The Mover and Seconder of The Addresses Listened To With Much Interest

Mr. Fairweather Pays Tribute to the Loyalists; Economy Must Be the Watchword for Governments—Mr. McAllister Criticizes the Marriage Laws.

THE ceremony in connection with the opening of the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly yesterday was in every was as brilliant and colorful as any in recent years. Although a drizzling rain fell during the afternoon, something very unusual for an opening day, there was a large turnout of people on Parliament Square, many of whom were unable to obtain admission to the building. A squad of men from the Royal Northwest Mounted Police were on duty inside of the main building and rendered good service in handling the crowd.

The turnout of militia officers, who acted as an escort to the Lieutenant-Governor was the largest ever seen at a Lgislative opening in this city. In all there were fifty in attendance, representing all branches of the service, cavalry, artillery, infantry, machine gun corps, and the R. C. M. P., and ranging in rank from Lieutenant to Brigadier-General. Quite a number were in full dress and several of the higher rank wore plumed headdress. The officers stood at attention while the Speech from the Throne was being read and at its conclusion trouped out of the Chamber in the wake of gubernatorial party.

Big Military Display

Owing to the large attendance of militia officers, seating accommodation for visitors to the Chamber had to be somewhat curtailed. Members of the family of His Honor and the wives and daughters of Ministers and Members occupied a row of seats to the right of the Speaker's dias. Four members of the Supreme Court Bench, Chief Justice Hazen, Chief Justice Barry and Justices Grimmer and Baxter, occupied seats at the rear of the Chamber and facing the Speker's chair. All three galleries were thronged with visitors.

The address in reply to the Speech from the Throne was moved by J. H. A. L. Fairweather of Kings, and seconded by Robert McAllister of Saint John county. Mr. Fairweather spoke for half an hour and Mr. McAllister for fifteen minutes and both were listened to with marked attention.

Hon. A. Allison Dysart, actual leader of the Opposition, moved the adjournment of the debate, and, on motion of Mr. Richards, it was made the Order of the Day for Tuesday afternoon.

Some reports were submitted by Hon. A. J. Leger, the Provincial Secretary-Treasurer, and also an agreement with W. W. Hubbard for rporting the Debates of the Session.

THE OFFICIAL REPORT

Assembly Chamber,
23rd February, 1933.

The House met at 3. p.m.

When the Speaker had taken the Chair, the Sergeant-at-Arms announced that His Honor, the Lieutenant Governor, had arrived. Mr. Speaker ordered that His Honor be admitted, whereupon His Honor, The Honorable Hugh Havelock McLean, K.C., V.D., L.L.D., having been seated on the Throne, opened the proceedings of the third session of the tenth Legisiative Assembl yof New Brunswick with the following speech,—

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

It affords me much pleasure to welcome you upon your again assembling for the discharge of your legislative duties.

During the past year the disturbed world-wide business and economic conditions have continued and have been greatly accentuated This condition has, of necessity, seriously affected the social and commercial life of our people, and has been reflected as well in our various governmental activities. While we may at this time look forward to the future with a greater degree of hope and confidence, the experience of the past and the uncertainties of the present situation, call for the most careful thought and consideration in respect to all matters of public concern.

Imperial Conference

The Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa during the past year was an event of far reaching importance, not only to the Empire, but possibly to the whole world. My Government took appropriate measures to have the interests of this Province placed before the Conference, particularly with respect to the basic industries of Agriculture, Lumbering and Fishing. Beneficial effects of the agreements made at the Conference have already been felt, and, with a readjustment of exchange, the trade of this province should be greatly stimulated and improved.

Only a few weeks ago a Dominion-Provincial Conference was held at Ottawa to consider, generally quesions of Finance, Unemployment Insurance and other matters of Dominion and Provincial concern. Measures were adopted which will, it is hoped, be of benefit both to the Dominion and to the Provinces.

