

being removed. The Committee had been right, however, in drawing attention to them. He (Mr. Lyons) much appreciated the pains which they had taken in examining his suggestion.

Mr. Lyons thought that he was right in assuming that the Principal Delegates were in agreement in general principle with the desirability of negotiating the proposed Pact. If this was so they could make progress.

He would like the Meeting to agree:-

- (i) That a pact covering the Pacific area mentioned in paragraph 1 of the report is a desirable objective.
- (ii) That the pact might embrace the following:
  - (a) Non-aggression, including respect for each other's sovereignty.
  - (b) A re-affirmation that war is renounced as an instrument of national policy.
  - (c) A provision for political collaboration.
- (iii) That the following countries might be approached with a view to participation:

The United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the United States, Japan, the Soviet Union, China, France, the Netherlands, Portugal, and Siam.
- (iv) That His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom should be asked to take the initial steps by sounding the United States and Japanese Governments, and that it should have discretion as to the time and manner of doing so.

Mr. Lyons added that he for one would leave the matter in the hands of the United Kingdom Government with absolute confidence. Even if the proposal did not meet with complete success, the effort would have been well worth while, provided that it resulted in better relations between the United Kingdom and Japan.