

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1.—RELEVANT STATUTORY ENACTMENTS

(a) THE STATUTE OF WESTMINSTER, 1931

(22 Geo. V, c. 4)

An Act to give effect to certain Resolutions passed by Imperial Conferences held in the years 1926 and 1930. [11th December, 1931.]

WHEREAS the delegates of His Majesty's Governments in the United Kingdom, the Dominion of Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, the Dominion of New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, the Irish Free State and Newfoundland, at Imperial Conferences holden at Westminster in the years of our Lord nineteen hundred and twenty-six and nineteen hundred and thirty did concur in making the declarations and resolutions set forth in the Reports of the said Conferences :

And whereas it is meet and proper to set out by way of preamble to this Act, that, inasmuch as the Crown is the symbol of the free association of the members of the British Commonwealth of Nations, and as they are united by a common allegiance to the Crown, it would be in accord with the established constitutional position of all the members of the Commonwealth in relation to one another that any alteration in the law touching the Succession to the Throne or the Royal Style and Titles shall hereafter require the assent as well of the Parliaments of all the Dominions as of the Parliament of the United Kingdom :

And whereas it is in accord with the established constitutional position that no law hereafter made by the Parliament of the United Kingdom shall extend to any of the said Dominions as part of the law of that Dominion otherwise than at the request and with the consent of that Dominion :

And whereas it is necessary for the ratifying, confirming and establishing of certain of the said declarations and resolutions of the said Conferences that a law be made and enacted in due form by authority of the Parliament of the United Kingdom :

And whereas the Dominion of Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, the Dominion of New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, the Irish Free State and Newfoundland have severally requested and consented to the submission of a measure to the Parliament of the United Kingdom for making such provision with regard to the matters aforesaid as is hereafter in this Act contained :

On 21st July, 1931, the House of Representatives, and on 24th July the Legislative Council, agreed to resolutions that an Address be presented to His Majesty praying him to cause a measure to be laid before the Parliaments of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to give effect to paras. 2 and 3 of the Preamble of this measure, and to ss. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 11 (*mutatis mutandis*). To this they added a clause similar to the present s. 10 (1), providing that no provision of the Statute should apply to New Zealand unless that provision was adopted by the Parliament of the Dominion—with power to date the adoption as at the