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Cordell Hull
in Geneva

The Canadian delegation has come to Geneva with the feeling, which is shared, we believe, by all countries, that the present is an extremely critical time in the affairs of the world, but more particularly, and immediately, in the affairs of Europe. We deem it a first duty of our delegation to seek to avoid putting forward either proposals or suggestions which, at this juncture, might serve to embarrass European countries in their efforts to find, by direct negotiation, the course of procedure and action which will best enable them to work out the problems in the solution of which they have ^{are so vitally interested} ~~so vital an interest~~.

Re Geneva
1. Plan for revision
2. for statement
of position

[We believe the member nations of the League will agree that it is not less in the interest of the League itself, than of European countries that, above all else, regard should be had for the European situation, and that full and final consideration of such matters as the reform of the Covenant of the League should be held over for subsequent meetings of the Assembly when ~~an~~ ^{more} ~~opportunities~~ ^{more favourable to unprejudiced} discussion may be afforded. In saying this, I should perhaps immediately add that we believe it is not less imperative and ~~not less~~ in the interest of all concerned, that the views of member states with regard to obligations arising under the Covenant should be stated with the utmost frankness, in order that there may be no misunderstanding as to the attitude of any member. This is a time when no country should be satisfied either with appearances or signatures, but

frankness