

Social Studies 11

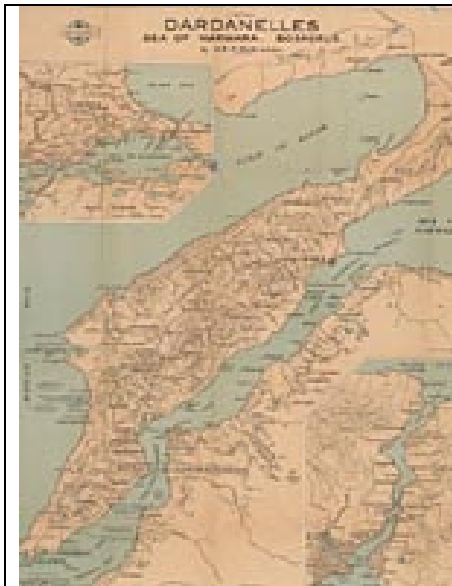
Canada Between the Wars

Events That Increased Canadian Autonomy

1. The Imperial Conference of 1921

- meetings of the leaders of the dominions of the British Empire
- Arthur Meighan was Prime Minister
- the issue was whether or not to continue the Anglo-Japanese Naval Alliance
 - Britain said yes (also Australia and New Zealand)
 - Canada wasn't sure
 - it knew that the US wanted an alliance and it needed to keep the US happy

2. Chanak Crisis 1922



- the area involved the neutral zone in Asia Minor (controlled access to the Dardanelles, vital for shipping)
- it appeared that Britain and Turkey might fight a war over control of the area
- Dominion leaders were not consulted and Colonial Secretary Winston Churchill requested Canadian troops in the Canadian Press
- Prime Minister King found out from a newspaper, felt furious that Churchill was bypassing Canadian Parliament
- King stated that only Parliament could decide to send troops
- Tory opposition leader Meighan and the public disagreed
- the crisis set a precedent that Canadian Parliament would decide where to send troops

3. The Halibut Treaty 1923

- this was a fishing agreement between Canada and the US
- this was the first time that Canada negotiated and signed a treaty on our own, Britain was not involved

4. The Imperial Conference of 1923



5. The Locarno Pact of 1925

- in treaties with Britain, stated that Dominions were not bound by British signature

6. The Imperial Conference of 1926 – The Balfour Report

	- gave a definite statement on our autonomy - The Balfour Report (by Lord Balfour) supported the request of Dominions for more autonomy and <u>equality in status with Britain</u> 1927 - Canada appointed its first ambassador to the US 1929 – The Kellogg Briand Pact – an agreement to outlaw war between signatory powers, Canada signed as an independent country
The Imperial Conference, London, 1926. Left to right: Vincent Massey, W.L. Mackenzie King, Ernest Lapointe and Peter Larkin, Canada's fifth High Commissioner to the United Kingdom.	

7. The Statute of Westminster – 1931

- passed by the British Government
- Canada and other dominions are equal in status to Britain
- the British Empire became the British Commonwealth of Nations
- Canada's constitution (The BNA Act) was still a British possession, provinces and the federal government couldn't agree on a formula to amend the constitution
- the highest court of appeal was still in Britain (The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council of London)