

## Report of the Canadian Delegates to the Fourteenth Assembly of the League of Nations

OTTAWA, December 7, 1933.

Right Honourable R. B. BENNETT, K.C., M.P.,  
Secretary of State for External Affairs,  
Ottawa, Canada,

SIR,—We have the honour to submit the following report on the proceedings of the Fourteenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the League of Nations which was held in Geneva from September 25 to October 11, 1933.

Fifty-four of the fifty-seven States Members of the League were represented at the opening of the Session, those absent being the Argentine Republic, Honduras, and Japan. During the course of the Assembly, the Argentine Republic definitively acceded to the Covenant of the League.

The Canadian delegation consisted of the Honourable Robert J. Manion, Minister of Railways and Canals, Senior Delegate; the Honourable Philippe Roy, Canadian Minister to France; and Dr. Walter A. Riddell, Dominion of Canada Advisory Officer accredited to the League of Nations. The Honourable G. Howard Ferguson, High Commissioner for Canada in the United Kingdom, who was appointed a member of the delegation, was unable to attend owing to the pressure of other business. M. Jean Désy, Counsellor of the Canadian Legation at Paris, acted as alternate delegate. Dr. Paul E. Renaud acted as Secretary to the delegation.

The proceedings of the Assembly were, in accordance with precedent, opened by the Acting President of the Council, who was in this case M. Mowinkel, delegate of Norway. In his opening speech, M. Mowinkel regretfully acknowledged that the position of the League in public opinion had not improved since the Assembly last met. The public, he felt, was interested not so much in the day-to-day work of the League as in its power to establish a better understanding between nations and to safeguard peace, and it had to be admitted that the ever present possibility of war was a constant menace. Fifteen years after the close of that fratricidal crime, the world war, we find to our shame, he declared, that we have made little progress towards securing a better understanding among peoples. The Disarmament Conference and the Monetary and Economic Conference had been expected to do much to further the cause of peace, but the results were negative rather than positive and helped to spread discouragement and disillusionment. M. Mowinkel welcomed the conclusion, within the framework of the League, of the Four-Power Pact and, in closing, expressed gratification at the close co-operation extended by the United States of America to the League during the year.

### ORGANIZATION OF THE ASSEMBLY

The election of the officers of the Assembly resulted as follows:—

*President:* Mr. C. T. de Water (South Africa).

#### *Vice-Presidents*

M. Daladier (France).

Sir John Simon (United Kingdom).

Baron Aloisi (Italy).

M. Castillo Najera (Mexico).

Baron von Neurath (Germany).

Ali Khan Foroughi (Persia).