Unemployment Relief

My Government, in co-operation with the Federal Government and the Municipalities, has taken systematic measures to deal with the problem of unemployment and direct relief. This has been a serious and difficult problem not only for the province but for the municipalities as well. On the whole a full measure of co-operation has existed and generally our people have manifested a fine spirit of patience and fortitude under most trying circumstances. It is the desire and purpose of my Government, in co-operation with the municipalities, to make every effort posible to avoid hardship and suffering among our people.

1932 Field Crops

It is pleasing to note that there was an abundant yield of farm products during the past year, although, owing to the continued disturbed conditions, prices were low. I am glad to point out that the total value of the fiield crops of the province was substantantally greater in 1932 than during the previous year.

The lumber industry, as a result of he general worldwide conditions, is still in a very uncertain position. The cut of timber from the Crown lands will be considerably less than last year. Indications recently, however, point to more improvement, and a greater demand for long lumber. My Government has, from time to time, taken measures to stimulate the production of lumber, in order particularly to ameliorate the unemployment conditions

Minto Coal

I am glad to note the production of coal at the Minto Mines has recently been greatly stimulated, consequent upon a greater use of New Brunswick coal by the railway sysems and the pulp and paper companies, with a resulting increase of employment in that area.

Despite the very large reduction made in the appropriations during the past year, the general public services of the Province have been well maintained. Particular reference may be made to the excellent condition of the highways and bridges, the maintenance of the tourist and recreational activities and the public health services.

I am pleased to inform you that my Government has recently joined with the Provinces of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island in a reference to the Supreme Court of Canada with respect to the Maritme Freight Rates Act, with a view to the retention for these Provinces of certain preferential rates under that Act.

Various measures in amendment of the Statute law of the province will be presented for your consideration.

Revenue Fell Short

The abnormal conditions which have prevailed generally throughout the year have necessarily affected the revenues of the province. As a result a defict on ordinary account has been incurred. During the year it became necessary for my Government to make several large bond issues and the success which attended these issues gives striking evidence of the sound financial position and standing of the Province.

My Government has a full realization of the difficult problems which arise as a result of the economic and financial conditions existing throughout the world, and of the effect of these conditions upon the financial ability and resources of our people. As a result of the existing situation it is obvious, that, while the necessary public services should be adequately maintained, the utmost care and prudence must be exercised with respect to all public undertakings.

I have directed the accounts for the past fiscal year to be laid before you. Estimates of the income and expenditure for the current year will be submitted for your consideration, and I trust you will find that they have been prepared with a due regard for economy and the requirements of the public service.

I trust that your deliberations, under the direction of Divine guidance, will result in lasting benefit to the people of our Province.

After His Honor had retired, the Speaker again took the Chair.

HON. MR. RICHARDS introduced a bill to provide for the retention of the franchise by persons in receipt of direct relief, which was read a first time.

The Address

The Address in reply to the speech from the Throne, was moved by Mr. Fairweather, and seconded by Mr. McAllister, and was as follows,—

"To His Honor, Major The Honourable Hugh H. McLean, K.C., V.D., LL.D. Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New Brunswick,

"May it Please Your Honor:

"We, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick, now in session, beg leave to extend our humble thanks to Your Honor for the gracious speech which Your Honor has addressed to us, and we beg to assure your Honor that all matters which may be submitted to us during the session will receive our most careful attention and consideration."

MR. FAIRWEATHER
Junior Member for Kings Delivers An Illuminating Address

MR. FAIRWEATHER said: In rising to move the address in reply to his Honor's speech, I am deeply conscious of the compliment that has been paid to my Constituents and to myself in my being selected to perform this honourable, but to me, most trying task.

The moving of an address in reply, is a time-honored custom common to all Parliaments under the British Flag, an immemorial custom which the law books quaintly define as something that has existed "since the mind of man runneth not to the contrary."

The Member from the City and County of Saint John and I are, therefore, adding links to the chain of great antiquity which I trust will continue to lengthen link by link and year by year until the end of time.

