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BY AUTHORITY

ASSEMBLY CHAMBER,

FREDERICTON, THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 1915

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:

In meeting you on the occasion of the third session of the present legislative term, I am happy to be able to say that since the last meeting of the Legislature the business of the Province has been carried on with most satisfactory results, and it is a matter for congratulation that nowhere in the King's Dominions has less disturbance of conditions appeared during the year than within our own borders. A bountiful harvest has been vouchsafed to us. Prices secured by the farmers have been fully up to the average and in many cases have exceeded those of previous years. Contrary to the very general belief which prevailed at the opening of the season, lumbering operations have been vigorously carried on, and returns to date indicate that the timber cut will approach in volume that of the preceding year. It is to be sincerely hoped that the men who are engaged in this important branch of the industrial life of the Province will realize the active market and the good prices which are now confidently anticipated. The depression which has been experienced, unfortunately, in certain sections of Canada, has affected some lines of manufacture, but on the other hand the stimulation afforded by prevailing over-sea conditions has brought to many manufacturers a considerable increase of business. The employment furnished by the construction of public works, for which generous financial provision has been made, has materially aided in the maintenance of the satisfactory conditions which have happily prevailed throughout the greater part of the Province. The business of our merchants has been well maintained, payments generally have been satisfactorily made, and our people have every reason to be thankful for the prosperity which has attended them with little interruption during the entire year.

In common with every section of the Empire, New Brunswick has been deeply moved by the world war in which Great Britain is involved. Almost immediately after the outbreak of hostilities, my Government communicated with the Imperial authorities offering every assistance, of which the Province was capable, to maintain the integrity of the Empire and to uphold the strength of its arms. As soon as the form of contribution could be determined to the satisfaction of those in Great Britain who had the matter in charge, a cargo of one of New Brunswick's most important products was despatched for the relief of the suffering and distress in the British Isles. From the numerous grateful acknowledgments which have been received from many of those who participated in the distribution, my Government has every reason to believe that no more suitable gift could have been made, while the excellent condition in which the shipment arrived and was distri-