

The participation of Canada in the Peace Treaty and in the League of Nations made it necessary for an official definition of Canadian nationals and Canadian nationality to be made, since among different measures adopted in connection with the operations of the League of Nations, were provisions defining certain rights and privileges to be enjoyed by the nationals of members of the League. A Canadian national was accordingly defined by 11-12 George V, chap. 4, as:

- (a) any British subject who is a Canadian citizen¹ within the meaning of The Immigration Act, chapter 27 of the Statutes of 1910, as heretofore amended;
- (b) the wife of any such person;
- (c) any person born out of Canada, whose father was a Canadian national at the time of that person's birth, or with regard to persons born before the passing of this Act, any person whose father at the time of such birth, possessed all the qualifications of a Canadian national as defined in this Act.

In the debates on this Act it was thoroughly established that its effect was not in any way to supersede the term "British subject," but to create a sub-class of "Canadian nationals" within "British subjects."

A similar advance toward recognition of the existence of a Canadian nation is to be found in the gradual tendency toward direct negotiation instead of *négotiation* through London with the diplomatic or consular representatives of other powers. For many years the consuls-general of other countries at Ottawa or Montreal, more especially the consuls-general of the United States, Japan, Italy and Germany, discharged diplomatic or semi-diplomatic functions in Canada, and Sir Wilfred Laurier in 1910 considered that while "this has been done without authority and is contrary to the rules that apply among civilized nations, it became a necessity because of the development of the larger colonies of the British Empire, which have become practically nations." Further, Mr. Blake in 1882, Sir Richard Cartwright in 1889, and Mr. Mills in 1892 moved resolutions in favour of Canadian diplomatic representation at Washington, emphasizing the fact that a Canadian diplomatic representative would be an envoy of the Queen, that he would act in co-operation with the British Ambassador at Washington, that he would be in direct communication with the Government of Canada, to whom he would be responsible, and that the growing importance of Canada's relations with the United States made such an appointment desirable. While at that time these proposals were regarded as premature, in 1918, when Canada and the United States were both devoting their energies to the great struggle against a common foe, it was found necessary to establish a Canadian War Mission at Washington,

¹According to the Immigration Act, 1910, a "Canadian citizen" is

(i) a person born in Canada who has not become an alien;

(ii) a British subject who has Canadian domicile;

(iii) a person naturalized under the laws of Canada who has not subsequently become an alien or lost Canadian domicile."