

With regard to the projected Constitutional Conference, the following resolution was adopted:—

(a) Continuous consultation, to which the Prime Ministers attach no less importance than the Imperial War Conference of 1917, can only be secured by a substantial improvement in the communication between the component parts of the Empire. Having regard to the Constitutional developments since 1917, no advantage is to be gained by holding a Constitutional Conference.

(b) The Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom and the Dominions and the Representatives of India should aim at meeting annually or at such longer intervals as may prove feasible.

(c) The existing practice of direct communication between the Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom and the Dominions, as well as the right of the latter to nominate Cabinet Ministers to represent them in consultation with the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, are maintained.

Other resolutions were passed regarding co-operation in the Imperial wireless scheme, approving of uniform legislation on the limitation of shipowners' liability by clauses in bills of lading, asking the radio research board to investigate and report on wireless telephony, stating that "in the interests of the solidarity of the British Empire, it is desirable that the rights of Indians to citizenship should be recognized," and urging that a conference of representatives of the Patent Offices of the Dominions should be held in London to consider a system of granting patents which should be valid throughout the Empire.

At the close of the Conference an address to the King was passed, declaring that "we have been conscious throughout our deliberations of a unanimous conviction that the most essential of the links that bind our widely spread peoples is the Crown, and it is our determination that no changes in our status, as peoples or as Governments, shall weaken our common allegiance to the Empire and its Sovereign."

The Washington Conference.—A Conference on the Limitation of Armaments was held from November 12, 1921, to February 6, 1922, at Washington, D.C., on the invitation of the United States Government, addressed on August 11, 1921, to the Governments of Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan. Invitations were also extended to China, Belgium, the Netherlands and Portugal, asking them to participate in the discussions on Pacific and Far Eastern questions to be held in connection with the Conference. The Dominion of Canada was represented by Right Hon. Sir Robert L. Borden.

On the opening of the Conference, the Hon. C. E. Hughes, Secretary of State of the United States, was elected as Chairman. Two committees on programme and procedure were appointed to suggest methods of organization and procedure. As a result of their deliberations it was decided to appoint two main committees: (1) The Committee on Limitation of Armaments, consisting of all the Plenipotentiary Delegates of the five powers—the United States, the British Empire, France, Italy and Japan; (2) the Committee on