

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA.

BILL 1.

An Act respecting alteration in the law touching the Succession to the Throne.

Preamble.

WHEREAS his former Majesty, King Edward VIII, by His Royal Message of the tenth day of December, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and thirty-six, was pleased to declare that He was irrevocably determined to renounce the Throne for Himself and his descendants, and that He had for that purpose executed the Instrument of Abdication, which is set out in Schedule One to this Act, and signified his desire that effect thereto should be given immediately: 5

AND WHEREAS, following upon communication to His Majesty's Government in Canada of his former Majesty's said declaration and desire, the request and consent of Canada, pursuant to the provisions of section four of the Statute of Westminster, 1931, to the enactment of His Majesty's Declaration of Abdication Act 1936, which is set out in Schedule Two to this Act, was communicated to His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom: 10 15

AND WHEREAS the following recital is set forth in the preamble to the Statute of Westminster, 1931:

Statute of
Westminster.
U.K.
22 Geo. V,
ch. 4.

"AND WHEREAS it is meet and proper to set out by way of preamble to this Act that, inasmuch as the Crown is the symbol of the free association of the members of the British Commonwealth of Nations, and as they are united by a common allegiance to the Crown, it would be in accord with the established constitutional position of all the members of the Commonwealth in relation to one another that any alteration in the law touching the Succession to the Throne or the Royal Style and Titles shall hereafter require the assent as well of the Parliaments of all the Dominions as of the Parliament of the United Kingdom"; 20 25 30