

# The Opening Session of The Legislature Attracted Hundreds of Spectators

Deputy Speaker Brooks and W. B. Evans Heard  
In Excellent Speeches as Mover and Second  
of the Address—The Debate Adjourned Until  
Tuesday When Leader Dysart Will Be Heard  
From.

After listening to excellent speeches from J. H. Brooks of Kings, the Deputy Speaker, and W. B. Evans of Queens, the Legislature adjourned at 4.30 o'clock yesterday afternoon until 3 p.m. today. It is scarcely likely that the proceedings this afternoon will be very lengthy, as only routine business, such as the appointment of Standing Committees is to be transacted. The Debate on the Address will start on Tuesday afternoon when A. A. Dysart, leader of the Opposition, has the floor. He will likely consume the greater part of the afternoon, Premier Tilley will reply to him on Wednesday.

**PASSED OFF WELL**  
The opening proceedings yesterday passed off without a hitch. The speeches of the Mover and Second were not unduly long and were well delivered. Both speakers were followed with close attention. Many spectators occupied seats on the floor, Hon. C. D. Richards, a former premier, was the sole representative of the Supreme Court Bench. Sir Newton Moore, president of the British Empire Steel Corporation, who is here the guest of the Lieutenant-Governor, occupied a conspicuous place on the floor of the House during the proceedings. The students of the Provincial Normal School occupied most of the space in the ladies' gallery and seemed to greatly enjoy the proceedings.

**SOME CHANGES**  
The elevation of Hon. C. D. Richards, former Premier and Attorney-General, to the Supreme Court Bench, and the resignation of J. E. Michaud, often described as "the brains of the Opposition," have left one vacant seat on each side of the House. Attorney-General Harrison is now desk-mate of the Premier, and Hon. G.H.I. Cockburn now occupies the seat on the extreme left of the front row, vacated by Hon. Mr. Harrison. On the Opposition side, Clovis T. Richard of Gloucester has been moved over to the front bench seat formerly occupied by J. E. Michaud. He has Dr. R. R. Violette, the wit of the House, for a desk-mate. It is understood the shift in Mr. Richards' case carries with it the rather thankless job of financial critic of the Opposition. Much of the criticism of the government's financial policy will this Session be directed from the galleries and lobbies.

**THE OFFICIAL REPORT**  
**ASSEMBLY CHAMBER,**  
February 8th, 1934.  
The House met at 3 p.m.  
When the Speaker had taken the chair the Sergeant-at-Arms announced that his Honour The Lieutenant-Governor had arrived. Mr. Speaker ordered that His Honour be admitted, whereupon His Honour Major-General the Honourable Hugh H. McLean, K.C., V.D., Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New Brunswick, having been seated on the Throne, opened the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly with the following Speech from the Throne:

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.  
Since the last Session, the House of Assembly has lost two prominent Members, namely, the Honourable C. D. Richards, former Premier and Attorney-General, who has been promoted to the Supreme Court Bench of the Province of New Brunswick, and Mr. J. E. Michaud, a former member of the Executive Council, who has recently become a Member of the Dominion House of Commons.

**Roosevelt's Visit**  
On June 29th last, the distinguished President of the United States, Franklin D. Roosevelt, paid the Province of New Brunswick the great honor of visiting his old summer home at Campobello, in the County of Charlotte, where he was, at his own request, tendered an unofficial reception.

On July 4th, General Balbo and Staff arrived at Shediac on his epoch-making aerial flight from Italy to Chicago and return. It was a marked compliment to the Province of New Brunswick to have this distinguished visitor and his Staff make the excellent aerial harbor of Shediac his Canadian flying base on arrival and return. Our officials and citizens tendered him a most enthusiastic welcome.

I am pleased to be able to state that the economic condition of the Province has materially improved during the past year.

The lumber and coal industries have considerably increased their production. The cut of timber from Crown and private lands, both long lumber and pulpwood, I am pleased to state, will be practically double that of the previous year.

The output of coal from the Minto mines increased during the year nineteen hundred and thirty-three, by at least twenty per cent.

**Unemployment**  
The unemployment situation has, in certain districts, improved materially, due largely to the greatly increased production of lumber. This has meant a substantial reduction in the payment for unemployment relief.

The Act passed during the last Session known as "An Act to Amend Chapter 35 of The Revised Statutes of 1927, Respecting Mines and Minerals," for the protection of the miners employed in the Province, more particularly those engaged in coal mining, has been duly promulgated, and I believe will have a most beneficial effect upon the operation of this industry.

My Government has, since the last Session, carried out, or assisted in carrying out, several works and undertakings with a view to alleviating the unemployment situation in various parts of this Province. Among others, I would mention the following:

**Aid to Fishermen**  
Assistance jointly with the Dominion Government to the fishing industry by granting a bonus on hake fishermen, who otherwise would be in receipt of direct relief.

Also, by a Bank guarantee to the Algonquin Sea Foods, Limited, to enable that Company to purchase cod, haddock and mackerel at fair prices, and develop the market for brine-frozen fish.

