

## SESSIONAL PAPER No. 34

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

*The General Labour Conference of the League of Nations* held its second meeting at Geneva on the 15th June, 1920, its session lasting until the 10th July. The Canadian Government was represented by Mr. Philippe Roy, the Commissioner General at Paris, and Mr. G. J. Desbarats, the Deputy Minister of the Naval Service; Canadian employers by Mr. Thomas Rowe; and Canadian workmen by Mr. J. C. Gauthier.

Draft Conventions (three) were adopted, fixing a minimum age for the employment of children at sea; concerning indemnity for unemployment in case of loss or foundering of a ship; and for establishing facilities for finding employment for seamen.

Further, recommendations were adopted concerning the limitation of hours at work in the fishing industry and in inland navigation, the establishment of national seamen's codes and unemployment insurance for seamen.

*An International Financial Conference* of representatives of members of the League of Nations was convened by the Council and held at Brussels in September-October, 1920, to study the world-wide financial crisis and to consider methods for remedying it and mitigating its consequences. Canada's representatives were the Honourable Hugh Guthrie, Mr. G. C. Cassels, and Mr. J. H. Gundy. A report was presented to the Council of the League recommending measures considered necessary for meeting the situation, such as a general restriction of Government expenditures, reduction of armaments, the checking of inflation of currency, and meeting of current expenditures out of revenue.

*The Seventh Congress of the Universal Postal Union* was held at Madrid in October-November, 1920, the Honourable P. E. Blondin, Postmaster General, and Dr. R. M. Coulter, the Deputy Postmaster General, attending as Canada's representatives. As they found it necessary to return before the termination of the proceedings, Brig.-Gen. F. H. Williamson, C.B.E., Chief of the British Delegation, being duly empowered, signed on behalf of Canada on the 30th November, 1920, the revised Universal Postal Convention to come into force the 1st January, 1922.

*The Fifteenth International Congress against Alcoholism* was held at Washington in September, 1920, Chief Justice Sir Francis Lemieux, and the Rev. Andrew S. Grant attending as representatives of the Canadian Government.

A preliminary *Conference of Representatives of the Principal Allied and Associated Powers on Electrical Communications* was summoned to meet at Washington to consider international aspects of communication by telegraph, telephone, wireless telegraph, and wireless telephone in preparation for a general Conference to be later assembled. Mr. L. C. Christie, Legal Adviser of the Department, Mr. C. P. Edwards of the Department of the Naval Service, and Mr. George D. Perry, General Manager of the Canadian National Telegraphs were present on behalf of the Canadian Government. The disposal of German cables seized during the war, the amalgamation and revision of the International Telegraph and Radio Telegraph Conventions, International cable, and radio law and cable landing rights were some of the questions discussed.

## RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES

Of questions in which our immediate relations with the United States are concerned there might be noted:—

1. The final settlement of the membership of the Peace Commission under the Peace Commission Treaty of the 15th September, 1914, which has been fixed as follows:—