

MAY

1931

Colonist April 22, 1931
**PUBLIC DEMAND
 OUTFRONS PURSE**

Road Construction Worth \$15,000,000 Asked of Province to March

COURTENAY, April 27.—Received by an enthusiastic audience here tonight, Hon. J. W. Jones, Minister of Finance, gave a clear-cut account of the finances of the province, and the policy being pursued by the Tolmie Administration. He reminded his hearers that taxation was a bill for services rendered, and that demands for \$15,000,000 worth of new roads in this year from various public bodies showed that public demand was not always entirely reasonable.

Mr. Jones was introduced by Dr. G. K. MacNaughton, member for Comox, at a well-attended meeting, held in St. George's Church hall, William Rickson, president of the A.O.T.S., a church organization, was in the chair.

Defining taxation as the payment for services rendered, Mr. Jones told of variety of services given in return for provincial levies. These included, he said, social services, forestry protection, assistance in aid of schools and hospitals, policing and many other forms of service in the complex order of present day civilization.

If people would simplify the demands on governments there would be fewer taxes, he stated. Public bodies, however sincere in their purpose, made excessive demands on administrations, asking in the case of British Columbia millions for roads, and further millions for educational and other purposes.

MUCH IS ASKED

A total of \$15,000,000 would have been required to grant all the road construction asked of the Province in the first quarter of this year, Mr. Jones continued, and similar demands had been made in respect to other services.

To meet the needs of the day the Government had attempted to cut down expenses wherever possible, he continued. In the Department of Finance, one of those branches of the Government with highly responsible duties, it had been found possible to effect a small reduction in staff, and this had been done under his direction.

Tremendous strain was thrown on the heads of departments under present day conditions, but the men in these positions had risen to meet the situation ably and well.

Referring to British Columbia's

finances since 1912 and to date, Mr. Jones showed that deficits had been recorded in almost every year of the former regime. Such a condition could not be allowed to continue, and as long as he was in the portfolio of finance the province would

have to pay its way, and meet its liabilities, he affirmed.

A cordial reception was tendered to Mr. Jones at the close of an instructive address.

Vanc. Province May 1, 1931
**TOLMIE RAPS DOLE;
 NOT ASKING FAVORS**

Constructive Programme of Work More Healthy, Says Premier.

MONTREAL, May 1.—(CP)—“Given markets for her goods, her lumber, her salmon and minerals, British Columbia would not have to ask favors from anybody,” Premier S. F. Tolmie of the Pacific Coast province stated during an interview here. He added that hard times faced the province this year and some sort of government assistance would be needed to look after the people.

Hon. Mr. Tolmie made a short visit to Montreal, leaving this evening for Ottawa.

Asked if he thought the Dominion Government should make another grant for unemployment relief work, the Premier replied: “We must take care of the people, and a constructive programme is certainly a more healthy one than a dole.”

The Premier was looking forward to great results from another interprovincial conference. A conference was the logical way to get things done, he said.

Province May 6, 1931

**MAKES APPEAL FOR
 INTERIOR HIGHWAYS**

A. M. Manson Tells Royal City Kiwanians Good Roads Attract Tourists.

NEW WESTMINSTER, May 6.—“It is all very well to construct paved highways throughout the Fraser Valley but the more distant highways of the province can not be neglected,” said A. M. Manson, K.C., former attorney-general, in addressing Kiwanis Club members Tuesday on “Central British Columbia.”

British Columbia has much to attract tourists but if it is to make the most of this traffic good highways must be provided, according to the speaker. A highway is only as good as the worst mile of it, and a few poor sections do much to send tourists away with a bad impression of the province, he added.

Mr. Manson declared the time was not ripe for the projected Alaskan highway, adding that this scheme is “nonsense when there are miles of the Cariboo Highway even without a gravel surface.”

The speaker denied any suggestion of a parochial spirit in cities of the province. Such is regrettable, he observed, for these cities can not grow without development of other parts of the province.

One feature of the Omnesce country is the development of agriculture, said Mr. Manson, dealing with his own constituency. Within the next few years farms are looking more prosperous, better buildings are to be seen and the district generally was becoming more thickly settled, he observed.

Rev. C. G. McKenzie, vice-president, was chairman. He read a telegram from Mr. Gowen Macgowan, president, who is at Miami, where the international convention, with 4000 delegates in attendance, is in progress.

Colonist April 24, 1931
**SUGGEST SITE
 OF COURTHOUSE**

Delegation Interviews Government in Support of Blanshard Location

Representations asking selection of the old cathedral site, Burdett and Blanshard Streets, and early construction of a new courthouse there, were made to the Provincial Government yesterday by a delegation of Victorians, headed by three of the four city members in the Legislature.

The delegation was received by Hon. R. W. Bruhn, who said the matter of a Victoria courthouse was receiving the consideration of the Government, and that an announcement might be expected shortly in that regard.

DELEGATION HEARD

The delegation was introduced by H. D. Twigg, M.P.P., and included Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, Reginald Hayward, M.P.P., David Leeming, M. B. Jackson, K.C., B. C. Nicholas, A. E. Haines, F. E. Winslow, R. A. Wootton, Harold Wilson and Rev. Montague Bruce. James H. Beatty, M.P.P., was out of the city, but members of the delegation said he favored the site mentioned. Similar support was cited on the part of others who were unable to attend.

The Minister of Works thanked the delegation for its representations, and intimated an early answer might be expected from the Government in regard to the proposed Victoria institution.

At the last session of the Legislature a sum of \$100,000 was placed in the estimates, as part of a \$3,000,000 loan bill, for acquisition of a site and a start on actual construction this year.

PLANS SKETCHED

Rough sketch plans, prepared by the Department of Public Works have recently been shown to members of the Victoria Bar Association and the judiciary. Alternative plans were prepared, one to fit a building such as would be possible at the old cathedral site, and another set of a different type of building, which would require more ground than available at the Burdett location.

While members of the Government declared yesterday no decision had yet been reached as to the site to be selected, it is understood alternative sites under consideration may involve the old cathedral property, and the Government Street property acquired by the Government last year, when considerable frontages on Government and Superior Streets were acquired for future development in connection with Parliament Square.

Vanc. Province May 6, 1931
**BEER BY PHONE
 PROPOSAL IS
 OPPOSED**

Presbytery Goes on Record As Condemning Scheme to Fill Orders.

**SENDS RESOLUTION
 TO LIQUOR BOARD**

Report Reveals Staff of Home Missions Board Takes Salary Cut.

Vigorous opposition to proposal of the Provincial Government Liquor Control Board to deliver beer to residences on telephone orders was voiced at Tuesday's meeting of Vancouver Presbytery of the United Church of Canada. A resolution placing the meeting on record as unanimously opposed to the suggestion was passed.

Following is the text of the resolution: “Whereas it is reported that the Liquor Board is contemplating plans for delivery of beer to Vancouver householders, instead of forcing purchasers to carry the beer home; that the present arrangement by which all purchases must be made in liquor stores is highly inconvenient and that the board is endeavoring to have the system changed so that delivery might be made at the home on telephone order.

Therefore be it resolved that the attention of the Liquor Board, Provincial Government and the public be called to the following:

STATISTICS RECORDED.

“1. That beer saloons were introduced in 1925 on the plea that people were drinking too much hard liquor, and beer by the glass would remedy this; results have been not only an enormous increase in beer drinking, but increases in consumption of hard liquor each year as follows: \$577,728; \$653,376; \$657,510; \$692,926; increases in convictions for drunkenness also followed, for example, in Vancouver from 704 to 1310, 1359, 1666 and 1956.

“2. Statistics in other parts of the world show that an increase in beer consumption never seriously reduces consumption of spirits, but even if this were true, it is not desirable to encourage beer as a substitute for spirits, because beer, it is shown, is responsible for a great part of alcoholism from which European nations suffer.

“3. We would protest in the most vigorous manner against the proposal of the board, in that it will make liquor more readily accessible to homes of the people, increase drinking, drunkenness and waste, be a bad influence on lives of the young and seriously assist in disruption of family life.”

HOME MISSIONS REPORT.

Rev. E. D. Braden, recently returned from Toronto, presented a report of the meeting of the Board of Home Missions. Officials of the board, he stated, had voluntarily offered to take a 5 per cent. reduction in salaries in order to assist the work throughout Canada. The office staff, on hearing of this offer, made the same proposal regarding their own salaries, and superintendents of missions also expressed willingness to return the 5 per cent. to headquarters. Other adjustments were made in order that the full mission work of the church might be carried out. The report was received with gratification.

W. Murray Cameron, B.A., and Adam Crisp, recent graduates of Union Theological College, were licensed by the Presbytery to preach and recommended for ordination by the forthcoming annual conference.

