

COMMITTEE III.—FUTURE MACHINERY

(See Appendix III for text of Committee's report)

It was clear that Committee III, charged with considering the future of the Combined Food Board, would be clearly the most important. It was arranged that both Mr. Marshall and I should attend all meetings of this Committee.

There was from the commencement general agreement that the structure of the Combined Food Board, which was established for war purposes and which had done quite admirable work during the war, was clearly inadequate to cope equitably and efficiently with the present crisis. Indeed, the members of the Combined Food Board themselves (United Kingdom, United States, and Canada) produced proposals for a new body which formed the basis of the Committee's discussion and were on the whole approved substantially as introduced.

Briefly, it was decided to broaden the base of the world distributing authority by establishing an International Emergency Food Council with a Central Committee to conduct the work of the Council during such time as the Council is not in session and commodity Committees very much on the Combined Food Board plan to deal with specified commodities.

The full text of the Committee's proposals as approved by the final plenary session of the Conference is as follows:—

The Committee is convinced that the present food emergency will continue for some considerable time and that adjustments are required to the existing international machinery for dealing with foodstuffs in short supply. The Committee has had before it proposals presented by the three member Governments of the Combined Food Board—*i.e.*, the United States, the United Kingdom, and Canada. It has discussed these proposals and suggestions made by other Governments and international organizations and

Recommends to all the Governments concerned

That there be established an International Emergency Food Council, which shall be constituted as follows:—

(1) FUNCTIONS AND DURATION

The functions of the Council shall be:

(a) To consider, investigate, inquire into, and formulate plans with regard to any question in respect of which the member Governments have, or may have, a common concern relating to the supply and distribution, in or to any part of the world, of foods, agricultural materials from which foods are derived, and equipment and non-food materials ancillary to the production of such foods and agricultural materials, and to make recommendations to the member Governments in respect of any such question. In particular, as regards recommendations for the international distribution of food, feedingstuffs, essential seeds, chemicals used in agriculture, and fertilizers in short supply it shall be the object of the Council to put forward recommendations with respect to which international differences have been reconciled to the maximum degree possible.

(b) To work in collaboration with others of the United Nations (and with other international bodies) toward the best utilization of their food resources and, in collaboration with the interested nation or nations, to formulate plans and recommendations for the most effective use of their food resources during the present emergency.

The Council shall be entitled to receive any information available to members of the Council relating to any matter with regard to which the Council is competent to make recommendations to these Governments, and, in principle, the entire food resources of the member Governments will be deemed to be matters about which the fullest information will be interchanged.

The Council shall continue for the duration of the shortage of basic foodstuffs. Its life shall in the first instance extend until 31st December, 1947, subject to consideration before that date as to whether, as a result either of an easing of the supply situation or of United Nations organizational developments in the field of food and agriculture, the work of the Council can be terminated before 31st December, 1947.

(2) MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the International Emergency Food Council shall be open to the representative of any Government during such time as it is represented on any Commodity Committee of the Council (see "5 Commodity Committees").