

had not been completed by June 30th, it would be possible for the government to extend the date further.

If these proposals were approved, the High Commissioners of the Commonwealth in Canada would be informed confidentially so that their governments might be aware of the government's intentions.

(External Affairs memorandum, Dec.23, 1946).

8. Mr. St.Laurent recommended that, in view of the importance of international trade questions in the coming months, a Cabinet Committee on External Trade Policy might be established with advantage, with a subordinate committee of officials from the departments concerned.

9. The Cabinet, after considerable discussion, agreed:

(1) that the procedure recommended by the Minister in the matter of a base date for tariff negotiations, restoration of 1939 tariff levels by proclamation and notification to other Commonwealth governments and the United Nations be approved; and,

(2) that a Cabinet Committee on External Trade Policy be established to consist of the following Ministers:

Secretary of State for External Affairs
(Chairman),
Minister of Agriculture,
Minister of Trade and Commerce,
Minister of Finance,
Minister of National Revenue;

the Cabinet Committee to establish a subordinate interdepartmental advisory committee, to consist of nominees of the departments represented on the Cabinet Committee and a representative of the Bank of Canada.

Relations with Newfoundland; entry into Confederation

10. The Secretary of State for External Affairs, referring to the discussion at the meetings of October 30th and November 6th, reported that the interdepartmental committee which had been reviewing problems relating to the possible entry of Newfoundland into Confederation had submitted a report raising certain basic considerations of policy. Copies of the committee's memorandum had been circulated.

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