Rev. R. B. Y. Scott, Ph.D., professor of Union College, who has received a call to Montreal, asked for his transfer to the Eastern Conference. This was recommended with regret and a suitable resolution will be spread upon the minutes. Call to Rev. W. Deans, B.A., to South Arm-Steverson field was sus-

Colonist
May 5, 1931

PSYCHIATRIC HOME NEEDED

Mental Defectives Cost Province \$4,000,000 Yearly; and Problem Is Growing

CONSERVATIVE WOMEN HEAR HON. S. L. HOWE

Urgent need of a psychiatric hospital in British Columbia was touched on by Hon. S. L. Howe, Provincial Secretary, in an able and instructive address before the Victoria Women's Conservative Association last evening. Considerable study had been given by the Province to the subject, and the experience of European and other countries drawn upon in regard to the treatment of

those with slight mental disorders, principally due to ill-health.

Between ordinary hospitals for the care of the sick, and mental hospitals for advanced mental disorders, was a gap in which a large percentage of curable cases fell, and for which provision would some day have to be made, Mr. Howe continued. After a thorough survey of the situation, the Province had prepared plans for a psychiatric hospital and assembled all data, so that a start might be made on the scheme whenever funds were available. No action, he believed, would be possible this year.

In a thoughtful address on social services and provincial institutions the Provincial Secretary showed steps taken by the Government to overhaul and keep thoroughly up-to-date all institutions coming under its care. Despite increased costs due to growing population, it had been found possible to effect many economies in operating costs of these institutions, and greater efficiency than perhaps ever before was now to be found generally throughout the service.

MOTHERS' PENSIONS

Mr. Howe told of the consolidation effected in the administration of

mothers' pensions, now under the care of William Manson, as superintendent of welfare, and of the changes in the act as recently ratified by the Legislature. The cost of mothers' pensions this year would be in the neighborhood of \$800,000, he stated, having increased by leaps and bounds since the inception of the plan some years ago.

Tranquille Sanitarium, under Dr. A. D. Lapp, was praised for the efficient manner in which it was carrying on its business, handicapped to some extent by inadequate space for all the patients offering. Mr. Howe described recent measures adopted by the Government, through its health service, to extend the work of caring for tubercular patients, through clinics and instruction enabling patients to improve their condition, at home.

CUT OPERATING COSTS

Tranquille has 330 beds, all of which are occupied. The capital outlay for the sanitarium and farm had been \$800,000, and the institution was officially rated as the most up-to-date on this continent. Yearly upkeep cost in the neighborhood of \$287,000, he stated. Great success had been achieved with the farming done in connection with the in-

stitution, providing abundance of milk and cream and other fresh food for the patients there and also at other provincial institutions. Operating costs, under the present management, had been reduced from \$3.72 to \$2.90 per patient per day, a result that spoke for itself.

In the Provincial Home for the Aged, at Kamloops, 150 men, many of them pioneers, were cared for under ideal conditions. Credit was given to A. Noble, the superintendent, for the manner in which the institution is conducted.

Mr. Howe touched briefly on the Boys' Industrial School at Coquitlam, showing the efforts made to bring healthful exercise, work and sports to underprivileged children sent there between the ages of eight and eighteen. Upwards of 147 boys were at present in the school, the younger boys attending school, and the older ones learning trades. They had their own band and ball club, and were taught to erect buildings, clear land, household trades and farming. Poultry raised at the school, under D. B. Bratton, is supplied to other provincial institutions, with a gross value of \$22,000 in products annually.

ESSONDALE PRAISED

The Mental Home at Essondale, under Dr. A. L. Crease, was described by Mr. Howe as a standing monument to the foresight of Dr. H. E. Young, Provincial Health Officer, who pioneered on plans for provision for mental defectives. The institution represented a capital investment of \$4,000,000 and was one of the most up-to-date of its kind anywhere in the world.

Some 2,600 patients were housed at Essondale, one-third of which were females, now accommodated in the new female chronic building. Discharge of patients had grown to 71 per cent a year of those admitted, which was a very high degree of effective result, he stated. New cases average about 800 a year. Children, originally accommodated at Essondale, have now been moved to New Westminster and live under conditions better suited to the purpose.

IS REAL PROBLEM

"The great problem facing the province today is the future policy of taking care of our mentally afflicted people," continued Mr. Howe. "The Government has already announced that, as soon as the finances of the province permit, a psychiatric hospital will be built. This is the modern way of treating patients in the earlier stages, and returning them to their homes, rather than locking them up in an institution for life. It is admitted by all that this is a very necessary treatment, and I hope before long a psychiatric hospital can be erected."

The farm in connection with the provincial mental hospital, he showed, produced \$27,000 worth of products in the year, including dairying and a marked success with fruit canning. The annual upkeep of the entire institution was in the neighborhood of \$800,000 a year. A separate building will be provided shortly for returned men, permitting segregation of these cases, to enhance their accommodation and means of treatment.

Mr. Howe referred to the Provincial Home for Incurables, at Marpole, which has a patient cost of \$1.40 a day, and where additional accommodation may soon be necessary.

In reference to the Wilkinson Road Mental Hospital he praised the management of the institution under F. G. Farrant, and told of the work that is being carried on there. The capital investment in the institution is \$350,000, and the annual upkeep \$90,000. A material saving in the cost of operation had been effected under the present Government, Mr. Howe stated.

COST \$4,000,000 YEARLY

Various institutions, including health and social work, cost the province over \$4,000,000 annually, which was a heavy toll on the taxpayer. Under the present administration every reasonable effort was being made to see that the operating costs of these institutions were held down and that a business-like system was adopted in their management. This was resulting in a steadily improving ratio of efficiency, without any sacrifice in the service given to those in need of it, concluded the Provincial Secretary.

At the conclusion of his address, Mr. Howe was warmly thanked by the president, Mrs. S. Raven, on behalf of the Victoria Women's Conservative Association for his illuminating discourse. The meeting was largely attended.

Practical Savings Effected in Cost Of Public Service

Co-ordination in Department of Agriculture Absorbs Cut of \$140,000 This Year—Need Public Co-operation to Bring Live Home Market

DEPRESSION may have its blessings as well as its sorrows. Effective reductions in operating costs are being rediscovered by public and private enterprises throughout Canada at this time, as a result of the necessity of carrying on existing services with less money. Governments, contracting their budgets and co-ordinating their plans as never before, are taking a leaf out of the books of private undertakings in this regard.

Notable reductions have been made by the Provincial Government in its current year's estimates, involving extensive cuts in nearly all departments.

How the curtailment reacts is well illustrated in the Department of Agriculture, where a reduction of \$140,000 odd will be absorbed this year, without any material sacrifice in services to the public.

AGRICULTURAL SAVINGS

The gross appropriation last year for agriculture was \$639,290, including supplementary estimates. Some \$26,000 of this was attributable to the Land Settlement Board, now transferred to the Lands Department, and \$23,000 additional for the agricultural credits fund, not an actual part of the operating wing of the department. This left \$589,800 in round figures as the actual cost of the service. The appropriation this year is \$439,450, an effectual reduction of about \$140,000.

Explaining how this reduction would be met, Hon. William Atkinson yesterday outlined changes made in the department to carry on its work. These follow a steady development of the policy originated last year when the department was divided under four heads, administration, plant pathology, animal husbandry and marketing.

CO-ORDINATE WORK

The groundwork of the policy lies in practical efforts to co-operate with the Dominion Department of Agriculture, preventing overlapping, and co-ordinating services both departments carry out in British Columbia. This phase of the matter has led to active co-operation and a sharing of costs in several ways, noticeably in regard to the drought spot disease survey in the Okanagan, and a soil survey, where the services of officials of both departments and some of the costs are pooled.

Co-ordination has also set in within the provincial department itself, combining related services and extending the work of inspectors to other lines than the highly specialized fields formerly covered. In this manner, it is explained, entomology, plant pathology and aplary services have been co-ordinated under one control.

Under the animals branch similar unification has been carried out, and poultry inspection brought under that head. The chief poultry inspector has been transferred to the animals branch, and other inspectors will report on all lines of animal husbandry as well as poultry, in co-operation in the field with the work of district agriculturists.

OVERLAPPING ELIMINATED

By a system of interlocking services, duplication and double effort have been eliminated and traveling expense for practical field work sliced to a marked degree.

Poultry work heretofore has been the subject of five distinct agencies in the province, including the Dominion R.O.P. tests, Dominion Experimental Farms, the egg pool, poultry associations and the provincial branch. By eliminating the poultry branch as a separate entity and correlating this work to other phases of stock keeping, practical economies are being made without any sacrifice to the service rendered to the public.

By elimination of one district and the amalgamation of the Creston and Cranbrook areas the department will be able to cover the same field, and even extend some of its services into areas not before touched.

