

Geneva, September 1st, 1928.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

FINANCIAL POSITION ON AUGUST 31st, 1928

MEMORANDUM BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL.

The Secretary-General is directed by Article 21, paragraph 4, of the Financial Regulations to present to each Assembly a statement on the general financial position of the League, similar in form and substance to that which he prepares monthly for the information of the Council. He is also requested to include in his statement a résumé of the steps which he has taken to notify Member States as to the amounts due and overdue by way of contributions towards the expenses of the League.

The following statement is presented in accordance with these instructions.

The Budget for 1928 was communicated by the Secretary-General, on November 1st, 1927, to all the Members of the League, together with a statement showing the amount of the contribution which fell to be borne by each State.

Payments in respect of the tenth financial period (1928) were received during the first eight months as follows:

	Gold Francs
In January	3,641,137.01 ¹
February	629,277.77
March	232,141.14
April	1,935,399.13
May	1,918,705.96
June	3,745,765.74
July	1,726,589.53
August	1,760,829.93
	15,589,846.21 ¹

The amount to be apportioned between the Members of the League for 1928 being 24,460,190.75 gold francs, it will be seen that, in the eight months that have elapsed since the beginning of the current period, the total receipts in respect of 1928 have been 15,589,846.21 gold francs, or 63.735 per cent of the authorised budget (for details, see Annex A). In the case of Members that have not made payments or advised the Secretary-General of the date when payment would be made, the request of the Secretary-General has been repeated, as directed by Article 21 (2) of the Financial Regulations.

OVERDUE CONTRIBUTIONS.

At the close of 1927, there was due to the League by way of unpaid contributions appertaining to the second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth financial periods, as well as to the adjusted arrears account, a total sum of 10,982,342.21 gold francs; on August 31st, 1928, this sum was reduced to 9,268,563.58 gold francs.

	Balances due on December 31st, 1927	Balances due on August 31st, 1928
	Gold Francs	
1. Second financial period (July 1st to December 31st, 1920)	29,947.47	29,947.47
2. Third financial period (1921)	208,333.—	208,333.—
3. Fourth financial period (1922)	384,386.—	384,386.—
4. Adjusted arrears account	235,394.65	229,309.65
5. Fifth financial period (1923)	2,194,131.42	2,194,131.42
6. Sixth financial period (1924)	1,900,286.33	1,900,286.33
7. Seventh financial period (1925)	1,623,631.29	1,623,631.29
8. Eighth financial period (1926)	1,411,897.56	1,389,180.72
9. Ninth financial period (1927)	2,994,334.49	1,309,357.70
	10,982,342.21	9,268,563.58

¹ This figure includes the sum of 1,400,000 francs which, in accordance with a decision taken by the last Assembly, was taken from the Building Fund, in order to be refunded to those Members of the League who are entitled to such refund. This refund being affected by reducing, *pro tanto*, most of the contributions receivable for 1928, the sum of 1,400,000 francs was considered as having actually been paid by the Members of the League on January 1st, 1928.

The total sum on account of arrears received during the first eight months of the current year amounts to 1,713,778.63 gold francs, leaving yet outstanding the sum of 9,268,563.58 gold francs (see Annexes B and C).

It will be seen that there has been collected:

In respect of the first period	100 %	of the revised total of contributions
In respect of the second period (1920) approximately	99.5 %	» » » »
In respect of the third period (1921) »	99 %	» » » »
In respect of the fourth period (1922) »	98 %	» » » »
In respect of the fifth period (1923) »	92 %	» » » »
In respect of the sixth period (1924) »	91 %	» » » »
In respect of the seventh period (1925) »	93 %	of the Budget.
In respect of the eighth period (1926) »	94 %	» »
In respect of the ninth period (1927) »	95 %	» »

The cash receipts of the League from contributions have been, for the period January 1st to August 31st, 1928, as follows:

	Gold Francs
(a) From arrears of contributions.	1,713,778.63
(b) From payments on 1928 Budget	15,589,846.21
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Total	17,303,624.84

The amount receivable is:

(a) From arrears of contributions.	9,268,563.58
(b) From balances due in respect of 1928	8,871,936.75
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Total	18,140,500.33

WORKING CAPITAL FUND.

