

44. The Cabinet, after discussion, agreed that, as the space was for the use of the Department of National Revenue, the Minister of National Revenue investigate the proposed terms and arrangements for accommodation in London, Ontario, and report further at a subsequent meeting.

Trade and tariff policy; letter from the Canadian Manufacturers' Association

45. The Prime Minister said that the Minister of Trade and Commerce, along with other members of the Government, had received a communication from the President of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association to the effect that the Canadian policy of trying to secure a lowering of general trade barriers had failed and that, accordingly, trade and tariff policy should be re-examined. The letter urged that relaxation of emergency exchange control measures as announced for July 1st should not take place. Mr. Howe had replied stating it was not the intention of the Government to withdraw or weaken its support of the international programme for the reconstruction of world trade along lines seeking to regain for Canada greater freedom of access to markets throughout the world. It was pointed out that other countries had made important reductions in tariffs. With regard to import controls, it was stressed that it had been made clear that these were imposed for balance of payments reasons only, were not meant to be protectionist in nature, and would be removed as quickly as Canada's balance of payments position made it possible.

(Letter, President, Canadian Manufacturers' Association to Minister of Trade and Commerce, June 24, 1950 and reply, June 30, 1950)

46. The Cabinet, after discussion, noted with approval the reply sent by the Minister of Trade and Commerce to the letter from the President of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association concerning Canadian trade and tariff policy.

National Defence Act; proclamation

47. The Minister of National Defence said that certain portions of the National Defence Act would not be ready for proclamation until January 1st, 1951. It did not seem desirable to hold up proclamation of the entire Act until that time. Action might be taken to proclaim various portions as circumstances allowed. During the next week, about one-third of the Act could be

001741

RG 2, A5a,  
Vol. 2645

Privy Council Office  
Bureau du Conseil privé

National Archives of Canada  
Archives nationales du Canada