

of 53 countries on Mar. 24, 1948, had its origin in proposals made by the United States in December, 1945, in the form of a draft charter which was taken as the basis of discussions by a Preparatory Committee which first met at London in October, 1946. The aims of the World Conference on Trade and Employment were to provide working rules acceptable to trading countries for the conduct of international trade so as to avoid inequality of treatment between countries, particularly through discriminatory practices, and in general to increase trade, promote employment and assist in the development of less advanced areas. Among the provisions of the Charter are those relating to restrictive business practices which have harmful effects on international trade. Members accepting the Charter would agree to co-operate with the International Trade Organization to prevent their commercial enterprises from engaging in business practices, through international cartels or other means, which have or are about to have harmful effects on the expansion of trade and interfere with the achievements of the Organization's objectives. This section of the Charter establishes the procedure whereby members may submit complaints of such practices and provides a means of investigation and of recommendation for remedial action. The Charter will be submitted to the respective governments for ratification and will come into force when it has been accepted by a majority. In the meantime an Interim Commission has been set up under the chairmanship of Mr. Dana Wilgress, who was head of the Canadian delegation at Havana.

Section 4.—Patents, Copyrights and Trade Marks*

Letters patent are issued subject to the provisions of the Patent Act 1935 (25-26 Geo. V., 1935, c. 32, as amended by 11 Geo. VI, 1947, c. 23), and applications for protection relating to patents should be addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, Ottawa, Canada.

2.—Patents Applied for, Granted, etc., Years Ended Mar. 31, 1942-47

Item	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Applications for patents.....No.	9,678	10,024	11,227	12,672	14,778	16,922
Patents granted.....“	8,346	7,686	7,803	7,084	7,412	6,590
Granted to Canadians.....“	595	500	480	486	495	520
Caveats granted.....“	246	233	223	362	421	442
Assignments.....“	7,488	8,530	7,857	8,265	8,964	11,063
Fees received, net.....\$	351,553	348,036	366,254	388,593	421,539	452,193

The number of Canadian patents granted increased fairly steadily each year from 4,522 at the beginning of the century to a peak of 12,542 in 1923 and has remained between 6,500 and 8,500 for the past ten years. Of the 6,590 patents granted in 1947, 5,060 or 77 p.c. were from inventors resident in the United States, 520 from Canadian residents, 727 from residents of the United Kingdom and other British Dominions, Colonies and Protectorates, while residents of Switzerland applied for 79, of France for 58, of the Netherlands for 48, of Sweden for 40, of Germany for 24 and of other countries for 34.

The year ended Mar. 31, 1947, showed a marked increase over previous years in many classes of invention. Applications in the fields of chemistry and electricity were most numerous. In the former there was great activity in artificial resins and

* The material relating to patents and copyrights has been revised by J. T. Mitchell, Commissioner of Patents, and that relating to trade marks by J. P. McCaffrey, Registrar of Trade Marks, Ottawa.