying the costs of the trial. It would be in order for the members of this Government to say a word by way of exonerating and clearing the name of the man who was their Liquor Commissioner and had to bear the brunt of these attacks and was finally exonerated by the attitude of the press in paying all costs of the action against them. I hope this will be done during the Session.

We realise this is a difficult proposition to handle. Our sympathy will be with the Government if they show a desire to administer the Act. The attitude of our people in many sections seems to be that the present law is hard to enforce. It is practically impossible to enforce it in many ways. Government liquor stores make it easy to get the liquor and when you do get it the law says there are only two places where you may consume it, your private home and a room in a hotel. The result is that the law is broken thousands of times a day and only once in a while someone gets caught. All along our public highways you will find the evidences of breaches of the law. It is just a question whether or not we are not by the wide spread breaking of this law creating a habit that will result in serious things in the days that lie ahead. It is something that should receive serious consideration. Last night I noticed in a newspaper under a double headline an article regarding some farmer away out in the country, to the west of Stonehenge, I think it was, the heading reads, "Christmas Drink Costs Him Twenty-five Dollars." He had some liquor in his cutter and took a drink and it cost him \$25 and costs. There are thousands of others who take a drink that way and it does not cost them anything. Only occasionally someone is caught and this creates the feeling that there is one law for one and another law for another. It is a difficult proposition but it is the duty of the Government to see the law is rigidly enforced. One of the members the other day seemed to lay the blame on the Chinese and would only sell them Chinese whisky. That may be a move in the right direction but there are bootleggers in the province other than Chinese.

It was said by someone, I think it was the Premier, that we must not mix the liquor business with politics. It would be much better if we could avoid that but it is going to be very difficult. It will rest very largely with the Government and the manner

in which the Act is administered. If the Government is going to sanction through the Liquor Commission political activities on the part of those who are working in the stores during election times it is going to be hard to keep it out of politics. At the present time men employed in the liquor stores are taking part in political activities and conventions. We had one acting as a Deputy Returning Officer the other day.

Premier Gardiner: Would you disfranchise him?

Mr. Anderson: They may tell us we must not mix politics and the Liquor Commission. We want them not to mix liquor vendors with politics. If, for instance, the rumour is true that men in the liquor stores were busy on the Sunday before the last provincial election getting shipments ready to ship out so as to reach their destination before election day, we are justified in making inquiries as to whether———

Hon. Mr. Cross: My honourable friend says, "if it is true." Is it true?

Mr. Anderson: I am asking if it is true?

Hon. Mr. Cross: I ask, Mr. Speaker, if it is true. My honourable friend knows he should not make that statement here unless he knows it is true.

Mr. Anderson: I am not making any statement. I do not know whether it is true or not.

Hon. Mr. Cross: Then why mention it?

Mr. Anderson: I have a perfect right to mention it and an excellent precedent from members on the other side of the House.

This Opposition has been held up to ridicule in various parts of the Province in various ways. I believe the Minister of Agriculture (*Mr. Hamilton*) in Saskatoon the other day in speaking over the radio said that the Progressive members in this House would not be seen walking down the streets of Regina with the Conservative members. They "shunned them as they would small-pox." I did not believe that statement had been made until I heard two or three people say they had heard it over the radio. I want to assure him that I regarded it as a joke but there is one place in this House where there is unanimity and harmony and that is on the Opposition side of the House and if any of the members opposite are looking for peace and harmony they will be accommodated and welcomed on this side.

Just a word in connection with elections. I think a good many members of this Opposition and possibly some of the other side feel this business of having to make a new list of voters every election is a nuisance. It cost about \$190,000 to run the last provincial election and if a by-election comes along new lists have to be made up and the enumerators costs are heavy. Surely something could be done to provide a provincial list as in some other provinces. We had an election the other day in Saskatoon and these people were running around getting names on the lists and

I do not know whether they were given too short a time or what it was but we found that there were hundreds left off and by a strange coincidence they were mostly all Conservatives. They did not have time to do the work and if they are paid out of the public treasury they should produce a finished job.

This is something the Government should consider and the remedy one would suggest is a provincial list.

Something has been said about Ministers taking part in elections. You cannot stop them but we would like them also to get out and meet the people between election times. You can get half a dozen at one point if there is an election but not between elections and I think they should get out and consult with the people on their policies when the heat of a campaign is not present. We had three of them and the Premier at Saskatoon during our recent bye-election; it is evident from the result that the other three were needed as well. I would not worry if I was the member for Pelly about the presence of Ministers during an election. The bye-election was satisfactory to this group especially after the efforts of those who came to Saskatoon and the Premier over the radio into the wee small hours. I understood he closed his speech at 12.15 a.m. which was 15 minutes into election day and contrary to the election law.

In connection with the cost of elections, I find in looking over the Public Accounts that some in the rural constituencies cost quite a lot more than others although the geographical conditions were about the same. Pelly, 32 polls, average cost per poll \$84; Pheasant Hills, \$72; Pipestone, \$58; Redberry \$70, where there was a little uncertainty; Prince Albert, \$62; Rosetown, \$70; Saltcoats, \$72; Wolseley \$58. In some of these polls it took five different people to handle the poll, five paid officials. One would be the person who owned the house and the others four paid officials. I am not so sure they were required there. Presumably they acted as poll clerk and deputy returning officer, constable and interpreter. I think we could eliminate some of these in the conduct of an election.

There is something rather strange in the Public Accounts *re* the cost of the last election and possibly it is an error. On page 119, *re* Yorkton Electoral District, we find: "expenses, services and expenses of special constables." The deputy speaker (*Mr. Garry*) must have had quite a time because the special constables cost \$10,000. It may be an error and there may be some others. According to page 120, the Yorkton Electoral Division has advertised its activities in every paper of the province; "\$427 to the Canadian National Express," is another item.

In the matter of encouragement to farmers, I do not believe and many others do not believe that this Government has done all it could in the interests of the farmers and we believe we are justified in asking what they consider in the future their duty towards the great industry of the Province and to give it a little more serious attention than in the past.

Premier Gardiner: May I be allowed. I have been checking up the figures referred to. Yorkton is the last constituency and these expenses for constables are for all the constituencies.

Mr. Anderson: Turn to page 120 and 121 and you will find Yorkton is still going strong.

Premier Gardiner: I think it should be at the end.

Mr. Anderson: It is the only mistake we have found so far.

I think we are all agreed that the Wheat Pool is one of the greatest achievements on this continent and I do not think this Government or any other government can lay claim to very much credit and we have to give the credit where it is due, to the farmers themselves and it is the duty of every member of the Government who speaks here to say something that will go out over this country to try and offset some of the propaganda going around to injure the Pool. It is going out over the radio, through the mails and in other ways. It is the duty of every member of the Government and of this House to let his voice be heard on the floor of this House in defence of the Pool and condemnation of this propaganda. There was not much encouragement from the Government of the day when the Pool was launched but we shall expect some assistance in connection with carrying out this enterprise and protecting it as it goes along from year to year.

I would like to criticise in a friendly way some of the expenditures in regard to agriculture and possibly an explanation will be forthcoming from the Minister of Agriculture later on. Some comparisons have been selected from the Public Accounts in connection with various expenditures. We find for the promotion and improvement of live stock, \$16,379. To my mind that is not a very large sum. I have placed alongside it, inspection of roads, \$53,086. Perhaps that is all right. I question whether our people are satisfied with it. Assistance to Saskatchewan Live Stock Association, \$1,800; destruction of wolves, \$1,500. In connection with that I am not just clear how much the Government is assisting but I feel from conversations I have had with municipal officials that our Government might be rendering more assistance than they are in view of the fact that the sheep-breeders are trying to encourage the raising of sheep extensively. I believe that is something the Minister is quite ready to encourage. If that is done there must be more protection from wolves and stray dogs. The compilation and collection of information and statistics, \$9,429. I suppose a government is always pretty heavy on statistics. We have page after page in almost every government report. Although they are valuable we may carry them a little too far and statistics are not going to help out many of the situations we have in this Province. We must keep records but we must do something more. We pay \$9,000 for that and only \$10,000 for dairy herd improvement. Are these expenditures properly balanced? I think not. Control of noxious plants and insects \$30,000, but improvement of field crops only \$4,806.

It is a childish thing to say that because a man belongs to the medical profession he does not know anything about farming. The weed situation in many parts has got away from us and I cannot see how the Government can avoid a certain amount of responsibility. A few years ago arrangements were made to appoint inspectors. I do not know very many of them but I do know one who is about as well qualified to inspect weeds as a five year old child. I question if he could tell a sow thistle from a dandelion at the time of his appointment. He tried to do his duty faithfully, no doubt. Later the Government conceived the idea of giving him a course in training instead of doing it before he was sent out. This situation will be a serious thorn in the Premier's flesh unless it is remedied. Let us examine some of the grants: Swine Breeders, \$100; Grain Growers, \$200; Western Live Stock Union, \$250; Saskatchewan Cattle Breeders, \$200.

I believe in the protection of our game but when you look at the amount spent on that and compare it with the amount devoted to certain agricultural activities I claim the balance is not quite proportionate. Game protection and Museum \$41,900 and to promote co-operative marketing of farm products, \$5,003. There is something wrong here that calls for explanation and I do not think it is any wonder that the Government cannot claim very much credit for the organisation of the Wheat Pool when they have in the public accounts that statement. Salaries account for \$4,372; travelling expenses \$741. The balance to encourage co-operative marketing is only \$789.60.

With the permission of the House, as I have rather a sore throat, I should like to adjourn the debate.

Premier Gardiner: We did not wish to have the debate further adjourned, Mr. Speaker, if at all possible. We are starting on the second week and have not yet completed the debate on the Address and I think if possible we should go on.

Mr. Anderson: Fortunately, Mr. Speaker, I am able to go on. The honourable member from Pelly (*Mr. Tran*) and the honourable member for Tisdale (*Mr. Buckle*) made reference to some little tests that they made in visiting rural schools to try and ascertain the general practical knowledge of the children of certain grades in regard to certain farm activities. A great deal of fun has been poked at them but similar conditions have been found in different parts of the province and I personally have found similar conditions. The point they are trying to emphasise is that the boys and girls are not getting anything of that practical knowledge or ability to spell the words they are likely to use in their correspondence—the words they have to deal with in their farm life. Because our spelling books teach them to spell the word “hippopotamus” they can spell it, but not the name of one of the ordinary breeds of horses. I noticed the Premier said he doubted if any member of this House could name all the breeds of horses. The children were not asked that; they were asked to name three breeds and in a large percentage of cases they could not do so. I maintain that this shows something

wrong in connection with the work that is going on in our schools. It is all very well to say education and information are two different things. We know that, but I think we also know and the Government knows that you must have "information." That is what we are trying to provide them with and the children in our schools require information the same as the Government does.

Something was said, according to press reports, by the Premier, with reference to education. "Reading the educational references in the Speech from the Throne Mr. Gardiner pointed out that developments proposed in the system were in keeping with development in the Province." We agree with that. "The improved financial position of the province justified improvements in the educational system as in other departments." Certainly. "The present system was suited to the needs of the province." We do not believe in that. We say absolutely no. It may have been so in pioneer days, but we will have to revise it considerably to meet the present conditions. "Farm boys and girls today could get both primary and secondary education at their very doors." They can but how many are getting it? "When Dr. Tran thought he could find the thoughts of school boys and girls after setting a list of examination questions he was setting himself up as an educational authority from his two years' farming experience." We will let that go. "The test was: was the present educational system enabling Saskatchewan's boys and girls on farms to measure up with the boys and girls from other walks of life?" We say no most emphatically. We want that condition remedied. "Education and information were by no means the same thing." We claim there is a very close connection and there is no use trying to split hairs. "Education did not mean the storing of information but the development of facilities and characteristics, the development of intellect and imagination of those about to enter the business world." I read it three or four times before I knew what it meant.

Premier Gardiner: My honourable friend is reading from a more or less racy account of what I said the other afternoon. I am sure every member of the House who was here will realise that what is contained in that one sentence was made in a statement which was covered by myself in probably half a dozen sentences.

Mr. Anderson: I am glad to know the Premier is not guilty of defining education in so many words.

I would like to describe a situation that exists in the constituency of Elrose. There are a number of rural schools in the Delisle district rather better than the average, considerably better than anything I have seen, and the school board of Delisle conceived the idea of establishing a larger district or getting a number of the rural districts to co-operate with the town district and having high school work conducted on a larger scale. The feeling of the trustees was that they did not get the co-operation they should get as early as they should, from the Department. Through the efforts of two trustees eight rural communities were visited and seven of them

decided by a large vote, 85 per cent. of the ratepayers, that they would go in with the Delisle district and have a high school. They agreed to pay \$3 per quarter section to the secretary of the municipality who would hand it over to the Delisle school district and because of paying that they were allowed to send any of the children who were having work above Grade VIII to the Delisle school and no fee was to be charged. They were to sign an agreement and did so with each school district covering a period of five years and I am told that the average amount paid to the Delisle school district was about \$160 to \$224 per rural district. The town council rather than have fees charged to the Delisle town students made a grant of \$600 to the school board to pay the fees of any who were attending from the town. It has been so successful that two other rural districts are anxious to enter and there are several striking features about it I cannot go into. It has been described fairly well in the *Public Service Monthly* but quite a number of the districts have no students taking advantage of it but the ratepayers realise the possibilities of the scheme and it is something I would advise the members to look into with the idea of carrying the message out to the larger centres in their constituencies and they could thus help the Department and make a contribution towards solving the rural school problem.

Something was said last Session regarding the education of backward children, feeble minded, and the Minister answered a question asked by a member of this group to the effect that all feeble minded were receiving attention except about 50 who were classed as idiots. But I find in the *Public Service Monthly*, of November, 1926, there is an interesting article regarding the establishing of special classes. I was surprised to find that this problem had been solved according to the information given last Session.

Hon. Mr. Latta: Mr. Speaker, I did not say all these children who were backward were receiving attention.

Mr. Anderson: I am glad to know something is going to be done to solve the problem but I think the Department might travel faster than they have. It is all very well to say investigation is far from complete. We know that in other parts of this continent extensive work has been done in solving this question. The information is available and it is a matter of getting it and applying it and I would urge that it be applied at the earliest possible moment.

I would like to mention a point regarding the lowering of the cost of Government. We speak about the Wheat Pool and we know it is a tremendous concern and if you look up the annual report you will find that the gross returns of the Wheat Pool amount to \$180,000,000, and the expenses are recorded as \$492,000. The percentage of administrative cost amounts to about .27 per cent. or less than one-quarter of 1 per cent. In 1925 it was about the same. Quite naturally it will cost less as time goes on. Less than one-quarter of 1 per cent. It is interesting to compare the administrative costs of our various Departments of Government

with that. I will grant you there is some difference, but there is too much difference in so far as the percentage is concerned.

Premier Gardiner: There is no basis of comparison at all.

Mr. Anderson: In connection with some of the Departments of Government here are the facts. Some of them are run fairly economically. In the Provincial Secretary's Department, it cost 3.8 per cent. to administer *The Motor Vehicles Act*; the Act re moving pictures, 2½ per cent.; to collect the wild lands tax, about 5.8 per cent.; public revenue tax, 5 per cent.; supplementary revenue tax, 7 per cent.; liquor administration costs, 8½ per cent. Highways, for expenditures chargeable to revenue, 15.8 per cent.; Education Department less than 2 per cent.; Provincial Secretary, administration, over 10 per cent.; agriculture, over 12 per cent.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Ten per cent. of what?

Mr. Anderson: You will find in the Public Accounts education expenditure is \$3,796,000 and under administration \$73,000.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Yes, but 10 per cent. of what?

Mr. Anderson: In connection with the Provincial Secretary's Department the total expenditure is \$98,551.63 and under the head administration, \$11,980.50 or over 10 per cent. A simple question in arithmetic.

Premier Gardiner: Read the figures in the Highways.

Mr. Anderson: Chargeable to revenue \$1,106,131.58.

Premier Gardiner: There is over a million under expenditure chargeable to Capital.

Mr. Anderson: It cost 5 per cent. to administer the amount chargeable to Capital. In the matter of public works there is a serious overcrowding in some of our institutions which has been referred to. We are proud of our public buildings and——

Hon. Mr. Cross: May I be permitted to ask a question? I am not quite clear on the point made. Would my honourable friend point out to me how he has figured that out? There is a great difference in my mind in selling wheat and administering the business of a province.

Mr. Anderson: I mentioned there was quite a difference, but I am letting you compare the administrative cost of operating the Wheat Pool with that of operating the Departments of Government and allow you to draw your own conclusions. It is a question as to whether the people are satisfied with this condition. Explanations will no doubt come. I have done my duty when I point them out.

Overcrowding of public institutions will undoubtedly receive consideration. I have read the report of the medical man who looked into conditions at the gaol and it looked to me as if there was reason for serious consideration when he mentioned the number of diseased people in that gaol and emphasised the overcrowded conditions and our information is that the prisoners had been

sleeping in the halls because of these conditions. Something should be done.

In regard to overcrowding at the Sanatoria that will likely receive attention but there should be no delay. I was talking to the Superintendent of the Sanatorium at Saskatoon and he informed me that the building was built to accommodate 135 patients. There have been as many as 162 and I believe there are some 20 on the waiting list. I am sure these problems should receive the proper attention without any delay.

We hope sometime during the Session that the Government will let the people know their attitude on the old age pension question. It is something that is worrying many people at the present time and is being considered by the Dominion Government. The Provincial Government will have to play an important part in working out a solution.

We have had some glowing accounts of prosperity in many sections, but I want to repeat what I said a year ago that there are conditions we must not forget in our enthusiasm over the prosperous condition of the many. There is considerable unemployment in our cities and I think the Government is responsible to some extent or has some responsibility in connection with it. We know they have put forth efforts to induce men to come here and garner our harvest and I think the way in which the Government can give some assistance is this: A number of the large lumber companies in the north are in the habit of getting in a large number of men just about the time the men are leaving the harvest fields. If it could be arranged to have some scheme of co-operation whereby the Government could co-operate with the lumber companies and take the men as they leave the harvest fields that problem might be solved. I heard that matter discussed by Tom Moore, the Labour leader, and I would advance this as his idea rather than mine.

Premier Gardiner: We have been doing it for 20 years.

Mr. Anderson: It might be done a little more extensively.

Hon. Mr. Davis: It is done to the full capacity of the lumber camps.

Mr. Anderson: I am not going to take up any further time of the House. The Ministers of course will try and ridicule the various points we have brought forward, but irrespective of that we have said these things and brought these things forward in good faith. We represent 113,000 people who showed their lack of confidence in this Government last election.

Hon. Mr. Cross: We represent them all.

Mr. Anderson: We are quite prepared to assist in any way and to receive in graceful fashion the attacks that may be made against us, but at the same time we feel we have to represent this large body of public opinion which is not in sympathy with the policies of the present Government. We have pointed out what we consider will assist in solving problems such as immigration and

education and other matters and I would urge the Premier and his Government to take these into very serious consideration with the idea of remedying existing conditions. Undoubtedly the people are calling for it. Ministers came to Saskatoon and stated that on this by-election depended whether or not there was a want of confidence in this Government. We are not going so far as to say that, but the electors of Saskatoon used their own judgment for their own reasons and they are quite willing that their representatives should co-operate with the Government. They were tired, and a good many other people are, of the manner in which elections are conducted—a sort of threat being held over the people not exclusively by the Premier or his Government but on the part of this machine. It was almost threatened that if they did not return the Government candidate they would go to the dogs completely. They did not believe it and they showed it by their action in the Saskatoon by-election. We are willing to assist in every way we can and I will support the motion.

Speech delivered by
THE HONOURABLE S. J. LATTA,
(*Minister of Education*)
in the
DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE
SPEECH FROM THE THRONE
in the
Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,
Wednesday, January 25, 1927.

Hon. Mr. Latta, in speaking in the debate on the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, said:

Mr. Speaker,—I desire to commence my address in this debate this afternoon before the House adjourns.

May I first add my congratulations to the many that have been expressed. I want to add but one or two things in this connection: First, I think it is fitting to draw the attention of the House to the fact that the two new members of this Government are products of this "terrible system" of education we have heard so much about. Both of them were educated in the Province of Saskatchewan and I think it is but fair to say a word in compliment to the Department over which I have the honour to preside. They are pretty fair representatives of the system.

I desire also to compliment my honourable friend the Member for Saskatoon (*Mr. Anderson*). I have been impressed with the moderated tenor of his address and the constructive quality of the things he had to say regarding the Department. I do not know what has caused this moderation. It may be that he and I have been school teachers and know something of the methods and the mental attitude necessary to adopt towards the child. Probably the things said at the last Session may have had this effect upon him. Then there is my honourable friend, the Member for Hanley (*Mr. Stipe*). I have noticed that he is quite susceptible to that kind of handling and I compliment him on the language he used this Session. He made breaks once in a while, but he has improved considerably.

The members of the Opposition have been quite moderate, but I am surprised that some of the honourable members, including the member for Hanley (*Mr. Stipe*) and Pelly (*Mr. Tran*) and others were not quite so moderate. In their enthusiasm they have tried to camouflage the things they said by expressing in strenuous tones their desire to co-operate. Co-operation is the result of an attitude of mind on the part of those who desire to co-operate.

To promote co-operation there must be a desire to avoid personalities. There must be something to promote in us all those finer feelings that may lead us to consider questions together sanely and sensibly. I shall leave it to the members of the House to judge whether the honourable members for Hanley (*Mr. Stipe*), and Pelly (*Mr. Tran*), and Kindersley (*Mr. Whatley*), have exhibited such an attitude in this debate. I am neither very thick skinned nor yet very thin skinned but I experienced a great deal of pleasure from the debate because the criticisms expressed have been sprinkled with at least some little gratification. Any grief that I may have experienced was not, I assure you, Mr. Speaker, the result of any personal references to myself.

In all of this discussion of the Education Department I have been impressed with something so lamentable that it has left some little feeling of grief. My honourable friends say, why should not a doctor be an expert in agriculture? There is no reason why he should not. "By their fruits shall they be judged," and a doctor may very well understand agriculture, but I think that such a line of reasoning will not apply in a general sense. I am an ex-school teacher. The honourable member for Saskatoon (*Mr. Anderson*) is also an ex-school teacher. Nearly every member of the Government taught school. I think I know something about the teaching profession. That which supplied my grief was the consuming ignorance of the subject we are discussing suggested in many of the remarks made by some of my honourable friends opposite. I say this frankly, kindly and honestly. I shall deal with these matters one by one.

The honourable member for Hanley (*Mr. Stipe*) pleaded for co-operation, for a kindly feeling between the two sides of the House, referring to his "little bunch of warriors" and the "great joy" he experienced because of the result of the election in Saskatoon. We leave our first love very reluctantly. The man is a wise man who succeeds in disguising it. Many a man gets into trouble because he cannot forget his first love—the joy my honourable friend expressed, "the most joyful day of my life," a few days ago when something happened to those on this side of the House, those with whom he says he so ardently desires to co-operate. It is funny, isn't it?

Mr. Anderson (Saskatoon): As a joke it is supposed to be funny.

Hon. Mr. Latta: Let me point to one other thing. He refers to an address of mine delivered at the Trustees' Convention. I was explaining to the school trustees that I was only one member of the Legislature, that the Legislature made the law, that it was my duty as the head of a Department to administer that law. Any school boy knows that. If the honourable member for Tisdale (*Mr. Buckle*) had put a question like that to a ninth grade student he would have received a correct answer, yet my honourable friend tries to make capital out of it. My duty is not to over-ride the law. I was explaining this. Still my honourable friend builds an erroneous argument upon an explanation of my position as a

member of the Legislature. He cannot get away from the sentiment that was his for so many years, the old Tory idea, "divide and rule."

Later my honourable friends talked about things that happen in the Cabinet. Never are there great questions where there is entire unanimity. Great questions create differences. If I were to divide 3 into 52 I might argue that we have seventeen times as much unanimity on this side of the House, that is, if I accepted the percentage idea as argued by the member for Hanley. "You choose a lawyer and a bank manager," they say—presumably in preference to a farmer—as new members of the Government. All seem to be bidding for the support of the farmers, even the doctors. They are quite solicitous for the farmer except perhaps, in their own business. If we have chosen a lawyer and a bank manager, we may point to the curious coincidence in the Opposition of a doctor and Tory posing as a farmer and Progressive. It may be argued that there is just as much consistency or inconsistency in this as there is in anything the Premier did in choosing men to preside over Departments of this Government.

I am free to concede that there is no subject discussed in this Legislature upon which there is so much difference of opinion as the subject of education. Among the staff of the Department there is a great deal of difference of opinion. On the subject of examinations, for instance, ask each of 50 inspectors of schools his opinion. A considerable difference of opinion will be expressed. Some may say that examinations should not be tolerated at all. Others may argue that it is the only certain test.

This is one example of such difference of opinion. There are, however, a great many things upon which all true educationalists agree. I believe that some of the criticism advanced by the Opposition was advanced sincerely. I do not doubt the sincerity of it. Sincerity does not necessarily make the criticism valuable, however, and with the exception of the honourable member for Saskatoon, I am safe in saying that there was not one solitary constructive suggestion in any other speech from the Opposition side of the House.

One of the objects in making reference to education in the speech from the Throne was to try if possible to promote an expression of opinion that would be constructive. Taking the Opposition members at their word that they desired to co-operate, to encourage constructive suggestion for the solution of some of the big problems looming up in the near future, and which will demand a solution, was the objective in view.

I was pleased to hear the member for Saskatoon touch upon some of these, although in a very brief way, but not in a way that may be termed constructive, and I respectfully recommend that, in future during this session and others, those of the Opposition side of the House, if they feel they are not competent to discuss these questions in a constructive way and thus contribute something of a constructive nature, leave the subject of education alone

altogether. In a great many respects the Opposition must share responsibility (and I use the word not in a derisive way) for the working out of policies and let me remind you that it is easy to criticise in a destructive manner and then when changes have been made to suggest what might have been done. It is quite different when one is in a position of direct responsibility. He is then expected to put into force and operation and to give practical effect to any suggestions he may chance to make.

I am surprised that the member for Saskatoon attempted to justify the so-called examination attempted by the member for Tisdale (*Mr. Buckle*) in order to judge the children's knowledge of agriculture. He knows that such an examination was not worth a snap of the finger. He is too sound an educationalist to believe that it was. His reference to this remarkable examination in agriculture is the only thing in his address which I desire to criticise.

It is pleasing to know that he approves of the situation in Delisle. The people of Delisle are solving their secondary education problem and the solution is made possible by the very legislation that this group in the House, and some members of the other group opposite, opposed to the last ditch last Session. This is one of the first fruits. There are sixteen other places in the Province in a similar position. They are solving the problem and the amendments opposed so much by the Opposition, are the changes made in the law which make these things possible. I thank my honourable friend for drawing my attention to it.

I was impressed by the method of some honourable members in reckoning the administration costs of government. An easy way is to compare administration costs with the amount of revenue received. Apply this method to the Department of Education for example. Administration costs, including the salaries of the staff and Mr. McColl's office, amount to \$80,567.08. Total revenue of the Department in 1925-6 was \$126,909.02. Administration amounted to 66 2-3 per cent. See how silly it is. Administration cost of a government compared with revenue does not mean anything. Conditions in the Wheat Pool of course are entirely different.

In his anxiety to be fair, with his first love constantly creeping to the fore, my honourable friend dealt with the subject of continuation schools, and the amendments passed last Session. He said that they still stood opposed irrevocably to the charging of fees. In the same breath almost, he recommended that agricultural schools be dotted all over the Province and that these be made self supporting. How? How can this be done except by the charging of fees? He would penalise the farmer by making secondary education free and placing agricultural schools on a self-supporting basis.

Do rural schools fall behind in the number who reach Grade VIII? It is not possible to obtain accurate figures but I am of the opinion, after consulting many principals, that the number of children who reach Grade VIII in the rural schools compares very

favourably with those who reach the same grade in the urban centres. Ever since 1905, beginning with 2 1-3 students per 1,000 who reach Grade VIII, without the exception of one year up to 1926, the number has grown until today it stands at a little over 70 students per 1,000. This is a very favourable condition in comparison with other provinces. Saskatchewan is not the highest but it stands close to the top.

My honourable friend in his address declared for permissive municipal units. The municipal unit is not a large enough unit. He would make the municipal unit permissive, but would not allow any option whatever to any school board in the matter of charging fees. There is a great deal of difference of opinion as to whether or not the State should provide what is generally termed free secondary education. There are those who believe that the State should bear the total expense of free secondary education, but there is another very formidable opinion opposed to this view, who believe that the elementary grades up to Grade VIII or IX should be free but that beyond this education assumes a sort of vocational atmosphere and, therefore, those who desire education beyond these grades should contribute something extra towards its cost. Just how much this sentiment prevails in this Province it is impossible to say. The sentiment in the village of Delisle and in the community around it is clearly known. No fees are charged. The people there have decided to make secondary education a community affair. They pay for it in a co-operative way through general taxation. This permission is given to any community. Each may make it as free as it chooses or as dear as they may, within the limits of *The School Act*.

My honourable friend also advocated a limiting of the number of students entering the Normal Schools. This is being done now. There are about 100 on the waiting list. He talks about a great surplus of teachers. No one knows what the surplus is. I have tried to ascertain it. The officials of the Department have been trying to ascertain it before taking any action that might stop the flow of men and women into the teaching profession. My honourable friend would leave the impression that there are hundreds. Someone spoke of sixty applications for one school, but this is not an indication of the surplus. As far as may be ascertained there is a surplus of teachers of between 1½ per cent. and 2½ per cent. of the number required. The Department feels quite sure that there is not more than this. Take *The Leader* newspaper and note the number of advertisements for teachers, then the number of applications made for each school advertised. Dozens of duplications will be noted. The reason is not far to seek. The same teacher applies for many schools in the hope of bettering his or her financial position. This is a common practice. The number of applications does not indicate a large surplus.

My honourable friend also advocated a tightening up of teachers' qualifications. All these things are being done at the present time. There has been a tightening up of academic qualifications. Today no student is admitted to the profession who

does not hold complete academic standing. The third class Normal session is discontinued. The Normal term has been lengthened to a full academic year. The examination at the end of the term has been stiffened and let me point out that there is a possibility of carrying these processes too far, thus compelling the Department to go back again to the policy of issuing provisional certificates which would make the last state worse than the first.

At this juncture, Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to move the adjournment of the Debate.

Thursday, January 26, 1927.

Hon. Mr. Latta, continuing his address, said:

Mr. Speaker,—When the Debate was adjourned I was making some preliminary remarks in reference to some of the speeches delivered by members of the Opposition. I was complimenting the honourable member for Hanley (*Mr. Stipe*) for the improvement he made in his speech of the last Session and pointing out that there was still room for improvement. I consider his remarks upon the educational problems of our Province on that occasion exceedingly extravagant and reckless. I do not know where I read it, but I have read that years ago when dealing with a speech of this kind, someone said on some occasion that the speaker endeavoured to make little fishes speak like whales. This was the impression which came to me. On another occasion I read of a man who was extremely reckless in everything he said. He was looking out of the window one day. Someone was driving some sheep along the road. This man said to his wife: "Here comes Tom Jones with millions of sheep." His wife rebuked him. He turned and said to her, "I know, my dear, exaggeration is a failing of mine. I have shed barrels and barrels of tears over it." Exaggerated statements will never get us anywhere. I shall endeavour this afternoon to place before the House the facts of these cases as they have been gathered from the files of the Department.

There is just this point; when the tear-shedding picture of my honourable friend is placed on the one side and on the other side the picture of his jubilant feeling over the election results in Saskatoon, even a deaf and dumb child may read the word "politics" written all over both.

Let me add this: There was a tacit agreement made in this Legislature to the effect that this very important matter and sensitive subject of education upon which so many differ, should be kept free of bias and extravagant discussion from a party political point of view. I have always tried to maintain such an attitude. Any member who has ever listened to any address delivered by me on any educational topic in this Legislature or out of it is in a position to say that I have never descended to discuss it from a biased, extravagant or party political point of view. Last Session was the first time since I came into this Legislature in 1912 that even members on the Opposition side of the House endeavoured to make political capital out of a discussion of the education problems of

this Province. I am confirmed in my belief that to do so is wrong. I shall not answer in kind. I shall not accentuate that kind of thing nor attempt to lend any impetus whatever to it. These problems are sufficiently difficult to command, from all sides of the House, careful consideration and unbiased opinion. They should be discussed in such a way as to promote the co-operation which some of the members talked of and which ought to exist in this Legislature. The interest of the child, over which my honourable friend presumed to weep so much, is too sacred a thing to be drawn into any kind of biased party political strife and I do not propose to lend myself to it.

The School Act provides for joint responsibility. This is an underlying principle of our school law. Until this Legislature discards this principle we must recognise it. Certain responsibilities are placed upon the Department. On the other hand, certain responsibilities are placed upon the locality organised within the boundaries of a school district, and until that principle is discarded it is unfair and unreasonable to place all the blame for any defects that may be in the system or in the result attained, entirely upon either the locality or the Department. I make this statement fairly and frankly, not to excuse myself or any official. It is not a question of personal criticism. I say with all the sincerity possible that many of the speeches that this House listened to during the last Session, and during this Session, were not only exhibitions of sheer lack of understanding of the problem of education, but they constituted a libel on the teaching profession and the teacher body of this Province. The speeches referred to were exceedingly unjust to probably fifteen or eighteen thousand trustees who give of their time and energy without a cent of pay, in an effort to retain for our school system a position of credit to the people of this Province. Let me say again, that the problems to be solved, the persons interested, the children of the Province, the principles involved, are too sacred to be lowered, too sacred to be dragged through the mud in such a manner. I shall not lend myself to that kind of thing. I pay my honourable friend from Saskatoon this compliment that in yesterday's address he did not descend to this kind of thing. There were inaccuracies in the things he said. I have two faults to find with his address. First, his suggestions came too late. With the exception of one, all have been put into operation. Short term Normal Schools—the term has not been lengthened but is being discontinued altogether. The notices are in the hands of the printer and after this term no more short term Normal courses for third class teachers will be conducted.

Mr. Anderson: When did the Department or Government decide to discontinue them?

Hon. Mr. Latta: Some months ago.

Mr. Anderson: Since the last Session.

Hon. Mr. Latta: Yes. My honourable friends over there say, "Hear, hear." You see, Mr. Speaker, the political aspect looming at once. Every member knows what I said last Session. I said

that we were making advances in this direction, that the short courses would be abandoned as soon as a sufficient number of teachers warranted it. Again I point out the political effect. Honourable friends opposite will go out into the country and say, "I told you so. We forced them to it." I remind them now that last year and before that intimation was given that these things would be done just as soon as they could be done without reducing the number of qualified teachers below the requirements. Intimation was given to the public months ago that this was likely to take place.

Quite a long while ago it was decided to increase the permanent staff of the Normal Schools. Intimation of this also has been given before to the House. This will be done to release some of the Inspectors, to give them more time in the field. When the estimates are brought down the House will be asked to provide for the payment of the teachers it is proposed to add to the permanent staff.

Mr. Anderson: We are expressing our approval when we say "Hear, hear."

Hon. Mr. Latta: Inspectors will be required to take part in the training of teachers at the Normal School even after the new arrangement goes into effect but it is hoped that quite a number will be released for additional work in the field.

My honourable friend made some kind of recommendation regarding a waiting list. This has been done also. After a conference some time ago with the principals of the two Normal Schools it was decided to consider the number of the students who could be accommodated conveniently in the Normal Schools. It is freely acknowledged that both schools are pretty well crowded but Normal School principals believe that they can deal with them in a fairly satisfactory way. This has been done and no greater number is being admitted. I think the waiting list now numbers about a hundred.

Last evening certain matters relative to the tightening up of qualifications were pointed out. We have proceeded gradually. Two years ago we refused to admit any who were plucked in any subjects of their academic course. There is now a small surplus of teachers but it must be emphasised that this tightening up process cannot proceed too fast or the schools may be deprived of properly certificated teachers. Immediately this results a retrograde step will necessarily follow by being compelled to return to permits and provisional certificates. I do not want to sit at my desk, examine students in an informal way and decide whether permits should be issued to them or not. The process of tightening up, of increasing the qualifications, of restraining the output in accordance with the demand, is something which must be proceeded with very carefully indeed.

My honourable friend commended what had been done at Delisle. The conditions today at Delisle provide secondary education to everyone in the area. This situation is the result

of the amendments opposed so strongly by honourable friends opposite last Session.

Mr. Anderson: That is not right.

Hon. Mr. Latta: It is absolutely true, Mr. Speaker, and in accordance with the facts. Without the amendments of last Session this could not have been done in the effective and simple manner that it has been done at Delisle.

