

JOURNALS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

OF MANITOBA

FIFTH SESSION, FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE

WINNIPEG, THURSDAY, 22ND JANUARY, 1920.

This being the First Day of the Fifth Session of the Fifteenth Legislature of the Province of *Manitoba*, for the Dispatch of Business, pursuant to a Proclamation of His Honour *Sir James Albert Manning Aikins*, K.B., Lieutenant-Governor, and the House having met, His Honour entered the House, and, having taken his seat on the Throne, was pleased to open the Session by the following gracious Speech:—

MR. SPEAKER

AND GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA.

I welcome you to the fifth session of the fifteenth Legislature.

This is the first meeting you have been privileged to hold in this new Parliament Building, now nearing completion, and I trust it will be co-incident with the first of the years of permanent peace following the triumph of the forces of justice and freedom over the merciless tyranny of a despotic foe; and that the nations of the earth, born again in the travail of that long and bitter struggle, protected by a mutual guarantee against a repetition of such an unprovoked attack by any selfish and cruel monarch that may arise to blacken the pages of history yet unwritten, and confident in their security, may enter upon a period of reconstruction that will evolve a world of higher industrial development and a people with moral and intellectual ideals and a spirit of co-operation unequalled by any previous period.

During the recess, the Province was honored with a first visit from His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. His kindly disposition and democratic bearing, his sincere interest in the welfare of the Canadian soldiers, with many of whom he associated in France, and his evident desire to come in direct contact with every phase of western activity, endeared him to the hearts of the people, whose feelings were unmistakably conveyed in the hearty demonstrations of welcome accorded him

everywhere in his tour through the country, a greater measure of which he may expect when he again visits these western Provinces.

My Government enjoyed the privilege also of entertaining, as guests of the Province, Their Excellencies the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, on their second western visit, in October last. The party was warmly received. Their visits to Manitoba are given an added welcome by the interest taken in the industry of agriculture and in education by His Excellency.

My Government joins with the citizens of the Province in extending a hearty welcome to our men from Overseas, most of whom have now returned to their homes. Through the concerted action of governments and people, a large majority have been re-established, and with everybody fully inspired with the same spirit that animated our men on the battlefields of Europe, I trust that all of these gallant soldiers will soon be comfortably settled in civil life.

The authority contained in the "Electrical Power Transmission Act," passed at the last session of the Legislature, was acted upon, and a sub-department, presided over by a competent engineer, was formed to carry into execution the policy of my Government in this respect. The first instalment of a Provincial Transmission System will be completed to the City of Portage la Prairie within a few weeks, and the applications for extensions from this line, as well as the development of power for the western part of the Province from another source, will receive earnest consideration.

The Boys' and Girls' Clubs, started a few years ago for the purpose of making life on the farm more attractive to the school population of the Province and give an early training in the industry of agriculture, now have an enrolment of thirty thousand students, growing into manhood and womanhood, with their elementary school education supplemented by a fair knowledge of practical farming.

A Provincial exhibit of the products of the farms of Manitoba was again shown at the International Farming Congress, held in Kansas City in October of last year, and the adaptability of this Province to grow soil products scarcely equalled by any other part of the continent was evidenced by the eighty-nine prizes won on that occasion.

The success of the well drillers in securing an adequate supply of water for several large districts of the Province and the establishment of a satisfactory market for dairy products overseas, led to a material expansion of this industry in the year just closed, and while the crop of grains was not as great as those reported in the best years of cereal production, reached the large amount of one hundred and twenty million bushels, at a valuation of one hundred and fifty million dollars, and a total valuation for all farm products of two hundred and four million dollars.

You will again be asked to consider resolutions requesting the completion of the Hudson's Bay Railway and the transfer of the natural resources of the Province to provincial jurisdiction. This road in operation to the seaboard and the realization of the long cherished desire of our people to be in possession of their own resources, would permit

of the development of the extensive timber resources and rich mineral deposits of the northern area, and produce an industrial activity capable of sustaining a large population.

In accordance with a recent Act of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, a resolution will be placed before you on the question of trading in intoxicating liquors with the other provinces of the Dominion.

The successful operation of the Automatic Telephone System in the City of Brandon justified my Government in 1918, in order to improve the service and meet the requirements for large extensions in Winnipeg, in authorizing the installation of the new form of equipment in the Main and Garry Exchanges, which is expected to be ready for public use early next spring, when the present congested condition of these exchanges will be relieved.

My Government will continue its aggressive policy of constructing Good Roads. In the season of last year, five hundred and fifty-five miles of these roads were completed, and a greater mileage may be expected in 1920.

A Bill to amend "The Electoral Divisions Act," necessitated by the growth of the Province in certain directions, will be introduced to the House, to make a more equitable distribution of the representation in the Legislature.

A Bill giving authority to consolidate all the department of Law Enforcement under one management, with a view to greater efficiency in the service, will come before you.

Amendments to the Housing Act, the Assessment Act, the Fire Protection Act, the King's Bench Act, and other measures, will be presented for your deliberations.

I now leave you to the consideration of these and any other matters that may be submitted to you, with confidence that the public interest will at all times be fully safeguarded.

His Honour was then pleased to retire.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Norris have leave to introduce a Bill respecting the Administration of Oaths of Office.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read the First time.

Mr. Speaker then informed the House that, in order to prevent mistakes, he had obtained a copy of the Speech of His Honour, which was read.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Norris, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Johnson,

Ordered, That the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to this House be taken into consideration on Monday next.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Norris, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Johnson,

Ordered, That the Votes and Proceedings of this House be printed, having been first perused by Mr. Speaker, and that he do appoint the printing thereof, and that no person but such as he shall appoint do presume to print the same.

Resolved, That the Select Standing Committees of this House for the present Session be appointed for the following purposes:—

1. On Privileges and Elections.
2. On Law Amendments.
3. On Private Bills.
4. On Standing Orders.
5. On Public Accounts.
6. On Printing.
7. On the Library.
8. On Agriculture and Immigration.
9. On Railways, Telephones and Telegraphs.
10. On Municipal Affairs.

Which said Committees shall severally be empowered to examine and enquire into all such matters and things as may be referred to them by the House, and to report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon, with power to send for persons, papers and records, and to examine witnesses under oath.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Norris, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Johnson,

Ordered, That a Special Committee of nine Members be appointed to prepare and report, with all convenient speed, lists of Members to compose the Select Standing Committees ordered by this House, and that the said Committee be composed as follows:—Hon. Mr. Grierson and Messieurs Clingan, Hudson, Malcolm, Prefontaine, Talbot and Wilton and the Mover and Seconder.

On Motion of the Hon. Mr. Norris, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Johnson,

Ordered, That this House do now adjourn and do stand adjourned until Monday, the twenty-sixth instant, at eight o'clock p.m.

And then the House adjourned at 3.50 o'clock p.m.

WINNIPEG, MONDAY, 26TH JANUARY, 1920.

The following Petitions were brought up and laid upon the Table:

By Mr. Hudson—The Petition of F. O. Maber and Others praying for the passing of an Act to incorporate Northwestern Trusts Company.