	Gold Francs
On December 31st, 1927, the total paid-up Working Capital of the League amounted to	4,749,501.61
Receipts of Working Capital during the period from January 1st, 1927, to August 31st, 1928, increased this sum to	4,904,693.34

The Working Capital Fund is regarded as belonging to the States which contribute towards it, and is reckoned in terms of gold francs. From it advances may be made, from time to time, to the financially autonomous organisations in accordance with the provisions of the Financial Regulations.

The Secretary-General is the custodian of the Working Capital Fund, and sums advanced to autonomous organisations, when no longer required by them, return to his keeping.

On August 31st, 1928, the Working Capital Fund was employed thus:

(1) With the International Labour Organisation	328,700.16
(2) With the Permanent Court of International Justice	149,024.37
(3) With the Secretary-General	4,426,968.81
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Total	4,904,693.34

The Working Capital with the Secretary-General was, on August 31st, 1928, thus employed:

(1) Advances to the Iraq Commission (balance not reimbursed)	199,534.50
(2) Advances to the Danzig High Commissariat	27,798.59
(3) Advances to the Swedish officer placed at the disposal of the Greek Government	7,575.25
(4) Advance to the Representative of the Financial Committee in Austria	13,326.85
(5) Expenditure in connection with the new Library	10,534.65
(6) On special deposit in bank	4,168,198.97
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Total	4,426,968.81

Voluntary Contributions to the Working Capital Fund.

The following sums have been paid in as voluntary contributions towards the Working Capital Fund in response to the Fourth Assembly's recommendation on this subject:

	Gold Francs
Abyssinia	15,613.98
Finland	783.19
Germany	67,996.52
Latvia	21,830.98
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Total	106,224.67

BUILDING FUND OF THE LEAGUE.

The Building Fund amounted on August 31st, 1928, to the total sum of 17,946,730.12 francs.

This sum was made up as follows:

	Gold Francs
1. Net surplus of the financial year 1923	1,139,580.45
2. Total surplus of the financial year 1924	9,395,721.35
3. Payments by the Argentine for the fourth and fifth financial years	1,927,184.35
4. Payment by the Argentine for the sixth financial year	872,507.79
5. Surplus of the financial year 1925:	
(a) Secretariat	2,365,985.98
(b) International Labour Office (including the amount entered in the suspense account)	949,527.25
(c) Permanent Court of International Justice	52,334.05
6. Interest and other receipts	1,243,888.90
	17,946,730.12

It should be noted that the sum of 17,946,730.12 francs does not include the amount of 4 million francs which corresponds to the guaranteed sale price of the building now occupied by the Secretariat.

On the other hand, the following expenses have actually been paid for:

	Gold Francs	Gold Francs
1. Payments for the new International Labour Office building	3,310,000.—	
2. Payments for the Assembly Hall and the new Secretariat building	3,652,036.25	
3. Refund to States Members	50,000.—	
	7,012,036.25	

The payments under No. 2 may be further subdivided as follows:

1. Cost of land	2,678,500.—
2. Advances on cost of new building (Architects' fees)	42,500.—
3. Cost of building subsequently joined by means of tempo- rary bridge to the present Palais des Nations	270,000.—
4. Internal and external alterations to the above-mentioned building	122,401.60
5. Legal expenses	28,264.20
6. Travelling expenses and subsistence allowance of the Jury of Architects appointed to examine the plans for the new buildings	116,721.50
7. Travelling expenses and subsistence allowance of the Building Committee	18,367.70
8. Expenses of competition (including printing)	285,338.10
9. Salaries of special staff	42,612.—
10. Sundry and unforeseen expenses, including addition to Council Room	47,331.15
	3,652,036.25

Including accrued interest, the Special Fund set up by the Assembly, at its eighth ordinary session, for the furnishing of the new buildings, amounted, on August 31st, 1928, to 517,670.39 gold francs.

ANNEXE A.

CONTRIBUTIONS AU BUDGET DE 1927⁸
SOMMES VERSÉES ET SOLDES DUS AU 31 AOUT¹.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE BUDGET OF 1927⁸
SUMS PAID AND BALANCES DUE AS ON AUGUST 31st¹.