Mr. Anderson: May I ask the honourable gentleman a question? When did the Delisle School Board enter into this agreement with the rural schools surrounding the town?

Hon. Mr. Latta: They started some time ago under Section 204 (b) but without the amendments of last Session it would have been impossible for that district to function as it is functioning today.

Mr. Anderson: That is not right.

Hon. Mr. Latta: Again I repeat, Mr. Speaker, it is absolutely true and in accordance with the facts. That is the statement I make. I think I know as much about it as my honourable friend.

My honourable friend mentioned another matter which is being considered but of which I am unable to make any statement as to any definite conclusion, a more equitable distribution of grants. This is a big problem. We may be accused of going too slowly but it is a problem with far reaching consequences and one which demands reasonably satisfactory conditions before an attempt is made to solve it. There is ample room for a discussion of it and I should like some time to hear the views of my friends opposite upon it. It is all right to say that it should be done. Suggestions as to the manner of providing a more equitable distribution of school grants will be acceptable.

There are two discrepancies in my honourable friend's speech. He is a strong advocate of free secondary education. I pointed out last evening there is a great deal of difference of opinion upon this matter, all over Canada and in the United States. People are not a unit in their opinion upon it. There are those who believe that after the elementary grades education becomes largely a vocational matter and that those who take advantage of these facilities should pay something extra for it. There are conflicting views as to whether secondary education should be free, a responsibility of the State, or whether the individual who uses the facility should be called upon to pay something extra. In arguing the matter my honourable friend made this mistake. He advocates the establishment of some kind of farm schools to be made self-supporting. How? I do not know, unless he would charge a fee for attendance. At the same time he argued for free secondary education.

Mr. Anderson: We will explain that later.

Hon. Mr. Latta: There may be some explanation, of course.

He also made a statement upon which he should be given more light. He found fault with the making of voters' lists in

Saskatoon and suggested that, because the enumerators were appointed by this government, several hundred Conservatives were purposely left off the list. Let us look at the facts. The voters' list in Saskatoon was made last fall by Conservative officials. On that list there were approximately 13,000 voters. When the list was completed it was revised by a Judge and the list was closed. On election day no matter how a voter might be qualified he could not vote. In the recent by-election in Saskatoon when the lists were completed by provincial enumerators there were 16,000 names on the lists. In addition to this, any voter, man or woman, properly qualified, could on election day take the oath and vote. This is the truth of the whole matter.

I desire to devote a little time to what the honourable member for Kindersley (*Mr. Whatley*) said about an education. He very solemnly announced to the House that our teachers were inefficient. Did he tell us anything that was wrong with them? Wherein are they deficient? Do they know their work? Do they understand the business for which they receive a certificate of qualification? What is inefficient about them?

Mr. Whatley: What about the training?

Hon. Mr. Latta: Yes. My honourable friend said something about a longer term. What is the matter with them now?

Mr. Whatley: I have made my speech.

Hon. Mr. Latta: Our teachers are inefficient he says. What is the matter? What would my honourable friend think of this: I go to my honourable friend's farm and I take out his six horse team and gang plough. He says, "Go to the summerfallow and plough." I start up and down the field. After a while he comes to me and says: "You do not know anything about ploughing." I say, "There is the result of my work. What is the matter with it?" He says "I do not know, but you do not know anything about it." "Appalling inefficiency of the teaching staff." says my honourable friend.

Mr. Stipe (Hanley): Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Latta: And he doesn't know what is the matter. "The time for extending the Normal term," my honourable friend says, "is long since past," and in a weak moment, forgetting what he said previously he adds that it should have been done a year ago. Probably it should have. It was not done a year ago. We thought it should not be done at that time. It is done now. I also pointed out the continual growth of the number of students who reach Grade VIII. I do this in defence of the teacher who is a public servant, as self-sacrificing as any other in the province. Take the teacher body as a whole and they are as well qualified for the work they have to do as any group of doctors or lawyers and of as high a standard as the teacher body of any other province in Canada. This impression is the result of information gathered from people of other provinces. For example, I spent a few days last summer at the meeting of the National Council of Education in Montreal. I met people who observe us from the outside. The

consensus of opinion, and I heard it time and time again expressed, was a compliment for the advances made in this province and for the efficiency of the teacher of today.

Only the other day two of the nurses on our nursing staff, also teachers, were engaged by other provinces to do pioneer health work there. One went to Calgary and another to Nova Scotia, into the effete east from the wild and woolly west. In Toronto last summer I saw the supervising principal of collegiates. His secretary received teacher training and taught here in Saskatchewan. I went with him to see how they were working out the deaf and dumb problem. In the first school I visited the young lady in charge told me she was a product of the elementary school and the Normal School of Saskatchewan. I went to another school in the same city, in which "handicapped" children were being taught. The principal of the girls' department is a Saskatchewan lady with Saskatchewan qualifications, trained in Saskatchewan schools.

Mr. Whatley: Not with five months' training.

Hon. Mr. Latta: The practice and training as it was, not as it is, and then my honourable friend stands up in his place and talks as he does without giving any reasons or facts to support the statements made. His remarks were a libel, nothing else, on the teacher body of Saskatchewan and I resent it.

In 1921 when I took charge of the Education Department there were over 800 imperfect certificates, permits and provisional certificates. Today there are about thirty. These teachers, most of them, are up in the north country and at far away points where certificated teachers do not care to go. Does this record spell commendable progress or does it mean that we are proceeding too slowly? It is impossible for any human institution to turn out every individual perfect for the work he is presumed to do. Are all the lawyers perfect? Has any one ever died because of the mistake of a doctor? Every precaution is taken, however, to produce the best possible.

My honourable friend makes a good deal out of the fact that so many attend the Normal School and so few of the number are plucked. That is not all the story. When a student is passing through the Normal School the value of the work done and the progress made during the season is recorded. This is done on his general work and practical teaching. At the end of the term he writes a final examination. The standing made by him during the term, the number of marks he received on the final examination are then considered by the principal and the staff before a pass is granted. Should the student be granted a pass further precaution is taken to see that the unfitted are not allowed to continue in the work. The pass student then receives an "interim" certificate. This "interim" certificate is a temporary license to teach only. It is not made permanent until at least two favourable reports recommending a permanent certificate are received in the department from the Inspector of Schools. After passing through

the Normal School successfully the student may take charge of a school where his work is observed in a practical way for at least two years or for two inspections. When the inspector recommends a permanent certificate it is issued but not until then. Is there anything the matter with these precautions? As a result quite a large number of teachers' "interim" certificates are allowed to lapse. They never become permanent. I have one or two in mind now which have caused some trouble. I have a letter today from a gentleman complaining that a permanent certificate has not been issued to his son. My answer must be that the inspector, after observing his work in the field has not yet seen fit to recommend a permanent certificate.

One honourable member dealt with the matter of spelling. I think it was the honourable member for Tisdale (*Mr. Buckle*). There was a time when too much attention was given to the spelling of words. Most of us in this House get along from day to day very well by using a vocabulary of about 350 words. He is an exceptional man who has at his ready command the use of more than about 550 words. Our spelling books used to contain from ten to fifteen thousand words and it seems to me that to accentuate the idea of learning to spell all the words in the dictionary is a wrong view to take of spelling. I do not wonder that some of the children who answered the questions of my honourable friend made some mistakes in spelling. We only need to know how to spell a word when we write it. We write very little in comparison to the amount we speak. Spelling, while important, is therefore not so important as is often contended. I have here a book written by the gentleman who made the review of our system some time ago, Dr. Foght. He devotes a whole chapter to the fallacy of learning to spell a large number of words. Here is a chart of a boy's head. The eye is directed to a long list of words in front of him. Inside the head is another list of quite simple words. These simple words are the words of the boy's vocabulary, the words in common use. We have taken an advance step in this direction. It is a matter that has not been neglected. Some years ago the matter of the authorisation of a book was considered. I had a conference with the officials. Dr. Quance has compiled a list. He spent a number of months examining correspondence in business houses and the department in a selection of the words that are in common use. These are the words that the child should learn to spell. This list has been compiled and is on the list of authorised texts for use in the Normal Schools. In the opinion of Dr. Foght here are the words that a child should not be called upon to worry himself about until the words in everyday use are mastered: "spectacle, halo, legacy, gossamer, sluice, lurid, buoyant, linear, aggrieve, superlative, romantic, obstinate." To you, Mr. Speaker, and most men of mature years, a number of these words seem to be common, yet at the same time, Dr. Foght says: "The child misspells such words as always, writing, guess, easy, which, sure, women, often and so on, the common every day words of life. I submit that three names of things found on the farm belong to quite

a different class of words and children should not be called upon to spell them all.

Mr. Buckle (Tisdale): Just in connection with spelling. Would it not be necessary, may I ask the Minister, for a child to know how to spell the words needed which he would come in daily contact with? A child who is going to be a farmer should know how to spell "cattle" and "horses."

Hon. Mr. Latta: I do not object to that. I do not want to be unfair but I do point out that spelling and the ability to spell is not in every respect a mark of the efficiency of an educational system, nor does it indicate ignorance of or knowledge of the subject of agriculture.

Passing on to the next point, recommendation of pupils for Grade VIII, there is no examination for Grades I to II, II to III, and so on. Dr. Foght's report has been acted upon. Examinations have been eliminated as much as possible. This is being done all over Canada and in the United States. I know it is a controversial matter. There are those who advocate examinations, who would examine everyone and thus create a stereotyped system of promotion. Nine-tenths of the things recommended by Dr. Foght have been gradually incorporated into our educational system. Others will be carried into it as soon as conditions make it possible. Here is a statement that will be of interest:

"There is no need to be greatly disturbed over the promotions from Grade VI to Grade VIII, especially when pupils have spent some time in Grade VII. The latter is not one of the difficult grades. The new knowledge of intelligence and of its relation to the chronological age of a child would often justify the promotion of pupils two grades at a time."

I did this when I was in charge of a school twenty-five years ago.

"The lock-step system of promotion is positively harmful to bright pupils."

Why should not an extra bright pupil be given a chance to "skip" a grade if he is capable of doing it?

"The accelerated progress of pupils is characteristic of every up-to-date system, many educational authorities encouraging the practice by the establishment of special classes for those whose mental age is high as compared with their chronological age. It is reasonable to suppose that only the best pupils skip Grade VII. It is fairly common, also, for teachers to encourage their Grade VII pupils to take the Grade VIII examination and the number successful justifies the practice."

There is not so much discrimination between the rural student and the city as some try to make out.

Mr. Stipe: Why any?

Hon. Mr. Latta: There are reasons and I hope to enlighten my honourable friend. The demand for this action came from the general public and the teachers in convention, before the Department acceded to the request. Dr. Foght recommended it in his report, page 157.

"The provincial eighth grade examination should be abolished; in its place should be a provision that every pupil who completes eighth grade satisfactorily will be admitted to high school or collegiate on application."

Let me point this out; students in the city are not passed into Grade IX without rigid examination, in their own school, by their

own teacher, in conference with their own superintendent. The mere fact that one-half of the number of pupils who were not recommended and who wrote passed the grade proves conclusively that the teacher was very careful in promotion. Pupils as I say are recommended after a conference with the principal and the superintendent of the city schools. In rural schools, under the regulations, teachers are not prohibited from promoting their pupils, whenever it is thought proper, from Grade VIII to IX. There is no discrimination there. I learned within the last day or two something I did not know before, that even a student recommended from a rural school is admitted to secondary schools of the large centres without taking the provincial Grade VIII examination. The rural school teacher confers with the inspector *re* promotion just as the city teacher confers with the city superintendent. The reason for this is that in the rural schools the conditions are entirely different to those in the city schools. In the city schools there is a superintendent. The schools are larger. These schools are in charge of a principal and conditions lend themselves to having the work done under experienced guidance more than in a one person school. This is not to argue that the one teacher school could not be just as competent, and the Department in effect says: "You may promote your students if you think proper but the inspector will go into the matter with you and confer with you regarding it." There is no discrimination. Diplomas are issued to those who pass the examination. It is clearly stated on the diploma that the student has passed the examination. A document is issued to each student who is "recommended" but it is stated clearly here too that the student is "recommended" and did not write on the examination.

How many pupils are affected? In 1924, 13.5 per cent. of all the children promoted to Grade IX were "recommended"—1,276—the remainder of the total of 9,416, wrote on the examination. Some teachers say they do not care to make the promotion, all will write. This is permissible. In 1925 only 12.3 per cent. were promoted without examination, mostly in the cities. In 1926 out of over 11,000 (11,317) just about 12 per cent. were promoted without writing the provincial examination. It is an optional matter, pure and simple, and there is no discrimination.

I now come to the most important and intricate problem to deal with. It was brought up by the member for Hanley (*Mr. Stipe*) and had reference to the south-west area of the province. Some of the information given to the House was not new to me. Mr. Clossey, a teacher, published practically all the statements made by the member for Hanley some weeks ago in *The Producer* and I saw an article on it some time ago in one of the Swift Current papers. The condition which my honourable friend spoke of is not new. We have been well acquainted with it ever since the difficulties began back as far as 1920. I pay this compliment to Inspector Brown, that I have had several conferences with him and that he has reported on all these matters to me. What Mr. Clossey says makes no difference to me. The conditions as they actually

existed were reported to the department. The inspector has done what he could. He even overstepped his discretion sometimes in his anxiety to get something more done.

Under our School Act and our system of education a divided responsibility is recognised, and unless this principle is eliminated from the law it is the duty of the Department to see that the school district shoulders its responsibility. What have we done as a department? Profiting again by a survey made in Manitoba we have in later years gone a long way in assisting weak school districts to keep their schools open for a reasonable number of days. You may go to day 15 miles from Regina, and as you pass along the road, see a school in a rich district, one of the richest in this province, that would make my honourable friend "weep" because of the weeds around the building, because the school has not been operated for many months. Open last year? Not at all. Why? There were not enough students to warrant the carrying on of the school. Many of the schools in the district—I have reviewed quite a number—are closed and the weeds are growing round the buildings because there are not enough children to warrant the carrying on of the school. The closing of the school is not evidence of neglect to see that the children are educated.

Here are the ways in which we have endeavoured to keep every school in operation if at all possible, but we do say to the people who live within a school district area: "You have a responsibility to assume. This responsibility you should discharge." We have assisted school districts by giving a special cash grant. What is secured easily is not always appreciated. We have found in some cases that the giving of a cash grant has not turned out to be a very good thing. Why? Most people are human. When we supplied the money they became less active in the collection of their taxes and they said in effect: "What is the difference? The Department will come to our assistance. We shall not bother people for the payment of their taxes." We changed the policy and replied, "The Department will endeavour to give you a special grant, but, we will not give you this money in bulk, because we have found that in some districts the cash grant only was used and then the school was immediately closed again. We will do this; we will give you a special grant of say, \$400, but we will pay it to the district at the rate of \$2 per day for every day the school is kept open." This has been effective in such cases in bringing about a reasonable levy and the collection of taxes necessary to carry on the school.

We have also been doing this: We have said again, "Your district is not sufficiently rich to bear the burden of issuing debentures. What you had better do this winter is to go back to your district, get your ratepayers together (there are large tracts of timber there) make a bee and build a school house. If you do this the Department will buy the windows, doors, hardware and shingles." There are many examples. In each of these districts stands a splendid little log school, well built, well ventilated, and the new district has started out without any debenture debt. We have given special

cash grants to help build and we have purchased material and sent it to the districts.

To others we have said again, "We think the proper method for you to pursue is to secure what taxes you can from your municipality. We know times are difficult. We will pay the teacher's salary if you will look after the other expenses."

In other instances, especially where there are districts without sufficient children to warrant the carrying on of a school and the engagement of a teacher, we have assisted in another way. We may be criticised for this. Arrangements have been made to take children of the district into a private school in the locality if the other schools near by were crowded or for some other reason did not care to take them, a special contribution is given for this service and conveyance grants paid. We have met many other difficulties and I recite these merely to show you some of them.

In many of the new areas the ratepayers are bachelors or parents without children. In some districts the voting power of these is greater than that of those who have children. As soon as the application has been made by the school board to the Local Government Board for the issuing of debentures an appeal has been made against it. We have gone so far as to recommend to the Local Government Board that the debentures be allowed to issue in opposition to the vote of the ratepayers. They have been issued and sold and the school built as a result. This has been done in some soldier settlement districts. The Soldier Settlement Board refuses to guarantee the taxes of the settler and this complicates matters somewhat. The municipality itself does not care to distrain. Everything on soldier settlers' land in effect belongs to the Soldier Settlement Board and a great deal of trouble has been encountered in this connection.

We have gone further by making provision for the children of two school districts in one school and paying the regular grant to both districts. A large number are operating today in this manner. Two schools near each other where probably the number of children is not sufficient to warrant the opening of a school in either district.

Here is another plan. In a school district such as that mentioned as being near Regina, the children are permitted to go to a nearby school, the department guaranteeing a third of the cost of conveyance.

In other cases we have operated in another way; we say to the board "You are not making sufficient effort to carry out your duties in a proper manner and according to the school law." The board has been dismissed, an official trustee appointed and instructed to open the school and keep it open.

There is another plan that seems to be satisfactory in some cases. Our department has negotiated with the municipal department. One of its inspectors consults with the municipal council at an arranged meeting. The council is stimulated to collect the

taxes and to keep the schools open. Here is a telegram from a large and thriving town sent to me when there was a local financial difficulty. I do not care to give the name of the town just now.

"In referring to our conversation on the eighth, the bank where our accounts are carried has refused to give further credit and another bank has also definitely refused credit and town council not in position to assist. We need \$4,000 to keep public school open until end of June. In addition debentures amounting to \$2,300 on June 24. \$3,000 needed to keep high school open until end of June. Unless something can be done school will have to close at end of month affecting approximately 300 pupils."

This is a sample of what the department sometimes receives. Some wires or letters have said that unless the department came through at once with, say \$1,000, they would close the school. We have said in reply; "All right, you will have to close." But the school has not been closed.

In my own constituency, and I live in a fairly prosperous community, I was called during the difficult financial times three or four years ago, to a meeting in one of the municipalities. There were fifty or sixty trustees at the meeting. This was during the period that my honourable friend referred to in 1921-23. Financial troubles were discussed and it was said by some that unless the Government came through with sufficient money to keep the schools open the schools would be closed up. I said then that unless taxes were collected the schools would have to be closed. I pointed out that I did not think it was fair for me in an adjoining municipality to do all I could to keep our own schools open, to contribute to the public revenue tax and send my money to Regina to be paid to others for the purpose of keeping their schools open. What happened? I suggested the collecting of their taxes in small amounts. No schools were closed.

My point is this. The condition that existed there and all over the province, some places worse than others, had to be dealt with on the principle that there is a local responsibility in financing the education of the child and until this principle is surrendered every municipality and every locality must do its share. Time and time again since 1920 we have brought together an official of the Education Department, an official of the Municipal Department and the council of the municipality and the trustees. These men have talked matters over and as a result the schools in practically every case were kept open.

The Government's policy then has been to assist weak schools by special grants and special assistance. It assists such school districts in the following ways:

By special cash grants; by a per day special grant for each day open; by erecting buildings at the expense of the Government; by assisting to build schools; by cash contribution; by paying for hardware, lumber, doors, windows, etc.; by paying the teacher's salary; by assisting private institutions to enable them to take in children from the districts in the locality; by recommending to the Local Government Board the authorisation of debentures when an adverse vote on the bylaw resulted; by making provision for the

housing of the children of two districts in one school and providing the grant for both districts; by paying one-third of the conveyance of children in a weak district to the school of another district; by the appointment of an Official Trustee where the board failed; by negotiations through the Municipal Department direct with the rural municipal council regarding the providing of money; by arranging meetings of officials of the department, rural municipalities, school districts and the Municipal Department, when in practically every case the result was the keeping of the school open.

Coming now to the problem of my honourable friend from Hanley, here are the questions which must be answered and I should like to hear some expression of opinion upon them.

Should the State lift the responsibility for the education of the child from the shoulders of the parent? Has the parent any right to direct and control the education of his own child? With every right goes the exercise of responsibility. Our institutions are organised in such a way, on a democratic basis, that we cannot escape it. With privilege goes responsibility. You and I must answer the question. Has the parent any right to direct and control the education of the child? Is it the responsibility of the parent to provide for the education of his child?

Should the organised area, the school district, exert its utmost endeavour to provide all the finance necessary for education? Let us examine this matter. It is possible to operate a one room country school on \$1,500 revenue. Many do. Forty quarter sections, or ten sections of land, constitute a very small school area. Suppose then there is a school area (a school district) of forty quarter sections. Thirty dollars per quarter will provide \$1,200. If the school is kept open for 200 days it would be entitled to a grant of \$300, these two items making a total of \$1,500. Is there a quarter section of land in Saskatchewan fit to be occupied by a farmer, and which at the same time cannot produce for education a surplus of \$30 over and above the living of the family? If there is such a quarter should a farmer be encouraged to remain upon it? Is it possible that from a quarter section \$30 cannot be produced for education? There may be some areas from which this cannot be done. Hundreds of families have moved from part of the area mentioned by my honourable friend to other parts of the province where they can make a living and educate their children. It is a big problem and must be solved.

Do the conditions outlined in this particularly affected area prove conclusively that the municipal unit for education will solve the difficulty? The municipal unit will not, in my opinion, solve the problem in any part of the province. It is not sufficiently large as an administration unit. Hundreds of children in 1920, in the area referred to, had no clothes and as a result could not go to school. Is it the duty of the Education Department or the Government to step in and buy clothes for these children? This question, too, must be answered. Very large numbers were assisted in this

way and many requests were passed over to the Red Cross and different women's organisations. In different parts of the province in and outside of organised districts, there are children who are three or four miles from school. Here for example are four districts, large ones. The argument for the large district is that all the taxation possible is needed to enable the district to function properly. Even then in such an area some children are beyond the compulsory distance from school. Shall the Government organise smaller districts and make up the necessary deficit when it is clear that the smaller district could not function for lack of funds? Should the Government go any further than it is going to help the conveyance of students from one school to another? These questions suggest some of the problems that complicate matters.

We have contributed to the area referred to by the honourable member for Hanley the sum of \$157,737.46 to help these districts keep their schools in operation. This money came from the general revenue of the province. It was handed over to school boards to assist them in keeping their schools open. Surely this indicates that we have not been closing our eyes to any seriousness of the condition that exists.

Mr. Stipe: In addition to the grants they would receive?

Hon. Mr. Latta: Yes, some by way of loans, some by way of special grants. The districts have never been pressed for repayment. In some instances we loaned say \$500 in one year. The district agreed, as security for repayment, to hypothecate future grants to the treasury. When the time came for the regular school grant to be paid the district officials came back and said that they were in just as bad a condition as before. We have simply forgotten about the loan and released the security. The great bulk of this sum still stands as a debt to the government.

May I go into the schedule which I have been following for a number of years. Here I have a list and particulars of about thirty or forty of the districts in which there has been the most trouble in financing. Here is a district endeavouring to finance on four mills on the dollar. The board kept the school open in 1922, 101 days. Here is another, levied a rate of 20 mills. School open all the time. Here is a rural district in the same area working largely under the same conditions. Here the ratepayers taxed themselves sufficiently, collected the money and kept the school open. In other districts no effort seems to be made.

Conditions, however, are not so bad as my friend from Hanley tries to make out. In some districts the condition is serious and I do not minimise it because we must face the problem as it is. For every year I have made a close survey of all of Mr. Brown's inspectorate, taking in a very much larger area than that brought to the attention of the member for Hanley by Mr. Clossey. It is not possible for Mr. Clossey to secure all the correct information. We have conducted in the department a survey of 131 districts, all in what is sometimes called the "dried out" area. Here is the result.

The enrolment for the first term of 1924 for all the schools was 4,714. It is not fair to pick out one isolated instance and draw conclusions from it. One should take the whole area and examine conditions as they are. Let us continue an examination of the result of the surveys. Three thousand six hundred and eighty-seven children were in districts where school was kept open 120 or more days; 389, 100 to 119 days. Out of 4,714 children, 3,687 attended school for more than 100 days.

In 1925, with an enrolment of 4,297 children, 3,846 for 100 days or more; 3,980, 80 days or more.

In 1926 in the same area 1,600 children, 120 days or more; 1094, 100 to 119 days; 3,672 over 80 days.

During the first term of 1926 there were only 13 districts not operating and of these three had no children of school age, eight had very few children and arrangements were made by conveyance or otherwise for their education. Two were not in operation.

In 1924, 16 districts did not operate; nine of these are included in the explanation given for 1926, provision being made or there being no children. Two were new districts in which schools were not built. Three were schools which in previous years had applied for and received government aid.

I give these facts to the House in a general way. I think they serve to indicate that we have exercised every precaution. We have gone as far as we can be reasonably expected to go in endeavouring to keep these schools open so that the children may receive an education.

I have here the statistics for 1923-24 for the number of days schools were kept open in the United States. Let us look at these for the purpose of comparison. One State in the Union of all the States, exceeds, in the number of days schools were kept open, the record of the schools of Saskatchewan. The average number of days school was kept open in Rhode Island was 195, the only State in the Union that exceeded the average number of days in Saskatchewan. Here is something of which Saskatchewan may be proud. I shall read the figures for only those States which are somewhat similar to our own province.

Illinois, 183; Iowa, 176; Kansas, 175; Minnesota, 179; Missouri, 168; Montana, 171; Nebraska, 173; North Dakota, 165; Ohio, 177; South Dakota, 172; Wisconsin, 177; Wyoming, 175; Rhode Island, 195. Saskatchewan's average was 194.

This is a credit, not to the Department of Education so much as to the large number of school trustees of the little one room rural school house, men and women who give their time and energy to education, who are doing everything possible and who are sparing no effort to provide an education for the children which is worthy of the province. Our people have never fallen down in this respect.

In 1920 the average was 181 days open; 1921, 189 days, 1922, 189.36; 1923, 187.34; 1924, 193.82; 1925, 194.55. We are expecting, from general indications, that for last year these figures will be exceeded.

Let me quote an independent authority, the "Survey of Education" compiled in Ottawa. Last year, speaking of Saskatchewan, in connection with the matter of keeping the children in school, it says:

"If in the above table median figures be used it will be seen that half the children in 1921 attended more than 130 days, while in 1925 half attended more than 162 days, so that attendance from this point of view has increased an average of 32 days in four years. It is considered more important, however, that the attendance for a period approximating to a full year has improved from 450 in 1921 to 608 in 1925, or 35 per cent. The rapid attrition of the 60 to 150 day attendance shows an elimination of a waste which interferes with school progress more perhaps than any other feature." Annual Survey of Education in Canada, page XXXII.

I am pleased, Mr. Speaker, that with all these difficulties Saskatchewan has succeeded in maintaining a place equalled by only one State in the Union and more than this, that we merit from an independent authority a statement that in four years we have improved our position 35 per cent.

I now desire to deal briefly with the old question of agriculture in rural schools. Every member of the House will recognise and concede a lot of things in connection with agriculture. We all know that the agriculturist, in any country today, is not in an ideal condition. We acknowledge it to be our basic industry, our greatest industry and if we can improve it in any way, the position of the man on the land, the people of every other occupation in the province will be improved also.

Members of the House differ of course upon the methods of securing this improvement to the agriculturist and it is probably a good thing that we do. Where there is unanimity there is no great problem. Disagreement comes when there are great problems to be solved. There are great problems of education to be solved, problems which demand experience, careful study, sincerity and common sense. I am as anxious as any man living, in the discussion of these problems, to avoid party strife and biased, political opinion. While education of itself, cannot and never will populate the farm, yet we have done much in providing the facility for it right out in the country districts, bringing it within the reach of the rural child to help to make conditions easier. While education properly directed can do much to make the lot of the farmer easier and better, a man cannot be educated to stay on the farm. It is wrong to try to do so.

I am not going into a philosophical discussion of education. Let us look at it from a practical point of view. Take the survey that was made by the member for Tisdale. He thinks that something is wrong with the Education Department and our educational system and that it is deficient in stressing agricultural education. He proceeded to "bore for oil" as he put it. I have no objection to him doing that. But I submit that in the survey he endeavoured

to make there were two very material defects. First, he was not competent to make the survey, and second, his survey was too narrow and did not mean anything. Dr. Foght in dealing with this matter of a survey says:

"There is probably danger that this important means of taking stock of country life may be overdone and so fall into ill repute. Almost every Tom, Dick and Harry who is eager to establish a reputation is ready to 'survey' his home community nowadays. Teachers must realise that in unskilled hands the survey is a dangerous tool. No teacher should attempt this important work without previous expert instruction, or at least, careful study."

The survey itself indicates his incompetency to make it. Why was his survey of no value? The member for Saskatoon having been a school teacher, understanding educational matters, knows that to merely ask the name of a number of things is considered to be the most amateur and unimportant kind of questioning, a kind of questioning which has been relegated to the background for many years. It was so considered when I began to teach school in 1883. I can remember sitting in school when we were compelled to learn the names of everything. I learned the meaningless names of all the barren islands at the north of North America: Parry, Melville, Banks, Albert, Victoria, Boothia, Cockburn, Cumberland, Southampton, to the north—and my friend and I looked vainly on the map for "the North." I learned the names of all the lakes, the rivers—I can now name all the counties of Ontario commencing round the outside and winding up in the centre. The names meant nothing to me.

Mr. Buckle: Come back to Agriculture.

Hon. Mr. Latta: Yes, I may be able to name all the breeds of cattle and yet starve the whole calf population to death. Learning the names of this and that and the other is not education. There is no merit in the survey made by the honourable member for Tisdale (*Mr. Buckle*). "Name five breeds of horses, five kinds of barley." Name this and that. He sent out 200 lists of such questions; 160 came back. I asked if he examined and valued the answers given. He said that he did as well as he could. I asked the percentage awarded. He said about 95 per cent. They did very well. I am doubtful sometimes if I could do much better myself. For the life of me, and I was brought up on a farm and lived on it practically all my life, I do not know today whether I could name more than one or two kinds of barley. I do not feel ashamed to say it. It is not important. I do not think it makes much difference whether I call it a whiffletree or a doubletree so long as I know how to hitch up the team and do the ploughing properly.

I am not alone in this opinion. In the United States the population is increasing over 2,000,000 a year. The great increase is taking place in the cities and the small increase in the rural districts. It is quite natural to say, "The solution is back to the land." This is not the solution. There was a time in Saskatchewan when a farmer could make money in spite of the times. I know many people who have acknowledged to me that they should never have been on the farm. I am not alone in the opinion that today, in the strenuous times we are passing through, it is nature's plan of getting rid

of the unfit on the farm. You cannot constantly preach "back to the farm" and be effective. Everyone thinks at some time that he could farm, but many cannot farm properly. They will soon come to their senses if they try to do so. This is not a new problem. "Back to the land" teaching is not the solution.

I quote again from Dr. Foght:

"Too often individuals of little or no fundamental understanding of rural needs undertake the role of reforming country communities. Generally they do more harm than good by what country folk would call their 'unwarranted interference.' The reorganisation of course must eventually come from within."

I shall not try to take any of the glory for the organisation of the Wheat Pool from the farmers. They did the job themselves. Neither the leader of the Conservative party nor the leader of the Progressive party has any right to any of the glory any more than I have. The farmers were able to work out their own problem. Continuing, Dr. Foght says:

"The reorganisation of course must eventually come from within—from the agricultural population itself, guided by the educational leadership through the new schools and other rural institutions. Meanwhile rural leaders should understand that the rural problem is and what it is not. For the sake of emphasis it is well to discuss the negative side of the question first. The one outstanding fact in American life is that the industrial centres are outgrowing the open country and rural villages. It has accordingly been reasoned by the unthinking that the first essential element in reorganisation must be to get more people onto the land. It is true that the nation is increasing at the rate of 2,500,000 people annually while production from the soil is practically at a standstill. The inference seems clear enough; and yet, the problem is not essentially to draw a larger population to rural districts. It is also true that the country has suffered through the shift in population by moving to the industrial places or to newer agricultural regions. But the remedy is not to be sought in the so-called 'back to the land' movement. It is time to realise that this agitation is a city impulse, which if realised might help in a measure to solve the difficult problems of the city, without aiding the open country; or in many instances making the difficulties of the latter still more complicated by dumping upon our reserve lands an overflow population of impractical city people. During the period of westward expansion many people of the 'city minded' type came into possession of land. The transition through which rural communities are now passing is really a sifting process to get rid of these people. Of course as far as there are 'rural minded' people in the towns and cities, country people welcome them to the land; otherwise they should remain where they are."

People cannot be educated "back to the land." It is a problem nevertheless. In 1908 Roosevelt instituted a thorough survey of rural conditions in the United States. Here is the conclusion:

"Farming must become more remunerative than it is and farm life must be made more wholesome and attractive than it is. The problem of the man on the farm is economical not educational."

You may teach Agriculture until you are black in the face and you will never populate rural Canada in this way. It must be made profitable to remain on the farm. Conditions must be established whereby the head of the family may make a respectable living for himself, and whereby he may bring to the family a little time for recreation—the automobile, etc., some little pleasure and comfort. It is not overwork that makes the farmer sick of the farm. It is the eternal monotony and the drudgery of many a farm life. I do not blame him. I have been through it. Again, the problem is economic, not educational. Education may assist but it cannot solve the problem.

I have tried to analyse the economic side of this problem. First, better farm production, and I ask the question: "What department of any government has done more to stimulate better production than the Department of Agriculture of this province?" Second, better marketing facilities. Could the government have rendered more service in assisting co-operation in marketing than this government has? I submit that it could not. Third, better means of securing farm supplies. What government has done more than this government, through the co-operative activities of the Department of Agriculture, to assist in solving this problem? Fourth, better credit facilities. What government has done more through the Farm Loans Board of Saskatchewan and the Debt Adjustment Bureau, to bring better credit facilities closer to the farm? Fifth, better means of communication. I can sit in my office and call up almost every home in Last Mountain constituency on the telephone, as a partial answer. This is the economic side briefly summarised.

The social side? First, better educational facilities. I give as an example the facilities provided in Delisle and in sixteen other distinctly rural centres where the facilities for secondary education are being extended further into the rural districts—over 400 secondary schools established in rural centres in the last few years. Second, better opportunities for recreation, sanitation, better home economics, and so forth. My honourable friend mentioned a dirty school teacher somewhere, but I am willing to guarantee that the great mass of teachers are as clean as my honourable friend.

In conclusion, may I again quote an authority to substantiate my contention that though "back to the land" is an economic problem, education can do much to stimulate better living conditions on the farm. There is no doubt about this and I maintain that the government is doing this to as great an extent as may be expected of it. The teaching of farming by means of a text book has been cried down by many for years. I shall read from J. B. Dandeno, inspector of elementary agricultural classes, Toronto:

"We have no text book in agriculture for either the primary (public) or the secondary (high) schools. There is a Teacher' Manual for the public schools but no Manual for the high schools.

"We have in Ontario a fairly well defined Course of Study which the teachers follow out from week to week using material, and carrying on laboratory practice in connection with the work prescribed.

"The idea of text books is not new here. In fact, the text book has been the chief hindrance to the teaching of agriculture in Ontario ever since 1846.

"It is quite clear that the way to do this is *to do it*, not to *read about it*. If this work were outlined and dealt with in a text book the teachers might be inclined to assign lessons and read about it. Without a text book the teachers will put the material in the hands of the pupils and they will work it out for themselves.

"I have often thought of preparing a book for high schools. If I did so it might be better for *me*. If I did not it would be better for the *work*. Quite clearly the latter is the important thing, therefore my course is clear."

Dr. L. H. Bailey has this to say:

"I would not approach the subject (the teaching of agriculture) primarily from the occupational point of view but from the educational and spiritual; that is, the man should know his work and his environment. The mere giving of information about agricultural objects and practices can have very little good results with children. The spirit is worth more than is the letter. Some of the hard and dry facts on farming would only add one more task to the teacher and

pupil, if they were introduced to the school, making the subject in time as distasteful as arithmetic and grammar often are."

After all, Mr. Speaker, food, shelter and clothing have been and still are at the top of the list of human wants. Until these necessities are made available, no people, urban or rural, can pay very much attention to the other desirable things so necessary to make life worth the living. The farmer on the land, his wife and his family are just as human, just as susceptible, just as capable as those of any other calling. To the extent that economic care is lifted from his shoulders, to the extent that economic worry is taken out of his heart, he will crave just as fervently as any other man to devote his leisure moments to the cultural side of life.

A successful farmer one time said: "You send me a boy who knows nature and loves it, and I will return him to you in a short while a great farmer, for it takes a lover of nature to make a great farmer,"—not books and text books.

The keeping of the boy on the farm is primarily an economic problem. Education, from the point of view of populating our farms, occupies a minor place. Its usefulness to this end is always contingent upon economic success. Even then the greatest care must be exercised lest education, improperly directed, sets the child's face towards the city or from the city towards the country. This is just as true in the teaching of agriculture as it is in the teaching of anything else.

