

of 50 p.c., based on value, on a long list of articles but gave full Empire preference to the Dominions, though safeguards were applied to prevent foreign countries from taking advantage of the preference by shipping through certain Dominions. In February, 1932, the Import Duties Bill was passed with a 10 p.c. "tariff for revenue" on manufactures, and an Advisory Committee on Import Duties was appointed. In this legislation there was as little interference as possible in the trade of primary raw materials, and the Dominions were as before given full preference. Again in April, 1932, the 10 p.c. tariff wall was doubled, the Import Duties Advisory Committee having recommended that a 20 p.c. duty be imposed on nearly every type of imported manufactured goods (the actual rate varied between 15 p.c. and 30 p.c. on a limited number of goods but was 20 p.c. on the large majority). These measures have been at least of temporary value to Canada and hope of turning them to greater and permanent benefit by the promotion of inter-Empire trade on a basis mutually satisfactory to all members of the Commonwealth at the forthcoming Imperial Conference is entertained.

Transportation and Communications.—The United States indicated willingness to shoulder the cost of the International Section of the St. Lawrence Seaway, in consideration of Canada's investments at other points, in October, 1931, and in November the Hon. W. D. Herridge, Canadian Minister to Washington and Hon. H. L. Stinson, U.S. Secretary of State, met to open negotiations on the project.

In February, 1932, the Imperial Privy Council's finding in the question of radio control, which had been referred by the Quebec Government from the Superior Court to London, was made in favour of the Dominion Government. Immediately (in April 1932) the Dominion Government appointed a Parliamentary Committee to investigate the question of a form of control suitable to Canadian conditions. This Committee reported in favour of a National System of broadcasting.

International Conferences.—At the Fifteenth Session of the International Labour Conference, held in Geneva from May 28 to June 18, 1931, the Government of Canada was represented by the Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, High Commissioner for Canada in Great Britain, and Dr. W. A. Riddell, Canadian Government Advisory Officer, Geneva. Mr. V. A. Sinclair, Chairman of the Ontario Workmen's Compensation Board, assisted as adviser.

At the Twelfth Assembly of the League of Nations, held in Geneva Sept. 7-29, 1931, Canada was represented by the Hon. Hugh Guthrie, Senator the Hon. C. P. Beaubien and Mrs. H. P. Plumtre. The Hon. Martin Burrell, Parliamentary Librarian; The Hon. Philippe Roy, Minister at Paris; and Dr. W. A. Riddell, Canadian Advisory Officer, Geneva, served as alternate delegates.

The Canadian delegation to the World Disarmament Conference, which met in Geneva in February, 1932, included: the Rt. Hon. Sir George Perley, Hon. Maurice Dupré and Miss N. W. Kydd, President of the National Council of Women, Montreal. Mr. L. B. Pearson of the Department of External Affairs and Major-General A. G. L. McNaughton, C.M.G., D.S.O., Chief of the General Staff, Department of National Defence, accompanied the delegates as technical advisers.

Distinguished Visitors, 1931.—Their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Takamatsu of Japan, visited Canada from April 23 to May 10, on their return from England on a mission from H.I.M. the Emperor of Japan to H.M. George V.