Tribute to Loyalists

It is fitting I think, that in this year (1933) and at this particular time, we should allow our thoughts to drift back into history and to consider the trials and tribulations of the Founders of this fair Province of ours, and what odds they had to contend with in that terrible struggle for existence in those early days. It was in 1783 (150 years ago) that the ancestors of most of the people sitting in this House today arrived on our shores—"The Devoted Band of Loyalists." The first party consisting of some three thousand souls, landed at the mouth of the Saint John on the 18th day of May and some twelve hundred more followed in October of the same year. It is difficult for us to imagine conditions existing in the Province at that time. There were a few hovels on the present site of the City of Saint John, a small settlement, at Maugerville and at St. Anne's Point, (Now Fredericton) only three delapidated buildings. Numbers of Loyalists sought homes for themselves on the Saint John River and its tributaries, some settled on Kingston Peninsula at the head of Kingston Creek and within three years, built on Kingston Hill, that beautiful old church which still stands as a memorial to their industry and self-sacrifice. The hardships endured, especially during the first winter almost beggar description. Picture for yourselves cultured men and women with their families, used to comfortable homes, warm clothing and healthgiving food, forced to live in tents covered with boughs, through one of the hardest winters this Province has known. The only method of heating that numbers of them had were so-called stovs built of stones, the crevices being patched with clay. The ordinary necessities of life were lacking.

Pioneer Life

At St. Anne's and many other places there were no domestic animals. Food and clothing donated by the Government was very inadequate as supplies did not exist in the country. Tea was made from spruce and used as a beverage and native roots boiled for food. History tells us that on the colder nights owing to scarcity of bedding, parents kept their children from freezing by warming boards before the fire, then laying them over their shivering bodies. Under conditions like these our Loyalist Ancestors lived, numbers of them within a stone's throw of this building. Mothers cared for and comforted their children while fathers fought the demon of starvation.

It it fitting, I say, that we should in 1933, look back to 1783. We hear so much talk of the hardships we have to endure in these days of radios, motor cars, oil furnaces and such like. Undoubtedly many of our people are having a difficult time, but with our well equipped hospitals, the help given by our Governments and Municipalities and by our various charitable organizations and private individuals, no one need be without the necessities of life, shelter, clothing and food.

Development Rapid

In 1784 we became a separate Province. The Loyalist influence became strong and from then on our development was rapid. His Honor is to be commended for the great interest he has taken in the Loyalist Society of which he is President and every assistance should be given to further his plans for the proper commemoration of this great event in our history. The courage and fortitude of our Forefathers is needed by us today. Let us not forget the lesson they have taught us. Our Province is today suffering from the abnormal conditions prevailing throughout the world.

Present Day Conditions

Nature has, however, been most bountiful. Our forests are filled with lumber and pulpwood ready for the axe and saw; our fields crops have been exceptionally good and the products of our fruit and dairy farms abundant. Fish in great numbers have been caught along our coasts and in our rivers and yet with all this outpouring of nature, many of our people are living on the mimimum of rations and being supported by relief measure. Our factories and industries are equipped and ready for operation, but many are silent. Hundreds of our people through no fault of their own out of employment. The Governmen expenditure for relief at a time when the Provincial revenues are falling rapidly. Increased taxes would intensify the hardships of our people and further clog the wheels of industry. The only remedy to my mind, is the strictest economy. Our people must co-operate by reducing their demands to the absolute minimum. Only recently I received a letter from one of my constituents requesting that the Government built a bridge at Gondola Point (estimated expenditure two and a half million); another demanded that a road, abandoned for years to be opened up. Similar requests come to all of us day after day. There is only one answer, an emphatic no. Many of our people do not seem to appreciate the fact that the money to be spent must come from themselves. "Let the Government pay," is the cry so often heard, and its counterpart, "no increase in taxes," "expenditures must be cut," comes from the same people.

Premier Stood Firm

At the last Session of this House, we had a striking illustration, the Vocational School Delegation. The Vocational committee had previously interviewed the Government and had been told quite frankly that owing to falling revenues, the Dominion grant could not be assumed by this Province. Not content with that, a huge delegation was organized which my force of numbers (if not argument) was to obtain this object. I feel that all members of this House both to the left and right of the speaker admired the dignified manner in which our Premier answered that miniature army and I am sure that today men and women of our Province realize that the judgment of our Premier and of his cabinet was sound in the best interests of our people at large.