A true education is designed neither to stimulate nor retard a movement of this kind. It is designed to develop within the child—the child of the city as well as the child of the country—all the perfection of which he is capable. If the call for service comes, if opportunity presents itself, why should not the capability and impulse of the rural boy respond? Why should not equal right to life and equality of opportunity be secured to every boy regardless of where he lives or what his occupation may be?

If education in agriculture particularly is directed in this way there need be no anxiety to direct a boy as to where he shall live. He will be capable of choosing for himself. If agriculture is taught as it should be taught, if a boy loves the farm and chooses to remain there or if he chooses to live in the largest city or to engage in the greatest industrial business, there is no reason why he should not repeat these lines and feel them in his soul, lines written by a farmer who has felt the sentiment:

The old farm home is mother's yet, and mine,
 And filled it is with plenty and to spare,
 But we remember still in life's decline,
 Though fortune smiles around us everywhere;
 We look across the gold
 Of the harvests, as of old—
 The wheat, the fragrant clover and the hay.
 But most we turn our gaze,
 As with eyes of other days,
 To the meadow where we school kids used to play.

No, Mr. Speaker, when a farm boy, or any boy, who has grown to be a man, can express himself in this way, and who feels it in his soul, we know that to him agriculture has been taught in the proper way.

Mr. Speaker, I shall support the motion.

Speech delivered by

MR. O. D. HILL, M.L.A.

(*Melfort*)

on the

HUDSON'S BAY RAILWAY

in the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,

Tuesday, February 1, 1927.

Mr. Hill, in speaking on a Resolution that construction of the Hudson Bay Railway should be carried on without interruption so that the line may be completed to Nelson and that work may be commenced on the Port terminals during 1927, said:

Mr. Speaker,—It has been the practice in this Legislature for a long time and one in all Legislatures to express by resolution the opinion of the Assembly and through the Assembly the expression and feeling or opinion of the people of the Province on matters which come solely under the jurisdiction of the Dominion Parliament but of vital moment to the people of the Province in which the Assembly functions.

The motion which is on the Order Paper is one of that kind. We had a resolution last year very similar to this, or along the same line, and I just want to read that resolution as we passed it:

"That in the opinion of this Assembly, all construction necessary for the completion of the Hudson Bay Railway should be immediately proceeded with."

I think in the discussion of that resolution it was clearly understood by the Assembly that it comprehended not only a completion of the road and also any other work that was necessary in order to make this an overseas route as it would be futile to build a railway to any point without recognising the fact that we had to provide facilities thereat.

I think I am fair also in saying that those who spoke on the resolution and voted for it anticipated at that time that the road would be completed through to Nelson. Also that it was comprehended in that resolution that we intended the work should be completed to Nelson.

Since that resolution was passed and since we last met certain things have happened and situations have arisen in connection with the road which it might be interesting to lay before the Assembly. For the first time in 17 years the Hudson Bay Railway was mentioned in the Speech from the Throne. It was mentioned in 1910 and not since but we have had a very definite statement as to what the programme of the Government was to be in connec-

tion with the road laid down in the Speech from the Throne, I have not got the exact wording but it was to the effect that the Government intended to proceed with the road forthwith. Afterwards some question came up as to whether or not "forthwith" was strong enough, but I do not think in our language we have a word which conveys more in the way of expedition, quickness or promptness in carrying out anything than the word "forthwith." I think it was the intention of the Government to carry on this work immediately.

I would digress for a moment to say that the original resolution which was moved in the House of Commons in respect to this matter was moved by a member of this House and I want to pay a tribute to him, the representative from Moose Jaw (*Mr. Knowles*). It would be interesting to the Assembly to know that the reason for this resolution or going ahead with the project at that time was the fact that we had the enormous crop of wheat of 89,000,000 bushels to get rid of out through a narrow channel. Today we have practically four times that amount with the same outlet.

The next interesting thing that happened in connection with the Hudson Bay road was the selection by the Premier of Canada of the Hon. C. A. Dunning as his Minister of Railways. I do not think we can emphasise too much the importance of this, not only in connection with the Hudson Bay Railway, but all matters of transportation as affecting this country. I do not think there is any economical question that affects us more in this country than the question of railway transportation and to have at the head of the Department of transportation a man of the type of the Hon. Mr. Dunning, whom we have all had the privilege of knowing in this House, a man of wonderful ability, and with a strong grasp of matters of this kind, and of wonderful administrative ability, is a great thing. It meant a lot in connection with the Hudson Bay because we know he is in accord with the desires of Western Canada in this connection.

The Dominion Government implemented its promise by bringing in an estimate of \$3,000,000 for the purpose of reconstruction of the road. Hon. Mr. Dunning presented these estimates on June 8, last, and there was very bitter opposition. I do not think anything could bring up more bitter opposition in the House of Commons than the mention of the Hudson Bay Railway and it certainly did on June 8th and 9th last. We had an exhibition of one of the most bitter fights the House of Commons has seen and fortunately we had a man there to speak for us in the Hon. Mr. Dunning. He had a splendid grasp of the situation, knew what he was talking about and some who were opposing it did not, and he was able to get the estimate through. I see some of my honourable friends on the other side of the House smiling. Well, the opposition only appeared from one corner of the House of Commons.

It was fortunate that the debate took place because there were some matters very illuminating which came out in connection with

the subject and which had not appeared before. Why, they had not appeared before, I do not know. Particularly was this so in connection with a report which was handed down by Hon. Mr. Dunning. I want to read a portion of the report of R. A. C. Henry, a man who had handed in a report to the Government back in 1918. It had never appeared before so far as I know to give anyone any assistance in dealing with the question. It is a very important report because it deals with the traffic end of the subject. Mr. Henry is apparently an expert along railway transportation and traffic lines. The statements are contained in his report as reported in Hansard, page 4251, 1926, as follows:

“That about 5,000,000 bushels of wheat or wheat equivalent in other grain must be handled to meet operating expenses.”

In other words, 5,000,000 bushels of wheat exported over that road will meet operating expenses.

“That about 10,000,000 bushels of wheat or wheat equivalent in other grain must be handled to meet operating expenses and pay 3 per cent. on estimated cost of the development now under construction.”

That is \$29,000,000. Five million bushels will pay the operating charges on the road and 10,000,000 bushels will pay operating expenses and maintenance and 3 per cent. on \$29,000,000 worth of that investment. That is important. This report was made before the report was made by the Senate Commission in 1920 and Mr. Henry who is only a traffic man after all and did not pretend to know anything about the feasibility of the road was speaking on a basis of a two and a half month period when the route would be open. We since have had a conservative report from the Senate Commission that this is open from four to five months so you can see how much stronger this report is in the light of the Senate report. I do not want to feel I am tied down to that period because I feel it will be much longer. We have the report of the Commission to go back to in any event. Mr. Henry's report continues:

“That there is sufficient grain now grown in the territory tributary to the Hudson Bay Railway to warrant the belief that, with equivalent rates to Liverpool, the quantity of grain last mentioned would go via the Hudson Bay route.”

If any member of the House is interested it will be enlightening for him to look over the debate that took place on June 8th and 9th in the House of Commons and particularly read Mr. Henry's report because he goes into the traffic proposition over every division in western Canada and treats with it in its relationship to this new route.

We, in the Carrot Valley, in a short time will be able to produce sufficient grain to go out through that route and we can have that on the water by the middle of October so that we have our operating maintenance and 3 per cent. on investment immediately. That is a strong argument and I do not see how its opponents can get over it.

The other evening I was listening in on the radio. Hastings, Nebraska, was sending a report to the Arctic regions, messages for some of the men at Ellesmere Land, Chesterfield Inlet and so on.

Among other things that were mentioned was the statement from someone who had been up there and returned, and to his friends there he told that he came out last fall, in October, through the Straits, and saw no ice whatever and had a very fine trip. That is very illuminating.

There is something more important. This boggy of return bottoms has been brought up and presents a strenuous argument against the Hudson Bay route being immediately developed. Again I quote from Mr. Henry's report:

"That there could be developed a sufficient inbound tonnage from Europe to place Fort Nelson on the same footing with respect to the load factor as, say, Montreal."

To my mind that is one of the most important things that has come out in the way of evidence in connection with the matter for a long time. I think the feasibility of the proposition has been pretty well conceded by every reasonable, sane, patriotic citizen in Canada. I grant there is opposition to it as coming from those whose interests may be prejudicially affected and I think the debate in the House of Commons last June had a great deal to do with creating that favourable feeling in Canada. Most of the eastern papers are pretty reasonable in regard to it and are prepared to see that we get our rights.

The \$3,000,000 vote was passed but attached to it through the opposition of the member for Calgary was the stipulation that further construction be not proceeded with until an investigation of the whole route had been made. I think Mr. Bennett said he would have it understood that as far as he was concerned not another dollar was to be spent on the road until an investigation had taken place in regard to the whole scheme. This \$3,000,000 did not go through. You know what happened. The funds which we thought would be available were not available. Certain work did, however, go on during the summer. The mileage between 214 and 332 has been all rehabilitated and is in splendid condition and as good as any branch line in western Canada. Hon. Mr. Dunning went further and the road has not only been rehabilitated to Kettle Rapids but has been built 18 miles further to the Limestone River which is the furthest point we could go to without building a bridge. The bridge will be built this winter. In the meantime material will be assembled at the Limestone River. We have got 18 miles further on construction but I presume the work of rehabilitation has suffered considerably. There has not been the building of water tanks, divisional facilities which Mr. Dunning intended along the mileage from 214 to 332. But today we are in this position: We are 18 miles further than ever before with steel, the first new construction has been made on that road since 1918 and I think we can congratulate ourselves as a western country in knowing this is the situation.

We are coming to the point with which this resolution particularly deals. Personally I have the utmost confidence in the good faith of the Government and Mr. Dunning, that he intends to do the very thing which we are asking him to do in this resolution.

There are times when we should be resolute in matters and occasions when we are justified in bringing in resolutions which will specify work which we practically know will be done by the Government at Ottawa and give them the feeling of public opinion as represented by this House. We are very near the place on this road, where a diversion will be made to Churchill, if it is made. I am of opinion that this work should be prosecuted immediately to Nelson and I am going to give the House my reasons.

The election of 1926 gave a mandate to the Government to complete that road through to Nelson. The ordinary elector figured that is what he wanted done.

My second reason is: whether Nelson or Churchill is selected as the terminus, we are going to Nelson, anyway. We have expended over six millions of dollars and we are not going to let that money be wasted. It is only 56 miles extra mileage we have to build to go through to Nelson and we only have to lay the steel on the dump already there. If we find Nelson ultimately to be selected we are that much further ahead, and if Churchill is selected we shall not be out very much. I think that is fair and reasonable.

The next reason. You have heard of the report of the Senate Commission which investigated this problem in 1920. I want to emphasise the importance of that Commission. It was a Committee of the Senate. The Senate at that time was not in sympathy with the then Government. The Committee was not composed of any particular type of man or political stripe but it was in sympathy with the Government and as far as the then Minister of Railways was concerned he was not in sympathy with the Hudson Bay railway and there would be every inducement on the part of the Senate to bring in a report adverse to the route. This investigation was not held in a corner. It held its sittings in Ottawa and every person who wanted to appear had an opportunity. I would pay tribute to one gentleman who was a member of the House of Commons at that time, Mr. J. A. Campbell, who was greatly responsible for what the Commission gathered together and in getting the evidence.

This Commission in its report makes this statement, which will be found in the Hansard of the Senate Debates, 1920 Session, page 533:

"It is the opinion of this Committee that the Government would be well advised if, before expending any more money on the harbour works at Nelson, they were to appoint a committee of expert engineers and railway builders to examine the route to Churchill and ascertain whether or not it is really possible and what would be the cost and advantage of making Churchill the port and terminus of the Hudson Bay road rather than Nelson. In the meantime the laying of the rails might be completed to Nelson and that part could be used for the present in its present state."

We have the sanction of the findings of this Committee behind us in this resolution.

The next reason, I believe, and I only speak as a layman, that from the information I have gathered to make up my mind, the eventual terminus of the Hudson Bay will be at Nelson. Far

be it from me to make this question one of controversy as between Nelson and Churchill but I believe that we are going to go to Nelson and that will be the terminal of the road. Why? Nelson is 90 miles nearer the Pas than Churchill. We are building a project that will go down to perpetuity. If we are going to tie on to those who follow us 90 miles extra road we will tie 90 miles of maintenance and operating charges which will offset the capital expenditure if necessary to be made at Nelson. I would make it clear that, owing to the fact that the diversion is made 56 miles back from Nelson, (I think that is the point at which the diversion is intended) we only have to build 56 miles of steel on a dump there to carry out the idea of this resolution.

I only speak for myself as a layman, and I may be entirely wrong in this. Any time I have had an opportunity of speaking in connection with this matter I never stressed the point because I feel that the project does not depend on Nelson or Churchill. We can make a port almost anywhere. If you read what was done at Cardiff and Hong Kong in the way of making ports, this is nothing at all.

I think also that it will be Nelson because it is a river port. Ordinarily we would expect that sea ports would be havens or enclosed portions of water well protected from wind, but in looking around the world we find some of the largest ports have been established at river mouths. Montreal, Glasgow, Liverpool and London for instance. It does not make any difference in moderate climates, but where we have ice to contend with it is very important that every element we can get to help us fight that condition should be used. The Nelson River has a very strong current which helps to clear the estuary of ice. The tide comes in twice a day and the current is running all the time and the two elements tend to break up the ice, and I have it on the authority of a man I spoke to at Nelson, who had been there six years, who said he had never seen the Nelson River frozen over until January 26 and then it was not safe to cross the ice because you would not be sure of getting back. Ice breakers, of course, would assist.

Churchill Harbour is a haven and an inside body of water where I understand the ice freezes very thick and we have nothing with which to break up the ice except artificial methods. We have also this to consider, Churchill is probably about 200 miles north of Nelson, with consequently nearer Arctic conditions.

When the Hudson Bay road was originally projected it was understood to go to Churchill. When the new Government came into power in 1911 we had no information as to what happened in this connection. All we know is that the road was suddenly diverted to Nelson. A lot of people had the idea that this was done from a political motive. *Saturday Night*, in 1917, came out with a long article deploring the fact that this great Canadian national project had been practically destroyed through political jockeying, the government going to Nelson instead of Churchill. This shook the confidence of a lot of people in the project, and it was never

cleared up in the minds of the country until 1923. Mr. Graham, who had been Minister of Railways, in the Laurier Government in 1910, made a statement in the House in February, 1923, which will be found in Hansard, 1923, page 1068, as follows:

"I am not going at all into the question of the feasibility of the navigation of the straits or the question of the proper port except to say this that during the time that I had the honour of being a member of the Laurier administration I thought we had that question fairly well investigated; and I have yet to find an engineer who will accept the responsibility of saying to the Government or to the Department or at least has said that Churchill is preferable to Nelson. I think the Government that followed us found the same situation and selected Nelson largely on the data I had procured and the reports made to me when I was Minister of Railways. In addition to that, other investigations took place. I think my successor, Hon. Mr. Cochrane, went to Hudson Bay himself and was firmly convinced that Nelson was the proper port, and for this reason; if a great amount of traffic were to be developed Nelson provides greater facilities and greater opportunity for the development of a large harbour than does Churchill. As I am informed Churchill at the present time might provide a harbour for small traffic but could not be developed without very great expense into a larger harbour. But Nelson provides all the opportunities for developing a harbour—I would not say to an unlimited extent, but to a much greater degree—than Churchill."

Mr. Cochrane succeeded Mr. Graham. He took a year to investigate and he went up himself to Nelson and Churchill. He was a fairly practical man. There was a fine opportunity for him, if he found conditions justified it, to say, "the Government before was wrong in going to Nelson."

But he did not do that. He agreed with the ideas laid down by his predecessor, Mr. Graham. That is a very strong argument to substantiate the resolution which we now have before us.

I have told the House something regarding the two harbours. I cannot deal with them in detail this afternoon, with conditions at Nelson and Churchill, but it is only fair to read two or three things. Mr. McLauchlan's report might help us in the matter. He was the engineer in charge of the harbour works at Nelson. From the evidence he gave with reference to Nelson it would appear that Nelson harbour or the estuary, has been in the making for a long geological period. It consists of mud, clay and sand with a layer of rocks all over the bottom. Apparently Mr. McLauchlan has a fair idea of what the bottom of the Nelson River is like for the purpose of dredging. He makes the statement that the bridge which is built there 3,500 feet long, is resting on piles and they consist of 12 x 12 timbers driven into the hardpan so if there were any soil conditions to battle against they would have been discovered in driving the piles.

In connection with Churchill he has this to say:

"Churchill is land-locked. The anchorage area is very small. About three ships could anchor there and swing on their bow anchors. The whole place is covered with enormous boulders; on the land, in the water, everywhere. I never saw as many boulders in all my life as I saw at Churchill."

He also says:

"Any dredging they do at Churchill is difficult and expensive."

We have this situation^o in Nelson, we have a river harbour which, by artificial means, can be extended without limit. At Churchill there is a splendid haven but restricted in area. Tyrell Bros. say it can be dredged without difficulty and if so I would only

be too glad to know it. Mr. McLauchlan says it will be difficult and expensive.

I would just like to recapitulate what I have placed before you in introducing this resolution. I believe we should proceed to Nelson because: First, we have the mandate of the 1926 election. Second, whether we go to Churchill or Nelson ultimately, we are going to Nelson in any event and it is only a matter of laying 56 miles of steel on a dump already there. Third, the Senate Committee took the responsibility of telling the Government to do this and no matter what investigation is made they should go to Nelson and that port could be used in the meantime. Fourth, Nelson, I believe, will be the ultimate port, first, because it is nearer by 90 miles to The Pas than Churchill; secondly, because it is a river port; third, because both Mr. Graham and Mr. Cochrane selected it; fourth, because it is 250 miles south of Churchill; fifth, Nelson can be made a large harbour much easier than Churchill.

This is a great big project. No one can comprehend what this will mean to this country one hundred years from now. It is not a question which affects Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Alberta alone. It is a world question. We are opening up the last great trade route of the world and trade routes have been one of the most important factors in the development of the human race. The last trade route to be opened before this was the Panama Canal. Anyone at that time who would have said that the opening up of that canal would affect Calgary or Edmonton as it has, would not have been believed. It affects even Winnipeg. No one can comprehend what the opening of this new trade route will eventually mean. This much is certain, when this route is opened up and going, we shall find that the mails, fast freight and express going between England and the Orient will be carried across by this route because we can cut two days off the rail haul and possibly something off the water haul. On these important high class goods which are taken across this continent at the present time a few hours makes all the difference as to how that is going. Some day there will be a tremendous trade develop and carried on between Western Europe and Eastern Asia, and it is going to cross Canada and very probably we will see it come across the Hudson Bay route.

As I say it is a big question. The expenditure of a few thousands of dollars in doing something which we are justified in doing to lay that steel to Nelson is nothing particular when it is possible that we may go to Nelson in the end and, if so, we are that much further ahead.

I noticed in the press the other day that Henry Ford is expending two million dollars in building a wharf for the purpose of scrapping 200 ships he bought from the American Government and that when he is through scrapping the ships there will be no further use for the wharf. This is something that will not last only for a few years but will last as long as Canada, as long as there are people in this world that will trade one with the other.

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the resolution seconded by the honourable member for Wolseley (*Mr. McAfee*).

Speech delivered by

MR. W. G. BAKER, M.L.A.

(*Moose Jaw City*)

on

OLD AGE PENSIONS

in the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

Monday, February 7, 1927.

Mr. Baker, in moving a Resolution respecting the aged deserving poor, said:

Mr. Speaker,—The subject that I am about to discuss today has regard to a problem that is as old as the human race. More than two thousand years ago our records show that in other lands where climatic conditions were very different to ours the aged and infirm poor were permitted to make a living by begging on the streets, and it is rather a reflection on our much vaunted progress that the same conditions are found in those countries today.

The care of the old is a problem that is common to all people and one that is met in many different ways. With some of the uncivilised people the old and infirm are provided with three days' food and left to shift for themselves. In the warmer climates of Asia and Africa begging is the common method used by these people to make a living, but in the majority of civilised countries this problem is recognised as a national problem and the people have also recognised their responsibility and through their governments have made provisions for aged and indigent people who through misfortune or for other reasons are without means of support and who must face the dismal prospect of hunger, poverty and want in the last years of their lives. There is nothing quite so pathetic, nothing that so appeals to our sympathy as the aged and helpless poor.

It is only right that we should recognise our responsibilities in this connection. A Divine Providence, in its wisdom, has seen fit to endow us with a great variety of talents and capabilities and it is to this that we owe the progress we have made. Some are blessed with the golden touch and the material things of the world are theirs in abundance. Some are endowed with those beautiful qualities of mind that have given us our poetry, our works of art, our beautiful paintings, our music, and these go on after their death and bring happiness and pleasure to all who follow after. Then we have the pioneers who, with the vision of the future, endure hardship and privation, often without gain to themselves, in order that those who follow after may enjoy the benefits of their labour. And it is

rather a reflection on our conception of values that many of our greatest painters, poets and artists have died old, destitute, and alone, leaving us a heritage of lasting beauty, while those of the golden touch have left us nothing. So we may agree, I think, that a man's ability to make money and provide for himself is not a true indication of his value to the state, but rather that all in their varied spheres are making a contribution of real value to the state. It, therefore, becomes the duty of the state to see that in the closing days of their lives they do not suffer want.

That this is generally recognised is indicated by the fact that in almost all the civilised countries of the world provisions are made through a system of old age pensions to look after the old and indigent poor. Old age pension schemes are in effect in Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Argentine, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, Czecho Slovakia, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Jugo Slavia, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and some of the states in the United States of America. In Canada we have been somewhat backward in adopting this necessary reform, although it has been a matter for discussion in the House of Commons since 1907. In that year Mr. Pringle moved a resolution in favour of old age pensions and among its supporters were Sir Wilfred Laurier, Sir George Foster, Mr. Fielding and others. Other resolutions were introduced in the Sessions of 1913, 1914, 1922, 1923 and 1924, and in 1924 a committee of the House was appointed to investigate the matter and the report of this committee was the basis of our present *Old Age Pension Act*. This Act provides for the joint participation of the Dominion and Provincial Governments in providing old age pensions, so that in Canada we have made some progress.

Having recognised the duty of the state to provide old age pensions in Canada there seems to be a great difference of opinion as to how this can best be brought about. We find that in a written memorandum presented to the Government on this question by the Trades and Labour Council of Canada the following:

"The responsibility for the protection of aged workers should be upon the Federal Government. This would ensure equality of treatment of all Canadian citizens irrespective of the Province in which they reside."

The Railway Brotherhoods, and many other organisations, have also gone on record as in favour of a Federal scheme. In 1924 a special committee of the House of Commons was appointed to investigate the question of old age pensions. This committee sent out a letter to some thirty-five cities and towns in the different provinces of Canada asking, among other questions: Are you in favour of a Federal scheme? The replies were as follows: Twenty-seven favoured a Federal scheme, four did not favour pensions, four made no statement.

After hearing a good deal of evidence this committee recommended a joint pension scheme, the Dominion Government to contribute one-half and the Provincial Government to contribute the other half of the cost, the provinces to administer the scheme. They also recommended that the Dominion Government should

communicate with the provinces to ascertain if they were disposed to adopt the joint scheme and enact the necessary legislation. The Dominion Government carried out the suggestion of this special committee and wrote the different provinces asking if they were prepared to go into this joint scheme. I am going to read some of the answers because they indicate very clearly the opinions of the Provincial Governments on this important question.

New Brunswick: Under date of May 23, 1925, the Premier, Hon. Mr. Veniot, replied:

"This province is now considering the establishment of what is known as a widows' pension and we are not prepared to take any decision in the matter of an old age pension. While I do not disapprove of the old age pension and feel that it would be a good thing, yet it would be impossible for me to commit the province to any action in this matter at the present time."

Quebec: Under date of February 17, 1925, the Minister of Public Works, replied:

"On the occasion of the recent visit of the delegates of the Trades and Labour Council of Canada this question was taken up, and although it was not submitted in the regular way to the Cabinet I understood from the remarks of my colleagues that it could be no question for the Province of Quebec considering the obligations actually imposed upon it of adopting a law which would take care of the old age pensions in this Province."

Nova Scotia: Under date of June 2, 1925, the Premier, Hon. Mr. Armstrong, replied:

"In view of the importance of the subject matter and the lack of an opportunity to fully consider the same I was instructed to advise you that without a further and better understanding of the subject matter, and without an opportunity to fully discuss it with your committee no action would be taken upon the matter at present."

Prince Edward Island: Under date of May 22, 1925, the Premier, Hon. Mr. Steward, replied:

"In this province, as you are probably aware, except in the towns we have no Municipal Government. Consequently all assistance to indigent and aged persons is furnished directly by the Provincial Government either in the Provincial Infirmary or by monthly contributions to private persons who become responsible for their support. I have read over your letter and the accompanying report with interest. I shall place the matter before my Government at its next meeting and will then advise you of its decision."

Ontario: Under date of November 24, 1924, Premier Ferguson replied:

"I shall be glad to consider the matter."

Manitoba: Under date of February 25, 1925, Mr. Craig, Attorney General, replied:

"We are in the midst of our Session with the multiplicity of matters requiring immediate disposition. I shall, however, take up the matter with the Premier and the Minister of Public Welfare at the earliest opportunity."

Saskatchewan: Under date of November 19, 1924, the Minister of Labour and Industries, Hon. Mr. Gardiner, replied:

"The Government of Saskatchewan is of opinion that an Old Age Pension Scheme for Canada can best be adopted by the Federal Government alone. There would seem to be so much difficulty in the way of providing any scheme that would be suitable to all the nine Provinces of Canada as to make it almost impossible and it will be readily understood that if any number of the provinces were to remain out it would be almost impossible to adopt any scheme that would not subject these provinces within the arrangement to considerable expense that should rightfully be borne by those outside the scheme. While we are disposed to think

that an Old Age Pension Scheme should be undertaken, the difficulties in the way of the suggested scheme appear almost, if not entirely, insurmountable."

Alberta: Under date of June 2, 1925, Acting Premier, Hon. Geo. Hoadley, replied:

"This Government has reviewed the recommendations of the Committee and approves the general principle of Old Age Pensions. We are not prepared, however, to accept the recommendations of the committee. The three main objections are: (1) We believe that the Federal Government should assume a larger share in the financing of an Old Age Pension Scheme as it is more a Federal obligation than a Provincial one. (2) We are not satisfied that a non-contributing scheme is the best one. (3) There is no guarantee that the Federal Government would continue for a definite time to carry out the mutual arrangement with respect to financing this scheme."

British Columbia: Under date of February 5, 1925, the Minister of Labour, Hon. Mr. Manson, replied:

"This matter has been carefully considered by the Government and also by the Provincial Legislature at its last session, and the consensus of opinion is that the matter of Old Age Pensions is one entirely in the sphere of the Federal Parliament and this Government does not concur in the suggestion made by the committee that a portion of the cost of such pensions should be borne by the Provincial Crown. In the resolution passed unanimously by the B.C. Legislature on the 18th of December, 1924, the following statement is made, 'State responsibility in the matter of the proper maintenance of aged citizens has been recognised by Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand and a number of the nations of the continent of Europe'."

Again under date of March 5, 1925, Mr. Manson writes:

"I beg to state that the matter has had very serious consideration on the part of this department and the opinion is confirmed that the matter of Old Age Pensions is a subject for the consideration of the Federal and not the Provincial Parliament."

In view of the opinions expressed by many of the provinces the committee decided to get the opinion of the Department of Justice as to whether responsibility for old age pension was a Federal or Provincial matter and the matter was therefore submitted to the Minister of Justice for an opinion. On May 23rd last the Department replied as follows:

"Referring to your letter of the 13th instant asking to be advised with regard to the authority of Parliament to legislate on the subject of Old Age Pensions, I may say that this subject does not fall specifically within any of the enumerated subjects given to the Dominion under section 91 of *The British North America Act*, but does in my judgment fall within the subjects 'Property and Civil rights in the Province' committed to the Provinces under section 92. I am of opinion, therefore, that the subject matter of Pensions has been entrusted to the Provincial Legislatures rather than to Parliament, I do not mean to suggest that Parliament has not the power to legislate upon the subject so as to assist the Provinces or to establish an independent voluntary scheme, provided that in either case the legislation does not trench upon the subject matter of property and civil rights in the province, as for example by obligating any province or person to contribute to the scheme. The enactment of such legislation would, however, involve the assumption by the Dominion of obligations involving heavy expenditures with regard to a matter which does not fall specifically within the Dominion field of legislation."

After hearing all the evidence submitted, and after giving consideration to the views as expressed by the Provincial Governments and the Department of Justice, the committee brought in the following recommendation:

- "1. That if the Dominion Government were to proceed now with a scheme of Old Age Pensions it would have to be prepared to bear the entire expense which would approximately amount to twenty-three million dollars annually according to the data contained in your committee's investigations.

- "2. That in view of the present financial condition and heavy taxation of Canada, your committee would not feel warranted at the present moment in recommending such a large additional expenditure annually.
- "3. That this measure of social reform in the opinion of your committee is very important.
- "4. That since it is the opinion of the Department of Justice that the matter is one coming under the Jurisdiction of the Provinces, although open to assistance from the Federal Government, your committee, therefore, strongly recommends: That the Federal Government arrange with the Premiers of the different Provinces for a conference to be held during the coming recess of Parliament at which an Old Age Pension System shall be given the fullest consideration with a view to securing co-operative action, and that the report of the said conference be laid on the Table at the next Session of Parliament for future consideration and action."

I have not been able to find any report as to whether this meeting was held or not. The Premier may be able to give us some information regarding this.

The report of the committee that I have just read was submitted to the House and became the basis of the legislation passed at the last Session of the House of Commons providing for joint action by the Dominion and Provincial Governments. This legislation was thrown out by the Senate, but we have the assurance of Premier King that it will again be introduced at the present Session of the Dominion House of Commons.

An investigation of the various old age pension schemes indicates that they may be divided into two classes: Contributory, in which the pensioner makes a contribution to the pension funds, and which scheme is in effect in fourteen countries; non-contributory, under which the entire pension is paid out of the public treasury, and which system is in effect in Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Spain, Denmark, Norway, some of the states in the U.S.A., and is the principle of the Canadian Act.

All pension schemes have provided for a term of residence; a stated age at which the pension is payable; a fixed rate of pension, which may be increased or reduced depending on other factors; provision for the non-payment of pensions if the pensioner has a stated income or has property above a stated value.

For the purpose of making comparisons of the different schemes and the benefits paid, I have worked out the following, based on foreign money at par:

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF OLD AGE PENSIONS.

| Country | Years residence | Age payable | | Month | Pension per year | Not payable if pension exceeds | |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------|-------|---------|------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| | | Men | Women | | | Income | Property |
| Australia | 20 | 65 | 60 | \$18.45 | \$221.43 | \$379.60 | \$1,946.67 |
| New Zealand | 25 | 65 | 60 | 15.80 | 189.80 | 379.60 | 1,898.00 |
| Denmark | 5 | 65 | 60 | 12.32 | 147.92 | 100.76 | ..... |
| Norway | Half life | 70 | .. | 6.70 | 80.46 | ..... | ..... |
| Spain | 16 and over | 65 | .. | 5.88 | 70.45 | ..... | 772.00 |
| Uruguay | 15 | 60 | .. | 5.18 | 62.04 | ..... | ..... |
| U.S.A. | | | | | | | |
| Alaska | 10 | 65 | 60 | 12.50 | 150.00 | ..... | ..... |
| Arizona | 5 | 60 | .. | 15.00 | 180.00 | ..... | ..... |
| Nevada | 15 | 60 | .. | 30.00 | 365.00 | ..... | 3,000.00 |
| Montana | 15 | 70 | .. | 25.00 | 300.00 | 300.00 | ..... |
| Pennsylvania | 15 | 70 | .. | 30.00 | 365.00 | 300.00 | 3,000.00 |
| { Canada | 20 } | 70 | .. | 20.00 | 240.00 | 365.00 | ..... |
| { Province | 5 } | | | | | | |

This comparison indicates that our proposed pension scheme is less favourable to the pensioner than most schemes in two important particulars—the age at which the pension is payable and the amount of the pension. In the majority of schemes the pension age is 65 years or under, while ours is 70 years. While the amount paid compares favourably with Australia and New Zealand, it is much less than provided in the United States.

Is there a general demand for old age pensions? It is interesting to read the replies of some of the city officials expressed to the committee of the House on behalf of their city. I will quote a few:

CALGARY—

“My opinion stated in brief would be that a pension of this description is an absolute necessity.”

LETHBRIDGE—

“My opinion in answer to question No. 1 is that old age pensions are very desirable and in the long run would not cost the country much more than our present manner of taking care of indigents.

“W. D. HARDIE,
“Mayor.”

MEDICINE HAT—

“My opinion is that the establishment of an old age pension system for Canada is most desirable.

“W. HUCKVILLE,
“Mayor.”

NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C.—

“It is desirable that an old age pension scheme be established in Canada. The benefits of same have been fully shown in England.

“W. A. DUNCAN,
“City Clerk.”

PEMBROKE, ONT—

“We consider it very desirable that such a system should be established.

“S. R. ARMSTRONG,
“City Clerk.”

PORT ARTHUR, ONT—

“I am of the opinion that it would be most desirable to establish an old age pension system in Canada.

“J. W. CROATS,
“Mayor.”

PRINCE ALBERT, SASK—

“We feel that the time is approaching when the Federal Government would fill a long felt need in dealing with the matter of the old age pension system.”

REGINA, SASK—

“While figures available for the City of Regina are not indicative of a dire necessity for an old age pension scheme yet, there are undoubtedly many aged people who would be greatly assisted by such a scheme. As the days go on it is likely that this necessity will become more apparent and therefore it is desirable that the Government of Canada should formulate a Dominion wide and generous old age pension scheme.

“G. BEACH,
“City Clerk.”

ST. STEPHENS, N.B.—

“The Mayor of St. Stephens desires to express his opinion that an old age pension system is desirable.

“J. BROOM,
“Clerk.”

We also find, Mr. Speaker, that at the Conservative Convention held at Kamloops, B.C., on November 25th last, a resolution

was passed and is reported in *The Leader* of November 26th as follows:

"The convention today indorsed Old Age Pensions and recommended the immediate holding of a conference of the Premiers of the different provinces to consider the best and most effective manner in which to bring this about."

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I am sure that I do not need to appeal to the members of this Legislature for support of this resolution on compassionate grounds. We have all been moved to pity at the sight of those who are unable to help themselves and who, through this helplessness, look forward to each succeeding day with agony of mind and physical suffering. We have felt that we would like to personally assist them in some way if we could. The adoption of an old age pension scheme makes it possible to give this relief. Public opinion throughout this Province and the Dominion, as shown by the news I have quoted, is in favour of making some provision for the aged poor and it, therefore, gives me pleasure to move, seconded by Mr. McIntosh (*Kinistino*), the following Resolution:

"That in the opinion of this Assembly the subject of improving the condition of the aged deserving poor, is worthy of and should receive the early and careful consideration of the Government."

Speech delivered by

MR. C. E. TRAN, M.L.A.

(Pelly)

on

THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

in the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

Tuesday, February 15, 1927.

Mr. Tran, in moving the following Resolution:

That whereas resolutions have for several years been passed by the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan declaratory of the rights of the Province to its Land and Natural Resources and urging upon the Parliament and Government of Canada the necessity for the complete restoration to the Province of the lands and resources wrongfully withheld from it in defiance of the Constitution of our Country; and

Whereas the resolutions so passed have never received any compliance from the Government of Canada and all hope of restitution through the free act of the Federal Government must be abandoned; and

Whereas in view of recent declarations at the Imperial Conference and elsewhere as to Canada's equality of status as a nation with the other entities of the Empire, the rectifying authority of the Imperial Parliament is brought into jeopardy as well as the right of appealing to the Privy Council on great constitutional issues, such as the ownership by the Western Provinces of their lands the same as the other Provinces of Canada in spite of any enactment of the Parliament of Canada to the contrary:

Therefore, Be it Resolved:

(a) That, in view of the matters hereinbefore recited, the question of the ownership of our Lands and Natural Resources has now become a crucial and urgent problem for this Province;

(b) That this Assembly expresses its opinion that it has now become incumbent upon the Government to take prompt and commensurate steps to submit to the Privy Council for final determination the whole question of the rights of this Province to its land, as well as the constitutionality of other limitations upon our Provincial rights set forth in the Statute establishing Saskatchewan as a Province of the Federal Union of Canada;

(c) That a copy of this resolution be sent forthwith by Premier Gardiner to the Honourable Premier Mackenzie King and the Honourable the Minister of Justice with a request for co-operation; and a protest against any action by the Parliament of Canada to disturb the *status quo* of the Province of Saskatchewan under *The British North America Act*, or its right of recourse to the Privy Council for a final determination of the said issues as between the Dominion and the Province of Saskatchewan.

said:

Mr. Speaker,—I realise that this question is of vital importance and of a far reaching nature. It has been a contentious point for a number of years and I believe this Government has not been derelict in its duty with regard to this matter. They have been endeavouring to get some satisfactory settlement and the resolution, as set forth in its recital, indicates that they have from time to time, in different years, asked the Federal Government for some satisfactory settlement.

