

The delegation had submitted a brief containing a number of questions and proposals. These had been studied by appropriate departmental officials and were being reviewed by the Cabinet Committee. Answers to most of the questions would be ready shortly.

Sub-committees were dealing with certain specific problems such as veterans affairs, fisheries, legal procedure and financial problems.

The major difficulty would probably be the substantial gap in the early years between anticipated provincial revenues and expenditures which could not be filled by new taxation. This matter would probably have to come before Cabinet for discussion at an early date.

(External Affairs memorandum, Oct.27, 1948).

21. The Cabinet, after discussion, noted the Minister's report.

Parliament; preparation of estimates

22. The Minister of Finance reported that he would be sending out to all departments, before long, a letter concerning preparation of the estimates.

Meantime it was emphasized that it would be necessary this year for departments to plan only minimum expenditures in view particularly of anticipated increases in the costs of defence.

23. The Cabinet, after discussion, noted the Minister's report.

Eastern Canada potatoes; price support; export; representations to government

24. The Acting Prime Minister observed that representatives of the Eastern Canadian Potato Committee had met the government recently and urged a price support programme for the 1948 potato crop based on \$1.90 per cwt. for No.1 potatoes, tablestock.

An explanatory note had been circulated.

(Secretary's note, Oct.25, 1948 - Cabinet Document 764).

25. The Postmaster General and Acting Minister of Agriculture pointed out that the export of potatoes from the Maritime Provinces to the United States had been causing difficulties

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