At Kelowna, the Dominion and Provincial departments are combining in a five-year test of orchard pests, related to the drought disease in the North Okanagan. A material part of the cost of the plan will be borne by the Dominion. In the soil survey, under way nearby, the Dominion and Province will share the costs on a fifty-fifty basis.

Other co-ordination is taking place in regard to contests held to promote interest in agricultural matters, and to disseminate the latest knowledge on practical methods of farming.

Both departments are also co-operating in regard to the purchase of purebred stock, under a plan of assistance to farmers wishing to enter this field. Heretofore the Dominion had a loan plan for the purebred stock, and the province made the stock available on an instalment purchase basis. This now has been unified.

FOSTER HOME MARKET

On markets, the conviction is growing that British Columbia has within its own borders a home market that is capable of consuming a far greater percentage of its normal production than is taken up at present. Evaporated milk, for instance, is both imported and exported. Butter is very heavily imported, and can be produced excellently in British Columbia, while some small export movements of British Columbia butter are taking place to the Orient.

Potatoes last year moved both in and out of the province, in the Chilliwack area imports being brought in from Alberta, and exports leaving the same centre for Alberta. Much of this double movement is beginning to be recognized as a loss in marketing needlessly with the opportunities at the doors of farmers and business men living and doing business in the same areas. Meats are also instanced in this regard.

With 600,000 people in the province, say agriculturalists, and a reasonable rate of population influx, British Columbia should be a steadily expanding home market for the products of the sea, and soil. Operating along this line, interior points have achieved notable success this year in insuring a home market for fruits and vegetables, well in advance of the growing season. This means that actual production will be largely fitted to known requirements, and while profits may not be as large as the peak moments in the life of the industry, they are likely to be more assured. There will be surplus products, inevitably, but selling pressure will be less acute.

Farmers alone, it is pointed out by the department, cannot build up their home markets. It takes active co-operation and sympathetic consideration on the part of the merchant and business man. Banks are doing their share in extension of credits to practical workers on farm lands, but much remains to be done that only the people as a public may do.

In this connection the markets branch of the department this year put into effect a plan of menu suggestions, distributed by caterers, restaurants and hotels, placing British Columbia seasonal products before the public. If housewives would order British Columbia goods the problem of selling British Columbia products would largely disappear, it is asserted by those who have made a study of the subject.

In any event, British Columbia is looked on as the best market for produce grown in the province this year, and the degree to which the public responds to this will also measure the degree of success that will reward the patience and toil of its farmers.

Forest
May 1, 1931

FORESTS ARE GREAT ASSET

Hon. N. S. Lougheed Tells Rotarians Situation of Timber Resources

MINISTER FAVORS TRADE EXTENSION

Viewing the future, as far as the timber business is concerned, with a spirit of optimism, Hon. N. S. Lougheed feels that there must be business methods employed, however, if the Province of British Columbia is to reap the full benefit from its forest resources. Speaking before the Rotary Club, yesterday, at the Empress Hotel, the Minister of Lands advocated a policy of conservation with respect to the forests. This would include the substitution, wherever practical, of hemlock, cedar and spruce for Douglas fir, which was so popular; the reforestation of lands being cleared of its timber; and the extension of the markets of the world in the matter of British Columbia timber.

The latter is something of which Mr. Lougheed is very hopeful, and in his address he stated that the trade with Australia, as a result of the mission which went there, had doubled. The trade with Great Britain had also increased, and he expressed his determination as minister of the department to see that every facility was afforded for further increasing the trade.

MUST CONSERVE

Without conservation methods, Mr. Lougheed feared that within fifteen or twenty years the mature stands of Douglas fir in the province would be exhausted. The demand for this timber throughout the world was due to the fact that it could not be supplied from elsewhere than the Pacific Coast, and there was an insistent demand for it. This had grown up shortly after the voyages of Cook, Quadra and Vancouver to this coast.

The minister said that he had discovered that the first of the trade dated back to a time when a schooner manned by Orkney Islanders came to Nootka Sound to get a cargo of cod. They discovered that the Spaniards had "beaten them to it," and taken the supplies, so they loaded up with a cargo of Douglas fir spars, which they took to Great Britain. Thus originated the demand for the timber.

COAST SITUATION

The minister took as an example of the situation in the province as far as timber was concerned, the Vancouver forest district, which included the Lower Mainland as far north as Seymour Inlet, the Gulf Islands and Vancouver Island. This contained the greater part of the Douglas fir area of the province. A survey had been completed of this, and he stated there were 5,663,000 acres of mature timber in the area. This contained an estimated 130,000,000 feet of sawlogs, and, in addition, 662,000 acres of restocking young growth, much of which is already twenty to forty feet high. There are 736,000 acres of recent burns or logged areas, where the new growth has not yet been established. There were planted last year 69,000 seedlings, and it was proposed to plant some 1,000,000 seedlings next year. This would bring up the planted areas to 9,000,000 seedlings.

The nature of the mature timber stands was given by the minister for the Vancouver forest district and also for Vancouver Island itself as follows:

Vancouver F. Dist.	Vancouver Is.
41,000,000M Douglas Fir	32,079,200M
35,000,000M Hemlock	37,568,000M
35,000,000M Cedar	20,760,400M
13,000,000M White Fir	10,203,100M
5,000,000M Spruce	2,198,800M
3,800,000M Other species	1,669,100M

These figures, he said represented the total stand. In logging under present methods there would have to be reduction by about 25 or 30 per cent owing to inaccessibility of a part of the stand on the mountain sides.

DOUGLAS FIR FAVORED

Mr. Lougheed then gave the figures as to the annual cut according to the species, which was as follows: Douglas fir, 1,250,000 M.; cedar, 450,000 M.; hemlock, 290,000 M.; white fir, 60,000 M.; spruce, 40,000 M.

"These figures show very clearly the extent to which we are over-cutting our Douglas fir as compared with hemlock; that the present mature stands of Douglas fir will be exhausted in about twenty years; that cedar will last for fifty to sixty years, and hemlock ninety to one hundred years," said Mr. Lougheed. "The cutting of second-growth stands will extend these periods considerably; but, here again, because of the short period before the exhaustion of Douglas fir, the second-growth will be a minor factor."

MISCONCEPTION EXISTS

"In considering the question of the annual growth, I would like to take this opportunity of correcting a misconception. It has been stated that the growth in the province is 5,000,000 M. feet per year and, since we are cutting less than this amount, therefore there is no fear of the future. Any annual increase is to be found only on those areas of young stands that have come up after fire or logging, which in the Vancouver district are shown to be 862,000 acres. The yield on our Coast stands varies with soil and climate, exceeding 1,000 feet per year on the rich river lands, but probably less than 100 feet on the rocky mountain sides near timber line. If, for argument's sake, we adopt 500 board-feet per acre for the average of the 800,000 acres, we have an annual increase of 400,000 M. for the district, or only one-fifth of the amount cut. Moreover, as these young stands contain about the same percentage of species as the original stand, the annual increment of Douglas fir is only 133,000 M., or one-tenth of the annual cut. It is quite true that, when the whole forest area on the Coast, 7,300,000 acres, is brought under young growing forest, the cut could be increased to something like 3,000,000 M., or in excess of what we are now cutting."

MISLEADING INFORMATION

"The figure 5,000,000 M.B.M. of annual growth that has been cited by the Commission of Conservation, is attributed largely to the Interior, where they estimate approximately 60,000,000 acres of land containing

young stands of timber. Much of this, however, is remote from transportation, and the forests are largely comprised of lodgepole pine, a small tree suitable for lumber and pulp, but at present almost unknown in the timber trade, except for railway ties and for local consumption, the total cut being only 30,000 to 50,000 M.B.M. per year."

"Now, let us look at the market situation, and I will take the British market as an example. Great Britain requires to import each year some 4,000,000 M.B.M. of timber. Most of this in the past has come from the Baltic countries and Russia. Two species, Scotch pine and spruce, have made up the major portion of the imports. These trees are small, more comparable with our Coast species. In fact, these countries, especially Finland, have been importing lodgepole pine seed to plant in the belief that it will produce a faster-growing, better lumber than the native species. The average size of the trees is twelve to thirteen inches in diameter, and the average log diameter at Swedish mills is about eight inches. The lumber produced is a small, tight-knotted deal, or dimension stock, comparable with our No. 1 and No. 2 common. Little or no large dimension stock or clears are available."

"In strength, weight, working and finishing qualities, our so-called inferior species and common grades of Douglas fir will compare favorably with these woods, and the normal price quoted at 11 is

sufficient to allow freight and still leave a margin over operating cost.

