

## MORE HYDRO POWER FOR ONTARIO'S NEEDS, IS GOVERNMENT AIM

Speech From Throne Indi-  
cates Hastening of St.  
Lawrence Scheme

### PLANS FOR OTTAWA RIVER

Ontario's stock boomed yesterday at the Parliament Buildings in fitting accompaniment to the booming of guns which signalled the advance of the Sixteenth Legislature beyond the threshold of another year of vast opportunities.

Avoiding mention of the Ontario Temperance Act, and referring but briefly to Provincial finances—another line of approach along which Opposition forces are expected to direct their attacks this session—the Ferguson Administration, in its pronouncement through the Speech from the Throne directed public attention unmistakably to the great worth of the country in respect of agricultural and industrial values, and intimated just as clearly its intention to prosecute those development arrangements designed to meet best the growing needs of the Province.

#### Views on Power Development.

Special mention is made of Hydro affairs. The Speech says: "The development of power at Queenston having been carried to a successful completion during the past year, other sources of supply are now being considered to meet the growing needs of the Province. My Ministers are pressing for the recognition of the right of the Province to proceed with the initial development of the St. Lawrence River. Meanwhile, they are hopeful that an amicable arrangement will be effected shortly with our sister Province of Quebec whereby the waters of the Ottawa River along the interprovincial boundary will be rendered available for development."

The Government expresses its regret at the death of Sir Adam Beck. Mention is also made of the death of the Queen Mother and the severe loss sustained by the Empire.

Dealing with growth in New Ontario, the Speech continues: "Arrangements now being completed will ensure extensive industrial developments in our Northern districts. It has been considered wise in utilizing our forest resources to adopt approved methods of conservation in order that this great source of natural wealth may, as far as practicable, be perpetuated."

#### Advance in Mining Industry.

"Another important step in advance by the mining industry is marked by the increased production of the past year. Ontario is maintaining and improving its prominent position among the gold-producing communities. We are now supplying nine-tenths of the world's requirements of nickel. Our silver fields are yielding large and profitable returns, while new and valuable deposits of ore are being discovered. It is significant that, notwithstanding this extensive development, only a relatively small portion of the vast mineralized areas of this Province has been explored."

Drawing attention to "the improved condition of agriculture," the Speech declares: "In the interests of agriculture, plans are under consideration for stimulating immigration, mainly from the British Isles. Special efforts will be made to encourage the bringing out of boys adaptable for farm work. Increasing attention is being devoted to the marketing of our agricultural products. It is recognized that the maintenance of high uniform quality is one of the main essentials. With this in view, legislation will be introduced for the further improvement of our dairy products. The action of the Government in reducing the rate of interest on farm loans has proved of great advantage to borrowers."

It is stated that the Government will later introduce for consideration the report of the Agricultural Inquiry Committee, containing suggestions for the advantageous disposal of the principal farm products.

#### Condition of Finances.

As for the Provincial finances, it is said that noteworthy progress has been made toward improved conditions, and that the Government is now "within measurable distance of restoring the balance between ordinary revenue and expenditure."

Educational matters are also mentioned. The Government will again direct attention to the suggestion for the formation of Township School Boards in an attempt to formulate some means of reducing the cost of education to the rural taxpayer, it is announced.

Attention is drawn to the revision of accounting methods in the Provincial Secretary's Department, the work and policies of that department, the Highways Department, and the Department of Health.

#### Many Proposed Amendments.

There is no forecast of startling legislation in the Speech, most of the Government bills promised having come before the Statute Revision Commission during the year. The heralded measures are: Bills to improve the quality of dairy products; to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act; to amend the Land Tax Act; to amend the Minimum Wage Act; respecting the development of Northern and Northwestern Ontario; to revise and consolidate the Election Act and the Voters' Lists Act; and for other purposes.