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The Abbotsford Post

With which is incorporated "The Huntingdon Star"

VOL. XIX., No. 19 ABBOTSFORD, B. C. FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 1920 8 $1.00 PER YEAR

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OVERLAND AGENCY AND SERVICE STATION

FINANCIAL STANDING OF B.C.

Victoria, March 27.—All records for provincial expenditures will be broken during the coming fiscal year ending March 31, 1921. It will be the banner year in outlays according to the budget proposals of Hon. John Hart, Minister of Finance, presented to the Legislature on Wednesday last During the year it is proposed to spend $17,410,673, an increase over the year ending March 31, 1920, of no less than $3,273,168. Estimated revenue is $13,978,245 compared with an actual receipt for the fiscal year just ending of $12,604,000. In his speech the Minister labored over the point that the government had made its current expenditures come within current revenue but the fact is that the people who pay the piper will be called upon for the coming year as in that just ending to face a serious deficit, one amounting to no less than $3,432,428 on all accounts

Much has been said by the present adminstration of the wasteful expenditures of the late admniistration It is interesting to note that in the palmiest year of outlays by that government, the fiscal year ended March 31, 1914, just before the war broke out, the total estimated outlays amounted to $15,762,000. The next year the then government appreciated the necessity of curtailment, cut its outlays to $11,942,000 and this retrenchment policy was pursued until for the year ended March 31 1917, the last in which the Conservative government was in power outlays aggregated $9,079,300. In the succeeding four years the present government had steadily increased expenditures until the estimate for the coming year of $17,410,485, is nearly double that of 1916-17.

And while the yearly outlays for administrative purposes has shown such a tremendous increase, the public debt of the Province has kept pace. The net debt of $18,176,000 on March 31, 1917, has been increased by borrowings by the present government of $13,777,000 bringing the debt as of March 31, 1919, to $31,946,000 against which if offset sinking funds totalling $4,886,000. At this session the government has taken authority to borrow $4,000,000 for P. G. E. purposes; $1,000,000 for the De partment of Industries; $500,000 under the Soldiers' Land Act, and $4,800,000 to retire a note of the P. G. S. railway company for which stock hypothecated by the former P. G. E. interests will be redeemed and which, therefore, may not rightfully be considered a new obligation. Then there is due on April 1, this year, $1,680,000 which will have to be renewed. In the budget proposals of Hon. Mr. Hart it was stated the government also proposes to borrow $5,000,000 for main trunk road purposes to which the proposed increase in motor fees, an increase estimated at $400,000 annually, will be devoted.

With these new commitments to be made it would appear that by the end of the coming fiscal year the debt of the province will have been further increased by some $11,000,000, which, as Mr. Bowser, the opposition leader might remark "is going some."

A perusal of the financial showing of the present government since it took office indictes that despite the gouging of the tax-payer at almost the breaking point, the chief explanation for the increased revenue, the over-head cost of administration has increased by leaps and bounds. For instance, the figures show that where as the expenditures for salariese in 1916 aggregated approximately $1,600,000, they will this coming year reach the enormous total of $3,312,480 an increase of a round million over 1919 and, in addition, the item of travelling expenses will eat up a further $376,000. These figures, too do not include some $650,000 to be spent by the lands department for administrative purposes in connection with various activities, the great part of which will go in salaries to scores of various officials who will fatten upon the public purse under the headings of land surveys, publicity, general investigations, incidentals and contingencies, reconnaisance, oil invistigations, etc. In this connection the Minister of Lands would appear to be a champion spender of the administration so far as overhead outlays for administration purposes is concerned. In his department are some 280 employees and

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FRASER ROUTE PRACTICABLE

Very careful surveys have been made of both the Fraser Canyon and the Hope-Princeton routes Dr. King told the House at Victoria the other day and in weighing their respective merits, he declared that the Fraser route was practicable. No serious grades would be encountered, the elevation would not be over 1000 feet, and the route would be available for nine or ten months of the year, and very probably for the whole twelve months. Were it not for the railway development in the canyon and the close contact between highway and railways the minister observed that it could well be concluded as the best route selected.

