

4.—Duration and Sessions of Dominion Parliaments, 1867-1932—concluded.

| Number of Parliament. | Session. | Date of Opening. | Date of Prorogation. | Days of Session. | Elections, Writs Returnable, Dissolutions and Length of Parliaments. ⁷ |
|-----------------------|----------|------------------|----------------------|------------------|---|
| 14th Parliament..... | 1st | Mar. 8, 1922 | June 28, 1922 | 113 | Dec. 6, 1921. ² |
| | 2nd | Jan. 31, 1923 | June 30, 1923 | 151 | Jan. 14, 1922. ⁴ |
| | 3rd | Feb. 28, 1924 | July 19, 1924 | 143 | Sept. 5, 1925. ⁵ |
| | 4th | Feb. 5, 1925 | June 27, 1925 | 143 | 3 y., 7 m., 26 d. ⁶ |
| 15th Parliament..... | 1st | Jan. 7, 1926 | July 2, 1926 | 177 ¹ | Oct. 29, 1925. ³ |
| | | | | | Dec. 7, 1925. ⁴ |
| 16th Parliament..... | 1st | Dec. 9, 1926 | April 14, 1927 | 73 ² | July 2, 1926. ⁵ |
| | 2nd | Jan. 26, 1928 | June 11, 1928 | 138 | 208 d. ⁶ |
| | 3rd | Feb. 7, 1929 | June 14, 1929 | 128 | Sept. 14, 1926. ¹ |
| | 4th | Feb. 20, 1930 | May 30, 1930 | 100 | Nov. 2, 1926. ⁴ |
| 17th Parliament..... | 1st | Sept. 8, 1930 | Sept. 22, 1930 | 15 | May 30, 1930. ⁵ |
| | 2nd | Mar. 12, 1931 | Aug. 3, 1931 | 145 | 3 y., 7 m., 0 d. ⁶ |
| | 3rd | Feb. 4, 1932 | May 26, 1932 | 113 | July 28, 1930. ³ |
| | 4th | Oct. 6, 1932 | | | Aug. 18, 1930. ⁴ |

¹ Including days (13) of adjournment from Mar. 3 to Mar. 15. ² Not including days (54) of adjournment from Dec. 15 to Feb. 8. ³ Period of general elections. ⁴ Writs returnable. ⁵ Dissolution of Parliament. ⁶ Duration of Parliament in years, months and days. The life of a Parliament is counted from the date of return of election writs to the date of dissolution, both days inclusive. ⁷ The ordinary legal limit of duration for each Parliament is five years.

A brief résumé of the history of parliamentary representation follows. Attention may be drawn to the growth in the number of members of both the Senate and the House of Commons since Confederation and to the greatly increased unit of representation in the Lower House.

Subsection 3.—The Senate.

The British North America Act, 1867, provides in sections 21 and 22 that "the Senate shall consist of seventy-two members, who shall be styled Senators. In relation to the constitution of the Senate, Canada shall be deemed to consist of three divisions—(1) Ontario; (2) Quebec; (3) The Maritime Provinces, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick; which three divisions shall be equally represented in the Senate as follows: Ontario by twenty-four senators; Quebec by twenty-four senators; and the Maritime Provinces by twenty-four senators, twelve thereof representing New Brunswick and twelve thereof representing Nova Scotia. In the case of Quebec, each of the twenty-four senators representing the province shall be appointed for one of the electoral divisions of Lower Canada specified in schedule A to Chapter I of the Consolidated Statutes of Canada". Further, under section 147 of the same Act, it is provided that "in case of the admission to Confederation of Newfoundland or Prince Edward Island, each shall be entitled to a representation in the Senate of four members" "Prince Edward Island when admitted shall be deemed to be comprised in the third of the three divisions into which Canada is divided by this Act" and on its admission "the representation of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick shall, as vacancies occur, be reduced from twelve to ten members respectively" In case of the admission of Newfoundland, the normal membership of the Senate of 72 members was to be increased to 76, while the maximum number of 78 (sec. 28) was to be 82, sec. 26 containing a provision for the appointment of three or six additional members in certain cases, to represent equally the three divisions of Canada.