

Wednesday, Ap. 15<sup>th</sup>

# HOUSE PROROGUES WITH EMPTY SEATS

## Lieutenant-Governor Gives Royal Assent to 132 Bills

### ADDRESS BY HIS HONOR

In marked contrast to the crush of the opening-day ceremonies in February, the Legislature prorogation proceedings at Queen's Park yesterday afternoon were carried out before half-filled galleries and with a mere handful of members and members' wives on the floor of the House. Even the civil servants who flocked to the brilliant House opening barely deigned to look in momentarily at yesterday's function, which was accompanied, however, by the usual military incidents outside the building.

In yesterday's brief proceedings his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor gave Royal assent to 132 bills, which were read over to him by the House Clerk, among them the 1925 O.T.A. amendments, the Gasoline Tax Act, and various others of the legislative items which were the subject of vigorous debates during the session. Yesterday their titles echoed listlessly in a half-empty House, where ten days previously their calling would have prompted half a dozen vehement speeches.

Outstanding in the address of his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, which he read, was a paragraph of reference to the O.T.A. amendments. "The amendments to the Ontario Temperance Act will, I trust," he said, "facilitate the enforcement of the measure and contribute to its efficiency. The fundamental principle of the law has been maintained, while a cause of hostility to it has been removed. The experience in the operation of this act has long pointed to the advisability of amending it so as to create a greater respect for law observance, not only in the interest of this particular enactment, but for the advantage of law and order generally in the community."

The speech makes reference to the favorable outlook for agriculture during the year, comments upon recent observations in Northern Ontario having revealed probabilities of a mineralized area of greater extent than heretofore imagined, observes that electoral inequalities have been wiped out by the Redistribution Bill, and marks the evidences of the carrying into effect of a policy of financial retrenchment.