

are bound to bring the draft conventions or recommendations before the authority or authorities within whose competence the subject matter lies, for the enactment of legislation or other action. Thus the findings of the Conference only become binding in the various countries concerned if and when action regarding them is taken by the latter.

Most of the proposals dealt with in the successive meetings of the Labour Conference since its establishment in 1919 have been adjudged by the law officers of the Crown in Canada to fall within provincial jurisdiction. The draft conventions and recommendations of the Conference have in all cases been brought to the attention of the Dominion Parliament, while those which dealt with subjects within provincial control were also referred to the Provincial Governments.

The Dominion Department of Labour is entrusted with the duties arising out of the relations of Canada with the International Labour Organization. These have entailed much correspondence, not only with the International Labour Organization but also with the different Departments of the Dominion Government, with the provinces, and with employers' and workers' organizations. Replies have also been prepared in the Department of Labour to various questionnaires issued by the International Labour Office. Performance of these duties has necessitated a close study of the different technical questions which have figured on the agenda of the various conferences and at the meetings of the Governing Body. A bulletin entitled "Canada and the International Labour Conference", issued by the Department of Labour in February, 1922, furnished information respecting the International Labour Organization. Comprehensive articles dealing with the proceedings of the annual sessions of the International Conference have been published from year to year in the *Labour Gazette*. These articles contain the text of the various draft conventions and recommendations of this Conference.

Fifteen sessions of the International Labour Conference have been held. Thirty-one draft conventions and 39 recommendations have been adopted at these annual gatherings.

The draft conventions and recommendations of the Conference have, among other subjects, related to the following: hours of labour, measures for the avoidance of unemployment, employment conditions of women and children, employment conditions of seamen, employment in agriculture, weekly rest, statistics of immigration and emigration, principles of factory inspection, inspection of emigrants on board ship, workmen's compensation for accidents and occupational diseases, sickness insurance, minimum wages, prevention of accidents to dockers, forced labour and regulation of hours of work of salaried employees and of workers in coal mines.

Up to December, 1931, 447 ratifications of these conventions had been registered with the League of Nations, of which 7 were conditional or with delayed application; 49 had been approved by the competent national authority and 125 had been recommended to the competent national authority for approval.

Canadian Action on Draft Conventions and Recommendations.—The action taken by the Dominion and the Provincial Governments on the draft conventions and recommendations of the International Labour Conference has been summarized in the articles on this subject published in previous Year Books and referred to in the footnote on p. 633.