

March 20

Hon. Mr. ROBICHAUD: We'll see to that.

Hon. Mr. IRWIN, at sec. 1 of Bill No. 57: Mr. Chairman, I have certain other amendments to introduce on Bill No. 57. Unfortunately, at this time I do not have sufficient copies to distribute to all members of the house, but I'll send one over to the Leader of the Opposition and perhaps he would pass it along.

Hon. Mr. ROBICHAUD: Mr. Chairman, may I suggest that under the circumstances we stand the bill, make distribution of the amendments and come back to it tomorrow?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Will we read the bill without the amendments?

Hon. Mr. ROBICHAUD: No, we'll read the whole bill, I believe, when the members on both sides have had copies of the amendments.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Bill 57 stand.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the chair when the committee rose.

Reports Of Commts.

Mr. WILLIAMSON reported Bills 33, 48, 49, 50, 52 and 56 as agreed to, and progress on Nos. 51 and 57.

Adjournment

Hon. Mr. ROBICHAUD moved that the house adjourn.

The house adjourned at 5.47 p.m.

Daily Sitting No. 26

Assembly Chamber,
Wednesday, March 21, 1962.

The house met at 3 p.m.

Reading of the Journal was dispensed with.

Third Reading

The following bills were read the third time and passed:

No. 3 (Municipality of Gloucester, Dist. No. 18 and Bathurst Power & Paper Co. Ltd., amdt.); 33 (Stationary Engineers admt.); 34 (Campbellton tax exemptions); 35 (Campbellton Assessment, 1928, amdt.); 36 (Atholville L. I. D. debs.); 37 (Saint John Mun., General Hospital Debs., amdt.); 38 (St. Andrews debs.); 39 (Schools amdt., St. Andrews); 40

(St. Andrews land conveyance); 42 (Sussex Incorp. amdt.); 43 (St. Jacques L. I. D. debs.); 45 (Moncton property transfer to Water Commission); 46 (Moncton Assessment 1921, amdt.); 48 (Training School); 49 (Narcotic addicts); 50 (Legislative Assembly amdt.); 52 (Central filing and publication of regulations); 55 (Gorton-Pew, Ltd. assessment), and 56 (Queen's Printer amdt.).

Second Reading

The following bills were read the second time and referred to committee of the whole:

No. 106 (Contributory Negligence), and 107 (Social Assistance amdt.).

Reports Of Commts.

Mr. MICHAUD submitted the 17th report of the committee on standing rules, which was adopted.

First Reading

Bill No. 108 (Lancaster debs.), the petition (No. 81) having been approved by the committee on standing rules, was automatically introduced and read the first time.

Hon. Mr. ROBICHAUD introduced Bill No. 109, to amend the Summary Convictions Act.

The bill was read the first time.

Hon. Mr. IRWIN introduced the following bills, which were read the first time:

No. 110, An Act concerning the celebration of the Centenary of Confederation in Canada and constituting a Confederation Centenary Celebration Committee; 111, to amend the Rural Schools Assistance Act; 112, to amend the Education of Deaf, Mute and Deaf Mute Persons Act; 113, to amend the Library Services Act, and 114, to amend the Vocational Education Act.

Petitions

Eight petitions for bills were presented as follows by:

Mr. MICHAUD — No. 82, of of Chaiker Abbis and others, to incorporate the New Brunswick Hospital Association.

Mr. STAIRS — No. 83, of the Town of Woodstock, to authorize the said town to issue debentures.

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Mr. AMES, on behalf of Mr. LAWRENCE — Two: No. 84, of H. Stanley Dixon and Franklin B. Piercy, to amend an Act to incorporate the MacLean Memorial Hospital, and 85, of the Municipality of York, to authorize the said municipality to guarantee debentures issued by Harvey Community Hospital Limited.

Mr. MITTON, on behalf of Hon. Mr. HARPER — No. 86, of the village of Port Elgin, respecting the said village.

Mr. ROBICHAUD (Moncton) — Three: No. 87, of the City of Moncton, to amend the City of Moncton Assessment Act, 1921; 88, also of the City of Moncton, to authorize the said city to issue debentures, and 89, of La Société L'Assomption, to amend an Act respecting La Société L'Assomption.

Written Inquiries

Mr. AMES, asking that the Speaker revert to the order of notices of inquiry, gave notice of Inquiry No. 183, for Tuesday next.

Mr. CHALMERS gave notice of Inquiry No. 184, also for Tuesday next.

Motion No. 14

Hon. Mr. ROBICHAUD, pursuant to notice of Motion No. 14, moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. DesBRISAY, that the rules of the house respecting the introduction of private bills be suspended to permit the introduction of Bill No. 115, to authorize the Local Improvement District of Buctouche to issue debentures.

First Reading

The bill was introduced and read the first time.

Budget Debate

Hon. Mr. DUMONT, rising to resume the debate on the budget, spoke as follows:

Mr. Speaker:

On rising to take part in this debate, I feel that at the outset I should perform a duty of a personal nature. I would therefore beg your indulgence, Sir, that I may express to the Hon. the Premier and to the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition

and all members of this assembly, my deep appreciation for the kind expressions of sympathy tendered to me on the untimely and sudden passing of my brother, Charles. When my good friend and colleague, Mr. Pat Guerette, spoke in praise of him in his recent speech, I felt deeply moved.

