

as the smaller Allied belligerent Powers, but only by one delegate, and not two. This representation would be in addition to the Dominion or Indian member in the five delegates representing the British Empire as a whole.

Sir Robert Borden said that the point made by President Wilson would have force if questions at the Conference were decided by votes; if not, this contention did not appear to affect the case materially.

Mr. Lloyd George said the decisions at the Conference would not be reached by voting. He had made this point quite clear at the Conference on the previous day. (I.C. 104, para. 1.)

Sir Robert Borden said he quite saw the difficulty of the case, but he wished to draw attention to the increasing national consciousness in the Dominions. This consciousness was strongly susceptible. He had himself informed the Canadian Cabinet of the proposal approved by the War Cabinet about ten days ago, but his Canadian colleagues were not satisfied with it. They hold that Canada should not have less delegates than the United States, whose sacrifices in this war were certainly proportionately very much less.

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Mr. Bonar Law said that he felt the Dominions need have no apprehension concerning the sufficient representation of their case. This, in any event, would certainly be adequate. The only difficult question, really, was the feelings of the electorate in the Dominions. Could not this be met by explaining that the Dominions really had a dual representation: first as supplying one of the members of the joint delegation of the British Empire, and secondly by being able to send an additional delegate to represent them on the same footing as the smaller belligerent Powers.

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Mr. Lloyd George further pointed out that Mr. Bonar Law would be unable on many occasions to attend the meetings of the Conference, as his duties would detain him in England. In practice, therefore, his place would then be taken by a Dominion representative.

Sir Robert Borden said that he was not convinced that the Canadian public would not complain, even after receiving this explanation. He would, however, do his best to satisfy them. One delegate might make as efficient a presentation as two; but to the average man there was a marked distinction which would be regarded as discrimination. In order to make clear the seriousness of the issues involved, he must point out that there were certain elements in Canada of non-British origin who were not strongly disposed towards the British connection, and the scheme proposed might enable these elements to adduce arguments and agitation which it would be difficult to meet. The majority of the Canadian people were desirous of remaining within the British Empire, but only upon conditions which would satisfy their sense and purpose of nationhood.

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Sir Robert Borden observed that the Canadian point of view would be materially affected by the arrangements for representation of the Dominions