

Col. Jones

17  
308SECRETWAR CABINET.

G.T. 774

Propaganda at Home.Memorandum by the Director, Department of Information.

To the Prime Minister.

When the Department of Information was founded by a resolution of the War Cabinet, on the 20th February, no provision was made for the work of propaganda at home, except in so far as the War Cabinet might direct certain information to be issued to the British Press.

In the present state of popular feeling I am very strongly of opinion that it is necessary to do a considerable amount of propaganda in Britain itself. The papers are small in size, and, owing to the almost entire cessation of public speaking, one of the best means of informing the country is in abeyance. At the same time, the need was never greater for instruction and encouragement. I am anxious to be allowed to organise various lines of direct propaganda in this country, and, in particular a series of lectures and addresses in all the chief centres.

We are sending a considerable number of Labour Deputations to view the re-occupied territories. I should like to arrange for these men, when they return, to lecture in their own districts, and to illustrate their lectures with our official films and slides. I would also propose to draw largely upon Members of Parliament who have, at the moment, not very much to do, and who, I think, would be willing to help. We could give every assistance in the way of information, illustrations and booklets. It seems a pity not to organise the results of the numerous visits we arrange to the British front. The expenditure on such a scheme would not be large; but I do not think the Treasury could sanction it without a resolution of the War Cabinet, as, strictly speaking, such work does not come within the province of my Department at present.

(Signed) JOHN BUCHAN.

18th May, 1917.

John Buchan. (May 18, 1917). SECRET - Propaganda at Home, Memorandum by the Director, Department of Information, To the Prime Minister [Lloyd George], War Office Department of Information, G.T. 774, CAB 24/13/76. The National Archives.

## TRANSCRIPT

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## WAR CABINET.

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[John Buchan].

To the Prime Minister [Lloyd George].

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Figure 1: John Buchan, 1st Baron Tweedsmuir, GCMG, GCVO, CH, PC

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[Supplemental Information:]

[RESEARCH NOTE: This proposal was approved and implemented on August 04, 2017. *See* [Lloyd George. \(Aug. 04, 1917\)](#). Report of inaugural meeting of National War Aims Committee (NWAC), Queen's Hall, London. Parliamentary Archives, Ref. No. LG/F/160/1/10. The National Archives. *See also* <http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/90a294ae-ca62-49f4-9445-710a24c43565>]

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- LG/F/160 - War Papers
- LG/F/160/1 - War Aims and Peace Moves
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Catalogue description

### Report of inaugural meeting of National War Aims Committee, Queen's Hall, London.

Reference: LG/F/160/1/10

Title: Report of inaugural meeting of National War Aims Committee, Queen's Hall, London.

Description: with Cuttings of:- Various German statements July 1917

- Wilson's statement to Congress 9 Jan 1918
- Hertling's statement to Reichstag 26 Jan 1918
- Wilson's statement to Congress 4 Dec 1917
- Copy of Chancellor's speech to Reichstag. Typescript 13 Dec 1916

Date: 4 Aug 1917

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