

encountered difficulties over the present form of the Royal Style and Titles (Mr. Turgeon's³ new Letter of Credence was the latest case in point).

(b) It may be suggested that near-uniformity could be reached if Australia, Ceylon and Pakistan would agree to the 1949 formula, from which the Commonwealth countries' preferences do not vary greatly. The Australians might be persuaded to change their view but the position of Ceylon and Pakistan is difficult. Although at the Prime Ministers' Conference in 1949 Ceylon and Pakistan seemed to accept in principle the suggested formula, there is reason to believe that they might now find difficulty in doing so. This is perhaps more true of Pakistan than Ceylon. You can appreciate the undesirability of bringing pressure to bear on the Governments of Ceylon and Pakistan to agree to something which they do not want and which might prove politically embarrassing for them. Moreover, not too far in the background lies the possibility that one or [*sic*] both of these countries might eventually follow in the footsteps of India and choose to become a republic.

(c) The suggestion might be put forward that the new Royal Style and Titles should follow the Accession formulae which read in part: "Queen of this realm and of all Her other realms and territories." This wording is unlikely to be acceptable to the United Kingdom authorities, who have expressed the view that a title which is to be used on formal occasions or informal instances (such as Heads of State Treaties or Credentials) would be unsuitable if it included no geographical content. This view in my opinion has considerable force. I should, therefore, be reluctant to give support to a form of Royal Style which made no mention of the country concerned.

(d) In our present preference, which has been communicated to the C.R.O., the words "By the Grace of God" and "Defender of the Faith" have been retained. As previously mentioned Ceylon, Pakistan and South Africa would prefer to omit these two expressions. If it would facilitate agreement on the other controversial points, you might wish to consider whether their omission from the new Royal Style and Titles would be acceptable in Canada. In spite of their historical and religious significance, primarily in the United Kingdom, the phrases are inconsistent with the present structure of the Commonwealth and serve no useful purpose in inter-Commonwealth or international relations. Their omission from the new Royal Style might meet with some opposition from the more tradition-minded elements in Canada, but, if such an omission would serve to bring about a satisfactory solution of the complex titles problem, the step might be worth taking. However, there is no indication at the present time that Canadian initiative in this direction would achieve the desired results. The phrases might well be retained in the Royal Style as optional.

(e) If uniformity cannot be obtained, there might be considerable merit in allowing each country to use the Royal Style and Titles of its own preference. The use of varying titles is not likely to detract from the value or function of

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Hon. W.F.A. Turgeon, Ambassador in Ireland and, concurrently from February 1952, Minister to Portugal.