OPENING OF PARLIAMENT

Governor-General Read the Speech From the Throne in Senate Chamber.

A despatch from Ottawa says: The formal opening of Parliament took place on Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock, and was attended by the customary ceremonial; the arrival of his Excellency the Governor-General and party from Government House attended by a mounted military escort; the presence of a guard of honor from the Governor-General's Fort Guard, the firing of a salute from Nepean Point battery, and a brilliant assembly in the Senate Chamber, where the speech from the throne was read by his Excellency Earl Grey, outlining the sessional programme of Government business.

TEXT OF THE SPEECH.

In welcoming you to the performance of your duties at the first session of a new Parliament, I desire to acknowledge, with devout thankfulness, the abundant harvest with which divine Providence has again blessed us.

The Quebec Tercentenary festivities in July, which were honored by the gracious presence of his Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, as representing his Majesty, marked an epoch in the history of the Dominion.

IMPERIAL SYMPATHIES.

The generous support given to this national celebration by the Federal Parliament and Provincial Legislatures, and by the peoples of Canada, of the other Dominions, and of the United Kingdom, emphasized the community of sympathy which binds the various parts of the British Empire to each other, and to the throne and person of his Majesty the King. The presence of representatives from the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Newfoundland, and from the great and friendly republics of France and the United States, with the ships of war of the three nations, served not only to add lustre to the occasion, but to provide an assurance of increasing amity and peace.

U. S. TREATY READY.

I have much pleasure in announcing that a treaty relating to the great lakes and other international waterways has been agreed upon between his Majesty and the Government of the United States of America, and is now awaiting ratification. Both countries are to be congratulated on having arrived at an amicable settlement, which I trust will remove during the lifetime of the treaty many vexed questions from the field of controversy. The treaty and papers relating thereto will be laid before you in due course.

ASSISTANCE TO SICILY.

The appalling calamity which has befallen Sicily and Southern Italy, and caused a total destruction of life and property absolutely unprecedented and unequalled in the long series of historic disasters, has induced my Government to offer assistance.

DEPRESSION CALLS FOR CAUTION.

A little more than a year ago, the whole civilized world entered into a period of commercial, industrial and financial depression, which may not yet have completely spent its force; signs there are, however, that it is gradually passing away. While it is hardly disputable that owing to the abundance and elasticity of her resources Canada has suffered less than other nations, this depression has seriously affected our trade, producing an appreciable shrinkage in the public revenue, and calling for exceptional caution in the administration of our national affiairs.

PART OF G. T. P. WORKING.

The rapid settlement of the new Provinces calls for new lines of transportation. The construction of the trans-continental railway has been vigorously pressed forward during the last year. The line was open for the carrying of the crops from Winnipeg to the Battle River, a distance of 675 miles.

Exploratory surveys for a railway from the Western wheat fields to Hudson's Bay are being pushed energetically. Four parties have been at work since August last. Upon the report it will be possible to reach a decision as to both the route to be followed and the approximate cost.

COVERS COST OF H. B. LINE.

The provision of the Dominion Lands Act of last session for the sale of pre-emptions and purchased homesteads has created a new source of revenue that will be sufficient to bear the cost of the railway to Hudson's Bay without burdening the ordinary revenue. From September 1st, when the Act came into force, until Jan. 1st, sales of pre-emptions and purchased homesteads have amounted to over two million acres, all subject to homestead rules.

FEEDERS FOR I. C. R.

In pursuance of an announcement made during the concluding session of last Parliament, a commission was appointed to examine various lines of railway connected with the Intercolonial Railway, and which might become valuable feeders thereto. The report of this commission has been received and will be placed before you.

The commissioner appointed for investigating the conduct of officials in the Department of Marine and Fisheries has concluded his labor, but has not yet reported. His report, however, is expected at an early date, and when received will be placed in your hands.

A measure will be submitted to you, based upon similar legislation enacted in 1906 by the Parliament of the United Kingdom, aiming at the repression of the payment of secret commissions and gratuities both in public and private business.

You will be asked to consider measures relative to insurance, the civil service, immigration, naturalization, and other subjects.

BISHOP SWEATMAN DEAD.

Anglican Primate Falls a Victim to Pneumonia.