Dr. Charles and I had been associated in the exercise of our profession for some 30 years. We worked hard together and during our first years we enjoyed the exacting and time-consuming experience of the horse-and-buggy or sleigh-doctor's life. In later years, we had to face the challenge of a busy office and hospital practice.

Dr. Charles was a dedicated and successful medical man. He made many friends in our community and his sudden passing was a shock to all. His funeral, attended by a very large congregation, was a tribute to a highly respected and esteemed citizen. One thing he never understood, though, was how I ever dared become involved in the snares of politics!

This accident, however, allows me to better express, on behalf of his family and myself, to all members in this house, my deep appreciation and sincere thanks for the sympathy extended to us.

MESSAGE IN FRENCH

Monsieur l'Orateur, il m'est particulièrement agréable maintenant de m'adresser à mes compatriotes de langue française du comté de Restigouche comme à tous ceux de la province. Et quel honneur de le faire en leur langue! D'ailleurs ce n'est pas une nouveauté, et les voûtes de cette enceinte se plaisent à résonner aux accents du verbe français!

A ce propos, qu'il me soit permis d'exprimer au distingué représentant de Kings, Monsieur Fairweather, mon admiration et mes félicitations pour l'effort qu'il fait — c'est un hommage qu'il nous rend — en nous exprimant de beaux sentiments dans la langue française.

D'autres députés d'expression anglaise font de même et veulent ainsi manifester l'admiration et l'intérêt qu'ils portent à leurs électeurs de langue française. Puisent leurs exemples être contagieux et favoriser notre culture au point de nous voir un jour, en cette chambre, échanger nos opinions,

Hon. Mr. Dumont — March 21 discuter et mener nos passes d'armes dans l'une ou l'autre langue officielle du pays!

Si ce jour devait naître, je crois bien que les séparatistes cesseraient leurs revendications et seraient satisfaits et honorés de vivre en paix comme d'heureux Canadiens avec tous les autres Canadiens du pays, quelle que soit leur origine ethnique.

Quoiqu'il en soit, je ne suis point séparatiste, ne l'ai jamais été et ne le serai jamais. Je crois davantage à l'effort commun et préfère travailler à nous mieux connaître et apprécier: à corriger nos préjugés, à fortifier l'union des cœurs et des esprits, afin que la charité du Christ anime nos énergies dans notre ascension vers les sommets et le plein épanouissement de nos cultures respectives.

Je crois sincèrement, M. l'Orateur, que les Acadiens sont engagés résolument et définitivement dans la voie du progrès. Après avoir longtemps souffert et lutté, leurs conditions de vie se sont améliorées.

Aujourd'hui, nos concitoyens anglais nous comprennent mieux et nous apprécient davantage et sont heureux de collaborer avec nous. Certes, il y a encore des correctifs qu'il nous faudra apporter en certaines sphères de nos activités et relations humaines, mais cela viendra et sans que nous ayons à casser les vitres! Je vois l'avenir avec optimisme.

A l'horizon se dressent en perspective des objectifs que nous obtiendrons bientôt et qui feront notre bonheur. Oui, vraiment, je crois et j'ai foi en l'avenir! C'est l'oeuvre de la providence. C'est le "Surge Acadia" en action qui se continue et se déploie magnifiquement.

A Notre Dame de l'Assomption, toute notre vénération et reconnaissance, et qu'elle veuille bien nous continuer sa protection et nous entourer de sa maternelle sollicitude! C'est aux accents de cette prière que j'adresse à mes compatriotes de langue française de la province l'hommage ému de mes amicales et fraternelles salutations et mes meilleurs vœux pour qu'ils réussissent en toutes leurs entreprises.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Mr. Speaker, it is now most pleasing for me to address my

French-speaking compatriots of Restigouche County and the entire province. And what a pleasure to do so in their own tongue! Indeed, this is no novelty, and the vaults of these precincts echo the soothing accents of the French language.

On this matter, may I be permitted to express to the distinguished member for Kings, Mr. Fairweather, my admiration and congratulations for his effort each year — and this is an homage that he renders us — when he voices beautiful sentiments in the French language.

Other English-speaking members have followed this custom, attesting to the admiration and the interest they hold for their French-speaking electors. May their example be contagious and promote our culture to the point where, some day in these chambers, we will exchange our views, discuss and conduct our cross-fire engagements in one or the other of the official languages of the country!

Should this day dawn upon us, I believe the separatists would cease their demands and would feel satisfied and honored to live in peace as happy Canadians along with all other Canadians of whatever ethnic origin.

Howbeit, I am not a separatist, I have never been one and will never become one. I am a greater believer in the common effort and prefer working towards a better mutual understanding and appreciation; striving to correct our prejudices, strengthening the union of hearts and souls that the charity of Christ may fortify us along the way towards higher achievements and full development of our respective cultures.

I believe sincerely, Mr. Speaker, that Acadians are now engaged resolutely and definitely on the road to progress. After long years of suffering and struggle, their living conditions have improved.

Today our English fellow citizens understand us better, and appreciate us more and are quite happy to cooperate with us. Certainly, there are yet some corrections to be made in some areas of our human relations and activities, but this will come without having to break the windows! I envisage our future with optimism.

On the horizon, drawn in perspective, there are objectives in

Hon. Mr. Dumont — March 21 view which will soon be obtained and which will be conducive to our happiness. Yes, truly, I believe and have faith in the future. This is Providence at work, this is our "Surge Acadia" in action, progressing and unfolding itself in a magnificent fashion.

