

in the Dominion capitals, to supplement the present system of intercommunication and the reciprocal supply of information on affairs requiring joint consideration. The manner in which any new system is to be worked out is a matter for consideration and settlement between His Majesty's Governments in Great Britain and the Dominions, with due regard to the circumstances of each particular part of the Empire, it being understood that any new arrangements should be supplementary to, and not in replacement of, the system of direct communication from Government to Government and the special arrangements which have been in force since 1918 for communications between Prime Ministers.

It is amusing, in view of the subsequent developments, to recall the adverse opinion of Professor Barriedale Keith, writing in 1927, on the proposal to appointed United Kingdom High Commissioners to the Dominions.⁽¹⁾ In the case of Canada, he conceded, it is easy to understand that it might be of real value for the British Government to be able by personal touch through a representative at Ottawa to attain a fuller understanding of Canadian views than through a Governor General. But in general he objected: "Apart from the utter waste of money involved by these appointments, it is perfectly clear that the diplomat would often have nothing serious to do save enjoy himself, and that Dominion ministers would prefer to receive their news direct from the British Government or through their own representative in London. . . Canada with a Minister at Washington and the British Ambassador in readiness can make no

(1) See Keith: Responsible Government in the Dominions.
(2nd ed. 1928). p.915.