

Marking with Rubber Stamp

CARILLON POWER DEVELOPMENT

On the Orders of the Day:

Right Hon. ARTHUR MEIGHEN (Leader of the Opposition): I should like to ask the Prime Minister or the Minister of Railways whether any permits or licenses or leases have been applied for or granted involving construction in the Ottawa river at Carillon or involving the right to export power.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): I will make inquiry into the matter and give my right hon. friend an answer to-morrow.

MAIL MATTER—MARKING WITH RUBBER STAMP

On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. H. C. HOCKEN (Toronto West Centre): I should like to put a question to the Prime Minister in the absence of the Postmaster General. I have in my hand an envelope of a letter posted in the city of Montreal and upon the face of it applied by rubber stamp is this statement:

In bilingual Canada why not a bilingual postage stamp?

Is this done with the approval and consent of the government?

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): I have not noticed the particular matter to which my hon. friend has referred. I am obliged to him for having brought it to my attention. I will have inquiry made as to just how it appears there.

Mr. HOCKEN: I presume this kind of thing must be done with consent of the Post Office Department.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. HOCKEN: Am I right?

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. HOCKEN: I will ask the Prime Minister another question. Can this kind of propagan'da be carried on without the consent of the postal department?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I have no doubt the Postmaster General himself has knowledge of the matter, but it has not been brought to my attention before. However, I shall make inquiries of the Postmaster General, ascertain the fact, and give my hon. friend further word. If my hon. friend will be kind enough to let me have the envelope to which he has referred it will help me in my inquiries.

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

Mr. HOCKEN: It is understood, of course, that it will be returned to me?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: The hon. member will have to trust me all in all or not at all.

Mr. SPEAKER: Stands as an order for return.

LA SALLE CAUSEWAY BRIDGE

On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. A. E. ROSS (Kingston City): Has the attention of the Minister of Public Works been called to the possibilities of accident on the La Salle causeway bridge? Perhaps I may quote a newspaper paragraph in reference to the condition of this structure. A mother and son narrowly escaped injury recently, according to this item, which concludes as follows:

On closer inspection it was noticed that the slabs of concrete are in a somewhat dilapidated condition. The falling of this piece of concrete illustrates the potential danger that exists there.

THE BUDGET

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF HON. J. A. ROBB, MINISTER OF FINANCE

Hon. J. A. ROBB (Minister of Finance) moved:

That Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair for the House to go into committee of Ways and Means.

He said: A Dominion budget necessarily deals with two years—the year that is past and for which the Public Accounts have been submitted to parliament, and the year that is either current or, as in this case, just closed.

Public Accounts 1924-25

The Public Accounts for the financial year 1924-25 were tabled on the 11th of January last. In the budget speech delivered on the 24th of March, 1925, in making the estimate for the outcome of the year 1924-25, I followed the usual safe practice of estimating revenues yet to come as somewhat less than they would likely be and expenditures as somewhat greater.

The actual outcome of that year, as shown by the Public Accounts recently tabled, gives in round figures \$2,800,000 more of ordinary revenue than was estimated. Ordinary expenditures were \$808,000 less than were estimated; capital expenditures \$1,500,000 less; special expenditures \$209,000 less; and loans to the Canadian National Railways \$8,000,000

less. The budget estimated an increase of debt for that year of some \$13,000,000. In connection with this estimated increase of debt I now desire to offer a pleasing explanation. When the estimate for budget purposes was determined, an item of \$7,500,000 for the Canadian National Railways in the supplementary estimates submitted to the House for that year was included as an expenditure. Three months later, when under consideration in the House, this item was, on the motion of a member of the government, struck out, thus reducing by that amount the estimated increase of debt. The improvement in our revenues and the curtailment of expenditures in these and other minor services were sufficient to change an estimated increase of some \$13,000,000 in the debt into a decrease of \$345,589.29, as shown by the Public Accounts for that year.

1925-26

Increase of \$29,965,520 in Revenue

Coming now to the fiscal year 1925-26, four years of prudent administration, good crops and greater production at home, improved conditions and increased purchasing power abroad, enabled me to-day to present a financial statement as encouraging to Canadians as it must be gratifying to all interested in the progress and development of Canada. Throughout the year imports of raw material for Canadian industries have been well maintained, in a number of instances in excess of previous years; while from month to month during the year export trade increased, resulting in a steady growth of our favourable balance, which at the end of the fiscal year

exceeds \$402,000,000. Nowhere are the results of this growing trade more accurately reflected than in the increased earnings of Canadian railways and in the annual statements of Canadian financial institutions and Canadian industrial corporations.

The actual ordinary revenues received up to and including March 31 last amounted to \$367,958,495. The estimated revenue yet to come when the accounts for the year are finally closed is \$8,841,505. This gives a total revenue of \$376,800,000, an increase of some \$29,965,520 over similar revenues for 1924-25.

Revenues and Expenditures

The revenue estimated from customs duties is \$127,360,000, an increase of \$19,200,000 over the previous year; from excise duties we expect \$42,920,000, an increase of \$4,300,000; we estimate that the revenue from excise taxes will be \$95,500,000, an increase of \$9,689,000; from income taxes we estimate \$55,530,000, a decrease of \$700,000 under the previous year; of arrears overdue under the former Business Profits War Tax Act we have collected some \$1,150,000; from interests on investments we estimate a revenue of \$8,270,000, a decrease of about \$3,062,000; we expect to receive \$30,334,000 as post office receipts, an increase of \$1,540,000; and from all other sources we estimate a total of \$15,736,000, being an increase of \$541,000.

With the permission of the House, I shall place on Hansard a comparative summary of the two years' revenues by services; also a further statement showing the percentages of revenues to the total revenues for the year 1925-26.

ORDINARY REVENUE

	Actual 1924-25		Estimated 1925-26		Increase		Decrease	
	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.
Customs.....	108,146,871	51	127,360,000	00	19,213,128	49		
Excise Duty.....	38,603,489	23	42,920,000	00	4,316,510	77		
Excise Taxes.....	85,810,717	42	95,500,000	00	9,689,282	58		
Income Tax.....	56,248,042	82	55,530,000	00			718,042	82
Delayed Business Profits Tax.....	2,704,427	37	1,150,000	00			1,554,427	37
Interest on Investments.....	11,332,328	50	8,270,000	00			3,062,328	50
Post Office.....	28,793,816	86	30,334,000	00	1,540,183	14		
Other Revenues.....	15,194,785	54	15,736,000	00	541,214	46		
	346,834,479	25	376,800,000	00	29,965,520	75		

