

ing-Secretary, and has devoted much time and thought to the conference and has done much valuable work in connection therewith.

The following memorandum which introduces the second report of the conference gives further information as to its object and as to what has already been done:—

"It has long been generally recognized that the independent action of the various Provincial Legislatures has resulted in a diversity of legislation which, especially with regard to commercial law, raises a serious obstacle to commercial intercourse between different parts of the Dominion and is a source of embarrassment to British and foreign merchants doing business in Canada. In the United States, where a similar but perhaps more complicated situation exists, work of great value has been done by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. For the past twenty-eight years these commissioners have met annually and have drafted various uniform statutes, and the subsequent adoption by many of the State Legislatures of these statutes has secured a substantial measure of uniformity on various subjects.

The obvious benefits resulting from the meetings of the State commissioners in the United States suggested the advisability of similar action being taken in Canada, and on the recommendation of the Council of the Canadian Bar Association several of the Provinces passed statutes providing for the appointment of commissioners to attend a conference of commissioners from the different Provinces for the purpose of promoting uniformity of legislation in the Provinces.

The first meeting of the commissioners appointed under these statutes and of representatives from those Provinces in which no provision has been made for the formal appointment of commissioners, took place in Montreal on the 2nd day of September, 1918, and at this meeting the Conference of Commissioners on Uniformity of Legislation in Canada was organized. Although the work of the commissioners at their first meeting was necessarily of a tentative and preliminary character, provision was made for the consideration of various subjects by committees during the ensuing year.