

in so offensive a manner as to render their consideration almost impossible. Sir Robert Borden is convinced, however, that the seeming impertinence of Count Brockdorff-Rantzau in remaining seated during the delivery of his speech, was due to his physical condition, as he is on the verge of nervous collapse and he almost fainted during a conference with respect to the arrangements for Wednesday. If he had made an apology or explanation of this character he would have aroused sympathy instead of a strong antagonism which was awakened by the course he pursued. At the conclusion of the Conference, President Wilson said to Bonar Law "I see that today's proceedings have produced upon you the same effect as upon me". Bonar Law asked him why, and the President said:—"I see that your face is flushed, and the blood went to my head more than once during that speech".

6. There is a perceptible air of relief among the delegates and the chief advisers and experts, upon whom the pace has been killing during the past four or five weeks. There are continued conferences, however, especially with the Italians, who have returned to Paris in a somewhat contrite frame of mind, feeling that their departure for Italy, and generally, the course which they have pursued, has been unfortunate, not to say foolish.

. . .

8. An important conference was held on Thursday morning [May 8] with the American representatives on the commission which is drafting the Aerial Convention. The question under consideration was the possibility of such amendments as would enable Canada to adhere to this Treaty. It is anticipated that this can be done under suitable reservations which will have to be considered by the Government as a whole and by Parliament within the period fixed for ratification.

9. Sir Robert Borden is endeavouring to arrange an interview with President Wilson and Mr. Lloyd George respecting the control of shipping and cable rates.

10. The final disposition of the cable matter is set forth in the accompanying memorandum.¹ Sir Robert Borden has addressed to Mr. Lloyd George on the subject, a letter, copy of which is enclosed. It is not anticipated that any effort will be made by the United States to have the present user and operation of the cable interfered with.

¹ Document n° 128.