A despatch from Toronto says: Most Reverend Arthur Sweatman, M.A., D.C.L., LL.D., Archbishop of Toronto, Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Eastern Canada and Primate of All Canada, passed away at the See House on Howald Avenue about fifteen minutes after one o'clock on Sunday afternoon. So quietly and peacefully did the end come that those around the bedside could hardly tell when the last breath was drawn. The last brief period of consciousness had been early in the morning, when the commendatory office of the Church had been said by Rev. Canon Macnab. At the time of the death those in the room were the family, Canon Macnab, Dr. Harrington and the nurse.

A HEAVY QUAKE.

Refugees at Reggio and Messina Panic-stricken.

A despatch from Reggio says: Several earthquake shocks were experienced here on Saturday morning. These were preceded by rumblings, and the strongest and longest seismic movement was felt at 5.20. A few minutes later there was a short shock, which was said to be as intense as the earth-quake on Dec. 28, when Messina and Reggio were overwhelmed. The walls of damaged houses fell and the panic among the refugees was indiscribable.

TONS OF DYNAMITE BLEW UP

Four Killed and Ten Injured at Works in New Jersey.

A despatch from Newark, N. J., says: Four men were killed and ten others injured, one fatally, when several tons of dynamite in one of the buildings of the Forcite Powder Works, at Lake Hopatcong, blew up late on Wednesday. The detonation shook the country for miles around, and blew the building containing it to atoms. Of the fourteen men who were working, not one escaped death or injury.

TRAGEDY AT KRONAU, SASK.

Mrs. Frank Engle and Four Children Were Burned to Death.

A despatch from Kronau, Sask., says: While Frank Engle, a well-to-do farmer, was absent from home fire destroyed his house, his wife and four children, the eldest ten years of age, perishing in the flames. One boy sixteen years old, who slept downstairs, escaped. The mother, who also slept downstairs, attempted to rescue the children that were asleep upstairs, but was suffocated before she could reach them. The boy who escaped made three unsuccessful attempts to rescue the family, but was driven back each time, the stairs giving way in the last attempt. The fire started about 1 o'clock on Wednesday morning from an overheated stovepipe. Mr. Engle was on a business trip to Milestone when the terrible calamity occurred.

CONDENSED NEWS ITEMS

HAPPENINGS FROM ALL OVER THE GLOBE.

Telegraphic Briefs From Our Own and Other Countries of Recent Events.

CANADA.

Building prospects at Winnipeg this year are exceedingly good.

The civil servants at Ottawa have received an increase of $150 each.

The total output of Ontario mines in 1907 aggregated in value $25,000,000.

Mr. F. W. Morse, Vice-President and General Manager of the Grand Trunk Pacific, has resigned.

The fire underwriters have decided upon a reduction of ten per cent. on the rate on dwellings in Toronto.

Hyde Park Public School, near London, Ont., has been closed on account of an outbreak of diphtheria.

Joint stock companies incorporated in Ontario in 1907 and 1908 have an aggregate capitalization of $600,000,000.

Mrs. J. O. Filteau was burned to death at Quebec in a fire that destroyed the Beland building, on Thursday.

The Ontario Government is considering the question of extending the T. & N. O. Railway from Charlton to Elk Lake.

So great is the rush into the Elk Lake mineral district that a fourth assistant has been despatched to aid the mining recorder.

The Attorney-General has addressed a strong letter to Police Magistrates in regard to law enforcement against disorderly houses

A C. P. R. express was wrecked near Andover, N. B., on Thursday The express, mail and baggage cars were burned. The mails were saved.

Oliver Pepin was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment for assaulting a jeweller's store at Montreal and attempting to rob the store.

Mrs. Eccles Lennox is suing the C. P. R. for damages for the death of her husband, who was murdered in the company's yard at Winnipeg.

Negotiations between the city and the street railway at Winnipeg have been broken off, and the Council will go ahead with the municipal power plant.

A plumber named Royal was suffocated while working in the Cote des Neiges College at Montreal, on Thursday. His torch exploded, and he could not get out.

Hon. Mr. Calder announced in the Saskatchewan Legislature that the Government were negotiating with the Bell Company for the purchase of the telephone system in the Province.

Over five hundred loaves of bread were seized in a Jewish bakery at Winipeg, for being short in weight. The proprietor offered a bribe of $100 to the officials, and will have to answer in court.

Gilbert Brooks and David Frederick were drowned by driving into a hole in the ice near Trenton, on Thursday night. Mr. Brooks saved his wife and her sister, and in trying to save Frederick lost his own life.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The London unemployed had a clash with the police in Berkeley Square on Thursday.

It is reported in London that Lord Northcote will probably be the next Governor-General of Canada.