Since 1921 this has been a contention so far as the Western provinces are concerned and we feel at the present time that it is pretty nearly our duty so far as the settlement of this question is concerned to have some drastic step taken to bring this to a successful conclusion.

We know that the Federation of the Dominion and the constitution was brought about by the union of the four Eastern provinces. Each member owned its own lands. In these four provinces, *The British North America Act* points out specifically that they were in possession of their own lands and natural resources and they had the power under that Act to administer those resources.

The Fathers of Confederation at the time of the union of these four provinces gathered around a board, irrespective of any political feelings, and started to frame *The British North America Act*. That was the constitution under which our Dominion and our provinces was to be governed. A great deal of credit is due those gentlemen in those days for bringing forth a document of that nature, democratic in principle and practical throughout and we consider it as one of the most important documents Canada has on its statute books.

It was a Canadian document, framed by Canada's statesmen taken to Great Britain by Canadian representatives approved by the Parliament of Great Britain and incorporated as an Imperial Statute. At that time these four provinces were the Federation of the Dominion and section 146 specifically provides for other provinces to be taken into the Federation of Canada.

No doubt these gentlemen at that time had their eyes fixed on this Western country. These plains were the home of buffalo and Indians. The territory comprised the North-Western Territory and Rupert's Land. They were very anxious that we should have an Ocean-to-Ocean Dominion. They were very anxious, also, on account of certain propaganda in 1867 to get into the federal union these lands as speedily as possible. These Western plains were practically without inhabitants and the Fathers of Confederation saw it was necessary to have an Ocean-to-Ocean Dominion and, therefore, these territories must be taken into Confederation. The admission into the Dominion of Rupert's Land and the North-Western Territory was first sought by an Address presented to Her Majesty Queen Victoria by both Houses of Parliament in 1867. The Address was in strict compliance with section 146 of *The British North America Act, 1867*.

That particular section foresaw there would, in all probability, be other units to be admitted and I think they had in mind there would be about five. But the proposal was entirely premature. When admitted these units would have had the same rights and powers as the other members. They could be nothing less than members but there were no people, no political institutions. The machinery of responsible Government was not there. This was important and the sponsors of the movement saw that and, knowing that under *The British North America Act* they would have no control over these members (especially over the lands), sent an Address

from both Houses of Parliament to Great Britain which said: "We most humbly beg to express to Your Majesty that we are willing to assume the duties and obligations of Government and Legislation as regards these Territories."

When the new members were admitted this became an undertaking of importance and its full meaning I will, perhaps, be able to show as I go along. The Address also had a clause in it which said that in the event of the request being granted all the legal rights of any corporation or company would be respected. That had reference of course to the Hudson Bay charter. The Secretary of State in April of 1868 signified the willingness of Her Majesty to accede to the Address. But he also stated that Her Majesty had been informed that while the Hudson Bay charter rights were in existence the ordinances of Government and Legislation could not be transferred without an Act of Parliament.

And so *The Rupert's Land Act of 1868* was passed and it was enacted that Her Majesty should accept the surrender of the charter rights of the Hudson Bay on such terms as should be agreed on between Her Majesty and the Government of Great Britain and also that this surrender should not be accepted by Her Majesty until the terms and conditions on which Rupert's Land was admitted into Confederation would be approved by Her Majesty and incorporated in an Address under section 146 of *The North British America Act of 1867*. It was also enacted that upon acceptance by Her Majesty of the surrender of this charter all Hudson Bay rights and privileges would be extinguished.

About this time there was a good deal of discussion throughout Canada and the Parliament of Canada interposed into the negotiations for adjustment of the terms of surrender before all the negotiations were completed. These negotiations were quickly effected by Sir George Carter and Sir William McDougall for Canada, the Secretary of State for Great Britain and Lord Northcoate for the Hudson Bay. The terms were embodied in a second Address in 1869. The surrender was duly executed by the Hudson Bay Company and Great Britain in 1869, and the rights of the Hudson Bay Company extinguished.

On June 23, 1870, the admission into the Federal Union of Rupert's Land and the North-Western Territory was effected and it was stated in an Imperial Order in Council that, as from July 15, 1870, the said North-Western Territory shall be admitted and become part of the Dominion of Canada upon the terms and conditions set forth in the first named Address of 1867, and that Rupert's Land as from the same date shall be admitted into and become a part of the Dominion of Canada upon the terms and conditions set forth in the second Address of 1869.

Up to this time everything was all right. There was nothing contentious about it. The two Addresses had been presented to Her Majesty, the Hudson Bay rights had been surrendered and the Order in Council had been passed admitting the two territories.

But a different interpretation was placed on these events at this time, namely, that Rupert's Land and the North-Western Territory were not made members of the Federal Union at all, but transferred from the Crown to the Parliament of Canada as its own property. One of the terms of the second Address of 1869 was that £300,000 was to be paid by Canada after the rights of the Hudson Bay had been surrendered. The recital of the Order of admission of June, 1870, states this was to be the sum to be paid into the Bank of England six months after surrender. The Order itself admits Rupert's Land on the terms set out in the Address of 1869.

At this time the Parliament of Canada was sitting and was passing resolutions. One said that the sum of £300,000 was to be paid when Rupert's Land was transferred to the Dominion of Canada. Another said that the same will be paid over to Canada on the transfer of the Hudson Bay Company's rights; upon the transference of the territories to the Canadian Government they would approve of the acceptance on the territorial rights of these two units. Upon the strength of these two facts and the terms agreed to this new construction sets out that it was Rupert's Land and not the Dominion that was making the transfer.

At this time one of the provisions of the Hudson Bay surrender was that two sections in each township would be awarded to the Company along with the cash settlement. Mr. Lafleur in his opinion says that that transfer was made and being made by the Dominion there was a transfer of the territorial rights of the Hudson Bay included in this transaction.

It was the Address presented in December of 1867 that hurried these two units into Confederation. The two areas had no governmental machinery. There was a proposition in the west at that time that we should have a separate Dominion and it was Canada's desire to have an ocean-to-ocean dominion.

The Parliament of Canada agreed to assume the duties of government of these new units. They wanted to do that. I have no fault to find with that at all but both Addresses stated specifically that it was to be in compliance with section 146 of *The British North America Act*. That section empowered the Parliament of Canada to take in new areas. It was quite clear that Canada did not have a very well defined programme outlined so far as the administration of these new units was concerned.

I want to quote the reasons of the Parliament of Canada why these two units should be taken into the Federation of Canada. They were incorporated in the Address of 1867 and in brief they were: (1) The desire to use them for the extension westward of the Dominion as confederated; (2) to colonise the fertile lands; (3) to develop the mineral wealth; (4) to establish staple government in the new area; (5) establish political institutions analogous to those existing in the then Parliament of Canada.

It was manifest that the legislative and governmental powers of the Dominion were inadequate for these obligations and the

following additional legislative powers were conferred on Parliament. This is from *The Rupert's Land Act*. They were empowered to establish within the new territories such laws, customs and orders and constitute such courts and officers as might be necessary for the best order and good government of Her Majesty's subjects and others therein. By the Order in Council of June, 1870, full power and authority was given for the future welfare and good government of the new territory. Nothing was said about transfer of lands. It just gave the Parliament of Canada sufficient and adequate power to carry on with legislation for these new units. Both of these powers were limited and circumscribed. By *The British North America Act of 1867* nothing could be enacted to the contrary that would be in contravention to that Act or the purposes for which it was created. The purposes were, specifically, trust obligations. They were powers and trust obligations transferred from the Crown to the Parliament of Canada to take care of these new units until such times as responsible government had been instituted analogous to the government in the original four provinces.

So far as the various transactions are concerned up to the present there is practically nothing unconstitutional. In reading over Mr. Lafleur's opinion and also the criticism of it from Mr. Bram Thompson, Mr. Lafleur is in harmony with the views throughout but at this juncture the entire area of the North-West Territories and Rupert's Land passed from Great Britain to Canada under right or by the purchase of the Hudson Bay.

This is based on two points: in the adjustment of the terms the Hudson Bay was to receive from the Parliament of Canada two sections in each township; that these grants were made from the Crown by the advice of the Federal Executive. There was nothing particularly contentious about that because at this time the Dominion had received from the Crown certain trust obligations as I have quoted them and this was part of the agreement of the surrender of the Hudson Bay rights. The Parliament of Canada was acting in good faith at this time. She did not own the lands and could not under *The British North America Act* but she was acting on behalf of the Crown for the granting of these particular lands and trusts and these trust obligations were proposed by the Parliament of Canada.

The second reason upon which he based that opinion is that a transfer had been made of the rights of the Hudson Bay from the Crown to the Parliament of Canada that could not really be the Hudson Bay territory and their rights as the surrender was accepted by Her Majesty and transferred to the Dominion for the purpose of administration only, and Canada was acting solely in a trust capacity.

This opinion is held by a good many others in addition to Mr. Lafleur. There could not have been any transfer or conveyance because that would have been in contravention of *The British North America Act*. Canada was not a Sovereign Dominion at that time. Transfers could only have been eased from one Sovereign

Dominion to another. There was a transfer mentioned but it was the transfer of the governmental control from London to Ottawa, from Great Britain to Canada. The Parliament of Canada agreed to relieve Great Britain of control. That was the transfer and the one referred to in the negotiating documents. There was a transference of the governmental control from Great Britain to Canada under the trust powers I have mentioned.

These trust powers noted that Prince Rupert's Land and the North-Western Territory were to receive, respectively, political institutions analogous to those existing in the provinces that originally came into the union when their populations demanded it. Mr. Lafleur in stating the opposite view denies this and says a transfer means conveyance of certain property, must be literally construed as such and that that was effected—transference of the property—but he says there may be a technical infirmity in the transfer because there was no formal conveyance by Her Majesty to the Parliament of Canada. But he says the anomaly was cured by the surrender of the Hudson Bay rights and the Order in Council of 1867.

The surrender of the Hudson Bay Company was obtained for a purpose. Was or was not that purpose to transfer the territorial and other rights of the Hudson Bay to Canada or was it merely to make way for the trust obligations of 1867? The Hudson Bay rights were in the way of accepting that trust and it was necessary to have them extinguished in order that the address could be complied with. That was done and the programme was carried out and the stage cleared for Canada to accept these two units into the Dominion to extend westward to the Pacific Ocean the Dominion as constituted under the provisions of *The British North America Act*.

Another interesting thing about this transfer is that there was only part of Rupert's Land and the North-Western Territory held by the Hudson Bay charter. How could the surrender of that charter be taken to mean that all of Rupert's Land and the North-Western Territory was transferred? That is a viewpoint I wish you would study for yourselves.

Her Majesty had power under section 146 of *The British North America Act* to enter both Rupert's Land and the North-Western Territory into the federal union of Canada. She had no power to cede them and never pretended to have that power. Canada could do nothing outside *The British North America Act of 1867* because section 92, paragraph 5, states specifically what Canada can control and what the provinces can control. Section 91 gives in detail all the powers of the Federal Government and section 92 those of the provinces.

I do not believe there was a sale. There was no thought of any sale. It was the extending of the federal union westward as set out that engaged the attention of both Imperial and Federal Parliaments. The difficulty that arose was with regard to Hudson Bay rights and these were extinguished and the Imperial Order in

Council in 1870 took these different units into the federal union. Their rights and privileges as units and as members of the federal union were established at that time. The trust of 1867 states that the Parliament of Canada was to have in trust the administration of these territories until they were entrusted with responsible government.

The surrender left everything clear. The Order in Council of 1870 accepted these two units into the federal union. The Dominion of Canada for two years operated on a legislative basis under two sets of powers. One under *The British North America Act of 1867* and the other control under *The Rupert's Land Act* and the Order in Council of 1867. I would like someone to convince me which power she was acting under in 1872 when she enacted *The Dominion Land Act*. Was it the original power she obtained through the provisions of *The British North America Act*? That could not be so because section 108 says that lands cannot be held in this way by the Parliament of Canada. She had no authority to hold them. *The British North America Act* had not been amended for *The Dominion Lands Act of 1872*. The enactment of that Act was a violation of *The British North America Act* because the federal agreement from the beginning was to the effect that the Dominion could not hold land other than what was specified in section 108.

By this Act the Dominion arrogated to herself over half of the territorial domain of the Dominion and Mr. Lafleur says it was obtained by right of purchase of Hudson Bay rights. I leave it to you as to whether or not the Crown transferred the Hudson Bay territory rights or not or whether part of Rupert's Land and the North-Western Territory were transferred to the Parliament of Canada by right of purchase. That would be derogatory to the whole scheme of confederation.

Did the Parliament of Canada comply with the trust obligation? There is only one other power she was working under, the specific powers given her by *The Rupert Lands Act* particularly and the Order in Council of 1867. She must have been acting under that power when she framed *The Dominion Land Act of 1872* and these were trust powers, specifically stated as I have shown.

Canada betrayed her trust to these new units and a great deal of the trouble that exists today is due to the enactment of *The Dominion Land Act of 1872*. Why was it necessary to enact that legislation if as Mr. Lafleur says the land already belonged to the Dominion? I do not think the Dominion has been extended by any of the Acts or the whole bunch combined. It was a specific betrayal of the trust powers invested in the Dominion.

There are other acts that are pertinent but Mr. Lafleur says there is no incompatibility between what the Parliament of Canada has done with these so called provinces and section 119 of *The British North America Act, 1867*. I contend there is. The rights of these provinces at that time were supposed to be extended to all

the other provinces upon admission and section 146 makes special provision for having new members admitted. It is generally conceded that the title of all the land in the Dominion was vested in the Crown. Then it all depends upon which set of advisers advised the Crown. We have the Governor General advising the Crown in the federal arena and the Lieutenant Governor in the provincial arena. It is a question with regard to the administration of the lands in Saskatchewan as to whether or not the title to the land in this province is invested in the Crown in the right of the province. *The British North America Act* says it is and no place else.

Hon. Mr. Cross: What section?

Mr. Tran: I will quote you extracts from the Lords of the Privy Council to show that is true. It was brought up in the case of the Great West Saddlery Co., Ltd., *versus* The King in the Privy Council in 1923. The particular points of the lands of western Canada was not the question before the Privy Council at the moment but the feature was injected into the argument. In E. R. Cameron's book, "Canadian Companies and the Judicial Committee," at page 155 there is a report of a discussion between Lord Haldane and Mr. Wegenast, the Canadian counsel as follows:

Viscount Haldane: All land in the province is in the Crown in the right of the province, unappropriated land.

Mr. Wegenast: Not in Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Viscount Haldane: You say not in Manitoba and Saskatchewan?

Mr. Wegenast: No.

Viscount Haldane: They are surely both set up as provinces under *The British North America Act*?

Mr. Wegenast: Not in that sense.

Viscount Haldane: You surprise me very much. Where is the section in *The Dominion Act* which puts the title of the land in the province?

Mr. Wegenast: The Crown lands in Saskatchewan and Manitoba are held in the right of the Dominion.

Viscount Haldane: There may be of course Crown lands, Indian lands, for instance, as to which there is a statutory provision but all I can say is that the general character of the distribution of powers between the Crown and the province, between the Dominion and the province, in Canada, is that there is a common Crown advised by different Ministers but that the titles to the land of Canada were not appropriated as in the Crown and it is in the Crown in the right of the province where it is not expressly conferred on the Dominion.

Mr. Wegenast: Yes, my Lord.

Viscount Haldane: The Crown is entitled to the land and the whole question is: is the Crown advised by the Government of the Province or the Government of the Dominion in exercising that right of property? Of course, if there are statutes saying that something is Crown land and given to the Dominion in the right of the Dominion, that is another matter. You have something of the kind in the case of the Indian Reserves, but generally speaking land is in the Crown in the right of the province.

Mr. Wegenast then read a note in Lefroy's book on "Canada's Constitution," dealing with section 109 of *The British North America Act* as follows: "This section, of course, applies *mutatis mutandis* to the other provinces admitted into the Union since Confederation, other than Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan where the public lands are still retained by the Dominion." The discussion then proceeded:

Viscount Haldane: Just show me the provision in *The British North America Act* or any subsequent Imperial Statute under which that is so because it is a very extraordinary proposition. It is not a question of conveyancing. There is only one Crown in Canada for the Province and the Dominion, and only one Crown for the Empire. The title to the public land is vested in that, and the only question is what set of advisers advises it. If you could show me that there is a provision that the Crown is to be advised by some one else than the Government of this Province, well and good.

Mr. Nesbitt: I am not going even to discuss this point because it has no bearing on the case.

Viscount Haldane: I think there is a much more fundamental question here, which is; when the Provincial Government was set up and the land vested in the Crown how can the Crown be advised by any other government?

Mr. Wegenast: It is the greatest issue as between the western provinces and the Dominion at the present day. The Patent in the case of lands in Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan comes from the Dominion. Every man traces his title from that.

Viscount Haldane: No doubt, because he traces it back to the time when the North West Territory was administered by the Dominion of Canada. But since the province has been set up, I should be very much astonished to hear that in the case of any ordinary land, that there was any title by Charter, which came from anybody but the Lieutenant Governor of the province on behalf of the Crown.

Mr. Wegenast: It is so, My Lord. All the unoccupied lands in these three western provinces are granted out from time to time by the Dominion.

Viscount Haldane: You are stating something which is very astonishing to me. It is very extraordinary. You have set up a government and a new province (Manitoba) and you have taken away from it what has been the right of advising the Crown in respect of the land within the boundary of the province.

Lord Parmoor: You have to reconcile that with the civil rights of property under section 92.

The land is vested in this Province in the Province in the right of the Crown and I doubt if the Parliament of Canada had any right to act in the manner in which it did and has done for the last fifty years. The title is in the Crown in the right of the Province and the Lieutenant Governor advises the Government of this Province as the one who has the right to administer these lands.

I would like to quote Mr. Bram Thompson on this matter. He states:

"The Crown represented by the Lieutenant Governor of each western province held and now holds the land in right of the province in spite of any parliamentary or other Act of the Dominion. Mr. Thompson also states with regard to Mr. Lafleur's opinion with respect to the argument between the provinces and the Dominion to accept subsidies in lieu of lands as follows: (1) That no such agreement was ever made; (2) That any such agreement, if made, would have been *ultra vires*, repugnant to, or rather an emphatic violation of *The British North America Act, 1867*, subject to which both Rupert's Land and the North Western Territory were admitted into the Federal union; (3) That the agreement alleged to have been made by Saskatchewan and Alberta in 1905 was a piece of superlative insanity or despicable gerrymander and pretended to have been made by a charlatanic politician in the North West Territories before the provinces were carried out, before the Acts establishing them had been passed; (4) Such agreement,—I prefer to call it a dicker—was devoid of any authority and it was based upon stark ignorance both of the constitution generally and of the legal position occupied by the Dominion or the Parliament of Canada in relation to the lands of the west; (5) Such an agreement or dicker, if made, was utterly void, nor could it afterwards be adopted or even the semblance of legality imparted to it by a specific enactment of the Provincial Legislature because such an enactment would itself have been *ultra vires* and would have been tantamount (a) to a wholesome alienation of their land, (b) to an abdication of their territorial sovereignty and (c) to an alteration of *The British North America Act, 1867*; (6) The right vested in each province by section 92 of *The British North America Act, 1867*, to make laws for the sole management of its land is an exclusive and sovereign right, which is essential to the status of the province. It is a right which cannot be delegated nor can it be surrendered or abrogated while *The British North America Act, 1867*, exists. That

right even now is in full force even though the Parliament of Canada has been usurping it for years—years before as well as since the provinces were established.”

What we have to satisfy ourselves here is as to whether or not there was a sale made and whether or not the Hudson Bay rights were transferred or ceded to the Dominion. If that question is settled that is all we have to settle because the whole thing hinges on that.

The honourable Premier in 1925 spoke in this House on the question of natural resources and I find him reported in the Sessional Papers at page 149 as follows:

The set of circumstances has to do with the history of all that territory which is drained in to the Hudson's Bay and which was given to the Hudson's Bay Company by Charles II, in 1670. The title to this land was passed back to the Crown by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1870. In 1870 Rupert's Land together with the Northwest Territories, was united to Canada by Imperial Order-in-Council. An examination of the documents shows that the chartered rights in Rupert's Land passed from the company to the Crown and that the territory now forming the greater part of the three western provinces, together with a part of the present Provinces of Ontario and Quebec passed from the Crown to the Dominion of Canada by the process of cession.

I do not agree with that view of the case at all. The Premier continues:

The Bill, introduced into the Imperial Parliament providing for the taking over of Rupert's Land, stipulated that £300,000 was to be paid to the Hudson's Bay Company. While the Bill was passing through Parliament it was amended to make it perfectly clear that this money would not be taken from the Imperial Treasury; therefore it became apparent that if an Agreement were going to be reached the money must be provided by the Dominion. This was done, but in doing it the Dominion made it perfectly clear that they were having no dealings with a third party, but were paying the “cost of legal proceedings necessary to recover possession.” In the light of these circumstances, it will be seen that the position taken by Sir John A. Macdonald, in 1870, and to a lesser degree by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in 1905, is scarcely in accordance with the actual transactions. These lands were not purchased from the Hudson's Bay Company by the Dominion Government. They were transferred to Canada by the British Crown.

Then he continues:

All the other colonies have based their rights upon the one position which Canada held. The Government of Canada is the only one within the Empire to deny the same rights to a self-governing province.

We are the only part of the British Empire that have not been given equal rights. The Prime Minister continues:

There must have been some weighty consideration confronting the two Governments that took that position at Ottawa—first the Government of Sir John A. Macdonald in 1870 and later the Government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in 1905. What were those weighty considerations? First, that a great railway must be built from coast to coast to act as a uniting force upon this far-flung country and the lands of the prairies must form the financial basis for the construction and operation until the line would pay. Secondly, this railway can only be made to pay and these lands can only be of benefit to Canada if and when populated by a thrifty people; for that reason these lands and resources must be retained in the hands of the Federal Government to be administered in the interests of an aggressive policy. There is no government in Canada in a position better to direct those experiments than the local government untampered by operations elsewhere.

When American capital wants to come into this country they go to Ottawa. If there is any business to be transacted regarding these lands it is done through the Ottawa Government. We want to get the people here and develop the province. We have a great heritage and we feel that we have been unjustly militated against and that the only thing to do at the present time is to make

a firm pronouncement as far as we are concerned with regard to this particular resolution.

The Resolution contains many things of an important nature. For instance: "In view of recent declarations at the Imperial Conference and elsewhere as to Canada's equality of status as a nation with the other entities of the Empire, the rectifying authority of the Imperial Parliament is brought into jeopardy as well as the right of appealing to the Privy Council on great constitutional issues, such as the ownership by the western provinces of their lands the same as the other provinces of Canada in spite of any enactment of the Parliament of Canada to the contrary."

There has been a great deal of controversy with regard to what the Imperial Conference did. In every city and town throughout the Dominion since November men of importance and integrity have been discussing what the Conference really did. Did it do anything? I have the text of the report here. "The duties of these (the Dominions) may be rightly defined as follows: they are autonomous communities within the British Empire, equal in status and not in any way subsidiary one to the other in any aspect of their domestic and external affairs."

If I understand the term "equal status" it means that as far as we are concerned as a Dominion we are on equal status and footing with Great Britain. If that is so the Dominion would have the power to amend its own Constitution. No Address necessary to the Crown. At present we have power to appeal to the Privy Council. There is a possibility we might lose that right. We do not know what law Great Britain is going to bring down to apply in this case. Premier King and Mr. Lapointe in their addresses at a dinner in Toronto said there had been no change as far as status was concerned. The text says we have equal status, shorn of all those factors and ties that bind us to the Empire so far as the operation of our external and internal affairs are concerned.

It is our duty to take prompt steps in regard to this particular matter to the Privy Council for decision before something happens that we lose that particular feature of power of appeal.

Premier Gardiner: In what way might we lose it?

Mr. Tran: I have just stated. We appeal now by a request. If the Imperial Parliament enacts an Act whereby we cannot do that we would lose that right. They may say if you are on an equality with us we do not have to set up machinery to take care of your affairs. I do not say it will happen. I pray to God it never will. I hope we will never lose that rectifying power of the Privy Council.

Premier Gardiner: Is there no right of appeal to the Privy Council in Great Britain on certain matters and if there is, from Canada, on certain matters, does that place us still on equal status with the people that live within the British Isles?

Mr. Tran: That may be one way of looking at it, but there is that condition. Something might happen. I hope the Premier's contention is the right one.

Hon. Mr. Cross: No one has ever said we are not going to continue to have the same Crown.

Mr. Tran: Someone is liable to say so. We are in jeopardy and that is why we should take prompt steps before something does happen.

On the point of the surrender of the Hudson's Bay charter. I wonder if anyone knows specifically if that £300,000 was actually paid? It was to be paid by Canada six months after the acceptance by Her Majesty. If my information is correct it was paid in 1905-6. Someone had government bonds. It would surprise me if every dollar was not taken out of these three western provinces.

I have endeavoured to point out a few of the general characteristics and factors pertaining to this subject. I realise there are many ramifications but I have tried to show that Canada was acting as a trust under these different powers and that there was no transference of territorial rights from the Crown to the Parliament of Canada. It would be in violation of *The British North America Act*.

I would ask honourable members of the House to read sections 146, 117, 108, 91 and 92 of *The British North America Act*, study them and then take Mr. Lafleur's opinion and then read Mr. Bram Thompson's opinion. His view is constitutional. Compare the two opinions. Which one was in the best position to give an unbiased opinion? Mr. Lafleur never pretended to be a constitutional lawyer. He was working for the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and the C.P.R. was seriously involved in this question. Mr. Thompson is unbiased, no political ties. I question if you read his opinion and his criticism of Mr. Lafleur's opinion side by side and *The British North America Act* and study the thing whether you could come to any conclusion except the one I have. I would ask the Premier to dispense with caucus so far as this subject is concerned and let every man here have an open mind and vote on this Resolution.

It makes no difference to me whether it carries or not. I have tried to show what I have had in mind for fifteen years and tried to work it out so——

Premier Gardiner: This question has not at any time been discussed in caucus.

Mr. Tran: I am glad to hear that and I hope it will not. I am not going to ask any member to vote for this Resolution. I will not insult anyone's intelligence to that extent. You all have sufficient reasoning power to decide for yourselves. You know right from wrong. It is in no way a political question, but purely constitutional. Satisfy yourself that the Dominion Government had a legal right to withhold our natural resources from us. The Premier has told us we are not satisfied to take our lands back as did Alberta without an accounting, which is true. I had that in mind when framing this Resolution which, Mr. Speaker, I now beg to move, seconded by Mr. Salkeld (*Moosomin*).

Speech delivered by
THE HONOURABLE T. C. DAVIS,
(*Minister of Municipal Affairs and Minister in Charge of The
Bureau of Labour and Industries*)

on

THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

in the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,

Tuesday, February 15, 1927.

Hon. Mr. Davis, in speaking during the Debate on a Resolution respecting the Public Domain, said:

Mr. Speaker,—As I have the duty of administering the Bureau of Labour and Industries, and as natural resources comes within that Department, I propose to address a few words to the House in respect to the Resolution.

I must congratulate the honourable member for Pelly (*Mr. Tran*) on his address. The subject is purely and simply an academic legal proposition and it is difficult enough for a lawyer trained in constitutional matters to argue the point and I realise the difficulty that my honourable friend had in arguing the resolution.

While I am a lawyer, I rise today to discuss the question with a great deal of temerity because the subject is one of special study. I have only had the opportunity of looking into the subject for a couple of days and I thought I had some knowledge of the subject but after listening to my honourable friend he has so scrambled all the ideas together that it is difficult to quite understand what the issue is.

A perusal of the resolution shows that it sets up two distinct propositions. It first says that the natural resources of Saskatchewan do now, and have always, belonged to Saskatchewan, irrespective of the rights of the Dominion. Secondly, it says there has been an alteration in the status of Canada and its relation to the British Empire. One has nothing to do with the other and we are called on to vote in one resolution upon two propositions that are in no way related. An honourable member might wish to vote for one and not for the other but he must vote either for both of them or against both of them.

I want first to address myself to the first proposition—that the natural resources of Saskatchewan do now and have always belonged to the Province of Saskatchewan. To properly set before the House exactly the things I have in mind it will be necessary for me to go back over some of the ground covered by my honourable

friend. It is necessary, for a proper study of the question and a proper understanding of it, that the House have an idea of the historical aspect of the case. My honourable friend has given it to some extent and it might be that I will be obliged to cover some of his ground.

He has told us that at the outset all this Western country, from Hudson Bay to the Rocky Mountains, south to the American boundary and north to the North Pole, was known as the territory of Rupert's Land and the North-West Territories. Back in the days prior to the Hudson Bay Company there was a dispute between the King of France and England as to the ownership of this land, but Great Britain since 1600 has insisted upon ownership of this territory and maintained it. In 1670 there was a grant by Charles the Second to the Hudson Bay Company by charter to this territory. By that charter not only were territorial rights granted but also rights of Government. The Hudson Bay Company continued in possession of this territory and maintained the rights of Government until November 19, 1869. The Dominion of Canada was formed in 1867 under *The British North America Act* and that Act is the constitution of the Dominion.

At the time of passing this Act or prior thereto, we had the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick and Ontario and Quebec, then known as Canada. By virtue of *The British North America Act of 1867* these four provinces were made into the Dominion and that Act was its constitution and still exists.

Section 109 deals with the lands of these four provinces. At that time, prior to Confederation all the lands of each province belonged to the province within the boundaries in which it was situated. *The British North America Act* by virtue of section 109 confirmed the rights of these four provinces to the ownership of their own lands. This section reads:

All lands, mines, minerals and royalties, belonging to the several provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, at the Union, and all sums then due or payable for such lands, mines, minerals or royalties shall belong to the several provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in which the same are situate or arise, subject to any trusts existing in respect thereof and to any interest other than that of the province in the same.

Reference has been made to section 146 and I just wish to read that section to the House:

It shall be lawful for the Queen, by and with the advice of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, on Addresses from the Houses of the Parliament of Canada, and from the Houses of the respective Legislatures of the Colonies or Provinces of Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island and British Columbia to admit those Colonies or Provinces or any of them into the Union, and on Address from the Houses of the Parliament of Canada to admit Rupert's Land and the North-western Territory or either of them into the Union on such terms and conditions in each case as are in the Addresses expressed and as the Queen thinks fit to approve, subject to the provisions of this Act; and the provisions of any Order in Council in that behalf shall have effect as if they had been enacted by the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

When this Act was passed the Hudson Bay Company was still in territorial and Governmental control of the North-Western Territory, but section 146 anticipated, no doubt, surrender would be made and the Union of this territory with the Dominion of

Canada. The Act says that these two territories should be admitted into the Union on such terms and conditions in each case as are in the Addresses expressed and that the Queen sees fit to approve.

The British North America Act was passed in 1867 and the Hudson Bay still owned this country and continued so to do until 1869. In the intervening year the Imperial Parliament passed another Act known as *The Rupert's Land Act*. This Act authorised Her Majesty to accept from the Hudson Bay a surrender of all this Western territory and the Hudson Bay was authorised to surrender its rights. It had two or three additional provisions: First, that no surrender should be accepted by the Crown until the terms of the admission of this territory into Canada were agreed on; second, that the Imperial Government should be put to no expense—any consideration given to the Hudson Bay Company for its surrender should not come from the Imperial Government; third, that when terms had been arranged and the surrender been given by the Hudson Bay Company and accepted by Her Majesty the territory could be incorporated into the Dominion under an Order-in-Council.

As soon as that Act was passed the Imperial Government notified Canada that the Hudson Bay would not surrender its rights unless it received some compensation. Upon that advice being received and by certain resolutions of the Canadian Parliament, two representatives were sent to Great Britain for the purpose of negotiating a settlement with the Hudson Bay.

Before these representatives were sent, the Canadian Parliament petitioned Great Britain, under section 146 of *The British North America Act*, to admit this territory into Canada. That was done on December 17, 1867, and as a result, the Imperial Parliament commenced negotiations with the Hudson Bay Company.

When these negotiations had gone a certain distance the Imperial Government notified the Canadian Government that the Hudson Bay would require certain compensation and the Canadian Parliament, as I say, passed certain resolutions and sent representatives to Great Britain, Sir George Carter and Sir William McDougall. They negotiated a settlement. The Imperial Government and the Hudson Bay and the Dominion Government negotiated a settlement and in it was a certain money consideration, £300,000 which was to be paid to the Hudson Bay. The Imperial Parliament was restricted in the payment of this sum under the 1867 Act and when the company demanded this sum it had to come from some other source and the only source was Canada. Settlement was arrived at whereby this sum was to be paid by the Dominion and certain other rights to be given and in exchange they were to surrender to the Imperial Government all their rights in this territory.

The representatives returned and reported, the agreement they had arrived at. As a result, the Canadian Parliament approved of their report and passed a second resolution petitioning for the inclusion of this territory into the Dominion. That resolu-

tion was sent to Great Britain and an Order-in-Council was passed by the Imperial Government under the Act of 1868, admitting this territory into the Dominion. From the date of that Order-in-Council, June 23, 1870, this territory was admitted into the Union and has so remained.

It is interesting to note that the document the Imperial Government took from the Hudson Bay Company was not only a surrender of the rights of the company but the Act itself stated that upon receipt of this surrender it should act as an absolute extinguishment of all the rights of the company in this land, the lands belonged to Great Britain.

That was the position at the time this country was admitted to the Union on June 23, 1870.

By virtue of the Address the Canadian Parliament undertook to look after the governing of this Western country. That was essential because there were practically no people living here and it was necessary that Government be carried on and should be carried on by a central authority and from 1870 that was done. That continued until some time subsequently when responsible Government was set up. The old North-West Territories Council to which the people had the opportunity of electing representatives was the first responsible Government in the West and from 1870 until that time the Dominion Government ruled and governed this country.

When Great Britain passed the Order-in-Council and admitted this country into the Union there was no formal transfer to Canada. They were given legislative and other rights, but there is nothing specifically stated that the country shall belong to the Dominion either as absolute owner or trustee, but from the documents an inference has been drawn that when the rights of Government were granted in this country by Great Britain to the Dominion, it also carried with it the ownership of these lands and that, therefore, the lands belonged to those four provinces in the Union.

The Province of Manitoba was formed in 1870 out of part of the old Rupert's Land territory and the North-Western Territory. The Dominion continued to govern until responsible Government was set up. The North-West Territories Council continued to govern until the provinces were formed in 1905. From this territory at that time came Alberta and Saskatchewan. Alberta was formed under *The Alberta Act* and Saskatchewan under *The Saskatchewan Act*. Both of these Acts were passed by the Canadian Parliament under the authority of *The British North America Act of 1867* and partially under *The British North America Act of 1871*.

When they were formed the natural resources of the two provinces were retained by the Dominion and that was done by virtue of section 21 of *The Saskatchewan Act* and a similar section of *The Alberta Act*. Section 21 of *The Saskatchewan Act* reads as follows:

All Crown lands, mines and minerals and royalties incident thereto and the interest of the Crown in the waters within the province under *The North West*

Irrigation Act, 1898, shall continue to be vested in the Crown and administered by the Government of Canada for the purposes of Canada, subject to the provisions of any Act of the Parliament of Canada with respect to road allowances and roads or trails in force immediately before the coming into force of this Act, which shall apply to the said province with the substitution therein of the said province for the North West Territories.

Mr. Tran: May I ask how does that comply with section 92, paragraph 5, of *The British North America Act*.

Hon. Mr. Davis: There is no connection between the two. Section 92 deals with legislative authority of this Assembly and section 21 deals with the ownership of lands. Under that section the lands were retained in 1905 and have continued that way.

In lieu of the lands a certain annual subsidy has been paid to the two provinces. It has been paid each year and we are still in annual receipt of that subsidy.

When that section was enacted I do not know that the point which has now arisen was taken into consideration. You may by that section infer that the Dominion claimed that they absolutely owned the land, and on the other hand, the term is used that compensation shall be given in lieu of lands. You could argue that the Dominion recognised the right of the province and was giving this grant in lieu. But nothing specific is stated as to the actual attitude of the Dominion Government on the matter.

