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New Zealand.

Mr. W. J. JORDAN, High Commissioner in London.

Dr. W. B. SUTCH.

Mr. G. McNAMARA, C.B.E., Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs Department.

Mr. G. C. RODDA, M.B.E., Secretary to the Treasury.

Union of South Africa.

The Hon. A. P. J. FOURIE, M.P., Minister of Commerce and Industries.

Mr. J. D. HEDDON, Commissioner for Customs and Excise.

Dr. A. J. STALS, Member of the Board of Trade, Department of Commerce and Industries.

Mr. F. J. DU TOIT, Trade Commissioner.

India.

Sir V. T. KRISHNAMACHARI, K.C.I.E. (Representing His Highness the MAHARAJA GAEKWAR of BARODA, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.).

Sir D. B. MEEK, C.I.E., O.B.E.,

Mr. H. E. DALE, C.B.

Burma.

Dr. BA MAW, Chief Minister of Burma.

Mr. P. G. E. NASH, I.C.S.

Mr. W. G. WESTON, Board of Trade (United Kingdom)	} Joint Secretaries to the Committee.
Mr. R. M. CAMPBELL, Economic Adviser in London (New Zealand)	

The Committee submits the following report to the Imperial Conference.

1. The Committee has reviewed the position regarding British shipping (by which is meant all shipping registered as British wherever the registration be effected) in relation to the needs of the several parts of the British Commonwealth of Nations, and realises that the maintenance of adequate British shipping is a matter of common concern to the countries of the Commonwealth.

2. The Committee also notes that certain forms and methods of discrimination have latterly been adopted by Governments outside the Commonwealth, whereby British shipping in certain areas is seriously prejudiced if not threatened with entire elimination.

3. The Committee recommends accordingly that the Conference should reaffirm the Declaration, relative to overseas shipping, of the Imperial Economic Conference of 1923, and that in any case in which it may be considered by the Government of one part of the British Commonwealth that undue assistance to the serious prejudice and danger of British shipping is being given by any Government outside the British Commonwealth, there should be an opportunity for consultation between the Government of that part of the Commonwealth whose shipping is endangered and the Government of any other part of the Commonwealth concerned, in order to determine the validity of the complaint and the best means of meeting the situation, due regard being had to the interests of the Government of that other part of the Commonwealth.

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4. The Committee has taken note of the fact that the situation arising out of the competition of subsidised ships running across the Pacific between the United States and New Zealand and Australia is under consideration by the Governments concerned (United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand), with a view to maintaining British shipping on this route. This question was referred by the Committee to a Sub-Committee representing the four Governments. The Sub-Committee has reported that its discussions have not reached finality and the Committee has agreed that the matter should continue to be dealt with by the four Governments represented on the Sub-Committee in consultation.

5. The Committee has also noted that the Imperial Shipping Committee is at present engaged upon an investigation into the position of British shipping in Middle and Far Eastern waters, having regard to the increased competition of foreign flags. The competition of shipping which owes its effectiveness not only to Government assistance but also to special methods of trading, constitutes a special problem arising particularly in the area covered by the Imperial Shipping Committee's present enquiry and is one which needs investigation.

6. The Committee has also taken note of the additional statistics relating to shipping now being compiled in the United Kingdom, and each of the Governments represented on the Committee has expressed willingness in principle to arrange for the provision of similar statistics in respect of their import and export trade. The Committee left it to the United Kingdom Government to discuss with the Government of each of the countries of the Commonwealth the steps to be taken to give effect to the Committee's agreement in general principle.

7. The Committee submits the appended Report on the Imperial Shipping Committee.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

W. NASH,
Chairman.

2, WHITEHALL GARDENS, S.W.1.

10th June, 1937.

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