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Washington Declaration on Atomic Energy.

Statement by the Prime Minister, Rt.Hon.W.L.Mackenzie King
House of Commons, December 17, 1945.

122
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The House of Commons is being asked by the motion now before it to approve the Agreed Declaration on Atomic Energy which was signed at the White House, Washington, on the 15th of November of this year, by the President of the United States, the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and the Prime Minister of Canada.

The statement which embodies the declaration was read to hon. members of this House by my colleague, the Minister of Justice, on the afternoon of the day on which the declaration was made. Copies of the Declaration in English and in French were tabled in pamphlet form on December 1st. The Declaration has received the widest publicity. I think it may be truly said that it has met with general approval.

As the Declaration is one of far-reaching significance and historic interest, it is desirable that it should be formally approved by both Houses of our Parliament. Apart from other positive advantages, such approval should serve effectively to meet the criticism that the Prime Minister of Canada in joining with the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and the President of the United States in the discussions at Washington and in signing the Declaration "either assumed that Parliament and the Canadian people had no views on the atomic