

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

The opening of the first Legislative Assembly of the new century and of the reign of His Majesty King Edward VII. on Wednesday afternoon last, was one of the most solemn and impressive spectacles that has ever been witnessed in Toronto.

The magnificent legislative chamber which formerly on such occasions has been effulgent with the splendor of society arrayed in all its glory, had doffed its butterfly trappings, and purple alone relieved the somber gloom of the universal black.

The shadow which so recently fell upon the throne seems to have enveloped the politician who moved about on the floor, as nowhere was seen that spirit of combat which so eminently characterized the last opening of the century.

The appearance of His Excellency the Lt. Governor was a most dramatic incident. The venerable old man who had so long served and so recently represented his late sovereign lady Queen Victoria, with bowed head and trembling step advanced to the throne to open the Legislature in the name of King Edward VII. With spontaneous reverence the vast crowd arose, and never was the dignity and majesty of our system of government more apparent than in this silent tribute to the grand old man, who as representative of our King is above, and commands the respect, honor and loyalty of all parties, factions and creeds.

In the prayer at the opening of the House, one held his breath while the Divine blessing was invoked for His Majesty Edward VII., instead of by the old familiar formula, and one became suddenly aware that a new era had dawned.

The speech from the throne ended, His Excellency retired, and Mr. Speaker in his queer little three-cornered hat, preceded by the awful mace, took his seat, and the commons were alone.

Some freshmen members were presented to Mr. Speaker by obliging friends, and greeted with a patronizing, "Let the honorable gentleman take his seat," but as the seats were filled by the ladies the honorable gentlemen had to stand up in a corner.

A notice of motion or two led the way to a motion for adjournment, and the opening was over.

NOTE.

At the regular meeting of the Natural Science Association on February 21, A. H. Abbott will give a lecture on "Color Blindness." The association invite especially all undergraduates, and those who attend may confidently anticipate a most profitable address from Mr. Abbott, who has given special attention to this subject.

AN IMPORTANT EVENT.

On Friday evening next in the Conservatory of Music Hall, representatives of Queen's and Varsity are to decide the debating championship of the two Universities. The students of University College cannot be impressed too strongly with the necessity of turning out in large numbers to support their men. A hall full of enthusiastic Varsity men will do far more to help Messrs. Burton and Phipps to win than all the good wishes which can be expressed for them by absent friends. Two years ago Queen's came up here, and in a very even contest succeeded in winning. This year it is hoped the tables will be turned. The subject to be discussed—"Resolved that the present immigration policy of Canada is in the best interests of the country"—admits of interesting treatment. In Mr. Burton, who is to lead the negative, Varsity possesses a forcible and on occasion a brilliant speaker. Those who heard his address on convocation day, when the cannon were presented to the University, will remember the effective manner in which he performed his task. Mr. Phipps, his colleague, is one of the most

prominent members of the junior year, with no little debating experience behind him. As a Political Science student he will be in a position to handle the theme of the debate comprehensively. In the recent debate between the third and fourth years Mr. Phipps demonstrated his abilities as a cool and convincing speaker, and to him was due no small measure of the success of his side. With two such representatives, and with the needful support of the students, Varsity should win out.

W. A. C.



CANNON PRESENTED BY CLASS 1901.

DR. NEEDLER'S LECTURE.

Dr. Needler delivered the last of the joint Monday lectures on Feb. 4th in the Chemical Amphitheatre, his subject being "Modern Germany." The lecturer gave his audience a very clear account of the constitution of the present German Empire, drawing parallels between it and those of the United States and Great Britain. He then sketched the development of the constitution to its present form since the uprising of the German states against Napoleon in 1813, and showed the influence on the present Empire of the revolutions in 1848 and 1849, the great national parliament of 1849, and the confirmation of Prussia as the leading State of the confederation in 1866.

An effort is being made to raise \$6,000 by subscription from undergraduates for the new Harvard Union building. This building, which is now nearly completed, is the gift of Henry L. Higginson, but it is intended to use this money for additional improvements. J. H. Hyde, '98, has promised to equip the Union with a library.