Etats	Montant de la contribution Amount of contribution	Sommes versées Paid	Soldes dus Balance due	States
Somme prélevée sur le « Fonds pour les constructions » venant en déduction des contributions pour 1928 (voir note page 1).	Francs-or—Gold Francs	Francs-or—Gold Francs	Francs-or—Gold Francs	Sum taken from the Building Fund in deduction of Contributions for 1928 (See note page 1)
Afrique du Sud	I.400.000,—	I.400.000,—	—	South Africa
Albanie	333.626,67	333.626,67	—	Albania
Allemagne	23.021,71	8.184,92	14.836,79	Germany
Argentine	I.960.078,—	I.470.058,50	490.019,50	Argentina
Australie	667.009,95	— ²	667.009,95	Australia
Autriche	614.775,74	409.850,36	204.925,38	Austria
Belgique	196.891,88	147.407,28	49.484,60	Belgium
Bolivie	414.105,95	414.105,95	—	Bolivia
Bésil	99.244,46	—	99.244,46	Brazil
Empire Britannique	259.286,13	259.286,13	—	British Empire
Bulgarie	2.486.536,50	I.243.268,22	I.243.268,28	Bulgaria
Canada	113.087,61	—	113.087,61	Canada
Chili	804.553,39	133.958,13	670.595,26	Chile
Chine	326.844,96	—	326.844,96	China
Colombie	I.141.311,24	—	I.141.311,24	Colombia
Cuba	136.098,27	132.165,47	3.932,80	Cuba
Danemark	211.002,12	—	211.002,12	Denmark
Républ. Dominicaine	274.135,03	274.135,03	—	Dominican Republ.
Espagne	24.575,22	24.575,22	—	Spain
Estonie	615.544,81	—	615.544,81	Estonia
Ethiopie	70.197,15	35.100,61	35.096,54	Abyssinia
Finlande	48.685,33	48.685,33	—	Finland
France	230.048,82	126.396,77	103.652,05	France
Grèce	I.854.625,27	I.398.241,51	456.383,76	Greece
Guatémala	158.709,95	86.839,65	71.870,30	Guatemala
Haïti	23.642,68	—	23.642,68	Haiti
Honduras	19.524,53	19.524,53	—	Honduras
Hongrie	24.811,11	12.405,49	12.405,62	Hungary
Inde	195.085,69	95.841,30 ³	99.244,39 ³	India
Irlande (Etat libre d')	I.297.730,93	647.825,—	649.905,93	Irish Free State
Italie	243.426,68	121.713,36	121.713,32	Italy
Japon	I.399.667,61	I.399.667,61	—	Japan
Lettonie	I.393.671,66	I.393.671,66	—	Latvia
Libéria	69.296,53	69.296,53	—	Liberia
Lithuanie	24.811,11	6.299,71	18.511,40	Lithuania
Luxembourg	94.040,34	—	94.040,34	Luxemburg
Nicaragua	21.532,58	—	21.532,58	Nicaragua
Norvège	24.811,11	—	24.811,11	Norway
Nouvelle-Zélande	200.904,37	200.904,37	—	New Zealand
Panama	234.845,30	234.845,30	—	Panama
Paraguay	22.458,07	—	22.458,07	Paraguay
Pays-Bas	23.535,12	—	23.535,12	Netherlands
Pérou	323.321,91	533.321,91	—	Peru
Perse	223.300,03	—	223.300,03	Persia
Pologne	115.399,05	2.814,09	112.584,96	Poland
Portugal	741.442,35	103.652,—	637.790,35	Portugal
Roumanie	128.143,27	128.143,27	—	Roumania
Salvador	499.272,37	499.272,37	—	Salvador
Royaume des Serbes, Croates et Slovènes	24.811,11	24.811,11	—	Kingd. of the Serbs, Croats & Slovenes
Siam	459.308,97	459.308,97	—	Siam
Suède	210.034,19	104.999,48	105.034,71	Sweden
Suisse	411.202,19	411.202,19	—	Switzerland
Tchécoslovaquie	389.294,84	389.294,84	—	Czechoslovakia
Uruguay	669.516,04	669.516,04	—	Uruguay
Venezuela	163.315,73	—	163.315,73	Venezuela
	115.629,33	115.629,33	—	
à déduire, rembourse- ment à la Répub- lique de Costa-Rica	24.461.782,96	15.589.846,21	8.871.936,75	Less Costa Rica refund
	I.592,21			
	24.460.190,75			

¹ Compte tenu de la déduction pour part du fonds de construction et du remboursement de l'excédent de 1926.
— Taking into account the Building Fund annuity deduction and reimbursement of 1926 surplus.
² Contribution versée le 3 septembre. — Contribution paid on September 3rd.
³ Un nouvel acompte a été payé le 1^{er} septembre. — A further payment has been received on September 1st.

