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British Empire Economic Committee

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British Empire Economic Committee

Lt. Col. O. M. Biggar

British Committee on Aerial Transport

British Committee on Enemy Debts and Pre-War Contracts

British Committee on the Arms Traffic

British Sub-Committee on International Rivers, Railways and Canals

British Empire Secretary of Inter-Allied Commission on Responsibility for the War

Assistant Secretary of British Empire Delegation

Mr. L. C. Christie

British Committee on Aerial Transport

British Sub-Committee on International Rivers, Railways and Canals

British Committee on the Arms Traffic

Assistant Secretary of British Empire Delegation

Assistant Secretary of British Empire Economic Committee

*73. Mémoire du Premier ministre sur les dominions,
éventuels signataires des Traités de Paix¹*

SECRET

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(1) The Dominion Prime Ministers, after careful consideration, have reached the conclusion that all the treaties and conventions resulting from the Peace Conference should be so drafted as to enable the Dominions to become Parties and Signatories thereto. This procedure will give suitable recognition to the part played at the Peace Table by the British Commonwealth as a whole and will at the same time record the status attained there by the Dominions.

(2) The procedure is in consonance with the principles of constitutional government that obtain throughout the Empire. The Crown is the supreme executive in the United Kingdom and in all the Dominions, but it acts on the advice of different Ministries within different constitutional units; and under Resolution IX of the Imperial War Conference, 1917, the organization of the Empire is to be based upon equality of nationhood.

(3) Having regard to the high objects of the Peace Conference, it is also desirable that the settlements reached should be presented at once to the world in the character of universally accepted agreements, so far as this is consistent with the constitution of each State represented. This object would not be achieved if the practice heretofore followed of merely inserting in the

¹ Voir l'Annexe, mémorandum n° 12, paragraphe 4, page 211.