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Greeks who had been beaten by the Turks. He wired to ask the governments of the Dominions if they would be willing to march. King read the news in the paper before official word had come to Ottawa. He was taken aback. Is England in danger? Or civilization? For what are they going to fight? The skeptical answer King sent the next day, cautiously demanding explanation, made such a "cold shower" impression in England that Asquith made use of King's cable to counteract Lloyd George's Dardanelles plans. Canada's unwillingness to enter upon hostilities without being convinced of their justification helped to prevent a war which would have been as unpopular in England as it would certainly have been in Canada.

When Lord Curzon shortly afterwards asked the Dominions for authority to sign on their behalf the Treaty of Lausanne with the Turks, Canada declined, as she had not been present at the conference. This became a signal for the other Dominions, who took the same stand. In both cases, the but partially defined status of the Dominions in the post-war Commonwealth was directed towards more complete autonomy. A further step toward this more complete autonomy was asserted when the British Ambassador at Washington dought to sign on Canada's behalf a treaty just concluded between Canada and the United States about fishing rights in the Pacific. The treaty was signed by a Canadian Minister holding full powers from the King.