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22. The further recommendations of the Committee may be summarised as follows:—

*Armaments and Munitions of War*

(a) That progress in the adaptation and expansion of Government establishments in the Dominions and India for the manufacture of armaments and munitions of war can be facilitated and expedited by the addition of United Kingdom orders to Dominion and Indian requirements as they emerge.

(b) That in view of the uncertainty of the international situation His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom should, at an early date, give intensive consideration to the problem of placing orders for such armaments and munitions of war as can be manufactured in the Dominions and India.

(c) That His Majesty's Governments in the United Kingdom and Canada might be invited to consider whether special means could be arranged for a further inquiry in Canada as to the possibility of establishing the production of armament and munition stores in the Dominion.

(d) That His Majesty's Governments in the United Kingdom and Canada should give the most careful consideration to proposals such as that outlined in the report for the manufacture of the Bren gun in Canada.

(e) That to the utmost extent practicable, having regard to the difficulties involved, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom should endeavour to secure that the requirements of the Dominions and India are given priority over those of foreign countries.

*Raw Materials*

(f) That it is recognised it would be of great value to His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom to be able to rely on supplies of raw materials from the Dominions and India in the event of an emergency, but at the same time, any commitment or undertaking cannot be entered into during peace-time either to purchase or to supply raw materials during a period of war.

*Supply of Food and Feeding Stuffs*

(g) That in the course of the next few months information should be exchanged between His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and His Majesty's Governments in the Dominions, the Governments of India, Southern Rhodesia and Burma, as to the United Kingdom's plan for controlling food imports in time of war, on the one hand, and, on the other, as to the method by which purchases could best be made or bulk contracts placed in the oversea country for specific quantities of food and feeding stuffs.

23. Finally, the Committee recommend that for purposes of the published proceedings, the Conference should record its conclusions in the following sense:—

(a) That there should be developed in time of peace in different parts of the Empire, resources for the manufacture of munitions, as well as for the supply of raw material, with the following objects in view:—

(1) A reduction in the existing dependence of all parts of the Commonwealth on the munitions produced in the United Kingdom.

(2) The avoidance as far as possible of over-concentration of resources for manufacture and supply in any area especially liable to attack.

(3) The possibility of a development and extension of such resources in time of emergency.

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(b) That, with regard to manufacturing facilities, subject to any arrangements which may be made between them for combining facilities in peace, Governments should aim in the first instance at becoming self-supporting so far as possible in the matter of armaments and munitions of war.

(c) The vital importance of concerted arrangements for adequate supplies of raw materials is recognised.

(d) The interchange of views which has taken place in the course of the Defence discussion at the Imperial Conference with respect to the supply of all important foodstuffs including feeding stuffs for animals in the event of a major emergency should be followed up by further communication as necessary between the Governments concerned.

*Alternative drafts of (c) and (d) suggested by the South African Delegation*

(c) The vital importance of arrangements in peace as to the method by which purchases of raw materials in war could best be made, or supplies obtained, in the several countries of the Commonwealth, is recognised.

(d) That note is taken of the desire of His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom to conclude arrangements with the other Governments of the Commonwealth in regard to the method by which purchases could best be made, or supplies obtained, in their respective countries of all important foodstuffs, including feeding-stuffs for animals, in the event of a major war. The preliminary interchange of views which has taken place in the course of the Defence discussions at the Imperial Conference should be followed up by further communications as necessary between the Governments concerned.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

T. W. H. INSKIP

(Chairman).

2, WHITEHALL GARDENS, S.W.1,

9th June, 1937.

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