

In order to avoid any question arising with the Canadian Press Limited and the Canadian newspapers, whose representatives will no doubt go overseas, my suggestion would be that if you approve asking Mr. Dafoe, or any other leading journalist, we should take the matter up with the Canadian Press here and get their approval so that we would be assured of their co-operation. This appears to me to be the most desirable course. An alternative course would be for the journalist to go over as the representative of the Department of Public Information and send his cables both to the Ottawa and New York offices of the Department, to be handed out to the Canadian Press. This would be a good thing from the standpoint of the Department, but I think it is important we should carry the Canadian newspapers with us in the matter; or possibly we could work out a combination of both.

You will probably not have time to deal with this before you leave and if not, could you wire or write me from New York?

Yours faithfully,

N.W. ROWELL

*2. Prime Minister to Prime Minister of United Kingdom*

CONFIDENTIAL

My dear Prime Minister,

London, November 23, 1918

Doubtless some suggestions which I have had in mind and which I venture to mention in this letter have already had your consideration. Probably some, if not all, of them will be considered by the Cabinet before we go to the Peace Conference.

I. The League of Nations. I am not convinced that any scheme yet formulated is practicable in the sense of having permanent results of marked advantage. However, as I stated in the Cabinet, the purpose is so commanding that no right thinking man could withhold his sympathy and support to any proposal which gave the faintest promise of success. I discovered today that the French proposals have been communicated to the Imperial War Cabinet; and a copy forwarded to me, but I have not seen the observations (if any) of President Wilson upon the scheme propounded by Lord Phillimore's Committee.<sup>1</sup> The proposals embodied in the report of that Committee seem to be the nearest approach to a definite scheme that might be capable of acceptance and that might give some promise of usefulness. It has occurred to me that out of the great mass of material collected upon this subject, a memorandum might be prepared containing an analysis of the various proposals, a statement of the considerations which might be urged for or against each and a conclusion (to be

<sup>1</sup>Committee on a League of Nations established in 1917 by the Foreign Office under the Chairmanship of Lord Phillimore (Lord Justice of Appeal, 1913-1916).