

representation in Canada of the interests of the Government of Great Britain is not the only responsibility of Great Britain's High Commissioner in our Dominion. He will have another and perhaps even greater responsibility, that, namely, of promoting consultation and cooperation between the Governments of Great Britain and Canada in all matters which are of mutual interest or concern. That consultation and cooperation will relate not alone to questions of trade, immigration, and finance, but also to these all-important matters which arise out of inter-imperial and international relations. Here let me say that especially in large matters of this kind, where consultation is all essential and where decisions frequently have to be reached without delay, too much importance cannot be attached to the value of personal contact. To my mind despatches between Governments should be the last and not the first work in important negotiations. An understanding of the exact meaning and intent of the other party, and of the atmosphere in which he lives and moves and has his being is all-essential to an appreciation of what may or may not be possible in any given situation at any given time. This can be made known to a Government by its own representative, resident at the seat of Government elsewhere, as it can never be made known