RUSSIAN PROBLEM

"It is true that Russian lumber is now a serious competitor, which is being offered at reduced prices, and there is no doubt that for the time Russia is attempting to push her products in order to receive ready money without consideration of cost. At the same time, the whole basis of Russia's five-year plan is to raise the standard of the masses, and in doing so her own timber needs will be greatly increased. Should the per capita consumption of Russia approach that of her neighbors, she will require some 20,000,000 M.B.M. for local consumption by her 150,000,000 inhabitants."

"Finland and Sweden cannot increase their production. Forest economists in England are apprehensive of their future supplies. English sentiment is growing for trade within the Empire. It therefore seems that the present is an opportune time to place before the British consumer the merits of our various woods, through a trade extension campaign, which is aimed not only for education work, but to remove some of the difficulties of doing business at long range; to simplify the booking of orders, and to obtain satisfactory delivery and rectification of disputes. Results cannot be expected in a day, but I believe a foundation can be laid which will permit of a better distribution of our cut, closer utilization of the forest stand, and a greater stability of our forest industries, on which depend so many of our national activities."

BRITISH TRADE

The minister went on to say that the British trade was 250,000,000, or \$250,000,000 a year. This was a field where there might well be expected an increase in the business done.

Mr. Lougheed pointed out that it was important to develop the industry, as there was now in British Columbia \$250,000,000 invested in the lumber business. The value of the product was \$90,000,000, and there were 40,000 persons employed in the industry. There was paid to the province \$4,000,000 a year by the industry in royalties and stumpage. If this asset was to be preserved to the people there was necessary to be carried into effect a system of reforestation, coupled with a policy of trade extension in the commodity produced.

Mr. Lougheed was thanked by the new president of the club, J. Percy Watson, who presided.

BRUDA BERRETTIA

Prime Minister
May 5, 1931

BOWSER WON'T BE GOVERNOR

But If You Guess He Will Re-enter Politics, You May Be Right.

TALK OF GEN. McRAE

OTTAWA, May 5.—The air is full of rumors regarding changes in the government and administration of British Columbia.

The rumor is being circulated again that W. J. Bowser will be appointed Lieutenant-Governor. This can be completely denied. Mr. Bowser will not take this office; he has already declined it. Those who know him fairly well say that his inclinations are more in the realm of active politics.

There is a story that Premier Tolmie will resign to take a position under the Federal Government. Dr. Tolmie has made no announcement yet of that intention. He has been round Ottawa and Montreal for a fortnight, but will be home in Victoria by the coming week-end. The story goes that he will be succeeded in the premiership by Gen. A. D. McRae. The latter is known to have political ambitions still and it is probable that he will be seen prominently in a British Columbia Conservative reorganization—if and when one comes off. Nelson Spencer, M.L.A. for Vancouver, is regarded as close to Gen. McRae and would probably be taken into a cabinet if McRae were chosen leader.

BOWSER AS ATTORNEY-GENERAL

Reports are reaching here of gatherings of Conservatives in Vancouver recently, demanding a party convention. It is possible that some cabinet reorganization will come out of this meeting. There is some talk here of the appointment of Hon. S. L. Howe as Lieutenant-Governor. Mr. Fooley might take his place as provincial secretary, which would provide a good chance for Mr. Bowser to join the government in his old and successful role of attorney-general. It is said that Hon. R. L. Matland has federal ambitions.

A good deal of guessing is proceeding but nobody yet knows how Dr. Tolmie regards it. If the popular Prime Minister of British Columbia wishes to retire, a new Conservative administration featuring Bowser, McRae, Bruhn, William Dick and J. W. Jones may be in the offing.

ACTION IN VANCOUVER

Division Two Conservative Association Monday night passed a resolution asking central executive of the Vancouver Conservative Association to press for an early convention of the British Columbia Conservative Association to discuss "the cause of prevailing unrest and dissatisfaction in the party."

This is in line with a resolution endorsed by other divisional associations of the party in Vancouver.

Mr. W. S. Deacon, president of Division Two Association, was in the chair when the following resolution was passed:

"Resolved, that in the opinion of this meeting the holding of an immediate convention is imperatively necessary in order that the cause of the prevailing unrest and dissatisfaction in the party ranks may be ascertained and steps taken to remedy and counteract the same before it is too late to prevent the party's defeat at the next provincial election."

The meeting also expressed dissatisfaction with the personnel of reappointments of Harbor Board police.

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GEN. M'RAE IS INDIGNANT AT PRESS RUMOR

Former Conservative Organizer Has No Intention of Entering Politics

SAYS PARTY UNITY ALONE WINS FAVOR

Complains That Ottawa Dispatches Were Written Without Sanction

VANCOUVER, May 8.—Major Gen. A. D. McRae will not enter politics in British Columbia. He has not the slightest desire to do so. This was his declaration today on his return from an eight months' trip in Europe.

During the past several weeks General McRae has been freely mentioned in connection with suggested Cabinet changes at Victoria, and this week his name appeared in press dispatches from Ottawa in connection with the British Columbia political situation.

EMPHATIC DENIAL

"I wish to make it quite clear that as far as I am concerned I am out of the political picture in British Columbia," he asserted. "Under no circumstances would I consider entering into politics here, as has been suggested in various newspapers recently. I wish to give as unequivocal a denial as possible to any such rumor, in order that there will be no misunderstanding regarding any action I will take."

General McRae declared he was astounded that his name should have been mentioned in press dispatches from Ottawa regarding provincial aspirations.

"I have been at Ottawa for several weeks and was available to newspapermen there. They could have obtained knowledge of my intentions at first hand. Hon. S. F. Tolmie, the Premier, was also in Ottawa, and correspondents could have obtained the same information from him," he said.

URGES PARTY UNITY

"I am astonished at the space given in the press to suggested Cabinet reorganization at Victoria," continued General McRae. "I surmise, from what I have read in the newspapers, that there is some dissatisfaction existing within the Conservative party in British Columbia. However, the place to iron out such things is not the public press, but with executives behind closed doors. If I have advice to offer, it is that political victories are only won by unity. Such steps as are necessary to foster unity should be taken at once."

TO FINISH BIG BEND ROAD IN 1932

Bruhn to Provide Work on Three Road Sections At One Time.

VISITS REVELSTOKE

(Special to The Province.)

REVELSTOKE, May 12.—It is the intention of the Provincial Government to have its share of the Big Bend Highway completed by the end of 1932. Hon. R. W. Bruhn, minister of public works, told the Revelstoke Board of Trade at a banquet given in his honor here Monday night.

It was the first appearance of the minister at a local public function since his appointment to the office which he now holds. The gathering was somewhat in the nature of a homecoming for, when the minister came to the province from Sweden, thirty-four years ago, he did his first work on a ditch which at one time ran through the present city of Revelstoke. Later he took up a homestead in this district and resided on it for fourteen years. Even at the present time he represents the adjoining riding and is a frequent visitor to this city.

OUTLET AT VANCOUVER.

He stated that he had been trying to proceed with construction on the Hope-Princeton section, thus providing work on all three routes simultaneously. There would also be some work done on the North Thompson road. He claimed that the highway schedule was far behind time when the present government took over control, and said that since that time over 1100 miles of new roads have been constructed and 1300 miles reconstructed.

The minister defended the action of the government in grading roads in the Fraser Valley, declaring that the policy was one which was to be found in all European countries, namely, roads from the source of supply to the natural outlet. The products of the Fraser Valley must naturally seek the great port of Vancouver and the harbor facilities of Burrard peninsula. It was essential that the district should have good roads.

The minister spoke highly of the benefits that would accrue to the province from the construction of the Big Bend road, and asserted that he had

been impressed with the value of this road since he first came to the district.

WORLD'S BEST SCENERY.

P. Phillip, deputy minister of public works, gave a historical sketch and waxed eloquent when he mentioned his recent trip over the Big Bend road. "Tourists may come from the eastern seaboard and from any part of the American continent and I venture to say that they will encounter nothing more magnificent from a scenic standpoint than they will find along the Big Bend road from Mowile to Revelstoke," he said.

Dr. A. L. Jones, president of the Board of Trade, presided and a vote of thanks was spoken to by W. G. McRae and Dr. G. T. Marrs.

CONSERVATIVES HEAR MINISTER

Hon. J. W. Jones Tells Nanaimo Audience Why Present Taxation Necessary

NANAIMO, May 12.—On the occasion of the first visit to Nanaimo of Hon. J. W. Jones, Provincial Minister of Finance, the Foresters' Hall was well filled last evening.

Speaking on the general financial situation of the province, Mr. Jones said it was not a product of this year alone. The Liberals were never able to show a surplus except for two years during all the time they were in office. Liabilities incurred by them were not provided for. They not only left a deficit, but short term bonds for \$22,000,000, due in a short time, for which no sinking fund had been provided.