Dr. King likewise announced that consultations were being carried on at the present time with the Canadian Pacific and the Canadian National Railways to ascertain if the department't survey, which encroached on the right-of-way of the railways, would interfere to any great extent with the operations of the railway companies. Until this was settled, however, no final selection could be made and he felt that it was a matter of considerable regret that when the late government had guaranteed the bonds of the Canadian Northern Railway for some $48,000,000 it had not provided for the construction of a road for ordinary traffic.

In connection with the Hope-Princeton route, the minister informed the House that its cost of construction would be nearly as much as that of the Fraser Canyon route. There were no unsurmountable difficulties, however, in the matter of grades and curvatures. On the other hand, the elevation at the summit would be more than 4000 feet and the season, during which traffic would be possible, limited to not more than six months of the year. Moreover, he said, it would be subject to slides and deterioration from floods and snow water, while the resultant damage would absorb a large annual expenditure of money were the highway to be kept in proper condition. Nevertheless, said the minister, it would have to be remembered that the Hope-Princeton route, once through connection was established would open up a new country rich in timber, mineral and agricultural land. The expenditure to complete this extension by either route would approximate $900,000 to $1,000,000.

36,000 will be granted by the Dominion government for improvements at Nicomen Island.

LAND OWNERS FAVOR SUMAS DYKE PLANS

Huntingdon, March 29.—That the Sumas reclamation scheme should go through on the increased estimate basis was practically unanimously endorsed by a large representative gathering of the property owners interested in the scheme, held in the school house, Huntingdon, Saturday afternoon last. The endorsement for proceeding with the work under the increment to the estimates was taken by a show of hands and carried 94 to 6. In addition to this large majority there were persons present holding proxies representing over 1400 acres in favor of continuing the work.

Mr. R. H. S. Creswell introduced the Hon. E. D. Barrow, who explained the government's reason for wishing to call the meeting. He said the government felt that as conditions had caused an increase in the original estimate to be made, that it was only right that the matter should be laid before the property owners before final decisions were made.

Mr. J. H. Keith of South Sumas protested against a vote being taken at that meeting as he claimed that the property owners had not been informed that a vote would be taken.

Tommy Lewis, Jacob Kink, J. H. Wilson also raised objections, but they were mainly based on misunderstandings which were eventually cleared up.

There was a short informal discussion after the principal business had been transacted in which it was advocated that there should be some tlement Board to replace Mr. Nelems while it was thought advisable that the advisory board, which had done such yeoman service should remain active.

NO PERMITS TO EXPORT SUGAR

Ottawa, March 26.—As a result of the advice sent out by the Canadian trade commission to householders to begin now to lay in their supply of sugar for the canning season, eastern and middle Canada have already cleaned up all granulated sugar offered. There is still a shortage of sugar in British Columbia and Alberta. It was stated this morning two eastern refineries were seeking licences for the export of large quantities of sugar and had been refused.

The trade commission had instead placed these refineries who had surplus sugar on their hands in touch with the sugar committee of the British Columbia government and it is expected in this way that the shortage will be overcome.

The home market for white sugar is filling up, but there is still a small shortage of yellow, it is said.

The new sugar supplies are coming forward well.

As an evidence of the demand for sugar coming to Canadian refineries from ports outside and south, it was said this morning that to date there have been requests for export licences covering one billion pounds of sugar. All of these have been refused.

AUSTRALIAN SCHEME SAID TO BE POPULAR

"Anw returned man in Australia can get a job if he wants it," says Major Ellis of that country, now in Vancouver.

To substantiate this statement he refers to the Australian year book where in the city of Melbourne from April 8 to May 31, 1919, there had been 47,260 applications for work by the demobilized men. 42,470 had been given positions. There are ninety-five dicerent trades and classifications where men can improve their skill.