Premier Taschereau

Last autumn some of our newspapers reported an address delivered by the Hon. L. A. Taschereau, Prime Minister of the Province of Quebec before the Reform Club of Montreal. Mr. Taschereau is, as you know, one of the leading Liberal Statesmen of Canada, recognized both by Conservatives and members of his Party, as a man of great ability; a man of integrity who is not afraid to say what he thinks and a man who is using all his physical and great mental powers for the development of his native Province. I would like to read some extracts from that address as his remarks regarding the situation in Quebec seem particularly applicable to our own Province and coming from the leader of a strong Liberal Government, will, I am sure, be very acceptable to our friends sitting in opposition in this House today. Honourable Mr. Taschereau devoted considerable time to the news print situation and the railway problem, but I shall not weary you with these great questions and shall quote only what he says regarding the difficulties of Government, present day socialism and the necessity for economy.

The World Crisis

Speaking before the Montreal Reform Club recently, Hon. Mr. Taschereau is quoted as saying: "The world is going through a crisis such as never before known. The difficulties of government are enormous. The world is going through an evolution, and a new world is being former on a new basis, and we must rebuild what has been destroyed during three years. It is those who govern who must look forward to rebuilding the world. The Province of Quebec a small thing, if you will, will have to reconstruct as elsewhere. We have dangers which the days of prosperity created, danger to which those who have responsibility of government must bring remedies.

"What are the dangers? The first danger is socialism; the socialism which says that the State do everything, that the State have a remedy for everything; the socialism which says that everyone with a grief shall bring it to the State for remedy; the socialism which says that the State, practically, shall provide for everyone.

"That is the great danger and obstacle to which we are exposed. Socialism? You have it everywhere."

"Socialism? We have today demands from all sides, for old age pensions, for pensions for widows, for pensions for children, unemployment insurance, and so on. No government whatever, and especially no government in a young country, can meet such demands. I do not say that there are not excellent things which in part we can bring about, but when old countries, with large populations and wealth, are hesitating at such problems, I say there is not a provincial government which can meet them. There is no provincial government whose finances permit it to meet such demands.

Cause for Pride

"There is something of which we are proud in this province, and that is colonization. Our ancestors came here from overseas, and opened the country to civilization and progress. Our brave pioneers went into the woods with axe and bag of flour and hewed themselves homes in the forests. What of today? Our colonists must be given free lots they must have agricultural implements. They must have animals, free; homes, free; bonus for ploughing, residence bonuses, schools for nothing, roads for nothing. There are excellent things which we have given. How long will the finances of the province permit this to be done, how long can we provide not these extravagances, but all these things? I ask myself if the ideas inherited from our ancestors have not been abandoned in the hearts of our farmers and colonists. The pioneers went and made themselves homes, and now everything is to be given them. Perhaps my words will meet with much criticism, but as leader of the Government I have no hesitation in saying that it is impossible for any government whatever to give our people all they ask today.

"It is sought to make out that the resources of a government are without limit, The people of Canada, the population of the province, is taxed as much as they can be taxed for a young country. We are about to commence a session of the Legislature, and I am happy to say before the session that we will not impose one cent of taxes on our people. All we can do to relieve the burden upon our people we will do. All I ask is that we be given a chance.

"This year I have no hesitation in saying that the financial situation will be worse than that of last year. The revenues are dropping considerably; the demands are increasing in the some proportion. Despite what is said about us, there comes to us the duty of practising the most strict economy. Unless we practise this economy we cannot make both ends meet. Therefore, I ask our people to have patience, and to realize the position in which we are, and in which they are themselves. We will not ask our people for a cent more, but ask them to realize that they must practise the most strict economy. Economy is necessary for the government, for the municipalities, for the school commissions for the church fabriques, and within the family."

