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## TENANT-GOVERNOR OPENS THE LEGISLATURE

### A Brilliant Scene in the Chamber This Afternoon-- Speech From the Throne--Session Likely to Be Short.

(From Thursday's Daily.)  
The second session of the twelfth legislature of British Columbia was opened at 3 o'clock this afternoon by His Honor the lieutenant-governor, Hon. T. W. Paterson. His Honor was attended by a brilliant military and naval staff, a feature of which this year was the attendance for the first time of a number of officers of His Majesty's Canadian navy, Commander Stewart and officers of H. M. C. S. Rainbow.

There was a very large assemblage of citizens, both on the floor of the House and in the galleries. All the members of the legislature were in their places, forty-two in all, this being the first time the House has been complete since the election of November, 1909.

A guard of honor from the Fifth Regiment, under command of Capt. Woolson and Lieuts. Robinson and Reid, with the band, were drawn up in front of the building, and the lieutenant-governor with a suite and the band played the National Anthem. When his honor had taken his seat on the throne he read the King's speech as follows:

My Government has completed the acquisition of all the land comprised in the industrial buildings square. You will be asked to approve an appropriation for an improvement of the present buildings, growing out of the well-considered requirements of the accommodation of the public. The public fiscal year will be in the session of 1911-1912. The estimate for this year, in accordance with the requirements of the act, is \$1,000,000. It is proposed to raise the amount of the estimate for the fiscal year by the amount of \$1,000,000. I am pleased to inform you that negotiations for the settlement of the Songhees Reserve question are now in progress. It is expected that an early and satisfactory adjustment of this long-standing matter will be arrived at.

Questions of jurisdiction between the Province and the Dominion, relating to fisheries, have been settled upon the two governments, and are now before the Supreme court of Canada. The abundant harvest of the past season is a most gratifying feature of a prosperous year. I congratulate the fruit-growers on the splendid success secured in Central and Eastern Canada and Great Britain, where British Columbia fruit won the highest awards for excellence over all competitors. There has also been a marked improvement in the mining industry, the value of the year's output being the largest on record. The opening of new coal mines and the increasing output of the collieries call for the application of every possible resource for the minerals. You are, therefore, requested to give earnest consideration to a bill amending and extending the provisions of the coal mines regulation act, which will be laid before you.

The financial statement which will be presented to you will, I am pleased to say, show a considerable expansion in the revenue. As a result of the legislation passed at last session, work is now in progress on the Canadian Northern, Pacific and the Kettle River Valley railways. Other extensive railway construction is also under way. In addition to these railways, it is pleasing to note another indication of the great increase which is taking place in the trade of the province in the numerous additions to the merchant marine.

In the interests of the public you will be asked to provide for a department of railways; this will necessitate an amendment to the constitution act, creating the department. In order to provide a more expeditious method by which railway companies will be enabled to secure incorporation without special legislation, a bill amending the existing railway acts and containing provisions for facilitating the incorporation of railway companies will be placed before you. A bill will be submitted for your consideration for the regulation of fast companies. With a view to the protection of the health and comfort of the workmen, you will be asked to consider a bill for the inspection of loggins camps and railroad construction camps. Owing to the large increase of population and the opening of new settlements, it will be necessary to provide adequate grant for the construction and maintenance of roads. The report of the public works commission will be laid before you. Measures to confirm the powers of the commission as well as to provide for the choosing the members of the

committee, will be introduced. The report of the forestry commission, which will be presented to you, contains a mass of valuable information relating to the conservation of our timber, and suggestions as to the best methods of dealing with this great natural asset. You will have opportunity to consider the report during the recess, in order to be prepared to pass upon a bill which will be prepared for your consideration at the next session of the House. The report of the commission on insurance will be brought down, together with a comprehensive bill dealing with this important subject. The commission appointed under authority of the act passed by you in the year 1909 has prepared a revision of the statutes of British Columbia. The result of their labors will be laid before you for your approval. A reserve of upwards of 231,000 acres of Crown lands on Vancouver Island has been set apart for a public park, to be known as Strathcona park, in honor of the Right Honorable Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, who, at the request of my government, has consented to have his name so associated. The report of the chief commissioner of lands, who has made a personal examination of the property selected, will be presented. My government has completed the acquisition of all the land comprised in the industrial buildings square. You will be asked to approve an appropriation for an improvement of the present buildings, growing out of the well-considered requirements of the accommodation of the public. The public fiscal year will be in the session of 1911-1912. The estimate for this year, in accordance with the requirements of the act, is \$1,000,000. It is proposed to raise the amount of the estimate for the fiscal year by the amount of \$1,000,000. I am pleased to inform you that negotiations for the settlement of the Songhees Reserve question are now in progress. It is expected that an early and satisfactory adjustment of this long-standing matter will be arrived at.