In describing the Australian system he said that when an engine shop foreman returned and found his old job filled he would apply to the employment office and say that he wanted a similar position. The employment office would put him on army pay with allowances, and endeavor to find him a position in the interval the man would be drawing his pay In nearly every case men were placed in the same, and in hundreds of cases much better jobs than they had before enlistment.

PERSONALS

Mrs. McMaster, Bellingham, spent the week-end here renewing old acquaintances.

Capt. and Mrs. McKenzie, Mr. and Mrs. Grant and Mrs. Thomas, Mission City, visited the McMenemy's on Thursday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Hunt, Flossie and Mrs. Zeigler motored to Vancouver on Sunday morning returning Monday evening.

Mr. Charles Trethewey returned home from Edmonton where he has been attending college.

Mr. Wm. Stewart who has been working on the Abbotsford section of the B. C. Electric Railway for the past two years has been promoted to section boss for the Vedder Mt. district. His friends congratulate him on his promotion but regret that it will necessitate the family leaving Abbotsford.

Little Roger Winson, only son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Winson, passed away Friday afternoon after a few hours' illness. A malignant growth appearing suddenly on the throat was the cause of his death. He had just passed his fourth birthday. His parents have the sympathy of the community in their sad bereavement.

Mr. P. Peele of New Westminster formerly of Abbotsford was a visitor here on Saturday.

Miss Lillian Hill-Tout was home for the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex. Thompson, of Murrayville and his brother, Will, from Hamilton, Ontario, spent the week-end with Mrs. Thompson's brother, Mr. J. E. McMenemy.

BORN—To Mr. and Mrs. DesMazes on Monday April 29th in the local hospital, a daughter.

Carveth Wells gave a very interesting lecture on his six years of life in the jungle, in the Alexandria Hall, March 31. There was a very large number present and a percentage of the proceeds will be for the Parent-Teachers Association.

On Tuesday night a basketball game was played between Chilliwack and Abbotsford, at Chilliwack. In the game between the ladies, Abbotsford players scored but the men were not so successful.

DUNLOP—HILL-TOUT

A very pretty wedding was solemnized on Saturday morning last at the home of Professor and Mrs. Hill Tout, when their youngest daughter Edith Mildred was united in marriage to Lieutenant John Dunlop, the Rev. Mr. Rowe officiating. The room was very prettily arranged and tastefully decorated with daffodils and narilssus, and the bride looked charming in a travelling costume of navy blue with touches of pink and a large picture hat to match. It was a family party and eighteen people sat down to a generous breakfast after which the young couple motored to White Rock where they spent a short honeymoon.

BEE INSPECTORS COMPLETE TOUR THROUGH VALLEY

Messrs Findlay and Turnbull, provincial inspectors of apiaries, have just completed a tour of the Fraser Valley and have addressed over 700 bee-keepers in the past two weeks on modern methods of honey extraction and the control of bee diseases. They report very favorable conditions in the Valley, both in regard to interest being taken and the number of colonies of bees wintered. Most of the beekeepers report wintering 100 per cent of their colonies and this is a very favorable sign, indeed, as it has shown that the honey producer of British Columbia has at last solved to a great extent the problem of wintering which has been a bugbear to all keepers in the last few years.

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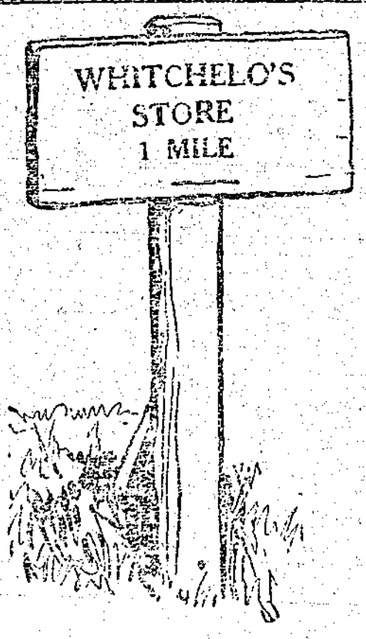

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THE ABBOTSFORD POST
Published Every Friday
J. A. Bates, Editor and Proprietor

FINANCIAL STANDING OF B.C.

