

No. 32.

New Zealand, No. 77.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 23rd May, 1917.

With reference to my telegram of the 17th instant, I have the honour to request Your Excellency to inform your Ministers that after careful consideration the Board of Trade have decided that, in view of existing difficulties with regard to both the manufacture of numerous articles and the supply of certain raw materials, the organization of the proposed touring exhibition of British goods in the Dominions must be postponed until after the termination of the war. The Board of Trade greatly regret that this postponement is necessary, and propose that the matter shall be energetically taken in hand as soon as conditions permit.

I have, &c.,

WALTER H. LONG.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 33.

New Zealand, Dominions No. 317.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 24th May, 1917.

With reference to my despatch, Dominions No. 269, of the 28th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, the accompanying copy of a circular letter issued by the National Committee for Relief in Belgium, announcing the suspension of appeals for funds to the public, in consequence of the United States Government having assumed financial responsibility for the work of the Commission of Relief in Belgium.

I have, &c.,

WALTER H. LONG.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

Enclosure.

National Committee for Relief in Belgium, Trafalgar Buildings, Trafalgar Square,
London W.C.2, 19th May, 1917.

I enclose a statement signed by the members of this committee from which you will see that we have decided to suspend our appeals to the public, as the United States Government have undertaken to provide, at any rate for the present, all the money required for relief in Belgium. The National Committee will remain in being with headquarters at the above address, but any moneys received after the 1st June, when the American appropriation becomes available, will be held to provide for emergencies now unforeseen in connection with relief in Belgium.

Will you kindly notify your subscribers to this effect, and, if possible, close your accounts and remit any balance in hand before the 1st June?

It is, of course, possible that some new emergencies may arise in connection with the relief work, and in that case we earnestly hope that we may again be able to rely upon you and upon those who have co-operated with you.

The committee desire to express their deep gratitude for the invaluable work which you have so devotedly performed.

Yours faithfully,

W. A. M. GOODE, Hon. Secretary.

National Committee for Relief in Belgium.

Trafalgar Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London W.C.2, 19th May, 1917.

In view of the fact that the United States Government has generously assumed all financial responsibility for the work of the Commission for Relief in Belgium, it has been decided that the National Committee for Relief in Belgium will suspend its appeals to the public in the British Empire. Any moneys received after the 1st June will be held to provide for emergencies now unforeseen in connection with relief in Belgium.

This course of action is in accordance with the suggestion made by Mr. Hoover, Chairman of the Relief Commission, who is now in Washington, and has the approval of His Majesty's Government and the Belgian Minister.