

Friday, March 12th

Estimated Expenditure.

Mr Price estimated the revenue for the current year at \$49,360,000, and the expenditure at \$50,859,300. "It is very difficult," he said, "to estimate the revenue of the Province a year in advance. It is quite certain, however, that if we hold up our revenue as well as we have done this year and provide for increased interest on non-revenue-producing capital account there will still be a deficit of \$1,500,000. If we add to this the first instalment from the sinking fund there will be a total deficit in the year 1926-27 of \$3,000,000."

The main increases in revenue expected were credited by Mr. Price to the following sources: Gasoline tax, \$1,400,000; licenses, \$300,000; corporation and succession duty taxes, including various other revenue in the Treasury Department, \$1,000,000. Total, \$2,700,000.

Speaking of debt retirement, Mr. Price said that the Government intended to put a policy into effect in 1927. "This," he said, "involves the providing of sufficient revenue in the year to balance the Budget."

SEEKS EXPLANATION OF PRINTING SPEECH

Sinclair Asks Reason for Premature Publication of Price Address

Before Provincial Treasurer Price had even begun his Budget speech in the Legislature yesterday, W. E. N. Sinclair, Liberal Leader, exhibited a copy of an evening paper which carried the address in part, and which stated that "the Treasurer's speech was delivered before a full House." Mr. Sinclair asked for an explanation.

"Publicity!" commented Hon. W. E. Raney.

In explanation, Mr. Price said he had issued copies of his speech to all the press with the understanding that it would not be released until he had spoken in the House. It had been a great surprise to him, he said, to learn that some parts of it had been used. Declaring it to be a mistake, and that the editor of the paper had apologized for it, Mr. Price expressed the belief that the House would understand the situation.

That the premature announcement would help the House was the dry comment of Mr. Raney, who thought that, thus aided, members would be able to follow the Treasurer in the course of his remarks. "These accidents will happen in the best-regulated families," added Mr. Raney, observing that on several occasions he had read in the press speeches from the Premier which actually never were delivered.

Premier Ferguson replied that if such were the case it had happened at a time when "you had us by the throats," and when, because of the scarcity of halls and platforms from which to appeal to the electorate, it had been necessary to call on the press for assistance.

PROVISION IS MADE FOR NEW ACTIVITIES IN ADDED ESTIMATES

Grants, Buildings and Educational Schemes to Cost
Ontario \$1,951,504

EXPANSION IN THE NORTH

Supplementary estimates for the present year amounting to \$1,951,504.59 were brought down in the Legislature yesterday by Provincial Treasurer Price, who intimated that in all probability there would be further supplementary estimates this session, but that the amount at present could not be foretold. Most of the amounts now presented are for straight administration, but included are some items necessitated by recently passed measures and by the intention of the Government to enter new fields of activity.

Correspondence School.

Ten thousand dollars is set aside for conducting a school correspondence course in remote settlements. To provide for the establishment of the English-French training school at Embrun, \$30,000 will be voted. In the Department of Public Works there is an item of \$1,126,932 for public buildings and \$500,000 more for the new east wing of the Parliament buildings.

Other items are: New buildings at the Ontario Hospital, Woodstock, \$100,000; new building at Guelph for the accommodation of the criminally insane, \$75,000; for purchase of land and equipment for the Bowmanville Boys' Home, \$100,000; school of baking at Macdonald Hall, Guelph, \$39,500; agricultural school at Ridgetown, Kent County, \$10,500; Mining Recorder's office, Red Lake, \$7,500; new Registry office, Fort Frances, \$20,000; new gaol, Sudbury, \$50,000; grant to Ontario Building, C.N.E., \$50,000; additional amount for Mothers' allowances, \$50,000; a grant to Ontario Safety League, \$15,000; salaries in connection with Bowmanville Boys' Home, \$40,000; instruction for grading of dairy products, \$20,000; operation of farm for receptional training and distribution of boys from overseas as farm apprentices, \$10,000.

Departmental Division.

The total amount of the supplementary estimates was divided among the different departments as follows: Attorney-General's Department, \$41,868.57; Insurance Department, \$4,775; Education Department, \$73,200; Game and Fisheries Department, \$41,809; Public Works Department, \$1,400,917.17; Highways Department, \$5,075; Health Department, \$4,150; Labor Department, \$51,000; Provincial Treasurer's Department, \$48,750; Provincial Secretary's Department, \$159,738.85; Agriculture Department, \$71,721; miscellaneous, \$48,500.

MEASURE PROHIBITS CERTAIN DONATIONS

Raney Bill Bars Political Contributions From Brewers and Others

HAS STIFF PENALTY

Prohibition of political contributions from brewers, distillers, standard hotel keepers, public contractors, Crown lessees and certain corporations is aimed at in a bill which, moved by Hon. W. E. Raney and seconded by J. W. Widdifield (Progressive, North Ontario), was given first reading in the Legislature yesterday.

The measure provides, in part that every brewer, distiller, liquor association, public contractor, Crown lessee, bank, insurance, trust or railway corporation convicted under its regulations shall incur a penalty equal in amount to four times the amount of the offending contribution or payment, but in no case less than \$100 and costs; and that where the offender is an individual, in default of payment of fine and costs, he shall be imprisoned for a period of not more than six months, and may, in addition thereto, be imprisoned for not more than three months. The measure additionally provides that every person who, directly or indirectly, solicits or receives any payment or contribution shall incur a similar penalty.

Harold Fisher (Liberal, Ottawa) got first reading for a bill which provides that when a man dies leaving a will, and does not make reasonable provision for his wife, the Court may, on application, make provision out of the estate for his wife.

An act to amend the Consolidated Municipal Act of 1922 was introduced by T. J. Mahoney (Conservative, Wentworth South).