For their estimated expenditures of \$21,000,000, \$25,544,000 had to be raised. The present Government had cleaned this stew up and he ventured to say that the last estimates presented were the truest and clearest ever presented to the Provincial Parliament for many years.

Every electoral district was putting in claims for money to be expended in that district, but they did not want to pay for it. The Island alone had put in claims for highway work which would total \$8,000,000, and the Mainland for the same purpose had asked for \$15,000,000.

HUGE DEBT PILED UP

When he took office he found a net debt of \$102,000,000 and knew something had to be done. Of the \$102,000,000 debt, \$77,825,000 had been expended by the Oliver and McLean governments on schemes supposed to be self-supporting, but there was practically nothing coming in from them.

The depression had caused reduction of revenue while social services in the province had greatly increased. Hospitals and charities had increased from \$1,250,000 in 1923 to \$2,500,000. Mothers' pensions and old age pensions had increased proportionately, but who would want to cut them down; certainly, he did not. Then came unemployment, which last year had cost the Government \$1,350,000. Social services were now costing \$5,563,000 as against \$1,500,000 eight years ago. Education, \$4,500,000, making a total for these two alone of \$10,000,000. In spite of these increases, he had kept the estimates at \$28,000,000, the same figure as a year ago.

TO STOP DEFICITS

He was determined that the time of deficits had to be stopped, and he had instituted the special revenue tax. It had been finally decided to exempt single men up to \$25 a week and married men up to \$25 a week if the wife was domiciled in the province. In this way they hoped to catch the Orientals and they would do so.

Judges, Senators, legislators and everyone were paying the tax over and above the regular income tax, which amounted from 2 to 15 per cent. Banks were paying 20 per cent more than formerly, and all utility companies and corporations were paying more.

He wanted to keep the Province from going into debt and put it on a firm financial basis, and he thought his policy was having that effect in Toronto and New York,

as shown by the sale of provincial bonds.

WARM RETURN FROM SPEAKER

Pique of Interior Fruitmen Brings Reply From C. F. Davie, M.P.P.

Fruit marketing legislation sought by co-operative fruitmen of British Columbia, had a fair trial before the Legislature, and the bill incorporating these proposals might have been saved from the discard but for the precipitate action of counsel who prepared the measure, Mr. Speaker Davie stated yesterday, answering assertions printed in the April issue of the bulletin published by the Associated Growers of British Columbia, at Vernon.

Mr. Davie gave a categorical denial to any suggestion that he had made his ruling on the issue before the House on other than his own initiative.

He pointed out that he had objected to the bill on two main grounds, one that the consent of the Government should have been obtained in presenting such a measure, and the other that portions of the bill were ultra vires of the authority of the Provincial Legislature. Had his ruling not been appealed from, the ultra vires sections could have been eliminated; and Government assent, later volunteered, would have cured other defects in the bill.

The ruling was appealed, and once the House voted on the issue no other opportunity could have been made for reintroduction of the measure, Mr. Davie continued. Counsel experienced in legislation should have seen wherein their remedy lay, he added.

STATE HEALTH REPORT

Mr. Davie is in the city this week in connection with the compilation of the mass of evidence and data collected by the Royal Commission on State Health Insurance, of which he is chairman. The sudden demise of the late Charles H. Gibbons, former secretary to the body, unraveled much that had been done towards correlating the data, and preparing it for report. This work is now being picked up under the direction of Mr. Davie.

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GOVERNMENT IS DEFENDED

Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe Denies Charges of Extravagance by Administration

EXTOLS PREMIER AS REAL LEADER

PRINCE RUPERT, May 9.—Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, Minister of Education, at a public meeting here, defended the Tolmie Government against charges of extravagance and placed the blame for all the increases in the budget on the shoulders of the previous administration.

Mr. Hinchliffe quoted figures to show that the late Government deliberately underestimated in its last budget in order to make a good showing. Such amounts as the dyking arrears, deficits in the agricultural credits commission and election expenses had not been provided for, he stated, although parimutuel collections were \$216,000 and that amount had been handed over to the municipalities, the amount entered in the estimates was \$10.

EXPENDITURES CUT

Mr. Hinchliffe claimed the Government had reduced expenditures by more than a million dollars but had expended the amount in additional services. He stoutly defended the 1 per cent tax, declaring it was designed to obtain revenue from people who had not previously paid taxes. It was not good for people to grow up with the idea that they were entitled to everything and must pay nothing, he said.

In closing, the minister extolled Premier Tolmie as a strong leader who could not be bought and was determined to leave behind him a clean record.

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JONES CHARGES DEBT HERITAGE

Finance Minister Declares Former Liberal Govt. 'Camouflaged' Budgets.

SPEAKS AT ROYAL OAK

ROYAL OAK, Burnaby, May 9.—Seathing denunciation of allegedly camouflaged budgets submitted to the Provincial Legislature by Liberal administrations, which resulted in deficits and liabilities, was voiced by Hon. J. W. Jones, minister of finance, in Legion Hall, Royal Oak, Friday night.

"If the late John Oliver had been allowed to have his own way, I believe British Columbia would have escaped many financial problems now awaiting solution. But his hands were forced by other members of the cabinet," declared Mr. Jones. He added that when Liberals went out of office in 1928 they left a short-term debt of \$6,000,000, which had been incurred to meet deficits, and a further \$8,000,000 deficit that the Tolmie cabinet had to meet by borrowing.

HERITAGE OF LIABILITIES.

Mr. T. D. Patsullo, leader of the opposition, had stated that all liabilities incurred by the Liberals had been provided for, said Mr. Jones.

He omitted to state that there were \$1,000,000 short-term bonds for which interest and sinking fund charges had

not been provided; a deficit of \$3,000,000 and \$3,500,000 other commitments, bringing total liabilities unprovided for when Dr. Tolmie took office to \$39,500,000," Hon. Mr. Jones added.

The speaker declared it was loose methods of financing practiced by Liberal administrations since 1916, coupled with demands of the people of British Columbia for bigger grants for roads, education, social and other services, that had compelled him, as minister of finance, to cry "Halt!" and to impose a supertax of 1 per cent on wages and salaries, which would otherwise have been unnecessary.

Another factor in the situation, he said, was unprofitable investments made by Liberal governments amounting to \$77,825,000, which, instead of producing \$5,000,000 annually, called for that amount to be raised each year to meet fixed charges for the next ten to twenty-five years.

Mr. W. E. Rutledge, M.L.A., spoke briefly on grants to Vancouver and Burnaby made by the Provincial Government. In 1929-30, he said, Vancouver received \$3,268,330 and 1930-31 \$3,546,829 plus \$500,000 for unemployment relief. Burnaby had received, he said, \$129,000 for unemployment relief, plus \$100,000 for Lougheed Highway.

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OFFICIALS IN B.C. FAVOR SWEEPSTAKES

VICTORIA, May 9.—While the government was discreetly silent today on the proposal of Senator Barnard of Victoria in the Canadian Senate that sweepstakes for hospital purposes be permitted in provinces which choose to adopt them, it was learned that this plan has strong support in official quarters.

The Provincial Government is frankly doubtful about the Barnard Bill securing passage in the House of Commons against the known opposition of many eastern members. But if it were passed there would be no serious objection to it here. It was stated emphatically, however, that Mr. Barnard had not consulted the provincial authorities concerning his proposal and that no suggestions favorable to it had been made by the province. No objection to it is being filed either.

STRONG DEMAND THROUGHOUT B. C.

During the last few weeks strong support for hospital sweepstakes has been evident in British Columbia. Many places anxious to finance hospitals in this way have sought to overcome the law against them, but under the existing regulations the government has no option in the matter. It has to enforce the criminal code, which forbids lotteries, under section 236. According to legal experts of the government, who have investigated the matter carefully in the last few days, there is no way to overcome this section of the code except by federal legislation, similar to that by which horse racing is permitted in provinces which are favorable to it.

Incidentally in sub-section 6 of section 236 lotteries are legalized for church purposes. Church bazaars are permitted to raffle articles up to the value of \$50. It is on account of this section that supporters of larger hospital lotteries assert that the churches can not consistently oppose this plan. This argument has been advanced to the government recently by communities which were prevented from going ahead with their local hospital lotteries.

HOSPITALS IN DIFFICULTIES.

The Barnard bill is particularly interesting to the Provincial Government at this time because of its serious difficulties with the financing of hospitals. It is generally realized in the Legislature that the present situation under which the deficits of the larger hospitals are piling up year after year, can not continue indefinitely.

Municipalities insist that the government must provide larger assistance for these institutions but the government feels that it is already contributing as much as possible to municipalities. The introduction of state health insurance, which will probably take place within the next two years, is counted upon to relieve this condition to some extent. Hospital lotteries, however, would be welcomed by many local hospital authorities, judging by their protests against the recent ban on these operations.

