

The powers agreed to the general scheme of the Institute and its first general assembly was held in Rome about a year ago. I considered the matter of sufficient importance to warrant finding out the full scope of this Institute, and so went to Rome to represent the Canadian Government at that meeting.

The general scheme was formulated by a committee which had been appointed earlier, at which we were represented by Dr. Rutherford, head of the Veterinary Branch of my Department. This scheme was submitted to the general assembly and adopted. It provided for the election of a president, first and second Vice-presidents, secretaries, etc. Signor Tittoni, then minister of foreign affairs for Italy, who was chairman of the first conference in 1905, was chosen president, and as representative from the New World of an English-speaking country, I was chosen first vice-president. Dr. Yermoloff, of the agricultural department of the Russian Empire, was chosen second vice-president, and Mr. Koch, of the Italian State department at Rome, Secretary.

The scheme of organization as presented was accepted with slight modifications. It involves the appointment of a permanent committee which shall have management of the details, with its own president, vice-president and secretary. This again is divided into three committees, of which the three chairmen with the president and vice-president form the executive. Count Faina, an Italian senator, was chosen president of the permanent committee. Mr. Louis Dopp of the Department of Finance and Agriculture of France, vice-president : Mr. Michalos, a Hungarian senator and large land owner was chosen chairman of the first committee. Dr. Müller, of the German Department of Agriculture, chairman of the second committee, and Hon. Arthur Boyer, of Montreal, chairman of the third, so Canada was well represented. I feel a certain pride in the place and role Canada has taken in this organization. Aside from the personnel of those chosen, it is a recognition of the New World and of the important position Canada occupies in the great world.

Now, as to the aims of this Institute. I spoke of it as an international clearing house of agricultural statistics and information. I will go back to the three committees of the permanent committee to explain its work. The first committee is a secretariat and does the work of managing the organization and work of the offices at Rome. The second is the committee on agriculture and statistical information, and is charged with the work of organizing a statistical