

proposed system of administration and control as may be accorded either to Great Britain or to the United States in respect of cables touching the territory of either of those countries.

Third. That Canada shall have adequate representation in the proposed International Congress.

129. *Le Premier ministre au Premier ministre par intérim*

TELEGRAM X. 293

MOST SECRET

Paris, May 5, 1919

Your P.312. Situation with regard to Peace Treaty seriously complicated by crisis created through withdrawal of Italian representatives. I insisted upon seeing Lloyd George this morning with respect to my early return. Informed him that I proposed to leave Paris about the end of this week and to sail for Canada about end of following week, say 17th May. He begged me to postpone decision until next Thursday when according to present arrangements Peace Treaty will be submitted to German Plenipotentiaries, at Versailles. He urged further that I should remain until Treaty is signed but I replied that this is impossible because I believe that delay in signature will be much greater than now anticipated. Italian troops occupy Fiume and there is grave reason to believe that Italy has an understanding with Bulgaria. Italians have not demobilized any portion of their army. They have thirty thousand troops in Bulgaria and considerable forces in Asia Minor. Bulgarian Army has not been disarmed. It is believed that Italians are encouraging Bulgarians to attack Greeks. Out of twenty-five minutes with Lloyd George twenty minutes were taken up in discussing dangers of situation with Sir Henry Wilson, Chief of General Staff, and his assistants. You can thus realize that the situation is extremely tense and difficult.

BORDEN

130. *Le Premier ministre au Premier ministre par intérim*

TELEGRAM X. 295

MOST SECRET

Paris, May 5, 1919

Situation still very difficult and confused, Italian delegates telegraphed this afternoon that they are returning on Wednesday but no one knows what course they will then take. Meantime German delegates have threatened to leave for home and presentation of Peace Treaty to them has now been fixed for Wednesday instead of Thursday. Plenary Conference called for tomorrow afternoon to consider Treaty as a whole. I have served notice that Canada cannot accept Labour Convention unless clause debarring Dominion representatives from election to Governing Body is eliminated. Opposition to our demand comes from United States.

BORDEN