

THE MANITOBA ACT ON A REFERENDUM.

To Carry it Will Require a Number of Votes Equal to a Majority of Those Cast at the Coming Provincial General Elections — Would Become Operative May 1, 1904—The Vote Will be on October 14th—Mr. Ross Eloquently Reviews the Whole Situation—Many Opinions Quoted—The Progress of Temperance — The Government Striving Frankly to Redeem Its Pledges.

Immediately upon the opening of the Legislature yesterday Premier Ross introduced his bill respecting the sale of intoxicating liquors, the effect of which is to bring into force the Manitoba liquor act upon its being approved on the 14th of October next by the electors entitled to vote for members of the Legislative Assembly. The act will become operative on May 1, 1904, upon getting a majority vote, provided the total number of votes cast for it shall exceed one-half the number of votes cast in the coming Provincial general election. The address of Premier Ross, in introducing the bill, lasted two hours and ten minutes, and was as follows:—

I beg to move, seconded by Mr. Gibson, for leave to introduce a bill entitled "An act respecting the sale of intoxicating liquors in the Province of Ontario."

In moving the first reading of this bill, of which I gave notice a few days ago, I must ask the indulgence of the House for having to speak at some length, in order to explain some of the more important features of the bill, which I expect the House to consider more fully when it comes to its second reading. I have, in my somewhat extended experience as a member of this House taken part in many discussions

February 12th, 1902.
