

devoid of danger, are very adequate. On the 26th February, Sir Robert Borden addressed to Lord Robert Cecil a letter on the subject, copy of which is sent herewith<sup>1</sup>, together with copy of Lord Robert Cecil's reply.

4. As to the representation of the Dominions upon or in connection with the Supreme Economic Council, it has been arranged that the representatives of the British Empire upon that Council shall be selected from a panel including Dominion representatives and that they shall have behind them a Committee upon which each of the Dominions shall be represented. It is proposed to appoint Mr. Lloyd Harris and Dr. Robertson as representatives of Canada upon that Committee. It will not be necessary that both of them should be present at all meetings, but they will have that right whenever it is desirable to exercise it. Mr. Lloyd Harris is presently in London; and Dr. Robertson, who was expected to return tomorrow [March 2] or Monday [March 3], will remain until Wednesday for the purpose of dealing with certain matters of urgency which require his attention and which relate to the marketing and disposal of our surplus food products. It is understood he is reporting directly to Mr. Crerar<sup>2</sup> the result of his activities in this connection.

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6. Sir Robert Borden has forwarded to Sir Thomas White, the draft of a proposed economic arrangement which is under consideration by the British Delegations. Its effect is to grant "Most Favoured Nation" treatment to all the powers which become signatories to the proposed Treaty. In addition there are similar provisions with regard to shipping such as are usually to be found in such treaties. There is, however, a reservation of the right to prevent dumping. This draft was discussed at a meeting of the British Empire Delegations today, and by reason of the importance of the subject, the draft will be further considered at a meeting to be held on Monday [March 3]. It appears that the American delegates strongly insist upon some such arrangement; and as the drafts submitted on behalf of the United States sometimes indicate a lack of care in draughtsmanship, it is considered advisable to introduce a very carefully prepared draft which will contain safeguards necessary to protect the interests of the various nations included in the British Commonwealth.

7. The various committees which were constituted before the middle of February are hurrying on their work with a view to presenting their reports not later than the 8th March. Notwithstanding the absence of M. Clemenceau, whose remarkable recovery has occasioned great rejoicing, considerable progress has been made during the past ten days. Highly important decisions still remain to be taken and it is probable that the work of the Conference will not be concluded before midsummer at the earliest.

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<sup>1</sup> Document n° 62.

<sup>2</sup> Ministre de l'Agriculture du Canada de 1917 à 1919.