(Continued from Page Three)

of the annual natural growth. The alleged shortage in cars had not been the cause of high prices for the C. P. R. alone had supplied 110 cars per working day for four months to the lumbermen and in the same time the mills had shipped 5,483 cars of lumber to the States leaving the local market uncared for. To emphasize the enormous profits made by the lumbermen Mr. McKenzie pointed to the fact that at the soldier seltement area at Camp Lister where the Board had been paying $40 per thousand feet for lumber, two limits had been bought and through co-operative methods the soldiers were turning out lumber at from $12 to $15 per M. He criticised the Land Settlement Board for allowing the license holders of those limits to secure a $29,000 profit on their moldings, a purely sepculative profit to which they were not entitled, but the principle of such co-operative work might well be extended to the government regulation of lumber standardization claiming the lumbermen are mulching the consumer through giving short measurements. The Minister of Lands, he thought, might better turn his attention to the situation and seek to protect the interests of the public rather than devote his energies to securing from the legislature greater privileges for the lumbermen in the shape of granting further oportunities for profit through the unrestricted export of unmanufactured lumber to the Puget Sound cities there to be manufactured and subsequently come into competition with the B. C. product in the outside markets of the world.

Dr. Rose, Nelson, was another Conservative member who presented some real constructive criticism. He urged the linking up at many points in the Kootenay sections of existing highways, suggested that it was about time the Minister of Mines produced results from the legislation he had enacted in 1918 to permit of ore testing and sampling plants being established, and pointed out to the big advantage to the mining element of the interior if an ore-testing plant for the complex ores of that section were put in operation. Further, to encourage the development of gold, Dr. Rose thought the government might well abate the mineral tax upon the gold contents of the ores entirely. He also favored the imposition of fees for tuition at the Provincial University thus assisting that institution financially to a material extent.

Hon. Dr. McLean, Minister of Education, also contributed to the debate His department will during the coming year expend approximately $5,000,000 on education and health matters. He roundly berated the municipalities for expecting the government to do more in the way of granting aid to hospitals and schools claiming B. C. gives more in that direction than any other province.

He asserted it has got to the stage where the government was supposed to be a sort of good uncle to the municipalities which, he argued, must make up their minds that they, must contribute more for such facilities. He blamed their extravagance for their present financial troubles forgetting the fact that what is today confronting those municipalities is a condition not a theory and that recriminations over past errors is not solving the acute problems with which many of the municipalities are now faced.

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Dr. G. A. Pollard
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Supposing you are telephoning a store and you got for the answer "Hello!" would you proceed to give your order or would you inquire "Is that So-and-So's?" At the same time you would think how much better it would have been had the person replied with the name of the store.

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Department of Finance

ALL persons residing in Canada, employed in Canada, or carrying on business in Canada, are liable to a tax on income, as follows:—

1. Every unmarried person, or widow, or widower, without dependants as defined by the Act, who during the calendar year 1919 received or earned $1,000 or more.

2. All other individuals who during the calendar year 1919 received or earned $2,000 or more.

3. Every corporation and joint stock company whose profits exceeded $2,000 during the fiscal year ended in 1919.

Forms to be used in filing returns on or before the 30th of April, 1920.

ALL INDIVIDUALS other than farmers and ranchers must use **Form T 1.**

FARMERS AND RANCHERS must use **Form T 1A.**

CORPORATIONS and joint stock companies must use **Form T 2.**

Penalty

Every person required to make a return, who fails to do so within the time limit, shall be subject to a penalty of Twenty-five per centum of the amount of the tax payable.

Any person, whether taxable, or otherwise, who fails to make a return or provide information duly required according to the provision of the Act, shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty of $100 for each day during which the default continues. Also any person making a false statement in any return or in any information required by the Minister, shall be liable, on summary conviction, to a penalty not exceeding $10,000, or to six months' imprisonment or to both fine and imprisonment.

General Instructions.

