

QUESTION NO. 3 - ACCESS TO RAW MATERIALS
AND MARKETS

What steps should be taken to provide necessary access to raw materials and freer commercial interchange between nations? What effect will the advance of science have upon these problems?

The peoples of highly industrialized countries realize that their national economy depends upon a sure supply of raw materials, upon safe markets. Countries have been willing to wage war in order to obtain sure sources of raw material, to assure themselves of safe markets for their products. Must war be resorted to in order that a country may be certain of access to raw materials, in order to obtain markets? Many people believe that through international agreement an arrangement can be made to provide necessary access to raw materials and to assure reasonably safe markets. But the people of some countries say: "It is not sufficient for those countries which control raw materials to tell us we can buy those raw materials. We do not have the money for that. They should accept our products in payment or should buy things from us, so that we will have the money to pay. However, what we really want is the possibility to develop natural resources and acquire raw materials through investing our own capital, using our own currency, and employing our own man-power, and thus the only thing for us to do to insure our economic existence is to seize territory in which there are natural resources."

Any international agreement along these lines will involve problems such as possession of colonies, administration of colonies, access to colonial markets and raw materials, tariffs and other restrictions on trade, monopolization of raw materials, some standard for measuring relative worth of the currencies of all countries, economic expansion of undeveloped countries and territories, and the opportunity to make use of avenues of transportation -

on land, on sea, in the air. What steps would we be willing to have our country take along these lines?

Science is playing an important part in solving this problem through inventing and developing substitutes for many raw materials. If some country has a monopoly of some raw material, such as nitrates, rubber, cotton, silk, etc., and exercises that monopoly in a selfish way, it is not necessary for other countries to employ force or wage war to obtain access to those raw materials. Science steps in and provides a substitute, makes it possible for that raw material to be produced in some other territory. That very fact also causes countries having monopolies of raw materials to hesitate to exercise that monopoly in a selfish way. What have we observed in our own classifications as to the effect of science upon materials and markets?

QUESTION NO. 4 - RIGHTS OF MINORITIES

What are the rights of minorities - political, linguistic, racial, and religious, and what recognition must in fairness be given them?

Minorities of some type exist in every country. In some countries the predominant idea seems to be that no minorities of any kind should be permitted and in those countries the majority, through decrees, legislation coercion, force, expulsion, persecution, transfer of populations, etc. endeavors to wipe out minorities.

In other countries it is recognized that the greatest virtue of a majority is tolerance and in those countries certain rights of minorities are guaranteed.

In such countries political minorities have the right to express their opinions and to make efforts to win others to their point of view, so that they can become a majority.