

MOST SECRET

February 17, 1944.

CABINET CONCLUSIONS

A meeting of Council was held in the Privy Council Chamber on Thursday, February 17th, at 12.30 p.m.

The Prime Minister (Mr. King), in the Chair.

Wartime Labour Relations Regulations

1. Consideration was given to a final revision of the draft Order and Regulations (Wartime Labour Relations "Code").
2. There was considerable discussion as to the advisability of including the National Harbours Board, the point at issue relating to the fact that the Board had in its employ a proportion of employees who were members of the Civil Service. It was felt that the inclusion of the Board within the provisions of the Code might have important effects upon relations between the government and the Civil Service generally.
3. The Cabinet, after consideration, agreed:-
 - (a) that the Board should be included and that upon the tabling of the Order and Regulations, a statement should be made that it was the intention of the government to deal in a special way with employees in the Civil Service (by the introduction of the Whitley Councils or something of the sort). This might entail, at a subsequent date, a modification in the Regulations; and
 - (b) that the leaders of the two principal labour organizations should be consulted and informed that the National Harbours Board had been included in the Regulations on the understanding that the Civil Service would not be affected.

A. D. P. Heeney
A.D.P. Heeney,
Secretary.

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