

shelter, medical supplies; (2) relief services, such as health and welfare, et cetera; (3) rehabilitation supplies and services; materials (such as seeds, fertilizers, raw materials, fishing equipment, machinery and spare parts) needed to enable a recipient country to produce and transport relief supplies for its own and other liberated areas, and such technical services as may be necessary for this purpose; (4) rehabilitation of public utilities and services, so far as they can be repaired or restored to meet immediate needs such as light, water, sanitation, power, transport, temporary storage, communications, and assistance in procuring material and equipment for rehabilitation and educational institutions.

The next question was whether or not it would be possible for the responsibility attached to the giving of relief to be handed over to the different countries in a position to give that relief. In view of the further explanation I have given of the nature of the administration it will be seen that this would not be a convenient way of doing it, because these supplies will have to be put in ships, transported abroad and put down at the place where they have to be used, and it would not be possible conveniently to earmark supplies, say, from Australia, going to Belgium or any other country. The matter will be handled entirely by the administration in the best way it can without regard to the source of origin of the supplies.

The next question was with reference to article III, section 1, of the agreement, and that is as regards the position of alternates on the council. Section 1 reads:

Each member government shall name one representative, and such alternates as may be necessary, upon the council of the united nations relief and rehabilitation administration, which shall be the policy-making body of the administration.

On that council each nation has only one vote, and if a nation is not represented by its delegate or member his place can be taken by an alternate. At Atlantic City there were set up no less than four committees and sixteen subcommittees, and on each one of these subcommittees every nation had the right to be represented. Obviously one person could not attend all meetings, so that he named an alternate from his delegation to vote for his country in his place at that meeting.

The next question was with regard to article III, subsection 2, in which it is said:

The council shall be convened in regular session not less than twice a year by the central committee.

The council is the policy-making body. It meets twice a year in order to receive reports from the executive and to decide further ques-

tions of policy. It is then the duty of the executive head, that is the director general, to carry out these policies; therefore it is thought that there is no need for the council to meet oftener than twice a year. I think that provision has been borne out so far by the experience. There will be an accumulation of policy questions to come before the council at its next meeting in Montreal, but they will be dealt with in good time. A number of questions relating to supplies will have already been dealt with by the supplies committee. A number of questions have been dealt with by the regional committee for Europe. The central committee has power to make policy-making decisions in between meetings of the council. Therefore ample machinery is set up to deal with matters in an effective way and yet preserve the powers of the representative organs over policy. It would be interesting for the committee to learn that three meetings of the central committee have been held so far and seven meetings of the supplies committee.

The next question had to do with section 3 of article III and was as follows: "If the director general has not a vote, what will happen when the central committee splits two to two?" I have never been present at such a meeting; but when there are representatives of China, the United Kingdom, the United States and the Soviet Union present I should think they would not decide anything if they could decide it only on a vote of two to two. They will have at least a vote of three to one before they arrive at a decision. I should think that in a small committee such as the central committee, having to deal with matters of high policy, they would have to have three to one or else they would not act.

Mr. MacNICOL: It is possible to have a vote of two to two.

Mr. CLAXTON: It is quite possible. There is no way of resolving that that I know of.

Finally the hon. member for Davenport asked a question with regard to the technical committees for which provision is made in section 6 of article III of the agreement. Those technical committees were provided for in resolution No. 26 adopted by the council and the committees are committees on agriculture, displaced persons, health, industrial rehabilitation and welfare. It is provided:

That such committees shall consist of such members of the council as indicate to the director general their intention to participate in the work of a committee or committees, or of alternates nominated by such members of the council as shall elect to do so, such alternates to possess special competence in the problems relating to the work of the committee to which they are nominated.

That, I think, answers the question.