

REPORT OF THE UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, OTTAWA

The Rt. Hon. R. B. BENNETT, K.C., M.P.,
Secretary of State for External Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the customary annual review of the business of the department for the calendar year 1930.

I regret to report the departure of the Hon. Jean Knight, the first diplomatic representative of the French Republic in Canada, consequent on his appointment to a high post in the Foreign Office of his country. In the interval between M. Knight's departure and the arrival of his successor, M. Henri Coursier has acted very acceptably as Charge d'Affaires.

Canada has had the honour during 1930 of welcoming the Hon. Hanford MacNider, Minister of the United States of America, in the place of the Hon. William Phillips whose retirement was noted in the previous annual report.

By an exchange of notes of August 8 and November 5, 1930, the Government of Norway formally recognized the Canadian title to the Arctic islands commonly known as the Sverdrup group, comprising Axel Heiberg, Ellef Ringnes, Amund Ringnes, and King Christian. This friendly action on the part of the Norwegian Government has removed the one possible ground of dispute as to Canadian sovereignty in the whole Arctic sector north of the mainland of Canada.

OFFICES ABROAD

To refer to the work of the offices operating under the Secretary of State for External Affairs outside of Canada:

London

I regret to record the death on February 3, 1930, of the Hon. P. C. Larkin, who had served as High Commissioner for Canada in the United Kingdom since 1922. Mr. Lucien Pacaud, the Secretary of the Office, has performed the duties of Acting High Commissioner in the interval between the death of Mr. Larkin and the arrival in London of the Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, who has recently been appointed to the vacancy created by the resignation of the Hon. Vincent Massey.

As representative and resident agent of Canada in the United Kingdom, the High Commissioner's functions are manifold and various. In addition to his statutory duty of supervision and control of the immigration offices and agencies in Great Britain, his office has become a channel for maintaining the necessary detailed relations between His Majesty's Governments in Canada and the United Kingdom.

The High Commissioner is charged with carrying out the Government's instructions respecting the commercial, financial, and general interests of Canada in Great Britain. The purchase of military and air equipment and