

LEGISLATION AND PRINCIPAL EVENTS OF THE YEARS 1916 AND 1917.

the war." General Hughes' resignation was accepted, and on November 23, 1916, the Hon. A. E. Kemp was appointed to succeed him as Minister of Militia and Defence. On October 28, 1916, Sir George Perley, Acting High Commissioner in London, was appointed by Order in Council as Minister of the Overseas Military Forces for Canada in the United Kingdom.

Visits to Canada of Australian, French and British Statesmen.—On February 18, 1916, the Hon. William Morris Hughes, Premier of the Commonwealth of Australia, when passing through Canada on his way to England, was sworn in at Ottawa as a member of the Canadian Privy Council; and he was also present, by invitation, at a meeting of the Dominion Cabinet. On April 6, 1917, war against Germany was declared by the United States whose entrance into the great conflict was warmly welcomed in Canada, as in the rest of the Empire, not only because the vast resources of the new Ally rendered still more certain a victorious issue, but also because of the moral weight which the American Republic, after a display of forbearance unexampled in the history of nations, thus threw into the scale on behalf of democratic freedom. In May, as a consequence of the action thus taken, important missions from France under M. René Viviani, French Minister of Justice, and Marshal Joffre, formerly Commander-in-Chief of the French Armies in the field, and from Great Britain under the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, M.P., Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, visited the United States and Canada. On May 12, 1917, M. Viviani, who was accompanied by the Marquis de Chambrun, Vice-President of the French Committee for Foreign Affairs, and General Vignal, Military Attaché of the French Embassy at Washington, were received at Ottawa by both Houses of Parliament in joint session. M. Viviani on this occasion delivered a deeply impressive oration, which on the motion of the Acting Prime Minister (Sir George Foster), seconded by the Leader of the Opposition (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) was ordered to be inserted in Hansard as part of the permanent record of Parliament. On May 28, 1917, Mr. Balfour was likewise tendered a reception by both Houses of Parliament, when he delivered a notable speech, which on the motion of the Prime Minister (Sir Robert Borden), seconded by the Leader of the Opposition (Sir Wilfred Laurier), was ordered to be published in the Official Debates of the House of Commons.

Visits to England of Canadian Cabinet Ministers.—On February 12, 1917, the Prime Minister (Sir Robert Borden), accompanied by two of his colleagues in the Cabinet (the Hon. Robert Rogers, Minister of Public Works and the Hon. J. D. Hazen, Minister of Marine and Fisheries and of the Naval Service) left for England to attend meetings of Imperial representatives in London for the consideration of matters connected with the prosecution of the war, the terms of peace and the problems that will arise after the conclusion of peace. An Imperial War Cabinet, consisting of members of the British War Cabinet, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and the Secretary of State for India, as well as the Prime Ministers of all the self-governing Dominions of the British Empire (with the exception of Australia, whose representatives were unable