

the Province of Quebec legislates upon subjects within the purview of the Civil Code of Lower Canada and according to principles derived from the old law of France, and the other provinces legislate upon similar subjects according to principles derived from the common law of England. In such cases the problem of securing uniformity is confined to the common law provinces. There are, however, many other cases in which no principle of either civil law or common law is at stake, with regard to which the problem of securing uniformity is the same in all the provinces. Both these classes of cases include subjects of legislation as to which it is desirable, especially from the point of view of merchants doing business in different parts of Canada, that legislation should be made uniform throughout the provinces to the fullest extent possible.

In the United States work of great value has been done by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. Since the year 1892 these commissioners have met annually. They have drafted uniform statutes on various subjects, and the subsequent adoption of these statutes by many of the state legislatures has secured a substantial measure of uniformity. The example set by the state commissioners in the United States was followed in Canada when, 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 an interprovincial conference for the purpose of promoting uniformity of legislation.

The first meeting of commissioners and representatives of the provinces took place at Montreal on the 2nd of September, 1918, and at this meeting the Conference of Commissioners on Uniformity of Legislation in Canada was organised. The second annual meeting of the Conference took place at Winnipeg on the 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th of August, 1919, the third at Ottawa on the 30th and 31st of August and the 1st, 2nd and 3rd of September, 1920, and the fourth at Ottawa on the 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th of September, 1921.

In 1919 the Conference considered and adopted a report on legislative drafting, containing a carefully prepared