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## PROVINCIAL COMMISSION SITS

### GATHERING DATA ON TECHNICAL EDUCATION

#### Manitoba Commissioners Hear Number of Witnesses at Winnipeg

(Special to the Times.)  
Winnipeg, Man., Jan. 12.—The Manitoba technical education commission, organized shortly after the visit of the Dominion technical training commission some weeks ago, held its first working session yesterday afternoon, continuing in the evening. The sessions will last for several days.

Hon. C. R. Oldwell, minister of education for the province, presides, and Deputy Minister Robert Fletcher is secretary. Mayor Evans, Charles F. Roland, industrial commissioner; Dr. T. C. Hamilton, of the school board; Professor Brydon-Jack and Professor H. P. Fetherstonhugh gave evidence.

Major Evans pointed out that the value of Winnipeg's manufactures is \$38,000,000, an increase of 400 per cent. in ten years, the capital represented being \$20,000,000. He also showed the increased value possible on the completion of the municipal electric plant at Point du Bois to produce 17,000 volts power of electricity.

Mr. Roland gave statistics as to the number of hands employed in various industries in the city, he being industrial commissioner. Dr. Hamilton told the commission of the efforts being made by the school board to meet the requirements of technical education with the new technical institute now under construction, wherein mechanical and domestic sciences will be taught.

## DEPUTATIONS WILL VISIT OTTAWA

### Ontario Fruit Growers Desire Changes in Inspection Regulations

(Special to the Times.)  
Toronto, Jan. 12.—The Ontario fruit-growers at a meeting held yesterday, appointed a delegate to wait upon the Dominion government to urge that apples for export be inspected at the point of shipment instead of the point of exportation. Another deputation will meet the express companies to discuss rates on fruit shipments, while a third deputation of five leading members will interview the Dominion government regarding the tariff as it affects the fruit industry and will urge a lower reciprocal tariff on apples.

## FIGHTING WHITE PLAGUE.

### Proposal to Establish Tuberculosis Hospital at Galt.

(Special to the Times.)  
Brantford, Ont., Jan. 12.—Representatives from Preston, Berlin and Galt conferred here with local hospital representatives regarding the establishment of a tuberculosis hospital for the adjacent counties on a large farm at Galt. Consequently the movement for a Brant county hospital has been delayed and the medical superintendent has been asked to consider the bigger proposition.

## GOVERNMENT POSTS VACANT.

(Special to the Times.)  
Toronto, Jan. 12.—No less than six important public offices within the gift of the Ontario government have been made vacant by the deaths of their holders within the past six months. They are the registrarships of Middlesex and South Wellington, the secretaryship of the labor bureau at Toronto, the post of provincial superintendent of insurance, the clerkship of the Perth county court, and the police magistracy of London.

## WILL INTRODUCE RESOLUTIONS.

(Special to the Times.)  
Ottawa, Jan. 12.—In the House of Commons yesterday W. F. MacLean gave notice that he would ask parliament to endorse proposals for legislation compelling the C. P. R. to reduce rates on mail line traffic in view of the ten per cent. dividend declaration, for public ownership and operation of telephones, for an extension of the parcel post system, for a state owned Atlantic cable, and for government inspection of banks.

## MAY DIVIDE CITY.

B.ingham, Wash., Jan. 12.—A movement has been started by citizens of the fifth and sixth wards of the city which, if successfully carried out, will result in the division of the city into two wards and again becoming Fairhaven, as before consolidation some years ago. The business interests of the section are back of the movement.