The Canadian issue of ten pound bonds to encourage the small investor is favorably commented on in England.

UNITED STATES.

Two men were drowned in one foot of water near Plattsburg, N.Y.

A Long Island girl swallowed half a paper of pins, so that she would not have to go to school.

Eleven foreigners, stupid from liquor taken at a wedding, were burned to death at Goodtown, Pa.

Both Houses of the Tenessee Legislature passed the Prohibition act over the Governor's veto on Wednesday.

The Waterways Treaty between Canada and the United States has been favorably reported to the United States Senate.

President Roosevelt has asked that action on the anti-Japanese bills now before the California Legislature be delayed.

Governor Deneen of Illinois, in his message to the State Assembly, urged the completion of a lakes-to-gulf deep waterway.

Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison, the three American labor leaders, have declared that they will ask no pardon in connection with their recent conviction.

Frank H. Bell of Toronto has entered an action in the Probate Court at Boston to break the will of his mother, who, thinking him dead, had left her property to others.

GENERAL.

Half a million suicides yearly are said to be due to the use of opium.

A wide-spread plot, having for its aim the overthrow of the constitution, has been discovered in Turkey.

THE WORLD'S MARKETS

REPORTS FROM THE LEADING TRADE CENTRES.

Prices of Cattle, Grain, Cheese and Other Dairy Produce at Home and Abroad.

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, Jan. 26.—Flour — Ontario wheat 90 per cent. patents quoted at $3.70 to $3.75 to-day in buyers' sacks outside for export. Manitoba flour, first patents, $5.80 on track, Toronto; second patents, $5.30, and strong bakers', $5.10 to $5.20.

Wheat—Manitoba wheat, $1.09 to $1.09½ for No. 1 Northern, at $1.06 to $1.06½ for No. 2 Northern, and at $1.04 for No. 3 Northern, Georgian Bay ports. No. 1 Northern at $1.13½ to $1.14, all rail, and No. 2 Northern at $1.10½ to $1.11, all rail.

Oats—Ontario No. 3 white at 39½ to 40c outside, and at 42 to 42½c on track, Toronto; No. 2 Western Canada oats at 45c, lake ports, and No. 1 feed, 42c, lake ports.

Rye—No. 2 quoted at 69 to 70c outside.

Barley—No. 2 barley quoted at 56 to 57c outside; No. 3 extra at 54 to 55c, and No. 3 at 52 to 53c.

Buckwheat—56 to 56½c outside.

Peas—No. 2 quoted at 86 to 87c outside.

Corn—No. 2 American yellow nominal at 67½c, on track, Toronto, and No. 3 yellow at 66½c, Toronto; Canadian, 64c.

Bran—Cars are quoted at $19.50 in bulk outside. Shorts quoted at $21 to $22 in bulk outside.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Apples—Winter stock quoted at $3.50 to $4.50 per barrel for good qualities, and at $2 to $3 for cooking apples.

Beans—Prime, $1.85 to $1.90, and hand-picked, $1.95 to $2 per bush.

Honey—Combs, $2.25 to $2.75 per dozen, and strained, 10½ to 11c per pound.

Hay—No. 1 timothy is quoted at $11 per ton on track here, and No. 2 at $8.

Straw—$7 to $7.50 on track.

Potatoes—Ontarios 60 to 62½c per bag.

Poultry—Chickens, dressed, 11 to 13c per pound; fowl, 9 to 10c; ducks 11 to 13c; geese, 11 to 12c; turkeys, 17 to 18c per pound.

THE DAIRY MARKETS.

Butter—Pound prints, 24 to 25c; tubs and large rolls, 22 to 23c; inferior, 20 to 21c. Creamery rolls, 27 to 28c, and solids, 26 to 26½c.

Eggs—Case lots of cold storage, 25 to 26c per dozen; pickled, 24 to 25c, and new laid are quoted at 35c per dozen.

Cheese—Large cheese, 13¼c per pound, and twins, 13½c.

HOG PRODUCTS.

Bacon—Long clear, 10¾ to 11c per pound in case lots; mess pork, $19 to $19.50; short cut, $22.50 to $23.

Hams—Light to medium, 13½ to 14c; do., heavy, 12½c; rolls, 10¼ to 11c; shoulders, 10 to 10½c; backs 16 to 16½c; breakfast bacon, 14½ to 15c.

Lard—Tierces, 12½c; tubs, 12¾c; pails, 13c.

