

5. It may be said that the extra phrase in the Canadian Proclamation, "Supreme Lord in and over the Dominion of Canada", was not intended to form any part of the Royal style and title and that in any case, since the Proclamation could not change the law or custom of the Constitution, this phrase should be regarded as harmless surplusage, but actually the use of this phrase has given rise to public misunderstandings as to the Royal Title and this in itself constitutes a good practical objection against the use of the same form in the future. The real objection, however, is that, considering the circumstances noted above under which the phrase came into use in 1910, it cannot well be regarded as appropriate to the status of a Dominion today. The proper course is to adhere exactly to the Royal Title as laid down by the Imperial Conference, 1926, subject to any amendments which may be approved by the parliaments of the United Kingdom and the Dominions.

20.

Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures au ministre au Japon
Secretary of State for External Affairs to Minister in Japan

DESPATCH 14

Ottawa, February 28, 1936

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your despatch No. 31 of the 3rd February, 1936, and its enclosures, concerning matters which resulted from the death of His late Majesty King George V.

I have read them with much interest and thank you for writing me fully on the whole subject. I entirely agree with you on the Canadian point of view presented therein and on the action taken by you in this connection.

It will probably take some little time still for some representatives of His Majesty in respect of the United Kingdom clearly and fully to understand the status of equality between Members of the British Commonwealth of Nations. Nor is the education of the Governments of certain Foreign Powers, I think, quite complete yet in this regard. It is, therefore, the duty of Representatives of His Majesty in respect of Canada to see to it that the diplomatic requirements of this status of equality be observed.

It is noted that the exchange of Imperial calls was not made with your Legation, but was made only at the Embassy. Under the circumstances, however, and conditions described in this connection, I am of the opinion that you were wise in not raising the point officially. I do not think, however, it should occur another time as calls should be exchanged with the two Missions on an occasion of this nature.

I am glad you have also brought to my attention the question of flag. This is a matter, as you realize, on which there are no concessions to be made