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Munitions Investigation Committee of the United States Senate will doubtless strengthen the isolationist sentiment in the Senate and the movement to make prohibition or restriction of exports mandatory. The tentative promise of Russia and Rumania to agree to prohibiting exports of oil to Italy was conditional on non-sanctionist countries doing the same thing. It will remain to be seen whether, if the United States Bill passes in a form allowing exports of oil to amounts not exceeding the peace time level (which in the case of Italy would mean continuation of the six per cent of her supply that she ordinarily got from the United States), the above countries will consider that their condition is met.

There are some points of revision or interpretation of our sanctions Orders-in-Council which require consideration. The clearest case is as regards books, newspapers, maps and music. These were not exempted in the original recommendation of the League Committee, but a later resolution of the Committee recommended their exemption. This recommendation was not received in time to be adopted in our Order-in-Council of November 15th. This should be done. More difficulty arises as to certain other importations, e.g. personal baggage, donations and goods of Italian origin ordinarily imported through the United States. Information on these latter points is being sought from London and Geneva, and it is hoped will be available before the meeting of Council on Friday.

W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1933-1939 WIG. 26, J 4, volume 192, pages C134623-C135248)

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