

The Problem which confronted Government of Canada;

On Dec.10, King Edward indicated to H. M. Government in Canada his "final and irrevocable decision" to renounce the Throne;

In Instrument of Abdication and Message which accompanied it, King Edward declared his desire "that effect should be given to this Instrument of Abdication immediately";

P.M. Baldwin, in discussing King's decision in H. of C.,

Dec.10, announced his intention of introducing necessary legislation the same day, saying, "it is very important that it should be passed into law to-morrow"; *See Exhibit 1*

Parliament at Westminster in session at time and, hence, possible to enact legislation immediately;

Impossible to summon Parliament of Canada in time to give effect to King Edward's desire, and to act prior to, or simultaneously with Parliament of U.K;

Government of Canada, therefore adopted necessary steps to ensure:

- i - that, from a legal standpoint, abdication of King Edward and accession of his successor would take place in Canada at same time as in U.K.;
- ii - that constitutional convention embodied in recital of Statute of W. would be observed as early as

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