Since that time a contrary view has been taken. I do not know when that view was first promulgated in this Province. One of the chief exponents of this view is Mr. Bram Thompson. I have read his reply to Mr. Lafleur's opinion and it is apparent that my honourable friend has given the matter a great deal of study and has gone very deeply into it and that he does not altogether agree with the other opinion.

There are two propositions so far as land is concerned: First, that the Dominion bought these lands from the Hudson Bay through the Imperial Government on payment of £300,000 and the lands belong to the Dominion; second, this country was admitted into Union and the Dominion Government given legislative rights only, and when responsible Government was set up in this country immediately the lands went to these two provinces.

There is also the question of the constitutionality of *The Saskatchewan Act* in so far as our lands are concerned because it might be argued that we have accepted the annual subsidy and that we voluntarily surrendered our lands and accepted the subsidy instead.

When this question was first brought forcibly before the attention of the people of Saskatchewan, the Government did the natural thing and sought an opinion as to the whole transaction. In the judgment of the Government they obtained an opinion from Mr. Lafleur. Every lawyer in the Dominion knows Mr. Lafleur as one of the leading lawyers of the Dominion. The question was submitted to him and an opinion given. He concludes his opinion in these words: "For these reasons I am of opinion that any attempt

on the part of the Province of Saskatchewan to claim her natural resources from the Dominion through the courts of law would be doomed to failure."

In the face of that opinion this resolution would bind the House, contrary to his advice, to commence the action suggested. If we pass this resolution, the fact is that the Government must institute an action against the Dominion and carry it to the Privy Council to submit to it the contention that these lands belong to Saskatchewan. If we do that we do it directly in the face of the opinion of Mr. Lafleur. Any ordinary man if he thinks he has a right of action against someone and consults a lawyer and learns he has not, I do not think he would rush to take that action, and I do not think that that which we would not do as individuals we should do collectively. If you do not like the advice possibly you should seek other advice, but I do not think we can accept the position that in view of this advice from one of the most prominent lawyers in the Dominion this Legislature should rush into litigation that would be involved if this resolution passed.

Then, may be, there is something in the argument advanced by Mr. Thompson. It shows a great deal of study and a great deal of weight should be given his opinion because it is plain that he has given the matter the most careful consideration. I do not say, as a lawyer, that his opinion is not correct. All I say is that in the face of the opinion we have from Mr. Lafleur we should not rush into litigation until we make further investigation.

If we embarked on this litigation and won the suit, where would we land? If it was found and we got a declaration that section 21 was invalid and the Dominion had no right to bargain with us, but that these lands were owned by us, what would be the result in Saskatchewan? Every title issued in Saskatchewan since the formation of the Province has been issued by the Government of Canada and the first effect of such a decision would be to render invalid every title. All registrations of title would be invalid. The business of the country would be disrupted. There would be only one way to cure it, by coming to the Legislature and confirming these titles. We would be back exactly in the same box as today. The lands are gone and if we won the action we would have to carry on negotiations for settlement just as we do today. We would have to go back to the Ottawa Government and demand an accounting and payment to us if any money was coming to us and return to us all the balance of our natural resources. We would be in exactly the same position as we are now.

Mr. McClure: Do you mean all the land has gone? Have we not a great deal of public domain in this Province?

Hon. Mr. Davis: I was referring to the lands transferred since 1905 by grant from the Crown. At this time I do not think there is a great deal to be gained even in the event of a successful action by commencing such litigation.

Mr. Tran: How long would you advise us to wait?

Hon. Mr. Davis: By virtue of certain cases now before the Courts you will have to wait until they are settled.

At this point, Mr. Speaker, I would move the adjournment of the Debate.

Tuesday, February 22, 1927.

Hon. Mr. Davis, continuing his speech, said:

Mr. Speaker,—I am afraid the debate in connection with this resolution has been rather disjointed by reason of the fact that a week or ten days has elapsed since I adjourned the debate.

At that time I had practically concluded the remarks I had to make in connection with this matter as it was only my intention to touch the one aspect of the resolution. I had endeavoured to outline the different historical steps in connection with the development of Governmental institutions in the territories known as Rupert's Land and the North-Western Territory. I tried to outline the different steps taken since Great Britain took over the control of this Western country and I pointed out that in 1869 or 1870 the North-West Territories and Rupert's Land were incorporated into the Union. Under section 146 of *The British North America Act of 1867* the provinces of Canada had petitioned the Imperial Parliament for the incorporation of this territory into the Dominion and that petition was granted by virtue of an Order-in-Council and the territory formed part of the Union and bore similar relationship to the Union as the other provinces of Canada did. At that time when this territory was incorporated into the Dominion there were practically no people living in this Western country and no method of Government. It was not necessary because there was no one here to govern. The Dominion Government continued to control the country from that date on and as people moved in they continued to govern. Subsequently, provision was made for an elected body in the North-West and the old North-West Assembly was eventually set up and the people elected representatives to that Assembly, which took over the Government from the Dominion. That Assembly continued until 1905 when Alberta and Saskatchewan were formed and the two Acts passed by the Dominion Parliament. Provision was made, as I outlined, in *The Saskatchewan Act* in section 21 for the retention by the Dominion of our natural resources and in lieu we were granted an annual subsidy.

I cannot find anywhere in the Act or in the debates which followed the introduction of the Act that any definite and concrete stand was taken by the Government of Canada adopting the attitude that they absolutely owned these resources. All that was done was that an agreement was arrived at between the Province and the Dominion whereby the resources were retained by the Dominion and we were given an annual cash subsidy in lieu.

It might be inferred from the Act that they took the attitude that the Province owned the resources because they were giving

the subsidy in lieu. The resources were retained and for the last 21 years have been so retained. No definite stand was taken by the Province or by the Dominion at any time since that day, that there was any other state of affairs existing different to that of 1905.

There has been a different opinion voiced in this Province with respect to the status of our lands in 1905. I do not know who first suggested this different opinion and the fact is that a legal gentleman of Regina, Mr. Bram Thompson, has delved into this question and has voiced a different opinion.

His attitude, as I understand it, is that this territory was incorporated into the Dominion and the only right the Dominion had was to govern the country and hold the lands in trust for the territories until they were given responsible Government, and when that moment arrived, automatically our land and resources came to Saskatchewan and that means, if it means anything at all, that section 21 of *The Saskatchewan Act* and the whole deal whereby they were to retain the resources and we were to receive an annual subsidy is invalid. When that view was expressed the Government of Saskatchewan decided to seek legal opinion and obtained one from Mr. Lafleur, whose letter I read when I was last addressing the House. You will remember he stated that any effort at litigation, such as suggested in this resolution, would be doomed to failure.

That is the opinion the Government has received, but in the face of it my honourable friend introduces this resolution and suggests we should disregard this opinion and institute proceedings for the purpose of establishing the correctness of the contrary opinion held by Mr. Bram Thompson.

The moment we adopt this resolution the effect is that we must institute proceedings to the Privy Council for the purpose of establishing the fact that when the Province was formed in 1905 our resources came to us and the Dominion Government was trustee for us since that day.

I am not arguing that Mr. Thompson's opinion is not entitled to merit and investigation, but this House having received an opinion contrary to the view expressed in this resolution, it would be the height of folly to rush in and commence an action.

This is distinctly a legal proposition. Before we do anything to adopt either one or the other legal view we should move very carefully.

There was another feature I was trying to point out. It is a question, even if we were successful, of whether or not it would be a wise thing on the part of the Government to institute such an action. If we had it declared by the Privy Council that these resources belong to us in 1905 and since, where would this lead us? In my opinion, the effect would be to invalidate every title issued in Saskatchewan, particularly since 1905. The titles have been issued by the Dominion Government. There would be created such a state of tumult that the business of the country could not be carried on. We would have to call the Legislature and pass an

Act providing for confirmation of these titles. We would have to go to the Dominion Government and negotiate with them for settlement for the lands alienated during these years.

When this matter is finally settled between the two authorities that is exactly what must be done. The only settlement will be to go to the Dominion and negotiate settlement, and I think first of all the action proposed in the resolution is premature. If we were sure of success I would doubt the wisdom of starting any action at this time. I do not think that is the final solution of the question. I think that settlement can only be arrived at finally by negotiation between the respective Governments.

The matter has become a more or less academic question of law. It would be nice to establish the legal view of any particular legal gentleman to commit this Legislature to this resolution but I am not so sure that we are very much concerned about that.

For the reason I have given, Mr. Speaker, I intend to oppose the motion.

Speech delivered by

THE HONOURABLE J. G. GARDINER,

(Premier and Provincial Treasurer)

on

THE BUDGET

in the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,

Tuesday, February 15, 1927.

The Honourable Mr. Gardiner, in moving that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair for the Assembly to go into the Committee of Supply, said:

Mr. Speaker,

It is the right and privilege of every member of the Legislature on the occasion when the Government is asking the House to vote Supply for the coming year to demand an accounting of those funds which were entrusted to the Government during the last fiscal year for which the Public Accounts have issued and also, in so far as it is possible, of those funds which are being expended by the Government during the current year. It is the duty of the Government to give an estimate of revenue and expenditure for the coming year and to intimate to you the sources from which revenue is to come, as well as the purposes for which it is to be used.

Every member of this House will agree with me when I state that up to the present time the great source of revenue within this province is its land. We have our coal mines, our fisheries, our lumber camps, our fur trading industry and a certain amount of manufacturing, but all else fades into insignificance when compared with the wealth which is produced from the farm. Because this is true, every activity within this province reacts to the ups and downs of agriculture. To state that the business of loan companies is improving; to state that the business of our banks is improving; to state that municipal finance is improving; to state that business in general is improving, is to state that the farmer is ceasing to feel the pinch which a few years ago caused gloom to shroud an outlook which is naturally bright and optimistic.

The loan companies state that they have had the most favourable year since the war and their opinions are verified by their offerings of loans at the lowest rates of interest experienced in Western Canada. The banks report deposits up, collections good and the per capita wealth of the farmer higher. Municipalities show bank loans in 1921 amounting to \$8,669,675, as compared with \$3,230,400 in 1925, or a reduction of \$5,439,275. Debenture debts in the same years stand at \$35,015,180, as compared with \$31,919,650 or a reduction of \$3,095,530—a remarkable thing in a new and developing province. The uncollected arrears of taxes in the same years has been reduced from \$17,691,050 to \$12,535,100 or by \$5,155,950. Relief and seed grain guarantees which once stood at over \$3,000,000 now stand at half a million.

These facts, together with the dropping off in the demands made upon the Debt Adjustment Bureau, indicate that our people are gradually overtaking their obligations and placing themselves in a sound financial position.

The building programmes within our cities, towns and rural districts, together with the fact that 20,000 cars were added to the number licensed last year as compared with the previous year, should leave no doubt in the minds of those interested, both within and outside our province, that we are due for a period of advancement based upon a sound financial foundation. We have been prophesying better conditions, confident that they would come, because at all times we have been persuaded that the productiveness of our soil and the thrift of our people could be relied upon.

Those who have been critical of the financial policy of the Government of the Province have levelled their criticism at two facts. It has been stated that our public debt is high and that our expenditures to maintain the yearly activities of government are high. When we speak of \$57,114,362 it does sound like a considerable amount, but when I inform you that the public debt of one year ago as announced in the last Budget speech amounted to \$57,463,659, you will note that there has been a reduction of \$349,297 in the gross public debt during the year. 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.

Let us examine into our capital expenditure. It is generally admitted that in the building up of institutions of government, in the provision of facilities necessary to an advancing community, in the general development of a province, certain expenditures which provide those things which are fairly permanent should be financed on borrowed capital so that the cost may be more equitably spread over the years they are going to be in use than if the total amount necessary to their cost were made a charge upon the present taxpayers. If this policy is to be followed, a public debt is necessary in the interests of equity. This great province, Mr. Speaker, has been built up through the application of intellect, muscle and credit

to the development of the resources which a bountiful Providence has left in store for mankind. Whatever place we may give to the intelligence of our people, whatever is due to their thrift and industry in placing responsibility for our present place among the provinces, I am sure that no other province owes more to the influence of credit than does Saskatchewan. If the Government had not taken advantage of this means to bring about development more rapidly than it otherwise could come, we would now be languishing far behind the other provinces in development instead of standing as we do today, third among the members of Confederation.

In bringing about development of our province the Government has used the credit of the province in three ways: Firstly, to provide public buildings necessary to the carrying on of Government, the education of our children, the care of the sick and the housing of the criminal; to provide steel and concrete bridges and the foundation grades for a permanent road system; and to provide other utilities of a lasting nature, all of which account for the net public debt of \$32,571,264. The public buildings and highways account for \$32,328,471 of that total. That, Mr. Speaker, is the net debt of the province and is the only part of it which has ever been a charge upon the revenues collected by way of taxation from the people of the province.

Secondly, the credit of the province has been used to provide government owned activities. There is only one such utility, within the province, that is the telephone system. That system accounts for \$10,307,720 of the public debt and has paid all running costs and interest upon the money invested from the beginning. It is a self-sustaining loan.

Thirdly, the credit of the whole province has been used to promote co-operation and thus place at the disposal of certain sections of the community cheaper money. The credit of the whole province was placed behind the farmers to make possible the organisation of The Co-operative Elevator Company in 1911. When that company ceased to function the amount of the public debt which was due to that action amounted to over \$2,500,000. Over \$2,000,000 of this credit has been transferred from The Co-operative Elevator Company to The Pool Elevators Company, Limited. This fact, in itself, should be a fitting answer to those who contend that this Government has not shown confidence in the pool system of marketing. It may be of interest to members of the House to know that five members of the present Government took the platform to assist in the organisation of the Wheat Pool in the fall of 1925 and we have continued our confidence in it right down to the present moment.

The credit of the whole province was placed behind the dairy industry when we advanced \$688,054 to the Co-operative Creameries. This great enterprise has not been the financial success that the Elevator Company was but it has played an important part in broadening the basis of agriculture, thus rendering more sure the earning capacity of our agriculturalists.

Money has been loaned to the farmers over a period of years at $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. as a result of the operations of The Farm Loan Board. The activities of this organisation account for \$9,551,960 of the public debt and yet not one dollar of that money was actually expended by the Government. The credit of the province made possible cheap money for the improvement of buildings, equipment and stock upon the farms. Every dollar of the money was expended by those securing the loans. Loans to Drainage Districts, the cyclone loans to the City of Regina and Agricultural Aids account for a total of \$1,201,471, which brings the total debt of Saskatchewan up to \$57,114,363 of which \$24,543,097 is self-supporting.

The following table will indicate the purposes for which the entire public debt was expended:

PUBLIC DEBT AS AT JANUARY 31, 1927.

| | | |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Gross Debt..... | | \$57,114,362.68 |
| Made up as follows: | | |
| Public Buildings..... | \$18,474,353.34 | |
| Public Improvements..... | 13,854,118.19 | |
| Telephones..... | 10,307,720.15 | |
| Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Co., Ltd..... | 2,522,741.31 | |
| Drainage Districts..... | 415,120.52 | |
| City of Regina, Cyclone Loan..... | 586,351.55 | |
| Patriotic Aids..... | 153,542.53 | |
| Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Ltd..... | 688,054.71 | |
| Lignite Utilisation Board..... | 279,684.73 | |
| Saskatchewan Farm Loan Board.. | 9,551,960.00 | |
| Agricultural Aids..... | 200,000.00 | |
| Treasury Bills, Deferred Charges.. | 80,715.65 | |
| | ----- | \$57,114,362.68 |

I would ask members of the House to analyse this table during the Debate and point out to us expenditures which could not properly be charged to capital, places where public money was needlessly expended, or any lack of reasonable care in the administration of those departments responsible for the expenditure of this money. It is worth noting, Mr. Speaker, that Public Buildings, Highways, Telephones, Farm Loans, Co-operative Creameries and the loan transferred to The Pool Elevators, account for \$55,400,000 out of a total debt of \$57,114,368. Which one of these services would our critics have left unprovided?

In order to complete the record, Mr. Speaker, I wish to read into my remarks figures which show that there are only three provinces in Canada having a lower per capita debt, either gross or net, than the Province of Saskatchewan. The following table was compiled by The Dominion Securities Corporation, Limited, on March 15, 1926, and, therefore, is not tainted in any way by political bias:

| Province | Gross Funded Debt | Per Capita | Net Funded Debt | Per Capita |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|------------|-----------------|------------|
| British Columbia | \$91,842,161.00 | \$175.00 | \$41,807,046.00 | \$79.00 |
| Alberta | 82,659,406.00 | 140.00 | 57,489,207.00 | 97.00 |
| Manitoba | 71,765,802.00 | 117.00 | 27,785,800.00 | 45.00 |
| Ontario | 300,855,000.00 | 102.00 | 115,755,000.00 | 39.00 |
| New Brunswick . | 32,500,909.00 | 83.00 | 19,122,437.00 | 49.00 |
| <i>Saskatchewan</i> | 57,104,641.00 | 75.00 | 31,686,060.00 | 41.00 |
| Nova Scotia | 35,653,313.00 | 68.00 | 23,577,674.00 | 45.00 |
| Quebec | 81,944,826.00 | 34.00 | 53,209,274.00 | 22.00 |
| P.E.I. | 1,833,000.00 | 20.00 | 1,483,948.00 | 16.00 |

May I be permitted to conclude my remarks regarding the Public Debt with the statement that since the last Budget was delivered we have reduced the Public Debt of the province by \$350,000. What is of vastly more importance is that our refunding and redemption of loans, amounting to \$6,437,000 has resulted in an annual saving in interest charges amounting to \$327,700. We are paying the lowest rate of interest on our second last loan that has been secured since 1913 and the lowest rate on the last which the province has ever paid for American or Canadian money, the cost being 4.86.

If you examine the Public Accounts of 1925-26, you will find that the expenditures of that year amounted to approximately \$13,000,000. The criticism of past years has been, and no doubt will be again, this year, that there has been a considerable increase in expenditure during the past ten years. I have never thought that criticism to be fair or helpful, Mr. Speaker. Why? Because it does not take into consideration the changed conditions prevailing more or less the world over and more particularly upon this continent. The relationship between government and people today as compared with even so recent a period as twenty-five years ago is hard to appreciate. I venture to state that if this Government were permitted to function today as it would have been permitted to function with an equal population twenty-five years ago we could provide for our entire activities upon a budget of \$5,000,000. If we attempted to function upon \$5,000,000 at the present time we would so disrupt what our people have come to look upon as the service due from a government that it would be impossible for this Government to continue in office.

This statement can best be illustrated by an examination of the expenditures of 1915-16 as compared with those of 1925-26. In the year 1915-16 the total expenditure was \$5,258,755 from revenue. If we had conducted the same activities of government in 1925-26 as in 1915-16, spending exactly the same amounts upon them as we did in 1925-26 in all departments excepting Public Works, Highways, Education, Public Health, Child Protection and Public Debt, and for these latter purposes had spent the same amount as we did in 1915-16, the total cost of government for 1925-26 would have been \$6,241,021. If I had taken any other years excepting the two mentioned for the comparison, there would

have been little, if any, difference between the two years. In other words, the most unfavourable comparison which can be made over a period of ten years shows that equal services to those of ten years ago are being given today in spite of higher costs and increased population with an increased expenditure of less than \$1,000,000.

By this method of elimination, Mr. Speaker, I have confined such a criticism to two forms of expenditure. The first is those expenditures embarked upon to provide new services, and the second, is those expenditures which represent an increase in the cost of services which were being rendered ten years ago. I shall deal with these two increases in the order referred to.

What new services are paid for by the amount which is represented in the difference between \$6,000,000 and \$13,000,000? These amounts represent in round figures the increase in expenditure over the ten year period referred to. In dealing with the Public Debt I referred to the fact that \$24,000,000 has been incurred for utilities which are paying their way. That portion of this which has been increased since 1915-16 would account for \$1,000,000 of the increased annual public debt charge while \$800,000 is expended on services by different departments which are entirely new.

In analysing these figures our critics will find that practically the whole amount of \$1,800,000 is providing the people of this province with additional telephone service, loans to farmers at 6½ per cent., elevators for the handling of Pool Wheat, Co-operative Creameries, and the Local Government Board. Is there any member of the House who would suggest that we should discontinue any one of these services? I venture to predict as the Debate wears on there will be no such suggestion.

If I am correct in that assumption, Mr. Speaker, we have now eliminated all the increase except \$5,200,000 in round figures. Where is it to be found? It is to be found in five items of expenditure: \$810,000 in Public Health and Child Protection, \$800,000 in Highways, \$780,000 in Public Works and \$2,810,000 in Education.

It has been stated times without number in this House during the past five years since the present Minister took charge of the Department of Public Health (*Hon. Mr. Uhrich*), that there is nothing but praise for the work of that department. Even the most critical of our opponents have refrained from laying unholy hands upon the great service which is being done through the expenditure of \$600,000 in that department. Every member of this House will give his blessing to the increased expenditure amounting to \$390,000 over a ten year period to bring comfort to the widow, the orphan and the neglected child. With your consent to these items goes by the board another item of \$810,000.

What about highway expenditures? There has been an increase of \$800,000 in the ten year period and I believe I am right when I state that every member of this House has gone on record to say that there should be a still further increase. I believe then that there is no need for further explanation there.

In Public Works there has been an increased expenditure of \$780,000. It is significant that during the ten years the Department built a new Normal School, a new Gaol, a new Mental Hospital, a new Old People's Home, a new Sanatorium and a number of new Court Houses. The increase in the cost of public health work carried on in the Mental Hospitals alone is \$446,000. Why have we placed the Public Works Department under the Minister of Public Health? Because the most important work which the Minister has to do is the administration of the two Mental Hospitals and in providing facilities for the treatment of tuberculosis. Will there be any suggestion that such work should stop, Mr. Speaker?

The Minister of Public Works (*Hon. Mr. Uhrich*) has said on numerous occasions, a Government can best be judged by the way it cares for its children and its sick. When we cease to measure up to the standard set for the care of our sick, mentally and otherwise, I trust the people of this province will see to it that we are removed from office because the health of our people is of greater importance than the life of a government.

In 1915 there was no Provincial Police force and, therefore, no provision had to be made by the Department of Public Works for the accommodation of such force. We have a Provincial Police Force of 145 to provide for at present. The cost of the force to the Public Works Department, from revenue, is \$146,000. This leaves less than \$200,000 to cover the increased cost due to the development of the past ten years. Surely, no one will contend that the department has been over-spending on what was recognised as the proper functions of such a department ten years ago? I might tell the honourable member for Saskatoon that in all those services which existed ten years ago and which still existed when Hon. A. P. McNab went out of office the greater part of the increased expenditure consisted of raises in salary to the lower paid officials. Let me emphasise, Mr. Speaker, that the one place at which a material cut could be made if we wished to return to the scale of ten years ago would be at the expense of the sick, the aged and the infirm. We do not intend to cut at such a cost.

I now come to what has been a matter of discussion on a number of previous occasions in the House, Mr. Speaker, namely: the cost of education. Education has been responsible for more than half of the total increase on the five important items under discussion. \$2,810,000 has been the increase in expenditure upon education over the ten year period. \$2,280,000 of that increase has been in grants, an increase of \$319,000 in grants to the University, an increase of \$246,000 in grants for secondary education and an increase of \$1,715,000 in grants to elementary education.

It is perhaps natural that there should have been an increase in the expenditure upon the University during that period. The University of Saskatchewan was scarcely recognised as a centre of higher education in 1915. Today it is known over the whole continent because of the accomplishments of its graduates and because of the success attained by the College of Agriculture,

which is a part of the University, at the Royal and International Exhibitions over several years. In fact, it has become a University during the period of increasing expenditure.

It is perhaps natural that we should have increased our grants for secondary education owing to the fact that the child in many instances cannot obtain a secondary training in the district where the parent pays taxes.

But I think it is worth while investigating as to whether or not we are getting any better results through the payment of such large grants to the elementary schools of the province. I am aware, Mr. Speaker, that Dr. Foght, when he made his investigation in 1917, based his conclusions upon expenditures made upon education in the province in the very year I have been comparing with 1925-26, together with such information as was available regarding 1916. I am also aware that he recommended an increase in the supplementary revenue tax in order to provide for an increase in school grants. I am also aware that the Government in its wisdom in 1919, under the leadership of the then Minister of Education, did away with the Supplementary Revenue Tax, increased the Public Revenue Tax and greatly increased school grants. In principle, the Government carried out the recommendation of Dr. Foght, increasing a land tax over the whole province to pay higher grants to schools. We are now reviewing the results of the operation of that experiment and in doing so I am going to ask the House and the province to forget personalities, parties and opportunities to gain political advantage while we consider sanely and without prejudice what we have accomplished.

Education is costing the people of this province approximately \$14,725,000 a year. Ten and three quarter million dollars is being provided by tax levies in the cities, towns, villages, rural municipalities and Local Improvement Districts, while, including interest on the investment in Normal Schools and University buildings, the Provincial Government is spending about \$4,000,000. Under our system of education there is a division of responsibility between the local school district and the Provincial Government.

What is that division of responsibility?

The school board has a responsibility to provide a suitable building, to properly furnish and equip the building, to engage a properly qualified teacher, to direct the general conduct of the school in accordance with The School Act and to present to the Municipal Council estimates of the cost of such work to be provided for by a levy of taxes upon the lands of the school district.

The Department of Education is responsible for the supervision of all the activities of the school board and the school teacher; for certifying as to the qualifications of the teacher; for the setting of a course of studies and books to be used; for the training of teachers to take charge of its schools and, in general, to see that so far as practicable equal opportunity is given every child to secure an education which will enable him to qualify for the minimum

standing which is considered essential to his becoming a useful and intelligent citizen. The expenditure necessary to the accomplishment of these purposes must be provided for from the revenues of the province.

What then should be the purposes for which school grants are given, Mr. Speaker? In my opinion, they should be given by way of an inducement to school boards to improve the standing of their schools and to make it possible for weak school districts to function. If the school grant simply functions as a supplement to the school levy in a school district then, Mr. Speaker, I submit it is serving no good purpose.

Let us return to Dr. Foght's recommendation, to the effect that we increase the land tax and also the school grant. The Public Revenue levy in this province last year was approximately \$2,000,000 and the school grants paid to elementary schools earned last year was approximately the same amount. If we are serving no other purpose, Mr. Speaker, than to take into the Treasury \$2,000,000 levied and collected by the same authority who levies and collects the school tax for the school board and then redistributing it among the school boards, the sooner we discontinue the practice the better.

The very amount of money which we are handling for educational purposes is beginning to stagger us. When we eliminate certain interest charges and commissions from the current expenditures for the year 1925-26, the expenditure upon education amounts to 36 per cent. of the total expenditure for the province. As we reduce our expenditures in other departments to meet the demands for economy, the law providing for grants compels us to reduce our expenditures for education upon those activities for which the Department of Education alone must be responsible. We have hesitated in the past to strike at a grant which is popular because it appears to lighten the general burden—while in reality it does nothing of the kind—but I feel compelled to warn the public now that so soon as it appears that the difficulty in collecting local taxes is past the Government should rearrange the school grants of this province in such a way as to bring relief to weak districts; to give encouragement to school districts to improve the standard of their schools rather than merely to supplement the local taxes and to leave to the department sufficient funds with which to carry on their legitimate work, more particularly in supervision, without making the department appear to be the spend-thrift department of the Government.

Mr. Speaker, the members of the Government believe that a matter of so far reaching importance should be discussed by the people of the province for one year before final action is taken by this Legislature. We are fully convinced that the raising of a large sum of money by the central authority to be returned to those who paid it is reacting to the disadvantage of education in the province. With the approval of the people of the province and the members of the Legislature as a result of the discussions

to which we invite everyone interested in the education of the child, we hope to evolve a scheme for the distribution of the funds available within the province for education which will get better results than we are obtaining at present.

To sum up, Mr. Speaker, we feel that we have no need to apologise for the increased expenditures over the period reviewed. In all departments of government any increases which have been made are represented by the services which the public would refuse to forego. In leaving the past I want to say this: I have listened to the criticisms of the Minister of Education (*Hon. Mr. Latta*), both inside the House and outside of it and I am prepared to state that it would be difficult to find within the bounds of this province a man in any political party more capable and better fitted to administer that department than the present Minister. When we reach the objective we now have in mind he will demonstrate this fact even to his present detractors.

Well, Mr. Speaker, we are prone to talk of the past because we are more sure of our ground when dealing with those things which have been, but I must dwell for a moment in the present and hurry on to announce our general policy in finance for the future.

The Supplementary Estimates passed by this House last week tell the story with regard to the working out of the Estimates which were passed one year ago. During the latter part of last year and the current year we have utilised liquor profits for the redemption of Public Debt to the amount of \$1,164,780; cleaned up accounts payable at the end of last fiscal year; have paid off the accumulated deficits of previous years amounting to \$474,398 and have in hand \$238,448. If we had used liquor profits as they did in other provinces during 1925-26 we would have had a surplus of \$1,076,400.

But what of the future?

In order to lay the ground work for an understanding of our policy for the future as indicated in the Estimates, it would appear to be wise that I should call your attention to the present sources of revenue. There will, of course, be published as an appendix to this speech a table showing revenues and expenditures as in previous years. The expenditures of the last Public Accounts and the Estimates for 1927-28 as well as the revenues approximate \$13,000,000. As I am simply laying the foundations for an argument in favour of a certain line of policy, I am going to use round figures which approximate those of the records. \$3,000,000 is secured from the Federal Government as subsidy and School Lands earnings. \$4,000,000 is secured from taxation to which the public revenue tax contributes more than half. \$3,000,000 is secured from licenses, fees and fines, more than half of which is accounted for by automobile licenses. \$3,000,000 is partly secured from interest on the self-sustaining Public Debt and accruals on sinking fund investments and we propose to make up the balance of this sum from liquor profits.

Not only have we cleared up the balance required for last year out of liquor profits, but as indicated earlier in my address, we urged all those to whom grants and other amounts payable were due to have their returns in to the departments before the end of the fiscal year in order that they could be paid, thus leaving us to conduct this year's business on the Estimates passed by you one year ago. The Supplementary Estimates indicated that further sums, including \$200,000 for highways will be required in addition to your votes of one year ago. In so far as these cannot be covered by the other sources of revenue sufficient sums will be taken from liquor profits to make up the balance before applying further amounts to the reduction of Public Debt. Such sums as were required for the above purposes, together with the removal of the accumulated deficits of past years, and the redemption of securities issued for capital account purposes and deferred charges have accounted for all liquor profits so far transferred to the Consolidated Fund, with the exception of \$238,000 which is still in hand.

If the members of the House will allow their minds to run back over the sources of revenue which I have enumerated they will realise that every dollar of money which enters the coffers of the Treasury comes from the pockets of the people of this province. The interest on amounts invested on school lands is earned by lands situated within the province. The subsidy paid by the Dominion Government is secured through the imposition of custom duties upon goods including liquors, entering the province. The Public Revenue Tax is paid by our homemakers and builders of industry direct. The corporations and railways pay for the right to make profits within the bounds of our province. The automobile licenses, fines and fees are paid by our own people. With the exception of what the Americans drink, a percentage of our people consume and pay for the liquor which makes a \$2,000,000 profit on that business possible.

What should the objective of the Government be in raising and expending money for the activities of administration within the province? I believe it should be to build up productive industry within this province to the end that it may be occupied by a contented, sober, God-fearing, intelligent, home-loving people. The basis of our stability for the future must be contented homes, extending as far north as the vitalising climate of this great north land will permit. Let us induce our young men to go back into the hinterland and brave the invigorating climate and experiences of the white man's paradise, instead of filling our papers with inducements to our young people to turn their eyes towards the vitiating influences that are being thrown about one of our stalwart sons in the warmer climate of the south.

Our desire to build up homes and industry within the province is our reason for a change in policy in raising revenue which I am going to announce before resuming my seat.

To begin with, Mr. Speaker, let me state that so long as the people of the province insist upon our being in the liquor business,

we are going to have profits. Every nation under the sun has considered the consumption of liquors a legitimate source of revenue for two reasons; in the first place, because the higher the price the less the consumption, and, in the second place, because it is not a necessity of life and, therefore, those who spend their money for its purchase should be prepared to bear a considerable share of the cost of government. The man who can afford to drink liquor can afford to pay an exorbitant tax to the state, and the man who cannot afford to drink it will drink less if the tax is high. The Government is not asking the Federal Government to reduce the tax on alcoholic liquors and the Government, so long as it is compelled to be in the business, intends to make a profit out of it.

The next question is how should it be spent? At the beginning of my address, I stated that there are certain expenditures which should be spread over a term of years in order to share the burden with those who are going to benefit. There have been other expenditures forced upon us by drought or grasshopper plagues, which do not come in that class, but which because of their unforeseen nature, had to be treated as extraordinary expenditures. These latter, I think, are quite legitimately expenditures which might be taken care of out of unforeseen and possibly temporary revenues. I do not think that more permanent capital expenditures should be so treated. In other words, if we follow the arguments of some and believe that the present system of liquor control is the panacea for all the evils of the liquor traffic, then who is more entitled to benefit by our superior good judgment and wisdom than this most wise and upright generation? If, on the other hand, we follow the reasoning of others and believe that it is a curse upon us, then who is more entitled to the soothing influence of reduced taxation than this perverse generation? Whether our present system is right or wrong, a twenty-one year review of conditions in this province, this country, or on this continent, will convince anyone that drunkenness is on the decrease and that it is becoming more and more a matter of disgrace to be seen staggering down the street.

While profits from the liquor business obtains revenue from every individual who purchases liquor, there is a source of revenue that strikes every home builder in the province and every legitimate promoter of industry. This is the Public Revenue Tax. That tax, while it may appear small when you state it in mills on the dollar, produces more revenue at present than any other single source of revenue. At the same time it strikes at the only source of revenue which our rural municipalities and schools have, and at the main source of revenue which was some years ago assigned to all urban and rural municipalities within the province. It was brought into being during the war and the main reasons given for its retention was a desire to get rid of the Supplementary Revenue Tax and a desire to increase school grants.

We have had requests from municipalities, both urban and rural, and from other organisations to turn over to the municipalities part of the liquor profits. We do not think that good policy for two reasons. In the first place, we believe that since the

Provincial Government is saddled with responsibility for the business, we should have the profits to reduce the necessity for increased burdens of taxation elsewhere. In the second place, we do not believe that it would be fair to the temperance people of the province to give every municipality in this province a reason for voting wet when our system of liquor control is resting on the local option basis.

We have had requests from municipalities, both urban and rural, for a distribution of the revenue received from automobile licenses. Our reply to them is no, and again our reason is twofold. In the first place we believe that no municipality can claim the right to the revenues derived from the fact that a car is owned within its bounds because the very nature of the vehicle makes it to operate on the highways of many municipalities. In the second place, the greater the increase in the number of cars the greater becomes the responsibility of the Provincial Government to provide high class long distance roads which no municipality can assume responsibility for.

But we have decided to strike over half a million dollars off the Public Revenue Tax. This, Mr. Speaker, amounts to a 25 per cent. reduction in that tax and releases half a million dollars of possible revenues to the municipalities.

I think I can hear some stating that by taking liquor profits into revenue and striking off part of the Public Revenue Tax you are saddling us with the liquor business as an absolute necessity to the financing of the future. But such is not the case. An examination of the records of Manitoba shows that they secure from an amusement tax \$357,000, a gasoline tax \$432,000, and an income tax \$497,000 or a total of \$1,386,000. We have none of these taxes and with our greater population than Manitoba could secure from a similar tax approximately \$1,500,000 from these three sources. If we lost our liquor profits tomorrow a gasoline tax alone would make up for the amount which has been struck off the Public Revenue Tax. If, on the other hand, the liquor profits remain and a gasoline tax is considered essential to an equitable system of taxation, I submit to the municipalities of the province that it would be much better to reduce the Public Revenue Tax still further rather than reduce the license on the cars. In arguing that point I again remind you of the fact that the Public Revenue Tax is on business, industry and home making, whereas, while almost every business man and home builder may have a car, a great many younger people, commercial men and others have cars who have no homes, business or industrial taxable property. We are securing a revenue there from a class that cannot be touched by the Public Revenue Tax.

For these reasons, Mr. Speaker, the whole trend of this present Budget is, together with the policy which I am announcing with it, toward a turning back to the municipalities what has been recognised as their main source of revenue, both for local improvement and school purposes in order that they may use it in so far as they find

it necessary to do so, with the ultimate object that there may be less overlapping in educational and municipal work as between the responsibilities of the local and central bodies both in matters of revenue collection and in matters requiring expenditure.

I am not going into the detail with regard to the Estimates. Each vote will speak for itself when the resolutions are before you. We invite a full discussion, more particularly of those items which suggest departures in policy.

