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DOCK
DISPUTE.
Supply
Trans-
Organ-
ation.

Previous
reference:
Cabinet 15
(1), Con-
clusion 2.)

2. The Minister of Labour made a full statement to the Cabinet as to the circumstances in which the Dock Dispute had been brought within sight of an immediate settlement, and of the terms on which it was hoped that a settlement would be reached. These terms included an increase to the wages of workers of 1/-s a day at once, and a second 1/- on the first Monday in June, the remission of the question of decasualisation to a Committee of representatives of employers and workers, with a Chairman nominated by the Minister of Labour, and were accompanied by a statement on the part of the representatives of both employers and employed that it was intended to be a real settlement in the industry. It only remained for the representatives of the Transport and General Workers' Union, who had their Executive Committee behind them, to consult their Delegate Meeting, and the results of that consultation ought to be known by 7 o'clock the same evening.

The Cabinet were also informed that the dockers at Plymouth had declined to handle the mails that morning.

The Cabinet agreed --

- (a) To place on record their cordial congratulations to the Minister of Labour for his important share in the favourable turn in the situation:
- (b) That the Prime Minister, in reply to a Private Notice Question, should make a statement to the House of Commons to the effect that the representatives of both sides had agreed to terms which the Union spokesman had decided to put before their Delegate Meeting that evening with a recommendation in favour of agreement; that the Minister of Labour hoped to be able to communicate the terms of the agreement before the House rose that evening; that if this hope was fulfilled, work would be resumed at some of the ports tomorrow, and that, in the circumstances, the Government did not propose to put into operation any of the machinery it had been prepared to set up to secure a food supply to the public: