

possibility of the increased export of British coal to Canada; Belgian regulations re import of Canadian apples; use of Canadian timber for British railway repair and construction work.

A considerable share of the work of the office is devoted to the handling of matters arising from requests and inquiries made by the departments at Ottawa and other Canadian correspondence. During the year action has been requested on behalf of Ottawa departments on enemy debts and reparations; the placing of contracts; the purchase of stores and equipment; customs tariff decisions; and many other questions. There are also numerous inquiries from British Government departments, official bodies, and institutions, British Consuls in Europe and from the British public generally. These inquiries have been devoted to such varied subjects as conditions in Canada, domestic affairs (especially tracing of relatives), business opportunities, mining and industrial developments, Dominion and provincial legislation, etc.

Duties of another type are those concerned with such subjects as the distribution of publications and data generally on Canadian commerce, industry and natural resources. During 1929 upwards of 260 press bulletins were issued from the office, these including 1,100 news items.

During the year a number of conferences and meetings of Inter-Commonwealth Committees were held in London, in which the High Commissioner's office participated directly, or with which it kept in close contact. Among these were the conference on Dominion Legislation and Merchant Shipping Legislation; meetings of the Pacific Cable Board, or the Imperial and International Communications, Limited, as it became known after November 4; the Empire Marketing Board; the Empire Timber Committee; the Imperial Institute; the Imperial War Graves Commission; the Imperial Shipping Committee; and the Imperial Economic Committee. In addition a member of the staff acted as one of the Canadian representatives at the International Conference for Safety of Life at Sea, which met in London during the year.

During the year the High Commissioner officially visited the Dominion, where he conferred with members of the Government and others on matters affecting Canada and Great Britain.

Evidence of the continued growth in the work of the Legation in Washington is seen in the fact that the duties of every department of the office have grown in volume during the year. Those of the Commercial branch have been particularly heavy, owing to the necessity of following and reporting on the activities of the Federal Farm Board and the efforts of Congress to revise the customs tariff.

The diversity of the Legation's work is clearly shown by a brief consideration of the various topics coming before it.

During the past year diplomatic correspondence has arisen between the Governments of Canada and the United States, and reports have been addressed to the Government of Canada on international boundary waters and other waterway problems, smuggling, radio communications, fisheries, boundaries, international aviation, taxation (such as double income tax), extradition, deportation, claims against the governments, veterans' welfare, visits of members of armed forces, tariff.

Reports have been addressed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs on the following domestic questions of the United States: tariff policies, export trade and regulations, methods of farm relief, railway rates and regulations, mercantile marine, legislation respecting seamen, taxation, immigration legislation and regulations, immigration to and emigration from Canada, development and control of waterways and electric power, conservation proposals, control of insect and other pests, enforcement of prohibition, postal subsidies, civil aviation, military and naval defence, organization of civil service, the Executive Government—personnel and policies, Congress.