

agreement between Canada and British Columbia respecting the western boundary of the Railway Belt (chapter 39), railway subsidies (chapter 40) and the Winnipeg Terminals (chapter 52). Chapter 53 amends the Yukon Act by providing for the appointment of an acting commissioner during the absence or illness of the commissioner, and chapter 54 amends the Yukon Placer Mining Act of 1906.

the Railway Belt, B. C. Railway subsidies. Winnipeg terminals. Acting Commissioner in the Yukon. Yukon Placer Mining Act.

The Colonial Conference, to which reference was made in the Year Book of 1906, commenced in London on April 15 and ended on May 14, 1907, the proceedings occupying altogether fifteen days. The Dominion of Canada was represented at the Conference by the Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, G.C.M.G., Prime Minister, the Hon. Sir F. W. Borden, K.C.M.G., Minister of Militia and Defence, and the Hon. L. P. Brodeur, Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

Colonial Conference, London, 1907.

The Earl of Elgin, Imperial Secretary of State for the Colonies, presided over the deliberations, and the Conference opened with an address of welcome from the late Right Hon. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, G.C.B., Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, to which replies were made by the Prime Ministers of the Colonies represented, including Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Canada, the Hon. Alfred Deakin, Australia, the Hon. Sir Joseph G. Ward, K.C.M.G., New Zealand, the Hon. L. S. Jameson, C.B., Cape Colony, the Hon. R. F. Moor, Natal, the Right Hon. Sir R. Bond, K.C.M.G., Newfoundland, and General the Hon. Louis Botha, Transvaal.

Governments represented.

On the opening days the discussions were largely directed towards the best means of placing the Conference on a permanent basis, with due provision for administrative machinery. Whilst the members were unanimous in approval of the policy of attempting to secure this object, there was considerable divergence of opinion as to the means of giving effect to it. The proposal to change the name of the Conference to 'Imperial Council', to which objection was taken in 1906 by the Government of Canada on the ground that the establishment of such a Council might lead to interference with the legislative and administrative autonomy enjoyed by each self-governing colony, came first under discussion, and it was apparent that all the Ministers repudiated quite as strongly as Canada any idea of such interference, and not least so the Ministers of Australia, New Zealand and Cape Colony, who had endorsed the proposed change of title. The term 'Imperial Conference' was adopted unanimously as a result of the discussion.

Permanent constitution of the Conference.

A further proposal by Australia was that a permanent secretariat should be established in London for the purposes of providing a link between Conference and Conference, of organizing the meetings, of dealing with the resolutions passed, and of furnishing the Ministers of the self-governing colonies with a convenient medium for the informal exchange of views on questions not ripe for immediate solution or official correspondence.

Permanent secretariat for the Imperial Conference.