

2. You will recall that on May 26 the Deputy Minister of Mines and Resources asked us to convey to Geneva what he said were the agreed views of officials of his Department and of Labour on the proposed revision of these Conventions. His letter, which is attached,† said: "This matter has been discussed with the Deputy Minister of the Department of Labour, Dr. MacNamara, and he concurs in my views".

3. While we were still celebrating the apparent rapprochement between the two Departments, our festivities were rudely interrupted by the attached letter of May 31 from the Deputy Minister of Labour,† who now disagrees with Dr. Keenleyside's statement that agreement has been reached. Mr. MacNamara is, and I think with justice, disturbed at the implication in Dr. Keenleyside's letter that a Canadian vote in favour of a proposed new convention on migrant labour conditions should be made contingent on the approval of Mr. C.E.S. Smith, the delegation's technical adviser on Immigration. In addition, Mr. MacNamara correctly points out, in paragraphs 3 and 5 of his letter, two technical errors in the instructions which we were asked to send to Mr. Renaud.

4. I think we should avoid as far as possible getting involved in this particular phase of the Mines and Resources-Labour controversy and, if you agree, I should be grateful if you would sign the Instructions to Mr. Renaud as drafted in the attached despatch.† Mr. MacNamara's legitimate objections have been taken care of in paragraphs 8 and 9 while, on the other hand, Dr. Keenleyside's suggestion (in his letter of May 27) that Mr. Renaud, and not Mr. Goulet of the Department of Labour, should give his personal attention to this matter, has been followed by us. In addition, we have agreed with Mines and Resources that the general question of policy should be submitted to Cabinet, a procedure with which Mr. MacNamara appears to disagree.

5. If you approve, I should appreciate your signature on the attached letters to the two Deputy Ministers,† with which I have enclosed a copy of the Instructions to Mr. Renaud, without entering into any unnecessary discussion. I have discussed this matter with Mr. Chance, who concurs in the wording of the despatch to Geneva.

J.W. HOLMES

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PCO

*Extrait des conclusions du Cabinet*

*Extract from Cabinet Conclusions*

TOP SECRET

[Ottawa], June 2, 1949

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I.L.O. CONVENTION ON MIGRANT LABOUR; INSTRUCTIONS TO CANADIAN DELEGATION

4. *The Minister of Mines and Resources* reported that Canada had participated in the preparation of the "Convention concerning the recruitment, placing and conditions of labour of migrants for employment, 1939" but had not ratified it. At the meeting at Geneva on June 8th, the I.L.O. would submit for approval a proposed convention on the same matter; a convention concerning personal effects and tools