

964.

*Le Premier ministre par intérim au premier ministre de Nouvelle-Zélande*  
*Acting Prime Minister to Prime Minister of New Zealand*

TELEGRAM 17

Ottawa, November 25, 1931

Your telegram 19th November. I am glad to be able to inform you that Mr. Stevens has succeeded in making arrangements to meet your suggestion. He will sail Vancouver 19th December arriving in Honolulu Christmas Day.

965.

*Le Premier ministre au premier ministre de Nouvelle-Zélande*  
*Prime Minister to Prime Minister of New Zealand*

TELEGRAM 6

Ottawa, March 11, 1932

The Canadian Government have been giving fullest consideration to the draft trade Agreement prepared by your Minister of Customs and our Minister of Trade and Commerce. We fully share the desire of your Government to conclude at the earliest possible time an arrangement which will be of mutual advantage to our trade and assist in the movement towards closer economic relations throughout the Empire.

2. As the Imperial Economic Conference approaches, it becomes evident that the view is widely held in the various parts of the Empire and not least in the United Kingdom that the whole policy of inter-Imperial trade relations should be reviewed at the Conference. The view has been expressed that the conclusions of the Conference may lead to the adoption of certain general policies of trade relationship which might involve re-adjustment of existing agreements.

3. We have been considering as one possibility that the simplest procedure would be to accord concessions by changes in the tariff laws of each country rather than by the conclusion at this time of a definitive Trade Agreement. We would be prepared to make changes in our tariff granting New Zealand our complete British Preferential Tariff, and in addition reduce the rate on New Zealand butter to 5 cents per pound, in return for legislative action by New Zealand granting Canada its British Preferential Tariff except on those articles on which the draft agreement does not provide for such treatment. This legislation might become effective March 31st and would remain in effect for one year unless earlier replaced by a definitive Trade Agreement. I may add that it is contemplated that a substantial rate will be placed on wool under Intermediate and General Tariffs and on hides under General Tariff, British Preferential remaining free. In accordance with custom exact rates will not be available till budget is brought down.