

REFERENCE REMARKS MARCH 13, 1922: - REPRESENTATION
AT
WASHINGTON

p.47

Mr. Mackenzie King:-

"I have here a statement which was made by
"the Right Hon. the Prime Minister of Great Britain shortly
"after my Right Hon. friend returned from the Conference of
"Premiers. It reads:

"As regards the Dominions and India, it was
"arranged at the recent Imperial Conference that His
"Majesty's Government should represent the whole Empire
"at Washington."

(Vide folio 1 - 2 attached)

Mr. Meighen:-

Are you reading the whole statement? I cannot think
that that statement was made in that naked form. If so, I
would dispute it.

(VIDE FOLIO 3)- MANITOBA FREE PRESS, NOVEMBER 1, 1921.

(It will be noted that the following as quoted from the
(above publication gives the full statement of the British
(Prime Minister.)

Under the Editorial "Was It Arranged in London?" states:-

"An Associated Press despatch of Oct. 18, reporting a statement
"in the British parliament by the British Prime Minister, says:-
"Mr. Lloyd George, in speaking of the Dominions and India,
said it was arranged at the recent Imperial conference that
the British government should represent the whole Empire at
the Washington conference. In view of the vital importance
of subjects to be considered at that conference, however, he
said it was felt to be desirable that the Dominions should be
represented by their respective Premiers, or, if this were
found to be impossible, by persons nominated by them. None
of the Premiers have found it possible to attend."

Manitoba Free Press, September 13, 1921:- Under Editorial
"Canada and the Washington Conference" (Vide folio 5), points
out that in the current issue of MacLean's Magazine that Grattan
O'Leary "who may, perhaps, be regarded as speaking the views of
"the Prime Minister, in view of his close relations with him
"while in attendance at the Imperial conference, remarks with
"some bitterness upon the absence of direct Canadian represen-
"tation at a conference which probably owes its very existence,
"in Mr. O'Leary's opinion, to the position taken by Mr. Meighen
"at the conference." (Thus leaving no doubt that it was not until
later and after some agitation that representation was granted.)

Manitoba Free Press, November 4, 1921, Under "General Smuts
Protests Again" folio 7 - 8.

"The people of Canada and of the other Dominions are greatly
"obliged to Gen. Smuts for speaking out; his action throws into
"sharper relief the silent acceptance by the premiers of the
"other Dominions of the retrograde step that has been taken."

*Note: Statement in Events (the folio 15)
and as quoted by Prime Minister is exactly
in agreement with the another.*

W.L. Mackenzie King Papers
Memoranda & Notes

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