

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24,

# HOUSE RISES TILL TUESDAY.

The Debate on the Address  
Finished on Wednesday.

## MR. FOY'S SPEECH.

Urges Wider Scope For West  
Elgin Commission.

## MR. CLARKE HAS FLOOR.

Chairman of House Committees—Mr.  
Whitney Receives a Medal—Ses-  
sional Notes.

The sitting of the Legislature yesterday lasted exactly two hours. Mr. J. J. Foy (South Toronto) occupied the greater part of the time, and then gave place to Mr. Clarke (West Northumberland). The latter spoke to a very slim House, and, probably for this reason, moved the adjournment of the debate. There is little or no private members' business, so the House adjourned until Tuesday. A division is likely to be reached on Wednesday night.

### Breach of Rules.

Mr. Speaker drew attention to the fact that members of the House were in the habit of infringing a very important rule of Parliamentary procedure, and referring to each other in debate as "you" instead of "the hon. member." Such a habit did not conduce to the dignity of debate and was likely to result in acrimony. The correction of this departure from true Parliamentary practice would leave little to be desired on the part of the Assembly.

### When the Debate Closes.

Mr. Whitney desired to know whether the Premier could not bring down the public accounts and copies of the report of the commission on the finances of Ontario forthwith, so that members might prepare themselves for the budget debate.

The Premier stated that he would adhere to correct Parliamentary practice and not submit the reports to the House until the debate on the address was concluded. He proposed if possible to deliver the budget speech on Thursday, but would not expedite its delivery in order to take an undue advantage of the Opposition or deprive them of sufficient opportunity to study the public accounts.

This reply seemed to be satisfactory to the Opposition.

### Mr. Foy Speaks.

Mr. Foy (South Toronto) continued the debate on the address. He did not generally favor an undue prolongation of the debate on the address, but the present was an occasion when full discussion was justifiable. The House would unanimously endorse the reference in the speech from the throne to the South African war. The empire had been attacked, and that meant an attack upon Canada, because no part of the Imperial body could be attacked without attacking the whole organization. This country, therefore, was justified in lending assistance to the mother country in South Africa. (Applause.) Mr. Ross had endeavored to prove that this was a new Government, in the hope that he and his colleagues might be relieved from the odium attaching to past administrative acts. Mr. Foy entirely dissented from that view, and said the Government could not get rid of responsibility by any such pretext. Mr. Holmes had characterized the