

past 105 years. The need for a revision grew out of changing conditions on the Great Lakes. The Canadian Government had had to deal with a number of applications for the passage through the Canadian canals of armed vessels used for the training of naval militia on the lakes. Further, United States shipbuilders on the Great Lakes wished to be allowed to compete for the construction of war vessels for the United States Navy. The time was suitable, too, as the disarmament conference at Washington in 1921 had created a favourable atmosphere. It was also felt that if the situation was allowed to develop further, the demand was sure to arise for the presence of Canadian armed vessels on our own side of the Great Lakes.

The Prime Minister, on his return to Canada, stated that the outlook was good for putting the agreement regarding disarmament on the Great Lakes on a permanent basis.

Signing of Trade Agreement between Canada and France.—A trade Agreement was signed by representatives of the French and Canadian Governments in Paris on Sept. 15, 1922. The signatories to the agreement were Lord Hardinge, the British Ambassador to France, Hon. (now Right Hon.) W. S. Fielding, Canadian Minister of Finance, and Hon. Ernest Lapointe, Canadian Minister of Marine and Fisheries, on behalf of Canada, and M. Dior, French Minister of Commerce, for France.

The new treaty replaced the pre-war arrangement between France and Canada, and placed France on the most favoured nation basis with Canada. French exports are now admitted to Canada on the intermediate tariff, which is the most favourable given to foreign countries, and affords France a better outlet for her wines, automobiles, laces, feathers and other *de luxe* merchandise. Canadian exports to France are admitted on a better basis than formerly. One hundred and twenty-eight Canadian articles are accorded the French minimum tariff, while 326 are given the intermediate tariff. These intermediate tariff articles are allowed to enter France on the same basis as exports from the United States under the Franco-American agreement of 1921.

Third Assembly of the League of Nations.—The third assembly of the League of Nations was opened on Sept. 4, 1922, 45 out of the 51 nations in the League being represented. Hon. (now Right Hon.) W. S. Fielding, Minister of Finance, was chairman of the Canadian delegation. The chief subjects dealt with by the assembly were those of disarmament and the critical situation of Austria due to the currency inflation in that country. Aid was given to Austria by the League's authorization of a loan of 650,000,000 gold crowns guaranteed by France, England, Italy and Czecho-Slovakia. Canada's contribution to the League budget for 1923 was reduced from \$200,000 to \$150,000.

Fourth Assembly of the League of Nations.—The fourth session of the League of Nations was held at Geneva from Sept. 3 to Oct. 1, 1923, with Dr. Cosme de la Torriente as president. Many important world problems were brought before the League, including the Janina murders in Epirus, which had caused a crisis between Italy and Greece. Ireland was admitted to membership as a British Dominion on September 10.

At the close of the session, the president, reviewing the work of the meeting, praised the skill and wisdom displayed by the Council in the Græco-Italian dispute. Everybody, he said, was anxious and uneasy, fearing a widespread war, and, when the difficulty was settled with the close collaboration of the Council of the League, the whole world experienced a sensation of relief and satisfaction.