BUSINESS AT MONTREAL.

Montreal, Jan. 26.—Peas — No. 2, 94 to 95c. Oats—Canadian Western No. 2, 47c; extra No. 1 feed, 46½c; No. 1 feed, 45½c; Ontario No. 2 white, 45½c; Ontario No. 3, 44½c; Ontario No. 4, 43½c; No. 2 barley, 63 to 64½c; Manitoba feed barley, 55½ to 56c; buckwheat, 55½ to 56c. Flour—Manitoba Spring wheat patents, firsts, $5.60 to $5.90; Manitoba Spring wheat patents, seconds, $5.10 to $5.40; Manitoba strong bakers', $4.90 to $5.20; Winter wheat patents, $5 to $5.25; straight rollers, $4.60 to $4.70; do., in bags, $2.15 to $2.25; extras, in bags, $1.75 to $1.85. Feed—Manitoba bran, $21 to $22; Manitoba shorts, $24; Ontario bran $21 to $21.50; shorts, $24 to $24.50; middlings, $24.50 to $25; pure grain mouille, $28 to $30; mixed mouille, $25 to $27. Cheese—Finest western, 12½ to 12¾c; eastern, 12 to 12½c. Butter — Finest creamery, 26½ to 27c; fresh receipts, 25½ to 26c. Eggs—New laid eggs, 35 to 40c; selected stock, 28 to 29c; No. 1 stock, 25 to 26c.

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Buffalo, Jan. 26. — Wheat — Spring, steady; No. 1 Northern, carloads, store, $1.14⅞; Winter, firmer; No. 2 red, $1.10; No. 2 extra red, $1.08½; No. 2 white, $1.08; No. 2 mixed, $1.09. Corn —Higher; No. 3 yellow, 63½ to 64c; No. 4 yellow, 63 to 63⅛c; No. 4, 62¼ to 62¾c; No. 3 white, 66¼c; No. 2 red, on track, 80½c.

Minneapolis, Jan. 26.—Wheat — May, $1.08⅝; July, $1.08¾; No. 1 hard, $1.11 to $1.11⅜; No. 1 Northern, $1.10⅜; No. 2 Northern, $1.08⅛ to $1.08⅜; No. 3 Northern, $1.04⅜ to $1.06⅜. Bran—$19.00 to $19.50. Flour—First patents, $4.05; second patents, $5.25 to $5.45; first clears, $4 to $4.10; second clears, $2.95 to $3.05.

Milwaukee, Jan. 26.—Wheat — No. 1 Northern, $1.12; No. 2 Northern, $1.10; May, $1.07¾ to $1.07⅞ asked. Rye—No. 1, 77½c. Corn—May, 61⅞c asked. Barley—Standard, 66c; samples, 61½ to 65c; No. 3, 61½ to 63c; No. 4, 61 to 62c.

CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, Jan. 26.—Exporters — Good demand for choice bulls and steers. Butchers'—Best quality and heavy cattle in strong demand at firm prices. All others down. Milch cows in active demand, but common not wanted. Calves — Steady at last week's prices. Sheep and lambs—Market steady at lower prices. Hogs—Steady and unchanged. Stockers—Good demand and market steady to firmer at $3 to $3.75; good heavy feeders, $4 to $4.25; short-keep, $4.50 to $4.60.

RAILWAY COMPANY BLAMED

Verdict of Coroner's Jury on the Fatality at Grimsby.

A despatch from Grimsby says: Great interest was taken in the enquiry into the level crossing accident at Grimsby, by which five lives were lost. The Town Hall at Grimsby, where the investigation was conducted by Coroner Alexander, was crowded on Wednesday to such extent that standing room was at a premium. The trend of the evidence was solely as to the condition of the crossing where the fatality occurred. It was shown by the evidence of the night operator that there are eight trains in either direction through the night, and that they run at various rates of speed, ranging from twenty-five to forty-five miles an hour.

The jury after a brief consideration, returned the following verdict, which is meeting with general approval throughout the district:—

"That the said Wm. Wilson, Ida Wilson, Geo. Teeter, Jennie Gertrude Teeter, and Gordon Nelson, came to their deaths from being struck by a Grand Trunk express on Depot Street crossing at 2.55 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 16. We exonerate the train crew from any responsibility. We censure the Grand Trunk Railway Company for removing the night watchman when the said crossing had only a single track, and culpable negligence in view of the past accidents, together with the former jury's verdict, for not protecting the said crossing with watchman and gates, and thus preventing the recent accident.

