

TIGHT BINDING.

C127772

The CHAIRMAN explained that the Committee had been set up to consider questions of mutual interest in (i) the supply and production of armaments and munitions of war and in the supply of raw materials, and (ii) the supply to the United Kingdom of food and feeding stuffs in time of war. With the approval of the Committee, he proposed, at this morning's meeting, to consider only questions of munitions supply. He drew the attention of the Committee to Paper No. 1322-B, which contained an extract from a Review of Imperial Defence prepared for the Imperial Conference by the Chiefs of Staff Sub-Committee and dealt with the question of Dominion assistance in the supply of war material. As far as the United Kingdom were concerned there were three principal points which he would like to emphasize. The first was contained in the first sentence of paragraph 6, which said that:

"6. The course of action which would commend itself to His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom is that the Dominions should consider the development of internal capacity for production of armaments and munitions of war, so as to diminish, so far as is practicable, their degree of dependence on the United Kingdom."

As an instance of this, South Africa might be prepared to undertake the manufacture of munitions to reduce the strain on the United Kingdom resources. The second point could not be expressed better than as given in the latter part of paragraph 6, namely:

"His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, while they must always keep carefully in mind the necessity of maintaining the established means of munitions production in the United Kingdom, would hope to assist such a policy at the start by considering the allocation to the Dominions from time to time of suitable proportions of the future requirements of the United Kingdom under its "long-range programme", and also, so far as possible, of its requirements under the present "Deficiency Programme."

-1-

W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1933-1939
(M.G. 26, J 4, volume 180, pages C127609-C128206)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA