

on the main delegation. He asked how many named delegates would be appointed. There would be one aspect if not more than two and at the outside three delegates were selected and named from the British Islands, but a very different aspect if some other course should be pursued.

The suggestion was then made that all the Ministers should be included in a panel from which five delegates should be drawn as might fit the occasion. This proposal, however, was not adopted for the time being, as it was felt that it did not concern the Allies, and could, therefore, be settled at a later date among the British representatives as an internal question.

The conclusions of the above discussion were that, in view of the opposition raised by the representatives of other Great Powers to the proposals adopted by the Imperial War Cabinet for the representation of the Dominions and India at the Peace Conference, and with full recognition of the efforts of the Government of the United Kingdom to carry these proposals into effect, it was agreed that—

1. The Dominions and India would accept a system of representation at the Conference whereby, whenever their special interests are concerned, they would respectively be entitled to a separate representative at the Conference, who should be on precisely the same footing as that proposed for smaller belligerent Powers, such as Belgium, Serbia, etc. Their acceptance is given on the understanding that they will in addition, as members of a panel, be entitled to representation on the British Empire Delegation.¹

2. The question of the precise method of representation on the British Empire Delegation of the Dominions and India, and the form in which this should be publicly announced, was reserved for subsequent consideration.

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*27. Minutes of Third Meeting of Committee on Position
of Dominions and India in League of Nations*

Present:

Paris, January 15, 1919

The Rt. Hon. Lord Robert Cecil (Chairman)

The Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Borden

The Rt. Hon. W. M. Hughes

The Rt. Hon. General Smuts

The Hon. Sir Satyendra Sinha

1. The resolutions providing for the creation of a League of Nations were submitted by the Chairman and approved. Lord Robert Cecil notified that Mr. Lloyd George was also prepared to approve them.

¹Mr. Lloyd George re-opened with the Council of Ten later in the same day the question of representation of the Dominions and succeeded in getting agreement to two representatives each for Canada, Australia, and South Africa; and one each for New Zealand and British India, and one for the Indian States. *Ibid.* 530-533.