

The Globe.

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AMID SCENES OF BRILLIANCE

Ontario Legislature Formally
Opened by His Honor.

ADDRESS FROM THRONE.

Procedure Changed for First
Time in Century.

Sir James Whitney Introduces Thirty-
three Statute Revision Bills—
Opening Ceremonial One of Social
Eclat—New Members Formally In-
troduced — Cheers From the
Students.

The second session of the twelfth Legislature of Ontario was inaugurated yesterday under the most auspicious circumstances. After a morning of wavering hesitancy, the weather man decided to be generous. Shortly before the hour of opening the sun broke effectively through the clouds and illuminated the brilliant scene at Queen's Park, where cannon boomed and gaily uniformed militiamen paced the snow-clad enclosure at the entrance to the Parliament buildings.

The function is one of perennial interest, and was characterized with all the traditional ceremonial and social eclat. There was not, it is true, the same number present as last year, but this was due to the fact that there had been a certain restriction in regard to the number of tickets issued, with a view to preventing the somewhat unseemly confusion and crowding which took place last year. With the same object in view the rule that all having tickets for admission to the floor and galleries of the Chamber should be in their places before 2.30 o'clock was strictly enforced. A force of twenty police kept the corridors and approaches clear, and as a result of the admirable arrangements the ceremony passed off without the slightest confusion.

A Brilliant Scene.

Within the brightly lighted Chamber was a veritable beauty show. Fashion was out in force, and graceful gowns and flashing uniforms had their background in the sombre hues worn by the Judges, educationists and Church dignitaries. In order that the visitors might be accommodated, rows of chairs were placed in between and

in front of the rows of desks usually occupied by the members and on the floor facing the Speaker's chair.

For the time being the members were relegated to the rear. A few were wedged in the crowd near the entrance. Others more fortunate had inveigled attendants into granting them obscure seats in the public galleries. To the right of the Throne the members of the Cabinet stood in a little group, while to the left was the Opposition leader, Hon. A. G. MacKay, with a couple of his lieutenants.

The Military Manoeuvres.

As early as noon some of the visitors commenced to arrive, but it was an hour later when the stalwarts of the 9th Battery of the Canadian Field Artillery, under Captain C. K. Richardson, by whom the salute of fifteen guns was fired, trailed their way, the first precursors of his Honor. Following, great-coated and with bearskins well pulled down, came the detachment of one hundred rank and file drawn from the 10th Royal Grenadiers, commanded by Captain Hunter and forming the guard of honor. Accompanied by its band, the guard paraded, facing the main entrance to the buildings, with the band of the regiment massed on the right. A few moments later the travelling escort of the gubernatorial carriage loomed in sight, the escort, consisting of a non-commissioned officer and twelve men of the Royal Canadian Dragoons, lined up in front of the guard of honor, the first gun of the salute crashed out, the guard sprang to the "present," and the opening bars of the National Anthem were played as his Honor entered the building to be received by the Premier and a group of officers representing the garrison.

Students Take Part.

An interesting and unique feature of the arrival of his Honor was contributed by the students of the University, who were gathered in front of the buildings. As the gubernatorial party alighted, the students contributed three rousing cheers, following this outburst by a series of their college yells.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, Hon. J. M. Gibson, was accompanied into the Chamber by the Premier, Sir James Whitney, who met him at the threshold. He wore the gubernatorial uniform and cocked hat, and was attended by Major Macdonald, his military Secretary, and an escort consisting of General Cotton, Col. Septimus Denison, Lieut.-Col. Victor Williams, Lieut.-Col. W. C. Macdonald, Lieut.-Col. James Mason, Lieut.-Col. James Grant, Lieut.-Col. Galloway, Lieut.-Col. A. E. Gooderham, Lieut.-Col. D. M. Robertson, Lieut.-Col. F. A. Fleming, Lieut.-Col. Moore, Major Donald, Capt. Young, Capt. Porter, Capt. McCall, Lieut. McBrien and Lieut. Hope Gibson.

Prominent Guests Present.

Among the prominent guests on the floor of the House were: His Grace Archbishop McEvay, Bishop Sweeny, Chief Justice Sir William Meredith, Mr. Justice Teetzel, Mr. Justice Britton, Rev. Father Kidd, Rev. Dr. Carman, Rev. Dr. Briggs, President Falconer, Principal Auden, Mr. Samuel Nordheimer, Col. Sweny, Mr. William Davies, Mr. J. L. Englehart, Mayor Geary, ex-Mayor Oliver, Mayor McLaren (Hamilton), Mr. W. J. Gage, and the representatives of the various Consulates.

His Honor read the following address from the throne:—

Speech From the Throne.

The speech from the throne was as

follows:—

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

I am glad to meet you again as the representatives of the people of Ontario at the opening of another session of the Legislature.

Our thanks are due to Almighty God for another bountiful harvest and for the general prosperity of our people.

It afforded me great pleasure to take part in the welcome accorded, under the auspices of my Ministers, to Sir Lomer Gouin, Prime Minister of the Province of Quebec, a few weeks ago as an acknowledgment of and return for the gracious and generous hospitality of which the First Minister of my Government was the recipient in the city of Quebec on the occasion of the celebration of the founding of that city by Champlain and the nationalization of the Quebec battlefields. Such visits cannot fail to result in strengthening the bonds of mutual affection which should and do exist between all the Provinces of the Dominion.

Restoring Legislative Library.

You will be glad to know that substantial progress has already been made in the restoration of the Legislative Library, which was destroyed by fire some months ago. In this connection we have to acknowledge the prompt and generous assistance accorded by the Dominion Government, and the Governments of all the different Provinces of Canada, as well as the Government of the United States, in replacing important public records that were lost. It is the intention also of his Majesty's Imperial Government to aid in the same way. You will be asked to give a formal expression of thanks of the Legislature for the valuable assistance thus freely afforded by these Governments, as well as by several private donors.

Price of School Books Reduced.

By making advantageous contracts with the publishers, my Government has been able greatly to reduce the price of text-books in the schools of the Province. Adopting the principle of open competition wherever possible in awarding contracts, text-books of the best modern character, both in respect to contents and mechanical production, have been obtained. The public school reading books may now be purchased by parents for their children at one-third of the previous price, and there are corresponding decreases in the cost of other public school and high school text-books.

Expansion in Mineral Industry.

The expansion of the mineral industry goes on apace, the revenue derived therefrom in the ten months preceding the 31st of October, 1909, amounting to about one million dollars. The output of silver from the mines of Cobalt has placed this Province third among the silver-producing communities, and the Sudbury nickel mines now yield the bulk of the world's supply of this metal. During the past year discoveries of gold have been made in northern Ontario, and the prospects are said to be very favorable. It is becoming more and more apparent that in northern Ontario there is a vast store of mineral wealth yet largely undeveloped.

Earnings of Government Road.

During the fiscal year (ten months) ending 31st October, 1909, the Temiskaming & Northern Ontario Railway transported without accident 580,948 passengers, and the total net earnings of the railway for the same period amounted to the sum of \$692,407. There is good ground for the belief that there are no better farm