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The scheme set out in the White Paper (Cmd. 6519) differed in certain respects from the earlier plan which had been drawn up here, and which was known as the Keynes plan. It looked, however, as though the plan now under consideration represented a greater measure of agreement on the technical level between the United States and Dominion and U.K. experts. But there were certain reservations which H.M. Government in the United Kingdom had thought it necessary to make. First, that the international monetary fund should not operate in respect of the transitional period. It was felt that the general plan could not be regarded as complete, unless supplemented by a scheme for an international bank which would make funds available for reconstruction. Secondly, that if the scheme was accepted, the full obligations under it which would fall on H.M. Government in the United Kingdom could only be undertaken gradually.

MR. MACKENZIE KING said that he had already stated his views on the proposals for an international monetary fund in the Canadian House of Commons at the time when he had tabled the draft principles for the fund as recommended by experts. The views he then expressed were the views he held today. He did not think he could do better than repeat to the present meeting the remarks he had made in the Canadian House of Commons. He had spoken as follows:-

"This statement of principles on international monetary relationships is conceived as part of a general plan of international economic co-operation which as a whole will have for its objects the progressive expansion of international trade, high levels of employment, improved standards of living, reasonable stability of prices and machinery for orderly exchange arrangements. The Canadian Government is thoroughly aware of the importance of establishing international monetary arrangements favourable to the expansion of trade and employment, and is keenly sympathetic with the particular objects to which this statement of principles is directed. It is equally anxious that common views should be reached on other parts, also, of a general plan of international economic co-operation, particularly on a reduction in the barriers to trade expansion, a reduction vital to Canada's welfare, and necessary if conditions favourable to stable monetary arrangements are to be achieved. The view which will ultimately be taken by the Canadian Government of any proposed monetary arrangement will be greatly, perhaps decisively, influenced by the progress which it is possible to make in achieving agreement on other aspects of international economic policy with which monetary arrangements are inseparably linked."

MR. CURTIN said that the Australian Government was in the same position as was, he gathered, the Government of the United Kingdom. They had been represented in these technical discussions, and they hoped that success would attend their outcome. They entirely favoured co-operation for the purpose of expanding trade and commerce, and overcoming the instability of exchanges. The Australian Government would have to face a political dilemma in the domestic arena similar to that which Mr. Churchill indicated might have to be faced in the United Kingdom. Continuing, Mr. Curtin said that he was obliged to speak very frankly. In the first place unless