

Affront to Parliament - page 2.

Mr. Bennett sets up a new practice without consulting Parliament or the people. In other words, Mr. Bennett, on an issue that was not in existence when Mr. Bennett was elected, has decided that he is the PEOPLE.

The Edmonton Journal remarks that the Prime Minister has been "exceedingly ill-advised in over-riding Parliament"
"It (the Government) has left itself open to the charge of flouting representative institutions.....what is more it will in all probability be found to have made the permanent restoration of royal honors in Canada less likely through having acted without having consulted the House of Commons."

The step has been taken as the Premier's personal action, without consulting parliament, although parliament sought to discuss the subject during last session and although parliament is to meet within three weeks and a notice is on the order paper for the discussion of the question as early as possible in the session. It is, as the Liberal ex-premier says, an affront to parliament.

Mr. Bennett dispenses with the resolution which for fifteen years has been observed and does not consult the House at all.

It is clear enough that parliament could rescind the resolution of 1919, but parliament has not done so - has on one occasion refused to do so and on another so clearly indicated its attitude that the question was not gone on with.

Mr. Bennett did not consult parliament. He probably knew quite well that he could not get from the House this one thing that he wanted. So he took the matter into his own hands, believing that his followers in the House will support him in it rather than defeat the government.

Titles have been restored, but Mr. Bennett deemed it prudent and politic to cover his flouting of public opinion with a bevy of petticoats.

And yet in the face of an opinion so clearly expressed, Mr. Bennett recommended the bestowing of more titles. If Mr. Bennett wanted titles restored there was only one course to follow: submit the question to parliament and accept the decision.

The Federal Prime Minister has been exceedingly ill-advised in overriding it independently of that body..... there was no justification for recommending the conferring of new honors until it had reversed its position.

W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1933-1939
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