

No. 25.

New Zealand, Dominions No. 495.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 21st October, 1924.

With reference to my despatch, Dominions No. 334, of the 23rd July on the subject of the Imperial Institute, I have the honour to request Your Excellency to inform your Ministers that His Majesty's Government regret that the exigencies of parliamentary business during the summer session did not permit the passage of the Imperial Institute Bill, of which copies were enclosed in my despatch under reference, through the House of Commons, and no further opportunity occurred owing to the dissolution of Parliament.

2. It is hoped to reintroduce the Bill in the next Parliament at the first opportunity, and every effort will be made to bring the scheme of reorganization into force as early as possible next year.

I have, &c.,

J. H. THOMAS.

Governor-General His Excellency the Right Hon.

Viscount Jellicoe, G.C.B., O.M., G.C.V.O., &c.

No. 26.

New Zealand, Dominions No. 499.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 22nd October, 1924.

With reference to my despatch, Dominions No. 352, of the 31st July, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, the accompanying copies of a parliamentary paper (Cmd. 2269), containing a despatch to His Majesty's High Commissioner for Egypt and the Sudan respecting the position of His Majesty's Government in regard to Egypt and the Sudan.

I have, &c.,

J. H. THOMAS.

Governor-General His Excellency the Right Hon.

Viscount Jellicoe, G.C.B., O.M., G.C.V.O., &c.

Enclosure.

DESPATCH TO HIS MAJESTY'S HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR EGYPT AND THE SUDAN RESPECTING THE POSITION OF HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT IN REGARD TO EGYPT AND THE SUDAN.

MY LORD,—

Foreign Office, 7th October, 1924.

In the course of my conversations with the Egyptian Prime Minister His Excellency explained to me the modifications in the *status quo* in Egypt on which he felt bound to insist. If I have correctly understood him they were as follows :—

- (a.) The withdrawal of all British forces from Egyptian territory.
- (b.) The withdrawal of the financial and judicial Advisers.
- (c.) The disappearance of all British control over the Egyptian Government, notably in connection with foreign relations, which Zaghlul Pasha claimed were hampered by the notification of His Majesty's Government to foreign Powers on the 15th March, 1922, that they would regard as an unfriendly act any attempt at interference in the affairs of Egypt by another Power.
- (d.) The abandonment by His Majesty's Government of their claim to protect foreigners and minorities in Egypt.
- (e.) The abandonment by His Majesty's Government of their claim to share in any way in protecting the Suez Canal.

As regards the Sudan, I drew attention to certain statements which His Excellency had made as President of the Council of Ministers before the Egyptian Parliament during the course of the summer.