

Besides the Dominions above enumerated, the great Empire of India has internationally been accepted as a member of the League of Nations, and in its internal administration has been placed on the road, formerly traversed by the Dominions which are now fully self-governing, towards responsible government. India proved her loyalty to the Empire in the Great War and, as the result of the work of Royal Commissions and conferences, a constitution is now being worked out for India along Dominion lines. Although the steps so far taken do not meet the demands of the more radical elements, the result will probably mark as great an advance as the country is now prepared to make. The whole evolution of the Empire, throughout all its parts which are more than mere fortresses like Gibraltar or trading stations like Hong Kong, is in the direction of responsible government, to be attained in the dependencies as it has been in what used to be called the colonies, by the gradual extension of self-government in proportion to the growing capacities of their respective populations. It is the recognized aim of British administrators, by the extension of educational facilities and by just administration, to develop these capacities to the utmost, so that in the dependencies, as well as in the Dominions and in the Mother Country, the constitutional history of the future may be a record of "freedom slowly broadening down from precedent to precedent"

A conference on the operation of Dominion legislation and merchant shipping legislation, arising out of the report of the Imperial Conference of 1926, was held in London from Oct. 8 to Dec. 4, 1929. This conference dealt with the power of disallowing or reserving Dominion legislation, the extra-territorial operation of Dominion legislation and merchant shipping legislation, on all which subjects its report was generally in the nature of giving effect to the definition of the equal status of the Dominions as made by the Imperial Conference of 1926.

PART I.—CONSTITUTION AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT.

Under the above heading a brief historical and descriptive account of the evolution of the general government of Canada was given on pp. 89-100 of the Canada Year Book, 1922-23.

PART II.—PROVINCIAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

Under the heading "Provincial and Local Government in Canada", a brief account of the government of each of the provinces of Canada and of its municipal institutions and judicial organization was published on pp. 101-115 of the 1922-23 edition of the Year Book.

PART III.—LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE AUTHORITIES.

Section 1.—Dominion Parliament and Ministry.

The Dominion Parliament is composed of the King, represented by the Governor General, the Senate and the House of Commons. The Governor General is appointed by the King on the advice of the Government of Canada. Members of the Senate are appointed for life by the Governor General in Council and members of the House of Commons are elected by the people. As a result of the working out of the democratic principle, the part played by the King's Representative and the Upper Chamber of Parliament in the country's legislation has been, in Canada as in the Mother Country, a steadily decreasing one, the chief responsibilities involved in legislation being assumed by the House of Commons.