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Proposed formula for Higher Education Finance.

As I am proposing to make a series of Speeches in the North and West of England and in Wales during the next few weeks on the subject of the Education Bill now before Parliament, I am anxious to obtain the sanction of the War Cabinet to my indicating, in general terms, that a large share of the new expenditure on Continuation Schools will be borne by the Treasury. After discussing the question with the Chancellor of the Exchequer I submitted to him the following form of words which I thought would meet the case:-

"The Government feels that if these developments are to be secured within a reasonable time a large part of the burden must be borne by the Exchequer. I am not in a position to give you a figure but I am authorised to state that, in the view of the Cabinet, the development of Higher Education contemplated under the Bill should be as liberally subsidised by the Treasury as is compatible with giving to the Local Education Authorities, upon whom ^{it} will devolve to administer the Act, an interest in its prudent and economic administration".

Mr. Bonar Law has informed me that he sees no objection to this formula being submitted to the War Cabinet and I should be glad to learn that it meets with their approval.

H. A. L. Dicks

18th September, 1917.