To Our Lady of the Assumption, our praises and our thanks. May she continue to protect us and surround us with her loving care. On this prayerful strain, I want to express to my French compatriots of this province my heartfelt homage and friendly greetings, together with my best wishes for success in all their undertakings.

Mr. Speaker, at the closing of last year's session, on the very day of prorogation, I had a friendly discussion with the Hon. Leader of the Opposition. I was telling him how sorrowful it was for intelligent men of two parties not to be able to get together and agree at least on certain important issues such as that of the federal-provincial tax rental agreement. I was telling him how ridiculous it was for us to disagree on arithmetic problems of that nature. I was telling him that we should solve that particular question once and for all, so that the people would not be constantly confused.

Well, my friend the Leader of the Opposition, did not help me very much in my endeavor. As he left me, looking from the corridor, and pointing to this chamber, he said, "You should know, poor Doctor, that this house is full of politics!"

I must admit, Sir, judging by what has taken place here since we have reconvened, that the Leader of the Opposition was certainly not making an understatement when he informed me that this house was impregnated with politics. The more it is ventilated, it seems, the more it retains its political scent, frequently of an insidious nature.

And yesterday, Mr. Speaker, we had an explosion — a real typical exemplification of what I would term "a blatant explosion of politics". But to me it appears as though hidden under what we would term — to put it in a polite term — the veil of humility, the would-be mar-

tyrs of the opposition offered to have our Bills 50 and 51 thrown out so that they would rescue the finance of the province. Politics again!

Mr. CHALMERS: You said it. Hon. Mr. DUMONT: Why, had it not been at the price of distortion of truth and of the facts, I would venture to say that politics had its right there, but, unfortunately, it was as I just said, "A blatant explosion and a typical one of politics".

And here today it is a mighty good thing that we have a nice, bright shining sun, because this would be foggy with politics today.

Mr. CHALMERS: You're full of it, George.

Hon. Mr. DUMONT: That's my personal explosion!

According to our democratic form of government, it appears that this cannot be altered and the show must continue as we have it. Fortunately, in spite of our differences, we can remain good friends and retain the hope of serving our fellow citizens in the discharge of our mandate. That is a wonderful feature.

Mr. FAIRWEATHER and all Hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. DUMONT: However, Mr. Speaker, as I propose to enter into this debate on the budget, I must say that I am very proud and feel privileged to be a member of this government, and I am extremely elated over its performance.

This government of action has pledged itself to develop our natural resources and boost our economy. But first of all it had to be concerned with the plight besetting so many of our people unable to pay the so-called iniquitous hospital tax premium, and we abolished it some eight days after taking office.

This was the accomplishment of a solemn promise, and it was made in record time, in contrast with that made by the former administration but never put into effect when in 1952 they promised to remove the sales tax.

Now, this meant a considerable tax burden relief of some 7.5 to 8 million dollars every year. For two years we will have, as it were, assisted our municipalities by some 15 to 16 million dollars. Surely this was a real manna to our people,

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and this is why I am proud and jubilant over our achievement, in spite of our deficit.

This government has been both considerate and provident. Unemployment prevailing as it was and still is, and many of our fellowmen poor and in dire need of help, there is no question but that the abolishment of the hospital premium was hailed and received as a blessing. There is no doubt about that, and surely politics here should not be allowed to warp our minds. When times are hard and jobs unavailable, surely the time is improper for increased taxation.

Mr. AMES: Why didn't you do that, not increase the taxes?

Hon. Mr. DUMONT: Did you listen to what I said? Well, it is all true.

Hon. Mr. ROBICHAUD: He can't understand it.

Mr. AMES: Dumont is truthful, you should know that.

Hon. Mr. DUMONT: My dear friend, if you'd just ponder and try to remove that veil that blinds you, you would see the truth.

Mr. AMES: Wait until the "Little Tiger" gets you.

Hon. MEMBER: Is this another explosion?

Mr. FAIRWEATHER: Peace or atomic war?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, please!

Hon. Mr. DUMONT: Mr. Speaker, nobody bothers me!

This government has at heart primarily the promotion of the well-being of the people, and so our drive for industrialization which is getting underway. Unfortunately, this cannot be done overnight, but the outlook is bright and gradually the new industries as they start rolling will supply more jobs for our people. This will mean more buying power, more buoyancy in our provincial economy and more revenues for the province.

This government, led by our valiant and dynamic Premier Louis Robichaud, will ever be remembered and go down in history as the government dedicated to our human resources and especially the young people of our province. This is being really provident to a point never dreamt of before by any previous government. But this is now common knowledge and I need not elaborate further.

I feel, though, that I should not allow this occasion to pass without commending very highly the wonderful job our young colleague, the Hon. W. R. Duffie, is doing in this realm. His name will also go down in history as our first Minister of Youth. I would add, what a wonderful man for the lucky bride-to-be!

Mr. FAIRWEATHER: The privileged win.

Hon. Mr. DUMONT: And so, Mr. Speaker, for these few reasons, and many more could be invoked, I am quite happy and I take pleasure in congratulating our distinguished colleague the Hon. Secretary-Treasurer on his budget speech. His view on the coming fiscal year is one of optimism and we share that opinion.

