

2. It will be recalled that the effort to win this position has been prolonged, insistent and continuous. It began in London before the arrival of the French and Italian Prime Ministers; it continued during the conferences held while they were in London; and it persisted during the visit of President Wilson before the British Plenipotentiaries had left for Paris.

3. After the Conference began the effort was maintained and it eventually resulted in the arrangement by which the Dominions were accorded the status of nations other than the Five Great Powers.

4. In the constitution of Commissions and Committees for the work of the Conference, it was felt that the Canadian Ministers should appear as representatives of the whole Empire. In this way they filled important positions as members of Committees charged with the duty of considering and reporting upon matters of the highest moment.

5. The question of the method by which the nations of the Britannic Commonwealth should signify their adhesion to the Treaty was then taken up and proposals put forward by Canada were eventually accepted in most respects.

6. Then arose the questions recently under discussion with regard to the status of the Dominions in the League of Nations and in the organization to be established under the Labour Convention. In this respect also, the view which the representatives of Canada initiated and insisted on, was eventually accepted.

7. In all this insistence upon due recognition of the nationhood of the Dominions, Canada has led the way; and in most cases her representatives have made the fight without active assistance from, although with the passive support of, the other Dominions.

8. The decisions thus reached should make the course comparatively simple for the future; but it is necessary to bear in mind an inevitable tendency on the part of officials and sometimes of Ministers, to forget that the United Kingdom is not the only nation in the British Empire.

9. A separate memorandum has been prepared with respect to the International Air Convention.¹ Apart from that there are the proposed treaties of peace with Austria, Hungary, Turkey and Bulgaria. At present it cannot be foreseen that these treaties will involve any questions touching the status or interests of Canada which have not already been under consideration. If, however, any such questions should arise, it is desirable that they should be referred to the Government at Ottawa and that full and explicit information by cable as to the position should be given and a reply received, before Canada is committed in any way.

¹ Probablement le document n° 140.