

British Government in their present state, without the consent of Canada, would result in the immediate breaking up of your Government as at present constituted.

The inclusion of Spain and Brazil in Governing Body yesterday emphasizes the danger not only to Canada but to Great Britain. Sometimes a rapier is an effective weapon; occasionally you need an ax or a club.

Yours very truly,  
ARTHUR L. SIFTON

[PIÈCE JOINTE]

*Mémorandum du ministre des Douanes  
et du Revenu intérieur*

Paris, April 29, 1919

Before it is too late I would like to call your attention to the matter of the British Dominions, incidentally thereto, the British Empire, and with special reference to Canada.

It may be assumed probably that all the representatives of the various governments of the Dominions are enthusiastic over the preservation intact of the British Empire, or at least were when they came here, and that the people of their various countries were interested in the same way having shown their interest to the best of their several abilities both in the expenditure of money and men, and that the various representatives were willing to the extent of their ability to devote their time to assisting the representatives of Great Britain, working with and even under the direction of the permanent officials of Great Britain, in connection with the many details necessary. So far as I know they have all done this contentedly and are still so doing and would be quite satisfied if Peace were finally made satisfactory to Great Britain on terms that were equal for the various people engaged on the side of the Allies in the war, so far as peace terms in themselves are concerned; even to put a strong case, if the larger nations more immediately concerned decided that we should now forgive and try to forget, asking nothing from our enemies and simply expressing the pious hope that they would go and sin no more, we could at least return home unashamed and adopt the idealistic pose now so fashionable in certain places (especially noticeable where there has been no suffering but rather a gain).

This refers to the Peace Treaty with enemies and the fact of making any kind of a peace that would look to be fairly permanent would be in itself a justification for agreeing to whatever might be necessary to that end.

But none of these conditions apply to conventions between alleged friends such as a League of Nations or a Labour Convention which now appear to be inextricably involved with each other, nor to an International Air Convention which is the latest and probably the worst case in which an effort is being made to take advantage of the presence of representatives of different countries here to foist on them an absurd, poorly drawn document, evidently