He has had the courage to announce in this house a deficit for the coming year, because he has confidence in the future of New Brunswick and because imperative programs had to be implemented on the basis of long term but with favorable reaction on our economy.

Hon. Mr. ROBICHAUD: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. DUMONT: This is imperative if we want to develop our economy and pull ourselves out of this present stagnation where we are turning in a vicious circle — more unemployment for more social assistance and more of our people leaving the province.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Hon. Financial Critic, Mr. D. D. Patterson, for the generous attempt and the strenuous effort he made when he replied and attacked the Secretary-Treasurer. His speech was a long-winded one, well delivered, at times humoristic, at others sarcastic, but throughout filled with politics as it should be expected when coming from the opposition.

His voice throughout remained clear and melodious and carried well and, surprisingly, his vocal organ required no water or any other form of lubricant, it supplied its own juice quite adequately. I wish I were like that, for it must be wonderful to be self-lubricating, and during such a long performance!

However, it was a nice long speech and I congratulate him very sincerely, even though I haven't been able to turn with him "on the

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reverse"! No, with this government, whatever the direction, we are going straight ahead.

This deficit is no stumbling block in our road as we follow our Premier and our Secretary-Treasurer in their progressive march towards the goal of our provincial betterment, and when Mike Pearson takes over in Ottawa we will continue straight forward but assuredly at an increased pace! And the quicker this happens the better for this province.

Mr. McINERNEY (St. J.): You're too late, George.

Mr. JONAH: You had better take off the veil.

Mr. McINERNEY (St. J.): You fellows had better move to Upper Canada, George.

Hon. Mr. DUMONT: You're getting convinced. I'm glad. I'm consoled, as they pay me for my efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I could now turn toward each of my colleagues and commend them for the wonderful work they are doing in their respective departments, but I shall refrain from doing so in view of the fact that this would carry me too far, and as I have hinted a few moments ago, I am not self-lubricating!

Anyway, we are all united in this government and our solidarity is so brilliantly exemplified! I did, however, single one out of the group, but being the youngest one, the others will not feel offended, and at this time I believe St. Patrick will appreciate the deference I hold for one of his sons.

Mr. Speaker, I would now wish to express my personal and friendly welcome to the two new members of this house who were successful at the by-elections held last June. I am sure that both Mr. Kerr, for Northumberland, and Mr. Hatfield, for Carleton, will greatly contribute to the deliberations of this house and will both be a credit to their respective constituencies.

Mr. Speaker, at this juncture, I would like to pay tribute to my constituents. My colleagues, Mr. John Alexander and Mr. Pat Guerette, share with me the honor of holding the mandate the good people of Restigouche County have confided to our trust. It is a great responsibility and we are certainly doing

our utmost to serve them to the best of our ability. Despite our good intentions, we know that they deserve more than what we are doing for them; our great desire and ambition would be to do much more.

Our situation in Restigouche is certainly quite comparable to other counties. There is, of course, some poverty and hardship in our county. We have areas, such as Jacquet River, where unemployment is prevalent due to lack of industry, poor farming and fishing.

Our farmers in certain areas are in extreme misery and they cannot find employment to offset their unproductive farming. The closing of Pat Jean's lumber mill at St. Quentin was a crippling blow to the economy of that area. This industry must be revived.

But in Restigouche County all is not sombre. There are some very bright spots and we can visualize an upsurge in the economy when our new industries are to spurt into action. The Radio Engineering Company, Limited, will be ready to start in a matter of a few weeks now and by some 12 to 15 months will employ close to 1,200 people. Mr. Charles Fisher, president of the company, has assured us that the future is very promising and there is a possibility within a few years of doubling the capacity and the output of this industry, thus affording an additional 1,200 more jobs.

For Dalhousie also there is good news and we were all delighted on hearing that Canadian Industries, Limited, will build their chemical factory in our shiretown. This will entail a \$5,000,000 establishment and provide some 50 jobs.

As to our Fraser pulpmill in Atholville, we rejoice in noting that this year the operations have been practically at full capacity. We are also pleased to note that the critical cutbacks in the Dalhousie papermill did not last too long, and we certainly appreciate the efforts made by the New Brunswick International Paper Company to solve this problem to the advantage of their employees. We are certainly most hopeful that such critical situations in curtailment of the mill in operation in Dalhousie will not recur, but that, on the contrary, will increase its capacity.

We know, of course, that we can at all times count on the Chairman

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of the New Brunswick Electric Power Commission, Hon. Donald Harper, and his officials to do their utmost to help supply to these companies power at the cheapest price possible. We certainly appreciate the full-hearted cooperation they showed last January when the situation was most critical. Their efforts were certainly appreciated by all concerned and for this we are most thankful.

I would like to mention that it is with satisfaction that we have been advised that, through the combined efforts of the Department of Industry and Development and the Department of Lands and Mines, the one-time slow developing granite quarry in Jacquet River will be reactivated. The Jacquet River Granite Company will take over and develop this quarry at Lake Antonuri. Operations are scheduled to start this spring or during the early summer months.

I should like to mention also, Sir, that the fourth phase wing expansion at the Provincial Hospital in Campbellton is progressing well in line with the expected schedule. When this wing is completed it will add 169 more beds to the institution for a total of 779 beds.

Here I would note, in reference to this hospital, the fact that this project was initiated under the former Liberal McNair government and it will see its completion under another Liberal government, as well it should!

