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Opening of Parliament.

The opening of the parliamentary session at Ottawa on Thursday last was a brilliant ceremony. Always an interesting function it was on this occasion unusually so, and was attended by a very large concourse of people. The floor and galleries of the Senate chamber were thronged with visitors from every part of Canada and presented a splendid picture. The outdoor spectacle was more than ordinarily impressive. Ottawa was favored with a magnificent autumn day, and a crowd gathered on Parliament Hill and along the road from Rideau Hall long before the hour set for the arrival of the Duke of Connaught. The quaintly worded announcement in the extra of the Canada Gazette issued that afternoon gave but a poor idea of the splendor of the opening ceremony. It ran: "This day, at 3 o'clock, p. m., His Royal Highness the Governor General proceeded in state to the Chamber of the Senate, in the Parliament buildings, and took his seat upon the throne. The members of the Senate being assembled, His Royal Highness was pleased to command the attendance of the House of Commons, and that House being present, His Royal Highness was pleased to open the second session of the twelfth parliament of the Dominion of Canada."

At a quarter to three a red coated guard of honor from the Governor General's Foot Guards, commanded by Capt. H. B. Verret, marched up Parliament Hill with bugles blowing and took up a position opposite the main entrance. A few minutes later the royal carriage, with its mounted escort of Princess Louise Dragoon Guards, arrived at the entrance and the band struck up the National Anthem, while away on Nepean Point the gunners of the 2nd Field Battery were firing a royal salute. While this was taking place outside the buildings, the bell was summing the members of the House of Commons to the chamber. The attendance of members was very large for an opening day. A few minutes elapsed before the customary three knocks at the outer door and the announcement by the sergeant-at-arms of the arrival of a messenger from the Senate. The Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, clad in a wonderful uniform of black velvet with ruffled skirts, knee breeches and silver buckled shoes, performed the traditional three bows and delivered his summons in both languages, his efforts being roundly applauded as has been the custom from ancient times. Following Speaker Sproule and the Sergeant-at-Arms and the Mace, the Commons filed into the Senate chamber and stood without the bar.

Society in every part of Canada was represented in the gathering of handsomely gowned ladies seated in the senate chamber. His Royal Highness the Duke and Duchess of Connaught sat upon the throne, the Princess Patricia standing a little to the left. Before them, arrayed in crimson and ermine, sat the judges of the supreme court on the historic woolsack and beyond them a long line of representatives of foreign governments and the higher officials of the administrative service. Rt.

Hon. R. L. Borden in his Windsor uniform stood to the right of the throne where were grouped the aides of His Royal Highness and members of the military headquarters staff.

The members of the House of Commons having arrived, His Royal Highness proceeded to read the speech from the throne as follows: Hon. Gentlemen of the Senate, Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I have during the past summer spent several months in visiting the principal cities and towns of Canada from coast to coast, and have endeavored to make myself, as far as possible, acquainted with the conditions prevailing. It has been a source of the deepest satisfaction to me to see the universal prosperity which reigns throughout the Dominion and to witness the energy and enterprise which are shown in developing the rich resources of the land. It is most gratifying to observe that the trade of the Dominion is increasing rapidly and steadily, the aggregate trade for the last fiscal year being the largest on record. During the present year the same steady increase has been noted, and it is anticipated that the total volume of our trade for the present fiscal year will greatly surpass that of any previous year in our history. The revenue of the Dominion continues to expand, and in every branch of business and industry there is a remarkable activity which gives assurance of continued progress and prosperity.

A copious and welcome stream of immigration has poured into our country during the past summer. The volume of immigration during the present year is greater than during any corresponding period of our history, and in larger measure than usual it has been drawn from the British Islands. The labors of the husbandman have been blessed with an ample return, although in some districts the weather has been unpropitious for the harvest, it is expected that the total value of our field crops will be greater than in any previous year. Papers will be laid before you which embody trade arrangements that have been consummated between the Dominion and certain of His Majesty's possessions in the West Indies. It is hoped that these arrangements will prove of great advantage not only to those possessions but to Canada as well. A bill will be introduced for the purpose of carrying this agreement into effect.

