



British Budget Fag End

Great Britain has been surprised in the last ten days by the announcement that the budget of 1910-11 has not yet been settled, despite the passage of a finance bill before the close of the last Parliament. It appears that that bill originally embodied a complete budget, but in order to reach its enactment the Government dropped out five clauses. The measure as adopted simply provides for the collection of the tea duty and the income tax, and provides that the fixed debt charge of the year shall be \$24,500,000.

Parliament will have to dispose of a supplementary bill before the end of the fiscal year on March 31, and the two together will make up the budget. Four

of the five clauses cut out of the first bill covered details of the apportionment of excise duties between the Government and the local authorities. The remaining clause has to do with the sinking fund. It appears the amount due to this account in 1909-10 was £2,890,000 or about \$14,460,000, that being the surplus for the year. Instead of setting it aside the Government propose in the supplementary finance bill to pool the sinking funds for 1909-10 and the current year, a proposal which the Opposition papers say is equivalent to wiping out the sinking fund for the former year and making the £2,890,000 available at once for current expenditures.

The Government has given assurances that the new finance will carry no new scheme of taxation.

Queen Mary's Coronation Gown

The lace school in the little seaside village of Shaldon, South Devon, has been honored with an order from Queen Mary to supply a quantity of lace for her coronation robes.

The school, although started only a few years ago has received several orders from members of the royal family.

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DR. T. VILLA HAUESLER SURGEON

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