I feel it most appropriate that I should refer at this time to the man who was in great part responsible for the location of this institution in our city of Campbellton, and so I take great pleasure in paying tribute to my good friend, Mr. Samuel Mooers, former Minister of Labour in the McNair government. I mention this for the record, and I would add that if we were to have a Founder's Day for the Campbellton Provincial Hospital, the name of Sam Mooers could not be forgotten.

Of course, this does not mean that recognition should not be given to the Conservative government for the very important contribution they made in the eight intervening years when my friend, Roger Pichette, played an important

role in promoting the project under my distinguished friend and predecessor, Dr. J. F. McNerney.

Mr. Speaker, I think this has, to some degree, covered the remarks I thought should be made in reference to my county. The subject has not been fully covered, but I know that my two colleagues, Mr. Alexander and Mr. Guerette, will not forget to cajole the Minister of Public Works for the many projects needed in Restigouche on our highways to bring us in line with the other counties of the province.

I hate to do so myself because, as Minister of Health, I feel that, being so demanding on the provincial treasury, the Minister of Public Works might turn me down. And so, my sensitive conscience tells me that they can do this far more efficiently than I could!

Mr. Speaker, I would wish to deal from now on exclusively with matters related directly to my department. Before doing so I would like to pay tribute to all the officials and employees of all divisions in our department. They are a wonderful group of people and, at all levels of service, they are most anxious to do a good job.

I treasure their advice and their wholehearted cooperation. Without their contribution, the whole Department of Health would crumble down — the minister along with it. I, therefore, appreciate their dedication as public servants and I thank one and all for their courtesy and loyalty.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to report that the year 1962 will be an important date for our faithful public health nurses serving the province so well under the directorship of Miss Muriel Hunter, Registered Nurse.

For some years now, these nurses had been asking for a distinctive uniform. This they could never obtain and last year, despite my approval for the request, they were again turned down.

This year, however, the money was retained in the budget and in the not too distant future our public health nurses will go about their work with a distinctive uniform, in keeping with their profession. I hope that this will add to their prestige and help to retain and attract more nurses in this important division for the well-being of our people.

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Perhaps still more important, Mr. Speaker, I would like to mention a very important project that will, in 1962, also mark another milestone for the people of this province. I am happy to announce that — and I'm sorry that Mr. Patterson is not here to hear this good news — as solemnly promised last year in this house, the long awaited hospital training school for mentally retarded children will be erected this year in Saint John.

This institution will provide adequate facilities for some 240 children. It is indeed a pleasure that after many years of study in our department this project will this year come to fruition.

Mr. Speaker, I think it would be appropriate if I should dwell now on certain aspects of our health program.

Training of Health Personnel: The postgraduate training of all types of health personnel continues to be assisted on the bursary principle from national health grants on the approval of the provincial Department of Health. This training program has shown a gradual increase each year, but the greatest increase has taken place in the fiscal year of 1961-62, the year now coming to an end.

At the present time, there are 101 candidates receiving bursary assistance for postgraduate training in the various fields of health and hospital services. This program will show further expansion in certain fields of training so that categories of adequately trained health personnel may be kept to full strength. It must be increased in certain fields of professional and technical training.

Since the inception of the program in 1949, 720 candidates have been trained or are presently in training. It is estimated that the total expenditure for postgraduate training of health personnel in the fiscal year now approaching will be \$327,355. This expenditure is fully claimed from national health grants.

Adult Rehabilitation Services: The expanded rehabilitation program for disabled individuals in New Brunswick is now operating in two parts — one part related to the rehabilitation of disabled adults who have passed their 19th birth-

day, the other part of the program is related to children up to their 19th birthday.

The adult rehabilitation program provides counselling, assessment, medical and surgical treatment for disabilities, prosthetic appliances, vocational training and job placement services to disabled adults of the province who require this special assistance to enable them to achieve their maximum usefulness to society.

During 11 months, since April 1961, we have rehabilitated to full-time employment 237 disabled adults. Most of these people have been supported by relatives or by allowances and welfare payments from provincial and municipal funds to the amount of \$126,900.

After their rehabilitation, it was not necessary to continue the support and allowances from welfare and the 237 persons are now earning a combined total salary of \$386,850 per year.

This, as you can see, has a tremendous financial advantage to the province and to the individuals concerned.

Further services offered to disabled persons during the 11 months following April 1, 1961, consist of the following: 410 disabled persons received medical treatment; 152 received prosthetic appliances; 463 were given complete medical assessment of their disability, and over 3,000 counselling services and interviews were given to disabled persons.

In cooperation with the Department of Education, 164 disabled persons were given vocational training courses and more than 800 persons are presently receiving rehabilitation services.

Children's Rehabilitation Program: This service program is designed to provide services to disabled children of families who are unable in whole or in part to provide these services for themselves.

Here again the services provided consist of medical assessment, medical and surgical care and the provision of prosthetic appliances. These services are provided for the purpose of improving, controlling and treating certain defects and disabilities that may be the result of congenital defects, disabilities due to accidents and chronic conditions.

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Under this program, 5,102 children received assistance for the payment of these services, for assessment, diagnostic treatment and the provision of prosthetic appliances during the year of 1961. Of these, 1,616 were new cases registered in the year of 1961. The remainder were cases registered from previous years.

