

CANADA PLAYS VIVID PART IN PROGRESS OF THE EMPIRE

Following Statute of Westminster, the Dominion Charts Own Course But Loyal Recognizes the Sovereignty of King George V.

OTTAWA, Ont., May 1—A quarter century may seem short in the history of an "old" nation, but in Canada's it represents rapid growth, immense changes in national development and external relationships, attainment of sovereign status within the British Empire and considerable power and prestige in the councils of the world.

Out of all proportion to the dominion's growth in population during this period—only about 3,000,000—is its remarkable increase in agricultural, mineral, paper and manufacturing production, its building construction and its external trade.

Mere figures are inadequate to tell the story. The fact that hydro-electric power jumped from less than 1,000,000 horse-power in 1911 to 7,500,000; that the gross production of the pulp and paper industry jumped in value to \$244,000,000, outstanding all other countries; that external trade increased by \$1,000,000,000, is trade impressive than certain specific acts and accomplishments.

Joining The League

After the World War Canada took its place in the League of Nations, speaking in its own right and bringing its independent influence to bear on behalf of disarmament and permanent peace. By the Statute of

Westminster all pretensions to control of Canadian affairs by the British Parliament were removed and the common sovereignty of the King was recognized as the only official connection.

A British High Commissioner was sent to Ottawa as spokesman for the British Government. Canada from 1927 to 1928 appointed its own ministers to Washington, London, Tokyo and Paris, and sent trade commissioners throughout the world to compete for business.

Previous to this Canada showed its independence by arranging with the United States for a Joint Waterways Commission for the settling of any and all differences arising over boundary waters. The commission has amicably settled every problem that has come up and proved a model to the world.

Empire Conference

Foremost in construction work was the building of the new Welland Ship Canal, at a cost of \$130,000,000, which allows the big grain carriers to descend to Lake Ontario. Construction of a railway from The Pas to Hudson Bay at Churchill of a huge grain elevator, terminal facilities and aids to navigation also made transportation history, bringing the prairie

provinces 1,000 miles nearer to the British markets.

Bridges, steamships, hotels, and aviation have kept pace with demands for greater speed and luxury, and radio sets have come into half the homes.

The importance of "new" Canada within the Empire was emphasized at the Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa in 1932. There, largely through the efforts of the Canadian Prime Minister R. B. Bennett, the British "league" raised defense trade barriers against foreign nations and increased business among themselves to their great mutual advantage.

Canada continues to develop apace, despite world difficulties and there is every promise that the next 25 years will be even more glorious than the last.

May 6 has been proclaimed a public holiday throughout Canada for general thanksgiving and rejoicing on the Jubilee of King George V. On Parliament Hill in Ottawa there will be a ceremony attended by the Earl of Bessborough, Governor General of Canada, and representatives of church and state.

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