



Copies of 3005 O.C. dated 23rd October 1917
sent to following Ministers, on 24th October 1917.

Minister of Overseas Military Forces from Canada.

Minister of Marine and Fisheries (two copies)

„ Finance
„ Militia and Defence -3 copies-
„ Naval Service -two copies-
„ Justice
„ Public Works, two copies.
„ Customs.

To Right Honourable the Prime Minister

To President of Privy Council.

To Postmaster General

To Under Secretary of State

1 Copy Governor General's office 25 Oct 17
To High Commissioners 20 - - (arrived 16 Nov 17)

23/23 Oct



The Committee of the Privy Council have had before them a report from the Right Honourable the Prime Minister setting forth the advisability of constituting a permanent Committee of the Cabinet during the progress of the war and until after demobilization to be invested with the powers and charged with the duties hereinafter set forth:-

The Prime Minister observes that in his opinion the constitution of such a Committee is advisable for the purpose of co-ordinating the efforts of the several Departments of the Government for the prosecution of the war, for ensuring the maximum of effort with the minimum of expenditure and generally for the purpose of throwing the full power of Canada into the national endeavour.

The Prime Minister recommends that the Committee shall be constituted as follows:-

Chairman,	The Prime Minister,
Vice-Chairman,	The Minister of Militia and Defence
	The Minister of Finance,
	The Minister of Marine and Fisheries and of the Naval Service.
	The Minister of Justice.
	The Minister of Public Works,
	The Minister of Customs.
	The President of the Privy Council,
	The Postmaster General,
	The Minister of Overseas Military Forces.

The Prime Minister further recommends that the Committee shall be designated as the War Committee and that it shall be charged with the general consideration of the matters aforesaid and especially that it shall

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*Certified copy of a Report of the Committee of the Privy
Council, approved by His Excellency the Governor
General on the*



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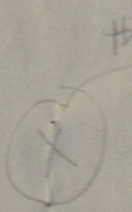
enquire

enquire into and report to Council upon the status and maintenance of the military forces of Canada, the enforcement of the Military Service Act, 1917, the defence of our coasts and the patrolling of territorial and adjacent waters, the arrangements for garrisons and outposts in Canada, the training and equipment of troops, the internment of aliens, the prohibition and regulation of imports and exports and the granting of licenses therefor, the arrangements with the Government of the United Kingdom and with the Governments of the Allied Nations respecting any of the matters aforesaid, and generally speaking all matters relating to the ^{efforts} prosecution of the war so far as

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b. While the powers and duties of the Committee included in the foregoing recommendation will be of a very wide character, the Prime Minister recommends that special attention should be given to the increased cost of living. Undoubtedly this is chiefly due to causes which are beyond the control of the Government of Canada, or of any other country, inasmuch as the withdrawal of more than thirty million men from productive activities and the vast and almost inconceivable expenditure entailed by the war must inevitably advance the cost of the necessaries of life. Nevertheless it is especially important that every means should be taken to alleviate conditions so far as may be possible. It is essential that the Government should prevent any increase or inflation of prices through hoarding, through excessive profits or through combination. The steps already taken along these lines should be considered with a view to any further action that conditions may demand.

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The Prime Minister further recommends that the Committee be empowered to report to Council from time to time and that it be authorized to appoint sub-committees from time to time to consider any particular subject requiring special investigation; and that it may authorize any such sub-committee to bring into consultation as members of the sub-committee in question any person or persons of special experience or knowledge therein.

The Prime Minister further recommends that the Committee shall hold periodical meetings at such intervals as it may determine; that in the absence of the Chairman, the vice-Chairman shall preside at such meetings; and that three members shall constitute a quorum.

The Prime Minister further recommends that the Committee may appoint a Secretary who shall perform such duties as the Committee may determine.

The Committee concur in the foregoing recommendations and submit the same for approval.

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importance of encouraging co-operation among persons engaged in agricultural production. If properly directed it should be of advantage to the producer by reducing the cost of production and transportation, and to the consumer by diminishing the difference between the price received by the producer and that paid by the consumer.

10. The conditions of labour, the relations between employer and employed, the effect of the war thereon and all questions incidental thereto should be attentively studied and considered.

11. The Committee should give especial attention to the national service performed by the womanhood of Canada during the present war and should carefully study the opportunities for such service after the war and the methods by which it can most usefully be given.

12. The Prime Minister observes that the enumeration of the foregoing important subjects is not intended to limit or prevent the consideration by the Committee of all matters which generally speaking have relation to the development and progress of our country with especial regard to the conditions created by the war or arising upon the conclusion of peace.

The Prime Minister recommends that the Committee be empowered to report to Council from time to time and that it be authorized to appoint sub-committees to consider any particular subject or subjects requiring special investigation; and that it may authorize any such sub-committee to bring into consultation as members of the sub-committee in question any person or persons of special experience or knowledge therein.

The Prime Minister further recommends that the Committee may appoint a Secretary who shall perform duties as the Committee may determine.

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The Prime Minister further recommends that the Committee shall hold periodical meetings at such intervals as it may determine; that in the absence of the Chairman the Vice-Chairman shall preside, and that three members shall constitute a quorum.