ANNEX B.

UNPAID CONTRIBUTIONS.

The contributions yet unpaid in respect of the first nine financial periods and of the adjusted arrears account are as follows:

	Gold Francs	Gold Francs	
<i>First financial period (1919/20):</i>			
All contributions have been paid or adjusted.			
<i>Second financial period: July 1st to December 31st, 1920:</i>			
Peru (unpaid balance)		29,947.47	
99.5% of the revised total of contributions for 1920 has been paid.			
<i>Third financial period (1921):</i>			
Peru		208,333.—	
99% of the revised total of contributions for 1921 has been paid.			
<i>Fourth financial period (1922):</i>			
China (unpaid balance)	182,119.—		
Peru (entire contribution)	202,267.—		
	<hr/>	384,386.—	
98% of the revised total of contributions for 1922 has been paid.			
<i>Adjusted arrears account of States (Decisions of the Fourth and Fifth Assemblies):</i>			
	Reduced amount	Paid on account	Balance due payable in instalments Gold Francs
	Gold Francs	Gold Francs	Gold Francs
Guatemala	25,618.—	20,494.40	5,123.60
Honduras	55,326.58	—	55,326.58
Liberia	106,581.30	32,759.21	73,822.09
Nicaragua	55,326.58	—	55,326.58
Paraguay	25,618.—	10,247.20	15,370.80
Salvador	60,850.—	36,510.—	24,340.—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	329,320.46	100,010.81	229,309.65
<i>Fifth financial period (1923):</i>			
Bolivia (unpaid balance)			100,000.—
China (entire contribution)			1,767,773.28
Honduras " "			27,196.51
Nicaragua " "			27,196.51
Peru " "			271,965.12
			<hr/>
			2,194,131.42
92% of the revised total of contributions for 1923 has been paid.			
<i>Sixth financial period (1924) ¹:</i>			
Bolivia (entire contribution)			115,871.12
China " "			1,506,324.51
Honduras " "			23,174.23
Nicaragua " "			23,174.23
Peru " "			231,742.24
			<hr/>
			1,900,286.33
91% of the revised total of contributions for 1924 has been paid.			
<i>Seventh financial period (1925):</i>			
Bolivia (entire contribution)			121,166.51
China " "			1,211,665.15
Honduras " "			24,233.30
Nicaragua " "			24,233.30
Peru " "			242,333.03
			<hr/>
			1,623,631.29
93% of this budget has been paid.			
<i>Eighth Financial Period (1926):</i>			
Bolivia (entire contribution)			97,889.58
China (unpaid balance)			1,022,094.81
Honduras (entire contribution)			24,472.39
Nicaragua " "			24,472.39
Peru " "			220,251.55
			<hr/>
			1,389,180.72
94% of the 1926 budget has been paid.			

¹ The figures shown hereunder represented the *revised* contributions, i.e., the contributions less the amount included for the reimbursement of the Temporary Contribution to the Working Capital Fund which was repaid in 1925, to the States which had paid their quota for 1924. (See Reports of the Auditor and of the Supervisory Commission, documents A.3. 1926. X., page 69, and A.5. 1926. X., paragraph 10.)

Ninth Financial Period (1927):

	Gold Francs	Gold Francs.
Bolivia (entire contribution)	96,600.36	
China (unpaid balance)	929,513.11	
Honduras (entire contribution)	24,150.09	
Nicaragua " "	24,150.09	
Paraguay (unpaid balance)	17,593.24	
Peru (entire contribution)	217,350.81	
	<hr/>	1,309,357.70

95% of the 1927 budget has been paid.

