

pendent spirit which it had maintained to the present time.

## MR. MACNUTT SECONDS.

Mr. MacNutt (Saskatoon) in seconding the Address in Reply said he would not deal with the many questions referred to in the Speech as in the later sessions of the Territorial Assembly should not be dependent on the sessions of Parliament at Ottawa. The correspondence which had been laid on the Table of the House showed the strenuous efforts made by the local Government to secure autonomy and he believed in keeping up the correspondence until the Dominion Government began to grant the request. It was an injustice for the Dominion Government to send in immigrants from all parts of the earth by tens and tens of thousands and not provide the wherewithal to give these people educational, transportation and other facilities necessary in the country. On the question of transportation Mr. MacNutt said the natural resources of his part of the country could not be taken advantage of for lack of the necessary facilities.

## PREMIER HAULTAIN.

Premier Haultain was the next speaker. He said that under ordinary circumstances he would not be addressing the House just then. The usual procedure was for the leader of the Opposition to follow the mover and seconder and make what criticisms he had to offer on the policy of the Government and then the leader of the Government spoke in reply. He took the absence of any such speech from the leader of the Opposition, or his representative, as acquiescent, and as implying that as the Speech from the Throne outlined subjects of such overwhelming importance to the Territories the Opposition were going to join with all the other Members in trying to come to some united action on those important subjects (Cheers). This condition augured well for the successful meeting of the difficulties of this unfortunate position in which they found themselves at present.

The Premier then congratulated the mover and seconder on the able manner in which they had performed their duties and went on to speak of the King's illness and Coronation. He dwelt on the significance of the latter ceremony and amid hearty cheers spoke eloquently of Britain as a free land for a free people. While it had been a great year in Imperial events it had also been a memorable year for the Territories. In speaking of their growth and added responsibilities they did not do so in a pessimistic or hopeless spirit. All they asked was that they should be in a position to meet those responsibilities, and he believed they were fully as capable of doing so as the people in any other portion of Canada. This was in fact the burden of the Speech from the Throne. It would be an unfortunate thing if the people and Government and Legislature of the Territories should have to approach the Government of Canada with the methods of the unfortunate widow, as referred to by the hon. member for Saskatoon. It would be unfortunate for the Dominion Government to be placed in the position of the unjust judge, forced to recognize the widow's rights by reason of her importunities. More forcible than those employed by the Territorial Government to gain these rights could not have been used than were used. They had resorted to everything short of force.

**EXERCISES FOR LABOR CHART.**  
The financial question, said the Premier, is one of the immediate people at the present time. In the financial statement we submitted to the Federal Government we took the ground that the point we had reached had been arrived at largely through the want of consideration paid to our requests made in previous years. The financial position has been growing more aggravated and difficult for the past ten years and our needs have been growing rapidly year by year. In our negotiations with the Dominion authorities we set forth that it was absolutely necessary in order to carry on the work for this year, that in the Dominion fiscal year beginning last of July next, that we be given the sum of \$80,000 and \$20,000 as supplementary to meet the expenditures for the current year to June 30th next. New settlers are coming in, largely through the efforts of the immigration movement, and it would be unfortunate to meet them with a large tax bill on their arrival. We pointed out that unless the Government provided for the necessary roads, bridges, schools, etc., the people must pay additional taxes.

**ADVANCE ON CAPITAL ACCOUNT.**  
I saw the other day in THE LEADER, continued the Premier, a telegram announcing in general terms the action to be taken by the Government. As yet we have not been officially informed as to what action the Government propose to take. In THE LEADER, however, I saw that a supplementary amount would be voted to meet the overdraft for this year, and that instead of a larger grant being granted the House and country that the Territorial Government did not ask for anything on capital account. (Cheers.) The suggestion of a capital advance runs through all the correspondence on this subject for a great many years. We have pointed out that the whole burden of capital expenditure has been thrown on the current revenues of this country, which we claimed were inadequate, even as revenue. But we did not ask for an advance on capital account. It is had enough to have to try to meet expenditures which are purely capital expenditures out of revenue but it would be still worse to have money which really belongs to us as revenue chargeable to capital.

