

CANADA'S EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Interests of Empire and International Questions That Have Been Considered During Past Year

The annual report upon the work of the department of external affairs containing a brief account of the more important matters dealt with in the correspondence with outside governments, arranged as they concern Canada's relations with foreign powers or with other portions of the Empire, as submitted by Mr. Joseph Pope, Under Secretary of State for External Affairs, shows:—

The award of the arbitrators left undecided the question of the reasonableness of objections raised before the tribunal by the United States to certain Canadian and Newfoundland regulations which it was contended contravened the provisions of the Treaty of 1818. The tribunal desired to have this question first considered by the commission of experts provided for by Article III. of the Arbitration Agreement, and steps were taken to assemble that commission; but as a result of diplomatic discussion it has been found possible amicably to adjust the differences regarding existing regulations in so far as Canada is concerned.

The arbitrators had further recommended a method of procedure to provide for the settlement of differences regarding future regulations; but as the suggested procedure was not altogether acceptable, a formal agreement has been negotiated between the two governments whereby the recommendations have been adopted in a modified form. This agreement also includes the acceptance by both parties of the recommendations of the tribunal with regard to the limits of the bays contiguous to the territory of the Dominion.

Confirmation and Continuation of Agreements, &c.

The pecuniary claims agreement with the terms of submission and the first schedule of claims to be submitted, was finally confirmed by an exchange of notes between the two governments on the 26th April, 1912. Negotiations are in progress for the settlement of a second schedule to include further claims on both sides. The questions of the personnel of the tribunal to try the claims and of the date when it shall be convened are now under consideration.

The Alaska boundary demarcation work continues to advance; the line tracing has been carried during the past season to latitude 69° 20' within a few miles of the Arctic Ocean, the triangulation to latitude 68° 54' and the topography to 69° 04'.

The regulations drawn up by the commissioners under the treaty with United States for regulation of fisheries in waters contiguous to the boundary have not so far been approved by the United States commissioners. Dr. Jordan, the United States commissioner, having resigned, his place has been filled by the appointment of Mr. Job. E. Hedges.

The International Joint Commission provided for by the treaty with United States relating to boundary waters, has now been fully constituted, Messrs. T. Chase Casgrain, K.C., H. A. Powell, K.C., and C. A. Magrath having been appointed as the Canadian members. The United States members as originally appointed were the Honorable T. H. Carter, the Honorable James Tawney and the Honorable Frank Sherwin Streeter, but the death of Mr. Carter making a new appointment necessary, the Honorable George Turner was appointed to fill the vacancy.

The commissioners met at Washington early in the year for purposes of organization and rules of procedure to be followed in cases before the commission were adopted.

Applications have been received by the commission through the United States government from the Watrous Boom Company for the approval of the erection of booms in the Rainy River, and from the Rainy River Improvement Company for the approval of the erection of a dam at Kettle Falls; and a joint reference has been made by the two governments of questions relating to the use of the waters of the Lake of the Woods.

West Indian Agreement.

The consideration of the measures to be taken to give effect to the suggestions of the Royal Commission on trade relations between Canada and the West Indies, gave occasion for the convening of a conference of representatives of the Dominion and the colonies concerned. The conference opened at Ottawa on the 29th March, Canada being represented by the Honorable G. E. Foster, minister of trade and commerce, the Honorable W. T. White, minister of finance, and the Honorable J. D. Reid, minister of customs. The West Indian Colonies represented were Trinidad, British Guiana, Barbados, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Antigua, St. Kitts, Dominica and Montserrat. On the 9th April an agreement was concluded, subject to the approval of the parliament of Canada, of the legislatures of the West Indian Colonies concerned, and of the secretary of state for the colonies, by which preferential tariff treatment in the West Indian Colonies

is accorded to a scheduled list of Canadian products in return for similar preferential treatment of enumerated West Indian products and the free entry of others when imported into Canada. The tariff concessions granted by Canada are to be extended for three years to the colonies of the Bahamas, Bermuda, British Honduras, Grenada, Jamaica, and Newfoundland, but may then be withdrawn from any of those colonies which have failed to grant the preferential tariff treatment provided by the agreement to the scheduled Canadian products. The agreement is to remain in force for ten years.

