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S E C R E T.

Copy No.

C A B I N E T 7-A (31).

CONCLUSIONS of a Meeting of the Cabinet held at
10, Downing Street, S.W.1., on MONDAY, 19th
January, 1931, at 5.0 p.m.

...

PRESENT:-

The Right Hon. J. Ramsay MacDonald, M.P.,
Prime Minister. (In the Chair).

The Right Hon.
Philip Snowden, M.P.,
Chancellor of the
Exchequer,

The Right Hon.
J.H. Thomas, M.P.,
Secretary of State for
Dominion Affairs.

The Right Hon.
Lord Passfield,
Secretary of State for
the Colonies.

The Right Hon.
Lord Parmoor, K.C.V.O.,
K.C., Lord President of
the Council.

The Right Hon.
Lord Sankey, G.B.E.,
Lord Chancellor.

The Right Hon.
J.R. Clynes, M.P.,
Secretary of State for
Home Affairs.

The Right Hon.
W. Wedgwood Benn, D.S.O.,
D.F.C., M.P., Secretary of
State for India.

The Right Hon.
Tom Shaw, C.B.E., M.P.,
Secretary of State for
War.

The Right Hon.
Lord Amulree, G.B.E., K.C.,
Secretary of State for
Air.

The Right Hon.
Vernon Hartshorn, O.B.E.,
M.P., Lord Privy Seal.

The Right Hon.
Arthur Greenwood, M.P.,
Minister of Health.

The Right Hon.
Margaret Bondfield, M.P.,
Minister of Labour.

The Right Hon.
Christopher Addison, M.P.,
Minister of Agriculture
and Fisheries.

The Right Hon.
Sir Charles Trevelyan, Bt.,
M.P., President of the
Board of Education.

The Right Hon.
W. Graham, M.P.,
President of the
Board of Trade.

The Right Hon.
A.V. Alexander, M.P.,
First Lord of the
Admiralty.

The Right Hon.
William Adamson, M.P.,
Secretary of State for
Scotland.

Colonel Sir M.P.A. Hankey, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., Secretary.

EDUCATION.

The Voluntary
Schools Problem.

(Previous
Reference:
Cabinet 7
(31), Con-
clusion 1.)

1. The President of the Board of Education informed the Cabinet that his conversations with representatives of the Free Churches had not yet been completed. The Free Churches had been holding a conference that day, and at his invitation they had undertaken to send a deputation to meet him the following morning at 11 a.m. Until after that meeting he would not be in a position to report to the Cabinet as to the prospects of reaching an agreement. He could hold out no prospects, however, of obtaining an agreement between all the parties interested before the Debate on Wednesday afternoon.

Some discussion took place on the amendment proposed by Mr Scurr and others to Clause 3 of the Education (School Attendance) Bill providing that the Act should

"not come into operation until an Act has been passed authorising expenditure out of public funds, upon such conditions as are necessary to meet the cost to be incurred by the managers of non-provided schools in meeting the requirements of the provisions of this Act, but that in no event shall this Act come into operation earlier than the first day of September, nineteen hundred and thirty-two".

The Cabinet, while adhering to their previous decision at the Meeting referred to in the margin, agreed —

That if the above amendment should be adopted by the House of Commons the Government should accept it.

THE GENERAL
POLITICAL
SITUATION.

2. The remainder of the Meeting was occupied in a discussion on the general political situation.

NEXT MEETING
OF CABINET.

3. The Cabinet agreed --

That the Meeting arranged for
Tuesday, January 20th, at 5
p.m. should be held in the
Prime Minister's Room at the
House of Commons.

. . .

2, Whitehall Gardens, S.W.1,

January 19, 1931.