

April 4

FEW MEMBERS HEAR FORMAL SWAN SONG FOR LEGISLATURE

Prorogation Ceremonies Are Held With Pomp at Queen's Park

BRUCE THANKS HOUSE

Lieutenant-Governor Bruce sang a formal swan-song yesterday for Ontario's Eighteenth Legislature. "I am enabled at this time to relieve you of further attendance on your legislative duties," he told the scattering of members who attended the prorogation ceremonies. "I tender my sincere appreciation of your earnest efforts . . ." His Honor departed, attended by the pomp of his office; the members straggled out five minutes later, leaving the chamber which many of them never will re-enter in official capacity.

Speaker's Final Duties.

For the first time since opening day, the House was ready for business at its appointed hour of 3 p.m. The guns boomed out, audible over miles of radius, but barely discernible to ears within the House. Premier Henry signalled, Speaker Kidd entered, wearing for the last time the tricorne hat, the breeches and robe of the office which he has filled to the satisfaction of every member. The Speaker read the usual prayers, and members and their wives resumed their seats at the Chamber's horseshoe tiers of desks. The House waited, while the Lieutenant-Governor made his formal entrance below. A Liberal front-bencher facetiously whispered in the Speaker's direction: "Beer Bill coming down today, Tommy?"

Henry Escorts Mrs. Bruce.

Premier Henry rose, strode down the floor, and returned escorting Mrs. Bruce to her place of honor near the throne, while the House stood in respect. The Prime Minister returned to welcome his Honor at the entrance to the Chamber. Speaker Kidd made his formal request for assent to bills passed during the session, and C. F. Bulmer, Clerk of the Council, read the long list, from the Act Respecting the Mount McKay and Kakabeka Falls Railway to the final Act Respecting the Handling of Gasoline, and including the beer-by-the-glass statute. Major Alex. Lewis, Clerk of the House, pronounced the Lieutenant-Governor's assent, and Speaker Kidd received approval for the traditional Supply Bill.

Legislation Reviewed.

With military precision Captain Ian Sinclair presented to his Honor the Speech from the Throne, a document thankful for more prosperous times, and reviewing, with some elegance of phrasing, the more important legislation of the session. "Increased authority and responsibility have been conferred upon the Liquor Control Board by the legislation for the regulation of the sale and consumption of beer and wines," ran its most interesting paragraph. "It is the hope of my Ministers that, under wise and careful administration, the amendments made will bring a wider degree of public support to the enforcement of the liquor control law, reduce the consumption of liquor of a high alcoholic content, and prove beneficial in the cause of true temperance."

Confidence in Future Voiced.

The Speech voiced gladness that hopes for accelerated business improvement were being realized. "We may, therefore, look forward with increasing confidence to the future, and prepare for the new opportunities that await our country."

Then, reviewing 1934 legislation, the Speech noted the measure by which seed grain may be supplied to needy farmers; the provisions for loans to co-operatives; the Milk Control Act; the enabling legislation in connection with the Federal Marketing Act.

Hydro Assurance.

Regarding Hydro, assurance was given that provision made for power supplies would remove any danger of a shortage. "Although the United States Senate has failed to ratify the proposed seaway treaty, and thereby deferred the development of the water powers of the St. Lawrence River, my Ministers regard this action merely as a postponement of an inevitable undertaking," said his Honor.

Other matters which found mention in the Speech were the motor-vehicle laws resultant from the Dominion-Provincial Conference at Ottawa, the strengthening of the Minimum Wage Act, the Labor Committee investigation of contracting abuses, extended public works for unemployment relief, consolidation of the Succession Duty Act, improvement in the Public Health Act, re-enactment of the mortgage moratorium, and establishment of Remembrance Day as a public holiday.