

## HEALTH WORK GIVEN TRIBUTE

Speech From Throne  
Lauds Ontario Program

### TOURISTS INCREASE

Tribute to Ontario's health program was paid in the Speech from the Throne, delivered by Hon. Albert Matthews, Lieutenant-Governor, at the Legislature's opening, yesterday.

"The Department of Health," said the Speech, "has rendered valuable services to the Dominion authorities in placing at their disposal all the facilities of the Provincial Laboratories, and in addition has examined for the armed services almost 100,000 specimens. Gratifying progress has been made in the fight against tuberculosis. Last year the death rate dropped to 26.7 per 100,000 population. This is a decrease of 24.5 per cent in the five years during which the campaign had been actively under way."

Over 500,000 more United States cars entered Ontario in 1941 than in 1940, and it is estimated on the basis employed by the Foreign Exchange Control Board that the value of the tourist business was somewhat in excess of \$74,000,000. "It is worthy to note," the Speech said, "that 70 per cent of the entire Dominion traffic came to Ontario."

Non-resident fishing license revenue to the Department of Game and Fisheries jumped to approximately \$500,000, or \$100,000 more than any previous year's return. The sale of non-resident hunting licenses also soared over the \$100,000 mark.

At the outbreak of war, it was stated, 195,000 persons were receiving relief, compared with 32,000 in January of this year, with the cost to the municipalities being reduced from \$263,000 per month to \$75,000 and the cost to the Province from \$616,000 to \$245,000.

"An improved position in municipal finances is again reported," the Speech stated. "The gross debenture debt at the end of 1940 was \$365,576,000, compared with \$483,952,000 in December, 1934. Of the original \$108,224,000 in default or involved, \$96,568,000 has now been refunded or dealt with on a permanent basis and \$9,552,000 on an interim refunding basis, leaving only \$2,134,000 to be dealt with."

## VOTE BY PROXY FOR WARRIORS ASKED IN BILL

Would Widen Franchise  
in Ontario for Those in  
Forces; Include Women

### AGE LIMIT DROPPED

Legislation to enable members of the armed forces to vote in the next Provincial election was introduced in the Legislature yesterday by Attorney-General Conant. It was Bill No. 1 of the session, followed on the heels of the brief opening ceremony in which Lieutenant-Governor Albert Matthews read the Speech from the Throne. The speech contained no indication of Government policy.

The Attorney-General's bill will enable Ontario members of the armed forces to vote by proxy, and it provides that "active service voter" shall mean a member of the forces who, immediately before enlisting, was a resident of and domiciled in Canada for at least three months, or who was ordinarily resident and domiciled in Ontario for at least thirty days. It further provides that all those who qualify may vote whether or not they have attained the age of 21.

The provisions of the General Elections Act and the Voters' Lists Act have been followed for the most part in framing the new legislation. Part two of the act provides for the taking of the vote of men on active service wherever they may be stationed outside of Ontario, as long as they qualify under the act, the voting to be done by proxy. It is pointed out that this plan is really an elaboration and extension of a section applying only to mariners, which was adopted in 1929.

#### Reduce Residence Rule.

Women as well as men are included in the provisions. The votes of active service men and women will be compiled in such a manner that the members can be determined for any electoral district or for the Province. The two chief departures from the old act are the removal of the age limit of 21 years, and the reduction of the residence rule from one year to three months in Canada and from two months to thirty days in Ontario.

Premier Hepburn announced that speedy progress is being made in negotiations with the Federal Government to turn over Provincial corporation tax and personal income tax to the Dominion jurisdiction. Only technical details remain to be ironed out, said the Premier, and he expressed the hope that the House would shortly have before it a bill to ratify the agreement.

Because of the absence in Ottawa of Attorney-General Conant during the next two or three days, the Premier sought and obtained approval for the soldiers' vote bill to come up for second reading today, in order that the Attorney-General may explain its provisions before departing for Ottawa, where he will confer with Dominion officials on the transfer of taxing authority. Consideration of the Throne Speech will be given Friday.

#### To Confer With Ilsley.

Mr. Conant will be accompanied to Ottawa by C. R. Magone, K.C., Eric Silk, K.C., both of his department, and P. T. Clarke of the Treasury Branch. It is anticipated that they will confer with Finance Minister Ilsley and his aides on Friday and Saturday.

With the consent of the House the Attorney-General today will introduce amendments to the Election and Voters' List Act, which are complementary to the measure applying to voters in the armed services.

He will also introduce an amendment to the Summary Convictions Act to provide for the service of summons by mail for offenses under both Provincial and municipal jurisdiction.

The amendment arises from recommendations by the legislative committee enquiry into the administration of justice. Acting on those recommendations the Attorney-General at the 1941 session sponsored legislation to provide for the service of summons by mail for offenses under the Highway Traffic Act.

Only recently Mr. Conant made a survey among law enforcement officers to determine the value of the system as applied to traffic act cases. Reports to him showed that these officers were practically unanimous in their approval.