THE ONTARIO LEGISLATURE

Speech of the Lieutenant-Governor at the Opening.

The fourth session of the eleventh Ontario Legislature was opened at the Parliament buildings, Toronto, on Wednesday afternoon with the usual display.

The speech from the throne was as follows:—

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:—

It affords me satisfaction to once more meet you as the representatives of the people in Parliament assembled.

Our thanks are due to Almighty God that while in some sections of the province the harvest was not as abundant as in the previous year, yet the general interest and activity of our people, displayed during the past year with reference to business and commercial undertakings, indicate continued prosperity. It is also a matter of satisfaction that our province has suffered comparatively little from the financial stringency which has been very marked in other countries during the past few months.

CASH GRATIFICATION.

It will afford you gratification to know that the first payment of the additional subsidy from the Dominion, arranged for at the late inter-provincial conference, and payable under the act passed at the last session of the Imperial Parliament, has been received.

No disposition has yet been made by the Dominion Government of the territory extending northward to Hudson Bay and forming the hinterland of Ontario, but a decision is expected soon.

The work of the revision of the Statutes has made such progress that several of the important acts will be laid before you for your approval.

T. AND N. O. CONSTRUCTION.

The construction of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway has been nearly completed, the rails having been laid as far as a point two hundred and eight miles beyond North Bay, and about forty miles south of the probable junction with the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway; while the earnings have continued to be satisfactory, and largely in excess of the outlay incurred in operating the road.

Very fair progress has been made in the development of the mining industry at Cobalt and vicinity; and the investigation and working of the Gillies limit have been very satisfactory.

VISIT TO ENGLAND.

The Minister of Agriculture paid a visit to Great Britain during the past summer for the purpose of investigating the conditions surrounding the emigration problem. While there, he was able to take steps for the careful supervision of intending immigrants to Ontario. By agreement the distribution of immigrants has been taken over by the Dominion Government, thus making it possible for the Provincial Government to devote more attention to the careful selection of desirable settlers.

A demonstration farm has been established at Driftwood River, north of the height of land, in a good agricultural country. By experiments in crop-raising conducted there, much practical information will be gained for the use of intending settlers.

Important documents and reports relating to the distribution of electric power under the statute will be laid before you.

REPORTS ON ASYLUMS.

At the request of my Ministers, the Hon. Mr. Willoughby, Dr. Clark, superintendent of the asylum for the insane, Toronto, and Dr. Ryan, superintendent of the asylum for the insane at Kingston, proceeded during the recess to Great Britain and the continent in order to investigate modern methods of caring for and treating the insane. Their very interesting report will be laid before you.

In accordance with my reference to the subject last year, my Ministers have considered the question of prison labor, with a view to preventing competition with free labor, and the Provincial Secretary and other gentlemen proceeded to several of the prisons in the United States, in order to observe the systems in operation there. The result of their visit will be laid before you, together with interesting and valuable information obtained by them.

LAW REFORM.

My Ministers will propose for your consideration a scheme of law reform, with a view to decreasing appeals, expediting trials, and lessening the cost of litigation.

A bill to rearrange the constituencies of the province, in order, as far as possible, to equalize representation, will be laid before you.

TEACHERS' SALARIES.

The large increases in the appropriations for the teachers' salaries, additional Normal Schools, and various other educational purposes, have received the commendation of the public, and you will be asked now to consider increased appropriations for urban schools. The policy of throwing open the publication of text books to public competition has led to considerable reductions in the prices of school reading books, and it is confidently hoped that reductions in the prices of other books will result from an extension of this policy.

Bills will be laid before you in amendment of various enactments of a public nature, now on the statute book, including the Mining Laws, the Liquor License Act, the Act creating the Railway and Municipal Board, the Public Lands Act, the Free Grants Act, the Supplementary Revenue Act, and the Ontario Shops Regulation Act.

CONFERENCE WITH DOMINION.

Owing to the steady increase of settlement, it has been found necessary to create the new judicial district of Rainy River.

A conference has been held with the Dominion Government with a view to adjusting the differences which have arisen relating to the respective jurisdictions of the Dominion and the province on the subject of railway and other companies, and it is to be hoped that a satisfactory solution will be found.

REVENUES BUOYANT.

You will be glad to learn that the revenues of the province are largely in excess of the estimates, and more than sufficient to meet the public expenditure during the year.

The public accounts will be laid before you for your consideration at the earliest moment, and the estimates for the coming year will also be submitted for your approval at an early day.

KAID MACLEAN IS FREE.

Raisulu Sent Him to Tangier With an Escort.