Assistance to colonists by the granting of free seed, and sustentation allowance during seedling periods.

Aid to the lumbering industry last summer by the reduction of stumpage and waiver of export charge upon pulpwood.

In conjunction with the Municipality of the City and County of Saint John, a bank guarantee was made to the Port Royal Pulp & Paper Company, Limited, thereby making possible the re-opening and continuous operation of the Company's pulp mill and the woods operation in connection therewith.

My Government has co-operated with the Dominion Government in assisting and making possible the establishment of an unemployment relief camp in the Counties of Sunbury and York, for dependent single men, which camp at the present time is clothing, maintaining and housing at least five hundred men. The main part of the territory conveyed in this area by the Province to the Dominion will be used by the Dominion Government for reforestation purposes and for artillery training grounds.

**Hard Surfaced Roads**  
My Government intends, with the assistance of the Dominion Government to commence during the present year, the laying of some hard surface roads. This will be part of a program to relieve unemployment, at the same time creating a valuable asset for the Province.

I am pleased to be able to inform you, that my Government has, in co-operation with the Prime Ministers and Governments of the Provinces of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, jointly presented to the Dominion Government, a request to complete the carrying out of the recommendations of the Duncan Commission, and I believe that some definite results from such representations will be obtained.

In support of the contention submitted by the Province of New Brunswick maintaining such claims, a valuable legal opinion has been secured and submitted.

Following the recommendation of the Duncan Commission, and in compliance with the suggestions of the Maritime Board of Trade, my Government has appointed five members to the Maritime Transportation Commission, who will act with Members similarly appointed by the Governments of the other Maritime Provinces in regard to freight rates.

My Government has decided to reduce the tax on certain motor vehicle licenses during the coming year, in order to assist owners of automobiles and motor trucks to operate.

**Important Legislation**  
The following important Legislation will be submitted for your consideration:

An Act to promote the production, marketing and distribution of natural products;

An Act to aid the settlement of disputes between employers and employees in the lumber industry;

A new Motor Vehicle Act to consolidate and amend the present Act;

A new Succession Duty Act;

An Act to amend the Elections Act.

**Colonization**  
Particular attention has been given to colonization throughout the Province, and during the past year some six hundred and seventy-eight families have been settled on colonization lots.

The sales of bonds of the Province of New Brunswick, I am pleased to state, met with success, the prices obtained being satisfactory.

The abnormal financial condition in which this Province has found itself in common with the world generally, has

keep the cost and expenditures of Government in all Departments upon a reasonable and economical basis, bearing in mind the necessity of maintaining the public service.

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

To you as representatives of the citizenship of the Province of New Brunswick, I confidently commit the responsibility of passing such Legislative enactments as may promote the welfare of the Province, in full confidence that you will, with Divine Guidance, guard and provide for the interests of its people.

His Honour having retired, Hon. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

**Bill Submitted**  
HON. MR. TILLEY introduced a bill to amend the Provincial Hospital Act. He explained that the funds from the estates of patients were held in trust by the Premier as Chairman of the Provincial Hospital Commissioners and out of these funds was paid the dues for the maintenance of said patient. No interest had been allowed in the past on these funds and this bill was to provide that bank interest should be allowed to augment the patients' estates.

MR. BROOKS, seconded by Mr. Evans, moved that His Honour's Speech be taken into consideration and that the following address should be presented:

"May it please Your Honour: 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 Honour for the gracious Speech which Your Honour has addressed to us, and we assure Your Honour that all matters which may be submitted to us during the Session will receive our most careful attention and consideration."

When the motion was put to the House,

MR. BROOKS said:  
Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen:  
In arising to move the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, I am very conscious of the honor which the Premier and his colleagues have seen fit for two years in succession to bestow on the County of Kings, which I, and my colleagues, have the honor to represent.

It is not necessary for me to recall to your minds like most excellent address of my esteemed colleague, Mr. Fairweather, on this occasion last year, and no doubt there are some who wonder why Kings County should receive the honor two years in succession. This is a token of appreciation for what is undoubtedly one of the finest counties not only in the Province of New Brunswick but in the Maritime Provinces.

**Some Changes**

I note in the first paragraph of His Honour's Speech, he makes reference to certain losses which this House has sustained through its membership since the last Session, and refers particularly to the Honourable Charles D. Richards, our former Premier and Attorney-General. It is not necessary for me to quote the splendid record of this very honorable gentleman over a considerable period of years. His record speaks for itself—a man, who through his own untiring energy and ability has attained to the highest positions in the gift of his native Province, deserves our greatest admiration, and his life is an inspiration to the young men of New Brunswick. I am sure that every member present on both sides of the House wishes him success in his new field of activity.

**Premier Praised**

I wish also at this time to congratulate the Honourable Premier of this Province on attaining to his very high office. It requires not only considerable courage and ability to take over the Government in such trying times as these, but also means considerable personal sacrifice. In the few short months that he has been Premier of this Province he has had very many trying problems to deal with. It is needless to say that we have all been pleased with the good judgment and the great dispatch with which he has handled these many problems, and I can pay him no better compliment than to say that he has proved himself a worthy son of a most worthy father.