Résumé of contributions in arrears on August 31st, 1928:

Second financial period (1920)	29,947.47	
Third financial period	208,333.—	
Fourth financial period (1922)	384,386.—	
Adjusted Arrears Account	229,309.65	
Fifth financial period (1923)	2,194,131.42	
Sixth financial period (1924)	1,900,286.33	
Seventh financial period (1925)	1,623,631.29	
Eighth financial period (1926)	1,389,180.72	
Ninth financial period (1927)	1,309,357.70	
	<hr/>	9,268,563.58

ANNEXE C.

RELEVÉ DES ARRIÉRÉS PERÇUS ET A PERCEVOIR (au 1^{er} janvier et au 31 août 1928).
STATEMENT SHOWING ARREARS COLLECTED AND DUE
(January 1st and August 31st, 1928.)

Etats	Montant dû au 1 ^{er} janvier 1928	Acomptes versés sur les arriérés, au cours des huit premiers mois de 1928	Solde des arriérés encore impayés au 1 ^{er} septembre 1928	TOTAL DES SOLDES DUS AU 1 ^{er} SEPT. 1928	States
	Amount due on January 1st, 1928	Payments on account of arrears made during eight months of 1928	Balance of arrears yet unpaid as on September 1st, 1928	TOTAL OF BALANCE DUE SEPT. 1st, 1928	
Afrique du Sud.	—	—	—	—	South Africa
Albanie	16.290,93 (1927)	16.290,93	—	—	Albania
Argentine	—	—	—	—	Argentina
Australie	—	—	—	—	Australia
Autriche.	—	—	—	—	Austria
Belgique.	—	—	—	—	Belgium
Bolivie	{ 100.000,— (1923) 115.871,12 (1924) 121.166,51 (1925) 97.889,58 (1926) 96.600,36 (1927)	{ — — — — —	{ 100.000,— 115.871,12 121.166,51 97.889,58 96.600,36	{ 531.527,57	Bolivia
Brésil	—	—	—	—	Brazil
Empire Britann.	—	—	—	—	British Empire
Bulgarie	—	—	—	—	Bulgaria
Canada	1.953,56 (1927)	1.953,56	—	—	Canada
Chili	—	—	—	—	Chile
Chine	{ 182.119,— (1922) 1.767.773,28 (1923) 1.506.324,51 (1924) 1.211.665,15 (1925) 1.022.094,81 (1926) 929.513,11 (1927)	{ — — — — — —	{ 182.119,— 1.767.773,28 1.506.324,51 1.211.665,15 1.022.094,81 929.513,11	{ 6.619.489,86	China
Colombie	—	—	—	—	Colombia
Costa-Rica.	—	—	—	—	Costa Rica

ANNEXE C (suite).

RELEVÉ DES ARRIÉRÉS PERÇUS ET A PERCEVOIR (au 1^{er} janvier et au 31 août 1928).

STATEMENT SHOWING ARREARS COLLECTED AND DUE
(January 1st and August 31st, 1928.)