The Prime Minister further recommends that the Committee shall be designated as The Reconstruction and Development Committee and that it shall be constituted as follows:-

Chairman	The Prime Minister,
Vice-Chairman	<i>The Honorable Mr. Maclean</i>
	The Minister of Trade and Commerce,
	The Minister of Finance,
	The Minister of Railways and Canals
	The Minister of Immigration and
	Colonization,
	The Minister of the Interior,
	The Minister of Agriculture,
	The Chairman of the Military
	Hospitals Commission,
	The Hon. Mr. <i>Robertson</i>

The Committee concur in the foregoing and submit the same for approval.

7. Having regard to the great financial burdens entailed by Canada's participation in the war, it is

that the wisest methods of raising revenue

8. Closely associated with the foregoing subjects are the important questions of thrift and of increased productiveness of the land. Persons coming to Canada from older and more densely populated countries frequently receive a strong impression of wastefulness. The Government has endeavoured to give a lead in encouraging thrift as well as improved methods of cultivation and these subjects should be considered by the Committee.

9. ~~10.~~ The Committee should take into consideration the importance

7. Having regard to the great financial burdens entailed by Canada's participation in the war, it is essential that the wisest methods of raising revenue should be carefully considered and that the strictest attention should be given to every possible reduction in public expenditure.

P.C. 3005

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Upon a report from the Right Honourable the Prime Minister setting forth the advisability of constituting a permanent Committee of the Cabinet during the progress of the war and until after demobilization to be invested with the powers and charged with the duties hereinafter set forth.

The Prime Minister observes that in his opinion the constitution of such a Committee is advisable for the purpose of co-ordinating the efforts of the several Departments of the Government for the prosecution of the war, for ensuring the maximum of effort with the minimum of expenditure and generally for the purpose of throwing the full power of Canada into the national endeavour.

The Prime Minister recommends that the Committee shall be constituted as follows:-

- Chairman, The Prime Minister, ^{at such meetings}
- Vice-Chairman, The Minister of Militia & Defence,
- The Minister of Finance,
- The Minister Marine & Fisheries and of the Naval Service,
- The Minister of Justice,
- The Minister of Public works,
- The Minister of Customs,
- The President of the Privy Council,
- The Postmaster General,
- The Minister of Overseas Military Forces.

The Prime Minister further recommends that the Committee ~~shall be designated as War Committee No. 1~~ *shall be designated as the War Committee and that it* and ~~therein~~ shall be charged with the general consideration of the matters aforesaid and especially that it shall enquire into and report to Council upon the status and maintenance of the military forces of Canada, the enforcement of the Military Service Act 1917, the defence of our coasts and the patrolling of territorial and adjacent waters, the arrangements for garrisons and outposts in

Canada, the training and equipment of troops, the internment of aliens, the prohibition and regulation of imports and exports and the granting of licenses therefor, the arrangements with the Government of the United Kingdom and with the Governments of the Allied Nations respecting any of the matters aforesaid, and generally speaking all matters relating to the prosecution of the war so far as Canada is concerned.

The Prime Minister further recommends that the Committee be empowered to report to Council from time to time and that it be authorized to appoint sub-committees from time to time to consider any particular subject requiring special investigation; and it may authorize any such sub-committee to bring into consultation as members of the sub-committee in question any person or persons of special experience or knowledge therein.

The Prime Minister further recommends that the Committee shall hold periodical meetings at such intervals as it may determine; that in the absence of the Chairman, the vice-Chairman shall preside at such meetings; and that three members shall constitute a quorum.

The Prime Minister further recommends that the Committee may appoint a Secretary who shall perform such duties as the Committee may determine.

All of which is respectfully submitted for approval.

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labour and upon the industrial activities of the country should also be carefully studied in advance.

6. Upon a report from the Right Honourable the Prime Minister setting forth the advisability of constituting a permanent Committee of the Cabinet during the progress of the war and until after demobilization to be invested with the powers and charged with the duties hereinafter set forth.

The Prime Minister observes that having regard to the early conditions of Canada as affected by the present war he has been impressed by the following considerations.

1. The enormous and varied resources of ^{His Dominion} Canada afford opportunity for almost unlimited development and to that end careful and thorough investigation of opportunities as they are presently affected by Canada's participation in the war and as they are likely to develop after the conclusion of peace ought to be commenced without delay and systematically carried on.
2. In order that further production and especially agricultural production may be assured, it is highly important that a wise and carefully considered scheme of immigration and colonization should be prepared and embarked upon in the early future.
3. For this purpose a more systematic and thorough study should be made of all questions touching land settlement, to the end that large areas of fertile land now unoccupied and in some cases held for speculative purposes may be brought into production.
4. In this connection it is especially important to take into immediate consideration the problems of demobilization with a view of securing as far as possible the settlement upon the land of a considerable proportion of returned soldiers, including those from the British Islands and from Allied Nations, who may desire under suitable conditions of encouragement and assistance to engage in agriculture.
5. The probable course of readjustment which will be necessarily incident to the latter stages of the war and to the conditions arising upon the conclusion of peace and the effect of such readjustment upon the Governments of the several Provinces.