

987.

*Le secrétaire aux Dominions au secrétaire d'État
aux Affaires extérieures*

Dominions Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs

DESPATCH 99

Downing Street, February 20, 1930

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose, for the information of His Majesty's Government in Canada, a copy of a draft Commercial Modus Vivendi¹ which is being presented to the Ambassador of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

2. It will be noticed that it is proposed in Article 2 that certain personal privileges and immunities shall be accorded to the head of the Soviet Trade Delegation in London. The Soviet Government attach importance to a provision of this nature and have themselves put forward proposals of a much wider character.

3. It will also be noticed that the form of accession under Article 4 differs from the usual form in that such accession would be effected by means of an exchange of notes and not by a unilateral declaration on the part of the Government concerned. Similarly, it will be noticed that a sentence is included in Article 6, whereby the right is reserved to the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to denounce the Article at any time in respect of any particular Dominion or of India. The wording in these two respects of these Articles is that proposed by the Soviet Ambassador. It also follows that of Article 17 of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics signed on the 8th of August, 1924, and it was thought that no useful purpose would be served by suggesting a different wording on the present occasion.

4. A further communication will be made to you in due course as to the progress of the negotiations with the Soviet Ambassador.

I have etc.

PASSFIELD

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*Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
au secrétaire aux Dominions*

Secretary of State for External Affairs to Dominions Secretary

No. 67

Ottawa, February 21, 1930

My Lord,

I have the honour to refer to Your Lordship's despatch No. 718 of the 28th December, 1929, transmitting a despatch from His Majesty's repre-

¹ Non reproduit.¹ Not printed.