

No new treaties or conventions with the United States were entered into during 1931. The Convention, which was signed at Ottawa on May 9, 1930, embodying the recommendations of the International Fisheries Commission appointed under the Pacific Halibut Treaty, was approved by the United States Senate on February 24, and has now gone into effect. The Sockeye Salmon Convention, signed in Washington on May 26, 1930, has not yet been acted upon by the Senate. Diplomatic correspondence and informal negotiations with the Government of the United States covered the usual wide field; among subjects receiving special attention may be mentioned the development of the international section of the St. Lawrence river, and various aspects of the perennial problems arising out of immigration regulations, smuggling, the seizure of Canadian vessels, the regulation of international waters, radio, the extradition of prisoners, and international claims. The recent passage of new tariff legislation, in both Canada and the United States, caused a number of questions of interpretation to arise which involved a large volume of correspondence and numerous discussions with the United States authorities.

Since Congress was not in session between March 4 and December 7, the usually heavy task of following legislative proceedings was lighter than it had been in 1930 and 1929. There were, however, many important developments in the United States throughout the year, both in the international field and in connection with the policy of the Government in dealing with the depression, which provided subject matter for numerous reports on a great range of questions of direct or indirect interest to Canada.

Individual Canadians continued to employ the facilities afforded by the Legation in a large variety of ways. These fall into two general classes: first, enquiries from persons seeking information concerning laws and regulations in the United States; and secondly, appeals for assistance from persons who are in difficulties with the United States authorities. Among the first class, an unusually large number of commercial enquiries was received during the year. In the second class, the strictness with which all immigration laws are now being enforced caused a considerable increase in the number of appeals from persons under order of deportation from the United States; the examination of these cases involved almost daily discussions with the United States authorities, and a voluminous correspondence with the Department of External Affairs, other diplomatic missions in Washington, consular officers, and private individuals.

At the end of February the Prime Minister paid a brief visit to Washington during which he stayed at the Legation.

Paris

During the year now ended, Canadian diplomatic representation in Paris has been occupied to an increasing extent with questions and enquiries of interest to Canada and to Canadians and with the further development of friendly Franco-Canadian relations. Evidence of the range and diversity of the Legation's activities is seen in the summary of its official duties during the past year