

of Nations a voice in international affairs at least as powerful as that of such independent nations as Argentina and Brazil. Ten years ago this would have been considered unthinkable without a total separation from the Empire, yet it has actually occurred. This progress of the Dominions in international status in the past decade is thus set forth by Oppenheim, in the third edition of his *International Law*, Vol. 1, secs. 94a and 94b:

"94a. Formerly the position of self-governing Dominions, such as Canada, Newfoundland, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa, did not, in International Law, present any difficulties. Then they had no international position whatever, because they were, from the point of view of International Law, mere colonial portions of the Mother Country. It did not matter that some of them, as, for example, Canada, and Australia, flew as their own flag the modified flag of the Mother Country, or that they had their own coinage, their own postage stamps, and the like. Nor did they become subjects of International Law (although the position was somewhat anomalous) when they were admitted, side by side with the Mother Country, as parties to the administrative unions, such as the Universal Postal Union. Even when they were empowered by the Mother Country to enter into certain treaty arrangements of minor importance with foreign States, they still did not thereby become subjects of International Law, but simply exercised for the matters in question the treaty-making power of the Mother Country which had been to that extent delegated to them."

"94b. But the position of self-governing Dominions underwent a fundamental change at the end of the World War. Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and also India, were not only separately represented within the British Empire delegation at the Peace Conference, but also became, side by side with Great Britain, original members of the League of Nations. Separately represented in the Assembly of the League, they may, of course, vote there independently of Great Britain. Now the League of Nations is not a mere administrative union like the Universal Postal Union, but the organized Family of Nations. Without doubt, therefore, the admission of these four self-governing Dominions and of India to membership gives them a position in International Law. But the place of the self-governing Dominions within the Family of Nations at present defies exact definition, since they enjoy a special position corresponding to their special status within the British Empire as "free communities, independent as regards all their own affairs, and partners in those which concern the Empire at large." Moreover, just as, in attaining to that position, they have silently worked changes, far-reaching but incapable of precise definition, in the Constitution of the Empire, so that the written law inaccurately represents the actual situation, in a similar way they have taken a place within the Family of Nations, which is none the less real for being hard to reconcile with precedent. Furthermore, they will certainly consolidate the positions which they have won, both within the Empire and within the Family of Nations. An advance in one sphere will entail an advance in the other. For instance, they may well acquire a limited right of legation or limited treaty-making power. But from this time onward the relationship between Great Britain and the self-governing Dominions of the British Empire is not likely to correspond exactly to any relationship hitherto recognized in International Law unless the British Empire should turn into a Federal State."

A list of the Departments of the Dominion Government, of the Acts which they administer and of the principal publications of each Department will be found in the section "Statistics and other Information relating to Canada." See, in the index, the entries "Acts of Parliament administered by Departments of Dominion Government," and "Publications of the Dominion Government."