

welcomed at Quebec where the new Governor General was duly sworn in. At the state luncheon which followed the inaugural ceremonies at Quebec the Duke communicated a special message from His Majesty the King expressing to the Canadian people his "personal affection and ever-abiding interest in all that concerns the welfare of the Dominion."

International fur seal convention. As the result of an international fur seal conference, held at Washington from May 11 to July 7, when Great Britain was represented by the Right Hon. James Bryce, O.M., British Ambassador, and Mr. (now Sir) Joseph Pope, C.V.O., C.M.G., Under Secretary of State of Canada for External Affairs, accompanied by Mr. W. A. Found and Mr. James Macoun as experts, a convention was signed on July 7 by which Great Britain, the United States, Russia and Japan undertook that pelagic sealing should cease for a period of 15 years from December 15 1911 and thereafter until duly terminated by a year's written notice from any one or more of the four signatory Powers to all the others.

Object of the convention. The object of the convention is to prevent the rapid destruction of fur seals and sea otters which has continued during recent years. As this destruction has been due almost entirely to the capture of seals and sea otters while away from land it is believed that the convention will preserve the small herds now in existence and will enable them to increase in numbers in future and thus eventually replenish the supply of seal skins in the world's markets.

Terms of convention. By the convention all pelagic sealing, except that carried on in canoes by Indians or other aborigines for their own sustenance, is prohibited in the waters of the North Pacific ocean north of the 30th parallel of north latitude and including the seas of Behring, Kamschatka, Okhotsk and Japan. Provision is also made for an apportionment amongst the signatory Powers of the annual proceeds from the seals killed in the various herds on land, the share of Great Britain which is payable to Canada being 15 per cent of the annual gross takings on land by the United States and Russia respectively and 10 per cent of the gross annual takings by Japan. Ratifications of the convention were exchanged at Washington on December 12 1911.

Population of Canada, 1911. During the year the fifth census of Canada was taken as for June 1. As the result the population was ascertained to be 7,204,838¹, an increase of 1,833,523, or 34.13 p.c., since the previous census of March 31 1901. Tables I and II on page 2 of this volume of the Year Book give the distribution of the population by provinces and territories according to sex, with the totals of the previous census for comparison.

¹ Revised by the addition of 66 to Ontario since the printing of the tables on page 2.