

OTTAWA, December 1, 1923.

*To His Excellency*

*The Governor General in Council:*

The undersigned delegates appointed to represent Canada at the Fourth Assembly of the League of Nations have the honour to report as follows:—

The session of the Assembly was opened at Geneva on Monday, the third day of September, under the Chairmanship of Viscount Ishii (Japan), Acting President of the Council of the League, and continued its sittings until the 29th day of September.

At its First meeting, the Assembly elected Mr. de la Torriente, Delegate of Cuba, as its President.

The Agenda had already been circulated to the Members and covered a wide range of subjects.

The Rules of Procedure provide for the distribution of the business of the Assembly amongst six large Committees, on each of which every State Member of the League is entitled to representation.

Sir Lomer Gouin served on the First Committee which deals with Legal Questions, by which he was unanimously chosen as Vice-President, and on the Sixth Committee to which are referred questions of a political nature.

Mr. Graham served on the Second and Fifth Committees, dealing respectively with Technical Organizations and Social and General questions. He was chosen by the Second Committee as Rapporteur and presented to the Assembly the report of the Committee on the work of the Organization of Communications and Transit, which report was unanimously adopted by the Assembly.

Mr. Larkin had been designated to serve on the Third Committee (Reduction of Armaments) and on the Fourth Committee (Budget and Financial Questions). As he was unavoidably absent from Geneva, the undersigned acted as substitutes for him on those Committees.

The work of the Committees consists in the careful study of the various matters submitted to them and their conclusions are reported to the Assembly for decision thereon.

To the first Committee was referred the Canadian proposal concerning Article 10 of the Covenant.

The Canadian delegates at the Peace Conference had taken exception to Article 10 and at the First meeting of the League of Nations had proposed its elimination. The Article reads as follows:—

“The Members of the League undertake to respect and preserve as against external aggression the territorial integrity and existing political independence of all Members of the League. In case of any such aggression or in case of any threat or danger of such aggression the Council shall advise upon the means by which the obligation shall be fulfilled.”