

La Conférence de paix de Paris, 1919.

The Paris Peace Conference, 1919.

SOURCE: BIBLIOTHÉQUE ET ARCHIVES CANADA/ LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA, C-000242 Prime Ministers of the Dominions together with Sir Joseph Cook and General Smuts. Mr. Lloyd George reported in detail the discussion at Sunday's Conference of the Allied Powers. Sir Robert Borden took strong ground in maintaining that the decision of the Imperial War Cabinet should be carried out. He emphasized the strong insistence of public opinion in Canada upon this recognition as the very lowest that could be expected; and he declared himself unable to give any satisfactory explanation to the Canadian people if Canada should be put on a lower level in point of representation than Belgium or Serbia. He was at first supported by the other Prime Ministers but eventually they yielded ground with the net result that a decision was noted to the effect that the Dominions would each accept one representative subject to further arrangements as to the establishment of a panel from which the five delegates representing the British Empire should be selected. Sir Robert Borden did not conceal his belief that this arrangement would have serious consequences to Canada and he emphasized this view in a subsequent conference with Mr. Lloyd George at luncheon.