

POOR PRINT
Epreuve illisible

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on the understanding that the British would buy food-stuffs from us at reasonable prices and would not attempt to divert purchases of these products away from Canada. Because of the apparent temptations of operating under the Lease-Lend Act, it would not be desirable, from the point of view of either Government, to make public this understanding or the conditions which made it necessary, and great care would have to be used in any negotiations.

It is apparent that if such a general program were to be agreed upon, changes would be necessary in our methods of negotiating agreements for the sale of food-stuffs to the United Kingdom. In particular, the negotiations for sale of a particular farm or fish product could not be left solely to bargaining between the Boards or other agencies directly effected, but should be carried on in the light of the general financial arrangements as they were agreed upon from time to time. The Committee suggests, therefore, that negotiations for the various contracts should be cleared before final agreement, through a single group or agency which will be able to view them and discuss them as items in a general framework of transactions between the two Governments.

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