Etats	Montant dû au 1 ^{er} janvier 1928	Acomptes versés sur les arriérés, au cours des huit premiers mois de 1928	Solde des arriérés encore impayés au 1 ^{er} septembre 1928	TOTAL DES SOLDES DUS AU 1 ^{er} SEPT. 1928	States
	Amount due on January 1st, 1928	Payments on account of arrears made during eight months of 1928	Balance of arrears yet unpaid as on September 1st, 1928	TOTAL OF BALANCE DUE SEPT. 1st, 1928	
Cuba	—	—	—	—	Cuba
Danemark . . .	—	—	—	—	Denmark
République Domi- nicaine	—	—	—	—	Dominican Republic
Espagne	903.338,33 (1927)	903.338,33	—	—	Spain
Estonie	—	—	—	—	Estonia
Finlande	—	—	—	—	Finland
France	—	—	—	—	France
Grèce	—	—	—	—	Greece
Guatémala . . .	{ 5.123,60 (C.A. ¹) 5.744,14 (1927)	— 5.744,14	5.123,60 —	{ 5.123,60 ¹	Guatemala
Haiti	—	—	—	—	Haiti
Honduras	{ 55.326,58 (C.A. ¹) 27.196,51 (1923) 23.174,23 (1924) 24.233,30 (1925) 24.472,39 (1926) 24.150,09 (1927)	— — — — — —	55.326,58 27.196,51 23.174,23 24.233,30 24.472,39 24.150,09	{ 178.553,10	Honduras
Hongrie	—	—	—	—	Hungary
Inde	—	—	—	—	India
Irlande (Etat libre d')	59.204,13 (1927)	59.204,13	—	—	Irish (Free State)
Italie	—	—	—	—	Italy
Japon	—	—	—	—	Japan
Lettonie	—	—	—	—	Latvia
Libéria	73.822,09 (C.A. ¹)	—	73.822,09	73.822,09 ¹	Liberia
Lithuanie	—	—	—	—	Lithuania
Luxembourg . . .	6.401,60 (1927)	6.401,60	—	—	Luxemburg
Nicaragua	{ 55.326,58 (C.A. ¹) 27.196,51 (1923) 23.174,23 (1924) 24.233,30 (1925) 24.472,39 (1926) 24.150,09 (1927)	— — — — — —	55.326,58 27.196,51 23.174,23 24.233,30 24.472,39 24.150,09	{ 178.553,10	Nicaragua
Norvège	—	—	—	—	Norway
Nouvelle-Zélande	—	—	—	—	New Zealand
Panama	—	—	—	—	Panama
Paraguay	{ 15.370,80 (C.A. ¹) 22.716,84 (1926) 22.874,10 (1927)	— 22.716,84 5,280,86	15.370,80 — 17.593,24	{ 32.964,04	Paraguay

¹ Compte des contributions arriérées revisées; ces contributions seront versées par acomptes échelonnés sur un certain nombre d'années (Décisions de la quatrième et de la cinquième Assemblée).

¹ Compounded arrears account payable in instalments spread over a number of years (Decisions of the fourth and fifth Assemblies).

ANNEXE C (*fin*).

RELEVÉ DES ARRIÉRÉS PERÇUS ET A PERCEVOIR (au 1^{er} janvier et au 31 août 1928).

STATEMENT SHOWING ARREARS COLLECTED AND DUE
(January 1st and August 31st, 1928.)

Etats	Montant dû au 1 ^{er} janvier 1928	Acomptes versés sur les arriérés, au cours des huit premiers mois de 1928	Solde des arriérés encore impayés au 1 ^{er} septembre 1928	TOTAL DES SOLDES DUS AU 1 ^{er} SEPT. 1928	States
	Amount due on January 1st, 1928	Payments on account of arrears made during eight months of 1928	Balance of arrears yet unpaid as on September 1st, 1928	TOTAL OF BALANCE DUE SEPT. 1st, 1928	
Pérou	29.947,47 (1920) 208.333,— (1921) 202.267,— (1922) 271.965,12 (1923) 231.742,24 (1924) 242.333,03 (1925) 220.251,55 (1926) 217.350,81 (1927)	— — — — — — — —	29.947,47 208.333,— 202.267,— 271.965,12 231.742,24 242.333,03 220.251,55 217.350,81	1.624.190,22	Peru
Pays-Bas	—	—	—		Netherlands
Perse	66.295,— (1927)	66.295,—	—	—	Persia
Pologne	620.468,24 (1927)	620.468,24	—	—	Poland
Portugal	—	—	—	—	Portugal
Roumanie	—	—	—	—	Roumania
Salvador	30.425,— (C.A. ¹)	6,085,—	24.340,—	24.340,— ¹	Salvador
Royaume des Serbes, Croates et Slovènes	—	—	—	—	Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes
Siam	—	—	—	—	Siam
Suède	—	—	—	—	Sweden
Suisse	—	—	—	—	Switzerland
Tchécoslovaquie	—	—	—	—	Czechoslovakia
Uruguay	—	—	—	—	Uruguay
Venezuela	—	—	—	—	Venezuela
Total	10.982.342,21	1.713.778,63	9.268.563,58	9.268.563,58	Total

¹ Voir note 1, page 7. — See note 1, page 7.

As this is a highly delicate matter and a matter for discussion in the Drafting Committee rather than in the plenary committee, I would venture to ask the honourable representative of the British Empire if he would not be prepared to leave matters in the hands of the Drafting Committee in this connection. Moreover, if the Drafting Committee submits a text which does not meet with his views, it would still be possible to amend it or to resume discussion.

