

The International Labour Office is required to collect all available information in regard to the problems to be dealt with, and to prepare draft conventions or recommendations for submission to the Conference. The work of the Office has been divided, for the proper performance of its duties, into two divisions, namely: the Diplomatic Division, which conducts the correspondence with Governments and is called upon to deal "with the questions connected with the obligations entailed by the labour provisions of the Treaty and in particular with those relating to the work of the International Labour Conference," and the Scientific Division, which is "responsible for the collection, compilation and dissemination of information of international interest and importance about industry and labour conditions in all countries." Technical services have been created to supply the necessary information on technical questions such as maritime problems, industrial hygiene, employment and unemployment, hours of labour, agriculture, alien labour, employment of women, home work, wages, social insurance, education and co-operation.

The International Labour Office is under the direction of a governing body composed of twenty-four persons elected by the International Labour Conference. Of these, twelve are persons representing governments, six representing employers and six representing workers. Under the terms of Article 393, eight of the government seats on the governing body are held by the countries of "chief industrial importance." Canada was designated by the Council of the League of Nations as one of the eight countries of "chief industrial importance," and Hon. James Murdock, Minister of Labour, was designated in January, 1922, by the Government of Canada as its representative on the governing body. Mr. P. M. Draper, secretary of the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada, was chosen at the first session of the International Labour Conference (1919) as one of the six workers' representatives on the governing body. At the election held in 1922, Mr. Tom Moore, president of the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada, was elected to the seat previously held by Mr. Draper.

The proceedings of the first three sessions of the International Labour Conference have been described in the 1921 Year Book (see pp. 608-609).

The fourth session of the International Labour Conference was held at Geneva from Oct. 18 to Nov. 3, 1922, the Canadian Government being represented by the Minister of Labour and the Minister of Marine and Fisheries. The employers' delegate, appointed on the nomination of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, was Mr. W. C. Coulter of the Booth-Coulter Copper and Brass Company, Ltd., Toronto. The workers' delegate was Mr. Tom Moore, Ottawa, president of the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada.

Consideration, first by the various committees that had been formed and subsequently by the general conference, resulted in the adoption of various resolutions, among which was an amendment increasing the number of members of the governing body from twenty-four to thirty-two persons. A recommendation calling for the furnishing to the International Labour Office of statistical and other information respecting emigration, immigration and the transit of emigrants and immigrants, was adopted; the use of uniform methods of recording statistical data on emigration and immigration was also recommended. It was decided to extend the work of improving national and co-ordinating international statistics of unemployment, to consider the periodical publication of these investigations, and to investigate especially the causes and remedies of seasonal unemployment. It was further resolved that the International Labour Office, in collaboration with the Economic and Financial Section of the League of Nations, should make a special study of the