

Conventions must necessarily adhere to the other. It is felt that such a proposal might prevent Japan for example, from adhering to either Convention.

(II) The proposal to establish standards which will increase the cost of production among the Allied countries and which will thus handicap them in competition with Germany, requires serious consideration.

(III) The dispositions of Clause XXXV affecting the Dominions are not in accordance with the memorandum circulated by Sir Robert Borden on behalf of the Dominions.

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6. Sir Robert Borden has been asked to assist in some difficulties which have arisen with regard to the form of the League of Nations Covenant. The Japanese strongly insist that the preamble of the Covenant shall be so modified as to recognize the equality of the nationals of all States which adhere to that Covenant. The proposal which they first submitted was not accepted with the result that public opinion in Japan has become somewhat excited. An earnest effort has been made to find a formula which will be accepted. The four formulas are as follows:¹

. . .

Mr. Hughes, who is taking very strong ground on the question, is willing to accept the second or the third proposal if the Japanese will agree to insert in the terms of the Covenant a declaration that immigration and naturalization are to be regarded as domestic questions with which the League shall not interfere. The Japanese delegates quite agree that such would be the result, but they are unwilling to agree to its insertion by reason of its effect upon public opinion in their country.

7. Many amendments have been made in the Covenant and the present draft is a great improvement upon the first. A further and probably final meeting of the Committee will be held on Tuesday evening, 8th April, which Sir Robert Borden has been invited to attend. Several of the amendments proposed by him have been embodied in the amended draft.

8. Sir Robert Borden left for London at eleven o'clock on the morning of Thursday, 3rd April, and in view of his departure a meeting of the British Delegations was held at nine o'clock that morning for the main purpose of discussing the Labour Convention. It was not found possible, however, to carry out that idea as all the time available before Sir Robert Borden's departure was occupied in giving a very confidential account of the negotiations and discussions between President Wilson and the Prime Ministers of Great Britain, France and Italy, while engaged in the preparation of the preliminaries of Peace. Much discussion has taken place with respect to the delimitation of the frontier between France and Germany. Great Britain and the United States are strongly of opinion that the proposals of France, which

¹ Les quatre formules ne sont pas reproduites ici parce qu'elles font partie des notes paraissant en bas de page du document n° 95, page 105.