During the past summer four members of my government conferred in London with His Majesty's government on the question of naval defence. Important discussions took place and conditions have been disclosed which, in the opinion of my advisers, render it imperative that the effective naval forces of the empire should be strengthened without delay. My advisers are convinced that it is the duty of Canada at this juncture to afford reasonable and necessary aid for that purpose. A bill will be introduced accordingly. A contract for the construction of the Hudson Bay railway from Le Pas to Port Nelson has been awarded, and the work is being pushed forward with all possible speed. It is abundantly evident that the highways of Canada constitute an important part of an efficient scheme of transportation. The necessity for improving our existing facilities in this regard is manifest, and a bill will be introduced for the purpose of enabling the Dominion to cooperate with the provinces in the accomplishment of this most desirable purpose.

It is satisfactory to know that the proposals of my government to cooperate with the governments of the various provinces in promoting the agricultural industry has met with hearty approval. The appropriations which were made last session in connection therewith have proved to be of marked benefit to the country. After a careful study of the whole question, my advisers are convinced that cooperation with the provinces on well defined terms and conditions will achieve the best results along the lines of agricultural instruction. Any such policy to be effective must be continuous. Accordingly a bill will be introduced by which a substantial amount of money will be set apart from the consolidated revenue fund for the purpose of assisting the provinces for a term of years in this highly important work. My government has succeeded in securing certain reductions in cable rates, and will continue its efforts to obtain further reductions. Under existing legislation the charters of the banks will expire on the first day of July next. A bill revising and extending these charters will be submitted for your consideration and approval. Several other bills will be submitted, including measures providing for increased representation of the provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba in the Senate.

Hon. Gentlemen of the Senate: Gentlemen of the House of Commons: The accounts for the last fiscal year will be laid before you. It will be satisfactory to you to learn that the revenues has been ample to cover both ordinary and capital expenditure. The estimates for the next fiscal year will be submitted at an early date. They have been prepared with due regard on the one hand for economy and on the other for the necessary development of the resources of the Dominion.

Hon. Gentlemen of the Senate: Gentlemen of the House of Commons: I invite your earnest consideration on the subjects to which I have alluded, and I invoke the blessings of Divine Providence upon your deliberations.

The reading of the speech from the throne in French concluded the ceremony in the Senate, and the members of the House of Commons went back to their own chamber. Hon. Louis Coderre, who is technically not a member of the House until the return of the writ this week, was seated near the Speaker. The rest of the ministers were in their seats with the exception of the premier and Hon. George E. Foster, who is on the ocean.

Speaker Sproule formally announced the electoral changes which took place during recess, the dismissal of the Two Mountains appeal and the election of new members. The first of the new members to be introduced was W. A. Boyce, who succeeded Mr. Justice Lennox in South Simcoe. He was escorted by Hon. Sam Hughes and W. H. Bennett, of East Simcoe. The Conservative members gave him a great reception. Hon. Martin Burrell and G. H. Barnard, of Victoria, introduced R. F. Green, the new member for Kootenay, succeeding Hon. A. S. Goodeve, now a member of the railway commission. W. F. Garland, succeeding the late Edward Kidd, in Carleton, was introduced by Hon. J. D. Reid, minister of customs. Alex. Morrison, who won the great fight in McDonald, after the appointment of W. D. Staples to the grain commission, was supported by Hon. Robert Rogers and Hon. Dr. Roche, and was given an enthusiastic reception from the Conservative members. The opposition had an opportunity for one of those demonstrations, and made the most of it. This was when Peter Cardin, re-elected in Richelieu by a reduced majority, was introduced by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux. The time-honored form of introducing the bill respecting the administration of oaths of office was then gone through. The bill by which the Commons assert its right to legislate was introduced by Hon. Robert Rogers, and read a first time.

Mr. Rogers then moved, seconded by Hon. Frank Cochrane, that the speech of His Royal Highness be taken into consideration on Monday, and by a second motion the debate on the address was given the right of way over all other business except the introduction of bills, until disposed of. On Mr. Rogers' motion, the following committee was appointed to strike the select standing committees of the House: Rt. Hon. R. L. Borden, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Hon. J. B. Reid, Hon. L. P. Pelletier, Hon. Wm. Pugsley, John Stanfield, chief Conservative whip, and F. F. Pardee, chief Liberal whip. The House then adjourned till Monday afternoon.

Advisory Fishery Board.

