

BESTOWS PRAISE FOR WORK DONE BY LEGISLATORS

Lt.-Governor Cockshutt Re-views Legislation Enacted During Past Session

FEW AT PROROGATION

Contrasted with the vehemence and vigor of the session, yesterday's prorogation formalities at the Ontario Legislature were exceedingly tame and placid. Just thirty-six people, including the two clerks, were on the floor of the House when his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor delivered his closing address. Of this number about a third were members, and the balance the wives and daughters of members.

There was the usual military tinge to the proceedings outside the Parliament Buildings, where his Honor inspected his guard of honor, drawn from the Royal Canadian Regiment, and in charge of Capt. Skay, M.C. The Royal salute of 21 guns was fired by a detachment of Royal Canadian Field Artillery.

Only Brief Ceremony.

The whole ceremony lasted exactly sixteen minutes, his Honor taking the Speaker's chair at 2.59 p.m. and Hon. H. C. Nixon uttering the prorogation order at 3.15 p.m. About 60 bills were given Royal assent.

The only Ministers present were Hon. Manning Doherty, Hon. H. C. Nixon, Hon. Walter Rollo and Hon. Beniah Bowman.

His Honor's closing address to the Legislature was as follows:

"In bringing this session to a close, I desire to commend your conscientious attention to the arduous and important duties that have devolved upon you. The expansion each year of the public business and the widening of the scope of Provincial activities are increasing the volume of legislation and adding to the labors of the members of this House.

"Reports received from various parts of the Province indicate that the agricultural outlook is exceptionally promising. This is very satisfactory in view of the fact that the prosperity of rural Ontario and the agricultural development of our Northern areas ensure the prosperity of the whole Province. It is my confident hope that we are now entering upon a period of renewed activity which will relieve unemployment and give settled prosperity to our country.

Attention to Education.

"I observe with satisfaction the attention you have given to the cause of education. The appropriation for technical instruction will be employed in part in the establishment of a training college for vocational teachers. It is anticipated, as a result, that the highest positions in the vocational and industrial schools will be filled from our own teaching profession. The work of the Committee on Secondary Education has been completed, and preliminary modifications of the courses of study recommended by the committee are already being followed in the high schools and collegiate institutes. My Government proposes to hold, at an early date, a conference on the subject of secondary educa-

tion with the representatives of the County Councils. A special committee of the Legislature will inquire, during the recess, into matters affecting the Provincial University.

"Our expanding agricultural interests have necessitated enactments designed to encourage production and improved methods, and to provide more efficient marketing facilities. Amendments to the Ontario Farm Loans Act and the Agricultural Development Act have been passed to widen their scope and make them more useful. The Municipal Drainage Act and the Community Halls Act have been amended to make these acts of greater value in the rural community. The Ontario Co-operative Dairy Products, Limited, has been incorporated to stabilize and extend the dairying industry in this Province.

"I observe that much consideration and weight has been given to the findings of the Royal Commission on Radial Railways. Legislation has been adopted under which the Government guarantee for radial railways has been withdrawn, except in respect of commitments already made. Municipalities have been authorized to undertake electric railways on their own behalf and provision has been made for financing such undertakings on a basis which will keep them under the control of the municipalities directly concerned.

"Provision has been made for carrying on the Queenston-Chippawa development and other projects of the Hydro-electric Power Commission. Meanwhile, it has been found advisable, in the public interest, to examine thoroughly into the operations and expenditures of the commission. It is hoped that this inquiry will afford a clear and comprehensive survey of the situation and furnish guidance as to the wisest policy to pursue in the future.

License Fees Capitalized.

"An important step has been taken regarding the Provincial system of highways, by providing that the funds required to carry on and complete the system will be made available as required and the financial burden will be distributed over a period of years. These funds will be obtained by capitalizing a portion of the income to be derived from automobile licenses. It is of special interest to observe that the traffic, which will be largely created by better highways, will ultimately provide for the establishment and maintenance of the system.

"The bill respecting the sale of securities was referred to a special committee of the Legislature, which will hear the views of all parties concerned and present a report next session. I trust that it will be found possible to extend to the investing public the measure of protection contemplated by this legislation.

"Several amendments have been made to the Ontario Temperance Act for the purpose of increasing its efficiency. In this connection a measure has been adopted which places the transportation of liquor on the public highways under the regulation and control of the Provincial License Board. In these and in other ways the protection of the community has been strengthened and the outlook for the future improved.