

precise delimitation of the qualifying group; also that further consideration be given to the introduction of a suitable bill at the next session of Parliament to give permanence to the proposed change.

Canadian meteorological requirements; report of Interdepartmental Committee

14. The Secretary submitted a report and recommendations from the Interdepartmental Committee on over-all Canadian meteorological requirements. Copies of this report would be circulated to Ministers for consideration at a later meeting.

(Interdepartmental Committee's report on Canadian weather station requirements, Dec.13,1946 - Cabinet Document 350).

15. The Cabinet, after discussion, noted submission of this report.

Prisoners of war; retention in Canada

16. The Minister of National Health and Welfare (as Acting Minister of Labour), referring to the decision taken at the meeting of December 10th, reported that the screening of German prisoners of war with a view to retention of 200 in Canada had resulted in the elimination of all but 220; reduction below this figure would be difficult and enquiry had been made as to whether there would be any objection to the retention of an additional 20.

17. The Prime Minister pointed out that unauthorized publicity which had been given to the decision to retain 200 prisoners of war had resulted in the receipt of representations raising objections to the proposal.

18. The Cabinet, after considerable discussion, agreed that the decision taken at the meeting of December 3rd be reviewed and that the Acting Minister of Labour investigate the situation with the officials of that department with a view to reporting at the next meeting upon the essential nature or otherwise of the work which it could be expected that the prisoners of war to be retained in Canada might perform.

Butter; maintenance of ration; imports from Australasia

19. The Minister of Finance, referring to the discussion at the meeting of November 26th, reported that the Wartime Prices and Trade Board had again emphasized the necessity of obtaining, as soon as possible, a firm undertaking respecting

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