

Constitution similar in principle to that of the United Kingdom." Thus the Canadian constitution is not an imitation of that of the United States; it is the British Constitution federalized. Like the British and unlike the American Constitution, it is not wholly a written constitution. The many unwritten conventions of the British Constitution are also recognized in our own; what we have in the British North America Act is a written delimitation of the respective powers of the Dominion and Provincial Governments, and an enactment of the terms of the Confederation agreement. The British North America Act simply divides the sovereign powers of the State between the provincial and the central authorities.

The British North America Act declares that the executive government of Canada shall continue to be vested in the sovereign of the United Kingdom (sec. 9), represented for federal purposes by the Governor General, as for provincial purposes by the Lieutenant-Governor. The Governor General is advised by the King's Privy Council for Canada, a committee of which constitutes the ministry of the day.

The Dominion Parliament consists of the King, the Senate and the House of Commons. It must meet at least once a year, so that twelve months do not elapse between the last meeting in one session and the first meeting in the next. Senators, now 96 in number, appointed for life by the Governor General in Council, must be 30 years of age, British subjects, residents of the province for which they are appointed, and possess \$4,000 over and above their liabilities. Members of the House of Commons (235 in 1921, but subject to increase as a result of the census of that year), are elected by the people for the duration of the parliament, which must not be longer than five years.

Dominion Finance.—Among the most important provisions of the British North America Act are those relating to the appropriation of public money and the raising of taxes for Dominion purposes. The House of Commons has the sole right of initiating grants of public money and of directing and limiting appropriations, yet the House of Commons must not (sec. 54) adopt or pass any vote, bill, resolution or address for the payment of any part of the public funds for any purpose that has not first been recommended to the house by message from the Governor General in Council during the session in which such vote or bill is proposed. This rule is of the most vital importance in promoting public economy, as it eliminates all possibility of private members combining to secure expenditures of public money in their constituencies, and leaves to the executive authority the initiation of all legislation requiring the expenditure of public funds; it is also operative in the Provincial Legislatures.

Powers of Parliament.—The powers of the Dominion Parliament include all subjects not assigned exclusively to the provincial legislatures. More especially, under section 91, it has exclusive legislative authority in all matters relating to the following: public debt and property; regulation of trade and commerce; raising of money by any mode of taxation; borrowing of money on the public credit; postal service; census and statistics; militia, military and naval service and defence; fixing and providing for salaries and allowances of the officers of the government; beacons, buoys and lighthouses; navigation and shipping; quarantine and the establishment and maintenance of marine hospitals; sea-coast and inland fisheries; ferries on an international or interprovincial frontier; currency and coinage; banking, incorporation of banks, and issue of paper money; savings banks; weights and measures; bills of exchange and promissory notes; interest; legal tender; bankruptcy and insolvency; patents of invention and discovery; copyrights; Indians