Press Comment

Referring to the foregoing the Financial Times of Montreal makes the following comment: "Mr. Taschereau in his address before the Montreal Reform Club, at a family gathering of federal and provincial leaders of the Liberal party, Premier Taschereau of Quebec, hit out straight from the shoulder in regard to one of our great national problems. He spoke out on socialism, a topic usually avoided, tactfully, by politicians, except those few interested in advancing its principles.

"It was refreshing and encouraging to find the head of the government of a great province declaring that the first of the dangers of these unsettled times was the socialistic agitation that the state do everything, that the state had a remedy for everything—a socialism which says that everyone with a grievance shall bring to the state for remedy; which says that the state practically shall provide for everyone."

We have reason to be thankful that conditions in our Province are better than in other parts of Canada and in the world at large. Our people must take courage and even if the Biblical "seven lean years" are upon us, we can at least say that half of them are over.

A Trying Time

It is a trying time for all Governments. A heavy responsibility rests upon our Premier and his supporters, Our friends sitting in opposition have a great responsibility also, that of constructive criticism. Petty politics should be forgotten. It is no time for rocking the boat. Our Municipalities mustbe made to realize that by increasing their demands on the Government, they are shirking a responsibility that is their own and placing a heavier burden on the people at large.

A Bright Spot

There is at least one bright spot in this depression. It has, I believe, made our people debt conscious. They realize now more than ever before that neither Governments, Municipalities nor individuals can continue to expend more than they receive; that the funding of deficits, either public or private, has only one end if continued. Our population is only about 408,000 and the demands for the upkeep of our public services comparatively heavy. We have only thirty-four people, men, women and children to every mile of highway. It is only by the self sacrifice and co-operation of our citizens that we can hope to emerge from the existing world drisis with out credit unimpaired. Our people should cheerfully accept cuts in public services no matter how drastic they may appear to be as in that way only safety lies.

In these times very few public addresses are made without some reference to the exchange situation, inflation, deflation or tying the dollar to the pound. Personally I know little or nothing about such matters and if given authority, should not be competent or would not know how to tie the dollar to the pound. That is a job for financial experts. I do feel though, that there is an inexorable and fundamental law of supply and demand which, like the brook, runs on forever, and which slowly and surely will cure our trade ills.

It is useless to mind mind to give commodities fictitious values in the hope of encouraging production and trade. It only makes further adjustments necessary. Tariffs are of value within limits, but when raised to abnormal heights, react upon themselves and destroy the very object they are designed to protect.

England's Foresight

It seems to me that England of all the nations in the world has shown the greatest knowledge and foresight in dealing with the problems that confront the world today. She desires to encourage trade, especially trade within theEmpire. We are already feeling the benefit of the Ottawa Conference. The help we are receiving will become more apparent as the months pass and the exchange situation improves.

European Conditions

It was my pleasure a few weeks ago to hear a most inspiring address given by Mr. Norman Somerville, K.C., before the Canadian Club at Saint John, on conditions in Central Europe as compared with England. Mr. Somerville is the national president of the Red Cross, has frequently visited Europe for long periods and has made a special stury of conditions there. I wish I could reproduce for you the vivid word pictures that he painted in that short address. He spoke of conditions in the great Port of Rotterdam. Ships filling the quays, rank upon rank, idle, rotting, rusting, waiting. Then the historic River Rhine and the Elbe lined with barges tied stem to stern along the banks all idle, rotting, rusting, waiting. The railway yards and sidings of Germany filled with empty cars, unpainted, rotting, rusting, waiting; four-fifths of the manufacturing plants silent; streets thronged with idle men almost without hope of work, waiting for something to turn up; more begging and poverty than has been known in Germany for over half a centure; the country divided into factions warring with one another with no one party strong enough to keep control. Five general elections in twelve months and another to take place in April of this year. Such is the state of the great German Republic today, a discouraged and unsettled nation.

Different Today

The picture of conditions in the Mother Country is very different. The crisis had been reached in England shortly before the downfall of the Labour Government. Funds were being withdrawn so rapidly that help had to be secured from France and the United States to stem the tide and maintain credit. The Prime Minister, realizing that the parting of the ways had come, waited upon His Majesty and tendered his resignation. He was instructed to form a National Government and as you all know, that new Party was given the reins of power by an unprecedented majority.

