

## LEGISLATORS BEGIN WORK OF SESSION

Brilliant Ceremonies at Opening by Lieut.-Governor.

### SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

Some Important Legislation is Foreshadowed.

Revenues of Province Considerably in Excess of the Estimates—Bills to Amend the Liquor License Act and Other Public Statutes.

The Legislature of Ontario is in session. Yesterday afternoon, while the guns of the 9th Field Battery were slowly booming out the salute, his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, Hon. J. M. Gibson, attended by Brigadier-General Cotton and his brilliantly uniformed staff, entered the Legislative chamber. He was met upon the threshold by Sir James Whitney and escorted to the Speaker's dais. The speech from the Throne was read, the new addition to the House, Mr. J. Ranson Howitt of South Wellington, was introduced, and twenty-three minutes after his Honor appeared the Premier arose to move the adjournment of the House.

Year after year the opening of the Legislature provides the same unvarying spectacle, but it never loses its interest. Yesterday long before the approach of the gubernatorial party the galleries of the chamber were crowded, and the floor of the House accommodated a throng that in the beauty and fashion of the women and the distinction of the men made the opening of the third session a notable one.

#### New Member is Introduced.

An interesting part of the opening ceremonies was the introduction to the House of Mr. J. Ranson Howitt, the new member for South Wellington. Mr. Howitt was supported to the foot of the Speaker's dais by Sir James Whitney and Captain Machin of Kenora. There was hardly a smile when the sonorous tones of the Hon. Thomas Crawford commanded the new member to "take his seat," and the man from South Wellington glanced around at the rows of seats where the ladies held undisputed possession.

The presentation of Mr. Howitt was followed by the customary first reading of the bill respecting the administration of oaths and the appointment of standing committees.

#### The Speaker Becomes Confused.

The Hon. Thomas Crawford found himself somewhat confused by the ordeal, and during the prayer for the Royal family recited the one used last session, before the death of his late Majesty King Edward. Very few people remarked that the Speaker prayed for "King Edward, Queen Alexandra and Prince George."

#### Lieutenant-Governor Arrives.

About ten minutes before 3 o'clock the guard of honor, composed of one hundred men of the Queen's Own Rifles under the command of Captain

Royce, took up a position near the doorway of the Parliament buildings. The artillery followed, and as the minute-hand of the clock in the Legislative chamber approached the hour the boom of the first shot of the salute announced the arrival of the Lieutenant-Governor and his escort of Dragoons. His Honor upon entering and taking his place upon the dais read the following speech:—

#### The Speech From the Throne.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

It affords me pleasure to meet you again as the representatives of the people of the Province of Ontario at the opening of another session of the Legislature.

Since you last met the people of the British Empire have suffered a great loss in the demise of our gracious and well-beloved Sovereign, King Edward VII., the Peacemaker. Not only his own people but the people of other nations had learned to appreciate highly his late Majesty's qualities of head and heart which made his influence so far-reaching, and rendered it of such value to humanity. In common with all other British subjects, the people of Ontario have welcomed heartily the accession of his gracious Majesty King George V., and we hope and pray that under his reign the happiness and prosperity of the British people may be continued.

Our thanks are again due to Almighty God for a bountiful harvest and for the continued prosperity of our people.

#### Rebuilding Parliament Buildings.

Good progress has been made during the year in the erection of the north wing of the Parliament buildings, and also in the work of reconstruction and fireproofing of the west wing. This work will be carried to completion at as early a moment as will be possible, consistent with a due regard for quality and durability.

Plans are being prepared by the architect of the Department of Public Works for a new residence for the Lieutenant-Governor which will be suitable for all State functions and have an architectural character in keeping with the importance of the Province.

Prison labor has been employed in the construction of roads into the Porcupine mining district, with excellent results. The work has been well done, and the effect on the prisoners has been very beneficial. Temporary premises have been erected on the Central Prison farm, near Guelph; quarries of building stone have been opened; and considerable progress has been made in the erection of permanent buildings.

#### Grant for Technical Education.

The necessity for and the advantages arising out of the adoption of a system of technical and industrial education are becoming more obvious day by day, and you will be asked to make an appropriation for this purpose.

With the view of preserving and increasing the usefulness and beauty of the Algonquin National Park, steps have been taken to extinguish the title of certain timber limit holders of over three hundred and fifty square miles of territory within the limits of the Park.

The output of silver from the mines of Cobalt has been greater than in any previous year, and the discoveries of gold at Porcupine, and the development which has ensued, give promise of richness and permanency.

#### T. & N. O. Reaches G. T. P.

During the past year the Temiskaming & Northern Ontario Railway was completed to Cochrane, on the line of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, a distance of two hundred and fifty-two miles from North Bay, and a large sum has been expended in improving that part of the line previously constructed. There has been a substantial increase in the revenue from the railway over that of the previous year.

An attempt by a syndicate to build an electric railway from the main line of the Temiskaming & Northern Ontario Railway to Porcupine ended in failure, and my Government has undertaken the building of a steam railway, which, it is confidently expected, will be finished not later than 30th June, 1911.