

that made for the purchase of Canadian wheat, to cover outstanding allocations in respect of the 1943 catch, together with the allocation of 1,000,000 pounds referred to earlier in this despatch. It would, in the circumstances, not be practicable to make a sum of the order of between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000 available in this way for the purchase of fish in a third country. There do not appear to be any other ways in which such a purchase could be financed by Canada.

4. In drawing attention to the constitutional and political difficulties which lie in the way of Canada's meeting the wishes of the Lend-Lease Division of the Foreign Economic Administration, it is not intended to rest our case entirely, or even chiefly, on such grounds. The essence of the situation appears to us to be that it is necessary for the relief of famine in Greece that a considerable quantity of fish should be bought in Newfoundland. The Commission of Government can hardly be expected to finance a transaction of this magnitude. The problem appears to us to be whether it is more appropriate that the United States should finance it or that Canada should do so. We realize that in both instances political difficulties exist. We do not believe, however, that there is any basic difference between the general willingness of the Canadian people to make sacrifices to relieve starvation in Greece and the general willingness of the people of the United States to make sacrifices for that purpose. Canada, as appears from your teletype WA-3220 of May 25th,[†] has already contributed \$14,000,000 for Greek relief. The United States has contributed \$18,000,000. In proportion to population and wealth, Canada has made by far the greater contribution, and we are strongly of the opinion that, if a special financial effort must now be made by one or other of these two countries to relieve famine in Greece, it is the United States rather than Canada which should make that effort.

5. It would, of course, be as gratuitous for Canada to urge the United States to extend Lend-Lease aid to Greece in this matter as it would be for the United States to urge Canada to buy Newfoundland fish for the benefit of the Greeks, but if the need for extending relief to Greece is mutually recognized and we are discussing in a friendly way who should provide it, I think the case that can be made out for the assumption of the burden by the United States is overwhelmingly strong. If, therefore, you see no objection to such a course, I should appreciate it if you will discuss the question frankly with the Lend-Lease Division of the Foreign Economic Administration.

I have etc.

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for the Secretary of State
for External Affairs