

REPORT OF THE UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Rt. Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING, C.M.G., M.P.,
Secretary of State for External Affairs,
OTTAWA.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the customary annual review of the business of the department for the calendar year 1929.

The development of our direct relations with foreign States, during the year, was marked by the establishment of the Canadian Legation in Tokyo. Dr. H. L. Keenleyside, of this department, inaugurated the mission in April, and acted as Chargé d'Affaires until the arrival of the Minister, the Hon. H. M. Marler, who presented his credentials to the Emperor on September 18, 1929. In return, Canada had the honour of welcoming the first Minister Plenipotentiary from Japan, the Hon. Iyemasa Tokugawa, who presented his credentials on October 21.

I regret to report the departure of the United States Minister, the Hon. William Phillips, in consequence of his resignation from the United States Foreign Service. Mr. Phillips was the first diplomatic representative of a foreign power to be accredited to the Dominion. Until the appointment of his successor, Mr. Benjamin Reath Riggs, recently appointed as First Secretary, is acting as Chargé d'Affaires.

A noteworthy event of the year was the visit to Ottawa, in October, of the Prime Minister of Great Britain, the Rt. Hon. Ramsay MacDonald, following his conference with President Hoover in Washington.

OFFICES ABROAD

To refer to the work of the offices operating under the Secretary of State for External Affairs outside of Canada:

As the channel for maintaining the necessary detailed relations between His Majesty's Governments in Canada and in the United Kingdom, the office of the High Commissioner in London has continued to discharge its varied duties, and Canada House continues to be the principal centre for Canadians in London. During the first eleven months of the year there were 6,732 registrations in the main hall and 4,402 persons are recorded as having had interviews with the secretary; the assistant secretary, or other heads of departments. The amenities of the office were extended during the year to visiting delegations, including the Canadian V.C.'s, newspaper editors, teachers and undergraduates, boy scouts, and members of the Canadian Club tour.

The financial work performed by the office is becoming more and more important. Among these varied financial duties may be mentioned the High Commissioner's attendance at the Hague Reparations Conference; preparation of statements and data on varied financial subjects; checking of Canadian National Railway holdings; the supervision of the post-war loans made by Canada to various European countries.

Commercial questions have continued to be important. In this connection the following are typical of the subjects dealt with during the year: Inclusion of St. John and Halifax in the North Atlantic Chartering Range; Reciprocal Shipping Tax Exemption with Greece; the application of the Canadian Customs regulation revising the conditions under which preferential treatment is granted;