

Hon. Mr. Barr : It has been arranged that those papers will be handed to me, and they will be incorporated with the printed volume of the proceedings, which will be handed to delegates when the Conference resumes.

A Delegate : Would it be possible to have them posted to us ?

The Chairman : I understand that there is an objection to the papers being handed to delegates now, or supplied to delegates before they are read. In lieu of that, they will be printed in the report of the Conference, so as to be available for delegates when they return after the adjournment.

Mr. Williams : Might I ask whether there is any serious objection to our retaining the copies which have been handed to us. Here we are going home for a couple of weeks, and we have our information incomplete for want of an hour or two in which to have the papers read. Under the present proposal we are not to be allowed to read those papers until we return. I submit that the reading and studying of these papers would be of the utmost value to all delegates.

Mr. Roberts : I would point out that the Business Committee has already agreed upon the procedure to be adopted in regard to those papers which are not read this afternoon. There is only one paper which our Manager requires to complete the whole set for printing with the proceedings of the Conference so far as it has gone. We have decided that only those papers that can be read to-day before the adjournment will be distributed. It is not fair to the reader of a paper that delegates should be given a fortnight at it.

The Chairman : The intention was that Mr. Roberts's paper on the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, and the Chamber of Commerce paper, which have not been read, will be printed with the report of the proceedings, and be made available to delegates when they return after the adjournment.

Mr. Roberts : I quite agree that it is not fair to Mr. Bishop that he should be asked to read his paper now, and that the delegates should go away with it and have a fortnight in which to prepare their questions on it.

The Chairman : Is it agreed that the papers to be presented by Mr. Bishop, Mr. Roberts, the representative of the Chambers of Commerce, and Mr. Williams be printed and included in the volume of proceedings, so as to be ready for the delegates when the Conference resumes after the adjournment, and that no more papers be taken to-night ?

Delegates : Aye, aye.

Hon. Mr. Barr : Mr. Bishop's paper is already in print in the newspaper office, but the reporters assure me that it will not be released. I assume that that is satisfactory.

Committees appointed.

Committees were set up as follows :—

For the Workers—

Primary Industries Committee : Messrs. Roberts, Nash, Herbert, O'Byrne, Revell, A. Cook, Churchhouse, Martin, Parlane, Baldwin, Bromley, Fulton, John.

Secondary Industries Committee : Messrs. Bloodworth, Brooks, F. R. Cooke, Black, Kennedy, Cornwell, Worrall, Robinson, Semple, Purtell, McBrine, Tucker.

For the Employers—

Primary Industries Committee : Messrs. Weston, Smith, Polson, Chadwick, Carr, Acland, Williams, Nicholson, Turner, Finn, Brechin, Morton, Middleton.

Secondary Industries Committee : Messrs. Mainland, Henderson, Bishop, Mulholland, Colbeck, Morten, Jessep, McGowan, Campbell, Barber, Sterling, Fisher.

Mr. Roberts : It has been decided by the Business Committee that each of these committees shall appoint two sub-committees to deal with different sections of industry—viz., (1) the dairy industry and the sheep-freezing industry ; (2) production and distribution.

Procedure.

Mr. Bishop : I take it that when the Conference resumes we will take the questions and the papers undealt with, and then immediately go into committee. That will be at 10 a.m. on the 18th April.

Professor Belshaw : I wish to ask whether the economists will be required at these committees.

The Chairman : I hope you will all be present.

Professor Belshaw : It will be extremely difficult for us to get away from our professional duties for any length of time, and I wonder whether an arrangement could be made to allow us to come to Wellington at a later date when the deliberations will be commenced after more analysis of the papers.

The Chairman : Will the economists be available in the event of the committees requiring information ?

Professor Belshaw : Yes, I think so. I think arrangements could be made for us to come on special occasions, or for information to be obtained direct from us.

The Chairman : It is a matter for the Conference to express an opinion upon. We recognize that the professors have been very good to attend, and they have undoubtedly given the Conference some very valuable information and provided food for much thought. We are indebted to them accordingly. I know their position thoroughly, and that they are busy men. On the other hand, I would like them to consider this point further : that this is a most important meeting, and for the first time we have had an opportunity of obtaining their views on this matter personally. This is probably the most important representation ever brought together of all the interests involved in this question, and I am sure the interests in question recognize the value of the professors' services, and it would be a pity if we were unable to continue to have the benefit of their services and co-operation when required. I think I am speaking for the Conference generally, that if the professors can make it convenient to be present it would