

## SESSIONAL PAPER No. 34

it was agreed, should be directed towards insuring independence of German sources and the retention of the control of such materials within the Empire.

The encouragement of efforts for the development of the dye industry was also approved, and the consideration of the question of shipping with the object of developing and improving sea communication between the various parts of the Empire was recommended.

A resolution was also adopted respecting reciprocity of treatment between India and other parts of the Empire in relation to immigration.

Other matters dealt with were the establishing of an Imperial mineral resources bureau, petroleum, state-owned Atlantic cable, demobilization and improved channels of communication between the Governments of the United Kingdom and of the Dominions.

## TREATIES.

1. *General Arbitration Treaties.*—During the year 1918, a treaty between His Majesty and Uruguay was negotiated, providing that all disputes between the two countries which it was found impossible to settle by diplomatic means should be referred to arbitration. Canada's concurrence in the conclusion of the treaty was invited and given and the treaty duly ratified on the 11th February, 1919.

Similar general arbitration treaties with France, with Italy, with Spain, and with the United States concluded, respectively, on the 14th October, 1903; 1st February, 1904; 27th February, 1904; 4th April, 1908, which were about to expire, were renewed and extended for further periods of five years in each case, such renewals dating from 14th October, 1918; 1st February, 1919; 26th February, 1919, and 4th June, 1918.

2. *Commercial Treaties with Greece.*—In view of the changed conditions brought about by the abrogation of commercial treaties consequent on the war, and with the object of gaining freedom to regulate her foreign relations in conformity with the new situation, Greece, on the 3rd March, 1919, gave notice denouncing her commercial treaties with Great Britain. To give full opportunity for considering the forming of new arrangements, it was agreed that the treaties should be prolonged after the date which the denunciation fixed for their termination, subject to definite termination on three months' notice.

3. *Commercial Treaty with France.*—Notice was given by France on the 10th September, 1918, denouncing the convention respecting commercial relations between France and Canada of the 19th September, 1907, and the Supplementary Convention of the 23rd January, 1909, so that they should terminate on the 10th September, 1919, but, in accordance with the suggestion of the French Government, it has been agreed that they shall continue to operate subject to three months' notice of final termination.

## BOUNDARY WATERS QUESTION WITH THE UNITED STATES.

*St. Lawrence River Power Company's Application.*—This company, an American corporation and a subsidiary of the Aluminium Company of America, asked for approval of the construction of a submerged weir on the south side of the St. Lawrence river at Massena, New York, with the object of improving the operation of its electrical power plant where aluminium was smelted. The application was supported by the United States Government and was heard at Montreal on the 29th and 30th August. It was opposed by the Canadian Government on the ground that as the proposed weir would close to navigation the south channel of the St. Lawrence at the Long Sault, the provision of the Ashburton Treaty of 1842; "that the channels of the St. Lawrence on both sides of Long Sault Islands . . . shall be equally free and open to the ships, vessels and boats of both countries," prevented the Commission granting approval of the plan proposed. The Dominion Marine Association and the Harbour Commission of Montreal also opposed the application.

By an Order dated the 14th September, 1918, on the consideration of the urgency as a war measure of facilitating the production of aluminium, the Commission approved