A despatch from Tangier says: Kaid Sir Harry MacLean, commander of the Sultan's body-guard, and next to the Sultan the most influential man in Morocco, has arrived here under an escort from the bandit, Raisuli, who has held him in bondage for the past seven months. He was brought here in accordance with an agreement which the British Government finally succeeded in making with Raisuli for his release, in return for which Great Britain will pay $100,000 to Raisuli and guarantee him protection and immunity from arrest. Raisuli captured the Kaid on July 3 by a rather clever ruse. The bandit chief had been negotiating with the Sultan, and had shown some willingness to meet the wishes of the Moroccan authorities.

CATTLE DISEASE OUTBREAK.

Eighty-one Out of Herd of 111 Infected in Scotland.

A despatch from London says: A serious outbreak of the foot-and-mouth disease has occurred in Scotland. Eighty-one of a herd of 111 cattle are affected. It is eight years since the last outbreak, and this is bound to deter the agitation for the importance of Canadian cattle. The Tribune thinks the outbreak justifies Lord Carrington's decision to safeguard Britain from disease, by excluding Canadian cattle.

THOUSANDS OF EMPTY CARS

American Railway Association Considering Decrease in Traffic.

A despatch from Chicago says: A special meeting of the American Railway Association to consider the decrease in traffic which had resulted on January 22 in a surplus of 339,053 cars began in Chicago on Wednesday. The decrease is shown to be startling from the report of the Deficiency Committee on February 6, 1907, when a shortage of 104,226 cars was reported. The association will probably suspend the per diem charges for cars retained in the service of railroads other than the owners. The railroads would prefer to let other roads use their cars free of charge rather then be forced to haul and store them over their own systems.

BRITISH MURDER MYSTERY.

Entire Family, Including Two Servants, Shot to Death.

A despatch from London says: The little Buckingham village of Fawley was shocked on Sunday by the discovery of a quintuple murder. The scene of the tragedy was the residence of F. H Holmes, who was known to be wealthy. A gradener who was working outside the house, alarmed at its unusual quietness so late in the morning, entered and found successively the bodies of two women servants, Mrs. Holmes and her daughter, all lying in bed in different rooms. Each had been shot in the head. Later the body of Mr. Holmes was found in a nearby wood. He, too, had been shot in the head. Whether he committed suicide or not is a mystery.

Montreal bakers have advanced the price of bread.

LEADING MARKETS

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, Feb. 11—Manitoba Wheat—No 1 northern, $1.19; No. 2 northern, $1.14; feed wheat, 66c; No. 2 feed, 61c lake ports.

Ontario Wheat—No. 2 white, 97c to 98c; No. 2 red, 96½c to 97½c; No. 2 mixed, 96½c to 97c; goose, 92c to 93c.

Barley—No. 2, 70c to 72c.

Flour—Winter wheat patents, $3.60 for export; Manitoba patents special brand, $5.80 to $6; seconds, $5.25 to $5.40; strong bakers', $5.10 to $5.30.

Peas—84c outside.

Rye—No. 2, 81c to 82½c outside.

Corn—No. 3 yellow American, 63½c to 64c, Toronto freights. Old corn, about 72c; none offering; inferior, 61½c to 63c.

Buckwheat—No. 2, 65½c to 66c.

Bran—$22.50 outside, bags included; $20.80 in bulk; shorts, $24, in bags.

Bran—$22.50 outside; shorts, $24.

Oats—No. 2 white, 51c outside, 52½c to 53c on track Toronto; No. 2 mixed, 49c to 50c outside.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Prices remain unchanged, as the demand is very quiet.

Young turkeys, extra choice.	13c to 15c
Young geese	9c to 11c
Chickens, choice	9c to 11c
Crickens, choice	9c to 11c
Old fowl	6c to 8c
Inferior chicks and fowls	5c to 7c
Butter—	
Creamery prints	28c to 30c
do solids	27c to 28c
Dairy prints	24c to 26c
do solids	22c to 23c
Inferior	20c to 21c

Eggs—Storage, 21c to 22c per dozen, in case lots; selects, 25c to 26c; new-laid, 29c to 30c.

Cheese—Steady at 13½c for large and 13¾c for twins, in job lots here.

Beans—$1.70 to $1.75 for primes and $1.80 to $1.85 for hand-picked.

Honey—Strained steady at 11c to 12c per pound for 60-pound pails, and 12c to 13c for 5 to 10-pound pails. Combs at $1.75 to $2.50 per dozen.

Baled Straw—Slow at about $10 per ton on track here.

Baled Hay—Timothy is quoted at $16 to $17 in car lots on track here.

Potatoes—70c to 75c per bag in car lots on track here.

PROVISIONS.

Pork—Short cut, $22 to $22.50 per barrel; mess, $18 to $18.50.

Lard—Tierces, 11¾c; tubs, 12c; pails, 12¼c.

