

DOMINIONS ROYAL COMMISSION.

1913 the number of Hindu immigrants did not exceed 12 annually, although in the year 1913-14 the number rose to 88. In consequence of the overcrowded state of the labour market in British Columbia, an Order in Council of December 8, 1913, prohibited the landing at ports in British Columbia of artisans and skilled or unskilled labourers, a prohibition which still remains in force. In May, 1914, a determined effort was made on behalf of emigrant Hindus to test the efficacy of the Canadian laws restricting oriental immigration. A Japanese steamer, the *Komagata Maru*, with 376 Hindus on board, sailed from Shanghai, and on May 23 arrived off Vancouver. A few of the passengers who were able to prove that they were returning to Canada were allowed to land, but the others, unable to satisfy the requirements of the regulations in force, were refused admission by the immigration authorities. Some amount of rioting took place, but eventually the Hindus were induced to desist from their attempts to land, and the sailing of the ship from Vancouver on July 23 closed the matter so far as Canada was concerned.

Dominions Royal Commission.—At the Imperial Conference held in London, England, from May 20 to June 20, 1911, the following resolution (No. XX) was passed on the motion of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Prime Minister of Canada:

That His Majesty should be approached with a view to the appointment of a Royal Commission representing the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Newfoundland, with a view of investigating and reporting upon the natural resources of each part of the Empire represented at this Conference, the development attained and attainable, and the facilities for production, manufacture and distribution; the trade of each part with the others and with the outside world, the food and raw material requirements of each and the sources thereof available; to what extent, if any, the trade between each of the different parts has been affected by existing legislation in each, either beneficially or otherwise, and by what methods consistent with the existing fiscal policy of each part the trade of each part with the others may be improved and extended.

In accordance with this resolution, a Royal Commission (known briefly as the Dominions Royal Commission) was appointed on April 15, 1912, and was eventually constituted of the following: Sir Edgar Vincent, K.C.M.G. (now Lord D'Abernon), Sir A. E. Bateman, K.C.M.G., Sir H. Rider Haggard, Mr. Tom Garnett, Mr. W. Lorrimer and Mr. J. Tatlow (United Kingdom); the Hon. Sir George E. Foster, K.C.M.G. (Dominion of Canada); Mr. Donald Campbell, LL.B. (Commonwealth of Australia); the Hon. J. R. Sinclair (Dominion of New Zealand); the Hon. Sir Richard Solomon, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.C.V.O. (Union of South Africa); Mr. E. R. Bowring (Colony of Newfoundland); with Mr. W. A. Robinson, and subsequently Mr. E. J. Harding of the Imperial Colonial Office, as Secretary. Mr. F. C. T. O'Hara, Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce, was appointed Local Officer for Canada.

After making a tour of Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Newfoundland, the Commission visited Canada, arriving at Sydney, N.S., during the first week of August, 1914. It had been contemplated to take oral evidence in all the chief cities of Canada, but, in consequence of the outbreak of war, the work of the Commission was suspended