

## ANNEXE

### MÉMORANDUMS GÉNÉRAUX

On January 6, 1919, a general memorandum on the recent activities of Canadian Ministers in London was sent under covering letter from Sir Robert Borden to Sir Thomas White, the Acting Prime Minister, authorizing him to communicate the contents to Council. This began a series of some twenty-three numbered secret reports,<sup>1</sup> each entitled "General Memorandum", covering activities of the Canadian Delegation at the Peace Conference for specific days. Although going forward under cover of Borden's name, they were evidently prepared by, or under the direction of a member of the staff, presumably J. W. Dafoe until his departure for Canada on March 6, and thereafter possibly by his successor, L. Trepanier.

It is felt that these reports materially supplement the official record, in that they fill certain gaps or provide useful background information, or add some life and colour to the documentary record. But they cover much more than strictly Peace Conference activities, as, for example, a visit of the Delegation to the battlefields, activities of certain officials on the Delegation in search of markets for Canadian produce, disorder among Canadian troops awaiting transport home, visits of Canadian businessmen, and so on. The reports have been reduced drastically to eliminate such extraneous material, as well as material that merely duplicates the more formal documents already selected. Care, however, has been taken to retain any material that might throw light on Canadian views and policies or Canadian activities at the Peace Conference.

*Le Premier ministre au Premier ministre par intérim*

SECRET

Dear Sir Thomas White,

London, January 6, 1919

I am enclosing a memorandum descriptive of our work here during the past two or three weeks. It is for your information as Acting Prime Minister and for Council to whom you are quite at liberty to communicate it. A copy has been forwarded to the Governor General.

Yours faithfully,

R. L. BORDEN

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<sup>1</sup> Les trois derniers ne sont pas publiés car ils ne contiennent pas d'information intéressant ce volume.