Obtain Forms from the Inspectors or Assistant Inspectors of Taxation or from Postmasters.

Read carefully all instructions on Form before filling it in.

Prepay postage on letters and documents forwarded by mail to Inspectors of Taxation.

Make your returns promptly and avoid penalties.

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EGGS AWAY DOWN NOW

Eggs took another drop at the New Westminster market on Friday last, the prevailing prices being 43 to 45 cents per dozen wholesale, some sales being made as low as 42 cents

In the poultry section there was a slight upward trend in prices, probably owing to the near approach of Easter. An advance of two cents was recorded in both light and heavy hens. Broilers however dropped from 75 cents to 60 and 65 cents.

HOW B. C. DEBT IS DISTRIBUTED

Victoria, March 28.—Premier Oliver, Hon. John Hart and several officials of the government last year toured the province as a taxation commission. Speaking of his observations Hon. Mr. Hart told the Legislature last week some interesting facts. He said:

"The municipal area of the thirty-five cities and twenty-eight districts in the province comprises 945,203 acres or 1476 square miles, and contains a population of 374,980. This area is less than one-half of 1 per cent. of the total surface of the province but it contains approximately 86 per cent. of the whole population The remaining 99 1-2 per cent. of area comprises the unorganized territory administered by the Provincial Government and the remaining 14 per cent. of the population living within this area includes the Indians, who are exempt from taxation.

"The thirty-five cities have an assessed value of taxable lands amounting to $246,335,573 and of taxable improvement amounting to $130,272,220 or of a total of $376,607,793. The twenty-eight district municipalities have an assessed value of $119,668,798 in taxable lands and of $51,036,005 in taxable improvements or a total of $160,754,803. The total assessed valutaion of taxable land and improvements in all municipalities is $537,362,596. There are exemptions of lands and improvements to a total of $39,495,172, of which $30,653,809 is in cities and $8,841,363 in districts."

In Vancouver and vicinity the assessed value of land is $220,228,645 improvements are $104,605,445. The total debt of cities and districts in British Columbia is $106,300,458. The total amount of sinking funds which should have been on hand on December 31, 1918, was $16,669,546, but there is in fact a shortage of $5,206,093. Sixty-five per cent. of the total municipal indebtedness of the province is in Greater Vancouver

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FINANCIAL STANDING OF B.C.

(Continued from Page One)

attached thereto is the newfangle air force for forest protection purposes. the naval service composed of motor launches, boats, etc., used for inspection and supervision purposes and which latter service will cost the people $50,000 for maintenance. In all Hon. Mr. Patullo thinks he can get along with $1,325,000.

Throughout the budget speech of Hon. Mr. Hart there was not a single reference to retrenchment in the over head expenses of government which now, on the basis of a population of 540,000, is costing about $40. per head of population, man, woman and child. A multitude of new departments have been added to the service such as the Public Utilities Commission which, despite the fact that the office has been shorn of its chief reason for its being since the B. C. Electric and B. C. Telephone companies withdrew themselves from its jurisdiction and came under that of the Railway Board of Canada, is of no practical service, yet is to be continued at an estimated outlay of $25,000 for the year; the old Bureau of Information which the late government eliminated in curtailing outlays, is to be revived at an outlay of $32,770; the system of district public works engineers inaugurated by the present government will eat up some $58,000; the new government employment bureaus call for $72,000 the Civil Service Commissioner must have $15,650 though it has developed during the present session that it is proposed to remove from the jurisdiction of that official important branches of the service such as the lumber scalers, the provincial police and others thus reversing the policy of the late Premier, Hon. Mr. Brewster, whose chief reason in bringing down that act was to eliminate the evils of patronage by taking the service out of the hands of the Ministers, or the government and preventing political appointments. The new labor department will cost $15,540 though so far it has not shown any particular reason for its being. These are but a few of a score or more of new departments which have turned the administration of the Province into species of bureaucratic system that is eating up immense sums in the aggregate and calling for an over head expenditure out of all proportion to the comparatively limited population of the Province. Today outlays for administration purposes per capita of population are far and away in excess of that of any other province in Canada even including the banner province of Ontario and Quebec.

