

at first of eighty-two members. In all the provinces the Assemblies are elected for four years. Each of the Lieutenant-Governors is aided by an Executive Council or Ministry, responsible to the Legislature, and through it to the province, for all measures and acts of government.

6. When any other province wishes to enter the Dominion, the majority of its inhabitants must express their willingness, after which the legislatures of the province and the Dominion Parliament pass the necessary Acts, which must also receive the sanction of royal authority.

7. This **Confederation** of the provinces did not take from them the great boon of responsible government, but only secured it to all in a more complete form. To the government at Ottawa was given the charge of those matters which concerned all the provinces, such as trade and commerce, the postal service, the taking of the census, the military and naval defence of the country, navigation, the fisheries, coinage, banking and the issue of paper-money, the Indians, criminal law, and the penitentiaries. The duties of each provincial legislature included the levying of direct taxation within the province, borrowing money on the credit of the province, the regulation of municipal institutions, licenses, local public works, property and civil rights in the province, the administration of justice, and education.

8. Each of the provinces had a public debt of its own, but at the union the Dominion promised to pay these debts. The provinces also gave up their public revenues to the central government at Ottawa, and, in lieu of this, the latter was to pay each local government a fixed yearly sum to defray its expenses. It was agreed, moreover, that an **Intercolonial Railway** should be built, joining the Maritime provinces with those in the interior.

9. While the first "Dominion Day" was observed