

the Government who have co-operated in the heavy task of finding sufficient money to carry on the business of this Government.

The total gross revenue for the present fiscal year, based on ten months' actual experience and two months estimated—and these estimates have been carefully checked and verified by the officials of the Provincial Auditor's Department—will amount to \$97,845,752. This is the largest sum of ordinary revenue ever collected by this Province, but it does not indicate, as has been falsely represented by opponents of this Government, that this is the result of increases in taxation. On the contrary, Mr. Speaker, this revenue has been collected in spite of the fact that this

Government has reduced taxation and has reduced automobile fees and other licenses, and has cancelled and abolished nuisance taxes.

I hope I may be pardoned if I refer with pride to the fact that, whereas but a few years ago, when my honorable friend the former Leader of the Opposition was the Treasurer, the revenue of the Treasury Department amounted to \$24,000,000. For this year the gross revenue of the Treasury Department, exclusive of interest collected, exceeds the sum of \$50,000,000.

With the permission of the House I shall place upon the records an interim statement of gross ordinary revenue for the fiscal year April 1, 1937, to March 31, 1938. This statement, as I have already told the House, consists of ten months' actual results and two months forecast.

## \$26,000,000 From Autos

The collections from the gasoline tax this year will exceed the sum of \$17,600,000, which places this tax, as a revenue producer, in second place, second only to that of the succession duties. This tax, together with the revenue from motor vehicle licenses, which will amount this year to the sum of \$8,300,000, will bring in about \$26,000,000.

Frequently I hear the complaint raised that only part of the revenue of the Department of Highways is used for the construction and maintenance of highways and bridges in the Province. It will be of interest to this House to learn that from the year 1920 up to March 31, 1938, inclusive, the Province has spent on road construction, maintenance of highways and interest on our highway debt, the huge sum of \$505,911,000, and has received in revenue a total sum of \$257,678,000, leaving a difference of over \$248,000,000, which has been expended by the Province for capital construction, maintenance and interest in excess of the highway revenue received. I think these figures will be a surprise to many.

## Forest Revenues

The revenue from the Lands Branch this year will exceed \$800,000, and from the Forests Branch \$3,540,000, or a total of \$4,340,000. The expenditures of the Department of Lands and Forests will amount to \$2,290,000, showing a net revenue from this department of \$2,050,000.

## Paralysis Epidemic

The Poliomyelitis Outbreak—During the latter part of 1937 an outbreak of poliomyelitis occurred which was of unprecedented size for this Province. In meeting this situation the Government took prompt action along the following lines:

1. Public Education and the Control of Alarm—By means of advertisements and daily press conferences the public were kept fully informed, and special efforts were made in the direction of public education by issuing precise and accurate information concerning the nature of the disease, its possible prevention, and the steps being taken for its control.

2. Provision of Convalescent Serum—The Provincial Laboratories prepared and distributed to physicians throughout the Province some 2,000 treatment packages of convalescent poliomyelitis serum.

3. Consultation Service to Physicians—Conferences were held with medical officers of health in all areas affected. Literature dealing with the most recent medical information of poliomyelitis was distributed to all physicians in the Province. A group of sixteen physicians were given special training and were placed as district consultants in strategic centres where their services were available at all times to practicing physicians. Special arrangements were made to insure prompt and efficient treatment for all cases no matter how remotely situated through the co-operation of the Provincial Police and Air Services.

4. Emergency Care of Respiratory Cases—Through the co-operation of the staff of the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, the Government arranged for the emergency construction of twenty-three respirators which were placed in hospital centres throughout the Province.

5. Investigation and Research.—In order that no opportunity of increasing present knowledge concerning this disease should be overlooked, the Government not only provided funds for an investigation into the effectiveness of nasal spray as a preventive measure, but undertook the systematic collection of detailed information on all aspects of the epidemic, a report concerning which will be available shortly.

6. After Care of Paralyzed Cases—In order to insure the greatest possible degree of recovery in cases showing paralysis or muscle weakness, the Government arranged for the manufacture and free distribution of frames and splints to more than 650 patients. Upon the advice of orthopedic consultants, the Government further provided a period of three weeks' free hospitalization in order that these patients and their parents might receive necessary training in the proper use of this equipment. Orthopedic wards were opened in twelve general hospitals throughout the Province. It was found necessary to establish a special orthopedic hospital in Toronto, at which 284 patients received this special type of care free of charge. A grant was made to the Ontario Society for Crippled Children for the provision of travelling nurses to insure the proper follow-up care of all paralyzed cases.

7. Education of Paralyzed and Partly Paralyzed Children.—Prompt measures were taken by the Department of Education to meet the educational emergencies arising out of the epidemic. Grants were augmented for Home Instruction Units, visiting teacher classes and hospital classes. All Inspectors and Boards of Education were advised concerning the method and desirability of establishing special educational