It was more or less of a "gold brick" which the Minister of Finance handed to the Municipalities following the investigation made last fall in to the request advanced by the municipalities for added sources of revenue to enable them to meet the existing difficult financial position in which the great bulk of those Municipalities find themselves. It is proposed to relinquish to them the poll tax, now the special perrogative of the government, an unpopular impost and one hard to collect with any degree of justice and efficiency. Power is to be given to the Municipalities to levy this tax in the shape of a service tax, at a minimum of $5, upon all males between the ages of 21 and 65. In addition, it is proposed to increase the amusement tax to twenty per cent upon gross receipts. This latter tax is estimated to produce this coming year $600,00, one half of which will go to the municipalities. Both this and the service tax must be ear-marked for hospital and school purposes by the Municipalities in view of the existing financial position of those municipalities the great bulk of the taxes thus to be turned over will be enjoyed by Vancouver, Victoria and City Municipalities; the rural municipalities will find little benefit therefrom. Then too, it is to be noted that the revenue must after all come out of the pockets of the people themselves in the municipalities. In other words the net result of the government's proposals is that the Municipalities, if they want more revenue must raise it themselves though they are now at their wits end to know where more money within themselves can be got. There will be nothing coming to them from out of the immense profits made by the government out of its liquor business a profit estimated at forty-five per cent net upon an aggregate business last year of some $1,700,000 though the burden of enforcing the regulations rests upon the Municipalities which lost a large slice of revenue when the prohibition act became effective.

But the government has not overlooked its own financial advantage in giving the financial thumb-screw another turn. While it makes a slight concession in respect of the income tax in that it proposes to allow to heads of families, in addition to the present exemption of $1500 a further exemption of $200 in respect of each child under 16 years, the exemption limit will be raised to $1200 in the case of single persons, widows or soldiers without dependents. There will also be the additional revenue from the increase of $400,000 in motor license fees not a cent of which will go to the municipalities though the great increase in that form of vehicular traffic has been iduced and made possible by the heavy outlays incurred by the Municipalities upon permanent roadways, an outlay to which is chiefly responsible the present deplorable financial position of those municipalities.

The budget debate promises to bring out some strong criticisms of the government's financial operations and policies from the opposition. Following the pronouncement by the Minister of Finance, Mr. W. A. McKenzie, Conservative, opened the opposition onslaught scoring the government for its failure to protect the interests of the public in the matter of lumber prices and asserting that today there is in full operation a lumber monopoly reaping enormous profits from one of the chief natural resources of the Province, selling its product abroad, the while consumers at home are unable to secure a supply or, getting it, are forced to pay extortionate prices therefor. He pointed to the government's claim of having forced the land speculators to disgorge their holdings kept out of development, stating that so far as the timber lands of the Province were concerned, the speculator has been allowed to run wild. It was time he said, that a similar policy was extended to the large areas of lumber being held out of production. The real trouble was not that of supply but rather failure in administration, he said, pointing to the fact that the annual cut is only twenty per cent

(Continued on Page Four)

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STACEY SAYS ORIENTAL SENTIMENT MUST BE DROPPED

In the Federal House Mr. F. B. Stacey, M. P., for the Fraser Valley declared that while Orientals had performed essential labor in certain British Columbia industries, Oriental immigration in future must be placed on a basis of national requirements and sentiment must be dropped.

If British Colubia is to be retained as a white man's country, then there must be restrictions on Oriental immigration. Mr. Stacey favored the idea of a federal department of Canadianization to work in co-operation with the provincial school systems.

Speaking on the general subject of education of aliens, Mr. Stacey said that perhaps he thought the Canadian public school system offered the only solution of the problem. He endorsed the idea of a Federal department of Canadianization to work in co-operation with the provincial school systems, and he said, that it had been clearly understood by all immigrants settling in Canada that Canada was a free country, not in the sense that its citizens might think and act in anw way that suited hem, but in the sense that they were free to enjoy the rights of citizenship in common with the rest of us.