In setting out our policies for the future, Mr. Speaker, there is one further matter which deserves consideration. The Hon. Chas. A. Dunning, while he was Provincial Treasurer, announced an intention to use liquor profits for the redemption of Public Debt. We have, as you will note, departed somewhat from that policy. On the other hand, there is provision made in our present policy for the redemption of the public debt. There has been an agitation among financial men for some time to the effect that governments should provide a sinking fund which in time will retire the debt of the province. We have decided to set up such a sinking fund. It is estimated that if we set aside \$200,000 from year to year that in 45 years we can retire the net public debt of the province, and thus the whole debt will be provided for. For this reason we have decided to set apart for this purpose 10 per cent. of the liquor profits from year to year. If we cease to have liquor profits, then some other source of revenue will be found for the purpose.

In summing up, Mr. Speaker, I would call to the special attention of the House the main features of the Budget Speech. They are:

- First:* The improved financial condition of our people.
- Second:* The improved financial standing of our municipalities.
- Third:* The improved financial standing of our province represented in the facts that accumulated deficits have been cleared away to the extent of over \$500,000; that there has been a reduction in the Public Debt of \$350,000 and Public Debt charges of \$327,000 and that there has been a reduction in direct taxation amounting to half a million dollars, while at the same time, making a provision for an increase in services particularly upon highways; and that sales of securities ranking with the best made in the history of the province have been made in recent months.
- Fourth:* Full provision by means of sinking funds for the redemption of public debt.
- Lastly:* But more important than all else is the fact that the Government hopes during the year 1927 to so rearrange the expenditure of money upon education as to give better service.

As a Legislature we have a duty to perform, not only towards our constituents in all these matters, but toward posterity as well. Earlier in my remarks I referred to our objective being that of creating conditions under which contented homes could be established. Good roads, good schools, and the spread of co-operative endeavour will bring about the desired results. The last census indicates that with the exception of Prince Edward Island there is a higher percentage of people own their homes in Saskatchewan than in any other province in Canada. Three-quarters of all our people own their homes. We are carrying on government for a people who have planted themselves within our bounds with an intention to remain. Here are their children destined to dwell from generation to generation. May we, the forerunners of a greater population, lay the foundations soundly and well.

Mr. Speaker, I move that you do now leave the Chair.

SCHEDULE 1

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN—TREASURY DEPARTMENT

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF DISTRIBUTION OF REVENUES

| | 1924-1925 | | 1925-1926 | |
|---|------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. DOMINION GOVERNMENT..... | Percentage 28.3367 | \$2,973,616.51 | Percentage 24.8647 | \$2,835,659.02 |
| (a) Subsidy..... | 18.5300 | \$1,944,505.00 | 16.2285 | \$1,850,755.00 |
| (b) School Lands..... | 9.8067 | 1,029,111.51 | 8.6362 | 984,904.02 |
| 2. TAXATION..... | 38.5108 | 4,041,268.09 | 36.3397 | 4,144,301.21 |
| (a) Public Revenues (Less Commission)..... | 21.4145 | \$2,247,220.48 | 20.3535 | \$2,321,181.25 |
| (b) Wild Lands (Less Commission)..... | 6.4673 | 678,667.64 | 5.0072 | 571,037.68 |
| (c) Supplementary Revenue (Less Commission).... | .3111 | 32,644.18 | .1702 | 19,410.21 |
| (d) Inheritance..... | 2.7001 | 283,341.61 | 2.9165 | 332,607.04 |
| (e) Corporation..... | 4.9102 | 515,272.59 | 4.2749 | 487,525.21 |
| (f) Timber Berth..... | .0156 | 1,631.33 | .0215 | 2,448.27 |
| (g) Railways..... | 1.9680 | 206,520.00 | 3.0602 | 349,000.00 |
| (h) Fur Royalties..... | .7240 | 75,970.26 | .5357 | 61,091.55 |
| 3. LICENSES..... | 14.7896 | 1,551,998.52 | 17.5261 | 1,998,735.04 |
| (a) Detective..... | .0038 | \$ 400.00 | .0000 | Nil |
| (b) Auctioneer..... | .0627 | 6,584.83 | .0596 | \$ 6,792.00 |
| (c) Peddlers..... | .3371 | 35,371.63 | .4025 | 45,902.00 |
| (d) Marriage..... | .1446 | 15,175.10 | .1532 | 17,466.00 |
| (e) Motors..... | 12.3559 | 1,296,594.60 | 15.0643 | 1,717,982.60 |
| (f) Moving Pictures..... | .2876 | 30,182.35 | .2921 | 33,312.40 |
| (g) Circus..... | .0140 | 1,474.00 | .0167 | 1,904.00 |
| (h) Company..... | .1103 | 11,571.25 | .1025 | 11,695.00 |
| (i) Insurance..... | .7187 | 73,414.23 | .7451 | 84,978.73 |
| (j) Fur Dealer..... | .1622 | 17,017.07 | .1178 | 13,438.42 |
| (k) Game..... | .2152 | 22,534.39 | .2300 | 26,231.51 |
| (l) Slaughter House..... | .0341 | 3,580.01 | .0316 | 3,599.88 |
| (m) Plumber..... | .0016 | 172.00 | .0020 | 233.00 |

SCHEDULE 1 (Continued)

| | 1924-25 | | 1925-26 | |
|--|---------------|------------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| (n) Embalmer..... | .0022 | \$ 226.00 | .0034 | \$ 392.00 |
| (o) Steam Boiler..... | .1723 | 18,076.00 | .1653 | 18,845.00 |
| (p) Cow Testing and Creameries..... | .0046 | 498.00 | .0076 | 863.00 |
| (q) Trappers..... | .1616 | 16,963.06 | .1324 | 15,099.50 |
| (r) Dog Trainer..... | .0011 | 114.00 | .0000 | Nil |
| 4. FEES..... | 8.5394 | \$896,106.93 | 8.0019 | \$912,567.11 |
| (a) Notary Public..... | .0290 | \$ 3,040.00 | .0294 | \$ 3,350.00 |
| (b) Commissioner of Oaths..... | .0063 | 660.00 | .0054 | 620.00 |
| (c) Police..... | .3394 | 35,610.14 | .3481 | 39,703.04 |
| (d) Succession Duty Fees..... | .0415 | 4,356.10 | .0416 | 4,746.60 |
| (e) Land Titles..... | 5.2001 | 545,689.29 | 4.8787 | 556,378.00 |
| (f) Court and Sheriff..... | 1.1411 | 119,737.47 | .7563 | 86,246.22 |
| (g) Company..... | .1897 | 19,908.67 | .1740 | 19,841.25 |
| (h) Examinations (Education)..... | .5842 | 61,308.44 | .6382 | 72,780.10 |
| (i) Teachers' Certificates..... | .0224 | 2,353.10 | .0137 | 1,566.21 |
| (j) Normal School..... | .2485 | 26,076.36 | .2222 | 25,336.98 |
| (k) Brands..... | .0341 | 3,580.13 | .0239 | 2,722.51 |
| (l) Stallion Inspection..... | .0184 | 1,928.00 | .0205 | 2,340.00 |
| (m) Stallion Registration..... | .0199 | 2,093.02 | .0275 | 3,141.15 |
| (n) Vital Statistics..... | .0415 | 4,360.33 | .0531 | 6,059.60 |
| (o) Administration of Estates of Mentally Incompetent..... | .1457 | 15,288.44 | .1545 | 17,616.84 |
| (p) Steam Boilers Act..... | .1308 | 13,726.30 | .1423 | 16,235.25 |
| (q) Liquor Permits..... | .1760 | 18,468.43 | .2808 | 32,022.00 |
| (r) Miscellaneous..... | .1708 | 17,922.71 | .1917 | 21,861.36 |
| 5. REPAYMENT OF ADVANCES AND LOANS (other than on Capital Account)..... | 4.9641 | 520,924.24 | 2.8608 | 326,261.68 |
| 6. INSTITUTIONAL REVENUE..... | 1.4079 | 147,738.14 | 1.5783 | 179,993.91 |
| 7. FINES, FORFEITURES AND ESTREATED BAIL..... | 1.4847 | 155,806.52 | 1.4229 | 162,265.80 |
| 8. MISCELLANEOUS— being: Interest, Sale of Publications, Materials, Liquor Profits, etc..... | 1.9668 | 206,396.54 | 7.4056 | 844,548.34 |
| | 100.00 | \$10,493,855.49 | 100.00 | \$11,404,332.11 |

SCHEDULE 2

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN—TREASURY DEPARTMENT COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENDITURE

| | 1924-1925 | | 1925-1926 | |
|--|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. ADMINISTRATIVE..... | Percentage 4.4369 | \$ 473,000.61 | Percentage 4.0351 | \$ 457,511.03 |
| 2. LEGISLATIVE..... | 1.5862 | 169,064.20 | 3.1837 | 360,972.79 |
| 3. PROTECTIVE..... | 16.3613 | 1,744,285.92 | 14.1719 | 1,606,833.06 |
| (a) Police..... | 5.3955 | \$575,213.97 | 5.2445 | \$594,628.35 |
| (b) Courts..... | 2.2494 | 239,816.69 | 2.0259 | 229,700.98 |
| (c) Gaols..... | 1.7654 | 188,211.89 | 1.6225 | 183,966.28 |
| (d) Land Titles..... | 3.3297 | 354,982.81 | 3.0214 | 342,563.89 |
| (e) Miscellaneous..... | 3.6213 | 386,060.56 | 2.2576 | 255,973.56 |
| 4. DEVELOPMENTAL..... | 70.3937 | 7,504,227.09 | 73.8617 | 8,374,468.87 |
| (a) Education..... | 31.4378 | \$3,351,424.54 | 35.9541 | \$4,076,487.79 |
| (b) Public Health..... | 13.8831 | 1,479,999.03 | 14.2935 | 1,620,604.97 |
| (c) Child Protection..... | 3.7217 | 396,739.64 | 4.0435 | 458,451.81 |
| (d) Promotion of Agriculture and Commerce: | | | | |
| (1) Agriculture..... | 3.8925 | 414,948.17 | 3.6291 | 411,465.81 |
| (2) Highways..... | 16.6719 | 1,777,254.19 | 15.2072 | 1,724,205.32 |
| (3) Labour and Industries..... | .7867 | 83,861.52 | .7343 | 83,253.17 |
| 5. MISCELLANEOUS..... | 7.2219 | 769,902.49 | 4.7476 | 538,280.78 |
| | 100.00 | \$10,660,480.31 | 100.00 | \$11,338,066.53 |

Speech delivered by

THE HONOURABLE J. M. UHRICH,

(*Minister of Public Health*)

on

PUBLIC HEALTH IN SASKATCHEWAN

in the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,

Thursday, February 17, 1927.

The Honourable Mr. Uhrich, in speaking during the Budget debate, said:

Mr. Speaker,—As has been my custom in former Sessions of the Legislature, I shall again take the opportunity, as presented by the motion before the House, to detail some of the activities and operations of the Department of Public Health, with the object of contributing perhaps a small part towards the formation of favourable public opinion, which is increasing rapidly in the Province with respect to preventive medicine as fostered and encouraged by the Department; and of bringing to your attention the present condition of public health in the Province. In doing so, I feel I need offer no apology. It is a provincial activity which, from the standpoint of the progress and prosperity of a people, is of far greater importance than any problem which may be brought up for consideration; for any law that is inimical to public health, no matter what immediate advantage it may bring, is a mischievous law, because it involves waste of that important asset—the man and woman power of a nation.

The prevention of disease, as it is practised today, is based on discoveries and experiences that have become a part of the permanent knowledge of the race. Success in preventive medicine, therefore, demands the unflinching inculcation of established facts. Sometimes this means rebuff and reiteration, but the end to be attained is, after all, precious enough to discount discouragements.

The duty of medicine is not only to cure disease but to prevent it. In its simplest terms, therefore, the purpose of a Public Health Department is to apply human knowledge to the prevention of disease. It is a common and universal experience that life is crippled or curtailed by the occurrence of disease, which leads to a greater or lesser degree of disability, incapacity and premature death. Hence we may define the objects of public health measures as follows:

(a) To develop and fortify the physique of the individual and thus to increase the capacity and powers of resistance of the individual and the community: In other words, to ensure positive health;

(b) To prevent or remove the causes and conditions of disease and its propagation;

(c) To postpone the event of death and thus to prolong the span of man's life.

Much has already been achieved in these directions. No one can read the records of social and physical life without recognising that a vast improvement has taken place and that today life is potentially a better thing than in the past. Leprosy, epidemic scurvy, the plague, have disappeared in many countries. Cholera has not been epidemic since 1866.

It has become a habit with us to emphasise the importance of our national wealth, but always in terms of real property or manufactured products. We quite forget that human life exceeds in value of life and health only when we lose them. It is when earnings cease, through illness, and expenses mount; it is when the breadwinner of a family is removed through accident or disease, and the mother and young children must become self-supporting, that first the dependents and later the community realise the large capital value which has been lost. But even if some circumstances bring to us a realisation of the value of the individual, we ordinarily give little thought to our living assets as a whole. We are free with money sometimes but niggardly as regards expenditures that are intended to conserve life and health.

One of the divisions of the Department of Public Health is that of Sanitation, which concerns itself, broadly speaking, with the environment of the communities of the Province, and has for its immediate objects the insuring of safe water and milk supplies, satisfactory sewerage and sewage disposal, surface draining and ventilation, the protection of food and ice supplies, and, generally speaking, the removal of those environmental factors which are responsible for the majority of cases of communicable disease.

Until recent years typhoid fever was one of the communicable diseases upon which health officials in the Province had to concentrate their efforts. This disease is usually associated in our minds with polluted water supplies. If our water supplies are to be kept free from contamination, and if we are to be protected against epidemics of typhoid fever, the installation and operation of water works and sewage systems must be subject to careful provincial control. *The Public Health Act* of this Province vests such control in the Department of Public Health, and provides that no system of waterworks, sewerage and sewage disposal, or extension of any existing system shall be constructed or operated without first obtaining from the Minister of Public Health a certificate stating that the plans, specifications, and all other necessary information in connection with the proposals have been considered and approved.

It would be difficult to over-estimate the value of this legislation which has resulted in constant vigilance on the part of the Department's engineers, in order that the public water supplies may be protected from pollution.

Nor is the protection of the individual water supply of the farmer being neglected. The greater part of the population has to find its water supply or is dependent upon the town or village well, which may be indifferently constructed or maintained. The Department has accordingly directed its efforts toward giving all the advice and assistance possible to the farmer, in order that he may obtain a safe water supply.

The Department examines, free of charge, samples of domestic drinking water sent by any individual in the Province, and the only conditions which are imposed upon the sender are that he shall furnish the Department with a full description of the surroundings and construction of the well and take the sample of water in accordance with instructions furnished by the Department, and in a specially sterilised container which is sent to him. Since 1923 we have given 1,839 opinions regarding individual wells; 422 were given in the year 1926.

As in the case of water and sewerage problems, so it is with a safe milk supply. We find the urban part of the problem practically solved, and our energies must be directed towards the rural population. Seventy-five per cent. of the people in the larger cities of Saskatchewan are supplied with milk which is scientifically pasteurised. This means that the milk is incapable of conveying the organisms of tuberculosis, typhoid, scarlet fever, diphtheria and other diseases. It is most encouraging to report that in two of our largest summer resorts arrangements were made last year to have pasteurised milk from the city delivered daily by train.

The people in the rural districts, however, do not have the advantage of having central pasteurising plants located close to their homes, and consequently, they are exposed to infection from the various diseases of which milk is a carrier. The most prevalent of these and the most difficult to control is tuberculosis. The Department's efforts to provide for the tuberculin testing of dairy herds in the Province are of necessity circumscribed, inasmuch as the tuberculin testing of dairy herds comes under the Health of Animals Branch of the Dominion Government. The bylaw which was prepared by the Department a year or two ago for adoption by towns and villages in the Province, and which provides for the tuberculin testing of dairy herds, has, however, received wide publicity, with the result that 39 towns and 87 villages have placed it on their statute books and thus made provision for tubercular free milk to be supplied to the inhabitants thereof.

In discussing the work of the Division of Child Welfare, let me draw attention to what the chairman of the American Child Health Association calls "The Child's Bill of Rights."

The ideal towards which the Division strives is that there should be no child that has not been born under proper conditions; that does not live in hygienic surroundings; that ever suffers from under-nutrition; that does not have prompt and efficient medical attention and inspection. To this might be added one more requirement, namely: that all children before they reach the age of two years be

actively protected from those diseases against which medical science has been successful in discovering protection: i.e., smallpox, diphtheria, typhoid fever and scarlet fever. This is the ideal towards which the effort of the Division of Child Welfare is directed.

During the year we conducted 70 pre-school clinics (that is, for children under school age). We were asked for 151 clinics, but were unable to supply staff for them all.

The purpose of these clinics is to get parents to realise the importance of a regular and periodic physical examination for their younger children, in order that evidences of undernourishment may be detected at an early age and existing physical defects corrected. It is possible also at these clinics to point out the advisability and advantage of actively protecting children from those diseases against which there is protection, thus making it much easier for the local doctors to put these preventive measures into practice. At each clinic we recommend to the local clinic committee that they follow up the clinic with a vaccination and toxoid day, and there has been a splendid response.

Three thousand two hundred and seventy-nine children were examined, revealing 6,901 defects, practically all of which could be corrected. Only 9 per cent. of the children had been vaccinated; 6.2 per cent. had been protected against diphtheria; 38 per cent. were underweight; 21.3 per cent. had abnormal tonsils; 8 per cent. adenoids; 3.9 per cent. hernias, and 15.2 per cent. defective teeth. Only 9.3 per cent. were found free from physical defects.

Of the children examined at these clinics, there were 1,584 between the ages of 2 and 6 years; and of this number, 992 or 62 per cent. were underweight. In very few instances was a child found to be underweight if it drank at least a quart of milk daily. In this connection the importance of a milk supply from tuberculin tested cattle is always stressed.

Of course no treatment is given at the clinics. The mothers are advised to have defects treated by their family physicians. As part of the follow-up work the nurses of the Division make it a point to get in touch with the parents of children requiring corrective treatment, while conducting Home Nursing classes.

Three nurses are employed in conducting a series of Home Nursing classes, the work being entirely educational. In addition, lectures are given to women under the auspices of the various women's clubs of the Province. This work is undertaken for the most part in rural districts; the instruction is free to all and the classes extend over two days in each place. Home care of the sick, maternal and child hygiene, the care and feeding of infants and pre-school children are included in the course. Early vaccination, diphtheria immunisation and the care of the teeth are urged upon all mothers. Every part of the population is reached, one of the nurses spending most of her time among non-British born Canadians, the fact that she speaks five languages, making her peculiarly fitted for this work.

These classes were conducted in 69 places during the year, and 3,420 women availed themselves of the opportunity to receive instruction. The attendance shows that the women of the Province are interested:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| At Waldheim..... | April 20-21 there were 238 present. |
| At Laird..... | April 22-23 there were 154 present. |
| At Rama..... | May 28-29 there were 136 present. |
| At Lestock..... | May 12-13 there were 101 present. |
| At Hubbard..... | May 14-15 there were 106 present. |
| At Bethune..... | Aug. 17-18 there were 99 present. |
| At Togo..... | June 15-16 there were 95 present. |
| At Great Deer..... | Dec. 3-4 there were 143 present. |
| The University of Saskatchewan.. | May 19-20 there were 144 present. |

In 1925 there were 44 hospitals receiving Government grants. The number of hospital beds was increased by 183 during the year, making a total of 2,521 at the end of 1925. On a population basis of 833,000 our ratio of hospital beds to population was one bed for every 330. 37,504 patients had hospital treatment last year, one out of every 22. This was an increase of 4,025 patients over the year 1924. Women and children under the age of six years form 66 per cent. of the patients. The hospital days numbered 609,277, which is an increase of 65,891 over the previous year. There were 1,669 patients in the hospitals every day, on an average. The average length of time for each patient was 13.2 days; this is excluding the Sanatoria. The average stay in Union Hospitals was 13.3 days. The two Sanatoria at Fort Qu'Appelle and Saskatoon cared for 1,479 patients. The hospitals cared for 3,909 maternity cases, which form 10.4 per cent. of all admissions. There were in the Province in 1925, 20,488 living births; so that one in every 5.5 births in Saskatchewan takes place in a hospital. 6,808 patients were treated in Union Hospitals.

The Division of Sanitation supervises the organisation work in connection with the establishment of Union Hospitals in the Province, as provided by *The Union Hospital Act*. It is interesting to note that there never has been any suggestion of a Union Hospital closing its doors or failing to provide for the hospital requirements of the rural district in which it is situated. On the contrary, in almost every instance, extensions to these hospitals have been made or are under consideration. The Provincial Government paid in the form of hospital grants the sum of \$367,103.50. This is over \$1,000 per day, or \$9.87 for each patient admitted in 1925. The grants to the Sanatoria were \$133,857.00, or an average of \$90.50 per patient. The cost per patient per day for all hospitals in 1925 was \$2.97, a reduction of 12 cents from 1924. The cost per patient per day for all Union Hospitals in 1925 was \$3.03, being a reduction of 15 cents from 1924.

Of course we know that the hospitals contribute in no small degree to the keeping down of the death rate. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports the death rate of Saskatchewan as 6.7 per 1,000 population, this being again the lowest death rate in all the provinces. The death rate in the Dominion was 9.7 per 1,000. The rate in Nova Scotia in 1924 was 11.9 and in England and Wales 12.2.

Our maternity death rate decreased from 6.7 per 1,000 live births in 1924 to 5.7 per 1,000 in 1925. In 1925 the number of maternal deaths was the smallest it had been for five years. Our maternity grant has been a factor in reducing the death rate. This grant is given to mothers in outlying districts, who, for financial or other reasons, are unable to obtain the services of a doctor. The total grant is \$25, \$10 of which is sent to the mother before the event to enable her to obtain necessities, and \$15 is paid to the doctor or hospital. In this way, the services of a doctor are assured in many cases, with great benefit to both mother and child.

A résumé of the activities of the Division of Communicable Disease is interesting and important. I am able to report another substantial decrease in the incidence of diphtheria amounting to 19.5 per cent.; of scarlet fever, 1.5 per cent. and of whooping cough, 27.5 per cent. On the other hand, in 1925 there were 602 cases of measles; in 1926 there were 5,388 cases. We all remember the severe epidemic of measles in our three larger cities about the beginning of the year, and my medical friends will bear me out when I say that measles is the most infectious disease known to medical science.

Many of you will recall that in 1923 the Department instituted a campaign for the prevention of diphtheria in school children and those of pre-school age by the use of toxin-antitoxin. Very encouraging reports have been received periodically, indicating the apparent results which were being obtained, but we have statistics today which confirm those preliminary reports and show the remarkable effect this treatment has had upon both the incidence and mortality of the disease. Since 1923 approximately 108,000 treatments of this product have been issued, and the constant decline in the number of cases and deaths shows its efficacy:

| Year | Cases | Deaths |
|-----------|-------|-------------------------|
| 1923..... | 1,133 | 204 |
| 1924..... | 1,015 | 210 |
| 1925..... | 581 | 127 |
| 1926..... | 468 | 93 recorded to date. |

A further intensive campaign is now in progress with the object of having the children of the province protected with toxoid. Taking into consideration the result of the first campaign in 1923, it is hoped that the second effort will considerably increase the number of protected children during the next few months.

In view of the success already achieved with this product, which is now well known to the public, the present drive should serve to stimulate interest and evidence that this is occurring is shown in the early demands for information and materials which are being received from all parts of the province.

As regards scarlet fever, the members of the House will remember that I made reference last year to the antitoxin and immunising serum for coping with this disease. These products were at that time of recent discovery and in process of standardisation. The Department during the first year issued a fair quantity of them,

and the demand for protection is constantly increasing. In 1925 we issued 417 treatments; in 1926 we issued 6,037 treatments.

As far as smallpox is concerned, this disease is not classified as common, although it is particularly well known to the public. Wherever vaccination is practised the disease becomes correspondingly scarce. During the year reviewed, I regret to report that smallpox has been more prevalent than for some years. In 1925 there were 62 cases; in 1926 there were 337 cases.

Prompt vaccination policies were carried out in all the districts affected, resulting in rapid control of the situation. The amount of vaccine issued during 1926 was 46,270 points, as compared with an issue of 20,360 points in 1925.

The increased incidence of smallpox makes it appear that the time is opportune to issue another warning regarding the vaccination status of the people of this province. The record of smallpox indicates that the disease can exist only in an unprotected population. The whole history of smallpox has been written in England; first, centuries of pestilence; then voluntary vaccination, followed by compulsory vaccination and its triumphant victory over the plague; lastly, the development of a false sense of security and the rise of the anti-vaccinationists, whose object has been to secure a relaxation of the compulsory vaccination law. It is significant, therefore, to note what has been occurring in England during recent years, as far as this disease is concerned:

The compulsory vaccination law was relaxed in 1898, and whereas in the 1870's the number of vaccinations represented at least 85 per cent. of the number of births, the proportion in 1921 had fallen to less than 40 per cent. Therefore a large unvaccinated population has grown up and the increasing incidence of smallpox gives reason for serious concern. After the enactment in connection with compulsory vaccination the number of deaths from smallpox dropped from 58,000 in the ten year period, 1867-76 to 139 in the period from 1907 to 1916. In 1912 only 121 cases of smallpox were reported in England and Wales, but in 1923 there were 2,504, and in 1925 5,354 cases.

It is estimated that there are 300,000 children under 14 years of age in Saskatchewan. About 90,000 are vaccinated. A great proportion of adults are unprotected. Vaccination and re-vaccination are the real preventives, and when this is generally recognised and put into practice we shall realise in full measure the efficacy of the plan.

The work of the laboratory for 1926 greatly exceeded that of any previous year. During the first 11 months of 1926 it exceeded that of the entire year 1925.

Routine Wassermann tests are done for the Saskatchewan Sanatorium at Fort Qu'Appelle, the Mental Hospitals at Battleford and Weyburn, the Prince Albert Penitentiary, the Prince Albert and Regina Gaols, the Children's Shelter, the Salvation Army Hospital on Dewdney Avenue, and the Public Health dis-

pensaries. Six thousand one hundred and twenty-seven Wassermann tests were made during 1926, as compared with 4,101 in 1925. The other branches of the work have also shown a substantial increase.

During the past year the accommodation provided by the Anti-Tuberculosis League has been fully occupied and there has been a large number of urgent cases awaiting admission. During 1925, 208 tubercular patients died in their homes. The highest death rate from tuberculosis is in the north of the province, north of Saskatoon, in the territory north of the Saskatchewan river.

Early treatment means shorter treatment and the ultimate recovery of investment through the restoration to health of producers and taxpayers. Early treatment, before patients are very infectious, prevents the spread of disease and reduces the number of contact cases which will later require treatment. In the year 1925 Saskatchewan again had the lowest mortality in tuberculosis of any province in Canada.

The following table taken from the report of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics shows the death rate during the year 1925:

| | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Death Rate for Dominion | 66 per 100,000 population. |
| Death Rate for Prince Edward Island | 99 per 100,000 population. |
| Death Rate for Nova Scotia | 108 per 100,000 population. |
| Death Rate for New Brunswick | 100 per 100,000 population. |
| Death Rate for Quebec (Provincial Board of Health) | 111 per 100,000 population. |
| Death Rate for Ontario | 56 per 100,000 population. |
| Death Rate for Manitoba | 58 per 100,000 population. |
| Death Rate for Alberta | 54 per 100,000 population. |
| Death Rate for British Columbia | 95 per 100,000 population. |
| Death Rate for Saskatchewan | 41 per 100,000 population. |

The relation of the State to institutions for the cure and treatment of tubercular patients should, I think, be supervisory, not proprietary. Any scheme which relieves the public of a direct interest in the successful operation of sanatoria does not prove satisfactory. If the Government or the municipality undertakes to manage and to operate such an institution, not only is the local interest lessened but the streams of local benevolence are stopped and the privilege of assisting in the local management denied. Generous Government and municipal aid provide for a large amount of the necessary expenditure, but by leaving the control and management with the local boards, prudence and economy are secured to an extent that leads me to believe that the system adopted in Saskatchewan is well suited to that Province. There are few communities where public spirited citizens are not found willing to take an interest in the work, and any success we have had in Saskatchewan must to a large extent be ascribed to the interest which has been created among the people. Local philanthropy has been greatly stimulated by generous Government aid in the first instance and by the hearty response which has resulted from the formation of local organisations. In this manner those directly interested in the management and operation obtain the satisfaction and privilege which such public spirited service always offers.

The per capita expenditure for public health activities, controllable and uncontrollable, based on a population of 815,000 for 1924-25 and 833,000 for 1925-26, was as follows:

| | | Spent 1924-25 | Spent 1925-26 |
|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Administration..... | | 1.9 cents | 1.8 cents |
| Child Welfare, Sanitation and Communicable Disease..... | | 9.9 cents | 9.7 cents |
| Venereal Disease..... | 1.6 cents Prov. (1.7)cents Dom. | 2.2 cents (1.2)cents Dom. | Prov. Dom. |
| Vital Statistics..... | 3.9 cents | 4.0 cents | |
| Aid to Hospitals (Uncon- trollable)..... | 32.6 cents | 46.6 cents | |
| Laboratory..... | 1.9 cents | 2.0 cents | |
| Antitoxin..... | .8 cents | .9 cents | |
| General and Unforeseen. | 4.3 cents | 5.0 cents | |
| | <u>56.9 cents</u> | <u>72.1 cents</u> | or including Domin- ion Grant, 73.3 cents. |
| Total Expenditure..... | 56.9 cents | 72.1 cents | |
| Uncontrollable..... | 32.6 cents | 46.6 cents | |
| Controllable..... | 24.3 cents | 25.5 cents | |

To co-operate in public health matters is the duty and task of every citizen, but the knowledge now available for the protection of health can be used only as the public comprehends its value.

If the average citizen will use his traditional common sense and such scientific training as he may have had in giving consideration to measures for the promotion of health he will make facts, rather than fads, supreme, and truth and knowledge will reign in place of deception. He will no longer suffer the irony of being better informed about his car and golf-sticks than about his own body.

When disease occurs, Mr. Citizen always pays for it in bills, in illness, in death. The prevention of disease is, therefore, his economic, social and health problem. His obligation to himself, his family and society is so great as to demand that he maintain his physical efficiency at its highest level. It is his duty, therefore, to seek an annual medical examination, to keep his physical inventory up to date, and to provide the ounce of prevention before he needs the pound of cure.

To keep himself and the members of his family in fighting trim he must support recreation centres and help to maintain playgrounds and parks to provide the facilities for sport and outdoor life so essential to positive health.

Research may provide the method, expert opinion may point the way, but only the average citizen can provide the example and the support necessary in every community to raise its physical mental and moral health to a high standard. He must realize that health education is one of the best methods of bringing to the attention of the public the benefits to be derived from the money being spent by philanthropists and bodies politic in the domain of preventive medicine. He must realize that his co-operation is necessary in enterprises for civic betterment, and among these there is no greater than public health advancement.

Funerals are cheerless occasions; particularly is this true of one's own funeral. Personally, I am quite willing to postpone the event indefinitely, and since I saw a photoplay picturing Dante's *Inferno* I am more in favour of it than ever.

After all, this is a fine old world, and normal folks would like to stick around for awhile. Of course we want to be well, free from pain, able to work and to play, to love and to live, and to be somebody. We have no desire to be one of those persons who slowly die at the age of fifty and then have the funeral put off for twenty or thirty years.

We are all interested, I am sure, in postponing the evil day when we shall drop by the side of the road, or take our places on the verandah to watch the world go by. We are interested in knowing how we can remain not merely alive, but vigorously alive, efficient, happy, attractive, interested. That, if you please, is or should be the major occupation of each of us.

Three score years and ten! So far as I am concerned, that is much too short. I admire the group of young men, all of them over eighty, who organised a Centenarian's Club. Each solemnly swore, when he took the oath of the order, that he would live to be 100 years old. In case he broke the oath and died before that time there was a heavy penalty. The penalty was death and expulsion from active membership in the Club.

The average length of life has been so rapidly increasing during recent years that it will not be long before we must revise this three-score years and ten idea. Previous to the middle ages the average length of life was about 19 years; in 1800 it was 33; in 1855 it had risen to 40; and now it is about 58.

We are on our way to a new goal. Grandma goes to the "bobber" shop, and is younger than her mother was at 20. Fancy a woman of 38 dressing in black and being considered an elderly lady these days. Instead, she plays tennis, swings a wicked golf club, goes to matinees and wears clothes. She is more interested in life than in death. We all have seen those old, old photographs of our ancestors of two or three generations back—the solemn, pained and world-weary expression on their faces. It is no wonder they died young; they died in self-defence, choosing the lesser of the two evils.

The way to boycott the undertaker is to practise the principles of health. It is something like religion—easy to preach and hard to practise. But it is worth while; it will give us sweeter tempers, better digestions and sounder sleep at night.

The practice of the principles of health is a proper part of the Christian religion. The laws of God cover the proper care of our bodies. I have never heard of a saint with dirty, rotten teeth, bad tonsils or an abused digestion. In these days we are planning our lives, rather than our funerals.

Slowly are the lessons of prophylaxis acquired; point by point they must be explained, step by step demonstrated, precept by

precept learned, example by example followed. From out the days will emerge an enthusiasm for healthful living. The children of today, grown to adulthood tomorrow, strengthened in body, habituated to good health procedure, enlightened by modern methods of disease prevention, will in turn influence and train their children in health of mind, body and soul. Let the slogan be "Save the Children."

In spite of the achievements of public health departments there is still a large field to cultivate. The elimination of tuberculosis would add two and a half years to the life expectation of every member of society. Accidental deaths are becoming more frequent with the increased use of the automobile and the development of industry. The elimination of accidents would add more than a year to the average expectation of life. A goodly proportion of the deaths from heart disease, certainly those which occur at the younger ages, are preventable and their prevention would add appreciably to the life span, and thus in its entirety, if we were but willing to utilise the knowledge we have of preventive medicine, we would raise the expectation of life from its present point of 58 years close to 65. The people of New Zealand are very near to such an achievement at the present time.

Less than 50 cents per capita probably represents the total expenditure of the Canadian people for public health. The expert opinion of public health officials indicates that an expenditure of \$2.50 per capita, wisely directed through organised channels against the preventable diseases and for public health education would reduce the annual death rate two points per thousand, and correspondingly increase the expectation from five to seven years. The money value of these added years of life runs into billions of dollars. There is no greater opportunity for quick and certain return on any investment than on an investment in public health.

No far reaching medical reform is separable from social reform, which, in turn, finds its source in the highest aspiration of the people. On this common physical plane the issue must be determined. The impairment of the physique of the human body is the impairment of intellectual and moral fibre, for the body is the tabernacle of the spirit of man.

Speech delivered by
MR. M. A. MACPHERSON, M.L.A.
(*Regina*)

in the
BUDGET DEBATE

in the
Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

Wednesday, February 16, 1927.

Mr. MacPherson, in speaking during the Budget Debate, said:

Mr. Speaker,—I do not intend to take up very much time of the House on this occasion. We have heard a very different type of Budget Speech to those which we have been accustomed to in this House. In the past it has been largely a record of crops and other agricultural statistics and so on and this year this has been eliminated and I am not complaining particularly about that.

There have been some other changes in the speech as compared with last year. In the last Budget speech the then Premier, Hon. Mr. Dunning, made some references to educational expenditures and at page 154 of the Sessional Papers he is reported as having said:

“Our trend of expenditure upon education is constantly upward * * * Getting more money means an increase in that tax based upon property values. I am not now indicating such a course as being the policy of this Government at the present time.”

So that, in the Budget speech of a year ago we were told that the trend so far as educational expenditure is concerned was upward and there was an intimation that there was a similar trend in connection with land taxation, that it should increase, so that these two trends must meet somewhere.

Now we find a change of policy in the Budget speech of last evening. So far as the Public Revenue Tax is concerned there is to be a partial relief from taxation. I greet that change with satisfaction and would say, so far as we are concerned, that we have urged such relief from time to time in and out of this House. There is an intimation in the Budget speech that so far as expenditures by the central authority are concerned the intention of the Government, after a full discussion, is that there should be less money spent on education by the central authority.

The danger I see, so far as the Budget speech is concerned, in reference to the announcement as to the reduction of the Public Revenue Tax is this: The Premier referred to the fact that it would be said that some of the Government services were being paid for out of liquor profits. That is not the danger. This is the

danger: If there is a plebiscite in this province it will be urged that to vote a certain way will mean that the Public Revenue Tax will have to be raised, if the liquor business is done away with, or something else substituted, such as a gasoline tax.

