

the German offensive on the Netherlands, Belgian, and Luxemburg fronts, the development of the campaign in the Low Countries, the surrender of the Belgian army on May 28th, the settlement of Belgian refugees in France, the reorganization of Belgian troops, and the transfer of the Netherlands and Belgian Governments to the capital of the United Kingdom.

On November 1st, the Minister was recalled to Canada for consultation. In his absence, the direction of the Canadian Legations to Belgium and the Netherlands, was assumed by Mr. Pierre Dupuy, formerly at the Canadian Legation in Paris.

### ***Permanent Delegation of Canada to the League of Nations***

In the first part of the year the Delegation was largely occupied with work resulting from the co-operation of Canada in the assistance accorded to Finland by States members of the League, in accordance with the Resolution of the 20th Assembly.

A meeting of the Advisory Committee on Opium and other Dangerous Drugs was held, the Canadian Representative, Col. Sharman, Chief of the Narcotics Branch, attending. Owing to the war situation, other projected meetings of League bodies or under League auspices were cancelled. In May the Delegation gave its attention to League and International Labour Office arrangements for the evacuation of personnel from Geneva. Arrangements were also made for closing the Delegation, which took place at the end of May when the Chargé d'Affaires was withdrawn.

During the first part of the year the Chargé d'Affaires of the Delegation was named as Representative of the Canadian Government in matters concerning the International Red Cross Committee, Geneva. A number of questions relating to Canadians in enemy and enemy-occupied territory were dealt with. Arrangements were completed for the full operation of the International Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, 1929, as between Canada and Germany. Most of the provisions of this Convention were extended reciprocally to interned civilians in both countries.

A Meeting of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office and of the Emergency Committee set up by that body were held during the first part of the year, at which the Chargé d'Affaires attended as Acting Canadian Member of the Government Group.

The Permanent Delegate, Mr. Hume Wrong, having been attached to Canada House in October of 1939, Mr. Rive was named Chargé d'Affaires and carried on in this capacity until the closing of the Delegation.

### ***Office of the High Commissioner for Canada, Canberra***

The High Commissioner for Canada arrived in Canberra on December 27, 1939, and the office was established and opened at once. Suitable office accommodation was obtained not far from the Government Buildings and residential quarters were found in another section of the city. The first task of the High Commissioner was the organization of the work of the office.

During the year regular reports on the war activities of the Commonwealth Government were sent to Ottawa. Particular attention was devoted to matters directly or indirectly affecting Canada and those that might be of interest to