

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 1903.

INCREASING RESPONSIBILITIES AS ONTARIO EXPANDS.

PREMIER ROSS' BUDGET.

A Cash Balance in the Bank Amounting to \$1,621,292—Excess of Assets Over Liabilities \$1,939,262—Estimated Expenditure \$4,537,428—Estimated Revenue \$4,403,372—New Asylum for Epileptics in Oxford County—Penetang Reformatory to be a Home for Harmless Insane—Survey of 53 New Townships to be Undertaken—Invading the Great Clay Belt.

“New occasions teach new duties may be said to have been the key note of the budget speech delivered yesterday by Premier Ross in his capacity of Treasurer of Ontario. It was a matter-of-fact, business statement of an hour and forty minutes, in which the financial situation in Ontario was thoroughly and frankly canvassed. It was a courageous speech, in which the country was made aware that the policy of development and expansion brings its responsibilities. These, however, the Government will face resolutely, and the budget shows no flinching in the work which a forward policy entails. One of the large undertakings which Mr. Ross described was the surveying of 53 new townships in new Ontario. Of these nine will be in the Rainy River district,

and no less than 44 to the north and west of Lake Temiskaming. This will carry the flag of settlement to the region of Lake Abittibi, and far into the great clay belt.

It was with this message, that Ontario lay proper foundations for this great settlement, that Mr. Ross closed a frank, hopeful, patriotic address. Early in the afternoon he made several interesting statements, one being that the Government would shortly establish an Asylum for Epileptics in Oxford County, and that the Penetang Reformatory would be transformed into an asylum for the aged and harmless insane. The Temiskaming Railway is expected to reach New Liskeard by the autumn of 1904, while the outcome of the explorations for coal was re-