

pressed by the evidence it has received of the utility of the visit undertaken by the Director of the British Standards Institution to Canada, Australia and New Zealand in 1931-32.

(7) An increase in the communication of draft specifications between the standardizing bodies in the various parts of the Commonwealth has resulted in many useful suggestions in the direction of co-ordination being made and adopted.

(8) The recommendation regarding the separation of codes (or rules) from the actual specifications themselves is being generally observed.

(9) The standardization mark "British Standard" has been registered in the United Kingdom by the British Standards Institution. No corresponding action has as yet been taken in any other part of the Commonwealth, but the matter is under consideration in Australia.

(10) Generally throughout the Commonwealth simplification is being promoted as part of the ordinary standardizing activities.

(11) The use of national standard specifications for the supply of materials, machinery and apparatus is on the increase. The Governments in all parts of the Commonwealth have led the way in adopting the standard specifications. Industrial organizations are also recommending the use of the standard specifications. In so far as consumers are concerned, it is advisable that the value of employing national specifications should be brought more prominently to their notice.

RECOMMENDATIONS

As a result of its deliberations the Sub-committee recommends that the following resolutions be submitted for adoption by the Imperial Conference:

I. The Conference recommends that, with a view to assisting the co-ordination of the work of national standardization, the following principles, as far as practicable, be observed:

- (a) That the specifications should be in accordance with the needs of industry and fulfil a generally recognized want;
- (b) That the community interest of producer and consumer should be maintained throughout;
- (c) That the specifications should be arrived at by general consent;
- (d) That periodical review and revision should be undertaken to prevent crystallization and keep the specifications abreast of progress;
- (e) That full information regarding the initiation of any specification and progress in its preparation should without delay be circulated by the originating body to the corresponding bodies in other parts of the Commonwealth.

II. Having regard to the disadvantages which are apt to occur when a statutory provision embodies a standard specification verbatim, whether in whole or in part, instead of confining itself to a reference to a national standard specification, the Conference recommends that each Government of the Commonwealth in co-operation with its central standardizing body should bring under review the position with regard to such statutory provisions, in order that it may be possible to keep these standards in line with industrial and scientific progress without the necessity of fresh legislation.

III. With a view to facilitating the general adoption of standard specifications throughout the Commonwealth, the Conference recommends that the governments concerned take into favourable consideration the provision of free entry to standard specifications and other documents circulated between the central standardizing bodies.

IV. In order to provide the various parts of the Commonwealth with an accurate means of exchange of colour information and to secure a basic standard in trade practice, the Conference recommends that each central standardizing body should at an early date consider the issue of a standard schedule of colours.

V. As an immediate step towards the promotion of intra-Commonwealth trade through the adoption of commercial standard specifications, the Conference recommends that, in respect of steel, timber, industrial chemical products and replaceable parts of agricultural implements and machinery, immediate steps