

Arrangements are being made for the above notes to be exchanged together with note relating to the United Kingdom as soon as the Soviet Ambassador has presented his credentials.

982.

*Le secrétaire aux Dominions au secrétaire d'État
aux Affaires extérieures*

Dominions Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs

TELEGRAM B. 211

London, December 21, 1929

IMPORTANT. SECRET. My telegram of today Circular B. 210. It seems likely that in the course of negotiations Soviet Representative will enquire with reference to those Treaties which will be declared by our Convention to be still in force what is the position with regard to the Dominions. In so far as any of these Treaties are of general application (e.g. The Fur Sealing Convention of 1911, which is applicable equally to all subjects of His Majesty and to ships registered in any part of His Majesty's Dominions) or apply to individual Dominions it would help us if we were in a position to inform Soviet Representative, should any enquiry be made by them, that Dominion Governments concerned are willing that it should be placed on record by notes exchanged at the time of signature of Convention that it is the intention that the relevant provisions of these Treaties should continue to be applied as between the Soviet Union and the Dominions concerned to the same extent as in the past. Would this course be in accordance with the wishes of His Majesty's Governments in the Dominions? Particulars as regards application of Treaties in question can be furnished if desired.

As regards Treaties mentioned in Article III (which appear to apply to the whole of His Majesty's Dominions) it will be observed that it is contemplated that negotiations should be undertaken with a view to modifying Treaties in the light of modern conditions. If exchange of notes on the lines indicated above were effected opportunity could be taken to make it clear that in any such further negotiations account would be taken of position of the Dominions in relation to Treaties in question.

983.

*Le secrétaire aux Dominions au secrétaire d'État
aux Affaires extérieures*

Dominions Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs

DESPATCH 718

Downing Street, December 28, 1929

Sir,

With reference to my despatch No. 422 of the 23rd July, regarding the position of certain members of the Mennonite Colony in Paraguay, I have