

October 9, 1925.

A.H. Ford, Esq.,
Director, Pan Pacific Union,
Honolulu.

Dear Mr. Ford:-

I beg to acknowledge your letter of September 22nd, enclosing copies of various papers sent out by your Pan Pacific Union. I assume that this is sent to me in my capacity as an officer of our League of Nations Society in Canada, since it does not seem possible that you could have proposed the co-operation of an individual University. I have therefore written to Sir Robert Borden, the President of the Society in Canada, concerning the Conference.

*Can't find
letter - DM*

You are good enough to ask me whether I have any suggestions regarding the Conference, and you thus give me the opportunity of saying that I am in entire concurrence with Sir Joseph Carruthers, who in his proposed definition of the main object of the Conference suggests the following:- "To consider the best devices that may be suggested to secure common agreement among the great Pacific powers whereby the possible conflicts of causes of war may be eliminated as far as possible."

I feel that the danger with conferences of this kind is that they tend to aim rather at discussion than at accomplishment. A great deal of time and money will be expended and it seems to me essential that some definite step should be the result. If, for example, Sir Joseph Carruthers' proposal is carried out as it should be, if the conference is able to arrive at the causes of the political and economic tension which obviously exists, and if the conference could, as a result, put forward one concrete proposal which could bring about the termination of economic and political strain now so apparent, its members would have real cause for satisfaction.

It is, in my view, essential that discussion should not be allowed to become desultory and that the matters to be debated upon should be so limited that conclusions can be reached. I would