

with it the condition that the arrangement reached must be subject to the approval of this Parliament. This means that every province represented here will have, through its representatives, the right to say whether or not the settlement made is fair and just in the interest of all the provinces of the Dominion.

Mr. MEIGHEN: What is the meaning of the words "That the award shall be binding on all parties"?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: If my right hon. friend and I were trying to settle a difference between us, and we made that difference subject to the finding of some third party, conditional upon that finding being accepted by the representatives assembled here, we would have exactly what I propose now.

Mr. MEIGHEN: It is not final at all. If it is, the word final has no meaning.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: It reaches a degree of finality that my right hon. friend and his Government were never able to reach. If there is any possibility of getting this question settled—and it is a question that ought to be settled, and settled as quickly as conveniently can be effected—this method which has been proposed would appear to be the most effective and the best.

My right hon. friend made some reference to the question of treaties. He spoke, and I thought rather slightly, of the remarks of the mover of the Address when my hon. friend from North Winnipeg made reference to the clause of the Speech from the Throne which implies that all treaties should be submitted to the approval of Parliament. My right hon. friend asked: when did his Government not submit its treaties to Parliament? The treaties in question happen to be the recent treaties arising out of the Conference for the Limitation of Armaments at Washington. Whether it was to matters concerning that Conference to which my right hon. friend alluded or not when he said that certain misrepresentations of his attitude had been made during the campaign, I cannot say, but I venture to assert at the present moment, that if it had been left to my right hon. friend to settle the question as to how these treaties were to be finally signed, in all probability our Dominion would have had no representative at that Conference at all. I have here a statement which was made by the Right Hon. the Prime Minister of Great

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

Britain shortly after my right hon. friend returned from the Conference of Premiers. It reads:

As regards the Dominions and India, it was arranged at the recent Imperial Conference that His Majesty's Government should represent the whole Empire at Washington.

That was the position in which the treaty matter was left at the Imperial Conference attended by my right hon. friend.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Are you reading the whole statement? I cannot think that that statement was made in that naked form. If so, I would dispute it.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I will read my right hon. friend's own statement which is just as naked as the other, and I think he will discover that its meaning is quite apparent. It was during June, July and August that my right hon. friend attended the Conference. On the 18th of October my right hon. friend handed out the following statement to the press of this city:

As the result of recent telegraphic communications between the Prime Minister of Canada and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, it has been arranged that a representative of Canada should be appointed as a member of the delegation which will represent the British Empire at the Conference on the Limitation of Armaments and on Pacific and Far Eastern Questions summoned by the Government of the United States to meet at Washington on November 11th. The Canadian Government have accordingly appointed Right Hon. Sir Robert Borden G.C.M.G. as the representative of Canada for this purpose.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Hear, hear.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: The right hon. gentleman says "hear, hear," but does he note the date of this particular communication, the 18th October, 1921? It was in June, July and August that my right hon. friend was at the Prime Ministers' Conference. It was between the time my right hon. friend was at the Prime Ministers' Conference in England and the date of his issuing the statement I have just read that the Prime Minister of Great Britain said:

As regards the Dominions and India it was arranged at the recent Imperial Conference that His Majesty's Government should represent the whole Empire at Washington.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I wish to state again, that the hon. gentleman has failed to quote such language from any statement of mine, and I was no party to such an arrangement.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Let me then say what will be familiar to many hon. members of this House, that after the Imperial Conference the Prime Minis-