

## REPORT OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Right Honourable,  
The Secretary of State for External Affairs,  
Ottawa.

SIR,—Following the customary procedure I submit a brief review of the more important subjects which came before the department during the yearly period ending the 31st March, 1920.

### EUROPEAN WAR.

Notwithstanding the cessation of hostilities, the attention of the department has continued to be mainly engaged with questions arising from the war and the settlement of the peace treaties.

Among the earliest results of the activities of the Peace Conference was the conclusion of the treaty with Germany, which was signed at Versailles, the 28th June, 1919, ratified by His Majesty on the 10th October, and came into operation on the 10th January, 1920, as provided by its terms, when the first procès verbal of the deposit of ratifications by three of the Allied Powers and by Germany was drawn up. The plenipotentiaries who signed on behalf of Canada were the Hon. C. J. Doherty and the Hon. A. L. Sifton. In becoming operative the treaty brought into effect the Covenant of the League of Nations, which it embodied. At the same time an agreement was signed with regard to the military occupation of the territories of the Rhine, as well as a treaty between the Principal Allied and Associated Powers and Poland confirming her recognition as an independent state and the transfer to her of territory formerly included in the German Empire, which was ratified on the 10th January, 1920.

The Peace Treaty with Austria was signed at Saint Germain-en-Laye on the 10th September, 1919, the Canadian plenipotentiary being the Hon. Sir A. E. Kemp; that with Bulgaria at Neuilly-sur-Seine on the 27th November, 1919, Canada being represented by the Hon. Sir George H. Perley. Both these treaties await ratification.

At the same time as the Austrian Treaty were signed also:—

1. Protocol indicating the conditions on which certain provisions of the treaty were to be carried out.
2. Declarations (2) as to vessels sunk or damaged by Austrian Naval Service, and as to trading with Hungary.
3. Treaty between the Principal Allied and Associated Powers and Czecho-Slovakia regarding questions of nationality and the rights of minorities.
4. Treaty between the Principal Allied and Associated Powers and the Serb-Croat-Slovene State relative to minorities, new territories, etc.
5. Convention for the Control of Trade in Arms and Ammunition, with protocol.
6. Convention regarding the liquor traffic in Africa, with protocol.