

"Commonwealth of Nations" as a political Entity either within, or without, or in substitution for, the British Empire. That Empire is still an integrity;

The phrase "Commonwealth of Nations" does not even occur in the Statute of Westminster except once in the preamble where it is used as an agglomerate phrase for designating the "autonomous communities" which are some of the Entities of the Empire. That phrase is not definitive of their Status and rights which are not agglomerate, but individualistic. These communities are not a composite Entity and they are not a Commonwealth in any legal or constitutional sense. As Entities of the Empire, they have among them no inter-dependence, and nothing in common, beyond the fact that they are all freely associated in the Empire of which one indivisible Crown is the symbol—a symbol which is common to them all, not in globo, but individually. That is the Empire's unique feature.

A Commonwealth is an agglomeration or consolidation of States under one Government or Parliament which in inter-National affairs represents them all. This is not only repugnant to the root principle of the British Empire but it is the direct antithesis of that individualism of its members which Britain has fostered, the Dominions have aimed to achieve, and the Statute of Westminster now makes clearer than ever before. Though not yet fully Sovereign they are Nations, free Nations, within the Empire—fiscally, financially, and legislatively. To be that, and then to call them a Commonwealth is disparaging and dyslogistic in the extreme. Moreover it is false. A Commonwealth of Nations is a contradiction in terms. If they are a Commonwealth their individual Nationhood is submerged.

Now this "Economic Union" - What is it? It is another chimera. It is an ideal which has been relegated to the realm of the impossible by the very unfoldment of the Empire