

at Cobalt and vicinity; and the investigation and working of the Gillies limit have been very satisfactory.

The Immigration Question.

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.

Care of the Insane.

At the request of my Ministers, the Honorable 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.

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.

More for Education.

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 books, 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 shop regulation act.

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

About Provincial Rights.

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.

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 for the year.

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.

The Business Side.

Then there was a momentary pause in the proceedings, his Honor left the dais, the attendant aides melted away, and disclosed, as it were, the business side of the Legislature as expressed by the seatless group of Ministers standing on the right and the leaders of the Opposition, foremost among whom was the Hon. A. G. MacKay, who in the course of the next two days is to make his maiden speech in the House as leader of his Majesty's loyal Opposition. Gowned and wearing the three-cornered hat prescribed by custom, the Hon. Thomas Crawford, Speaker of the Legislature, took his seat in the new chair, backed by the arms of the Province, which has been made for him. In connection with the Speaker's chair a pretty custom prevails. When the holder of that important office retires his chair becomes his personal property. Death called the last Speaker, the Hon. J. W. St. John, and his chair is now in the possession of his widow.

Three New Members Introduced.

The prayers asking that the Legislature in its duties might be favored with Divine guidance having been read by the Speaker, he announced the vacancies and elections which had taken place since last the Assembly met, and then the three new supporters of the Government were introduced. Mr. A. E. Donovan, the successor of the Hon. Geo. P. Graham as member for Brockville, was first introduced by the Premier and Mr. J. S. Gallagher, M.P.P. "Let the honorable member take his seat," said the Speaker, after the formal demand had been made, but the hon. member having exchanged a handclasp with the Speaker looked in vain for a seat, and retired into the background. Mr. C. R. McKeown, M.P.P. for Dufferin, was introduced by the Attorney-General, the Hon. J. J. Foy, and Mr. J. S. Duff, M. P. P. for West Simcoe, and Dr. Forbes Godfrey, member-elect for West York, by the Minister of Education, the Hon. Dr. Pyne, and Mr. A. McCowan, M.P.P. for East York.

To vindicate the right of the Legislature to carry on legislation without direct instruction from the Crown, the Premier introduced the usual bill, respecting the administration of oaths of office, which was read a first time, and having moved the appointment of the usual standing committees, the House was adjourned until 3 o'clock this afternoon, when the debate on the ad-

dress in reply to the speech from the throne will be moved by Mr. C. R. McKeown, M.P.P., and seconded by Mr. A. E. Donovan, M.P.P.

Notices of Motion.

Notice of the following Government measures has been given:—

By the Hon. Dr. Reaume, on Tuesday next:—Bill to amend the act respecting the game, fur-bearing animals and fisheries of Ontario; bill to amend the act respecting the local municipal telephone systems.

By the Hon. Mr. Cochrane, on Friday next—Bill to amend the mines act; bill to amend the act to supplement the revenues of the Crown; bill to amend the act respecting free grants and homesteads to actual settlers on public lands; bill to amend the public lands act; bill to amend the act respecting free grants and homesteads in the Rainy River district; bill to amend the forest reserves act.

By the Hon. Mr. Foy, on Friday next—Bill to amend the act respecting elections of members of the Legislative Assembly; bill to amend the act respecting controverted elections of members of the Legislative Assembly; bill to amend the act respecting the Legislative Assembly; bill to amend the act respecting the Executive Council; bill to amend the act respecting public officers; bill to amend the act respecting the office of Sheriff; bill to amend the act respecting inquiries concerning public matters.

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