

V

The Conference recommends to Governments that a Conference of representatives of the Governments of the United, associated, and other Nations, willing to attend, be called at an early date, in association with the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, to consider an international agreement on domestic policies of employment and unemployment; and this Conference pledges the full co-operation and the assistance of the International Labour Organization in calling such a conference on employment, and in helping to carry into effect appropriate decisions it might make.

II

RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE DECLARATION MADE TO THE CONFERENCE BY THE DELEGATIONS OF THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES OF EUROPE

The Conference having taken note of the declaration made on behalf of the occupied countries—

- (1) Expresses the conviction that the heroic resistance of the occupied countries is one of the essential factors in the struggle of the United Nations against the common enemy;
- (2) Shares the preoccupations, anxieties and wishes expressed by the representatives of the occupied countries concerning the special difficulties with which they are confronted in their economic and social reconstruction;
- (3) Welcomes the decisions already taken by the United Nations to heal the wounds caused by the war;
- (4) Expresses the hope that the United Nations and the other members of the Conference will unite their efforts to promote in every way the economic and social recovery of all the countries sorely tried by enemy occupation and by the devastation due to the war;
- (5) Asserts the determination of the International Labour Organization to associate its endeavours with the concerted will of the oppressed nations for the purpose of rebuilding their social life according to principles of international solidarity and respect for the fundamental spiritual and human values.

ANNEX.—DECLARATION MADE TO THE CONFERENCE BY THE DELEGATIONS OF THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES OF EUROPE

The delegates of the occupied countries of Europe represented at the Philadelphia Conference—that is, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, France, Greece, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, and Yugoslavia,

Having taken note of the declaration concerning the aims and purposes of the International Labour Organization, the resolution concerning social provisions in the peace settlement, and the resolution concerning economic policies for the attainment of social objectives,

Consider it to be their duty to state their views on the special problems of the economic, financial and social reconstruction of the occupied countries of Europe, once they have been liberated.

I

They desire to stress their complete agreement with the principles and social objectives that should prevail in the reorganization of the world after the war, as set forth in the draft of the fundamental declaration and in the resolutions before the Conference. In particular, they express their complete conviction that their respective countries will keep these principles and objectives closely in view in their economic policy, and will set as their essential aims the achievement of full employment, rising standards of living for the peoples, and social security. The social ideal that is their goal is thus the same as that which inspires all the members of the Conference, and they will devote all their efforts to its speedy realization.

II

Unfortunately, by reason of the loss and destruction caused by the war, and of the systematic persecution, devastation and pillage resulting directly from the actions of the invader, the situation of the occupied countries at the actual moment of liberation will be one bristling with difficulties.

The problem will not merely be how to transform a war economy into a peace economy, but, rather, how to provide for full-scale reconstruction in both the economic and the social fields, and the conditions in which this work of almost total reconstruction must be undertaken will in themselves be particularly difficult.

We shall deliberately confine ourselves here to the economic and social fields. But we would briefly note that before all else, we must reconstruct the free political institutions that our countries formerly enjoyed, and amongst them all those based on the right of free association.

Without claiming to paint a complete picture here of the tragic situation in which the liberated countries will find themselves, we wish, however, to draw attention to certain aspects of the problems that they will have to face.

1. Famine, privation of all kinds, isolation, imprisonments, deportations, executions—these are the marks that the long years of occupation will leave; the population as a whole will be greatly weakened. Many of the prisoners, the deported and the refugees will return home with their health undermined. The ground will be prepared for the spread of epidemics. The first task, and the most urgent, will be to improve nutrition, to provide medical aid and to distribute medicaments.

It seems to all of us highly desirable that, beginning now, and with a view to safeguarding the future of the race, medical supplies and vitamins intended for the children in occupied countries should be assembled for delivery to them, if possible immediately, and, in any case, as soon as delivery can be made without the enemy's obtaining any benefit therefrom.