

14.—The following Report by the Special (Emergency) Committee was submitted, viz. :—

ABERDEEN, 4th May, 1926.—Report by the Special (Emergency) Committee. *Present*: The Lord Provost *in the Chair*; Baillie Edwards; Baillie Graham; Baillie Jamieson; Baillie Reid; Baillie Gray; Baillie Beaton; Councillors Beveridge, Catto, Duncan, and George.

1.—In terms of remit from the Council, of 4th January last, the Committee had under consideration Circular Letter No. 2,076, dated 21st November, 1925, from the Secretary for Scotland, regarding arrangements for maintenance of local services in case of national emergency.

The Committee, at the same time, had under consideration Circular Letter No. 2,113, dated 30th April, 1926, from the Secretary for Scotland, giving particulars regarding Scottish Emergency Headquarters and District Commissioners referred to in Circular Letter No. 2,076.

The Committee had also under consideration Circular Letter No. 2,061, dated 28th July, 1925, from the Secretary for Scotland, on the subject of measures to be taken by Police Authorities in relation to the strength of their Police Forces in view of a stoppage in the coalfields.

2.—The Committee had under consideration Circular Letter No. 2,111, dated 1st May, 1926, from the Secretary for Scotland, transmitting copy of the Local Authorities (Coal) (Scotland) Order, 1926, directing and enabling Local Authorities to carry out the duties assigned to them by the Coal (Emergency) Directions, 1926, and resolved to recommend that Mr. Gavin Sinclair should be appointed the authorised officer under the Order and Directions, to act within the district of the City of Aberdeen, and that the following should be appointed as an Executive Committee, with powers, to act along with Mr. Sinclair, in carrying out the duties imposed by the Order and Directions, viz. :—The Lord Provost; Baillie Edwards; Baillie Gray; Treasurer Rust; Councillors Catto, Duncan, and George.

3.—The Committee heard reports from the heads of departments whose men are involved in the present dispute, and resolved to recommend that every effort should be made to have a service of tramway cars and omnibuses put into operation at the earliest possible moment, and that volunteers should be engaged for this purpose, and also for any other departments affected by the dispute.

4.—The Committee further agreed that the question of giving notice to employees who are absent from their work in consequence of the dispute be meantime deferred.—
ANDREW LEWIS, *P.*

With reference to Article 3 of the Report, the Lord Provost moved, seconded by Baillie Edwards :—

That every effort be made to have a service of tramway cars and omnibuses put into operation at the earliest possible moment, and that volunteers be engaged for this purpose, and also for any other departments affected by the dispute.

Councillor Brown moved as an amendment, seconded by Councillor Hepburn :—

That every effort be made to maintain services essential to food supply, hospitals, and sanitation, in consultation with the Trade Unions whose members are normally so employed, and that volunteers should only be engaged for this purpose if the usual methods fail.

On a division, there voted :—

For the motion (15)—The Lord Provost; Baillie Edwards; Baillie Graham; Baillie Reid; Baillie Gray; Councillors Alexander, Beveridge, Carry, Doeg, Duncan, Alexander Milne, John Milne, Roberts, Tindall, and Young.

Andrew Lewis