Hearty Response

The first step to restore credit was to balance the Budget. The British people had faith in their leaders, the honour of their country was at stake and they responded with the same fervor and self-sacrifice that they displayed when the call to arms came in 1914. Payment of income taxes was asked for five months in advance and we read reports of Britishers standing in queus for houss anxious to give their money to the State. Jewellry and ornaments of gold went to the melting pot for the common cause. The result—a balanced budget.

The United States was asked to accept a return of the borrowed gold months before payment was due. The debt to the Bank of France was repaid. The Government then asked her heavily taxed people to make a further sacrifice. The response was instantaneous and within a period of a little over a month the greatest financial achievement the world has ever knew was accomplished. Nine billion dollars of National Bonds bearing interest at 5 per cent, were voluntarily converted into securities yielding only 3½ per cent. An enormous saving in interest was effected and made possible only by that loyalty to King and Country that is the dominant characteristic of every true Englishman. A few days ago I read an extract from a report of the Ministers of Pensions at London in which he expressed thanks to a large number who had voluntarily resigned their pensions and to others who had asked for reductions in their country's hour of need. There is nothing like it elsewhere in the world. England, that unselfish nation, will look after her children and lead us to better days ahead.

Overseas Trade

Our trade with the Mother Country is increasing. In January, 1933, our exports were 28 per cent over January, 1932, and 58 per cent over the same month in 1931. With a strong possibility of settlement of the war debt question within the next few months, exchange should improve so as to enable us to reap the full benefit of the Ottawa agreements. Then and only then can be look for a return of prosperity, not the false prosperity of the stock market, but the prosperity that comes as a result of hard, honest toil, prosperity earned by the sweat of the brow.

Spirit of John Bull

We in Canada have the spirit of England also whether we trace our ancestry back to that noble land of France or to the British Isles. We are all united as Canadians under one flag in this land of freedom. We may differ as to language, we may differ as to religious thought, but as Canadians we are one people working in a common cause. As Canadians we are members of the greatest Empire, the greatest earthly power for the well being of man the world has ever known. Let us forget about tying the dollar to the pound and instead, tighten a little more, if that be possible, those invisible bonds of loyalty to our King and all that he represents. By so doing our future welfare is assured.

MR. McALLISTER
Member For Saint John County Touches On Social Quest'ons

MR. McALLISTER the seconder of the address, said: In rising to second the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, may I stae the honor conferred upon my constituency in my selection for this, duty is very much appreciated.

I have listened with a great deal of interest to the able address delivered by the member from Kings and I heartily endorse all that he has said.

One great question facing all governments today, is that of unemployment. This government full realizes that our people are suffering from the effects of the disturbed conditions existing throughout the world. This state of affairs has come upon us not suddenly, but gradually and no doubt. some time must elapse before we are back to our former prosperous condition. However, evidence of improvement is seen even now. The policy of the present administration, in taking advantage of every opportunity to create confidence in the business world, is having a beneficial effect. One evidence is the increased activity in the lumber industry.

In Saint John County, there are some nine or ten operators with an aggregate cut of from eight to ten million feet. I am informed that there is a market for this lumber, unfortunately, at low prices contributed to by unsettled rates of exchange. These operations, while comparatively small, show an upward trend in one of the chief industries of the province. True, the wages paid are small, nevertheless, the income derived from this work means much to many men who have for some time been unemployed. The operators are deserving of praise for their efforts and in risking their all now, when markets are doubtful and exchange fluctuating. No doubt, with improving conditions, they will pass on to their workmen a full share of such benefits as may result.

Seed Purchases

I should like also, Mr. Speaker, to give a full measure of praise to the Government for its efforts during the past season in arranging in co-operation with the municipalities an extension of credit to farmers in the purchase of seed. This was a real boon and so far as Saint John County was concerned, at least, was greatly appreciated. I trust that this aid may be continued, and if possible increased, for the coming season. There was very little expense attached to it, and I

(Continued on Page Five.)