

of National Defence will make a scientific study of problems relating to the demobilization of the army, the return of soldiers and sailors to civil life and readjustment of industry to after-war conditions.

Special attention will be devoted to the adaptation of war industries to peace and to the revival of the building trades and branches of manufacturing which have been depressed or dislocated by the incidence of war. The Council will also consider trade and business organization, the relation of labor to employers and the Government, and the determination of National Policy towards shipping, railways and foreign trade.

The Webb Law reverses American policy and permits combination of producers and manufacturers for export business. "We shall need such combinations after the war," says The New York Times, "for the preservation of our new trade with foreign countries. For lack of them our exporting manufacturers were working at a disadvantage in foreign markets before the war and competitive conditions will be more formidable hereafter when we must contend against export associations controlled and supported by Governments." There is a Bill before Congress appropriating \$500,000 for a Commission to consider finance, scientific and industrial research, public administration, coal supply, sources of power, raw materials, forestry and agriculture. A great federation of industries, embracing 300,000 plants and employing 10,000,000 workers is in process of organization. "Give us," said the chairman of the War Convention at Atlantic City which initiated this movement, "such an organization, linking the manufacturers of this country into one great organization and there will be no problem during the war or after the war that it cannot solve." There are many trade organizations concerned with their peculiar problems and many social agencies thinking towards after-war conditions. There is

significance for Canada in a statement by Mr. Edward N. Hurley, Chairman of the United States Shipping Board, to the Illinois Manufacturers Association. He said:—

"While vigorous prosecution of the war is the paramount interest of the nation now, we cannot afford to wait until peace is declared before beginning preparations for the wise employment of the enormous new merchant marine which is being augmented at a rate of one and two ships a day. The country looks to the manufacturers to find work for those ships after the war. The more vigorously we fight the war, the more tonnage we shall have at our disposal when peace is declared. I believe that wise foresight now in utilizing this tonnage after the war, to develop our own world trade, and develop trade and industry in other countries, particularly the smaller and younger nations, will be a direct help to winning the war, not a hindrance. The American manufacturer, banker, and business man generally may well begin to-day to think in terms of world markets. When peace comes we shall find ourselves with an enormous mercantile marine on hand, as well as a ship-manufacturing industry of magnitude unlike anything that has hitherto existed. Success in employing that merchant marine hangs squarely upon manufacturing efficiency."

### Activity in Japan

It cannot be doubted that after the war Japan will be a more formidable competitor in world markets. Canadian manufacturers will feel as never before the pressure of Japanese competition. No other country is devoting itself with greater energy to the creation of new and the extension of established industries. Japan has cheap labor and skilful artisans and genius for