

asking their opinion as to the advisability of Canadian participation. On February 7, 1949, Dr. Cameron, Deputy Minister of National Health, replied that his Department did not consider it necessary to send a representative to the Conference but that two experts from the Province of Ontario, Dr. Grant Cunningham and Dr. Riddell, might well represent Canada.

4. On February 10 Mr. Mitchell wrote to Mr. Pearson requesting his views on this subject and enclosing a copy of Dr. Cameron's letter. Mr. Pearson replied on February 19 that since the Department of National Health and Welfare appeared to have only a very limited interest in the Conference, there might be some question as to the necessity of sending Canadian experts to Australia, particularly in view of the expense involved. Mr. Pearson added, however, that it has always been our policy to give full support to the work of the I.L.O. and, moreover, that it is desirable that Provincial Governments should be kept abreast of the work of I.L.O. and should be given every opportunity to be represented when this can be reasonably arranged. In conclusion, Mr. Pearson suggested that Dr. Cunningham and Dr. Riddell might both be asked whether it would be possible for them to participate in the work of this Conference.

5. On February 22 Mr. Mitchell acknowledged Mr. Pearson's letter and informed him that the Department of Labour was writing the Provincial Governments to enquire if they wished to be represented at the Conference at their own expense. This letter made no further reference to Dr. Cunningham or Dr. Riddell.

6. On April 21, replying to a routine follow-up letter from this Department, Mr. Mitchell informed us that three Provinces (Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia) had written to state they would not attend the Conference and two (Ontario and Quebec) had advised that the matter was still under consideration. It was in this letter that Mr. Mitchell first mentioned the proposal by British Columbia that the Province would pay two-thirds of the expenses of a suggested B.C. delegate, Dr. C.H. Vrooman, if the Federal Government would pay the remaining one-third. Mr. Mitchell added that "no decision had been taken here on this question as yet".

7. Routine checks on the progress of arrangements for the Conference were made in the United Nations Division on May 25 and June 27, on which dates Mr. Olivier was informed by the Department of Labour that nothing further was being done, since replies from all the Provinces had not yet been received.

8. On July 5, Mr. Olivier was informed by Mr. Langille that the B.C. proposal was to be submitted to the Cabinet on the following day.

9. From the above, it is clear that despite the statement made in paragraph 2 of the Memorandum to Cabinet,† Mr. Pearson did *not* agree "that it was not essential that the Federal Government send a representative to this Conference". On the contrary, Mr. Pearson concurred in Dr. Cameron's suggestion that Dr. Cunningham and Dr. Riddell might be asked to represent Canada at the Conference (paragraph 4 above). In actual fact, the Department of Labour informed Mr. Olivier yesterday that no effort to get in touch with these two gentlemen had ever been made.

10. As you indicated in your conversation with Mr. Olivier Saturday morning, Mr. Pearson thinks that a representative of the Federal Government should, in fact, head the Canadian delegation to this I.L.O. Conference. In addition, it seems only