

No. 4.

New Zealand, Dominions No. 539.

SIR,—

Downing Street, 21st December, 1925.

With reference to my despatch, Dominions No. 155, of the 14th April, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, the accompanying copies of a circular letter to local authorities from the President of the Board of Trade and the Minister of Health, regarding the purchase of British and Empire goods.

I have, &c.,

L. S. AMERY.

Governor-General His Excellency General Sir C. Fergusson, Bart.,
LL.D., G.C.M.G., K.C.B., D.S.O., M.V.O., &c.

Enclosure.

Board of Trade, Great George Street, S.W. 1.
Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W. 1.

DEAR SIR,—

28th October, 1925.

All in the country are anxious to do what lies within their power to improve British trade and to help employment.

It will be generally agreed that there is an obvious way in which the men and women of this country can help individually. By buying British goods they will stimulate production, give employment and, by enlarging the output of our factories, enable them to produce more cheaply and compete more effectively. By increasing their purchases of British goods in the Home market they will reduce the volume of foreign imports and improve the trade balance, thereby enabling this country to invest more in the development of new markets. By increasing the purchases of Empire goods in the Home market they will enable the countries of the British Empire to buy more from the Mother-country.

Every man and woman in Britain can help in these ways. Every purchase helps, and if all join in a common effort the stimulus to British trade, Home and Imperial, will be great and immediate. In many quarters people have already shown that they appreciate the need and the possibilities. But there can be no doubt that a national movement to help British trade by buying British goods will be greatly quickened if a suitable occasion is taken which will focus attention at once upon the need and the opportunity for meeting it.

Such an occasion offers itself as the Christmas season approaches. We therefore venture to ask you to consider whether it will be possible to organize in your district a British shopping-week before Christmas? If a shopping-week, devoted particularly to a display of British Home and Empire products, could be held in the cities and towns of this country it would afford to their inhabitants an opportunity of helping the trade and employment of this country which would appeal to the British people, and of which we believe they would be eager to take advantage.

Should you decide to give favourable consideration to our proposal we would venture further to suggest that you should communicate with your local Chamber of Commerce or any similar bodies which may exist in your locality and obtain their co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

P. CUNLIFFE LISTER.

NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN.

The Chairman of the Rural District Council.

No. 5.

New Zealand, Dominions No. 545.

SIR,—

Downing Street, 23rd December, 1925.

I have the honour to request you to inform your Ministers that the Post Office high-power wireless station at Rugby is now being used experimentally, and is expected to be ready for commercial working early in the new year. It is anticipated that the station will have a world-wide range, and its opening will thus provide a means of broadcasting messages by wireless telegraphy for simultaneous reception throughout the world. His Majesty's Government propose that the station should be used for the transmission of the British official news bulletins, which are at present broadcast from the Leafeld station; and the increase thus effected in the range of this service will, it is hoped, be attended with good results.

2. The inadequacy of the existing wireless facilities for the distribution of British news and commercial intelligence in distant parts of the world has frequently been criticized by travellers, and there have been complaints that