



ROYAL GAZETTE EXTRA

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By Authority

ASSEMBLY CHAMBER

FREDERICTON, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1913

This being the day appointed by Proclamation for the meeting of the Legislature, at three o'clock His Honour Josiah Wood, D. C. L., LL. D., Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New Brunswick, came to the Assembly Chamber, and being seated on the Throne, was pleased to open the Session with the following

SPEECH:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

It affords me much pleasure to welcome you on assembling for the despatch of your Legislative duties. As a result of the General Elections in June last, some are entering upon important legislative work for the first time. I have confidence that both the new members and those re-elected will devote themselves earnestly in discharging the obligations of the trust reposed in you, and that increased prosperity and contentment may be the result of your labours.

The past year has been one of general prosperity and satisfactory expansion throughout the whole Dominion, a period of advancement in which our own Province has participated. Climatic conditions during the past summer were to some extent unfavourable for farmers and others engaged in outdoor work, the rainfall being excessive. Notwithstanding this, a fair harvest was gathered; good prices have prevailed, labour has found remunerative employment, manufacturers have been busy and business conditions generally satisfactory. We have every reason to be thankful that Providence has dealt so bountifully and kindly with us.

During the past year the Province was honoured with a visit from His Royal Highness, The Duke of Connaught, Governor-General of the Dominion, accompanied by Their Royal Highnesses, The Duchess of Connaught and Princess Patricia. His Royal Highness was tendered a cordial and hearty welcome by all classes of people throughout the Province, who gave evidence of their appreciation of the signal honour conferred upon this part of the Empire by the appointment of so distinguished a member of the Royal Family to the high position of representative in Canada of His Majesty the King.

The hearty reception accorded His Royal Highness was not only on account of the fact of his being a distinguished member of the Ruling House of Britain, but by reason of the eminent services he has rendered to the Empire, his valued services in his present official position in Canada, and as a tribute to his own personal worth and general excellence as a man.

During recess my Government has devoted itself to the encouragement of agricultural interests, and substantial progress is noticeable throughout the Province. Fruit growing has received increased attention, and more fruit trees have been planted than in former years. That we have a large area of valuable fruit lands is not questioned, and the apple-growing industry will, no doubt, increase in importance each year.

Agricultural Societies in most districts are doing well. Institute Meetings are more largely attended than heretofore and the desire to adopt better methods is apparent on every hand. The grant received from the Federal Government for agricultural purposes has made it possible to prosecute the work of the Agricultural Department with more vigor than formerly. It is pleasing to note that an Act is now before Parliament to continue and increase the assistance given by the Federal Parliament to the several Provinces to stimulate agriculture, and particularly agricultural education. My Government recognizes the importance of the Dairy Industry, and special efforts will be made to develop and extend this leading branch of Agriculture.

Expert knowledge in the science of agriculture is becoming more generally recognized as being necessary. My Government is desirous of bringing agricultural education within the reach of our Farmers, Dairymen and Fruit-growers, and to give our young men upon the farm the opportunity of securing agricultural education. With this end in view, it is the intention to establish two agricultural schools within the Province; one at Woodstock, and the other at Sussex. A modern building of suitable dimensions will be erected at Woodstock by the Executors of the Estate of the late L. P. Fisher, under the provisions of Mr. Fisher's will, without cost to the Province. Plans are