Showdown

CANBERRA — The National Aboriginal Consultative Committe last night was headed for a major showdown with the Federal Government over the powers of its constitution and the future of the aboriginal "embassy".

The N.A.C.C. refused to nagh's support the pro- chance of being approved reduce extensive powers bosed constitution has no by Cabinet. which the draft constitution gives its council of "ministers".

It also criticised the Aboriginal Affairs Minister (Senator Cavanagh) for demanding the removal of the tent "embassy" opposite Parliament House.

The N.A.C.C. communications "minister" (Mr. Bruce McGuinness) said late vesterday: "We are not going to be dictated to.

"We are in disagreement with the minister.

"We will not kow tow."

He said the N.A.C.C agreed that the constitution did not give too much power to the executive.

The 41-member body earlier passed a motion calling on Senator Cavanagh to retract his statement that the aboriginal "embassy" was "unsightly and was not helping its cause.

Last night Senator Cavanagh refused to back down over his stand on both the constitution and the "embassy".

He said from Adelaide "I have agreed to submit the final constitution to Cabinet.

"But in its present form
I will not support it."
Questioned on the "embassy". he said: "In the
interests of the welfare of
aborigines I will not issue
a retraction."

On Wednesday, Senator Cavanagh told the N.A.C.C. that he would strongly oppose the draft constitution in Cabinet unless major amendments were made to it.

that the constitution gave too much power to the council of "ministers".