"And" said Mr. Stacey, "citizenship really means that a man must live for his country, and, if necessary die for his country."

"TURN TO THE RIGHT" WILL SOON BE IN ORDER

Victoria, March 27.—Provision for changing the rule of the road in British Columbia is contained in a bill to amend the Highway Act tabled in the Legislative Assembly on Friday by Hon. Dr. King, minister of public works. By it the province is divided into two traffic districts No. 1 to include Vancouver Island and that part of the lower mainland in which Vancouver and surrounding settled districts are located; No. 2, the remainder of the province.

The change in the rule of the road in district number one will take effect on December 31, 1921, although provision is made for the lieutenant-governor-in-council by proclamation making it effective at an earlier date either as to the whole or any part of the district. In district number 2 the change will take effect on July 15 next.

The bill also provides for the new system of classification of highways into "primary" "secondary" and "local" highways, such classification to be made by the minister of public works and to be ratified by agreement between the minister and municipalities where such run through municipalities.

Cost of construction and maintenance of primary and secondary highways shall be apportioned as follows.

Primary 75 per cent. by the department and 25 per cent by the municipalities; secondary, equal share in construction cost and, as to maintenance, 40 per cent. by the department and 60 per cent. by the municipality.

In the case of local highways the entire cost of construction and maintenance shall be borne by the municipality. In the case of secondary highways running through municipalities of less than one thousand people the department may contribute as high as 75 per cent. for construction and maintenance. Control of the construction and maintenance of primary highways will be in the hands of the department, of secondary in the municipalities.

Fifteen days' notice may be given by the department to a municipality that a secondary highway is not kept in proper condition, and if it is not then put into proper repari the department may step in and charge the cost thereof to the municipality.

WILL TAKE ANOTHER PLEBISCITE THIS YEAR

The attorney-general has placed before the province the certain prospect of one prohibition plebiscite and the posibility of two. After three yrars of prohibition the people will have an opporutnity to pronounce on the merits of the system now in operation with the amendments to be enacted this session.

The choice will probably be between bone dry and some form of government control Then should the people decide on prohibition it is likely a second referendum will be placed before the people regarding inte rprovincial trade.

Undoubtedly prohibition will carry and carry big, but the concensus of opinion may have changed somewhat since the days before Finyay treked south. There appears to have been an awful thirst epidemic about that time which does not appear to have abated much since that date.

The voting will however be much different this time as the men are all home from overseas and the enfranchisement of women is complete.

The war did not make much difference to March; it came in like a lamb and went out like a lion—some places.

Farris' trip to England cost the province $3679; the expenses of Mr. Bowser's trip, when attorney-general were $3500.

A. E. HUMPHREY

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B. C. Land Surveyor and Civil Engineer

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B. C. BERRY GROWERS ELECT OFFICERS

The B. C. Berry Growers held their first meeting last week in the Board of Trade roms, Vancouver, since incorporation on March 1. Officers were elected and discussed activities for the year.

The association is composed of representatives of the various fruit growers' and associated bodies in the province and is organized for the following purposes:

Extending the markets for small fruits grown in British Columbia, arranging for distribution at any one point, to establish a satisfactory status between producer and consumer, and to do everything possible to assist the returned soldiers who are embarking in the small fruit industry

It is not expected that the association will be able to accomplish much along the line of its objects this year on account of having been organized so late in the year, but it hopes to do beneficial work on behalf of producer and consumer next year. Among the matters that will receive attention are the buying of berry growers' supplies en bloc or in some way so as to minimize expenses curtailment of overhead expenses of marketing, cutting down excessive handling charges, and other endeavors of a like nature.

Officers of the association state that organization does not necessarily mean a rise in prices but rather that both producer and consumer will receive more equitable treatment than in the past.

