

The Globe.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1917—SIXTEEN PAGES.

LEGISLATURE OPENED WITH USUAL POMP

"Dame Fashion" Still Holds Sway Despite Appeal for Simplicity — Five New Members Make Their Bow —Premier to Move War Resolution

Though as a society function the opening of the Ontario Legislature yesterday afternoon did not compare in splendor with that of pre-war times, there was some comment, on the spectacle in view of the statement recently made that simplicity would rule. Of course, as is pointed out, the dresses were not new, but all the same the view was entertained that afternoon rather than evening gowns would have been better if there was a desire to keep down "show." The restrictions placed on admissions last year, following the Ottawa fire and the scare consequent thereon, were yesterday removed to a large extent and the galleries were practically filled. The floor of the House was also well taken up with notables, Cabinet Ministers, their wives, Church dignitaries, members of the judiciary, M.P.P.'s and others. General Logie and staff standing on either side of the approach to the Throne supplied an appropriate military aspect to the proceedings.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, attended by Col. Alex. Fraser, A.D.C., motored from Government House, the escort being a troop of the Royal Canadian Dragoons, under Lieut. Stetham. A guard of honor from the 208th Battalion, under Capt. J. Skinner, received his Honor in front of the Legislative Buildings, while an artillery salute was fired by the 71st Battery, commanded by Major Burgoyne. Sir William H. Hearst, Premier, received the Lieutenant-Governor at the entrance to the building, and escorted him to the legislative chamber, where proceedings began at 3 o'clock prompt. The reading of the Speech from the Throne and the other formal business occupied a little over twenty minutes.

There Since Confederation.

Mr. F. J. Glackmeyer, Sergeant-at-arms since Confederation, dignified and courtly, again made a splendid impression, and was wearing the Imperial Service Order medal recently conferred upon him.

The new members since last session were introduced to the Speaker, Hon. Dr. Jamieson, and given the right to take their seats. Hon. W. D. McPherson, the new Provincial Secretary, and who was re-elected in Northwest Toronto, was introduced by Premier Hearst and Dr. Pyne. Mr. G. W. Ecclestone, the new M.P.P., was introduced by Hon. G. Howard Ferguson and Hon. T. W. McGarry. There was a ripple of laughter when the member, not fully acquainted with the formalities, made to turn back instead of going forward to the Speaker after Hon. Mr. Ferguson had introduced him at the table. Hon. Mr. McGarry came to the rescue of his untried friend, caught him by the arm, and with an Irish smile gave him the hint to march forward. Mr. W. T. Allan, West Simcoe, was introduced by Hon. I. B. Lucas and Captain J. C. Hartt.

Mr. F. Wellington Hay, the Liberal member for North Perth, and Mr. H. Hartley Dewart, K.C., Southwest Toronto, were also introduced, the former by Mr. C. M. Bowman and Mr. J. C. Elliott, and the latter by Mr. William Proudfoot and Mr. G. C. Hurdman.

Reply to Speech Thursday.

Some formal motions were put through, and Premier Hearst moved that the Address and Reply of the Speech from the Throne be taken up Thursday. The House then adjourned until this afternoon at 3 o'clock, when tributes will be paid to the late Hon. J. S. Duff, the late Hon. J. J. Foy, and the late S. H. Armstrong of Muskoka.

Speech From the Throne.

The Speech from the Throne was in the following terms:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

Since this House was last in session his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught completed his term of office as Governor-General and took his departure for England, accompanied by sincere appreciation of his great services, as well as heartfelt good wishes for the future welfare of himself, his consort and family.

It has been our privilege to receive another distinguished representative of our Sovereign in the person of the Duke of Devonshire, whose practical interest in the industries of the country and devotion to the Empire will prove very helpful at the present time. We join with our people in extending to his Excellency, and also to the Duchess of Devonshire, the daughter of a former Governor-General of Canada, a cordial welcome to the Dominion.

War Situation Improves.

In the great theatre of war Great Britain and her allies have materially improved their position, while preparations for more decisive operations have been advanced on an enormous scale. The proposals for an inconclusive and obviously temporary peace have been met with a firm and united refusal on the part of the allies, who have reaffirmed their determination to establish a lasting peace by enforcing adequate redress and guarantees for the future. In the face of the sacrifices and dangers entailed by the struggle the confidence of our people remains undaunted and the credit of our country unimpaired. As Canadians we glory in the achievements, the valor and the patriotism of the men who have gone and are still going from this country to fight the battles of the Empire, while we recognize that we are under a heavy and lasting obligation alike to them and to their dependents. In this connection I desire to specially emphasize the fact that those of us who cannot give military service have a solemn duty to assist our fighting men by the practice of the utmost thrift and economy, individually and as a people, to the end that the full strength of the nation may be exerted to bring the war to a speedy and victorious conclusion.

Patriotic Givings.

I am glad to observe the splendid response the people of Ontario have made to the various appeals directed to them for war funds. Their contributions to the Red Cross and to the patriotic funds indicate a widespread desire to assist in a special manner these admirable undertakings. Believing that we should help as a Province in the beneficent work carried on by the Canadian Patriotic Fund, my advisors have made a grant of one million dollars to this organiza-