

Commission it was ultimately decided to accept the representation which appeared in the draft. The grounds of opposition to the original proposal were that the British Empire was sufficiently represented and that, under the original proposal, she would be taking too large a part in the organization of the Conference. He pointed out that in a Conference of 100 members under the proposal the British Empire would have some 28 Representatives. A second objection to the original proposal was that some of the Dominions could not be said to be large industrial countries. Further, they found on examining the constitution of the League of Nations that there the British Empire was treated as a single unit on the Executive Council. As the present draft stood, no Dominion could have a Government Delegate.

Sir Robert Borden pointed out that industrial conditions and problems in the various parts of the British Empire were essentially different. The industrial conditions of Canada or of South Africa differed from those of New Zealand or the United Kingdom; in North America, however, the industrial conditions were more or less the same throughout the continent.

The Canadian industrial conditions were similar to those of the United States and if Canada were excluded from direct representation, there might be an unfortunate tendency to seek representation through the United States rather than through the British Empire.

Mr. Long called the attention of the Delegation to the fact that underlying this proposal there was a question of grave constitutional importance to the British Empire, viz., it appeared that the United States were objecting to the representation of the self-governing States of the Empire and seeking to compare them with the 48 States of the United States of America, which stood on a totally different footing. If accepted, this would give rise to great dissatisfaction in the self-governing Dominions.

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Mr. Balfour said that he quite understood the view of other nations that the British Empire should not receive separate representation for each Dominion. Their point of view was that though the British Empire was a great unit yet at the same time component parts of it desired to claim separate representation. On the other hand, the Dominion point of view was that each Dominion was a self-governing country, with its own labour legislation, its own industrial conditions, its own needs and its own experience. The proposal as now drafted was that the Dominions should be incorporated with the British Empire on the Governing Body. If representation were not granted he feared resentment would be caused and the whole scheme jeopardised. He had been much moved by Sir Robert Borden's argument that if Canada did not receive direct representation on the Governing Body she would be tempted to seek representation through the United States. That would indeed be a most unfortunate position.

Mr. Barnes pointed out that Dominion Governments, as such, could not be represented on the Governing Body, but that the workpeople and the employers of any of the Dominions had the same chance of election to the