Smoked and Dry Salted Meats—Long clear bacon, 9¾c for tons and cases; hams, medium and light, 14c to 15c; hams, large, 12½c to 13c; backs, 16c to 16½c; shoulders, 10c; rolls, 10c to 10½c; breakfast bacon, 15c; green meats out of pickle, 1c less than smoked.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, Feb. 11.—A large volume of business is being transacted in the local flour market. Choice spring wheat patents, $6.10; seconds, $5.50; winter wheat patents, $5.75; straight rollers, $5.50; do., in bags, $2.65; extra, $2.05 to $2.10.

Manitoba bran, $23 to $23.50; middlings $27 to $29 per ton, including bags; milled mouille, $28 to $32, and pure grain mouille, $35 to $37 per ton.

Rolled oats, $2.75; corn, $1.60 to $1.70 per bag.

Eastern Canadian No. 2 white oats, 53c; No. 3, 50c; No. 4, 48c; rejected, 47c and Manitoba rejected, 49c to 49½c per bushel, ex-store.

The local cheese situation is unchanged. September westerns are selling at 13c to 13¼c for white and 13¼c to 13½c for colored.

Butter—A very active demand prevails. Grass goods, 26c to 28c; current receipts, 25c to 27c.

There are no changes in the local egg situation. New-laid, 33c to 35c; selects, 24c to 27c; No. 1 limed, 20c to 22c; No. 2, 15c to 17c.

The hay market is unchanged. No. 1, $15 to $16; No. 2, $14 to $15.50; clover, $12 to $12.50 per ton in car lots.

Provisions—Barrels short cut mess, $22.50 to $23; quarter-barrels, $11.75 to $12.25; clear fat back, $23.20 to $24.50; long cut heavy mess, $21 to $24; half-barrels do., $10.50 to $11.25; dry salt long clear backs, 10¾c to 11¼c; barrels plate beef, $13.50 to $16; half-barrels do., $7.25 to $7.75; barrels heavy mess beef $10 to $11; half-barrels do., $5.50 to $6; compound lard, 10c to 11c; pure lard, 12½c to 13c; kettle rendered, 12½c to 13c; hams, 12c to 13½c, according to size; breakfast bacon, 14c to 15c; Windsor bacon, 14½c to 15½c; fresh killed abattoir dressed, $8.50 to $8.75; live, $6.25 to $6.50.

BUFFALO MARKET.

Buffalo, Feb 11.—Wheat—Spring firm; No. 1 Northern, $1.09¾; No. 2 red, $1.01; Winter firm . Corn—Higher; No. 2 white, 59c. No. 2 yellow, 59½c. Oats—Strong; No. 2 mixed, 51¾c; No. 2 white, 55c. Barley—$1 to $1.15. Rye—No. 1, 91c on track.

NEW YORK WHEAT MARKET.

New York, Feb. 11.—Wheat — Spot steady; No. 2 red, $1.00¼ in elevator and $1.02¼ f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 northern Duluth, $1.16¼ f.o.b. afloat; No. 2 hard winter, $1.01¾ f.o.b. afloat.

CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, Feb. 11.—Very few export cattle were offering, and quotations were nominal at former prices. There was a good demand for choice butcher cattle. Three straight loads of these sold at $4.70, $4.80 and $4.85. Prices of cows were unchanged, a number of choice selling at $3.50 to $4.

Stockers were in little demand, a few light ones selling for $3.

Good calves brought slightly better prices. A bunch of about 50 brought an average price of $7 each.

The market for sheep was steady, and prices about the same. Good lambs were firm, and brought as high as $6.50 in some cases.

The price of hogs is reported unchanged, though very few are offering. Light hogs are quoted at $5.15 and heavies at $4.90.

TEN MEN KILLED IN MINE

Deadly Explosion at Port Hood, Cape Breton, N. S.

A despatch from Halifax, Nova Scotia, says: The worst disaster which ever took place in Inverness County occurred in the mine on Friday morning. A terrific explosion of gas in one of the balances of the south level was the cause of the instant death of ten miners. The men had just descended into the pit and were about beginning work when the calamity happened.

Manager McLellan organized and headed a rescue party, and proceeded immediately to the scene of the disaster. The position of the bodies when found indicated that the men did not receive a moment's warning. In the hands of some were pick-axes, augers and other working tools, held firmly in a death grasp. Of the ten men killed, six were miners, natives of the town and neighboring districts, and four were loaders, Bulgarians, of a party of 20 who arrived here about two months ago. The names of the dead miners are: John Campbell, Duncan R. McDonald, Malcolm Beaton, Lauchlan Gillis, Wm. McKendie, A. R. McDonald. They were all, with one exception, young men recently married.

After several hours' arduous work the bodies were all brought to the surface, absolutely unrecognizable, being terribly burned and disfigured. Several had their arms and legs broken; others had their skulls crushed in.

