

Misses Shawcross, Sealey, Taylor and Tennant, and her dainty little pages, Masters Richardson and McTaggart, she advanced to the throne. Having approved the Speaker's election, Her Imperial Majesty, Victoria de Morrison read the Speech from the Throne and retired as the national anthem burst from every throat, sung as never before. Government and Opposition, old men and maidens, members from teeming cities and from vast wilds vied with each other in exhibiting the spirit of true brethren of the heroes of Paardeberg. Mr. Speaker then took the chair.

The chapel service conducted by the Rt. Rev. S. J. Richardson, Lord Bishop of Niagara, was a unique one. The scripture lesson was read from the 20th chap. of Paul Kruger's epistle to the Boers, and as the chaplain's deep voice pronounced the fateful words, "the boldest held his breath for a time." The chapel service was concluded by a hymn, "Because I Love You," by J. N. Robertson, member for Toronto Centre.

The religious services over, business was begun. The reply to the Speech from the Throne was moved by E. Coons (Morrisburg) and seconded by Hon. E. W. Gould, Superintendent of Indian Affairs. These ably commended the Government's policy on the ground that it would place the O. N. C. in the forefront of the defenders of justice, freedom and truth, and fulfill our great mission—the civilization of the world.

The debate on the speech was opened by Sir Samuel Courtice, leader of the Opposition, who charged the Government with confining its attention to such trifling affairs as household matters (groans from lady members). He thought, too, that the Government was unjust in limiting the soldiers to one laager per day, while the members of the House were limited only by time and capacity (Opposition cheers).

Hon. James A. Ramsay, leader of

the Government, upheld his policy in a few well-chosen but scathing words and struck terror into the hearts of the quaking Opposition. Following him two of the lady members waxed eloquent on patriotism. Hon. Grace Watterworth, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, rehearsed the glorious deeds of our forefathers, and Baroness Bulmer for the Opposition heralded Imperial Federation.

The debate now turned upon special measures. That looking towards the prevention of cruelty to the mountain evoked considerable discussion. The Opposition twin orators, D. McDougall and W. Taylor, charged the Government with attempting to take away personal liberties, but Hon. Maud Briggs, Minister of Railways and Canals, Hon. W. Stickle, Minister of Agriculture, and Hon. Sir Wm. Smeaton, Minister of Finance, in a flood of eloquence clearly proved the measure beneficial mentally, morally and psychologically. If the discussion on this question was warm, that on the repeal of Sec. 76, Dep. Reg. was, to say the least, hot. Lady Alexander contended for its retention chiefly on the ground that it would reassure parents and prevent broken limbs in collisions. Madam Hindson, however, completely outflanked the enemy in her contention that it was much better to be free and have broken limbs than be restricted and risk broken hearts.

The Opposition trio, Messrs. Dunkley, Kennedy and Powell, very cleverly rendered the old song of Extravagance, with variations, amidst wild applause. Dunkley's tenor showed to good advantage as he sang of curfew bells to be rung at 12 p. m. to relieve landladies; Kennedy, too, splendidly executed some very difficult trills on the difficult combination of "Many minor matters muchly mixed," while Powell's runs on rubbers and the conversat brought down the House.