Directors were elected at the meeting as follows: Messrs W. J. Manson of the Fruit and Mercantile Exchange at Hatzic, H. A. McNaughton of the Gordon Head Fruit Growers' Association on Vancouver Island, G. H. Moody of the Fruit and Mercantile Exchange, Hatzic, C. P. Metcalfe of the Maple Ridge Fruit Growers' Association, G. Bonallo of the Burnaby Lake Fruit Growers' Association, T. E. Ladner of the Central Park Fruit Growers' Association and W. J. Galloway of the Chilliwack Co-operative Fruit Growers' Association.

Mr. Manson was elected president of the association, Mr. H. A. McNaughton, vice-president, and Mr. G. H. Moody, secretary-treasurer.

In the opinion of some of those who attended the meteing, considerable more acreage will be brought under cultivation this ye ar than formerly. This will be especially the case in Chilliwack district, where it is stated that 150 returned men have taken up small holdings which will be operated in raising chickens and small fruits. It is expected that the strawberries will be short on account of the frosts. Prospects for a good raspberry crop are favorable.

COOK SOME FINANCIER

J. G. Cook, formerly collector of motor revenues at Vancouver, was the subject of questions by Mr. Bowser in the House, and Attorney-General Farris replied that Cook was appointed to the position on Sept. 1, 1919, at a salary of $100 a month. There is at present a shortage in his accounts of $4,645.39, being collections of game licences and motor licences not accounted for. As to where Cook is at the present time the attorney-general admits he is unaware. He was bonded by the government with the Dominion Guarantee & Accident Insurance Company for $4000 and they have been informed that a cheque has been forwarded to cover the amount of the bond. But even at that the government is apparently out some $645.

REGULAR MEETING M. C. W. I.

The regular meeting of tho M. C. W. I. was held in the Library rooms March 24th with a good attendance Three new members were obtained.

Report of trees committee showed all dead trees had been replaced with new ones and it is to be hoped that these will get a better chance to grow. These trees are planted in memory of our Overseas Heroes and we feel that if those, who have thoughtlessly helped in the destruction of these trees, were given to understand what these trees stand for there would be no more loss on that score.

It was decided to hold a Baby Contest this year, the committee to have charge of that department to be appointed later.

Definite arrangements were made for the Children's Home Garden's Contest as follows: Plot 10x10 feet to be planted at the child's own discretion in vegetables and flowers.

Points for judging. freeness from weeds; care shown; manner in which plot is laid out; variety; general appearance.

Some doubt has been expressed as to just what constitutes a "vacant lot" for the cleaning up of which the Institute offer prizes. The following proposal has been accepted by the Institute. Vacant lot—one not cultivated, not fenced, possibly covered with logs, brush, old rags, tin cans, old bottles, old iron, etc., etc., etc. Points in judging—clearing, fencing cultivating, labor done and size of lot to be considered.

A specimen contract from Vancouver Public Library was brought up in the correspondence, and negotiations are under way whereby the Public Library of Mission City will have a new supply of 100 books every three months, totalling 400 new books a year. Under these conditions of contract greater care must be given books by those borrowing them and it was decided that only the Librarians should hold the keys. Books are oc the shelves of which the present Librarians have no record and are not being returned. A system somewhat after the Vancouver Library Rules and Regulations will have to be instituted here and rigidly enforced.

Mrs. Ashmore has volunteered her services as Librarian Saturday nights for the rest of the school term, which was gratefully accepted by the Institute.

A sale of Home Coking has been staged for Saturday afternoon, April 3rd in the Library. Any donations of Home Cooking of any kind will be very acceptable, also plants, seeds or anything that will help the sale along. Afternoon tea will be served

Interspercing the lengthy business programme of the day was an excellent programme by our wide awake programme committee, Miss Hancox the primary teacher gave an interesting and varied programme by her class, of kindergarten motion songs and dances, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Mrs. Rankin gave an instructive paper on Milk and National Health and brought out points worth remembering especially in the feeding of children.

The Institute was especially favored with two dance numbers by Miss McCormick which were presented with skill and grace.

The tea hour closed the program for the afternoon.

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