

are attached as an appendix to this memorandum. These Governments agree on the desirability of having the Royal Style changed before the Coronation (although this ceremony does not include a full recital of the Royal Style and Titles); but there are wide divergences of view in the various preferences:

(a) Australia does not favour the United Kingdom's suggestion, primarily because Australia wishes both the United Kingdom and Australia to be mentioned by name in the title to be used in Australia.

(b) Neither of the Australian preferences would satisfy completely our desire that the Royal Style should emphasize the fact that the Queen is Queen of Canada, regardless of her sovereignty over other Commonwealth countries. Our view² is in strict accord with the present constitutional position, which is based on the concept of equality of status of all Commonwealth members. The first Australian preference would result in a cumbersome title and is, therefore, not likely to commend itself to the other Commonwealth governments. The second Australian suggestion is not in accord with the objectives, expressed at the 1949 Prime Ministers' Conference, that all members of the Commonwealth should be represented in the new Royal Style on an equal basis with the United Kingdom and that only one country would be named in the new Royal Style.

(c) Ceylon and Pakistan have expressed a preference for the shortest possible title and would be most unlikely to agree to a new Royal Style along the lines of the Australian proposal because it tends to emphasize the link between the United Kingdom and the other Commonwealth country concerned.

(d) South Africa has already gone on record as being unable to lend its support to the form of title suggested by Australia because, in the South Africans' view, the Australian proposal detracts from the equality of status of the members of the Commonwealth.

(e) Ceylon, Pakistan and South Africa do not wish to include the expressions "By the Grace of God" and "Defender of the Faith" in the new Royal Style and Titles.

Possible Alternatives

4. A number of possible alternatives may be raised in London:

(a) If it appears that no near-uniform title is likely to emerge from the discussions, the suggestion might be made that the whole matter be dropped and that the present Royal Style and Titles be retained. (The present title reads: "Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, Ireland, and the British Dominions beyond the Seas, Queen, Defender of the Faith.") In my view it would be most undesirable to postpone the matter any longer, because so much of the ground work has already been completed; because the Coronation presents a convenient opportunity to bring the Royal Style to date; because there has been general agreement on the need to have the present archaic and unrealistic title revised; and because from time to time we have

²Note marginales: /Marginal note:
not my personal view. St. L[aurant]