

the Imperial War Cabinet and the British Empire Delegation has not only left a deep and beneficent impress upon the terms of peace, but has opened the way for a new and more intimate era in Imperial relations.

I should like also to say how much I have valued your personal assistance and advice. I have always felt that in you I have a colleague to whom I could confidently turn in any crisis for sagacious counsel. On many difficult occasions your support has been of the utmost value and I am sincerely grateful for it.

I am deeply sorry that it is necessary for you now to go back to Canada, but I look forward to your early return, as there are matters of great importance both to the Empire and to the world in the settlement of which I shall rely upon your counsel and aid.

Ever sincerely,

D. LLOYD GEORGE

145. *Extraits du procès-verbal de la vingt-troisième réunion de la délégation de l'Empire britannique*¹

SECRET

June 1, 1919

1. GERMAN OBSERVATIONS ON THE PEACE TREATY

. . .

Mr. Lloyd George said that he wished to put two questions to each individual member of the Delegation:

1. Was he in favour of standing on the terms proposed in the Present Draft Treaty, or was he in favour of making some concessions, the nature of which could be considered at a later stage?

2. If any concessions should be made, should they be communicated in a written statement, naming a period within which the Germans must reply, or should verbal negotiations be encouraged?

. . .

Sir George Foster said that the Allies had made a very distinct enlargement of the Fourteen Points and, bearing that enlargement in mind, it was difficult to see where the Treaty went much beyond the Points, plus the extensions thereof laid down in the Associated speeches.

He thought that President Wilson could justify the main part of the Treaty on the Fourteen Points and his speeches. The Fourteen Points were summary

¹ Représentants canadiens présents: sir G. Foster et M. C. J. Doherty.