

Customs duty stamps; the interpretation of agricultural and other departmental regulations, and enquiries on particular matters such as Canadian legislation, passports, naturalization, the tracing of relatives, customs duties, succession duties, financial and business conditions, professional opportunities, shipments of Canadian cattle and outbreaks of foot and mouth disease, and, generally speaking, on all matters affecting Canada.

During the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1931, the aggregate expenditure, administered on behalf of departments of the Canadian Government by the High Commissioner's Office, amounted to \$3,113,662. Reparation payments received for the Government totalled \$6,415,773 and collections of principal and interest on post-war loans to various European Governments were \$1,524,280. Other financial activities included arrangements for the issue, transfer, redemption and discharge of Grand Trunk Pacific New Debenture Stock representing some six and a half million dollars. Securities deposited in London in accordance with the provisions of the Canadian Insurance Act amounting, approximately, to another fifty millions of dollars were also handled by the office entailing transfers, exchanges and renewals of all stock covered. Arrangements were also made in London for the printing and issue of the prospectus and application forms relating to Canada's 1931 Conversion Loan. The necessary cancellation and conversion of bonds in this connection covered a sum of \$1,762,300.

The High Commissioner's Office has taken an active part in the efforts put forward to secure lower marine insurance rates on vessels proceeding to Churchill, Hudson Bay.

With a large collection of official publications, photographs and maps, the High Commissioner's Office is regarded as the principal source of information in Europe on every phase of the economic development of Canada. Its reference files, relative to Canadian natural resources and industrial opportunities, are always available and widely used by banks and industrial firms interested in the development of Inter-Imperial commerce. A system of press bulletins is maintained through which the latest advices from Canada are widely circulated to business houses. Chambers of Commerce, other institutions and public libraries, in addition to the technical and general press. During the year, two hundred and one bulletins, representing fifty-six on natural resources and industry, thirty on Canadian fruit exports, seventy-five on mining and metallurgy and forty on special subjects, were despatched to an extensive list of business and official addresses. Arrangements made in previous years with Reuters News Agency for the circulation of their cabled news service to Canadian officers abroad were also maintained, as was also the circulation of the Canadian Official Grain Crops cablegram and the Canadian Official Mineral Production cablegram at various intervals during the period.

#### *Washington*

The Hon. W. D. Herridge, whose appointment as Canadian Minister to the United States had been announced in March, presented his Letters of Credence to President Hoover in June. Up to that date, Mr. Hume Wrong, Counsellor of the Legation, continued to act as Chargé d'Affaires.