

13 GEORGE V, A. 1923

Pursuant to a recommendation of the Conference of Prime Ministers held in 1921, a conference of representatives of the Patent Offices of the Empire was assembled at the Patent Office, London, in June, 1922, to consider the practicability of instituting a system of granting patents which should be valid throughout the Empire, Mr. W. J. Lynch, I.S.O., being the Canadian representative.

A scheme was approved by the conference, but until it should be generally accepted by the different portions of the Empire, a provisional scheme for immediate adoption was also recommended. This provisional scheme Canada has not seen her way to adopt.

ADDITIONAL TREATIES

Note might also be made of ratifications of treaties heretofore signed and of negotiations of recent treaties additional to those adopted by the various international conferences as follows:—

Ratification of the protocol declaring acceptance of the statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice was given on July 16, 1921.

Canada's ratification of the Principal Postal Union Convention signed at Madrid November 30, 1920 with final protocol, was deposited with the Spanish Government at Madrid December 1, 1921.

The Convention for the regulation of Aerial Navigation signed at Paris October 13, 1919, by the representatives of some thirty-three states, including Canada, was ratified by His Majesty on June 1, 1922. The protocol of ratification deposited with the French Government at Paris contained a clause reserving liberty to delay the application of Article 5 of the treaty forbidding the flight of aircraft of non-contracting powers over the territory of contracting powers in favour of certain of such non-contracting powers.

With Canada's concurrence the convention regarding the non-fortification and neutralization of the Aaland islands concluded at Geneva October 20, 1921, between the British Empire, Germany, Denmark, Esthonia, Finland, France, Italy, Latvia, Poland, and Sweden in accordance with a recommendation of the Council of the League of Nations, was ratified on April 6, 1922.

The Franco-Canadian Trade Agreement of 1921 was in response to representations from the French Government extended by Order in Council of February 23, 1922, to apply to Algeria, the French Colonies and Possessions, the territories of the Protectorate of Indo-China, and the territories of the Saar Basin.

REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY CONVENTION WITH THE UNITED STATES

The United States Supreme Court having decided that British subjects resident in Canada were excluded from the benefits conferred by the convention regarding the disposal of real and personal property of March 2, 1899, a supplementary convention to extend the application of the first named convention to the Dominion was negotiated and signed at Washington, October 21, 1921, ratifications being exchanged June 17, 1922.

Conventions were signed at London on May 1, 1922, and ratified July 28, 1922, with Denmark and with Iceland renewing for a further period of five years from May 4, 1921, the Arbitration Convention signed with Denmark on October 25, 1905.

DECLARATION RECOGNIZING THE RIGHT TO A FLAG OF STATES HAVING NO SEA-COAST

This declaration was agreed to on April 20, 1921, at the general conference on Freedom of Communications and Transit held at Barcelona. Canada took no part in the conference nor in the conclusion of any of the treaties negotiated