

## PART IV.—REPRESENTATIVES IN OTHER COUNTRIES.\*

## Section 1.—Representatives Within the Empire.

The policy of the early North American colonies, of maintaining in London accredited representatives for business and diplomatic purposes, was recognized in the eighteenth century as being a more satisfactory means of communication with the British Government than that provided by occasional official visits or by correspondence. Of the Canadian colonies, Nova Scotia was the first to adopt this plan, its Legislature having appointed an Agent in London in 1761. New Brunswick was similarly represented in 1786, Upper Canada as early as 1794, Lower Canada in 1812 and British Columbia in 1857. Following Confederation, several of the provinces continued to adhere to, and in certain cases enlarge upon, the practice to the extent of themselves appointing Crown Agents or Agents General. Such developments as have taken place are dealt with on p. 92 of the 1934-35 Year Book.

**The High Commissioner for Canada.**—With the federation of the provinces of British North America in 1867, a new political entity which could not avail itself of the services of the provincial Agents was brought into existence. To supplement the ordinary method of communication between the Canadian and British Governments, which at that time was by correspondence between the Governor General and the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the position of High Commissioner for Canada was created in 1880 (see R.S.C. 1927, c. 92). A new Act received assent on June 24, 1938, and under its provisions the duties of the office are defined as follows:—

“The High Commissioner shall—

- “(a) act as representative and resident agent of Canada in the United Kingdom, and in that capacity, execute such powers and perform such duties as are, from time to time, conferred upon and assigned to him by the Governor in Council;
- “(b) carry out such instructions as he, from time to time, receives from the Secretary of State for External Affairs respecting the general interests of Canada in the United Kingdom;
- “(c) subject to the provisions of the preceding paragraphs, supervise the official activities of the various agencies of the Canadian Government in the United Kingdom.”

SIR ALEXANDER GALT was the first Canadian High Commissioner, holding office from May 11, 1880, until May, 1883; in 1884 he was succeeded by SIR CHARLES TUPPER. Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal was appointed in 1896. SIR GEORGE H. PERLEY took charge of the High Commissioners' Office in 1914 and was appointed High Commissioner on Oct. 12, 1917. The HON. P. C. LARKIN was appointed in February, 1922, and after his decease (Feb. 3, 1930) the HON. G. HOWARD FERGUSON was appointed (Nov. 28, 1930). On Nov. 8, 1935, the HON. VINCENT MASSEY succeeded Mr. Ferguson in this post. The office of the High Commissioner for Canada is in Canada House, Trafalgar Square, London, S.W. 1.

**High Commissioner of the United Kingdom in Canada.**—His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom in April, 1928, appointed a High Commissioner in Canada, SIR WILLIAM H. CLARK, who was succeeded in January, 1935 by SIR FRANCIS FLOUD, K.C.B. On May 17, 1938, the appointment of SIR GERALD CAMPBELL, K.C.M.G., in succession to Sir Francis Floud was announced. The High

\* Revised by the Department of External Affairs, Ottawa. An annual report on the organization and activities of Canadian Government representation abroad is contained in the Report of the Department of External Affairs, which may be obtained from the King's Printer, price 25 cents.