

the Convention, particularly as regards International Quarantine proposals.  
Ends.

1225.

DEA/5475-K-40

*Mémorandum du sous-secrétaire d'État adjoint aux Affaires extérieures  
au sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*

*Memorandum from Associate Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs  
to Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs*

Ottawa, November 17, 1944

The attached telegram, Circular D.1684 of November 15th, has been sent to me without any distribution having been made. It raises some difficult questions about international organization in the field of health and also touches on issues of general policy towards the United Kingdom and France and on the future of League technical bodies. The scheme proposed by the United Kingdom does not seem objectionable to me but I do not like their request in para. 5 for "an assurance that the foregoing proposals meet with the approval of Dominion Governments." This seems to be asking rather a lot.

We could answer perhaps merely by saying that we do not object to these proposals being put forward by the United Kingdom Government but are not prepared to give any assurance that they carry our approval. Before doing even this, however, I think that some consideration should be given to the substance of the proposals which involves a knowledge which I do not possess of the various bodies and conventions which are mentioned. It does not seem to me that any Government can be expected to accept a fairly detailed outline of policy in an important technical aspect of international relations on a basis such as this.

I am sending the original telegram and file to Mr. Angus since it is an UNRRA matter which started the business. I am sending copies of the telegram and of this note to Messrs. Renaud, Rive and Holmes. Would Mr. Angus consider what interdepartmental distribution should be made as well as the questions of policy involved? Mr. Renaud may be able to elucidate the position respecting the international bodies and conventions mentioned in it, and Mr. Rive might comment particularly in the light of his considerable experience in League health matters. Mr. Holmes might meditate on how the U.K. proposal would fit into the Dumbarton Oaks plan. Next week, perhaps, we might put together the results at a Departmental meeting and frame a reply.

H. W[RONG]