In regard to education, the Provincial Treasurer said in his speech:

"The members of this Government believe that a matter of so far-reaching importance should be discussed by the people of the province for one year before final action is taken by this Legislature."

With that, in the main, we largely agree. We were glad to learn he was taking into his confidence and that of the Government and his party not only the people generally of his own political stripe but others of different political views.

I say in all sincerity that when he does that personally I feel, and others feel, that he might very well consider the views of one honourable gentleman on this side of the House whose heart is in this particular work and who leads this group today. He knows a great deal about education. I submit that when this discussion takes place and when the Government seeks the views of all the people it should seek the views of the honourable gentleman to whom I have referred and I am sure they would be given by him in the manner they would expect.

We should realise there has been a great advance so far as education is concerned in the last century. When the Premier discussed the education question, which I agree is paramount to all other questions in this Legislature, and asks for the co-operation and support of honourable gentlemen in this House I think it should be given him. So far as education is said to be made a political football it would be deplorable and I trust that much may come out of this discussion during the coming year and that the Government will keep its word in seeking the advice of those who may think differently from it so far as political matters generally are concerned.

We have had brought to our attention during this Session the question of the weak school district. In my own native province they pay particular attention to poor districts and special allowances were given there for the purpose of assisting the weaker districts and I think it is something of this nature that this Government should have in mind. So far as the general plan is concerned we can tell the Premier that we will co-operate with him for the purpose of advancing the educational policy not of the Government (we are not much concerned about that) but the educational policy of Saskatchewan.

In the matter of the public debt we find how dangerous it is to rely upon figure tables. The Premier referred us to a table compiled by the Dominion Securities Corporation of March 15, 1926. Upon referring to the speech of Mr. Dunning last year, I find he referred to figures compiled by the same body as of March 2, 1925. I want to read them: "Gross debt—British Columbia, \$174;

Alberta, \$122; Manitoba, \$109; Ontario, \$100; New Brunswick, \$81; Saskatchewan, \$68; Nova Scotia, \$56; Quebec, \$29; P.E.I., \$19." There is a difference of \$7 or an increase of \$5,000,000.

Premier Gardiner: There has been a census in the meantime.

Mr. MacPherson: The census would not make that difference in the per capita debt. The interesting part is when we come to the net debt where we find, according to the figures quoted by Mr. Dunning, that B.C. is \$135 and last night the figure given was \$79. Premier Oliver would indeed be giving good government if he can reduce the debt in one year from \$135 to \$79. Saskatchewan was given by Mr. Dunning as \$35 and last night as \$41, six dollars more and yet we were told last night by the Premier that the debt had actually been reduced in the Province. The Premier refers to the census. If it is greater, then the per capita debt should be actually lower.

When we come to use tables in this way it is dangerous sometimes to rely on them absolutely.

The public debt we were told last night was reduced by \$350,000 last year and also that the profits from the liquor business amount to \$1,850,000. The net reduction so far as our provincial debt was concerned was \$350,000 and from liquor profits \$1,850,000 or, if we had not been in the liquor business last year there would have been a deficit of \$1,500,000.

Hon. Mr. Patterson: What about capital expenditure in the meantime?

Mr. MacPherson: I am only talking about the figures given us last night. If there was capital expenditure it would be added and provision would be made for it. I am submitting to the House that taking into consideration what was actually made by the Liquor Board and the announcement as to the actual net reduction because of the Liquor Board figures there would have been a deficit in this Province if it had not been for this source of income.

With reference to the bond sales, the Provincial Treasurer spoke of the second last sale and said it was the lowest since 1913 and that the last one was the lowest in the history of the province. There is of course a reason for that. It is not because of economical or good government in the Province. It is because of the province itself. It is because the Province itself when it seeks to place itself in the category of a borrower it is considered as a first class borrower because of the security which it offers in any financial appeal it may make. I want to refer to an article written by Mr. Gundy, of Wood, Gundy Company, referring to the present rate of interest, which appeared in the issue of *The Mail and Empire* of January 3rd this year. In the article he points out that the interest rate is the lowest since 1915 and he explained the reason. He states very clearly that there is not the demand on the part of the borrowing public for money which there has been during the past twelve years and that, consequently, there is a very great surplus of money which must be invested. The natural result is, therefore, that the

interest rate is made very much more attractive to the borrower and the rate has been coming consistently down. This applies not only to money loaned on mortgages, but money loaned as well to municipalities, Provincial Governments and the Federal Government.

These people who wanted to invest in this class of security fund, instead of being asked to give \$213,000,000 in 1924, they were only asked for \$101,000,000 in 1925 and \$82,000,000 in 1926. When there was plenty of money to invest the natural result was that the interest rate would come down. The Premier referred to the fact that business was good with the loan companies. I think he meant business was bad. They cannot place their money. Why has this Government been able to get the low rate? It all really means that Saskatchewan as a Province offers a first class security to anyone who wishes to invest money in the whole world. Naturally as the Province becomes developed and populated, as it should be, its worth as security for investment should be considered better.

I do not know whether the policy is that bonds are bid on. If not, having regard to the vast amount of money available, opportunity should be given to all those financial concerns interested in bidding that they be given the chance to bid and I would like to know whether there have been any instances or any reason why there has been no bidding among the financial houses?

In regard to the Telephone Department. I asked some questions a few days ago which were turned into an order for a Return and I am complaining that the Return has not been brought down as I would have liked to have had these figures to discuss this feature of the debate. I asked the Government on February 8th if there was an adequate depreciation reserve set up in the Telephone Department and the answer was that "the Department has, from surplus earnings, set up a depreciation reserve account which is sufficient considering the present condition of the system" and that "all surplus earnings are transferred to reserves." There is nothing definite in these answers to indicate that a real adequate financial policy exists in connection with the Department and I would like to have had the information as to the manner in which the rural telephones of this Province assist the officials associated in the operation of the Government lines for the purpose of showing that the Government cannot claim all the credit so far as the profits are concerned. I am advised that overhead cost in this Department is materially lowered because of the fact that the Rural Telephone Companies pay a great part of the bill.

In Saskatoon there is a building which is practically unsafe now and there should be some provision made in some such depreciation reserve and some business way of setting apart so much a year for that purpose.

The loan to the Saskatchewan Wheat Producers took the place of the loan of the Co-operative Elevator Company. I submit to this House as a matter of reason that the Government cannot make a virtue out of a necessity. So far as the Province

was concerned it was quite willing that this money should be loaned to the Co-operative Elevator Company and when that concern was absorbed by the Wheat Pool the people of this Province were in like manner quite satisfied it should be carried on by the new organisation. The Government would not at that time have dared to have called that loan and demanded the \$2,000,000 owing to the Province. Public opinion would not have permitted it. In this instance the Government had excellent security and has today in so far as what is owing to the Government by the Pool Elevators is concerned. When it comes to a mere transfer considering the security it has it should not be so much concerned in that connection.

The Premier referred to the difficulties of the Co-operative Creameries and gave an explanation as to why it had not been successful. I am not disposed to accept the explanation or prepared to, because in the days before the creameries of this Province were making as much butter or selling cream as they are today, they were making money and built large buildings and put something aside. In the *Public Service Monthly* there is an article showing the progress of the dairy industry in 1925, the amount of creamery butter in that year and so on. The explanation that is offered is one, I submit, that cannot be accepted by this House.

Since we last had a debate in this House there has been an investigation in Regina in connection with the Customs Department. While that was a Federal matter and the Government is patting itself on the back so far as the work it is doing is concerned it is interesting to consider one of the phases suggested by Mr. Rowell to the Commission:

"that substantial quantities of alcohol were improperly, illegally and fraudulently removed from bond by the Regina Vinegar Company and its officials which did not go into the mix but were removed from the premises for sale or compounding for sale for beverage purposes; that in respect of the alcohol so removed the company only paid excise duty of 27 cents per gallon instead of \$9 per gallon, and thereby defrauded the Government of Canada of a sum in excess of \$40,000."

Further interesting evidence was that given by Hoeschen, who said that certain sums and cheques were paid out to individuals in large amounts and nothing more was known about them. In British Columbia large sums were paid to political parties but no question was asked of the witnesses here as to contributions to political campaign funds.

It would be very interesting for the Government to inquire into these operations and funds and for the people of Saskatchewan to know where all this money actually was spent, in 1924 or later, with the plebiscite campaign or whether they were used for any other purposes.

I realise that the Provincial Treasurer has a very difficult time in meeting requests that may be made to him for public expenditures and at the same time reduce taxation. I regret that I cannot give him a recipe for that situation. I make that statement because I want to urge on the Government the necessity, even although I think we should have economy and reduction in taxation, of proceeding with a project to which the Government is already

committed and has been for a number of years, the Memorial Building in Regina. Every day when this little group goes into its room back of the Chamber we pass by a model. When the Legislature first passed a vote on this particular item it was just about the end of the war. Some ten years have passed. During that time there has hardly been a city or town or village or hamlet in the whole Province that has not erected something in the way of a memorial and I think it is time the Province of Saskatchewan as such should erect the memorial that it promised to erect for the purpose it was intended before very much more time has passed.

I want to refer to succession duties for a moment, and I want to read from the *Financial Post* of February 11, 1927:

"Reduce all rates for all classes one-third.

"Raise the exemption in Class 1 which includes wife, husband, father, mother, child, grandchild, son-in-law and daughter-in-law from \$10,000 to \$20,000.

"Eliminate all increases in rates in excess of \$1,000,000. In other words maximum rates for Class 1 beneficiaries as shown above will be 12 per cent. To grandfather, grandmother, uncle, aunt, cousin, brother or sister of deceased, or any descendant of brother or sister, 16 per cent.; all others a maximum rate of 20 per cent. There will be no surtax.

"It is further proposed to exempt insurance in the amount of \$50,000 when such life insurance passes to husband, wife, father, mother, child, grandchild, son-in-law or daughter-in-law. This will give an exemption of \$45,000 more than any exemption in Canada."

The whole idea of the legislation in British Columbia is to attract capital. Hard headed business men consider the question of succession duties and, having regard for the fact that there is a charge and that so many of our population today have assets which consist largely of insurance, and that there is a special appeal always being made by British Columbia to the people from the prairie provinces, the Government will do well to consider the legislation and bring in something so far as estates are concerned. I would not urge that there should be the same exemption in the matter of insurance but some headway might be made.

We were asked by the Premier to suggest any one service that we would dispense with that the Province is giving. I do not know any service as such which is giving service to the people that should be dispensed with. So far as we are concerned, while we do not wish to eliminate the services which there are, we want the Government to give economical administration. I think we will be functioning as an opposition if we endeavour to do that and the Province is not only entitled to services but economical administration as well. It is much in the nature, if you will, of the head of a large household. He may complain about the amount which it requires to educate and keep his children but he would not part with any of them. What he is concerned with particularly is seeing that they are educated and kept on the smallest amount possible and so far as we are concerned, while I am not asking that any service be done away with, the concern of the Government all the time should be economical administration.

Bearing that in mind, the resources of the Province and what we think Saskatchewan should be and the people we have and those we will have in ten years' time we realise that in the years to come we will require even greater services than the Government gives us today.

Speech delivered by
MR. R. STIPE, M.L.A.
(*Hanley*)
in the
BUDGET DEBATE
in the
Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan,
Friday, February 18, 1927.

Mr. Stipe, in speaking during the Budget Debate, said:

Mr. Speaker,—In resuming the Budget debate I am sure it must been called to your attention that in this little group we have shortened our line, but we have also consolidated our position. Great events have taken place in the last thirty days, to my mind, in the political history of Saskatchewan. We have had a by-election in Saskatoon and on that occasion the people of that community in no uncertain terms expressed their opinion of the policies of this Government. And a short time ago we came to the opinion, whether correctly or not, that there were signs of the "handwriting on the walls." The walls of the Government somewhat tottered, but yesterday, no doubt, the supporters of the Government have regained heart because they received a couple of additional props to those walls, but whether such be the case or not, whether they think the assistance they derived yesterday is sufficient, only time will tell.

I now come to a little part of my speech today that was brought to my attention by a few words I happened to see in *The Regina Leader* this morning and they were to the effect, "renouncing their parties." We have looked upon the word "renouncing" as having several meanings. We know there are individuals of certain types of religion, who "renounce their faith." As individuals of that cult or profession they have that privilege because to a great extent only the individual is affected. You might go a little further and take the master of an Orange Lodge or the head of a K.C. Lodge and if they resign their position or "renounce their faith" they leave that Lodge immediately and a Lodge has a right by election to select another one to take their place and the Lodge functions as per usual. And I say, this "renouncement of faith," politically, has much more significance than any other little renouncement of religion. I, for one, am proud of my political faith, because a certain number of people and a large number of people, not only in my constituency but all over this province, have placed confidence in that faith and expect those individuals elected to continue to propound that faith and do their part, and it is the duty of any member elected to this House to recognise that he has more to consider than just himself.

He may go back to the executive officers of his constituency and lay his case before them but, in my opinion, that is not sufficient. If he is a man who is honourable in principle, has honourable convictions of faith for which he stood at the time of election he should be just as honourable to go back to his constituents and give them an opportunity to renew confidence in the faith which he has by adoption now taken upon himself. I am giving you my personal opinion. It may not be the opinion of my party, but I feel that most public men of this Province (and you may size up your own individual case) will say there is not a very large number of the citizens of this Dominion who would adopt any other course than that when they make a "renouncement" of their faith—would resign their seat and return to their constituency. I do not say the honourable members who have forsaken the members of the Progressive Party in their hour of need will not go back to their constituencies, because I feel that before they leave here this Session they will announce their intention to go back and seek the result of a by-election to see whether they are still considered the proper persons to represent the constituency that sent them here. To my mind, there is no justification in the particular instance for the stand which has been taken here. Their seats both adjoin the seat of Saskatoon, and that constituency only thirty days ago expressed their opinion whole heartedly of what they considered the political situation in Saskatchewan. What their object was, I do not know, nor do I know what was in the minds of my honourable friends who have seen fit to take their departure from our midst. I will leave it to the future to decide.

Mr. Sahlmark (Saltcoats): May I ask the honourable gentleman a question? Did Saskatoon express confidence in the party to which my honourable friend belongs?

Mr. Stipe: I was speaking of principles, not parties.

Those of us who have had the pleasure of listening to the debates in this House must have been impressed by the words of our honourable Premier when in no uncertain terms he made the statement that five members of the Government had taken an active participation in the Wheat Pool campaign and I want to congratulate them on that stand. It was the opinion of the country at one time that there were not sufficient numbers of the Government taking the stand that might have been taken. What do we find? There is in Saskatchewan a newspaper called *The Regina Leader*. I believe the stand taken by *The Leader* at that time was not altogether of a sympathetic nature to the Pool. If my recollection goes further I will say I believe that Aaron Sapiro instituted an action against them for libel for the stand they had taken in connection with Wheat Pool matters. I do not like to bring the Wheat Pool into politics, but as these things were stated on the floor of this House I cannot help but give my opinion as I did in my campaign. These members of the Government who were in their seats at that time and continuing members of the present administration, in my opinion, they have gone back and sat in the seats of the Councils of the Government and have passed estimates

which provided large sums of money to the institution known as *The Leader*, preaching in the pulpit one thing and providing *The Leader* with the sinews of war from another source, and I think that is more or less a method of procedure that should not in a civilised world be tolerated. The members on the other side of the House may laugh but they cannot get away from the fact.

Coming down to a review of the situation since I last had the pleasure of addressing you I have perused the Public Accounts very carefully and had I time I am sure I could convince a goodly number of individuals here that there might be a little improvement in some of the departments but I have not the time. There are lots of things I cannot understand. One of them is this: If you will look over the balance sheet of the Public Accounts for 1923-24 you will notice that our surplus of assets over liabilities was thirty-five and one-half millions of dollars. Our 1925-26 balance sheet shows assets twenty-nine and one-half millions of dollars, a difference of six millions of dollars. I will admit that this is merely a balance sheet, but it is more or less a revenue statement of affairs and if our assets have dwindled by six millions in that length of time, the conditions are not what we have been led to believe they are. If I am wrong, I am only too pleased to be corrected, because I certainly feel that we have been more or less (I will not use the word deceived because I am trying to be mild) but if that is the fact it appears to me we cannot be in the financial position we are led to believe.

It was also brought to my attention, and here is where I am liable to get into hot water, but you will pardon me if I try to inform the House, that I cannot understand or have I been able to learn from inquiry among any of my immediate friends just how this item comes about. Our redemption of loans amounts to six million dollars and has resulted in an annual saving in interest charges of \$327,000. I believe that is a correct statement?

Premier Gardiner: Correct.

Mr. Stipe: That would be by renewal of loans, by the issuing of new debentures?

Premier Gardiner: It is all shown in the statement.

Mr. Stipe: I have not been able to locate it. Then it has been paid for out of some fund, either Revenue or Consolidate or some other and is not provided for by way of any new loans or debentures, but yet I see in the Public Accounts of 1925-26 an entirely new debenture loan of two millions that I did not notice there before.

There is another matter I would like to refer to. It is in respect to *The Arrears of Taxes Act*. If I remember distinctly, and I see the Minister of Municipal Affairs getting ready for a charge, I will say that in the first year *The Arrears of Taxes Act* placed on the statute books calls for the payment of a 10 per cent. interest. It not only allows that privilege for the first year but also for the second year. That statute legalises a rate of 10 per cent. interest in this Province—an exorbitant rate of interest.

Hon. Mr. Davis: It does not do any such thing, only in so far as that Act is concerned. It is only a penalty.

Mr. Stipe: It is placed there by this Government on the taxes on property which, to my knowledge, is a superior loan to even a first mortgage, and it is on the best security we have and our farmers and citizens are assessed a penalty of 10 per cent. on the arrears of taxes. I contend that that 10 per cent. should be taken off as quickly as possible because in these days when we are trying, some of us individually and all of us collectively, to reduce the interest rate which the companies and outside corporations are trying to keep up the Government should do what it can to reduce that penalty. I hope I find you all with me on this little matter.

In regard to the Farm Loans Board. I have heard it said here that the policy of the Government, and I have heard it on numerous occasions, "is the greatest good to the greatest number." I will ask you to peruse, if you have time, the balance sheet of the Farm Loans Board. The Return we received the other day showed that in 1920 there were 992 loans; in 1921, 662 loans; in 1922, 97; in 1923, 109; in 1924, 77; in 1925, 36; in 1926, 50 loans. There had been repaid the sum of 503 loans and then in the past five years not more than 340 new loans had been issued. The cost of maintenance of the office runs between \$40,000 and \$50,000 annually, so this year, with the placing of 50 loans, we have an executive staff operating at a cost of \$50,000. It is true they have to look after the loans that are in existence, but I do not think it needs quite that staff if a little more consideration was shown in the placing of these loans. \$25,000 cold cash has been granted to one individual. To my mind, that could be easily spread around so that possibly 15 individuals shared in that.

Premier Gardiner: A loan does not always make you happy.

Mr. Anderson (Saskatoon): Perhaps he is a good Liberal.

Mr. Stipe: The getting of a loan often does make you happy. I have had them and I have felt like a million dollars, temporarily. I do not know but what in this small item the Premier might have made a slight error or I myself might have in the framing of the question I submitted. I have, however, seen the report of the board for the past year which was duly signed by the members of the Board and if I remember, and the question has been asked to which I have not had an answer, this particular man received \$10,000 by way of loans and at the present time is indebted to the Board for \$23,000. Presumably, \$10,000 principal has been allowed to go until it amounts to \$23,000, and I will go further and say that, if my eyes do not deceive me or my intelligence leave me, that individual has not paid one cent by way of annual installment in all that time. I am not casting any little aspersions against the Board or its principles. It is one of the institutions we should have. If we are as rich as this Government says we are there should be a lower rate. We know the effect the Board had on lowering the interest rates in the Province when it first came into existence. It has been spoken of as being instrumental in getting

the rate of interest down and I think it would not hurt this Government to advance a step further and advance a further sum to the Board now that times are improving at a cheaper rate of interest and, consequently, a greater benefit to the farmer.

Reference has been made to the fact that certain advances were made to the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company and a great glory to this Government for doing so, but I will also say, and believe I am correct, that this Government saw fit to take ample security for the small advances made and I do not think it is necessary for them at each opportunity they get to inform the public of what they have done for this Company.

I have also a comparison here of certain little items in connection with the Government of Alberta, and, as we had a comparison of some items from the Premier the other day, possibly it is all right to make others. As regards the telephone administration of Alberta the payroll in 1924 under a Liberal Government was \$1,326,936 and in 1925 under the U.F.A. \$908,000—\$400,000 less, although the pole lines had been considerably increased. That shows what a farmers' government can do in Alberta, and looking east we find in Manitoba it is as good, and I predict that in the future the Farmers' Government in Saskatchewan will do equally as good.

Premier Gardiner: We have one now.

Mr. Stipe: We do not recognise it as such.

Mr. Pickel (The Battlefords): How will you get into a Farmers' Government?

Mr. Stipe: I did not catch the remark but I do not suppose it amounts to much.

Education. I am not going to worry you with a long dissertation on this glorious subject, but in view of the fact that the Premier has made certain statements, I want to offer him the sympathetic co-operation of this group. On this one occasion he has risen to all the heights of statesmanship his position demands. There is no man living in Saskatchewan that can say for one minute that, as far as the "equitable distribution" of school grants in this Province is concerned, they are at all equitably distributed. I will take off my hat to the Premier because he has led me to believe that now it has been brought to his attention he is going to see, after a year's discussion, that a more equitable distribution is going to take place and it is a problem that any Government should handle. I sympathise with any body of men who have to consider this but we are not weaklings. We are men who should face the problem resolutely, not politically. We made a resolution when we suggested an educational commission. It was with the idea of looking at it non-politically and it would take a commission to do it because there are so many things that enter into the details of administration. It will take a commission of three alone to handle *The School Grants Act* equitably if we get down to a right basis, and it must be along the line of the Local Government Board

taking in all branches of the financial end. We are very crowded at the present time, but it is the history of all the provinces that education is advancing very rapidly and that in five years' time educational requirements will almost double themselves. In view of the fact that the Premier has suggested that a year be taken to consider the subject it is a very good and a wise policy because there are so many angles that it will take that time to formulate a plan acceptable to the people of the Province. I would like to read you a letter which I received a few days ago. I have received numerous ones in the past two months and they are all more or less along the same lines.

"Stockmoor Farm, Shaunavon, Sask.,
"February 14, 1927.

"Dr. R. Stipe, M.L.A.,
"Watrous, Sask.

"Dear Sir,—The enclosed was forwarded to me and after reading it I was asked to send it on to you as I understand you are interested in the question of closed schools. This question is closely connected with the immigration problem and the settlement of people on land not capable of producing enough returns to enable them to provide schools for their children. In the meantime something should be done to help the children at the present time.

"Yours very truly,
"(Sgd.) MRS. GEO. HOLLIS."

It is signed Mrs. George Hollis, the well known woman who has taken a great interest in educational matters, and I would suggest, if it were possible, that the Minister of Education and the Premier get together in some temporary capacity and see if they could not open all the closed schools in the south-west part of the Province before the end of the Session. It would be a solution to a very difficult problem and I think and honestly believe there would not be any attempt from any part of the Province to give them anything but sympathy and support. The letter enclosed by Mrs. Hollis has reference to a school district built in 1920 at a cost of \$4,000. It had up to January 1, 1927, been operating ten months. The accumulated indebtedness exceeds \$6,000. There were 28 pupils in 1920 and 10 in 1927. Much land has gone back to the Government in that district. The trouble is there is a lot of soldier settlement areas there. There is another school with 20 pupils in the first grade running from 10 to 19 years of age. These are conditions which I feel sure, after the Session, will be adjusted so that we can feel that every child in our Province is being served with educational facilities.

With regard to the Budget. I hesitate to give it a name because it was so different to any I have heard before. One thing that impressed me was that it might be called Saskatchewan's first "Booze Budget." It appeared to me on reading carefully the Premier's statements that the substance of it in regard to the budget itself was at least 50 per cent. taken up with the industry in which we are engaged at the present time, namely, selling liquor. One of the references he made was that Americans are drinking our Government booze. I do not know where he got the information or how much trade we have built up with them but in the succeeding years——

Premier Gardiner: Mr. Speaker, I did not make the statement the honourable gentleman says I made.

Mr. Stipe: I do know just exactly what the Premier said for I have it here: "with the exception of what the Americans drink." It is the same thing. I do not disagree with the policy of selling them booze. Not at all. When we look over the benefits we have derived from the sale of this liquor from the financial standpoint this year, there is nothing to it to my mind. I do not know what the Government would have done had it not been able to draw on the profits from the liquor system this year to balance the Budget. We have the statement here. \$30,000 cash surplus, but "if we had used our liquor profits as the other Governments had done we would have a surplus of \$1,047,000." It is glorious but the question is, what would our deficit have been if we had used it otherwise? We have the statement we have used in the neighbourhood of \$500,000 to wipe off deferred accounts. The Premier who sat here last year said this sum was to be used for reducing the public debt.

Premier Gardiner: No deferred accounts. There was nothing said by me about deferred accounts.

Mr. Stipe: There is an item perhaps I have not got right but it is deferred deficits.

Premier Gardiner: No.

Mr. Stipe: I mean accumulated deficits. I am sorry I did not get the right word. Accumulated deficits of \$474,296 and have on hand to carry forward \$228,000. We have also the statement that \$200,000 may have to be taken from the liquor profits to make up the \$900,000 we were spending on highways. Also the statement that if we keep drinking booze for another 45 years and estimated profits are \$2,000,000 per year and we take 10 per cent. and put it into a sinking fund, then we will liquidate our public debt. We must keep drinking for another 45 years if this policy is to continue. Possibly that is not the idea the Premier wants to convey to the public at large because we know the Premier is a temperance man and a little different to the rest of us. It is a very peculiar Budget in that every second or third clause states that we have taken a little from the booze here and there and we are going to continue this policy for a long time. I might talk for another hour on this booze question, but it is a very interesting thing to know that in Saskatchewan we have today in this civilised age our first booze budget and I will leave it at that and say that on the whole the question of this Budget as given to the House has, to my mind, satisfied to a certain extent the cravings of the community at least by way of greater reduction in taxation. If this party had the privilege of spending this \$2,000,000 profits I would apportion it something like this: (and this will satisfy the member for Melfort (*Mr. Hill*) who is distressed with noxious weeds in his district and I believe that is one of our best districts—the land is rich and fertile and most of the citizens intelligent and reliable)

\$400,000 of this booze money to the Department of Agriculture so that it could be spent on treating diseases of the soil and insect pests in the same way that the Minister of Public Health treats the ailments of the human system. For highways, \$600,000 equally distributed to the different municipalities. We have asked for this and I also believe they asked for the 10 per cent. penalty I spoke about. If I went into power that is what I would do. I understand that in Alberta a different system is used of disbursing the road grants and I do not know but am inclined to accept that system as a better one. The rural grants are made in accordance with a formula based on population and every constituency gets the same proportion of road money disregarding the politics of the members. I would set aside \$300,000 as an educational grant for the weak school districts. There is no doubt but what some areas will require certain additional grants and relief in building up for a year or two. I would set that sum aside for that purpose. I think the Provincial Treasurer might require a few hundreds and the balance I would use in the reduction of the Public Revenue tax. I believe a reduction is recommendable.

I have enjoyed this Session more than last. I have become a little acquainted with the idiosyncrasies of the individual members and if the Minister of Education could be given an executive office on this commission of education that must come I would be the last to stand in his way. I have a great admiration for him as far as his ability is concerned in a non-political capacity, but when you mix education and politics, I disagree. If you will take him and put him on this independent commission I will support him wholeheartedly and I think most of our group will.

Speech delivered by

MR. W. C. BUCKLE, M.L.A.

(*Tisdale*)

in the

BUDGET DEBATE

in the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

Friday, February 18, 1927.

Mr. Buckle, in speaking during the Budget Debate, said:

Mr. Speaker,—On rising to make my contribution to this political “conversazione” as it were, I want to assure you that I shall be as brief as possible for one or two reasons. In the first place we are now getting along in the debate. In the second place I think that all honourable members are now looking forward to getting home as quickly as possible, and in the third place I noticed the other evening that whilst the Premier was delivering what was possibly the most important address of the Session, the Budget speech, and delivering it with all the force of which he was capable, several of his own supporters to your right, Sir, were “sunk without a trace” in the arms of Morpheus and if honourable gentlemen can do this when their own Premier is speaking with his well-known powers of debate I shuddered to think what would happen to me when I got up to offer my humble contribution.

I should like to first of all refer to one or two remarks of the two honourable gentlemen who preceded me in this debate. The honourable member for Swift Current (*Mr. Sykes*) took great exception to the criticism directed against cabinet ministers for taking part in the recent by-election held at Saskatoon. The only reply that I have to make to this objection is to say that if the same results follow the visits of these cabinet ministers to any of our constituencies during election time, that followed their visits to Saskatoon, then none of us would object very much to their coming.

The honourable gentleman also took some exception to some remarks passed as to the capabilities of the new cabinet ministers and also as to the evident lack of unity amongst members of the Government. I would like to point out to the House in this respect that in the honourable gentleman’s own speech delivered during the debate on the Address from the Throne the honourable member himself made the following rather caustic comment. Speaking of the new cabinet ministers he said: “They are not as big as we would like to see them but they are the best we could

get so we shall have to put up with them." The honourable gentleman also complained somewhat about the remarks of the honourable the junior member for Saskatoon (*Mr. McConnell*) relative to public buildings and political patronage and I wondered, but, when later on I heard the honourable member asking the Government to give the city of Swift Current a Normal School, I saw then where the shoe was pinching. Now, Sir, I do not wish to deliberately put a spoke in the wishes of the honourable member but I would advise the Government not to do this thing because I think that they will find on investigation that a place of about the same size as Swift Current in the Province of Alberta (Camrose is the name of the town I believe) built a Normal School with rather unsatisfactory results to all concerned.

I listened with a great deal of interest to the remarks of the honourable member for Hanley (*Mr. Stipe*) and in particular to the way that he portioned out the liquor profits as mentioned in the "booze budget" as he so aptly named it. I would like also to suggest one way that a portion of this money might be used. I think that it would be a fine idea if the Government would take a portion of these profits and use it for the purpose of buying up tax sale certificates in cases where the owners were in danger of losing their land through unfortunate circumstances and to hold them for a time sufficient for the owners to redeem them and so cut out the profits that certain corporations and individuals are making in these instances from unfortunate farmers who are unable at the moment to redeem their land.

Now, Mr. Speaker, to get back on to the main line, as it were, of this Budget debate. I note that the old spirit of optimism is again brought forward and applied to our municipalities but as I have already explained in a previous address, the farmers, in the final analysis, are themselves responsible for the fine spirit of optimism abroad in the land and I feel that the same reason can be assigned to the feeling that prevails among the municipalities.

We now come to the figures given by the Government as to our per capita tax, but I must say, Mr. Speaker, that this argument does not mean much to me. I think that the honourable the junior member for Regina (*Mr. MacPherson*) pretty well proved this afternoon that figures can be made to say almost anything. When comparing our per capita tax we must remember that our neighbouring provinces, with whom comparisons are made, include in their per capita tax more public utilities than we do. We will see how this works out. Take the Province of Alberta that takes into its public debt their entire telephone system whilst in this province we only take in the main lines. The amount in our public debt for telephones is ten million dollars whilst in Alberta, taking in the whole system, it is twenty-two million dollars. Now if we value our rural systems at the difference between these amounts, and I am sure that they must be valued at that if not considerably more, we find that by dividing the difference of \$12,000,000 between approximately 800,000 people that we increase

our per capita tax in one jump by \$15 per head. Now take our railway debt which of course is a contingent liability; it amounts to \$28,000,000. The Province of Alberta takes into their public debt the sum of \$35,000,000 for railway debt and it started out as a contingent liability. If we divide the sum of \$28,000,000 amongst our population we once more jump our per capita tax \$35 per head, so that you will see in these two items alone we raise the per capita tax of the Province by \$50 per head. Now I am not crying blue ruin for the Province of Saskatchewan but I do think the Government should at least be honest about these figures and give us more correct comparisons.

Premier Gardiner: These are not the Government figures. They are the figures given out by the Dominion Securities Corporation.

Mr. Buckle: Well, surely the Premier after issuing these figures in his own speech will take responsibility for them? It is for these reasons that I place no faith in the figures as a fair comparison of our per capita tax with other provinces. Referring back again to the contingent liability of the Province I want to say this, that if the Government does not have any better luck with theirs than I had with some of my own I think they will probably have to pay it.

Hon. Mr. Davis: What is the contingent liability?

Mr. Buckle: Railway bonds.

Hon. Mr. Davis: They are guaranteed.

Mr. Buckle: Certainly they are. Coming along to the Public Debt itself I have no particular criticism to offer. However, I feel, like the honourable the junior member for Saskatoon (*Mr. McConnell*) that possibly we have too much wrapped up in our public buildings and could have saved several millions of dollars that way. That is my own opinion, in quotation marks, and I see there is a further amount of \$280,000 set aside this year for further construction and I would ask the Government, not as a personal favour of course, but in a general way, not to construct any more court houses. The easier you make it for people to create trouble the more trouble you will get, to clutter up your court houses. If they would "lay off" court houses for a while and lend a sympathetic ear to the pleadings of the honourable the junior member for Regina (*Mr. MacPherson*) with respect to the War Memorial he mentioned it might be better. I passed that model of the memorial all last Session and no one could tell me what it was but this year I learn it is a model of the memorial mentioned and I suggest the Government take a part of that appropriation, build the Memorial and get in line with the rest of the cities, small towns and hamlets throughout the Province.

The Premier asked, in regard to the public debt, what particular service we would do without. We cannot do without a great many of them but I do think we can cut down on administration costs to a great extent. In this connection the statements

made respecting the low cost of administration of the Wheat Pool, brings to my mind the experience of another Board—the Soldier Settlement Board. When that Board started in 1920 there were 1,594 employees and today there are 490 or a 68 per cent. reduction. We feel that some governmental services could be consolidated with a consequent saving to the Province.

The Premier also suggested that if we could find any particular sum of money or service that was not being properly administered or carried on in the way it should be we should say so. I have one to suggest, the Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries. I believe that investment might have been watched a little closer and in this matter I would ask the Government one question: I believe the merger is now practically assured. Do they intend to call in the unpaid balance on shares they hold as collateral? I am led to believe that shares were sold at several points throughout the Province on the promise of a creamery and no creamery was built and no interest paid on the sums of money invested. I would ask the government to see their way clear to answer that point in the very near future. Whilst on this subject, I do not know whether I am correct or not, but I have been informed that the duty on eggs has been raised from three to ten cents per dozen. If that is so I would ask the honourable member for Swift Current (*Mr. Sykes*) to jot that down in his note book.

With regard to highways I want to tell the Minister that I am not at all put out by the title he gave me because I think if he would study the particular attributes of a “fog horn” he will find that it warns people of danger on the sea and saves their property and I do not know of any more useful or humane service that can be performed than to save the lives and property of those “who go down to the sea in ships” and I would far rather be the “fog horn” of this little group than the “tin whistle” of the Government orchestra.

I also notice in connection with the highways estimate that the appropriation has been increased. I am glad to see it but it is not enough.

Premier Gardiner: How much would you like?

Mr. Buckle: I would hate to tell you. I presented a resolution the other day which, on a technical point, was not allowed to go through. I know that a member cannot introduce a money Bill so far as introducing the Bill is concerned but I did think that he could suggest by way of resolution to the Government a certain way in which to expend certain sums of money. Apparently I was wrong. There have been other resolutions introduced and discussed with respect to Old Age Pensions which will cost money, the Superannuation Fund which will cost money, and I heard the mover of the resolution on Old Age Pensions go back two thousand years to prove there were beggars in those days. In respect to my resolution on highways I also can go back two thousand years to the old Roman days when they built roads that are in existence today. Anyone born in the old land or who has visited there will

have passed over these roads repaired of course since that time, but still the old original routes. In connection with the expenditure on highways; it is interlocked to a large extent with the expenditure on education. There are places in my constituency where money has been expended on education and the children cannot get over the roads to get to that education on which large sums of money has been set aside to provide it for them. Therefore, I would suggest that more money be expended on highways to bring it more up to the level of educational expenditures and then you will have the two meeting and serving each for the best interests of all. It has been said in connection with liquor profits that it would be a bad thing to have these whisky highways running all over the province. We have got beer bottle highways now and speaking for my constituency we do not care whether they are whisky highways or not. We will take them if the Government will give us the money to build them. The Premier said he did not think it would be fair to the temperance people to lay the temptation open to different constituencies to vote for a wet system thinking they would get money that way.

Premier Gardiner: Municipalities.

