

negotiation of the Treaty of Washington in 1871 wrote: "The (British representatives had only one thing in their minds: to go home to England with a treaty in their pockets settling everything, no matter at what cost to Canada."

In the main, however, Canada had no particular interest in the foreign policy of the Empire, and her attitude as late as 1911 was summed up by Sir Wilfred Laurier at the Imperial Conference of that year, where he took the view that consultation in matters of foreign policy implied responsibility, and he stated that: "If a Dominion insisted on being consulted in regard to matters which might result in war, that would imply the necessity that they should take part in the war", and that he did not want to do.

This attitude, and this desire, as he might have foreseen, did not keep Canada out of the Great War, and as the material consequences of that war to Canada became apparent in 1915, 1916 and 1917, one finds a changed attitude on the part of the Canadian leaders toward the foreign policy of the Empire, for they realized, as Laurier did not, that continued membership in the British Empire carried with it, willynilly, responsibilities, and that even Canadians did not live in a North American vacuum but in a complex international society that had very little semblance of law and order about it or its relations. And it was largely the result of the insistence of Sir Robert Borden and his colleagues that the Imperial War Conference of 1917 passed the equality resolution in the following terms: "That a special Imperial Conference should be summoned as soon as possible after the cessation of hostilities to consider the readjustment of the constitutional relations of the component parts of the Empire, and they feel that it is their duty to record their view that any such readjustments, while thoroughly preserving all existing powers of self-government and complete control of domestic affairs, should be based upon a full recognition of the Dominions as autonomous nations of an Imperial Commonwealth and of India as an important portion of the same, and should recognize the right of the Dominions and India to an adequate voice in foreign policy and in foreign relations, and should provide effective arrangements for continuous consultation in all important matters of common Imperial concern and for such necessary concerted action grounded on consultation as the several governments may determine."

And it was largely due to the efforts of Sir Robert, aided and abetted by General Smuts, that Canada and the other British Dominion were represented at the Peace Conference, were signatories of the Treaties of Peace, and were original members of the League of Nations. Side by side with this insistence upon representation and consultation went the reluctance to commitments that might again involve Canada in hostilities or even the possibilities of military action, as instanced by the clause in the abortive guarantee of Great Britain to the United States to France, in which it was stated that: "The present treaty (of guarantee) shall impose no obligation upon any of the Dominions of the British Empire unless and until it is approved by the Parliament of the Dominion concerned." This reluctance was responsible too for Canada's attitude and action toward Article X of the Treaty of Versailles, which states that "The members of the League undertake to respect and preserve against external aggression the territorial integrity and existing political independence of all Members of the League. For if the attitude and action of Sir Robert Borden, Mr. Rowell, Mr. Doharty, Mr. Fielding and Mr. Lapointe be examined, it will be seen that they foresaw the possibility of action under this section and we