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REFOREST PLAN LAUNCHED BY B. C. MINISTER

Hon. N. S. Lougheed Urges Planting of Young Trees to Perpetuate Commercial Timber—Would Have Federal Government Operate Nursery to Supply Trees To Whole Dominion.

(Special to The Province.)

VICTORIA, May 9.—After discovering through a new forest census that the great Douglas fir forests of the British Columbia coast will be exhausted in fifteen or twenty years at the present rate of cutting, Hon. N. S. Lougheed, minister of lands, is moving to create new forests as rapidly as possible.

One of his first steps in this campaign will be to urge the Federal Government to take over the tree nursery established by the province in the land formerly covered by the green timbers, near New Westminster. Mr. Lougheed is making representations to Ottawa on this score now.

This proposal is advanced in the belief that British Columbia must undertake artificial reforestation in a large way during the next few years—a vast undertaking which has not been attempted up to now. Also, Mr. Lougheed believes that British Columbia should supply young trees by the million to other parts of Canada, particularly the prairies where, on land unsuited for agriculture, a great forest crop can be grown.

SAYS ARTIFICIAL PLANTING NECESSARY.

"We propose that the Federal Government take over the work which we have started, operate our tree nursery on a large scale and supply timber trees to all parts of the Dominion," Mr. Lougheed said. "This province, like other provinces, would secure its young seedling trees in this way. While it is true that in many places our forests are reproducing themselves, in places where they have been burned over several times artificial planting is absolutely necessary. This we propose to undertake."

At the Green Timbers Nursery the province last year planted 60,000 trees and is planting 800,000 more now. In this way the largest tree nursery in Canada is being created and there is ample space for the Federal Government to make it large enough for the national use which Mr. Lougheed proposes.

At the same time Mr. Lougheed is recommending that the Federal Govern-

ment's seed extraction plant at New Westminster be devoted more to reproduction of timber trees in British Columbia. This plant is shipping large quantities of tree seeds to Australia and other parts of the world. Mr. Lougheed believes that this seed could be used to greater advantage in the reproduction of young trees in a national nursery at the Green Timbers.

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TO DO AWAY WITH PARTY

Movement For Reform of Politics Starts in Province.

CHARGES URGED

A movement having for its object the abolition of party politics, so far as the conduct of public affairs in British Columbia is concerned, is developing in Victoria and is said to have won considerable support in other parts of the province.

A pamphlet just issued from the office of the movement, 330 Pemberton Building, in the capital, sets forth the various arguments against the present condition of affairs and suggests that British Columbia would fare much better if it were ruled by a businesslike board of directors instead of having all the paraphernalia of a parliament with government, opposition and a large civil service. Canada, it is contended, with its ten legislatures and more than 800 legislators, is much over-governed. The amount of Dominion and provincial taxation in British Columbia is set down as \$90 per capita, and comparison is made with various other parts of the British Empire where the taxation is much less than in this province. The statement is made that when the burden approached \$100 per capita it becomes dangerously heavy, and Australia, with its taxation of \$118 per capita, is cited as an example.

In the Canadian provinces, it is contended, there are no great questions which make division on party lines necessary. There is no real difference between Liberals and Conservatives. It is only a question of Ins and Outs.

EVILS OF PARTY SYSTEM.

Various injurious features of party politics, as applied to provincial business, are given as follows:

1. Most of those who subscribe to party funds expect to get, and do get, concessions costly to the taxpayer.
2. Those who render service to the party must have rewards and often a civil service job without regard to ability or experience. Also efficient servants appointed by a previous government are discharged and party benefactors appointed in their place.
3. The government can not afford so many cabinet ministers at \$7500

a year, whose only duty is to defend the government in the Legislature, while the work is done by the deputies. Also, the final word in each department is in the hands of the minister, who usually has had no previous experience in his department.

4. Owing to the party system, those constituencies which have elected opposition members are unrepresented and can get nothing for the term of the government's power. Also, the ability of the opposition is seldom available and the directorate of the province is only operating in part.

5. Appointments are not made by the heads of departments, but by the patronage committee, a group of supporters who know of nothing and care for nothing but the services the applicant has rendered to the party.

6. Extravagant expenditure of public money to retain a constituency or win one is always evident, particularly previous to an election.

7. Under party government, the meeting of the Legislature is almost futile. The cabinet has decided what it intends to do and its followers vote for these measures automatically.

8. The sittings of the Legislature cost much money and the taxpayer pays heavily while the opposite sides call each other liars and thieves. Men of ability and integrity will not enter an institution where their ability is not required and their integrity constantly impugned.

SUGGESTED PLATFORM.

Some of the planks in the suggested platform of reform are: To use every endeavor to destroy the party system for all time; constituencies to elect outstanding citizens of proved integrity; complete independence of all members to vote as they think best; the abolition of the caucus; reduction of salaries and number of ministers holding portfolios; departments to be run by competent heads responsible to the cabinet; the civil service to be reorganized, graded and made permanent; no civil servant at present in office to be discharged to make room for supporters of the movement; the Legislature to meet for a month in winter and three to six consecutive days each month as business may warrant; reduction of expenditure and taxes; abolition of death duties in near future and cancellation of increased income tax; legislative term of three years; every member subject to recall.

absence of Mr. Jones yesterday, it could not be learned what measures the Province proposes to take to collect the tax from Federal workers in British Columbia. It is probable, however, that special returns may be required from all Federal employees in British Columbia, placing the onus for payment of the tax directly on the shoulders of the employees concerned.

Federal employees in the province include a considerable number of civil servants engaged in postal, engineering, agriculture, immigration, customs and other services. For some time past these employees have been anticipating a deduction on account of the 1 per cent tax, the only point at issue being the manner of its collection. It had been hoped the Dominion would attend to this, acting as another employer for the purpose of the act.

WILL SIMPLIFY TAXATION PLAN

Large Firms to Present Consolidated Returns on 1 Per Cent Tax

Arrangements have been made by the Provincial Government with large employers of labor in the province to simplify returns under the Special Revenue Act in regard to the 1 per cent impost on wages and salaries, it was stated at the Legislative Buildings yesterday, where officials were examining the results of the first month's operation of the new tax. Large companies, it is arranged, will present consolidated returns covering all their operations in British Columbia.

Endless work has been caused officials of the taxation department through the action of some employers in failing to make their returns on the forms provided by the Department. One firm sent in an assorted bundle of seven cheques, for different amounts, but without any description of what the cheques were to cover. This leads to an unnecessary volume of correspondence and delay, it is explained.

The following information is definitely required by the Department:

The total number of employees engaged; the number of employees exempt from the tax, and the total of their wages; the number of employees from which the tax is deducted, and the total of their wages; the amount of the tax deductions. The Department does not want the names of the employees, but does definitely require that the official form sent out to all employers be used in making the necessary returns.

Officials of the Department state they are receiving co-operation from all employers, but that the work can be much simplified by closer attention to the official form of return, and the few simple directions it contains. A total of 40,000 employers are estimated as reporting under the plan, but this number will be cut down when large companies group all their operations in consolidated returns, as now being arranged by the Department.

In regard to Federal employees in British Columbia, it is learned that the Ottawa authorities have so far refused to deduct the tax from the wages of their employees in the province. Instead, Dominion officials have offered to issue a list of all Federal workers in British Columbia, for the use of the provincial taxation office. Negotiations are still proceeding between the two Governments over the matter, to see what can be worked out to cover these cases.

The Victoria office of the Provincial taxation branch is looking after the returns from all over the province, with the exception of those in the Vancouver and New Westminster districts, which are being filed at the Vancouver office of the Department.

RAISE POINT ON B.C. TAX

Federal Government Rules It Will Not Deduct Tax From Employees

PROVINCE CONSIDERS STEPS TO COLLECT

Definite refusal to collect the 1 per cent tax from its employees in British Columbia has been conveyed by the Federal Government to the Provincial Government, it was learned here yesterday.

While it is declining to make the deductions required under the Special Revenue Act, the Dominion Government has offered to place every facility in the hands of the Province for the collection of the 1 per cent tax on its own efforts.