## ASSEMBLY OPENED.

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On Monday next. Agreed.  
On motion of Premier Haultain and Mr. Bulvey the following Members were appointed a special committee to draft the select standing committees of the House: Messrs. McDonald, Bennett, Brown, DeVeber, Meyers, and the mover and seconder. Agreed.  
On motion of Premier Haultain the House then adjourned at 3.15 pm.

**MONDAY, April 20th.**  
The House did not sit over an hour today but in that space of time considerable business was transacted and the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne passed. The Speaker took the Chair at 2.45 p.m. Petitions were presented as follows:—

By Dr. DeVeber asking for amendments to the Ordinance incorporating the Galt Hospital; also asking for amendments to the Municipal Ordinance to enlarge the powers of Leebidge.

By Mr. Shera asking for the incorporation of the Bishop of the Russian Greek Catholic Orthodox Church.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:—

By Mr. Young—To incorporate the Western Canada Historical Society; to amend the city charter of Calgary to amend the Ordinance to incorporate the Calgary General Hospital.

By A. S. Smith—To amend the Ordinance incorporating the Mowomin.

By Premier Haultain—Respecting Foreign Companies; Voluntary Winding-Up of Joint Stock Companies; to Amend Uniform Conditions in Policies of Fire Insurance; respecting Mutual Fire Insurance; to providing for the payment of Succession Duties in Certain Cases; respecting Notaries Public.

By Mr. G. W. Brown to amend the Ordinance incorporating Regina Hospital.

Before the Orders of the Day were called Premier Haultain laid on the Table of the House the correspondence with the Dominion authorities relating to the Memorial of the Assembly of May 2nd, 1900, upon the financial and constitutional position of the Territories; also the report of the Attorney-General's department with reference to liquor licenses.

## THE ADDRESS IN REPLY.

The Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne was then moved by Mr. Finley (Medicine Hat). After touching briefly on the King's illness and Coronation, the general prosperity of the Territories and the consequent increase in responsibilities devolving on the Assembly, the speaker referred to the efforts made by the Territorial Government to secure provincial autonomy and failing in that, a largely increased grant. He declared himself as being strongly in favor of provincial autonomy and stated that he could not understand why the Dominion Government should persist in refusing to give it. He would not uphold the Government in doing wrong. He was there as a North-West man to uphold the rights of the North-West. The Dominion Government was doing a great injustice to the North-West by not granting what was their due. They had by giving the Territories ten members in the House of Commons acknowledged that there was a population of 230,000 in this country, and why then, asked the speaker, did they not grant us provincial autonomy; why not give us a larger grant? After touching on the question of transportation, the public domain, transfer of the land title offices, etc., Mr. Finley declared in conclusion that he would be thoroughly independent in treating all questions and he hoped the House would continue to carry out this inde-

## PROVINCIAL AUTONOMY.

With regard to the provincial question itself, we have stated it as clearly as possible. We are not theorists, but sincere, practical men making a practical proposition with regard to a practical question. We stand on the principle that this country must manage its own affairs. In a letter to the Minister of the Interior, dated last January last, I said: "We demand that system of government under which we shall have no opportunity for the exercise of our citizenship as our fellow-citizens in the provinces. The local Government and Legislature should have full and free scope of action left to them on many subjects which relate to the prosperity and happiness of the country and the North-West will not be satisfied until this is granted." That, said Mr. Haultain, is the position we take.

**TRANSPORTATION DIFFICULTIES.**  
With regard to the transportation question Mr. Haultain said that conditions had reached such a point in this country, and so vitally affected the people, that he thought the Assembly was justified in "re-opening" a question which was outside their jurisdiction. Everyone knows the conditions have been such and are and no one could tell what conditions would be without at least few months or during the year. The present conditions were largely due to the fact that the existing railway companies had not lived up to their contracts. He quoted the C.P.R. contract to the effect that the company was to deliver maximum efficiency and work their railway. He did not need to elaborate on the fact that the company have not during the past two years. He was sincerely disappointed and railway companies are struggling for rights-of-way and covering grounds with posts and these where railways would not be constructed for years, or while they were under construction at Ottawa or waiting until the necessary power was

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