

tionship between the exporters and trade commissioners had grown up a mutual confidence which might be destroyed if trade commissioners ceased to be in a separate service. The British and U.S. can throw aside their trade service with far less loss, for neither had this intimate and direct contact between exporters and trade commissioners. Mr. Master stated that in his view amalgamation of the two services would not guarantee the continuity and effectiveness of this work.

5. Mr. Master stated that there had been a great deal of pressure on the Department of Trade and Commerce to announce its position on post-war trade plans, and that neither he nor his Minister felt that the announcement on reorganization of the foreign service could be delayed any longer. He felt the matter should be decided this week.

6. The Chairman read over the Department of Trade and Commerce memorandum, with a view to seeing whether it would be suitable as a recommendation from this Committee. Several amendments were suggested, and will be incorporated in Mr. Read's redraft. If the plan is accepted, it was felt that the details of working it out could be left until the Committee which it envisages is set up. One major suggestion made by Mr. Read was that the plan recommended that a committee be set up to coordinate the service outside Ottawa, and to study the administrative problems involved, but that no suggestion had been made with regard to coordination of broad policy in Ottawa on economic matters. Consideration might be given to the setting up of a separate policy committee.

7. Mr. Read stated that the Department of Trade and Commerce memorandum would have to be considered by representatives of External Affairs, before a decision could be reached as to whether it should constitute the plan to be submitted by this committee.

8. Mr. Master reiterated that it was felt that his Minister should make a public statement at the earliest possible date. It was agreed that the Committee should meet at 4.00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 17th, unless it was found possible to arrange a meeting on Monday, the 15th.

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*Le président, le Comité interministériel pour étudier les relations
entre les Affaires extérieures et le bureau des renseignements
commerciaux, au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
et au ministre du Commerce*

*Chairman, Interdepartmental Committee to Study Relations between
External Affairs and the Commercial Intelligence Service, to
Secretary of State for External Affairs and
Minister of Trade and Commerce*

CONFIDENTIAL

Ottawa, November 17, 1943

PROPOSALS FOR CO-ORDINATION OF EXTERNAL SERVICES,
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, AND TRADE AND COMMERCE

This Committee, representative of External Affairs and of Trade and Commerce, was appointed to consider problems which have been latent for several