Hon. J. W. Jones, Minister of Finance, has been in negotiation for some time with Ottawa over the point, acting through Premier Tolmie when he was in the East. In the

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BRITISH COLUMBIA TO FACE HIGHLY IMPORTANT ISSUES THIS SUMMER, SAYS PREMIER

June Conference at Ottawa on Rail Outlet for Peace River Area, Possibly Involving Future of Pacific Great Eastern Railway, Is Major Development of Promise

Canadian Privy Council Will Consider B.C. Freight Rates

Fall Discussion on Taxation Fields Open to Dominion and Provinces Severally, and Suggested Parley on Formulation of Unemployment Plans for Winter Also Mooted

FOUR issues of great importance to British Columbia will mature within the next few months, and from two of them, at least, the Province is hopeful of far-reaching results, Premier Tolmie intimated yesterday, on return to his desk at the Legislative Buildings. The Peace River outlet conference, to take place at Ottawa next month; British Columbia's appeal before the Canadian Privy Council on freight rates, and two conferences likely to be summoned in the Fall, a joint parley between the Dominion and the Provinces on taxation, and another joint parley on unemployment, are the questions involved.

Premier Tolmie returned to the Province highly encouraged with progress made over the Peace River outlet proposals, which will be the subject of a joint conference between the Dominion and trans-continental railways in June. Whether the Province will be a party to this conference or not is uncertain, but, in any event, British Columbia's views have been laid fully before all parties concerned by Premier Tolmie. These views contemplate a solution of the Peace River outlet problem, linking up with the Pacific Great Eastern Railway.

OUTLOOK ENCOURAGING

Premier Tolmie declined to be questioned as to his view of the probable outcome of the important conference to be held on the matter next month, but reiterated his previous assertion that the conference would be one of very great importance for British Columbia.

The long-standing appeal of British Columbia to the Canadian Privy Council in the matter of freight rates will be taken up by the Dominion Cabinet after the conclusion of the present session of the House of Commons. Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett, the Prime Minister, has given assurance of this, and his decision to proceed at the earliest possible date with the matter is one of great encouragement to the Province.

TO RETURN FIRE

Dr. Tolmie is going to do his own replying, however, and in this connection is getting ready to carry the war into Liberal camps this Summer. As soon as provincial business permits it, the Premier will undertake a tour of the province, with plans to speak in every centre.

In Montreal and Ottawa he found the business estimate of the course of affairs in British Columbia a sound one, with growing appreciation of the financial policies being carried out by his Government.

The recent bids received for British Columbia bonds were the best answer to political innuendoes affecting the credit of the Government, Premier Tolmie affirmed. Financiers weighed facts, and apparently they had found the facts in British Columbia much to their liking, he

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Federal Employees Will Pay B.C. Tax Says Hon. J. Jones

Method of Collection Is Sole Point at Issue Now With Ottawa—All Classes of Dominion Workers Will Come Under Plan

"FEDERAL employees in British Columbia will not be exempt from the special revenue tax, and the only question that remains to be settled is whether the 1 per cent is to be deducted currently from their pay cheques, or else collected at the end of the year," Hon. J. W. Jones stated yesterday. The point was being taken up with Ottawa, added the Minister of Finance.

For the present no deduction is being made from the cheques of Federal employees within the province, but this did not imply any waiver on the part of the Province to its right to collect the tax from this source, Mr. Jones stated. The sole question at issue was the manner in which the special revenue levy should be collected.

If collection is to be on a uniform basis with other public and commercial institutions in British Columbia the deduction would be made currently from each pay cheque. This would entail a series of reports by Federal offices to the provincial taxation office, in respect to employees at work within the province. Negotiations are being carried on now on the matter.

Federal employees under various departmental heads in British Columbia reach a considerable total of civil servants, including inspection officials, postal workers, radio-telegraph employees and many other classes of workers in specialized fields.

"There will be no escape from the tax by anyone who is justly entitled to pay it," was Mr. Jones' final word on the matter.

PREMIER TOLMIE OPTIMISTIC OVER PROSPECTS FOR P.G.E.

Makes Significant Statement Regarding Possibilities of Conference on Government Line and Peace Outlet Set for Next Month With Railway Presidents and Federal Ministers

With Reports on Passes Complete Expects Action

Arrangements Made for Meeting of International Commission on Alaskan Highway Proposal in Victoria This Summer—Doukhobor Parades May Be Stopped

BRIM full of optimism regarding the future of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway and as a result of his efforts on behalf of that road and the securing of an outlet to the Peace River country while in the East, Premier S. F. Tolmie arrived in Victoria yesterday afternoon after an absence of six weeks. That great headway has been made in the solution of the provincial railway problem was indicated in the carefully guarded statement he issued on arrival.

There will be a conference between the Dominion and Province and the two transcontinental railway presidents next month. "Until this conference is held," the Premier said, "there is little more to say, but," he added significantly, "if some important developments occur as a result of the conference, it will not be surprising."

The survey of the P.G.E. resources and the proposed outlet to the Coast from the Peace River District have been completed, he said, and a careful examination of all the possible passes for railway construction has been made. "This complete data, so essential to a careful consideration of the future of the railway problems of the province, has made it possible to enter the conference with a complete understanding of the whole situation and of its potentialities."

MANY PROBLEMS

While at Ottawa, Premier Tolmie gave a great deal of his attention to this major problem, but found time to actively take up many other matters of interest to British Columbia.

The Premier announced that, following the prorogation of the House of Commons this Summer, the International Committee on the Highway to Alaska will meet at Victoria to discuss the project. "This joint body," the Premier explained, "has been appointed to function as a fact-finding body to report on the feasibility of the proposal, but has no power to commit those participating in any undertaking. A large amount of data has been compiled here and will be available for the international committee to examine."

Canada is represented on the committee, he explained, by Hon. George Black, Speaker of the House of Commons and Member for the Yukon; J. M. Wardie, chief engineer, Dominion Parks Branch, Banff, and G. P. Napier, assistant chief engineer, Public Works Department, representing British Columbia.

The United States is represented by Ernest Walker Sawyer, Washington, D.C., executive assistant to the Secretary of the Interior; Herbert H. Rice, Detroit, assistant to the president of General Motors Inc., and Major Malcolm Elliott, United States Engineer Corps, chairman of the Alaska Road Commission, Juneau.

GENERAL INTEREST

The Premier found that general interest in the proposed highway through British Columbia and the Yukon to connect with the Alaskan road system was growing in the East.

The troubles that British Columbia has been experiencing with the Doukhobor fanatics of the South-eastern Interior occupied a good deal of the time of the Premier, who pressed upon Ottawa action designed to curb the immodest protest parades of these people. As a result amendments to the Criminal Code are being considered by the Federal Government that will, it is expected, prevent recurrence of nude parades.

Owing to the illness of the Minister of Marine during the time of his stay at Ottawa, Premier Tolmie was not able to accomplish as much as he had hoped for in connection with the claims of former sealers but he intends to continue his efforts for a full investigation of the sealing claims, and has promised his full support to the claimants in their efforts to obtain an adjustment. The Audette Commission, which some years ago reported on sealing matters, is the obstacle that must be overcome. D. B. Plunkett, M.P., is active in pressing the claims, said the Premier, who pays tribute to the Victoria member's industry on behalf of his constituency.

PILCHARD OIL

While he was not successful in securing his objective in the matter of sealing affairs, the Premier was able to make considerable headway on behalf of the British Columbia pilchard oil industry. He convinced the Department of Agriculture that trials should be made of the use of pilchard oil for the feeding of swine and chicks in substitution of imported castor oil. Experiments will be carried out at Dominion Experimental Farms at Agassiz, B.C., Scott, Sask.; Kapuskasing, Ont.; La Ferme, Quebec; Ottawa, St. Anne de la Pocatiere, Que., and Nappan, N.S.

The Premier also sought other extensions of the market for pilchard oil, which is placed at a disadvantage through regulations with imported oils of no greater value. He interviewed large consumers of oil with good prospects of materially assisting this industry.

MARKET INFORMATION

He also took up with the Department of Agriculture the necessity for the collection and dissemination of daily market intelligence, and also gave support to two resolutions from the British Columbia Beef Growers' Association relating to insect pests affecting livestock and cheaper rates on feed grain.

With a view to clarifying the position of the Federal and Provincial Governments in dealing with insect pests in British Columbia, a conference was held with representatives of the Department of Agriculture.

A. V. Pineo, British Columbia legislative counsel, took part in these discussions, and as a result a proposed amendment to the Destructive Insect and Pest Act was suggested.

At the request of Premier Tolmie, Hon. H. H. Stevens, Minister of Trade and Commerce, took up with the Government of Argentina the extension of the period for the acceptance of Canadian fruit. Under recent regulations boxed fruit from Canada cannot be entered into the Argentine after December 15. This is detrimental to the development of the market there for British Columbia apples.

APPLAUDS MINISTER

Premier Tolmie is high in his expression of appreciation of the work being done for Canada and British Columbia by Mr. Stevens, who readily assisted him in all his endeavors while at the capital. Mr. Stevens is now fully recovered from his recent illness, states the Premier.