## FOUR PERSONS PROBABLY DEAD

### FIRE AND EXPLOSION WRECKED STORE—BODIES OF VICTIMS NOT YET RECOVERED

(Times' Lessed Wire.)  
Connellsville, Pa., Jan. 12.—Four persons are believed to have been killed in an explosion and fire in McCorry's five and ten cent store to-day. There were thirty persons in the store at the time of the explosion, most of them girl employees. It was at first reported that twenty-five persons had been killed, but the manager asserts that most of those in the building escaped.

According to the management only four persons known to have been in the building were missing when the fire was controlled shortly after noon. Search of the ruins was impossible owing to the intense heat after the fire was controlled, and the police and firemen were compelled to wait before endeavoring to find the bodies of those supposed to have been killed.

The damage is estimated at \$100,000. Five girls, badly burned, were carried from the building by firemen a few minutes before the walls collapsed. A high wind was blowing and the flames spread to adjoining buildings. Within ten minutes after the explosion the walls of the five and ten cent store were wrecked, the front wall being blown out. The bank and several other buildings in the neighborhood caught fire. The cause of the explosion has not been explained.

## GOLD ROBBERY.

### More Men May Be Taken Into Custody As Result of Arrest of Suspect.

San Francisco, Cal., Jan. 12.—More arrests are expected as the result of the \$800,000 worth of gold stolen from the steamer Humboldt are expected here on the arrival of federal officers with a suspect arrested in Portland.

## BALEFOUR'S VIEWS ON PREFERENCE

### SAYS ATTITUDE HAS NOT CHANGED

London, Jan. 12.—Right Hon. A. J. Balfour writes that he is rather surprised at the information he received in regard to the impression which seems to prevail in Canada as to the attitude of the Unionist party toward imperial preference. He says: "I assure you it has undergone no change so far as I am concerned."

## FISCAL QUESTION OCCUPIES ITS OLD PLACE IN THE UNION- IST PLATFORM

The development of the commercial treaty system throughout the world has strengthened his conviction that imperial preference is a necessity. There is no doubt that the constitutional question occupied a great deal of the time of the speakers during the election; but nevertheless the fiscal question occupies its old place in the Unionist platform.

## COST FLYING RECORD.

English Aviator Will Attempt Flight from San Francisco to Sacramento and Return.

## LORD SELKIRK MEMORIAL.

Winnipeg, Jan. 12.—The Lord Selkirk Association has decided to mark the centenary of the pioneer colonist next year regardless of the plans of the Centennial Association promoting the world's fair. It is intended to erect a suitable memorial to Lord Selkirk.

## VESSELS ARE REPORTED ASHORE

### STORMS ALSO CAUSE HEAVY LOSS ON LAND

(Times' Lessed Wire.)  
London, Jan. 12.—Heavy gales sweeping the coasts of England, the English Channel and the North Sea, have caused much damage to property and shipping. The coast is strewn with wreckage, a number of vessels are reported aground and live stock along the coast has suffered heavily.

Communication with Calais, France, across the channel from Dover, has been lost. Great waves are sweeping along the coast, trans-channel traffic has been suspended, and the waves driven by a heavy gale, have been driven inland in some places, drowning many cattle.

The Brazilian steamer Flores, bound for Hamburg, is reported ashore at Walmers. The Bushnell also is reported ashore, and the schooner Fox is said to have been wrecked near Fishguard. The steamer Shelby is stranded, according to dispatches from Rotterdam. In this city a number of persons were injured in the neighborhood of Blackfriars, when the coping was blown from buildings.

## EXCITING SCENES AT WINNIPEG FIRE

### Number of Persons Driven From Apartments in Their Night Clothes

Winnipeg, Jan. 12.—With the thermometer 25 below zero at midnight on Tuesday, some twenty to thirty persons occupying apartments in the Parish block at the corner of Gertie and Notre Dame streets were forced to choose between jumping down the burning stairs or climbing down the outside fire escape. Few of the occupants of the block were clad in little more than their night clothes. The fire originated in the basement and had gained hold on the stairway before the alarm was given. Several small children were in the block and a number of persons were badly frost-bitten on hands, but no lives were lost. The fire brigade saved the building.

