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## 3 DOMINIONS WILL DISCUSS TRADE PACTS

Massey, New Zealand, and  
Bruce, Australia, Plan  
Ottawa Parleys

**GREATER PREFERENCES  
MAY BE THE OUTCOME**

**N.Z. Chief Already in Can-  
ada Capital to See King;  
Bruce on Way**

*By Canadian Press*

**O**TTAWA, Dec. 28.—Premier Massey of New Zealand arrived here tonight. While in Ottawa he will discuss trade relations between Canada and New Zealand with Premier King and will advocate steps to improve the mail service between the two countries. Premier Massey was the guest of the Dominion government at a luncheon tonight.

The New Zealand premier declined to indicate the nature of the questions he would take up with Premier King except to say that they referred to trade and the mail system.

### **BRUCE COMING**

Premier Massey will be the guest of Lord and Lady Byng at Government house tomorrow, where a dinner will be given in his honor at night. He leaves upon his journey across Canada Sunday night.

The visit of Premier Massey to the capital tonight, and more par-

ticularly that of Premier Bruce of Australia, at the end of next month, may result in extension of Canada's trade preferences. Such an outcome is looked for hopefully, at all events. At the present there are preferential tariffs between Canada and New Zealand but none between Canada and Australia.

### **NEGOTIATIONS FAILED**

A year ago Canada offered to give Australia her preferential tariff for the preferences Australia gives to Great Britain, but Australia did not think the offer good enough and there has since been no indication that Premier Bruce will take a different view if the offer is repeated during his coming visit. Indeed, Canada has already gone further. Last session the Dominion government proposed to give empire raisins and dried currants free entry to Canada and to raise the duty on these articles, under the intermediate and general tariffs, from 2-3c to 3c a pound. The purpose was to give Australian dried fruits an added preference in Canadian markets and to supply an added attraction to a treaty.

### **WAIT FOR AUSTRALIA**

Objections were raised in the Canadian parliament that the new rates would increase the cost of raisins to the Canadian housewife. Parliament approved the new rates, but a proviso was added that they would become effective only after publication of an order-in-council which would be passed when a trade treaty with Australia was concluded.

During previous negotiations, Australia was willing to give Canada as good terms as she granted to any other country, but was unwilling to give the treatment she granted Great Britain.

### **ONE DIFFICULTY**

A further difficulty arose, according to Premier Bruce, in that Canada declined to grant a preference to Australian dried fruits unless the whole of the Canadian requests were agreed to. The commonwealth government was unable to agree to all the Canadian requests and the matter ended for the time being, to be resumed during the coming visit of Premier Bruce.

South Africa, which is also a large producer of dried fruits, has evinced a desire to take advantage of the preferential rates on currants and raisins.

W.L. Mackenzie King Papers

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