I also wish to congratulate the Honourable Attorney-General on his appointment. The Province of New Brunswick has had a very long line of honorable and distinguished men who have filled this high position and I am sure that none of them have been better qualified than my good friend, the present incumbent, Honourable W. H. Harrison.

The President of the Council has received his appointment as a member of the Cabinet very early in his political life, which undoubtedly makes it more pleasing. I am satisfied that he is well qualified for this position and I wish to extend him my heartiest congratulations.

**A Vacant Seat**

As we look across the floors of the House, we miss a familiar face in the front row of the Opposition benches. I refer to the Honourable ex-Member for Madawaska, and the present Fed-

Mr. Michaud has been a very valuable Member of this House for some several years and has sat on both the right and the left of the Speaker. He probably will be best remembered as a financial critic of the Opposition. While his criticism was usually very fair and just, yet his figures were not always correct.

This, of course, can be accounted for from his very close association with the Honourable Leader of the Opposition. His removal to Ottawa is a distinct loss to this House and has left the Opposition benches considerably poorer.

**Economic Condition**

It is pleasant to read in the second paragraph of the Speech the words, "I am pleased to be able to state that the economic condition of the Province has been materially improved during the year." Conditions are a long way from normal, even the most optimistic person in the land would have to agree with this but that there is a turn for the better since the past months of 1933, the most disastrous cannot deny. In the past two years we have had little more than hope, but there is certain evidence that the clouds of depression are lifting and the sun of better times occasionally peeps through. That this is not an opinion born of hope is manifest in the reports of banking institutions, insurance companies, boards of trade, bureaus of statistics and many other agencies whose business it is to keep close touch on the pulse of the country, all report that the depression is definitely checked and that an upward movement has been in progress in Canada for the past eight or ten months. In order to get a proper perspective of our own conditions it is necessary to take a view of outside countries. The greatest economic stability in the world today is to be found among nations comprising the British Empire—in Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Canada and particularly in Great Britain. The British people regard the depression as a thing of the past, and if I may divert for a moment, Mr. Speaker, it is only to pay tribute to those same British people who a few short years ago, before we were even aware of the troubled times ahead of us, were almost overwhelmed with debt and crushed with the burden of unemployment—the aftermath of the Great War. Her statesmen and her people turned resolutely to the solution of their problems, and it is not surprising that Britain today stands in the forefront of the nations of the world on the road to recovery, and I am reminded of a speech made by a former Chancellor of Exchequer, Philip Snowden, who, in presenting his budget to the British Parliament, made use of the following quotation:

"As her past, so is her future,  
Her's the destiny to guide;  
Her's the lamp of truth and freedom  
Though the envious deride.  
Ever onward goes her triumph;  
All respect shall she command,  
She the beacon of the nations,  
England, England, yet shall stand."

Canada  
England is solving her problems by adhering to natural methods—the same is true of Canada, who during the last eight months has slowly but steadily increased her trade not only with the Empire, through the Ottawa agreements, but with other nations of the world by special trade treaties. That Canada has greatly improved her condition is not only the opinion of people in this country, but also people in other countries, and in this connection I would like to quote a paragraph from an article in the Saturday Evening Post, written by Isaac F. Marcossion, entitled, "North of N.R.A." Mr. Marcossion is one of the most outstanding writers on economic problems that there is in any country in the world today. The paragraph that I wish to quote reads as follows:

"Although this article is more concerned with processes than with statistics, it may be well to point out at the start that, without fuss or furor the index of the physical volume of Canadian business—the economic pulse of the nation—advanced by 32 per cent. between February and November, 1933; the industrial production increased 43 per cent. in the same period; that wholesale prices have risen 10 per cent., with no appreciable rise in the cost of living; that purchasing power is up 12 per cent.; that in six months unemployment dropped from 1,043,999 to 755,831; that shipments of lumber, as part of the 37 per cent. increase in exports, have exceeded the 1929 peak figures; that the favorable balance of trade for 1933 approximates \$128,000,000, as compared with an adverse balance of \$150,000,000 in 1930."

**In New Brunswick**

We may ask ourselves how are better conditions in Canada affecting New Brunswick? I have only to point to increases in lumber production, comparative prices of lumber, and the outlook spoken of in the press today of the prices of farm products, etc. We compare the price of potatoes at 25 cents a barrel in February, 1932, with the price of \$1.25 and upwards a barrel at present; hay, with practically no salable value last year, now is selling at \$8.00 and \$9.00 a ton; pork last year selling for \$5.00 and \$6.00 a hundredweight, is now selling for \$9.00 and upwards per hundredweight. These are just some of the many articles which might be mentioned. I am sorry that I cannot report that the condition of improvement which is noticeable in most parts of the Province does not apply to the County of Northumberland. It is reported that conditions have been and are still extremely bad on the Miramichi, and I am sure that every section of New Brunswick will be glad to see the Government do everything possible to assist in bringing some measure of prosperity to this most important section of our Province.

**Unemployment**

As a result of increased lumber production there has been a corresponding increase in employment. There are

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