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MOMENTOUS CABINET MEETING.

ACTIVITY IN DOWNING STREET.

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Picture:- "To be, or not to be ? That is the question." Signor Mussolini protests that he desires peace. But he prepares for war ! The Abyssinian Emperor protests against the Duce's protestations, and he also prepares for war.

Advanced civilization again sees the darkening shadow of the jungle. Nature red in tooth and claw. Number Ten Downing Street stands at present in sunshine. Mr. Baldwin arrives to attend the momentous meeting of his Cabinet. Mr. MacDonald, his deputy, arrives from Loughborough "for the most serious crisis we have had to face since 1914." His own words. Sir Kingsley Wood, Minister of Health, is followed from holiday by Lord Londonderry, Lord Privy Seal.

Each political chief's name runs from mouth to mouth

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(CONT).

of the crowd. Viscount Hailsham, Lord Chancellor, say a thousand lips, as Number Ten swallows him up. Sir John Simon, Home Secretary. Apparently, not too worried by his heavy responsibilities. Sir Bolton Eyres-Monsell, First Lord of the Admiralty. Sir Samuel Hoare, Foreign Secretary, to whom the Abyssinian question has especially become an old man of the sea. Mr. Jimmy Thomas, and Mr. McDonald Junior. Mr. Neville Chamberlain, possibly seeing in certain unpleasant eventualities the chance of another good Budget 'going west'.

Mr. Anthony Eden, League of Nations Secretary, thinking maybe just one big question mark.

"Britain shall stand by her pledges" they say.

Just what that involves will emerge later.