The year 1961 also saw the completion of the first full year of an entirely new service, that of the operation of paediatric clinics. A total of 480 children of varying degrees of disability received service in 72 paediatric and metabolic clinics held in 1961 and about one-third of this number received continuous therapy of various forms designed to decrease, inhibit or control certain disabilities.

A total number of 389 cases were long-term cases cared for as in-patients at the Polio Clinic and Health Centre in 1961; 1,576 orthopedic patients up to the age of 19 were seen at the out-patient regional clinics and at the Polio Clinic and Health Centre in the year under review.

In certain cases where facilities for treatment are not available in the province, the treatment was provided for under the service at centres outside the province. This applies, for instance, to children with congenital heart conditions who must go to the larger centres such as Montreal or Toronto for these operations.

Cancer Control Program: This program provided a marked extension of service effective March 1, 1961. At that time this program was expanded to provide the cost of medical and surgical care for proven malignant cancer cases while such cases were patients in approved hospitals.

This service is of great benefit to the people of New Brunswick, since malignant cancer is confined mainly to the adult age group and will therefore involve the mother or father of the family and thus deprive the family in many cases of the necessities of life.

Since cancer is usually a catastrophic illness, then it seems evident that this extension of service is of great assistance to our people.

A total of 1,364 people received services under this program since

March 1, 1961. Of this number approximately 600 were new cases diagnosed during the period under review, while the remainder of the number were readmissions of cancer cases treated previously on one or more occasions.

There were 216 physicians and surgeons in New Brunswick who provided medical and surgical services under this program. In addition, there were a number of doctors who provided anaesthetic services to patients in hospitals under this program.

The payment for these professional services is on a fee for service basis, and for the period March 1, 1961, to March 1, 1962, the cost of these services amounted to \$200,740. Of this amount of money one-half was claimed from the federal government through the cancer control grant.

In addition, approximately \$60,000 was expended for the clinical advisory committee, consultant services, diagnostic clinics, out-patient X-rays and radiotherapy. One-half of this amount was also claimed from the federal government through the cancer control grant.

I would now wish, Mr. Speaker, to elaborate on our Hospital Services Division. At the outset, I would like to pay tribute to the director of this very important division, Mr. L. H. Moissan, whose appointment was effective as of April 1, 1961. Originally from Winnipeg and Montreal, Mr. Moissan was well known in Eastern Canada and the Atlantic Provinces, having visited these provinces regularly during the last 15 years as representative of the Auditor General of Canada.

I would like here to repeat what I have already said about Mr. Moissan on his appointment:

"His broad knowledge of federal-provincial agreements, national health grants and government-operated hospital plans, coupled with his experience as a management and financial consultant in the field of private business, will undoubtedly be of great benefit to our province and to our hospitals."

This was my opinion a year ago and it still holds. My mind has not changed and I believe that Mr. Moissan and his officials are doing a good job.

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I am aware that our director of hospital services has been the target of some vitriolic and harsh criticisms. I am aware that his predecessor, Dr. van Binnendyk, was also exposed to the same treatment. Nevertheless, Dr. van Binnendyk was a good man and did a good job, and the same applies to Mr. L. H. Moissan, who is also a good man and does a good job.

Anyway, my contention is to the effect that the position is one of great responsibility, calls for a great deal of knowledge, tact and firmness, and withal is a thankless and ungrateful job. This is due to the fact that administrative and financial controversies are unavoidable.

Under these circumstances, no man being perfect, and our hospital administrators as well as our director being exposed to the shortcomings of human frailty, my duty is to stand behind our director and support him. In this respect, my chief medical officer, Dr. J. A. Melanson, D. P. H., shares my views and determination, but, of course, at all times we will do our utmost to serve the common good of our people to the best of our ability.

Mr. Speaker, last September it was a shock to us all in the Hospital Services, when we heard of the untimely and sudden passing of Mr. D. O. Downing, assistant director.

Mr. Downing had been associated with the Hospital Services Commission since its inception and was one of our high officials. He served for only a few months under the Hospital Services Division. He was familiar with hospital administration and was highly regarded. I pay tribute to the memory of this good man and reiterate to Mrs. Downing and family our sympathy.

Mr. Speaker, for the record, I am pleased to mention that in compliance with the promise made last year, we now have a 10-member advisory committee on hospital services to advise the Minister of Health on all matters relating to the Hospital Services Act and Regulations. The appointment of this committee was effective Nov. 22, 1961. The committee is formed as follows:

Appointed to represent the New Brunswick Hospital Association are

Chaiker Abbis, Edmundston, for a period of one year; D. D. Trotter, Fredericton, for two years, and E. A. Fryers, Moncton, who will serve for three years.

Representatives of the New Brunswick Medical Society are Dr. Ahdoria Robichaud, Tracadie, for a one-year term; Dr. L. W. Brownrigg, St. Stephen, for a term of two years, and Dr. F. C. Jennings, Saint John, for three years.

Also appointed for three years is Yvon E. Lanctin of Moncton, secretary-treasurer of the New Brunswick Federation of Labour and a member of the board of the Moncton Hospital.

Ex-officio members are the chief medical officer, Dr. J. A. Melanson; director of hospital services, L. Hector Moissan, and the hospital administrative consultant with the Hospital Services Division, our good friend, Dr. A. J. McInerney, brother of my distinguished predecessor. I pay tribute to him; he is a wonderful man.

You see, I am not in politics — I'm so fair-minded!

