

for the War divided its work amongst several sub-committees, two of which have made important reports to the main Committee. Copies of these reports are forwarded for the information of Council.¹

11. The Minister of Justice has been watching the work of the Labour Commission, a copy of whose latest proposals is also sent herewith.¹

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16. On Saturday morning, 15th March, Sir Robert Borden had a conference with Lord Sinha, Under-Secretary of State for India, with respect to the position of India under Article VII of the League of Nations Covenant. Lord Sinha desired the advice and assistance of Sir Robert Borden in connection with that question and also as to the possibility of arranging that India's adhesion to the Covenant, to the Peace Treaty and to the subsidiary treaties, could be expressed in some manner analogous to that proposed on behalf of the Dominions. A further discussion with Lord Sinha and Mr. Montagu on this subject is to take place during the coming week. Sir Robert Borden brought up Resolution 21 of the Imperial War Conference 1918, and it was arranged that the method of carrying that resolution into effect should be considered at a meeting between the representatives of the Dominions and of India at an early date.

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Paris, March 24, 1919

1. This memorandum covers the period from Saturday evening 8th March, to Monday evening 24th March.

2. An earnest effort to expedite business is being made, not only by all the commissions and sub-commissions (of which there is almost an infinite number) but by the Council of the Great Powers as well. Unfortunately the methods of the Council do not seem to be very systematic as the questions are not taken up according to any defined plan or in the order of their importance and relevance. There has been an inclination to postpone difficult questions which has inevitably led to an almost discouraging accumulation. The value of the time thus wasted during the past two months is realized more and more as the days go by. Some waste of time was inevitable as on occasion certain Powers have resorted to obstructive tactics for the purpose of furthering their own ends. This attitude has been observed not infrequently in the course adopted by the representatives of Italy, whether in the Council or in the committees and sub-committees.

3. The unfortunate illness of General Botha and General Smuts has prevented conferences between the Prime Ministers of the Dominions which otherwise would have taken place. General Smuts has now returned to Paris and a conference with respect to control of immigration as affected by Japanese proposals with regard to the League of Nations, is to be held.

¹ Non reproduit.