

Justice; the Hon. H. H. Stevens, Minister of Trade and Commerce; and the Hon. M. Dupré, Solicitor General. The work of the conference was divided into economic and constitutional sections and was carried on during a time of world-wide trade depression when the general atmosphere seemed propitious for the encouragement of inter-Empire trade. The Prime Minister of Canada, the Right Hon. R. B. Bennett, in the early stages of the conference, enunciated his policy of reciprocal tariff preferences within the Empire and received the support of other Dominion Prime Ministers. After much discussion, the Government of the United Kingdom declined to consider the imposition of tariffs on foodstuffs entering Great Britain and Northern Ireland, although bulk buying, including a wheat quota purchasing system, was suggested as a compromise. This met with a qualified reception and arrangements were made for the 1931 conference to meet in Ottawa, an invitation along these lines having been extended by the Prime Minister of Canada.¹

Among the most important constitutional and economic results of the 1930 Conference were:—(1) Britain agreed to maintain existing preferences given Dominion products for three years; (2) Trade proposals are to be considered in Ottawa in 1931; (3) A voluntary Empire judicial tribunal is to be created; (4) The Colonial Laws Validity Act is to be repealed; (5) Dominions may act through British ambassadors abroad; (6) The King appoints Governors General through the respective Dominion Governments.

Return of Natural Resources to the Western Provinces.—Agreements for the return of their natural resources to the four western provinces were signed on the following dates, Manitoba and Alberta, Dec. 14, 1929; British Columbia, Feb. 20, 1930 and Saskatchewan, Mar. 20, 1930. Some features of the agreements were the retention of and in some cases an increase in the subsidies formerly paid to the provinces, the retention of the National Parks and the continuation of the administration of Indian Reserves by the Dominion.

International Relations.—*The London Naval Treaty of 1930*².—The London Naval Treaty resulted from a Conference of the chief world naval powers called together by the Prime Minister of Great Britain, the Rt. Hon. Ramsay MacDonald, on Jan. 21, 1930. The Treaty was signed on Apr. 22, 1930, by the plenipotentiaries of the British Commonwealth, the United States, France, Italy and Japan—the five leading naval powers of the world. The opening speech of the Conference, made by His Majesty King George V, was broadcast throughout the world and clearly outlined the purposes of the Conference as: the limitation of naval armaments, the paving of the way for a more comprehensive general disarmament conference at a later date, and the furtherance of the Briand-Kellogg Pact for the outlawry of war. One result was a definite Three-Power Pact under Part III of the Treaty, between the British Commonwealth of Nations, the United States and Japan to limit naval construction, in relation to cruiser, destroyer and submarine categories not included in the provisions of the Treaty of Washington of 1922. Nevertheless, Parts I and II of the Treaty impose definite obligations on France and Italy. Again, Article 24, Part V, provides the basis of the further negotiations between Great Britain, France and Italy, which began in March, 1931 and are still in progress (May, 1931). The present Treaty is effective from its ratification by each of the parties concerned

¹ The 1931 Conference, which, according to arrangement, was to meet in Ottawa has recently been postponed on account of the inability of certain Dominion Prime Ministers to be present.

² For the text of this Treaty, see p. V of the Introduction to the Statutes of 1930.