

crises of unemployment, their recurrences and the fluctuations of economic activity. Several other resolutions dealing with the constitution and working of the International Labour Conference were also passed.

On receipt from the Secretary-General of the League of Nations of the draft conventions and recommendations of these four International Labour Conferences, they were referred to the Department of Justice for examination as to the legislative authority of the Dominion and the provinces to deal with the subject matters in question. Certain of the draft conventions and recommendations were found to be within provincial authority and were accordingly referred to the Provincial Governments, whilst those within federal jurisdiction are engaging the attention of the Dominion Government and have also been brought before Parliament.

To date (June 13, 1923) the results attained in the execution of the draft conventions and recommendations adopted by the International Labour Conference are as follows: 73 ratifications registered by the Secretary-General; 12 countries have notified their adherence to the Berne Convention on white phosphorus since the Washington Conference; 16 ratifications authorized by the competent authority but not yet communicated; 94 ratifications recommended to the competent authority by the Government, but approval not yet signified; 98 measures finally adopted by legislative authorities, and measures of an administrative character, giving effect partially or wholly to the provisions of the draft conventions or recommendations; and 68 legislative measures of all descriptions proposed but not yet wholly adopted, which are intended to give effect partially or wholly to the provisions of the draft conventions and recommendations.

Dominion-Provincial Conference Relative to Obligations of Canada under Labour Sections of Peace Treaties.

A conference of representatives of the Dominion and Provincial Governments was held in the Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, on September 24-26, 1923, for the consideration of the obligations of Canada arising out of the labour sections of the treaties of peace. The meeting was called by the Prime Minister of Canada in conformity with the wishes of the Provincial Governments, with the object of an exchange of views and for consultation *re* various proposals of legislative action which had been adopted by the International Labour Conference (League of Nations) in the form of draft conventions and recommendations and had been deemed by the law officers of the Crown in Canada to deal with subjects within provincial legislative control. The meeting was purely consultative in character. The Hon. James Murdock, Dominion Minister of Labour, acted as Chairman, and representatives of all the Provinces but Prince Edward Island and British Columbia were in attendance. Information on the existing legislation of various provinces on the subject matters of the agenda was submitted to the Conference. These agenda comprised twenty-one items in all, on most of which unanimous resolutions were adopted and transmitted to the respective Provincial Governments for their attention.

The agenda included proposals emanating from the first, second and third International Labour Conference, concerning hours of labour, unemployment, employment of women and children, lead poisoning, minimum wage laws and the weekly rest in commerce and industry.

The draft convention respecting hours of work called for the adoption of an eight hour day and a forty-eight hour week. It was agreed that the Dominion Department of Labour should make a survey of the position of the eight hour day