

TIGHT BINDING.

C127691

Mr EDEN thought it difficult to see how it could be introduced into the present preamble.

Mr CHAMBERLAIN said it was rather difficult to discuss where the point should appear without having in front of one a draft of the proposed introductory paragraphs. The point should be reserved until the other sections were available.

THE HEADING.

Mr MACKENZIE KING proposed to substitute for the present heading "Draft Resolutions on Foreign Policy" the words "Draft Statement on Foreign Policy": otherwise the draft would be liable to interpretation as constituting a single foreign policy for the Empire. This would create considerable political difficulties in Canada. He quoted from a Press cutting a resolution passed by a Canadian Youth Conference of 1,200 young people claiming to represent 1,000,000, who had voted as one. There was in Canada a great dread lest the country should be committed at the Imperial Conference to some obligation arising out of the European situation. If actual Resolutions were passed, a difficult situation might arise in Canada before he and his <sup>colleagues</sup> Delegation could return to explain matters. It was impossible for them to be too careful. He then suggested the following re-draft of the preamble:-

"The representatives of the Governments of the British Commonwealth of Nations gathered at the Conference have participated in a number of frank and confidential discussions on foreign affairs and have exchanged views on the international situation."

He could see that some statement might have a useful effect in the world at large, but if it were in such a form as to result in exception being taken to it in Canada he did not know what the consequences would be.

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