

POOR COPY

NU138 ADD KING CHURCHILL LONDON AA OF THE THRONE

C115764

"PARLIAMENT WOULD ALSO FAIL ENTIRELY IN ITS DUTY IF IT ALLOWED SUCH AN EVENT TO OCCUR AS THE SIGNING OF THE ABDICATION IN RESPONSE TO THE ADVICE OF THE MINISTERS WITHOUT TAKING ALL PRECAUTIONS TO MAKE SURE THAT THE SAME PROCESSES MAY NOT BE REPEATED WITH EQUAL UNCANNY FACILITY AT NO DISTANT DATE AND IN UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES.

"CLEARLY, TIME IS NEEDED FOR A SEARCHING CONSTITUTIONAL DEBATE.

"THE NEXT QUESTION--WHAT HAS THE KING DONE? IF IT IS TRUE, AS ALLEGED, THAT THE KING HAS PROPOSED TO THE MINISTERS LEGISLATION WHICH THEY ARE NOT PREPARED TO INTRODUCE, THE ANSWER OF THE MINISTERS SHOULD NOT BE TO CALL FOR ABDICATION, BUT TO REFUSE TO ACT ON THE KING'S REQUEST, WHICH THEREUPON BECOMES INOPERATIVE.

"IF THE KING REFUSES TO TAKE THE ADVICE OF HIS MINISTERS, THEY ARE OF COURSE FREE TO RESIGN.

"THEY HAVE NO RIGHT WHATEVER TO PUT PRESSURE ON HIM TO ACCEPT THEIR ADVICE BY SOLICITING BEFOREHAND THE ASSURANCES OF THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION THAT HE WILL NOT FORM AN ALTERNATIVE ADMINISTRATION IN THE EVENT OF THEIR RESIGNATION, THUS CONFRONTING THE KING WITH AN ULTIMATUM.

MORE 255P

W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1933-1939  
(M.G. 26, J 4, Volume 161, pages C114723-C115560)

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