

Feb. 7th.

# GOVERNMENT PRAISED ON RECORD AND PLANS AT OPENING OF HOUSE

**Conservative Desks Banged in Applause as Staples and Smith Move and Second Address in Reply—Social Legislation Is Stressed**

## HEALTH ACTIVITIES NOTED, EULOGIZED

Unqualified admiration of nearly every phase of the administration of the Government was expressed by two Conservative members of the Legislature yesterday in moving and seconding the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

The speakers were W. W. Staples, South Victoria, who moved the Address, and A. W. Smith, South Essex, who seconded it. Both members covered a wide range of Government activities, and their eulogies of the Administration were greeted with prolonged and

thunderous desk-thumping from the Conservative benches.

In opening, both speakers took occasion to congratulate the new Speaker on his appointment to his high and honorable office and Premier Ferguson on the renewed expression of confidence the Government had received in the election.

### Greatest Assets.

Great as are the natural resources of the Province, said Mr. Staples, he was glad to know that the Government recognized the men, women and children as the greatest assets of all. After paying tribute to educationists who were moulding the plastic mind of youth, he declared that the Government of the Province recognized that its biggest job was in making men. To this end it had placed on the statute books some of the finest social legislation to be found in any country. He mentioned the Children's Protective Act designed to remove boys and girls from harmful environment and give them a fairer chance in life; juvenile courts; and the Bowmanville School.

The Magistrates' Extended Jurisdiction Act; Domestic Relations Courts; probation for adults as well as juveniles, and the work of the Board of Parole were also mentioned by the speaker in his reference to the social legislation of the Government.

### Liquor Plan Support.

"The election of Oct. 30 has demonstrated again the fact that the majority of the people of Ontario are in favor of standing behind this Govern-

## GOVERNMENT PRAISED ON RECORD AND PLANS

(Continued From Page 13.)

ment in its working out of the problem relating to this great question," he said, referring to the Liquor Control Act. He was glad that the Government's object was to teach by moral suasion the use and misuse of alcohol. When the people had been taught that, the liquor question would be settled for all time.

He gave credit to the Prime Minister for bringing the Ontario Research Foundation into being. Its purpose in discovering ways and means of preventing waste in industry was expanded upon by the speaker. He suggested also that the Public Welfare Commission would investigate hospital costs, which, for the middle-salaried class, many people felt, were too high.

### Shows Hydro Advance.

Commendation for the Government's road policy was also expressed by Mr. Staples. He quoted figures to show the advance of Hydro service under the present Government, and, referring to the St. Lawrence development, expressed his pleasure at seeing Ontario, Quebec and the Dominion Governments working harmoniously to solve this problem to the best interests of all concerned.

The highlight in the address of Mr. Smith came in the form of a eulogy of the Department of Public Health, under Hon. Dr. Forbes Godfrey, which was greeted by prolonged and successive waves of applause.

"This department," declared Mr. Smith, "is recognized as one of the most outstanding and progressive health departments anywhere in the world. One of its great services has been to carry to the remotest parts of our Province health instruction by means of the efforts of public health nurses."

### Relief to Thousands.

In the past year, he explained, more than 200 cases of infantile paralysis had been treated with serum obtained from the department, and at least 95 per cent. of the cases had fully recovered. Between 800 and 900 citizens of Ontario were receiving free supplies of insulin every month. "This department distributes more than a dozen of such serums, and I feel that it is a work which cannot be mentioned in anything but the highest terms of praise. By means of dental services to persons in outlying districts, by public health education distributed throughout the Province, by safeguarding the health of workers, this department is bringing relief to thousands of our fellow-citizens, and particularly to those who, by reason of their circumstances, would in other countries of the world not be able to enjoy the benefits of medical science," he declared.

High praise for the Government's financial record was expressed by Mr. Smith. He recalled that when the Government took office it inherited a deficit of \$15,000,000. Yet last year the Government had been able to show a surplus of \$2,000,000. The Government's fixed policy of debt retirement was also commended by the speaker. The result of its financial management had been the establishment of the credit of the Province in the front rank.

At the conclusion of Mr. Smith's address, W. E. N. Sinclair, Leader of the Opposition, moved the adjournment of the debate until Tuesday.