

"The third session of the International Labor Conference, held under the auspices of the League of Nations, was attended by the Minister of Labor in an advisory capacity. Certain subjects were discussed and recommendations made with a view to the improvement of labor conditions by international agreement. These recommendations, which deal mainly with agricultural labor, will afford material for future and mature consideration. For the present session you will be invited to improve and develop existing legislation along lines already undertaken.

Chippawa Opening.

"In December last the first unit of the Queenston-Chippawa development was completed and officially opened, and the plant is now generating power for commercial service. An additional unit is being installed which will shortly double the present capacity. Preparations for completing the development are being carried out by the Hydroelectric Power Commission. The success of the undertaking, both financially and otherwise, is a matter of the utmost importance to the Province as a whole and to the municipalities concerned. The extension of transmission lines to the rural districts is being undertaken.

"The commission appointed to inquire into and report upon the proposed system of radial railways completed its labors some time ago, and its findings will be duly placed before you. In view of the report, and of the changed conditions, my Ministers have found it advisable to avoid further commitments for radial railways until this House shall have had an opportunity to decide as to the policy to be pursued in the future. Legislation dealing with this subject will be submitted to you for your consideration.

"A contract has been entered into by the Timiskaming & Northern Ontario Railway Commission for the construction of the first section of the proposed extension of the railway to James Bay, as authorized two years ago. It is expected that the undertaking will encourage industrial development, facilitate settlement, and contribute to the general prosperity.

Teachers Better Paid.

"Substantial progress is being made in educational matters throughout the Province. School boards have taken steps to provide for the increased number of pupils resulting from the law requiring attendance up to the age of sixteen years, and the work of erecting new buildings and enlarging others has gone forward with commendable vigor. The payment of larger

salaries to teachers has enabled very nearly all the schools to secure properly qualified instructors. The committee of this House appointed last session to study educational matters visited various parts of the Province during the recess, in company with the Minister of Education, and rendered worthy service.

"The improvement of the highways of the Province has been carried on energetically during the past year. Substantial progress has now been made with the necessary preparatory work, and the foundations for the Provincial system of roads are being established on a permanent basis. The advisory assistance given to townships by the Highways Department, and the Provincial grants now made, are building up the minor arteries of the Province, and are co-ordinating the whole undertaking in a practical way. The adaptation of these operations to the actual needs of the people, and the application of a more complete system of maintenance, are ideals to be kept constantly in view.

Inventory of Forests.

"A comprehensive survey of our forest resources has been undertaken by modern methods, and will probably be completed in two or three years. The information obtained will afford reliable data for future operations. In the meantime steps are being taken by means of reforestation and protective measures to prevent the eventual depletion of our timber supply. Large areas are being set aside for this purpose under technically trained

officers, and a planting program is being developed which will insure sufficient growth to continuously replace the annual cut of pine in this Province."

"Legislation has been prepared for the purpose of affording a necessary measure of protection to the investing public. Several bills have been drafted by the Legislative Committee on Insurance. Among other measures in contemplation are bills concerning the mechanics' lien law, the Police Magistrates Act, the Voters' Lists Act, the Probation Act, the Mining Tax Act, the Mining Act, the fish and game laws, the operation of motor busses on Provincial highways, the registration of nurses and the municipal franchise.

"The finances of the Province have been administered with a view to maintaining the balance between receipts and expenditures, and the outlook in this respect is satisfactory. At an early date the public accounts will be laid before you, along with estimates for the current and ensuing fiscal years.

"I commend to your earnest consideration the various measures which will come before you, and I trust that, under the guidance of Providence, your deliberations will promote the welfare of this Province and of all its people."