## WATER MAIN BREAKS.

Basements in Portland Block Flooded. Damage Estimated at \$20,000.

## WOMAN ON TRIAL.

Millionaire's Wife Accused of Poisoning Her Husband.

## PROSECUTOR HANDLAN ANNOUNCED THAT HE WOULD NOT EVEN CALL MRS. SCHENK'S HUSBAND AS A WITNESS.

Wheeling, W. Va., Jan. 12.—Counsel for the state at the trial yesterday of Mrs. Laura Schenk, charged with poisoning her husband, John O. Schenk, millionaire packer, occasioned considerable surprise when they announced that their case would be very brief. In spite of the fact that relatives of Mrs. Schenk's husband spent thousands of dollars in gathering evidence against her the prosecution said it would not call a single detective as a witness.

## U. S. SENATOR DEAD.

Denver, Colo., Jan. 12.—Charles James Hughes, U. S. Senator from Colorado, died here yesterday. Hughes, who was a Democrat, was born in Missouri, but had lived in Denver since 1879. He was elected to the Senate to succeed Henry M. Teller. His term would have expired in 1915. Hughes had been partially paralyzed for months. He had been in poor health for about two years. Hughes was a prominent corporation attorney, being identified with several large mining and railroad companies before he was elected to the Senate. His fortune is estimated at \$5,000,000.

## OREGON CENSUS RETURNS.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 12.—The population of four Oregon cities was announced by the census bureau as follows: Salem, 12,841; Corvallis, 4,287; La Grande, 4,843; Eugene, 9,800.

## THEATRE AND HOTEL ON THE OLD SPENCER SITE

### Ten-Storey Building Will Have Frontage on Three Streets—Stores on the Ground Floor.

(From Thursday's Daily.)  
It was reported to-day, on excellent authority, that plans have been formulated and have already taken definite shape which provide for the immediate erection of an immense new block on the site of the Spencer building destroyed by the recent big fire.

The proposed structure is to be ten storeys in height, and of the most modern design. It will cost in the neighborhood of \$750,000, the capital being provided by a local syndicate being managed by a prominent resident of Vancouver.

The site has been bonded, and it is provided in the agreement that the old Victoria theatre, which property was acquired by David Spencer after the fire, shall be closed out as a playhouse after the new theatre shall have been made ready for occupation. The plans show the main entrance of the theatre to be on Broad street. On the ground floor provision is made for several handsome and commodious stores, the hotel rooms being on the other floors surrounding the auditorium of the theatre, which will thus be in the centre of the block.

## SUITS AGAINST PATTEN AND ARMOUR

### Attorneys Are Being Instituted to Recover Over Ten Million Dollars

Chicago, Jan. 12.—Following the filing of a lawsuit in the Superior court for \$5,000,000 against James A. Patten, retired cotton and wheat broker, by Dr. Paul Burmaster, president of what he terms the Chicago Anti-Gambling League, Burmaster stated to-day that he will soon institute a suit against J. Ogden Armour of like character.

## ATTACKS PROPOSED HIGHER TARIFF

Washington, D. C., Jan. 12.—Declaring ignorance and greed were responsible for the proposed freight rate increases, Attorney Louis Brandeis appeared before the interstate commerce commission yesterday arguing against a higher tariff. Brandeis repeated his statement that the railroads by using modern methods would save \$1,000,000 daily, and outlined briefly the plan which he said would effect this saving.

## STORM PREVENTS FLIGHTS.

San Francisco, Cal., Jan. 12.—The heavy wind and rain which caused a second postponement of flying yesterday wrought considerable havoc on the aviation field. Great rents were torn in the flapping canvasses covering the hangars, and the rain beat in on the aeroplanes, making the frame and threatening damage. To secure protection of their machines, the Curtiss mechanics wheeled them over to the sheds of the Tanforan race track nearby, and workmen in the Wright and Radley camps were kept busy constructing more substantial shelters for their airships.

## RAILWAY BLOCKED.

Five Hundred Passengers Bound for Coast, Delayed at Calgary.

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