

care and thoughtful attention as have heretofore marked the work of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario.

#### Routine Business.

Upon the withdrawal of the Administrator the Speaker took the chair, and informed the House of the returns in connection with the election cases, of the vacant seats, of the bye-elections and of the returns received.

The Premier introduced the time-honored bill to provide for the administration of oaths of office to persons appointed as Justices of the Peace. He also moved that the speech from the throne be considered to-day, and that the usual select standing committees be appointed.

The House adjourned at 3.40 p.m.

#### Notes.

Mr. Andrew Miscampbell, ex-M.P.P., of Sault Ste. Marie, was among the visitors at the opening yesterday.

Mr. Arch. Hislop, the member for East Huron, though present, was quite lame. He was kicked by a horse on Monday.

The House will take up the debate on the address this afternoon, the mover and seconder being respectively Mr. Mackay and Mr. Stock. It is probable that Premier Ross and Mr. Whitney will participate before the 6 o'clock adjournment.

### **BILLS ANNOUNCED.**

#### **Notice of Important Government Measures.**

The following notices of motions were given:—Mr. Ross—To amend the assessment act; regarding electoral power and transmission. Mr. Gibson—To amend and consolidate the municipal act. Mr. Davis—To amend the act respecting land grants to the veterans of 1866 and others. Mr. Stratton—To amend the license act. Mr. Harcourt—To amend the public and high schools act. Mr. Latchford—Bill respecting the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway.

Mr. Preston has given notice of two bills to amend the municipal act; also a bill to regulate the speed and operation of automobiles and motor vehicles on highways.

One of Mr. Preston's bills, of which he has given notice, will give municipalities power under certain restrictions to go into the fuel business. It will provide that municipal Councils may take money out of current rates for the purpose of buying fuel and selling it; but if they want to exceed what they can take out of current rates for one year, they must submit a by-law to the people.

### **VETERANS WANT FREE GRANTS**

#### **Men of '66 Think No Settlement Duties Should be Required.**

The veterans of the 16th Regiment (Prince Edward) will petition the Legislature to amend the act regarding land grants in New Ontario to veterans. They point out that it would be impracticable for veterans of '66 to perform the duties required as settlers or to have them satisfactorily performed: The petition therefore asks "That the Government relieve them of the burden of doing settlers' duties upon lands located to them.

"That every veteran entitled to land may receive a free grant and be permitted, as of right, to sell or devise to any other person the land so granted free from settlement duties."

The petition appears to have been drawn under a misapprehension, for the land grants act does not require veterans to perform settlement duties during the first ten years, provided the lands are held by the original locatee or his heirs, executors or administrators, but upon the transfer of such lands to any other person, such exemption ceases.