



ROYAL GAZETTE EXTRA

VOL. 76

FREDERICTON, THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 1919. PAGE 56

BY AUTHORITY

ASSEMBLY CHAMBER

FREDERICTON, THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 1919

This being the day appointed by Proclamation for the meeting of the Legislature, at three o'clock His Honour, William Pugsley, D. C. L., LL., D., K. C., P. C., 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 gives me much pleasure to welcome you to the Third Session of the Seventh Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick.

You meet for your legislative duties this year under far different circumstances. Peace is the keynote of the world instead of War. Thanks to the Almighty God, the splendid efforts of the Allied Armies have been crowned with success and the struggle for freedom and liberty ended in Victory for Great Britain and her Allies.

New Brunswick, as a Province of Canada, will for all time be proud of the part her sons and daughters played in this great event. Alike will be the glory to those who died with those who have returned with honor and the realization that they played their part and did all that men could.

It is a source of the greatest gratification, that while New Brunswick's sons were doing their duty at the front, the people at home generally supported their efforts in every possible way. Largely increased production of foods, generous subscription to Victory Loans, wonderful response to the Red Cross and other similar funds, indefatigable personal effort on the part of the women of the Province, give some idea of the spirit which animated our people and inspired their sons to heroic deeds.

During the recess, two notable events were the visits of His Royal Highness, Prince Arthur, son of the Duke of Connaught, who for some years was such an acceptable representative of His Majesty in Canada as Governor General; and of His Excellency, our present Governor General, the Duke of Devonshire. The welcome given by my Government and the people of the Province to those distinguished visitors was most cordial and enthusiastic.

The problems of Peace are not less serious than many of the difficulties of War. To provide for those who have given the best years of their manhood for the safety of the Empire is the first duty of the Nation. Demobilization and Repatriation must naturally go hand in hand. The Settlement of Soldiers wishing to go upon the land and provision for financing their needs have been engaging the attention of both Federal and Provincial Governments, and, I am pleased to note, applications from returned men are being dealt with as rapidly as possible. My Government will submit measures for your consideration to attract as many soldier settlers as possible to New Brunswick and to provide them with land splendidly adapted for agriculture. Agricultural returns show that in 1918 this Province enjoyed its banner year of production. More than one million bushels of wheat were added to an extraordinary harvest of other grains and roots. Undoubtedly the crop was due, in a measure, to the additional stimulus of high prices and war production, but there is great encouragement in knowing what our agriculturists can do when urged to effort.

During the recess there was an interprovincial and Dominion Conference at Ottawa when several very important matters, which gravely concerned the rights of New Brunswick, were considered. The demand of the Prairie Provinces for control of their natural resources, which remained the property of the Dominion when these new provincial units were organized, was one