"We also consider this an extremely dangerous crossing, and recommend the Railway Commission to take steps at once to have the said crossing properly protected."

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

Reports for the Year Ending March 31 Last Presented.

A despatch from Ottawa says: The public accounts for the fiscal year ended March 31 last year were presented on Thursday to parliament. Receipts on account of consolidated fund were $96,954,505; expenditures, $76,641,451. Expenditures chargeable to capital totaled $30,429,906, while other expenditures were for railway subsidies $2,037,629; for bounties $2,787,354. The net debt was $277,960,859, an increase of $14,288,999. The year ending March 31, the government made a profit of $284,288 upon its silver coinage, and $4,411 upon its copper coinage.

BIG LINERS IN COLLISION

The Tourist Steamer Republic Rammed in a Dense Fog.

A despatch from New York says: The steamship Republic of the White Star Line, cut down in the fog by the Italian steamer Florida early on Saturday morning, 65 miles from the nearest land, flashed out a call for help while she was sinking that brought to her all of the trans-Atlantic racers within 150 miles, sped up and down the seaboard and over the world and probably saved the lives of her 742 people, passengers and crew.

Helpless and alone in the black fog, except for the crippled Italian, with the sea pouring into her crushed side, the Republic managed to tell her story so briskly and clearly that within a few hours after the collision off Nantucket lightship the world knew that all was well with her people. By nightfall the wireless, flinging out message after message, had told in illuminating dots and dashes the tale of what happened in the fog, and capped the most wonderful story that has come from the sea.

It was not until Saturday afternoon that the officials of the White Star Line received a wireless saying that two of the passengers of the Republic and four of the sailors on the Florida had been killed, and two of the Republic's passengers injured in the collision of the two ships. The despatch said:—"Regret first-class passengers of the Republic, Mrs. E. Lynch and Mr. W. J. Mooney, killed in collision, also Mr. Lynch and Mrs. Murphy badly hurt. RANSON." Capt. Ranson's advices also say that four of the crew of the Florida were killed.

It was the wireless, flashing the news here at 7 a.m., that the passengers had been saved, although the ship was settling, that relieved the dread of thousands of people, friends and relatives of the voyagers.

In short, four hours, perhaps, after the Republic was smitten away out in the Atlantic the world knew that few lives were lost, no matter what was the fate of the vessel herself.

The Canadian Northern Railway Company plans extensions on a large scale.

The explosion of a tank at the Imperial Oil Works at Sarnia on Saturday aroused the whole town. A fire started, but was soon controlled by the company's fire brigade and the town firemen.

53 MEN BURNED TO DEATH

An Explosion at Chicago Caused a Terrible Tragedy.

A despatch from Chicago says: Blown to pieces by exploding powder, burned to death by the resultant fire, or drowned in the icy waters of Lake Michigan, was the fate on Wednesday of fifty-three workmen who were working on a submarine tunnel at a wooden crib, a mile and a half from shore. The crib was used in the construction of a new submarine water tunnel connecting with the south side shore of the city at 73rd Street.

Ninety-five workmen were employed in the crib and the connecting tunnel at the time of the explosion, which started the fire and blew or drove men into the water. Owing to the difficulty experienced by small craft in reaching the crib during the Winter, most of the workmen employed on the work, particularly those who had no families, slept in temporary bunks on the crib. It was just as these men had been awakened for the day's work that the explosion occurred in a small powder house about 100 yards from the crib structure proper. It was not until the flames and stifling smoke penetrated the so-called "living-room" of the crib and the tunnel that the full import of the disaster dawned upon the men.

One of the workmen, with a cooler head than his fellows, abandoned the shouting and frantic men on the crib platform, and made his way through the smoke to a little enclosure in which was a telephone that communicated with the shore station.

CRY FOR HELP CUT SHORT.

The drowsy attendant on shore was brought into action by a violent ringing of the telephone bell, and this was the message which set on foot the work of rescue:

"The crib on fire. For God's sake send help at once or we will be burned alive. The tug——"

At this point communication ceased.

The tug T. M. Moreford, in charge of Capt. Johnson, at anchor within a short distance of the imperiled crib, was the first to get into the work of rescue. The ice made it impossible for the tug to reach the improvised pier, but a small boat was used to carry the injured to the steamer and to rescue those who had plunged into the waters of the lake rather than brave the flames which were raging on the crib structure.