Trade and Resources of the Empire.

In accordance with a resolution adopted at the Imperial Conference of 1911, a commission was issued by the King on the 15th April, 1912, appointing representatives of the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Newfoundland to enquire into the natural resources, trade and legislation of certain portions of His Majesty's dominions. The Honorable G. E. Foster, minister of trade and commerce, was appointed as the representative of Canada, and Mr. W. A. Robinson was made secretary to the commission.

Meetings of the commission were held in London in June for the purpose of making arrangements to enable it to perform its duties effectively, and the general lines of procedure to be followed were settled.

WHAT THE WEST HAS DONE

In the three prairie provinces of the Canadian West there were in 1912 a little less than 19,000,000 acres under cultivation, and from these 19,000,000 acres \$118,528,992 have been realized during the past four months. It is safe to assume that when the final bill for farm produce is made up there will be more than \$200,000,000 to credit to the farms. So reports Miss E. Cora Hind, of Winnipeg, the well-known authority. In a year, she says, when prices for grain have been low a gain of nearly \$17,000,000 on farm produce speaks volumes for the producing power of the country.

The following table is added to her review:—

	1912. \$	1911. \$	1910. \$
Wheat	66,982,196.72	62,996,517.38	48,181,543.35
Oats	8,511,223.75	6,190,803.12	3,296,471.00
Barley	3,887,975.00	1,861,312.50	581,328.00
Flax	10,510,872.44	4,325,641.25	6,530,990.00
Totals	89,892,267.91	75,384,274.25	58,590,337.35
Cattle, hogs and sheep	9,790,802.70	7,825,797.46	11,301,421.89
Potatoes, hay and roots	15,663,000.00	15,694,000.00	7,818,000.00
Dairy products	3,182,922.00	2,657,761.56	2,448,155.34
Totals	28,636,724.70	26,177,559.02	21,567,577.23
Grand total of farm products	118,528,992.61	101,561,835.27	80,157,914.58

TWENTY-SEVEN MILLIONS OF CAPITAL

(Continued from previous page.)

Hill Homes Company, \$125,000. J. Aitchison, G. Cooper, J. E. Emery. Essenkay Sales Company of Toronto, \$40,000. J. H. Hunter, A. H. Cox, G. G. MacKenzie. Canada Glove Works, \$40,000. J. R. Haddow, W. E. Davis, H. Denison. Osborne Company, \$40,000. G. H. Sedgewick, G. E. McCann, A. G. Ross.

Montreal.—Griffiths and Company, (electrical, civil, hydraulic and harbor engineers), £500,000. P. R. Warren, R. T. Heneker, W. S. Johnson. Spring Water Company, \$2,000,000. T. S. Owens, H. McIntyre, C. G. Macartney. E. M. Sellon & Company, \$100,000 (insurance), E. R. Parkins. A. C. Calder, W. Taylor. Robert Howard and Company, \$50,000 (insurance and real estate). L. Macfarlane, G. W. MacDougall, C. A. Pope. New Mastic Tire Company, of Canada, \$50,000. A. Michelin, A. Wilson, C. Robichaud. Sterling Trust Company, \$50,000. J. Johnston, P. Mullin, Jr., E. T. Reynolds. Mercantile Realty Company, \$50,000. W. R. L. Shanks, F. G. Bush, G. R. Drennan. National Building Supply and Enamel Concrete Brick Company, \$250,000. A. P. Mathieu, A. Mathieu, J. A. Ogden. Quebec and Orleans Corporation, \$1,000,000 (real estate). E. M. McDougall, G. S. Stairs, J. J. Creelman. Western Canada Public Utilities, \$3,000,000. C. H. Cahan, Jr., O. B. MacCallum, W. E. Brown. Canada-Cinema, \$50,000. V. Morin, J. Nolin, J. Dumais. Investment Agencies, \$125,000. L. N. Lefebvre, M. R. Normandin, L. J. Asselin. La Compagnie Lacroix, \$20,000. D. Daignault, J. L. Lacroix, J. W. Lacroix.