At their first meeting held on Feb. 16, 1962, Dr. F. C. Jennings of Saint John was appointed chairman of the advisory committee and Mr. Chaiker Abbis of Edmundston was made vice-chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely pleased to have on this committee men whose names inspire confidence throughout the province. I am sure that this view will be shared by all.

Mr. Speaker, that all members may become familiar with the operating cost of our Hospital Services, I insert here in my speech on the same page two tables of figures. This might help to answer in advance many inquiries and perhaps curtail their numbers!

The first table gives a statement of the Hospital Services Commission and covers the hospital insurance costs for the period July 1, 1959 to March 31, 1961. That is to say, the whole life of the Commission during its existence.

Now I'm not going to give all these details. They'll be there for the record. You can refer to them and, at the same time, alongside or underneath this first statement, you'll have the figures for a full year for the Hospital Services Division — estimates for the fiscal year 1961-62 — and you will have also

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the run-down of the number of beds.

We started with 3,055 beds in July up to December 1959; then it rose to 3,162 in the calendar year 1960; then three months later it had risen to 3,215 beds, and by the end of

this period, 1962, we have 3,354 beds. I mention that because the number of beds is most important, because every time we put one bed up to serve the public, it means we are incurring a yearly expense of \$5,900. We are committing ourselves to that expenditure.

**HOSPITAL SERVICES COMMISSION
HOSPITAL INSURANCE COSTS
FOR THE PERIOD 1 JULY 1959 TO 31 MARCH 1961**

	Six Months 1 July - 31 Dec. 1959	Calendar Year 1960	Three Months 1 Jan. - 31 March 1961
Gross expenditures	\$7,540,816.54	\$18,436,189.44	\$5,768,326.81
Less: Received from premiums and paid care, etc.	18,482.35	7,452,348.10	8,719.10
Net expenditures	7,522,334.19	10,983,841.34	5,759,607.71
Less: Recovery from Government of Canada	2,979,727.52	7,676,084.47	2,276,563.84
Cost to Provincial Government	4,542,606.67	3,307,756.87	3,483,043.87
Beds set up at end of period	3,055	3,162	3,215

The second table shows the estimates for the fiscal year 1961-62 of the Hospital Services under the Department of Health.

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
HOSPITAL SERVICES DIVISION
ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 1961-1962**

Gross expenditures	\$20,261,977
Less: Recoveries	9,614,500
Cost to Provincial Government	10,647,477
Beds set up at end of period	3,354

If you compare these two tables when they are under your eyes you will have important data showing the trend of increased operating cost of the plan and the gradually increasing number of hospital beds in the province.

Mr. Speaker, following this, I present our figures for our 1962-63 budget in detail, with all the items.

On the table you will have every detail as to the equipment, what we paid to other provinces, other countries, Red Cross, Moncton T. B., Administration — Director, Departmental, etc. — all these items are covered. You will have a comparison with what it was in 1961-62 and the projected figure for the 1962-63 budget.

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BUDGET 1962-63

	Expenditures		Increase \$	Decrease \$
	1961-62	1962-63		
In and Out-Patient cost	\$16,724,103	\$17,560,308	1,844,808	
Equipment	1,550,000	1,008,603	77,500	
Cap. Debt Asst. (to Hospitals)	526,526	581,930	55,404	
N. B. Hospitals cost	18,800,629	20,778,341	1,977,712	
Cap. Debt. Asst. to Municipalities	526,526	507,076		19,450
Other Provinces	408,865	429,308	20,443	
Other Countries	41,135	43,191	2,056	
Red Cross, etc.	36,875	39,825	2,950	
Moncton T.B. Administration	10,500	Nil		10,500
Director	24,335	20,472		3,863
Departmental	351,107	165,854		185,253
Committees	5,250	5,250		
Consultants	56,755	49,890		6,865
Total	\$20,261,977	\$22,039,207	\$2,003,161 225,931	\$225,931
			1,777,230	

(Per cent increase over 1961 = 8.77%)

	Revenue		Increase
	1961-62	1962-63	
Claims — Due from Canada	\$9,604,000	\$10,354,367	\$750,367

Total cost of the plan for this coming fiscal year, 1962-63, for a total of 3,354 hospital beds, is expected to be \$22,039,207. This represents an increase of \$11,777,230, or an increase of some 8.77 per cent over the previous year.

During the coming year we estimate that some 233 more beds will be available. When these new 233 beds are completed, the total number of active treatment hospital beds in this province will be 3,587, including the chronic and convalescent hospital beds, of which we have only 51 in Saint John.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to make the following remarks in reviewing the Hospital Services Division for the full calendar year of 1961.

The primary function of the Hospital Services Division is to ascertain that the hospitals are providing the very best possible treat-

ment and care to the citizens of the province consistent with good management and the economy of the province.

Care and Treatment Provided: The greater use of hospital facilities since the introduction of the New Brunswick hospital services plan has further emphasized the need of hospital development and expansion and has shown that hospital bed deficiencies exist in certain areas of the province.

In the period under review we have seen the opening of a new hospital, the Albert County Hospital Inc., situated at Albert, with 13 beds; the opening of the Hotel-Dieu Bathurst Annex at Vallee Lourdes has brought into use an additional 38 beds and when finally completed will have a total of 80 beds set up; 39 beds at Hotel-Dieu, Campbellton, and 21 beds at the Miramichi Hospital at Newcastle

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have been added, making an overall increase of 111 beds.