LORD CUSHENDUN (British Empire). — I do not want to prolong the discussion, but M. Rolin Jaequemyns has made an appeal to me and therefore, as a matter of courtesy, I feel bound to answer him. He says that the Drafting Committee might be trusted to draw up some text which would deal with this clause. I have no doubt that the Drafting Committee could do so; but what will be the advantage of that? It will not save us any discussion; it only means that, when the Drafting Committee has produced a text, we shall discuss it then, and it is not really a matter of drafting at all, it is not a matter of drawing up a text, it is a question of a very definite proposal. Is that proposal a possible, feasible one, or is it not? I am quite prepared to give my own view, as I have already done. I am prepared to act upon it. I believe that the majority of the Committee are perfectly clear in their own minds: their views may be on one side or the other. I do not believe that those views will be in the least degree altered by any text which the Drafting Committee can draw up; and therefore, although I am very anxious to respond to any appeal of that sort that may be made to me, I cannot really alter my opinion upon this question, because I am quite certain that referring it to the Drafting Committee will not save us any discussion and will really mean, in the long run, a much greater consumption of time.

M. ROLIN JAEQUEMYNS (Rapporteur). — I fancy Lord Cushendun has not quite understood me. Some misunderstanding subsists. I said that the Drafting Committee could submit a text on which we could hold a further discussion. I believe, in fact, that this delicate question could be considered more easily within the narrower circle of the Drafting Committee; it might be that that body would not merely produce a text, but would pronounce upon the substance of the question itself. I would therefore ask Lord Cushendun not to raise any objection if we should ask the Drafting Committee to go a little beyond its terms of reference. If it could consider the substance of the problem, our work might, in my opinion, be expedited.

M. PAUL-BONCOUR (France). — From the explanations offered a few moments ago, it seems clear that, so far as suggestion No. II is concerned, the problem is not easy to solve, and that, whatever form of procedure is adopted, the various delegations continue to stand by the views they have expressed here. We note three different bodies of opinion:

Certain delegations object to suggestion No. II on substantial grounds; others, including mine, accept it, but subject to the guarantee of supervision; others regard such supervision as unacceptable.

In the circumstances, I do not see very well how the problem can be solved. A moment ago, M. Rolin Jaequemyns, in a very clear statement, brought out two points which I regard as highly important.

He pointed out that, as regards suggestion No. I, which has already been discussed, an acceptable text could be prepared. He observed further that the situation contemplated in suggestion No. III was quite clear; this is the very important and very useful case of armistice. On this subject the British delegation submitted a text which I, for my part, can unreservedly accept.

Would not these details in themselves provide valuable guidance for the Drafting Committee, which might possibly be able to reach valuable results? I venture to make that suggestion to my colleagues.

THE CHAIRMAN. — I agree with M. Paul-Boncour that the statements made in this Committee by the various delegations might provide fairly definite guidance for the Drafting Committee. In this connection, I must point out that we cannot take a vote, as our decisions must be unanimous. That is why I felt that the views I had expressed did not differ very appreciably from those of Lord Cushendun. In point of fact, the statements made by the various delegations are, for all practical purposes, tantamount to a vote, and I consider that we must be guided by them. I believe, moreover, that this is not inconsistent with what M. Paul-Boncour has said on this point. I hope, therefore, that this will be satisfactory to Lord Cushendun.

LORD CUSHENDUN (British Empire). — I would only say just this: I had expressed a certain view with regard to procedure. In consequence of what has been said, I have not in any way modified that view, I hold to it still; nevertheless I bow respectfully to any opinion that the Committee decides and shall accept whatever decision my colleagues may come to.

THE CHAIRMAN. — As all League of Nations decisions have to be taken unanimously, except those concerned with questions of procedure, and as this question is one of procedure, we will permit ourselves to outvote Lord Cushendun and will now examine suggestion No. III.

13. German Delegation's Suggestions. Discussion on Suggestion No. III.

Suggestion No. III. — In the case of hostilities of any kind breaking out without, in the Council's opinion, all possibilities of a pacific settlement having been exhausted, the