Action which it is believed will have an important bearing on the Fisheries in the Maritime Province has been taken by the Department of Marine and Fisheries by the passage of an order in council authorizing the establishment of an advisory fisheries board with the idea of developing the fisheries on the Atlantic. Prince Edward Island will have one member on a board of thirteen. The board will meet half-yearly in Ottawa and outline plans for the development of fisheries. It is expected that valuable information will be secured and the department will be in a position to do more for the industry as a result. Officials of the department will have seats on the board and the other thirteen members will be representatives of the fishing industry.

Hurricane and Tidal Wave.

The official estimate of the dead in the hurricane and tidal wave which visited the western part of Jamaica last week places the number at more than one hundred in the coast towns alone. Details which are gradually coming in indicate great devastation in the western section where sugar factories and buildings almost without exception, were unroofed or wrecked and the banana fields recently planted were completely wiped out. Practically all the lighters, coasting sloops and small craft in the harbors of Greep Island, Montego Bay, Lucrea and Savanna La Mar foundered and a large proportion of the crew were drowned. Many persons living in these towns lost their lives in the collapse of buildings. The tidal wave at Savanna La Mar was the highest in a century. One coasting vessel was washed half a mile up the main street. Fully ninety per cent of the houses were blown by the hurricane. The two principal hotels were unroofed as were all the churches and the railway depot.

Canada's Attitude Praised.

London, Nov. 22.—An outburst of British pride and gratitude greets what the Morning Post calls "the simple but inspiring naval announcement in the King's speech at Ottawa."

"Who," says the post, "could fail to be deeply touched by the spectacle of this young nation resolutely shouldering its responsibilities as a partner in the empire and stepping forward eagerly to take part in safeguarding from attack the heritage of the British race."

"Contributions from Canada and the other partner states must be regarded simply as reinforcements which are intended to render the task of any possible enemy still more formidable."

The Daily Telegraph says: "The heart of the British people will go out in unreserved admiration and deep gratitude to the Canadian nation for its generous promise."

"Confronted by emergency of unexpected gravity owing to the rapid expansion of foreign fleets, the Motherland finds that it will not have to face the world in arms alone."

"Spontaneous offers of help come from all quarters. The rating Princes of the federated Malay states sprang forward with a gift of a first class armoured ship. New Zealand has given a splendid battleship to the metropolitan fleet. South Africa is considering what share she will take in shaping imperial destinies. Australia is creating a small navy to relieve the British fleet of the responsibility of policing her distant coasts and seas. Egypt is about to provide a mobile defence for her own littoral."

"Now Canada advances, showing loyalty to one throne and one flag and a British conception of the wider life of the allied nations, and their mission."

"This unity carried with it the safety of the component parts and the peace of the world. We of the United Kingdom must be prepared to meet the dawn of the fresh day with a glad welcome."

"These daughter lands have a right to some voice in the shaping of the empire's policy. We shrink this fresh responsibility only at grave peril to the empire."

Frank Cormier of Abram's village in this Province, was drowned at Macoon, N. S., on Thursday last. He was crossing a bridge on his way to work in the woods, when his suit case fell into the river. He waded into the water to recover the suit case, and sank into a deep hole and was drawn away by the current, and unable to reach the shore before he sank to death.



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A big, well made shirt of beautiful material, that will stand the test of the washtub, made with soft front, cuffs attached or separate, coat style, in a big assortment of patterns. Most stores charge \$1.25 for this shirt. It's the best value in Canada at our price.....\$1.00

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Synopsis of Canadian North-West Land Regulations.

Any person who is the sole head of a family, or any male over 18 years old, may homestead a quarter section of available Dominion land in Manitoba, Saskatchewan or Alberta. The applicant must appear in person at the Dominion Lands Agency or Sub-agency for the district. Entry by proxy may be made at any agency, on certain conditions by father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister of intending homesteader.

Duties—Six months' residence upon and cultivation of the land in each of three years. A homesteader may live within nine miles of his homestead on a farm of at least 80 acres solely owned and occupied by him or by his father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister.

In certain districts a homesteader in good standing may pre-empt a quarter section alongside his homestead. Price \$3.00 per acre.

Duties—Must reside upon the homestead or pre-emption six months in each of six years from date of homestead entry (including the time required to earn homestead patent) and cultivate fifty acres extra.

A homesteader who has exhausted his homestead right and cannot obtain pre-emption may enter for a purchased homestead in certain districts. Price \$5.00 per acre. Duties—Must reside six months in each of three years, cultivate fifty acres and erect a house worth \$200.00.

W. W. CORY,
Deputy of the Minister of the Interior.



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