The addition of these newer facilities and the increasing demand for hospitalization is reflected in the increase in the number of patients discharged in 1961, when compared with the corresponding period in 1960.

In 1961 the total number of patients discharged from hospital was 120,483, which shows an increase of approximately 11 per cent over 1960, and the number of days of care provided was 1,147,147, giving a 12 per cent increase over the same period in 1960.

Out-patient services in the province showed a decided increase of approximately 45 per cent over the previous year, the total out-patient visits amounting to 70,836.

Hospitalization expenses for the in-patient services provided by our hospitals during 1961 were \$17,021,270, and for out-patient services during the same period, \$378,130.

When we compare these expenditures with those of the previous year, we find that the expenditures for in-patient services amounted to \$15,869,051 and out-patient services to \$308,624, indicating the increased demand and utilization of the hospital facilities of the province.

The utilization of these services represents an increase in expenditure for in-patients approximating 7.2 per cent over the previous year and an increase of 22.5 per cent for out-patients.

In addition to the hospital services provided within the province, residents of New Brunswick have also received benefits under the hospital services plan, when hospital services have been found neces-

sary in cases of a sudden attack of illness or for injuries received in accidents when they have been temporarily absent from the province. These out-of-province services have been provided in all the provinces of Canada and the United States, and even in Europe.

When specialized hospital services are required which are not available in this province, hospital benefits have been provided to residents upon recommendation of their physician for out-of-province hospital care and treatment.

Former residents, who have taken up residence in other parts of Canada, are entitled to benefits for a period of three months following their departure from the province and these have received hospital benefits. This procedure is now in effect across Canada, each province providing coverage for their qualified residents who moved to another part of the country.

In 1961 hospital benefits were paid on behalf of 2,031 residents, or former residents, who received hospital care and treatment outside New Brunswick and the expenditure for these services was \$561,370, which indicates an increase of approximately 29 per cent over 1960.

Administration: During the current fiscal year to date a considerable number of changes affecting administration have taken place, some of which are related to the abandonment of the premium system and others to new methods of administration.

The following figures illustrate the impact of these changes on the cost of administration, and there we have the year 1960 which is the full year under study and then the 10 months of operation of the new plan of the division.

	Year 1960	Ten Months Ended January 1962
Salaries	\$402,734.50	\$191,914.69 (of which \$33,981.74, Consultants)
Honorariums, special services	7,500.00	1,608.00
Stationery and office supplies	59,217.48	7,516.49
Public relations and advertising	4,198.14	—
Maintenance and repairs to office machines	1,222.39	639.16
Rental — office equipment	32,762.76	122.17
Postage, telephone and telegraph	16,640.45	2,210.11
Interest and bank charges	72,694.31	—
Legal fees	2,209.70	—

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Freight, express and cartage	1,389.63	95.74
Insurance and Fidelity Bond	951.24	—
Travel	14,125.77	6,230.15 (of which \$3,323.07, Consultants)
Rental of buildings	28,800.00	—
Depreciation on furniture and equipment	15,080.82	—
Unemployment Insurance and Workmen's Compensation	5,557.98	—
Sundry	1,837.35	3,369.69
	<u>\$666,928.52</u>	<u>\$213,706.20</u>

SUMMARY

Ten months — Year 1960 (10/12ths above total)

\$555,773.76

Ten months ended January 1962

213,706.20

A saving of:

\$342,067.56

The approximate decrease in the cost of administration for the 10 months ended January 1962 is \$342,067.56 and on a 12-month basis this would be equivalent to \$410,483.48.

Several of the items of expenditures which were applicable to the premium payment system are, of course, no longer necessary, such as the rental of office equipment at an annual cost of \$32,762.76. The cost of stationery and office supplies also decreased by approximately \$50,000.

You will notice that our contention as to the cost of operating the plan has come true. It is much less costly for the province to have this service provided under the jurisdiction of a division of the Department of Health, rather than an independent commission. If you look at the figures you will see that this is a true statement and means a saving in the operating cost of the plan of \$410,483.48.

Mr. Speaker, I beg the indulgence of the house for having gone into so many details. Possibly I have been boring to some in this latter part of my speech, especially when my purpose was to be non-political but solely objective and informative.

I hope that this effort will, in some degree, justify and explain why, in government, I have such a bad reputation as being the most

lavish and extravagant spender of the taxpayers' money. But, Sir, I have no apology to offer, because as an obedient servant I am doing a big job, a costly job, and all things being equal, if we look over the record, we are doing as well here as in Quebec or Ontario.

And, Sir, our friends opposite should be mindful of the fact that through the new federal-provincial tax deal we are getting only \$1.25 per capita and the rich province of Ontario is getting \$3 per capita. This is one more reason why I say, Sir, that the Secretary-Treasurer should not be too concerned — he has presented a deficit budget adequately justified and warranted under present conditions.

But the day of reckoning will come some day in 1962. With a new Liberal government at Ottawa, here in New Brunswick even our friends opposite will be glad to reverse to the former federal-provincial tax agreement and get more than what provides our actual raw deal!

Mr. CHALMERS: Non-political, eh?

Hon. Mr. DUMONT: Mr. Speaker, I might not be here myself for many more years, but I have a feeling that under the guidance of our gifted Premier our government will endear itself to the province and, God willing, will serve its good people for many more years.