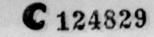
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IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1937

COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

REPORT ON THE NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN

1. The Committee took note of the reference to the subject of the Nationality of Married Women contained in paragraph VI(c)of the Summary of Proceedings of the Imperial Conference of 1930. In that paragraph it was stated that all the Members of the British Commonwealth represented at the Hague Conference of 1930 signed the Nationality Convention there concluded. Since 1930 legislation on the lines recommended in the Hague Convention has been passed in the United Kingdom, Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia and New Zealand, and the introduction of similar legislation in the Union of South Africa is contemplated.

2. The Australian and New Zealand Delegations, in opening the discussion, called attention to the further legislation recently passed in the Commonwealth of Australia and New Zealand which does not affect the common status of British subjects, but under which a woman who prior to her marriage was a British subject but ceased to be a British subject by reason of her marriage to an alien may retain within the Commonwealth of Australia or New Zealand respectively the political and other rights and liabilities of a British subject.

3. A full discussion took place on the various aspects of the whole question, including :---

(a) the enactment of legislation to provide that the nationality of married women should not necessarily be dependent on that of their husbands,

(b) the possibility of securing reciprocal arrangements on the basis of the general adoption of legislation on the lines of the Australian and New Zealand legislation referred to in paragraph 2 of this report, and

(c) the state of the law in countries outside the British Commonwealth.

4. It was not found possible to arrive at an agreement in favour of any change in the existing law. While therefore the Conference was unable to put forward any recommendations, it was assumed that

		From Empire Coun- tries.	Empire Countries principally concerned.			
	Total Imports.		Country.	Total Exports.	Exported to U.K	
					Amount	Percentage.
VII. Oil Seeds and Nuts. (000 tons)						
Cotton seed	654	168	Kenya and Uganda.	52	50	96
Linseed	257	58	India (inclu- ding Burma).	129	35	27
Soya beans Ground nuts	159 152	152	India (inclu- ding Burma).	358	79	22
Сорга	· 120	120	Nigeria Malaya Ceylon	184 217§ 49	43 91 —	23 42
Palm kernels	159	159	Nigeria Sierra Leone	313 78	140 36	45 46
VIII. Vegetable and Marine Oils. (000 tons)						
Whale oil Palm oil	143 86	78† 83	Nigeria Malaya	143 25	82 9	57
Soya bean oil Coconut oil	35 16	12	Ceylon Malaya	55 36	83	15
Olive oil	11	-	-	-	-	-
IX. Sugar. (000 tons)	1,973	802	Australia* Union of S. Africa.	306 197	257 130	84 66
			S. Africa. British West Indies (in- cluding British Guiana and British Honduras).		143	33
			Mauritius Fiji	230	186 75	84 5
X. Tea. (million lbs.)	477	: 428	India (inclu-	313	276	8
			ding Burma Ceylon	1 010	142	6

C 12

Fiscal year 1934-35.
Includes 75,000 tons from British Fisheries.
Gross exports. Imports = 105,000 tons.
Gross imports. Re-exports = 72 millions.

200 6/33

the matter would be the subject of further consideration by and consultation between the respective Governments.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

ERNEST LAPOINTE (Chairman).

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2, WHITEHALL GARDENS, S.W.1, 12th June, 1937.

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W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1933-1939 (M.G. 26, J 4, volume 175, pages C124160-C125094)

(M.G. 20, 5 4, Volume 17), pages 6124160-6129094,

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