

Minutes of meeting of departmental officials
named to co-operate with Public
Information Office, held in the
office of the Minister of Labour,
October 23, at three p.m.

Attending: The Honourable Norman McLarty, Minister of Labour; George Hambleton, Public Information Office; W.S. Thompson, chief censor; V.J. Turnbull and J.W. Pickersgill, Prime Minister's office; Clare Moyer, K.C., J. Hanratty, and W. Eggleston, press censors; C. Payne, Department of Trade and Commerce; J. Muir, Bureau of Statistics; Ray Brown, Department of Labour; F.W. Rouse, Department of Pensions and National Health; B.J. Farrell, Post Office Department; W.C. Bethune, Department of Mines and Resources; V.L. Thompson, Wartime Prices and Trade Board; R.B. Bryce, Department of Finance; J.F. MacNeil, Department of Justice; J.F. Delaute, Voluntary Service Registration Bureau; T. Wayling, Department of National Defence; S. Roe, Department of National Revenue; C.V. Parker, Department of Agriculture; J.M. Scamerville, Department of Public Works, J. Grierson, Film Commissioner.

Mr. McLarty opened the meeting. He said the purpose of the Public Information Office was to collect, co-ordinate and disseminate information on government war efforts.

Mr. Hambleton first outlined the work of the bureau. He stressed that records of all activities -- economic and military -- should be sent to him. In an effort to keep the Prime Minister and members of the government informed of activities of departments, all information available, including confidential material, should be submitted. In the case of confidential reports, these were to be sent under separate cover, clearly marked with a red tab that contents were confidential. In the case of a department having no publicity man, no attempt need be made to write press releases which instead could be dealt with by the Information Office from the material submitted. All delay should be avoided. In the case of two