

cluded on the 16th August, 1916, were duly exchanged at Washington on the 7th December, 1916, and an Act confirming it was passed by the Canadian Parliament in August, 1917.

Reference may further be made to questions arising with the United States Government under the Boundary Waters Treaty, which have been adjusted by the International Joint Commission: (a) Application was made to the commission by the United States Government for the approval of certain improvements in the St. Clair river at Port Huron, involving a deepening of the channel and the construction of a submerged weir. Canada being ready to agree to the proposed improvements conditionally upon the taking of adequate measures to protect Canadian interests, the approval of the commission was given on the 18th May, 1917, subject to Canada's conditions being met. (b) The final report of the commission on the Lake of the Woods reference was made on the 18th May, 1917. A level for the waters of the lake was recommended, which it was considered would be of the widest advantage to the various interests concerned, and compensation for damages to lands overflowed by the raising of the water suggested. A scheme was further outlined for controlling and regulating the flow of the waters, so that the desired level might be maintained. (c) The International Lumber Company, an American Corporation, applied for the approval of certain booms in the Rainy river at International Falls, and on the 3rd October, 1917, such approval was granted; it being laid down that the booms should follow lines indicated by the United States Secretary of War, and steps being taken to safeguard rights on the Canadian side of the boundary line.

TREATY OF COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION WITH PORTUGAL,  
12TH AUGUST, 1914.

At the request of the Canadian Government, notice of Canada's adhesion to the above treaty was given on the 16th May, 1917, His Majesty's Government in a communication to the Portuguese Government having previously recorded their view that article 6 of the treaty, relating to the importation into the United Kingdom and the sale therein of port and madeira wines, referred only to the United Kingdom, and that the application of the treaty to any of His Majesty's dominions did not involve the application of the article referred to.

PELAGIC SEALING.

Notification was received from the Russian Government that the killing of seals on the Commander islands, which had been prohibited in 1912, would be resumed in 1917, this involving the revival of Canada's right to share of the take.

The danger attending travel across the submarine zones has made it necessary for the Canadian Government severely to restrict such travel in the case of women and children. It has been arranged to allow it only in special circumstances, approved by a Sub-Committee of the Privy Council, as justifying exceptional treatment. The measures connected with the carrying out of this procedure have added very considerably to the work of the passport office.

I gladly take the opportunity of expressing my satisfaction with the zealous and efficient manner in which the members of the staff have discharged their several duties.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

JOSEPH POPE,

*Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs.*

OTTAWA, October 15, 1917.