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THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.

We do not propose to add to the mass of literature which has been given to the civilized world in connection with the "League of Nations," but only to refer to that portion of its work which comes within the purview of our pages.

On recent occasions Sir George Foster and Hon. Mr. Rowell, K.C., who are the worthy representatives of Canada in the Assembly of the League of Nations, have both spoken of the formation of a permanent Court of International Justice. Sir George Foster referred to the subject by saying, "that the one outstanding work of the Assembly of the League of Nations has, I think, been the construction of a permanent Court of International Justice." He also said that early in the year the Council called together a committee of ten of the first jurists of the world, which met at Brussels and for six weeks conferred on the subject, and at last agreed upon a proposal for a permanent Court of International Justice. That report went to the Council of the League of Nations where it was examined, discussed and revised, and finally as amended it was sent to the Assembly, which, with some few amendments, unanimously approved of the draft and expressed the belief that the various States composing the League would approve of the construction of this new Court.

Should this Court come into existence it will be the most august and important tribunal that the world has ever seen. Nations will be the litigants and the subjects will be disputes between nations, such as the interpretation of treaties and other questions of like character.

Hon. Mr. Rowell, on the 25th of February last, delivered an address before the Manitoba Bar Association in reference to this Court. We are indebted to him for a verbatim copy of his most illuminating paper which we gladly publish in full. It reads as follows:—