

055948



December 27th 1923.

Private & Personal

My dear Meighen,

I am in receipt of your letter of December 7th in which you quote an extract from Mackenzie-King's speech on December 6th in Montreal. The first part of the quotation is, as you suggest, very ambiguous. Nobody has ever disputed at any conference that I can remember that the decisions of the conference are subject in the last resort to Parliament, whether they involve legislation, finance or administrative action. The real practical difficulty was between those representatives at the Conference who were prepared to propose or endorse definite proposals with the intention of putting them to their Parliaments afterwards and of seeing that they were passed, and those who were inclined to avoid expressing a view of any sort on any subject on the ground that the matter was one for Parliaments to decide.

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