There is considerable speculation as to the cause of the explosion. The mine had been pronounced recently one of the best ventilated in the province. If there was any gas present in the mine previous to the explosion it was not generally known. It is said that none could be detected immediately after, and that the mine is now completely free from gas. The inspector made his usual rounds of the mine about two hours before the accident and pronounced all safe.

The explosion did not wreck the mine very much, and apart from the loss of life, would not be considered serious. So terrific was the explosion that miners in the north level, 3,000 feet distant, were thrown to the ground.

FELL DEAD IN RINK.

Sudden End of Young Bank Clerk While Skating at Montreal.

A despatch from Montreal says: A young Englishman named Reginald Boultbee, employed in the Molsons Bank here, died suddenly of heart disease at the M. A. A. A. open-air rink on Saturday night. He had been skating a good deal and went into the warming shanty, after which he returned to the ice, but just as he started to skate he collapsed, and was dead when his friends picked him up. Doctors who examined him said the young man had suffered from heart disease for some time, and that his death was caused by the exercise, coupled with the sudden change in the heat of the room to the temperature of fifteen beolw zero outdoors.

BOMBS IN THE PALACE.

Seventeen Discovered in the Residence of the Czar.

A despatch from Paris says: The Memorial Diplomatique declares that recent rumors of the assassination of the Emperor of Russia were the outgrowth of the actual finding by the Empress upon her son's bed a letter announcing that the Emperor and infant were condemned to death, and of the discovery in the Imperial palace of seventeen bombs, connected with electric wires, concealed in different parts of the building.

CHILDREN GOT OUT SAFELY.

Fire Scorches a Public School at Strathroy, Ont.

A despatch from Strathroy says: The Maitland Street school caught fire on Thursday morning about 10.34 o'clock, but the building was not destroyed, and all the children were got out of the four rooms in safety. The extent of the damage is not known.

FIRE AT GORE BAY.

Gamey Block Badly Scorched—The Loss is $10,000.

A despatch from Gore Bay says: At 7 o'clock on Saturday morning fire broke out in the basement of the new three-storey Gamey Block, completely burning the interior. The walls and roof, however, are not much damaged. Muray's law office and Gamey's harness stock are a complete loss. Hurst and Burk's, bankers, office, and the Masonic lodge furniture and the opera house furniture, in the top flat, were saved. The damage is $10,000 on the building.

FELL INTO SCALDING WATER.

Employe of London Factory Suffers Terrible Injuries.

A despatch from London says: Walter Guymer, of 715 Adelaide street, was severely scalded from his waist down, in an accident that happened at the Bolt Works on Wednesday afternoon. Young Guymer is 16 years old, and is employed at odd jobs about the place. In the building are a number of large vats full of water, which are used to cool the red-hot iron, and at times these become almost boiling. They are usually covered, but it seems that the cover was left off on Tuesday and the boy walked into it. His cries attracted the attention of the men nearby, who at once came to his rescue.

BRITISH TRADE.

January Returns Show Decrease Both in Imports and Exports.

A despatch from London says: The January trade returns show an all round decrease in imports to the amount of 7 per cent. and in exports to the amount of rather less than 2 per cent. The value of imported raw materials declined $9,466,710 and that of manufactured $12,000,500.

WOLVES DECIMATING DEER.

Slaughter in Quebec Phenomenal — Bounty is Too Small.

A despatch from Ottawa says: Mr. J. McCrea, of River Dumoine, who is in the city, says that perhaps never before in modern times have deer been so often victims to packs of wolves as this winter. The slaughter of these animals is tremendous. He saw nearly a dozen carcasses lying in a space of about eight acres. He thinks the Quebec bounty upon wolves too small.

WOMAN'S TERRIBLE ORDEAL

Aged Lady Beaten By Son With Axe Helve Died of Injuries.

A despatch from Halifax says: An investigation held on Wednesday at Ohio, a village about seven miles from Yarmouth, disclosed a shocking state of affairs. Three weeks ago an aged woman named Caroline Hilton complained to the stipendiary magistrate that she had been beaten by her son Ebenezer, who used an axe handle as the implement of punishment. He was immediately apprehended and on trial was found guilty and sentenced to a year and a half in the common jail.

On Friday last the woman died, and Rev. Mr. Saunders, pastor of the Baptist church at Ohio, refused to bury her until an inquest had been held. Accordingly Coroner A. M. Perrin, M. D., was summoned and held an inquest on Wednesday.

Three witnesses were examined, the wife of Ebenezer Hilton, his daughter and the husband of the latter. The evidence showed that the son had beaten his mother into insensibility, had dragged her over the frozen ground, and kicked her. It was furthermore brought out that he had threatened to take her life. The evidence established the fact that the woman had never revived after her terrible ordeal.

The jury found that death had been caused by beating received at the hands of her son together with subsequent neglect, and recommended that the Attorney-General should immediately take the matter up.