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## MAKING CLEAR THE STATUS OF THIS DOMINION

Senator Belcourt Gives Version  
of Happenings At London  
Conference.

INTERNATIONAL MEET  
IS EPOCH IN HISTORY

British Dominions Were Near  
Having No Direct Representa-  
tion At London.

By Canadian Press.

TORONTO, Nov. 11.—Canada's status in Imperial affairs was the subject of an address delivered to The Canadian Club today by Senator N. A. Belcourt, envoy extraordinary of the Canadian Government at the recent conference in London.

How nearly the British Dominions were to having no direct representation was described by Senator Belcourt.

Notwithstanding that Canada had protested because it had not been invited to the conference of Lausanne and had refused to submit to its own Parliament the treaty bearing that name, the matter of the representation of the Dominions and India at the last London conference was overlooked by the Government of Great Britain, said Senator Belcourt.

Canada's Status.

"When the Prime Minister appointed me to represent Canada at the conference his instructions were to insist upon representation separate from Great Britain and with equal power."

On his arrival in London, however, he learned that Australia, New Zealand and India had agreed to be represented on the "panel" system by their High Commissioners in London. "I was informed by the head of the British Government and the Colonial Secretary that insistence on my part for separate and equal representation would hinder, delay and probably frustrate the work of the conference. Accordingly I consented to recommend to the Government of Canada the panel representation, as Canada would, I felt sure, decline to assume and responsibility for delay or hindrance in the work of the conference.

"I, however, insisted that my recommendation must be accompanied with a distinct agreement that the panel representation must be only for this conference, and, if approved by my Government, that it would not be looked upon as creating a precedent or quoted or looked upon as in any sense a derogation from the status recognized at Versailles and Washington or from the agreement made at the Imperial conference of 1923."

"The question of Canadian status in connection with treaties and conference is no longer debatable," he continued. "It has been settled finally and definitely by the agreement which was drawn up at the Imperial conference of 1923. Canada is entitled to separate and equal representation with Great Britain and the other Dominions of the Empire."

Canada's Part in War.

Senator Belcourt pointed out that because of what Canada did in the war, Great Britain had recognized her right "to be consulted and to have representation and full power in all international agreements and treaties."

"I cannot see how we can hope for larger powers unless we become an independent nation—and accept the consequences."

"And for the present, I am certainly not prepared to say that we should cut the painter."

Senator Belcourt declared that the International conference held in London last summer to pave the way for making the Dawes report operative was the most eloquent and portentous event of modern times and marked an epoch in the history of nations equal at least to that one when man finally emerged from the jungle.

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