He spent a great deal of time, said the Premier, in conferences with Cabinet members and the Department of Labor on the unemployment situation. It is considered at Ottawa that labor conditions are worse in the West than in the East. The manner in which the situation has been handled by the Dominion, provinces and municipalities, it is conceded, has resulted in much good being effected. Careful consideration is being given by the Federal Government to the formulation of plans for the future in regard to unemployment.

Premier Tolmie was called to the East to attend a conference of Premiers in connection with the Colonial Laws Validity Act amendments proposed at the Imperial Conference. He put forward, on behalf of British Columbia, a request for the safeguarding of the right of appeal to the Privy Council.

The Government at Ottawa is accomplishing a great deal of excellent work under the wise and capable leadership of Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett, declared Premier Tolmie, who added that general satisfaction is expressed with the manner in which the Prime Minister and his Cabinet are tackling the problems of the Dominion.

Colonist
Mar 29, 1931

PREMIER RAPS MALCONTENTS WHO HURT PUBLIC BUSINESS

Hon. Dr. Tolmie Speaks Plainly About Newspapers and Disappointed Job-Seekers Who Strove to Injure Negotiations in Interest of B.C. While He Was at Ottawa

Will Fight for Principles Of Decency in Government

Confident That, Despite Opponents' Tactics, Visit to East Will Prove Fruitful—People of Province Do Not Want Politics Designed for Personal Benefit of Individuals

THAT groundless and vicious stories emanating from political partisans and political newspapers in Vancouver did much to militate against the best interests of British Columbia at Ottawa, and retard his work there on behalf of the province, was the statement made by Premier Tolmie yesterday.

The Premier was particularly frank and outspoken in his comment on happenings in political circles in British Columbia, and particularly in Vancouver, while he was absent in the East doing his best to reach a solution of a number of British Columbia's problems. He made it clear that he is prepared to fight to a finish, not for himself, but for the right to have the interest of public affairs considered without the fetters of personal or political prejudice.

"I am not thin skinned. As the leader of the Government, I realize that I am fair game for political opponents in playing their political games, while I am in British Columbia," declared Dr. Tolmie, "but when I am acting out of the country acting on behalf of this province in dealing with people who are not at all interested in British Columbia politics, then I believe that I, or any other Premier of British Columbia, is entitled to receive that measure of consideration that will not seriously affect the public business that it is essential to transact.

VICIOUS STORIES
"While I was at Ottawa, the telegraph wires carried almost daily news stories written in the offices of Vancouver papers to the effect that I was to resign; that the Cabinet was to be completely changed, and that first this man and then that man was to take over control of the departments over which I preside.

"I cannot but conclude that these baseless and vicious stories were purposely designed to not only injure my prestige, but to prevent the accomplishment of the objectives that British Columbia is so anxious to attain.

HARMFUL INTENT
"It was known that I was engaged in discussions at Ottawa relative to transportation problems that have been left as a legacy from the former administration. Certain newspapers, particularly The Vancouver Sun, have been calling loudly and distastefully for action in opening up the interior areas of British Columbia. And yet this very paper deliberately set out to seek the ruin of the very objectives that they have been pretending were vital to the future of the province.

"Nor was The Sun the only Vancouver paper that sought to weaken my prestige in conducting the af-

fairs of British Columbia while I was away. That The Sun and Victoria Times are ready to place the advantages of the Liberal Party above those of the Province is generally accepted, but that other Vancouver papers should have resorted to what must have been known to them to be baseless stories which could only injure the country as well as the individual is surprising.

PARTY MALCONTENTS
"Ever since I was unanimously chosen as leader of the Conservative party at Kamloops in 1926, an honor I did not seek, I have been aware that there were a few who claimed to be Conservatives within the ranks of the party who were hostile to me, even as I knew that paid political spies were employed to bring about confusion in the party ranks prior to the 1928 elections. Since then this number has been added to by some who have been disappointed in obtaining jobs in the Government service. These elements are noisy and persistent in their endeavors to have me resign in the hope that they will obtain personal gain from a new leader.

"I consider it a compliment to be opposed by such men, and feel that the vast majority of the sane thinking public of British Columbia are opposed, as I am, to the creation of any political machine designed for the personal advantage of those who control it. That the chief complaint against this Government from certain factions who have worked persistently to control one or two ward associations of the party is that there is an absence of political partisanship is, I believe, a testimonial to the integrity of the administration and our endeavors to conduct the affairs of British Columbia on a system of efficiency and decency.

RUMORS AMPLIFIED
"While I have been absent, every noise created by any of these malcontents has been amplified by those newspaper interests who would prefer my defeat to the attainment of benefits for British Columbia, and these amplifications have been carried over the press wires to Eastern Canada in the hope that they would force 'Uncle Tolmie'—as one paper calls me—to return from Ottawa empty-handed.

"For years I have endeavored to accept criticism gracefully. My purpose has been to ignore the onslaughts that have been made against not only myself but every member of the Cabinet, as well as the sitting Members who have been chosen to support the Government. At no time since taking office have I objected to fair, honorable comment; in fact, I have welcomed advice from those I believed were sincere in pointing out defects in the various departments, and I can conscientiously say that at no time have I been unfair and, I hope, not unkind, to those who have done their best to cause party dissatisfaction.

NO GRATITUDE
"This I find to be a plan that does not beget gratitude but, on the other hand, has been rewarded with vile and unfounded attacks

Colonist
June 2, 1931

CASTIGATION FOR TACTICS IS DESERVED

Vancouver Star Supports Dr. S. F. Tolmie in Replying to Newspaper Rumors

CRITICISM SHOULD BE IN LEGITIMATE BOUNDS

Says Public Life Deliberately Stripped of Dignity by Outrageous Stories

The following editorial appeared in The Vancouver Morning Star last Saturday under the caption, "Fouling Their Own Nest":

There is an old adage that bids one beware of rousing a man of a usually easy-going, not to say phlegmatic, disposition. This has lately been exemplified by the trouncing Dr. Tolmie has given several of the British Columbia papers.

It will be recalled that Dr. Tolmie had scarcely left the province for Ottawa some seven or eight weeks ago when a series of stories began to appear in certain newspapers to the effect that a very considerable revolt against his leadership was in progress among the rank and file of his own party, that his resignation was impending, and that certain other gentlemen were about to take over the government of British Columbia.

The campaign of rumor and innuendo, it must be admitted, was fed to some extent by the attacks of Conservative workers in this city who were not satisfied that they had had their fair share of what they considered the spoils of war—in other words, that the patronage system had not been carried far enough to suit them.

There was, however, at no time any ground for the reports stating in very explicit terms that this, that or the other leader was about to

WAS DISMAL PICTURE

What appeared in the local press was outrageous enough, but it probably reached Ottawa in an exaggerated form. At all events the picture, as it presented itself at Ottawa, was one of chaotic conditions in the political administration of this province.

It was small wonder, therefore, that when Dr. Tolmie returned he should have taken occasion to administer a sound castigation to the offenders, who, as he was careful to point out, were not entirely limited to the opposition press.

If the consequences of these dimensions had been merely political enough harm would have been done. For, at times like these, particularly, it is playing with fire to weaken the authority of the Government by such tactics as those in which a part of the press of this province indulges altogether too recklessly.

But the consequences are not by any means entirely local. As Mr. J. B. Williams, the city solicitor, told the insurance, financial and real estate bureau of the Board of Trade at its luncheon on Friday, this province is being brought into contempt in other parts of Canada.

Mr. Williams was speaking from knowledge gained during a stay of some weeks in Ottawa on city business. Credit must be given to him here for the courage with which he delivered his home-truths in the presence of the reporters of the local papers.

EVERLASTINGLY SQUABBLING

According to Mr. Williams—and there is no reason to doubt the accuracy of his impressions—British Columbia is regarded at Ottawa as the abode of people who are everlastingly squabbling among themselves and with their Government, where to attain public office is virtually to go into the pillory and be bespattered with mud, and where public life is deliberately stripped of its dignity.

The bill, it is to be feared, is, to a large extent, a true one. Criticism of the policies and acts of an administration may be severe, but objection cannot reasonably be taken to it so long as it is fair; that is to say, so long as it is not the expression of mere petty meanness or the exposition of the smartness of political writers.

The Star, in this matter, does not put itself on a pedestal. It is quite willing to admit that it may not always have observed to the full the canons which it has laid down. It does say, however, that, in the interests of the province, and for the soundest public reasons, such attacks as those to which Premier Tolmie has been subjected should cease.

There is plenty of room for legitimate criticism of the Government without belittling its members personally or impugning their motives. But without respect for government, law and order cannot continue to be maintained—and respect for government consists in a general attitude of respect for the persons whom a majority of their fellow-citizens have honored with office.

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June 2

Premier Raps Malcontent Vicious

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SNIPING C
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