

5. Since the matters to be dealt with at the conference fall entirely within the competence of the provinces, the nomination of a Canadian delegation will be somewhat difficult. It is suggested to your consideration that there are four possibilities:

(a) That Canada be represented only by an observer from one of the missions abroad.

(b) That each of the nine provinces be invited to send a delegate, under the chairmanship of a representative of the Canadian Government.

(c) That two or three only of the provinces be invited to send delegates, to represent the provinces on the Canadian delegation.

(d) That the Canadian delegation consist of a representative named by the Canadian Government (possibly the Minister of Transport) advised by four other⁷⁴ expert persons also named by the Government and chosen from various parts of the country because of their special knowledge of road transport problems. It is probable, too, that the Canadian delegate should be advised by a representative of the Customs Branch of National Revenue. The provincial governments would be informed that the conference was taking place and would be sent copies of the agenda. They would be told of the arrangements being made for representation and it would also be stated that the Government would be glad to instruct the delegation to put forward any suggestions or proposals which the provincial governments wish to make. It would be made clear, however, that the Canadian delegation would have no power to sign⁷⁵ an international convention and that if any international covenant was approved at the conference, it would be referred to each province before signature and ratification.

6. It is suggested that the last possibility is the most desirable. It would be difficult to send a delegation representing all nine or ten provinces and it would be invidious to invite only certain provinces to take part in this conference. A Canadian delegation, however, composed of a representative of the Canadian Government and advised by four Canadian experts outside the Government service would be open to relatively slight objections on the part of the provinces.⁷⁶

7. If you agree with this suggestion, consideration will be given to the selection of four automotive and transport experts chosen from various parts of the country and also chosen, if possible, in such a way that highway construction interests, tourist interests, and traffic control interests would be indirectly represented.

E[SCOTT] R[EID]

⁷⁴ Note marginale:/Marginal note:

Wouldn't three be enough? LB P[earson]

⁷⁵ Note Marginale:/Marginal note:

?Ratify [L.B. Pearson]

⁷⁶ Note marginale:/Marginal note:

I agree LB P[earson]