

Re Summoning of Parliament (See Memo. by Mr. Edwards,
Deputy Minister of Justice).

In U.K., 6 days must, by statute, elapse between
summoning of Parliament and its meeting;

No definite or minimum period fixed by law in Canada,
between summoning and meeting of Parliament;

In absence of specific law or custom in matters of
procedure, Parliament at Ottawa follows practice
in U.K.;

Therefore intervening period could not be less than 6 days;

In view of geographical differences, would be only
reasonable for period to be longer in Canada than
in U.K.;

Fact that a quorum (20 members) might have been convoked
in time to act re Abdication and Succession, is
irrelevant;

A portion of membership of H. of C., summoned from
eastern Canada, though sufficient to constitute
a quorum, could not act in name of Parliament
of Canada;

If not definitely illegal, would be contrary to whole
spirit of Confederation by allowing a geogra-
phical section of Canada to legislate for
Dominion as a whole.