Mr. Buckle: I do not think that would enter into it at all because my resolution did include every municipality and local improvement district whether wet or dry. That did not enter into the matter at all, and I do not think the votes of anyone who voted for prohibition would be worth anything if they could be turned around and vote wet simply because they would get another highway. As far as my own constituency is concerned I have said before that I have been treated very well by the Department in regard to appropriations but we have a peculiar situation there and the honourable member for Kinistino (*Mr. McIntosh*) will bear me out in this statement. It is a country that is simply over-run with rivers and small streams that demand a great many bridges and also we now have a railway running north and south whereas the only one we had before ran west and east and all main market roads of course led to that particular railway. Now we have the railway going the other way, and we have to start to build a new set of main market roads leading to it and I would ask the Department to take that into serious consideration.

We have got down to the old battling ground of education. I am pleased to see the report in the Budget address which states that changes are going to be made. Not before it is time. There is one thing that I take a serious objection to in regard to this matter. Every speaker upon the Government side of the House has said that no criticism of any substantial nature has been advanced from this side of the House. I take serious objection to that. I think that the criticism of the last Session and the criticism advanced by the different groups on this side of the House at this Session is in a large part responsible for the changes that are coming. They also charge lack of co-operation. As far as co-operation is concerned I can assure the Government that co-operation will be coming at all times from this side of the House in connection with

the matter of education. In regard to the criticism that was supposedly not forthcoming from this side of the House, we have had even the Minister of Education and the Premier state that. The Minister of Education can actually get up and say that it does not matter whether you hitch up to a whiffle-tree or to the double-tree of a plough and that even after long years of experience in farming he could not name two kinds of barley and that that does not matter. The Premier can say that it does not matter a great deal about spelling in education but their attitude reminds me of a story. It has reference to two negroes who were loafing around a town and decided to go into the graveyard and read the inscriptions on the tombstones for amusement. After a while one started to laugh heartily and he drew his friend's attention to the inscription on a tombstone and he said, "that fellow is fooling no one but himself." The inscription was: "Not dead, but sleeping," and I want to tell the members of the House that that is exactly the position of the two honourable gentlemen I have just named. When they make these statements they are fooling nobody but themselves.

Premier Gardiner: The trouble is we did not make the statements.

Hon. Mr. Latta: I did not make the statement, Mr. Speaker, that the honourable gentleman attributes to me, at all.

Mr. Buckle: I have made some criticism of the agricultural part of the curriculum of this province and I was practically laughed out of court by honourable members to your right, but just as a little finale to that I would like to read a resolution passed by the trustees in their Convention at Moose Jaw. It is a resolution passed by the school trustees favouring the appointment of an educational commission consisting of a representative of the Department of Education, the School Trustees' Association, the United Farmers of Canada, and the Teachers' Alliance to investigate the educational system of this Province and in other provinces and outside countries with a view of erecting in this Province a system more suitable to the teaching of agriculture. That, I consider, bears out my criticism. A question was asked today in the House under my name which the honourable member for Swift Current (*Mr. Sykes*) read out; and possibly I had it a little wrong. Possibly I should not have asked the Government if they were aware of a certain thing but should have asked the Minister of Education.

Hon. Mr. Latta: The answer would have been the same.

Mr. Buckle: Then I will read to you where I got it from. It is the report of the proceedings of the eleventh Annual Convention of the School Trustees' Association and I believe that the Minister of Education was there in person. It is an extract from the speech of Mr. M. J. Coldwell, Vice President of the Canadian Teachers' Federation. Mr. Coldwell said:

"I want to say that I was attending the Canadian Teachers' Federation meeting in Toronto and I was ashamed to hear a member of an advisory committee in a neighbouring province make this statement: That in his province members of the advisory committee were considering the stopping of recognition of Saskatchewan certificates on account of the poor training given our teachers in this province."

You will note he was ashamed, not indignant.

Hon. Mr. Latta: He meant he was ashamed that the man made the statement.

Mr. Buckle: You are welcome to that interpretation of it. That is where I got it from and no doubt Mr. Coldwell will be able to give you the name of the gentleman and the province he represented.

In connection with the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company and the Wheat Pool. In the speech given by the ex-member for Redberry (and I say "Ex-member" because I feel he should have resigned his seat and walked out of the House) he said yesterday he was glad the compulsory pool had not gone through and so are all the rest of us. I would like to call his attention to this: Right Hon. Arthur Meighen, in 1921, told the farmers of Saskatchewan that a voluntary pool was the only successful one that could be made and if he was elected he would carry that out. That is the kind of a pool we have today. That is all I want to say in connection with that, except I would ask the honourable member for Swift Current (*Mr. Sykes*) to jot that down in his little book.

Premier Gardiner: Where is Meighen now?

Mr. Buckle: He is where an ungrateful public put him.

Now with reference to this sow thistle menace. I want to bear out to a great extent the remarks of the honourable member for Melfort (*Mr. Hill*). I do not know that we are exactly frightened as he put it, but the situation will certainly get worse if we do not continue to fight it vigorously. In the municipality in which I reside we have been fighting it for the last four years or more and fairly successfully. On my own particular plot of land two years ago we found 116 patches. That summer we went after them and we have cut them down to 68. At the same time, however, as long as that vast tract of land in the Quill Lake district to the south of us is left unattended to the menace will be with us, so I would ask this Government to take steps to eliminate it.

Another matter that has received considerable attention by way of resolutions and letters to the press is that of the width of sleighs and I have here a resolution from the Board of Trade of Tisdale regarding the matter. I do not know exactly what we can do about it but I would ask the Minister of the Department affected to make a statement as to just what the Government could or could not do in this matter before this Session is over so that we shall know where we stand in this regard.

Mr. Sykes (Swift Current): May I ask the honourable gentleman a question? Does he want me to jot down in my book the

statement of Mr. Meighen? We certainly have not got a voluntary pool.

Mr. Buckle: You do not have to sign a contract unless you want to.

I am not so sure that the point I want to mention next is one that will interest the whole province at this moment and I do not want this House to think that I am a crank on the subject. The gentleman who preceded me as a member for the constituency I represent got that reputation because of his fervid interest in a particular cult, but as we may in time get our natural resources back, I think it is a matter I should mention, the matter of reforestation. That may seem a peculiar subject to be spoken of by a man from the timber country of the north, but it is because I live there and realise the enormous rate at which this timber is disappearing that I am interested in it. When I first moved to Tisdale in 1911 there was a lumber mill doing a large business within nine miles of the village and now you have to go 25 miles to the first mill that is operating to any extent and that will give you some idea as to how fast the timber is disappearing. I do not wish to weary the House with figures but I have a few facts that I wish to present. I have a statement from the State of Michigan as to the way in which they are taking up the matter of reforestation. It has reference to 3,160 acres which they planted back. The cost per acre was \$2.94 and the cost of planting the 3,160 acres was \$9,290. Fire protection cost, over a period of 50 years, \$11.10 per acre and the summary of total cost is: Planting and interest charges, \$66,000 (I am quoting just the even figures); protection and interest charges \$41,000; administration and supervision \$15,000; insurance \$16,000 or a total of \$139,000. The total return from that tract of land in 50 years is estimated to be \$1,000,000 so it seems to me that this is a matter that could be very well taken up almost immediately by the Department of Agriculture. It is not only the value of the timber that will result from this if it is carried on extensively, but wild life, added stream flow, and other things of that description will ensue. The timber industry will help to build up cities and towns. Lumber will create manufacturing centres. In the whole Dominion over three quarters of the land is incapable of successful agriculture. In Saskatchewan there is counting all kinds of timber, hard and soft, accessible and inaccessible, 7,900 millions board measure. Of the original 925,000,000,000 cubic feet in the whole Dominion only 250,000,000,000 remain. In the last few years 1,600,000 acres have been burned annually. The present growth is more than offset by the damage by fire, insects, etc., to standing timber. The per capita use of forestry products in 1810 was one pound per year. In 1923 it was 150 pounds per year. The price paid by mills in 1908 was \$15.92 per thousand and in 1923 it was \$31.14. The trade balance of forestry products favourable to Canada in 1924 was \$219,000,000. I might also say that present civilisation is based largely on the use of paper.

I want to speak of the statement made yesterday by the Minister of Public Health (*Mr. Uhrich*) in respect to something that was said in Saskatoon as to the appropriations for my constituency. I simply wish to say that statement was made to save the Government from their friends. You will all recognise the reference.

Several prophesies have been made in this House and now I wish to make one. I well remember reading in a Toronto paper the Premier's speech made in Toronto in which he said it was just as easy to grow Liberals in Saskatchewan as it was to grow No. 1 hard wheat. He forgot to tell them that a lot of our wheat goes tough and smutty and that we also grow a rejected grade of wheat, and after the next general election my prophesy is that some of these Liberals will grade rejected also.

Speech delivered by
HONOURABLE T. C. DAVIS,
(*Prince Albert*)
Minister of Municipal Affairs
Provincial Secretary
and
Minister in charge of The Bureau of Labour and Industries
in the
BUDGET DEBATE
in the
Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan
Monday, February 21, 1927.

The Honourable Mr. Davis, in speaking during the Budget Debate, said:

Mr. Speaker,—In rising to address the House for a short time this afternoon, I think I can say there is one thing my honourable friend from Pelly (*Mr. Tran*) and I have in common, and that is the fact that the members of the House must be getting rather tired of speeches. Like him and others, I shall be glad when this Debate is over.

As a new member of the House, being here for my second Session, I have not yet become accustomed to speaking in this House. It is fairly difficult for me to speak after the learned address of the honourable member for Pelly. I do not suppose there has ever been delivered in a Canadian House of Parliament an address which for eloquence and constructive criticism and thought could compare with his and my only regret is that when he had concluded his remarks he had to sit down among all the blood and gore he threw around the Chamber. However, some of the stains will not be noticed on the red carpet.

I feel rather badly about it because he has received a terrific jolt the last few days when there was an operation performed on the political party to which he belongs. This is no doubt a reflection upon his leadership which he has held for two Sessions because I doubt if he was a Progressive before that. I understand he was a member of the Conservative party before that and President of his local association.

Mr. Tran: I deny that statement. That is absolutely untrue and cannot be substantiated.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Of course I accept the honourable gentleman's denial. I did not know there was any odium attaching to the

position of President of a Conservative Association. I feel sorry he should have received such a jolt in the leadership of his party. I presume if he continues in that leadership for a few more Sessions and the other members of his party disappear as they have during this Session we will find him sitting with another group very near to that in which he now sits.

Mr. Tran: I am here to stay.

Hon. Mr. Davis: I am glad to hear that and after the next election he may not be here at all.

Mr. Tran: That is your opinion.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Of course and it is just as good as that expressed by the honourable the senior member from Saskatoon (*Mr. Anderson*). My honourable friend referred to his group as agricultural warriors. Then he complains about something that happened to them. My idea is that the trouble is rather with the agricultural warriors themselves. In their wanderings throughout the Province they have attracted to their campaign a couple of camp followers who have not done a great deal of good to their party. If not there must be something wrong with the army medical corps in losing two of their members. Two-sevenths of the army has gone. My honourable friend seems to take exception to the fact that we attempt to link him up with the group that sits beside him. We were very glad to have the honourable member for Saskatoon tell us that the only thing that separated them was the aisle and that their aims were the same. Now my honourable friend from Pelly tells us that so far as their relationship is concerned it is purely social. I am glad to hear that because I have great doubt about that fact particularly in so far as the Leader of the Opposition is concerned and the member for Hanley (*Mr. Stipe*). The junior member for Saskatoon (*Mr. McConnell*) today referred to the fact that the honourable member for Redberry (*Mr. Cockburn*) had been seen on the night before he crossed the floor of the House in company with some of the employees of the Highways Department and I was wondering if he would tell us what he and the honourable members for Pelly and Hanley were doing that night? I would not like to suggest it but possibly they might have been together in a social conversation and that the statement we heard today was prepared by the three of them on that occasion. I was wondering whether it was the intention of my honourable friend to get up and read the statement before the members for Redberry (*Mr. Cockburn*) and Saskatoon County (*Mr. Agar*) crossed the floor of the House and so try to read them out of the party and in any event I am pleased to feel that the scheme slipped a cog.

Mr. Tran: You are all wrong.

Hon. Mr. Davis: I am pleased to hear it. Today my honourable friend made one reference to the Municipal Department in connection with the sinking fund. He said this was put into the consolidated fund. I must say that was the first occasion I had ever

heard of it. I always understood it was administered by sinking fund trustees in their own locality and only in exceptional circumstances do they come to the Local Government Board but he has advised us to the contrary in that connection and being a municipal man of long standing he must be right.

Mr. Tran: Look up *The Town Act*.

Hon. Mr. Davis: I did not know anything about it and I presume the opinion of my honourable friend is backed up by that of the honourable member behind him.

With reference to the senior member for Saskatoon (*Mr. Anderson*) I do not know why there is a differentiation between the two honourable members from that city because they are about on a par but the leader of the Conservative party is the senior member (*Mr. Anderson*). He always amuses me with his great deal of bluster. It would scare anyone to death and if that were possible we would have been dead years ago. He reminds me of the merchant who is about to go bankrupt owing to the conduct of his business. He has most of his goods in the front window. I would hate to suggest that was the case with my honourable friend.

In the course of his remarks he answered certain criticisms by saying they were silly remarks. That appears to be his method of dismissing the remarks from this side of the House. I listened to the speeches from members on this side of the House and there was more contained in one or two, particularly those from the honourable member for Regina (*Mr. McNiven*) and the honourable member for Kinistino (*Mr. McIntosh*) than was contained in all the speeches given on the other side of the House during the whole of the Session. Especially the speech delivered by the honourable member for Regina City.

He also referred today to the machine, in common with other members on that side of the House. As the honourable member for Swift Current (*Mr. Sykes*) said the machine seems to be like a flea, no one can put their finger on it and the member for Saskatoon started to tell us about it but he got lost in the telling and told us about two or three J.P.'s who had lost their commissions and that was the extent of the machine.

As he was speaking I was thinking that it might be of interest if he told us about the last Dominion election. Why was it necessary that, in the case of the 245 returning officers from one end of Canada to the other, all honest men, an Order-in-Council should be passed when the Conservative Government came into power to dismiss all of them from office? If there are any evidences of machine politics surely he may look a little nearer at home before he discusses us. He went on to discuss the question of campaign funds and he waxed eloquent. He suggested there should be some sort of investigation to see where the Liberal party secured their campaign funds. I thought back to the time when he was appointed Conservative organiser in Saskatchewan and, if I am not mistaken

he was appointed at a salary of \$5,000 per annum. I do not know where it came from but charity begins at home and if he wants to have an examination into campaign funds he might tell us where it came from.

Mr. McConnell (Saskatoon): There was no such sum.

Hon. Mr. Davis: I am glad to hear it.

Mr. Hyde (Maple Creek): And expenses.

Hon. Mr. Davis: My recollection is that it was publicly stated in the press, \$5,000 per annum and expenses for being Conservative organiser. If he was doing it for nothing I will accept the honourable gentleman's statement when he makes it himself. He also made a statement today with reference to the Prince Albert gaol farming operations. I heard him taken to task by the Minister of Agriculture (*Hon. Mr. Hamilton*) the other evening in connection with certain figures he took from the Public Accounts which were shown to be incorrectly quoted. In so far as the Prince Albert gaol is concerned everyone knows the farm is seven miles out of the city and was traded to the Government by the Hudson Bay Company and in exchange the Government received about 1,100 acres within the boundaries of the City and within a mile of the present gaol, which was better land. It was necessary to cultivate it and for two years there were no farming operations. If my honourable friend wanted to make a comparison he should have gone a little further.

He also referred to activities of a member of the Normal School staff at Saskatoon. I have never heard anyone in the Province suggest that educationalists should be muzzled and not take part in campaigns. It would be one of the worst things for the public life of Saskatchewan if any attempt was made to muzzle the leaders of thought in Saskatchewan. I think, if my memory serves me right, the honourable member was an inspector in the Education Department when he went to Moose Jaw and accepted the nomination of the Conservative party and only after that Convention resigned his position as a member of the staff. He also announced a platform. Something like Wilson's 14 points, only it had 19 points, of the great things he and his colleagues had suggested to the Government. If one goes through the list one finds they are all vague and no one quite knows what they mean. Neither he or those in the group beside him have made any specific suggestions that could be worked out for the betterment of conditions in the Province.

Cut down the civil service staff, they say. But they do not tell us where. They are not specific and if you draw their attention to something, they talk about something else. They are like the flea. The Premier in speaking about the shareholders of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries asked my honourable friend what he would do. He avoided the question and said when the matter was up for discussion he would give his view but he has it down as one of the 19 points.

I would congratulate the honourable junior member for Saskatoon (*Mr. McConnell*) on injecting himself into the debate and possibly the presence in the gallery of some of the gentlemen to whom he was referring during his address may have assisted him in getting up the amount of steam he did get up. He suggested to me that if I wanted any advice on anything if I would meet him in the back room he would be glad to give it to me. I thank him kindly. If he cannot impart any more knowledge in the back room than he did in the House during his address and with a little more accuracy I do not know that I shall desire to consult him any time, any place, about anything. He made a great ado about the theatre grant. He said the Government should hand back part of this theatre tax to the cities. I interjected the remark that the theatre tax was not imposed by the Government and he let it go at that but apparently was turning it over in his mind and in view of the newspaper reports next day he changed his mind. I drew his attention to the fact that a theatre tax and a theatre license were distinct but he said, "do not confuse the terms." Anyone who has any knowledge of law or municipal affairs would know there is a distinct difference between a tax and a license. The primary purpose of a tax is to raise money and of a license to regulate the affairs of the business licensed, just as my honourable friend is licensed as a lawyer, not taxed. He is licensed by the Law Society who control his actions. I am sorry he did not know the difference but if he would come out into the back room I might give him a little information he does not possess at the present time.

My honourable friend made quite a roar about this theatre licenses business and since then I have looked up the extent of the tax and in Saskatoon we get \$1,000 a year under this license. In Regina we get \$1,500. Regina collects \$29,000 from the amusement tax that they impose on tickets and seats. We do not collect a tax but only a license for the purpose of maintaining the Department to keep these things regulated for the safety of lives.

In regard to municipal income tax. My honourable friend gave us a great deal of information about it. He said we should set up a central body and collect it and then hand it back to the municipalities. Admitting the cities cannot do it for themselves, if my honourable friend would give the matter a little thought, if it is possible for him to do so, he would reach the conclusion that it would cost far more to collect this tax as he suggests than could possibly be obtained from it. So far as the city income tax is concerned it is different to the federal income tax in that there are other exemptions. If we adopted his suggestion we would have to have officials running backwards and forwards between all the municipalities to find out what exemptions each individual is entitled to, collect the money and then hand back what little there would be. He knows that is not the solution.

Mr. McConnell: Your city council thought it was when you were Mayor.

Hon. Mr. Davis: My city council did not think so. My honourable friend also referred to the report, that is the report of the Assessment Commission. There is nothing in that report recommending that any suggestion made by him should be carried out. He went on to the matter of motor license fees and wanted to have a share of these handed back to the cities. The Premier dealt with that in so far as policy is concerned. Saskatoon is a great place for asking for things and if he would only remember that it costs the people of this Province something like \$25,000 a year to pay the interest on the two bridges built in Saskatoon by this Government for its benefit, and by the time my honourable friend realises this he will not worry much about motor license fees coming back.

He started out his address on a very high level. He said he was only to offer constructive criticism and suggestions but as he went along he slipped and his address finally descended into a lot of petty Saskatoon politics. I am sorry he seemed to inject into it a spirit of spite and animosity and bitterness that has not been common in any speeches this Session. On this side of the House we wish to maintain the high tone of debate but if he desires to adopt that attitude possibly we on this side of the House may have tongues which may be able to inject a similar standard and I would ask him in a kindly spirit that the next time he speaks to refrain from injecting into the debate the personal feeling he seems to have.

I desire on this occasion to shortly review some of the work of the Departments with which I am connected in the Government. The last time I took part in a debate such as this I was a private member and had the opportunity of moving the Reply to the Speech from the Throne. Since then I have become a member of the Government and I am administering three Departments, the Department of Municipal Affairs, the Provincial Secretary's Department and the Bureau of Labour and Industries.

Speaking first with reference to the Department of Municipal Affairs. This is purely a service department as opposed to a revenue department. It exists for the purpose of giving service to the municipalities and municipal officials. We come into touch with all municipal representatives all over the province. The purpose of the Department is to keep a check on municipal government and to act in an advisory capacity to all municipalities, both urban and rural, to assist them in carrying out their functions. We are proud of our staff and inspectors who go around and meet the actual municipal officials. These men are rendering excellent service to the province and do a great deal to help the carrying out of municipal functions by municipal bodies. We have a never ending crop of amendments to the municipal Acts. Our municipal authority or government in Saskatchewan is divided into two classes, urban and rural and these are associated together in two great conventions. They meet annually and discuss the problems that have arisen in the preceding year. The result of it is that they pass resolutions on different things discussed and come to the

Government and submit them and discuss them. We deal with those which we think should be dealt with and the result is a constant stream of municipal legislation.

Government in Saskatchewan, when you eliminate the activities of the federal authority, is divided into two classes, provincial and municipal government. When you are connected with the Municipal Department you find that there is a constant conflict between the two bodies as to their duties and responsibilities. We try to smooth out their problems by telling them what is their duty and responsibility and we try to smooth out our own in the same way. These are gradually becoming more clearly divided as between the two bodies. As we have that division of authority so also we have a division of the method of taxation into two fields and as time goes on that is becoming more clearly defined. It is pretty well recognised that the municipal field is land and improvements. There has been some encroachment of the provincial authority in the public revenues tax but as time goes on the field of taxation is becoming more clearly defined and the problems that arise are becoming less.

The Department annually gets out a report and I had the privilege of laying it on the Table of the House a few days ago. If you want to read something that is interesting and a good reflection on the financial position of the Province, honourable members should peruse it. I have heard it said we should not spend money on the compilation of statistics and that it was a waste of money. So far as this Department is concerned I do not think that statement bears truth. If it is not appreciated at home it is appreciated elsewhere. I would like to quote from an article in *The Monetary Times* entitled "Sixty Years Development in Municipal Finance," written by Horace L. Brittain, a director of the Citizens Research Institute of Canada, as follows:

Simply as an illustration of the trend of the times in provincial supervision of municipal administration of finance, and because, in the space available, it would be quite impossible to treat in detail the situation for all the provinces, it might be well to select one province, Saskatchewan, which has made noteworthy advances in this direction. Mr. Charles P. Fell, Chairman of the Committee of the Investment Bankers' Association, in his annual report writes as follows: "Your committee would like to again commend the Government of Saskatchewan for the comprehensive, timely and altogether satisfactory report which is issued annually by its Department of Municipal Affairs, and it is to be regretted that more serious efforts are not made by the eastern provinces and in some respects by the other western provinces to emulate Saskatchewan in this respect. Reports covering matters of this kind prove of great value when they contain not only complete statistics but conclusions carefully weighed by officials responsible for their compilation."

I do not think any greater appreciation could be shown than by that extract.

The Premier in giving his Budget address used certain figures from this report to show the conditions of affairs in the Province. I desire to go through part of this report and extract some figures to show the condition of affairs in our municipalities. Some of these figures are astounding.

We have 301 rural municipalities in the Province and of that number 147 are free of all bond indebtedness. That is 50 per cent. That is greatly to the credit of the municipalities. We have 370 villages of which 159 are free of debt. We have 80 towns and three are free of debt. None of our seven cities are free of debt but of course they operate under different conditions. It would not be possible because they have to maintain certain utilities and construct certain local improvements.

I would like to submit a statement of total assessment of the Province as compared with the total debt of the Province. Our rural assessment is \$884,427,739 and the rural debt is \$675,995, not including telephone debt of approximately \$9,000,000 or the school debt. Our village assessment is \$54,500,000 and the debt \$278,200. Our town assessment is \$49,475,000 and debt \$5,312,442. Our city assessment is \$107,087,000 and debt \$25,653,492. In connection with the cities it should be borne in mind that the total amount of improvements is not assessed.

Mr. McConnell: Pardon me, but is some progress being made in meeting their creditors' claims in connection with the towns?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Every settlement has been made and is being carried out and there is no municipality in the province in default. The total assessment of the Province then, not including the full value of improvements in cities and towns, is \$1,095,489,739 and the debt \$31,920,129. The assessment of all land and improvements in the whole Dominion is \$7,000,000,000 and in Saskatchewan we have one-seventh of it.

A continual reduction is being made in the indebtedness of all classes of municipalities. Our net retirement of debenture principal after deducting all new borrowings is as follows: 1922, reduction in the rural debt, \$108,900. It has been reduced each year and last year the reduction was \$92,000. Villages, 1922, \$41,800, last year \$40,256; towns, 1922, \$122,500; last year, \$80,900; cities, 1922, \$533,700; last year, \$890,000.

In the matter of percentage realised from total arrears and current taxes, collection of taxes, the figures are interesting. In 1922, rurals, 58 per cent; last year, 65 per cent.; villages, 1922, 66 per cent.; last year 70 per cent.; towns, 48 per cent., last year, 54 per cent.; cities, 57 per cent., last year 59 per cent. These figures reflect a condition of the people and show an increased payment of taxes every year.

The Premier referred to the expenditures of the Government and to the fact that in the last few years the expenditures had been doubled and gave the reason therefor. It would be interesting to find out what happened in municipal affairs. There is no record of the total expenditures in 1915 but the total levy was in that year, in all municipalities, \$14,000,000. Last year it was \$28,000,000. The total expenditure last year was \$27,500,000 and therefore the proportion of increase in the cost of government, municipal and provincial, has walked along side by side.

I would like to quote the record in regard to tax sales, the amount of taxes sold at tax sales, including subsequent taxes paid by municipalities, referring to the rural municipalities: In 1921, \$2,273,000 arrears went to tax sale; 1922, \$2,265,000; 1923, \$1,946,000; 1924, \$1,807,000; 1925, \$1,337,000, or a reduction of 50 per cent. over the five year period.

I would now like to turn to a second Department under my charge, that of the Provincial Secretary. This Department is more or less a revenue department. We collect the motor licenses, corporations tax and several other licenses, collecting about 20 per cent. of the total revenue of the Province. We also get out a report, which I have tabled, which also reflects a general betterment of conditions. We collect a tax on all insurance premiums paid in the Province. Life insurance is a great co-operative and pooling enterprise and one that receives great support from the people of our province. One astounding fact is that we have had insurance companies in Canada for 87 years and in the last seven years there has been more life insurance written in the Dominion than in the whole of the 80 years before. Saskatchewan has been and is right in front, the percentage of increase last year being more than that of any other province. This demonstrates a good attitude of mind on the part of our people.

The Premier also made reference to motor licenses. In 1925, there were 77,000 issued and in 1926, the total reached 95,000.

Estimating five to a family we have one car for 1.73 families of our population.

Referring now to the third Department under my charge, that of the Bureau of Labour and Industries. One of its chief duties is that of bringing in and distributing the labour necessary to take care of the work on our farms. We have arranged every fall for the flow of this labour. Last year we brought in 26,132 men. A few days ago there was some question raised as to what happened these men. I find that over 75 per cent. of them had return tickets leaving only 25 per cent. to be absorbed. A great proportion of these move on to the coast and we estimate we had only 2,000 or 3,000 left. We did our best to work these men into the lumber camps and we have been very successful. I do not think there has been any great amount of unemployment in the Province this winter.

Under the control of this Bureau is the matter which we hear a great deal about, the natural resources of the province. It might be of interest to get some idea of what the resources are and I propose as shortly as possible to outline what in my opinion constitutes these resources. When the Province was formed the Dominion Government retained the control of our resources and in lieu thereof granted us an annual subsidy. Last year it amounted to \$750,000. In 1905 the Dominion retained these natural resources and have done so ever since, giving us the annual subsidy instead.

I thought I might go over these resources as they existed in 1905 and see what we have left of them. In 1905 we had areas

of vacant government land. We had our minerals and coal and timber and fisheries, water powers, gas and oil. Since that time what has happened to them? The chief resource of course, was land. What has happened to land, particularly in these great plain areas? A glance at the map issued by the Department of the Interior will show that practically all the Dominion lands in Saskatchewan south of township 50 have been alienated. There may be a few odd quarters left. For a distance of over 300 miles north of the boundary line, including all the great plain area, the land has been alienated. Therefore the cream of our lands has gone. North of township 50 over in the west side of the Province if you draw a line from Prince Albert north-west to the western boundary you will find all the land is of a type that sometime will be suitable for cultivation but on the other side the land is not of an agricultural character, most of it being rocky.

After 21 years, with the exception of this area, most of our land has gone. In that corner there is a lot of splendid land a long way from the railway and it will be some time before it can be used for any purpose. If we were getting back our resources I cannot imagine any great source of revenue for a long time to come. That leaves us our minerals, coal, forests, fisheries, water powers and gas and oil.

These may be divided into two classes, known and potential. Let us consider first the known resources, that is the balance of the land, forests, fisheries, water powers and coal. Our coal resources are mostly in the southern part of the Province and that resource has been pretty well proved. The fisheries and forests are located pretty well in the north. We have wonderful fisheries in the north but they are a long way from transportation. Both of these resources have to be developed in the future. There is of course a difficulty about development. We have two great river basins, the Saskatchewan and the Churchill. The rivers run across the province from west to east. The Saskatchewan drains through to the Hudson Bay by the Nelson and the Churchill through the Hudson Bay. The waters of the Saskatchewan drain to the south and the Churchill drains to the north and between these two there is the height of land extending from one side to the other of the province and north of it all the waters drain to the north into the Churchill. Our forest and fishery resources are situated across the height of land. There are no railways into the north and the only way to get the timber out would be by water and because the rivers run away from the settled part of the Province it is impossible to ship it out until railway transportation is available. The same thing applies to fish. Many million pounds come from the north in a year brought out by the men who take in freight for the Hudson Bay and there can be no great development in that regard until there is transportation.

Similarly with regard to water power. We have wonderful water power in the north. The Saskatchewan River water powers will be first developed because they are nearest to present civilisation. There are some on the Churchill but they are 200 and 300

miles away from the nearest market and under existing conditions it would be impossible to develop them.

Now as to potential resources, minerals, gas and oil. Before we can get railway development there must be a discovery of minerals. Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia and all the mineral producing provinces had the advantage of transcontinental railways drawn through their rocky areas before minerals were discovered. In the case of Saskatchewan we cannot hope to get a railway into that part of the country until we make a mineral discovery. Therefore we must turn our efforts to the discovery in the north of something that we think is there, a rich mineral resource.

What liabilities would we assume if we took over these resources at the present time? In so far as our annual subsidy is concerned it would be a matter of negotiation as to whether or not we would retain or lose it. Taking over the maintenance of the lands offices, of our fisheries offices, forestry offices, the surveying of unsurveyed lands in the north-west, is all involved. We would have to commence the collection of geological data respecting our minerals, oils and gas, in order to bring about a development of them.

In so far as gas and oil is concerned last year there was an increasing interest on the part of the public in their development. Last year there were 120,000 acres leased of gas and oil rights. Boring is going on in many places. We have not a great deal of geological data indicating the presence of oil or gas. Some years ago the Dominion Government adopted the policy that they would start geological parties at the Rockies travelling east. That has been done now for a number of years. Last year they arrived at the western boundary of Saskatchewan and commenced investigations in this Province. There has been a report issued by Dr. Hume referring to the Ribstone district and he indicates there is expectation of oil there and boring operations have commenced. It is near Lloydminster and a great deal of it runs into Saskatchewan. The Dominion Government will probably continue this policy and its work in this Province. It is difficult to get this information in these prairie provinces by reason of the character of the land, flat land with no indications of the different strata at many points. Geologists have a very difficult time in various parts of the Province getting this information.

In regard to our mineral resources something must be done to bring about development. Very little geological information exists with respect to the north. About one-third of the whole of the Province is of rocky formation, pre-Cambrian formation, similar to Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba where rich mineral deposits have been found. The first essential to the development of our mineral resources is the securing of geological information. The Department of Mines has very little information on the matter. I have found that the policy of the Department is to find schist areas. The Geological Department blocks these areas out on the map and the prospector knows he should restrict his efforts to these areas. The efforts of the Department are directed towards defining these

areas so that the prospector knows where to look. Little has been done in this Province. There are two or three small schist areas but the information so far is very meagre.

The first essential to the location of these areas is the mapping of the country. You will see marked on maps rivers and streams and lakes but it is largely guess work. There never has been an actual mapping of our north country and proper mapping is the first essential. The country is so vast. We have hundreds of miles of area where the human foot has never trod. Under the old method of ground surveys it would take generations to complete the work. A system of aerial mapping has been devised and the Department at Ottawa has decided through pressure by this Government to start a system of aerial mapping of this country. They have drawn up a three year programme of work and during the winter they have constructed two aeroplanes for the purpose. They will start during this year and map out one of these great blocks and so on and it is our intention to try and keep them at it. After they have done it, so that ground parties can go in, we will get them started on a geological investigation.

We are not lagging behind in trying to develop the country. We consider it is the duty of the Dominion Government to spend the money necessary to carry on this work and we are urging them to do it. A start will be made this year.

We are starting a definite policy to try to collect geological information. In conjunction with the University we have formed a Geological Department in that institution. Prof. De Lury has been secured by the University and he comes next spring as a permanent member and he and his assistants will start to compile geological data. This is a very forward step on the part of the University towards that development. He will be available for the Department in geological investigation in the summer months. We will use other members of his staff in the south-east in the matter of development of our coal resources and in the south-west area for the development of clay.

Last year we adopted the policy of sending a party out into the north country, for the purpose of seeing if they could discover coal. Indications across the height of land existed and a party was sent out some years ago to prospect. This party was in charge of a geologist of our permanent staff and one interesting discovery was made and that is that outside of one of the schist areas along the Churchill they discovered magnetic or high grade ore. If it fulfils our expectation it may eventually bring about the construction of a railway into that country. That discovery justified the whole of the trip.

We propose to send the party back this summer and follow up other lines. They found no trace of coal except float. The belief is that the coal is somewhere in the height of land. Further investigation in that regard will be carried on and if we find a high grade of coal it would do much to bring about railway development if nothing else.

Last year I referred to the Flin Flon mine. It is a great body of low grade ore in the north-west part of Manitoba and it runs into this Province. The trouble in its development was no proper system of treating the ore. Certain interests in New York secured an option on it and they shipped last summer to Denver a great quantity of ore to conduct experiments and the result is that a system of treating has been devised. Whether or not the deal goes through will be of great importance. No doubt those who have the option do not want to risk everything on a laboratory experiment and they have decided to build a pilot smelter. At the present time they are in course of spending \$600,000 on this work and if the experiments work out successfully by September, when the option expires, it will undoubtedly be taken up by these interests. If that is done there will be great development work in that country which will be of great importance to Saskatchewan. These people have secured a proprietary permit on a water power of the Churchill and if this development goes ahead it will mean the development of one of the first water powers in Saskatchewan.

I have every expectation and hope that the deal will go through and if it does nothing can happen in Saskatchewan which will bring about more quickly a development of our northern area. It will attract mining men from all over the world. The area extends into Saskatchewan and it will not be long before we find the prospector carrying his operations into our mineral area.

I just want to refer to our clays. Last year Prof. Worcester devoted his time to experimental work. Several of the large American pottery works came here and took away ten carloads of our clay for testing purposes. Our clay has been shipped mostly to Medicine Hat and if gas can be discovered here there would be great development in the clay industry.

We have wonderful coal resources in the Estevan field. Experiments were carried on in briquetting for a great many years and the people of the province invested a great deal of money in that plant. Since that closed down attempts have been made to interest capital in the construction of a system there. It has been found that there are systems in Germany and England that will briquette that coal on a commercial basis and compete with any other coal in the province. An effort has been made to interest private capital to construct a plant. It will involve a heavy capital expenditure and negotiations have been going on for two or three years which have recently reached a stage where we are very hopeful of completion in a short time. English capital has been interested and recently an engineer came out to report on the feasibility of the scheme on the ground. Since his report was made I have received a very favourable letter from him and possibly before another Session we will see a great development in that field.

In Germany they have been experimenting on a process of turning this low grade coal into motor oil. Laboratory tests have been successful but it is not yet on a commercial basis. Experiments are being continued and possibly the time is not far distant

when this coal might be used for that purpose and when that time comes we will have one of the greatest resources in Saskatchewan in the south-east part.

In respect to the development of power a Commission has been appointed and we are going at the subject with the intention of trying to do something in Saskatchewan to bring about a greater utilisation of that resource. I expect before another Session we will have a report from that Commission.

I think, Mr. Speaker, I have gone over all the ground I desire to travel on this occasion and trust that the information I have been able to submit to the members of the House will prove of value and interest to them.