

86. *Le Premier ministre au Premier ministre par intérim*

TELEGRAM X. 184

Paris, March 29, 1919

For White. Your cable March 26. As foreshadowed in my letter March 4th, it has been decided not to conclude at present any convention of general application respecting equality of trade conditions but rather to insert article in the Peace Treaty imposing on the enemy without reciprocity certain obligations respecting trade with the Allied and Associated States. As to convention of general application present understanding is that Allied and Associated States shall merely agree between themselves that a special conference shall be convened by the League of Nations within prescribed period after the ratification of the Treaty of Peace for purpose of concluding such a convention and that in meantime no such state shall discriminate as against the others in favour of any enemy state. It is also proposed that pending conclusion of the convention of general application there should be an agreement regulating the commercial relations of the new States created since beginning of war, with one another and with such of the Allied and Associated States as give reciprocity. The above scheme will be clearly understood by reference to paper entitled Provisions as to Commercial Relations, numbered W.C.P. 202, which was enclosed in my letter March 8th and which has been accepted as basis of discussion in Inter-Allied Economic Commission of Peace Conference. In view of foregoing the points raised in your cable will not arise until the special Conference referred to above has been convened.

BORDEN

87. *Extraits du procès-verbal de la quatorzième réunion
de la délégation de l'Empire britannique¹*

SECRET

March 29, 1919

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DRAFT LABOUR CONVENTION, ARTICLE I²

Lord Robert Cecil proposed to omit the word "the" before the phrase "States Members of the League," for otherwise the effect would be that every State which entered the League of Nations would become a party to the Labour Convention.

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¹ Représentants canadiens présents: sir Robert L. Borden, MM. A. L. Sifton et C. J. Doherty.

² L'article 1 se lit:

The High Contracting Parties, being the States Members of the League of Nations, hereby decide to establish a permanent organization for the promotion of the objects set forth in the Preamble, and for this purpose hereby accept the provisions contained in the following Articles.