

with military requirements and the needs of the civilian populations in the supplying countries. In cases of scarce commodities which the Combined Boards wish to control, the Boards will consult with the Director General of UNRRA and the Chairman of the Supplies Committee, and then determine the amounts that may be devoted to relief. This will ensure that the flow of supplies necessary for the war effort will not be impeded and that countries which pay for their own supplies do not receive any priority over those which do not.

Several of the occupied countries, including France, the Netherlands, Norway and Belgium have indicated that they intend to pay for the whole or part of their relief needs. In order to achieve an equitable sharing of available supplies, it is provided that all Member Governments keep the Administration fully informed of their intentions concerning the importation of relief and rehabilitation supplies, regardless of how these are to be financed. On the basis of this information the Director General may present to the Combined Boards such recommendations or objections as he may think necessary to obtain a fair distribution of supplies among all the liberated areas. In this way supplies will be equitably distributed, whether or not the receiving country is in a position to pay for them.

The Standing Technical Committees are intended to be expert bodies to advise the Council, the Regional Committees and the Director General on technical matters in their fields.

The Extent of the Problem.—UNRRA officials estimate that about 130,000,000 Europeans will require relief. The problem in Asia is not so capable of being summarized but there are about 230,000,000 Chinese now under Japanese domination.

In Europe, live stock has been sadly depleted and fertilizing of the soil has been reduced by a forced program of intensive cultivation. It is known that, before the War, China consumed about 176,000,000 tons of food annually and that the War has caused a large annual deficit.

The magnitude of the problem definitely limits what can be done in the way of relief. At first funds will not be available to do more than prevent starvation in war-devastated countries and supply such clothing, medical facilities, etc., as are absolutely necessary.

Much immediate civilian relief in liberated areas will have to be initiated by the Army through the Allied Military Government organization. Once the immediate military necessity has passed (it is estimated that the period during which relief will be administered by the military will be about six months), UNRRA steps in. Actually UNRRA officials work with the military, learn the problems to be faced and the best way to handle them so that when the time to take over arrives they are equipped to deal with the situation.

Responsibility for the distribution of relief within a receiving country will be borne by the recognized government exercising administrative authority in that area. UNRRA may not operate in that area without the consent of the recognized government or, if such a government does not exist, the military command.